



Fall 9-16-2009

Beating the Sophomore Slump

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Recommended Citation

Piotrowski, Monica, "Beating the Sophomore Slump" (2009). *News and Events*. 5679.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/5679>

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September 16, 2009

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Beating the Sophomore Slump

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Just as the first-year students receive a week of orientation during Turning Titan; the sophomores will also have a week of celebration entitled SophoMORE Week, from Sept. 28 to Oct. 2.

The events planned are all intended to support the sophomore students both academically and emotionally. According to school officials, during this year students across the nation often experience pressures such as declaring or changing majors, taking major-related classes, and taking on leadership roles in campus organizations. Gulick Residence Hall Director Sara Schaller says this week is meant to “reach out and show them their resources, that we recognize them as a class, and that we support them.”

Activities for the week will include programs by the Hart Career Center to guide sophomores on their educational path, as well as special programs for the undecided majors. Throughout the week, staff and faculty will also be encouraged to share stories from their sophomore year.

On Wednesday, Sept. 30, University Chaplain Hope Luckie will address the students in a service dedicated to this class titled, “Spirituality 201: Sophomore Year,” focusing on questions and challenges that students encounter their sophomore year. She will also host a showing of the movie *Hancock* and lead a discussion on finding your place in the world.

The week’s pinnacle event will be Thursday evening’s Sophomore Fiesta, a free Mexican meal that only the sophomores can attend. It will take place in the Hansen Student Center at 6 p.m.

Also, throughout the week, there will be tables inside Tommy’s dining area, by the Bertholf Commons’s stairs and in the Center for Natural Science commons area where sophomores can fill out surveys for prizes and learn about other resources.

One student that is excited for the week is Kasey Evans, a sophomore English writing major from Paris, Tenn. “I think Sophomore Week is a way to let the sophomores know that they haven’t been forgotten. The first-years have Turning Titan, and the administration focuses on

juniors and seniors because they are busy applying for jobs, internships or graduate schools. I think this week is a way to focus a bit of attention on sophomores.”

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