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Annex 3  
Summary Sheet  
Training Session for International Orientation 2014

## **I. Breakdown of the Orientation two days**

- Small tables setting: reinforce issues on a personal level, make sure they follow throughout the day;
- Grad peers will check in with Acey and Becca (8:15 am) and pick up their red T-Shirt;
- Optional evening activities handouts at check-in (please remind your group that attendance **is not mandatory but up to them**);
- For lunch: each individual table will get up, table by table, pick up their lunch and come back. Explain to your table the food options (vegetarian, nut free, gluten free, meat);
- GSPs/Deans should **follow their tables** when the group breaks up for concurrent sessions.

## **II. Things to reinforce with the students**

- Be kind to yourself, be patient with yourself and others around you.
- It's okay to feel displace/the impostor syndrome. We all have at some point.
- You are not alone: there are numerous ways to ask for help **anonymously and without any influence to your academic standing**.
- Remind the students of the existence of the **Ombudsperson's office, the Office of Student Life**, as well as **Counseling and Psychological services, the Health Center (free consults with Brown Insurance)**, and the **Title IX coordinators**. All are committed to **anonymous, respectful consults**, and adhere to the Student Code of Conduct belief that “All members of the Brown University community are also entitled to live in an environment free from harassment on the basis of such characteristics as race, religion, gender, disability, age, economic status, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression”.

## **III. Ice breakers/What to talk about?**

**No need to do an overview of the day with students, Elke will. Make sure you speak distinctly, avoid talking about personal things (feelings/family), students might be reluctant to use first names, avoid using lingo (including Brown acronyms or nicknames).**

*Acey and Becca will distribute icebreaker index card packs at check-in; feel free to use these. The icebreakers discussed during training include, divided in categories:*

- **Group activities:** divide into smaller groups to do these activities and make sure to include a short amount of time to regroup and discuss answers.

*Activities ideas:* get to know/introduce your neighbor; work on US stereotypes; find 3 things you have in common with your neighbor; have each student tell 2 truths and a lie and ask the group to determine which is the lie; show the group pictures and ask them what word/sentence it evokes for them.

- **Individual questions:** either ask students to draw one index card from the stack and answer the question or have students answer all the same questions.

*Sample questions:* if you had a car with a driver for an afternoon, what would you do? What's an interesting fact about your home country? Have you live abroad before? Fun fact about yourself? What's your favorite food? Is English your 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> language?

- **Academic/Professional questions:** these questions are more serious and can be asked after the fun ones above. They can be substituted for more personal questions like “How do you feel right now?”

*Sample questions:* What attracted you to Brown? What do you expect to be a challenge living in the US/being at Brown/going to school in the US? What are your goals for your incoming year at Brown? **NB: To help prepare Don and Vanessa's session: What one thing are you most nervous about? Most excited?**

#### IV. Issues and solutions

What issues do you think will arise in the first weeks/months at Brown for international students? What solutions do you think we can offer students over the course of our discussions?

Issues	Solutions
Travel issues (jetlag, logistics problems)	Time to readjust
Language barrier	US lingo workshop, email to get a spot ESL services through the Writing Center English language class @the Center for Languages
Social norms in the US (punctuality/concept of time, friendship style/perceived overfriendliness of Americans, conversations’ visual cues/when to speak, dating)	Reinforce that they are not alone, they should be patient with themselves and others Understanding US culture series (OISSS)
Norms in academia (code of conduct, community expectations, first-name basis @Brown,, interacting with faculty and other students, teaching/learning style in the US)	John Tyler and Maria Suarez’s sessions Email faculty or the Grad School with questions Sheridan Center Certificate I Writing center for style checking
Disorientation/practical matters (utilities, how to travel in RI, housing)	Use the Grad Student Bulletin Board listserv/Grad Wiki (details at brown.edu/gsc)/Free rides RIPTA (smartphone app!) <b>Remind students they do not need Social Security # to open utilities/bank account</b> Grad School “Life at Brown/in Providence” links
Health issues (healthcare system, stay healthy)	Health Insurance office Use GSBB and Health Services to get doctor recommendations Health Center Psych Services (no shame!) Free gym
Impostor Syndrome	Define with students what it is/Be kind to yourself It is okay to feel overwhelmed <b>You belong here</b> <b>Everyone feels like this sometimes</b>
VISA issues (immigration status, working, staying legal)	<b>DO NOT guess at the answers to these questions, even if you think you know. Refer students to OISSS as these issues are often more complex than they appear</b>

## Annex 4

### Campus Tour Packet for Graduate Student Peers

## Campus Tour Packet 2014

A few suggestions before you start your tour:

**-You are picking up the students from the International House of Rhode Island on Stimmson Avenue at 1:30pm. The tour is one hour, after which you drop them off at McMillan, where they have the student-led panel (you can leave at this point). The Ice Cream Social is at 3:30pm (you are invited to that!).**

-Since you are dealing with international students, and it might be their first time in the US, you have to break the ice: a good ice breaker is to ask people where they are from. You should also introduce yourself. Take care to ask whether people are in Masters or PhD programs and their departments.

-Don't forget to speak clearly and loudly enough. Speak slowly and always make sure people are following.

-Don't hesitate to ask questions frequently to make sure people are following what you are saying, like “Anyone has any questions?”

-Do not make up answers to questions if you don't know them. Refer students to either the grad school guidebook (which they can find on the grad school's website), the Grad student council ([brown.edu/gsc](http://brown.edu/gsc)), or the general Brown website for other inquiries.

-This is as much about letting them know what you enjoy to do in Providence and on campus, as it is about campus itself, so don't hesitate to mix up personal anecdotes with official history. It's not just about listing dates and names!

-People on your tour might already have done the “campus tour”, meaning they will likely have toured campus to know where things are with their departments. It doesn't mean that this is useless. They might learn a thing or two with this!

This packet contains the following:

- 1) Itinerary Overview
- 2) A Short History of Brown and Providence
- 3) Building Historical Overview

## 1) Itinerary Overview

You will get the students at the International House of Rhode Island at 1:30pm. The IHRI is at **8 Stimson Avenue** (the small curvy street that takes off from Hope at the right side of the OMAC/Nelson Fitness Center when you are facing the gym).

From the House, there are several alternatives. Since there are going to be several groups going at the same time, **feel free to visit these in the order suggested or to take an alternate route**. The building sheets facts, however, are put in the order of this route :

### Standard Route

From the IHRI, proceed to Hope Street, and to your right on Hope. Stop on Pembroke field (the big green on the other side of the street from the Nelson Fitness Center). You can introduce yourself and break the ice here. It will be quieter than on Hope Street!

From there, proceed to Thayer through Cushing or Bowen Streets. Point to Thayer (this is where you can briefly talk about social life and where are your favorites around campus, and about social life in PVD in general). Proceed to Pembroke Campus.

After Pembroke, proceed through the little passage in between the Departments of Neuro-science and Microbiology to Olive Street and then onto The Walk (the grassy bit between Olive and Waterman Street where there is that aluminum-looking circle of dancers). You can stop at the Granoff Center (the Arts modern building that looks like it's been wrinkled). While you are walking to Waterman, you can point to the Tunnel and repeat that we all have free bus rides with our IDs, in case they don't know yet.

On Waterman, take a right toward Faunce Arch and the Stephen Roberts Center. Go through the arch, and stop on campus. Point to the John Carter Brown Library, the Joukowsky Institute for Archeology, and the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology (for which we have free membership and which contains interesting artifacts). From there, you can walk onto the Quiet Green (the one in between University Hall and the Rockefeller Library), to point to the Rock, the Hay, and the Van Wickles Gates.

In the interest of time, it's unlikely that you will be able to go through Wriston Quadrangle and see the Sharpe Refectory (otherwise known as the Ratty by undergrads). If you feel like you have time, you can walk through it. If you don't feel like you have time/are not interested in showing this to your group, you can exit through the Ruth Simmons Quadrangle/Lincoln Field, and show them the Sci-Li.

From there, you can slowly walk to McMillan

## 2) A Short History of Brown (and Providence)

Roger Williams founded Providence in 1636, after he had been kicked out of the colony of Massachusetts for heresy: he was too tolerant of other religions. His supposed first words to the Native Americans who greeted him, “What Cheer?” are now the motto of this city (you will see it engraved on the sides of Van Wickles Gates along with the motto and flag of the State, an anchor with the word “Hope” under it).

Following his ideas of equality, Williams divided the original colony into even plots, which he distributed equally amongst the families that had followed him. Amongst them were the Mannings and the Browns. One James Manning was a pastor with the Baptist Church in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and was sent to open a college in Providence, which was lacking any higher education institution at that time.

The College was created in 1764 (note that we are celebrating Brown's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year), and first location of was in Warren, RI. In 1770, four enterprising brothers, John, Joseph, Nicholas, and Moses Brown, outbid Newport, RI and brought the college to Providence, to be built on land they had donated to the school.

Through the American Revolution, the Brown brothers, and in particular John, played a foremost role, and the Brown family became one of the most influential in Rhode Island.

It would not be after the four Brown brothers, however, that the College would be named, despite their personal implication in the school. The College was named Brown University in 1804, to honor Nicholas Jr, class of 1786, who contributed \$5,000 dollars to the university. One of the four Brown brothers descendants, John Carter Brown, and his son, John Nicholas Brown, then donated their libraries to Brown, forming the first library on campus, in 1904, the John Carter Brown Library (which is said to contain a manuscript written on human skin from the Renaissance!).

As a part of its Baptist heritage (which the school no longer is affiliated to), Brown’s seal represent the red cross of St George in its center. The seal reads as follow: “On argent (silver or white), a cross gules (red), between four open books of the first (in argent, i.e white or silver), bound of the second (red). Crest: a demi-sun issuant radiant (gold or yellow) through clouds argent. The crest should rest on a torse, which is a twisted cord divided vertically into six sections, colored alternatively argent and gules, and placed a little above the seal. Motto: In Deo Speramus. The Motto should be on a scroll below the shield.”

In other words, our seal represent a red cross on a white background, with four books, a scroll below it, and a sun over it. The sun represents knowledge piercing the clouds of ignorance, the books the importance of learning. *In Deo Speramus*, our motto, means “In God We Hope,” and is rumored to be the origin for the “In God We Trust,” found on US coins.

### 3) University Buildings

**These notes are in the order of the route given, but, again, you don't have to follow this route, choose whichever you want, you can walk your own route.**

Starting at Pembroke Field and the OMAC/Nelson Fitness Center:

- Pembroke Field was formerly owned by the Aldrich brothers and donated to Pembroke College in 1936. It opened as an athletics field in 1938.
- The Aldrich brothers also donated money to build the first real university gym, Marvel gym, in 1923. Marvel Gym was one of the best installation of its times, but became obsolete and was demolished in 2003. Its cupola can still be seen, however, on the new Nelson Fitness Center (where it bears the inscription “Aldrich Field” in honor of its original location, across from the football stadium on Elmgrove Avenue).
- Sport teams at Brown aren't as important as elsewhere, because we emphasize academics over athletics. But games are free! The first football game between Harvard and Brown is a fun tradition, when it is played at home, and is the fullest of the season usually.
- The Nelson Fitness Center opened in 2012. It's free for students, has a pool, and a fitness center on the top floor. It's open from 5:30 am to midnight through the week, and until 9pm Saturday and Sunday, during schooldays.

Continuing on Pembroke Campus (and The Walk):

- In the late 1890s, Brown University opened a female college, Pembroke College. Brown and Pembroke coexisted for almost a century, and in 1971, Brown finally became co-ed and Pembroke was integrated in the male college.
- Smith Buonanno used to be the gym for the women's college. It was recently renovated, but you can still see the gymnasium features inside.
- The Sidney Frank Hall for Life Sciences (which you will see when going toward The Walk, bridging over your head) (2006) is named after the biggest single donor in the history of the University, Sidney Frank, who gave Brown \$100 millions toward undergraduate financial aid. It houses the departments of neuro-sciences and molecular biology.
- The Granoff Center was opened in 2011, and holds 36, 000 square feet of dance studios, an auditorium where Brown has movie nights over the summer, and an exhibition space. Fun fact: in order to build the Granoff, and The Walk, the university had two choices: demolish the Peter Green House, the History department, one of the last examples of Second Empire architecture and a Victorian-era house, or move it. They moved the structure to its actual place, and recorded the whole move in stop-motion (it's on Youtube!). It took three days to move the 300-ton building.
- The circle of dancers that you can see on The Walk was donated last year to the University. It is called “Circle Dance”, and was sculpted by US sculptor Tom Friedman, who was inspired by French painter Matisse's Dance. Fun fact: Friedman used disposable aluminum foil pans (those in which you would roast a turkey for Thanksgiving) to sculpt the original circle and then cast it in solid aluminum—but you can still see the plates' imprints on some of the dancers, betraying the humble material the first life-size model was made of.

Continuing on the Main Green:

- University Hall (built in 1770) was first named College Edifice, and is our first building. In 1770 it housed ALL of the students and ALL of our administration. At the time, and since the bay and the river were much larger, the College Edifice would have been largely visible from the other side of India Point Bay (down the Hill toward Wickenden Street). It's been known as UH since 1823. Fun fact: during the Revolution, the French, lead by General Rochambeau, were stationed in the College



Edifice. When the troops ran out of money, they decided to take apart the oak floors of the building to sell them at retail price. The Browns had to urgently requisition food and money to donate to the troops to prevent this demolition.

- The John Carter Brown Library (1910): Build in 1910, on a collection donated in 1904, the JCB holds our Americana collection: items like first editions of Columbus’ travel journals, rare editions of Abraham Lincoln’s speeches, letters from famous Americans. It’s even rumored to hold a manuscript on human skin. The JCB, along with the Ann Marie Brown Memorial and the John Hay, holds some of the most impressive collections in America: the biggest sheet music collection, the biggest toy soldiers collection, and the biggest comic books collection in America.
- The Haffenrefer Museum (in Manning Hall, 1835) holds our collection of Anthropology artifacts. Its membership is free for all students, and allows you to enter a great deal of sister institutions all throughout the US, so be sure to register at the fair next week.
- Faunce House (1903): Originally known as Rockefeller Hall, the name changed after the death of President Faunce in 1931. Interesting fact: Faunce holds the Undergrad Student Council, the **oldest student governing body in the entire nation**. Through the arch you can point to Jay Walter Wilson (JWW), where the office for International students, the OISSS, is. If you pass in front JWW, don’t forget to point to our seal on the front of the building.
- Sayles Hall (1881): Sayles has two huge paintings in its hallway, directly when you come in: one represents a young man and the other, an older gentleman. The oldest is the father of the youngest. The young Sayles was a student at Brown, and died of illness 1 year before graduating. To honor his memory, his father gave the money to build Sayles Hall, one of the university’s biggest enclosed space. It contains the largest remaining electric Hutchings-Votey organ in the world (that you probably saw yesterday), with 6, 000 pipes and 100 miles of wire in it. The organ is played during the four scariest nights of the year: before the first day of classes, Halloween, and before the final exam weeks of each semester.
- Bruno the Bear statue: As a joke/a way to force the university to adopt the bear as a mascot, Theodore Francis Green, a member of the building committee of Faunce, decided to place the head of a real (dead) bear above the arch, just in time for the grand opening. Fun fact: in the early 1920s, Brown acquired a live bear as a mascot which then died prematurely when he escaped his cage and made his way into the biology building where he ate all the lab’s chemicals! After a variety of misadventures with live bears they were definitely retired in 1968 in favor of a person costumed as a bear. The Bear had originally been chosen because he is brown in color, smart, well kept, courageous, good natured and loyal, all qualities required of Brunonians (Brown students, from the latin name of Brown, Brunonia). The bronze statue on the Green was donated by the class of 1907, and inaugurated in 1923, at commencement. The pedestal of the statue was said to contain a piece of the rock slab onto which Roger Williams stepped foot for the first time ever when he landed in Providence.

Continuing onto The Quiet Green (or Lower Green):

- Carrie Tower (1904): It is 92 feet high and used to contain the University bells, before they were transferred to University Hall. The bell used to ring only for major world events and when Brown won a football game (as rare as world events!), but it now rings to signal the start and end of each class period. Fun fact: the tower was a wedding present!
- The Rockefeller Library (1964): Nicknamed the Rock, it is the primary humanities and social sciences library. It holds 1.5 millions of books out of the 4.3 millions Brown possesses. The Rock is named after its main donor, John D. Rockefeller Jr, only son of Rockefeller, the multi-billionaire, and a student of the class of 1897. “Johnny Rock”, as his friends called him, never forgot his years at Brown, and gave a multi-million dollars donation to build the library in 1964.
- The John Hay Library (1910), recently closed for renovations and which should reopen in September, holds our rare books and manuscript collections, and some of America’s rarest science books, like a complete birds of America set by naturalist Audubon.
- Horace Mann Building (the Graduate School): Horace Mann, class of 1819, is the father of the public school system in the US, and a Secretary of the Board of Education in 1837. The Graduate School, officially opened in 1927, is named after him. Brown started to grant Masters and PhDs in 1887, but it is only in the late 1920s that the Graduate programs were formally organized in the Graduate School.

- Van Wickles Gates (1901): they are opened only twice a year: to let the incoming class in (at Convocation, where professors will applaud you as you pass through them) and to let the graduating class out. On top of them, and by the sides on the stones pillars, you will see the Brown crest, and on both sides, the seal of Providence and Rhode Island. Fun fact: if you pass the gates more than twice, it is said that if you are a male, you won’t graduate, and a female, you won’t marry. The Brown Band, which accompanies the graduating and incoming classes, beats this by hopping through backward, on one foot, while playing their instrument.

Continuing onto Ruth Simmons Quadrangle and through Soldiers’ Arch, toward McMillan Hall (across the street from Soldiers’ Arch, the arch behind Sayles Hall):

- Simmons’ Quad is named so in honor of Brown’s 18<sup>th</sup> President, Ruth Simmons, the first African-American to ever be the president of any Ivy Leagues.
- The Statue of Marcus Aurelius (horse riding statue) (1908) is a copy of a Roman statue of the emperor.
- When you stand with the statue behind you, on the left hand-side of Simmons’ Quad, you can see the back of the Leeds-Stuart Theater. Brown has a joint MFA with Trinity Repertory, downtown, and so we have student-led performances on campus.
- Soldiers’ Arch (1923) is the memorial to the 43 Brown men who died in World War I. Fun fact: the legend goes that if you kiss your lover at midnight under the arch, you two will marry.
- The Science Library, the Sci-li (1971) is the primary science library on campus. It’s been voted the ugliest building in Providence multiple times, but it has one of the best views of the city from its fourteenth floor! Fun facts: In the Spring of 2000, it was turned into what was, at the time, the biggest game of Tetris ever made (it’s in the Guinness World Record Book!), using computer-sofwtware to program the buildings lights. It is also at the center of a parody of the song Empire State of Mind. The song is called Sci-Li State of Mind, and it’s on Youtube.
- The CIT building, in between McMillan and the Sci Li (1988) is opened 24 hours a day, except on week-ends, when it closes at 10pm. It also has a computer repair center and it’s where the technology help desk is located.
- While you are walking across the street, you can point out to the fact that the Lounge is housed in the **Graduate Center, down Thayer street and then onto Charlesfield Street**, which also houses some of the Students and Campus Life services; the Grad Lounge, a room reserved for grad students; and a micro-gym. The GCB is a membership-only bar, and your membership is paid for by the Grad student council, so you can go to the GCB, show your Brown and government-issued ID, and get your free membership card **at the end of the month**.

THE END.

**You are not obligated to say every single word on this sheet.**

This is a “cheat-sheet” on facts about Brown. Don’t hesitate to add things about your own experience of Providence—what to do here, what’s fun etc. Keep in mind though, that they will all have a “Life in Providence” panel next week, for General Orientation so don’t be **too** detailed with this info either.

Thanks for your help and don’t hesitate to send me questions if you have any!

Annex 5  
What to do?  
Activities List

## In and Around Campus

*These events are optional, co-sponsored by the Graduate School, Office of Student Life, and the Graduate Student Council of Brown University*

### Thursday, August 21

- **Movie and Pizza Night!** *Come join us for a movie and pizza in **Wilson 102 (Main Green)** at 8pm.*

### Friday, August 22

- **The Graduate Center Bar:** Join the Graduate Student Council officers so we can show you a College Hill institution, the GCB. Meet at 6 pm at the Graduate Lounge, and we will walk over together. **Be prepared to cover your own expenses.**

### Saturday, August 23

- **Picnic on Pembroke Field!** *Come join us at **12 pm for a lunch on Pembroke Field (corner of Cushing and Hope Street)** for an informal get together. Bring your own lunch! Rain location: Smith Buonanno 106.*
- **Sport on Pembroke Field!** *After lunch, join us for an afternoon of Frisbee, volleyball, touch football, soccer or just a plain sunny afternoon! Rain location: Smith Buonanno 106 for a movie!*
- **Waterfire:** *Waterfire is a Providence tradition. A group leader will meet you at Faunce Arch (Stephen Roberts Campus Center) at 8 pm and you will walk together to the Waterfire. Meeting point at 8pm at Faunce Arch.*

### Sunday, August 24

- **Sunday in Newport!** *Newport, RI is a coastal town. We will meet at Faunce Arch at 9:15 am on Sunday August 24, and walk the Hil to take a public bus. In Newport, we will walk the Cliff Walk, and sightsee the beautiful manors, or go swim at the beach. Don't forget to sign up for this by emailing [anne-caroline\\_sieffert@brown.edu](mailto:anne-caroline_sieffert@brown.edu) : space on the bus is limited, so we will have to organize adequately to be there early so as to find space on the public bus.*

### Friday, August 29

- **Welcome to Brown/Welcome Back Party!** *Come join the Graduate Student Council at 9 pm to celebrate the last days of summer vacation in style with a free party! Location: Viva/Paragon on Thayer Street (Brown and 21+ ID required)*

### Saturday, August 30

- **Game Night:** *Do you have a favorite board game? We will be at the Graduate Lounge (Graduate Center E, on the corner of Charlesfield and Thayer, look for the opening in the small wall) for a night of board games and roasted Marshmallows, starting at 8 pm. Bring your favorite game, we will bring marshmallows and drinks!*

## Things to do in and around Providence, August 23-24

These events are **not** Brown-sponsored, but regular summer occurrences in Rhode Island. Enjoy getting to know these classics!

This list was assembled by two graduate students, in coordination with the Graduate School and the Graduate Student Council.

### Saturday, August 23, 2014

Location	What?	When?	How much?	How To Get There?
John Brown House (Benefit Street,	HP Lovecraft Birthday Historical Tour <i>Limited Spots Available, Call 401-861-4445</i>	11am-12:30pm, plus movie	\$10 for the tour, \$18 for the tour and screening	Walk down the Hill to Benefit Street, which runs parallel to Thayer Street, between Prospect Street and South Main Street.
Downtown	Waterfire (a Providence tradition: fires are lit in river braziers at sunset)	Starts at 7:35pm	Free	Walk down the Hill to the river or take any of the buses going through the Tunnel on Thayer Street and then walk to the river.
Roger Williams Park	Sundown Concert Series	7:00-9:00pm	Free	The easiest is to drive there. Alternatively take the 20 from Kennedy Plaza (temporary stop N), but be aware that the last 20 departs the Park at 9:05pm. Don't miss it!
Newport, RI	Newport Celtic Rock Festival	12pm	\$25-40 Tickets available online	Take the 60 bus on Kennedy Plaza to the Newport Transportation Center
Downtown Skating Rink (Kennedy Plaza)	Providence Roller Derby Show	6pm	\$10	Walk down the Hill
Wayland Square	Wayland Square Tours	All Summer, call: 401-273-7507 ext. 302 for details	\$10	Walk there

**Sunday, August 24, 2014**

Location	What?	When?	How much?	How To Get There?
Roger Williams Park and Zoo	Camel rides, butterfly exhibition, wall climbing	All Summer	\$6 for the camel ride, \$3 for the butterflies and \$5 for wall climbing (in addition to the zoo's entrance ticket)	Take the trolley on Kennedy Plaza. The trolley stops at 8pm.
Downtown	Providence Flea Market	10am-4pm	Free	South Water Street
RISD Museum	“Circus” (Paintings exhibition)	10am-5pm	Free	Walk there
Newport, RI	Newport Celtic Rock Festival	12pm	\$25-40 Tickets available online	Take the 60 on Kennedy Plaza to the Newport Transportation Center
Wayland Square	Wayland Square Tours	All Summer, call: 401-273-7507 ext. 302 for details	\$10	Walk there