

FUNDAMENTALS FOR INCOMING FACULTY – AUGUST 17 - 20, 2026



Dear New Faculty -

Welcome! We look forward to getting to know you and to introducing you to Kenyon and the wonderful people who make this a great place to work.

The New Faculty Orientation program is meant to help you in the development of your courses, while also giving you a better sense of the resources and support available on campus. Additionally, from the homepage for the [2026-2027 New Faculty Information](#) you can access many useful links. Please note that you will want to scroll down to the bottom of that page to see the full menu of resources, including a fun list of [recommended excursions and activities](#) in the area.

To complement your participation in this orientation program, several of the sessions have a short pre-reading and/or questions to ponder beforehand. The questions can guide reflection on your upcoming courses. These linked readings and prompts appear in the green font following certain sessions.

Also, if you have any questions you would like our session leaders to address, [please use this form](#). (Often people have specific questions about accommodations, certain policies, etc., and it is helpful to see them in advance.)

So happy to have you with us!

Monday, August 17th

3:15-4:00 pm Campus Tour - meet at front of [Lowell House](#) (Admissions)

4:00-4:30 pm Welcome & Introduction to The Gund Gallery ([The Gund](#), location [here](#))

Learn more about The Gund gallery and class-based educational partnership opportunities

[Jodi Kovach](#) – Deputy Dir. Curatorial Affairs and Education, The Gund – kovachj@kenyon.edu

[Diana Flatto](#) – Post-doc Museum Practices/Scholarly Engagement, The Gund – flatto1@kenyon.edu

4:45 pm Transport to [The Alcove](#) for dinner, 116 South Main Street, Mount Vernon, 2nd floor.

For those interested in transportation, Sheryl Hemkin will drive those who need a ride from Gambier to Mount Vernon; she will be available behind the Gund (in the roundabout in front of Lowell House) at 4:30 pm.

For those interested in community-based learning and/or film, optional 15-minute tour of [The Wright Center](#) 400 South Main Street, Mount Vernon, 2nd floor. If you are driving yourself, there is ample parking available behind the Wright Center. FYI - The Alcove restaurant is about 3 blocks from the Wright Center.

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5:15-7:00 pm Dinner at [The Alcove](#) 116 South Main Street, Mount Vernon

Cocktails and buffet dinner for new hires and significant others

7:00-9:00 pm Optional: Downtown Mt. Vernon Walking Tour Followed By After Dinner

Refreshment(s)! On Us At [Flappers Bar & Grill](#) , 15 W High St, Mt Vernon, OH 43050

A chance to discover the local shops, restaurants, public square, and more in the historic center of Mt. Vernon, before ending up at Flappers, a local favorite for raising a glass with friends.

Tuesday, August 18th

8:30 am **Optional Coffee** – [Oden Hall](#), 1st floor Lobby

9:00 am **Welcome & Introductions** – *Oden Hall, 1st floor Lobby*

[Julie Kornfeld](#) – President – president@kenyon.edu – Ransom Hall

[Dianna Shandy](#) – Provost – shandy1@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

[Jalene Fox](#) – Associate Director for Faculty Affairs – foxj@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

[Sheryl Hemkin](#) – Associate Provost, Prof. Chemistry – hemkins@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

[Travis Landry](#) – Associate Provost, Prof. Spanish – landryt@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

[Kimmarie Murphy](#) – Prof. Anthropology & McCoy Banc One Teaching Chair – murphyk@kenyon.edu – Palme House

[Amy Quinlivan](#) – Coordinator of Administrative Services – quinlivana@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

[Susan Britton](#) – Coordinator of Faculty Support – britton1@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

9:30-10:05 am **Liberal Arts, Learning Goals, and Life** - *Oden, 110*

[Sheryl Hemkin](#) – Associate Provost, Prof. Chemistry – hemkins@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

[Travis Landry](#) – Associate Provost, Prof. Spanish – landryt@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

This morning's sessions will help you better understand [Kenyon's mission](#) and [general education goals](#), and how our work in the classroom intersects with it. Often, thinking about a course from both the disciplinary and institutional perspective enables you to think more expansively about what students are learning. In our classes, students are learning disciplinary details and building a foundation of knowledge and skills for "lives of purpose and consequence" and a future that will require them to be adaptable and lifelong learners.

[Please read this linked document](#) for questions to help you reflect on your own classes and develop background for this morning's conversations.

This linked document provides some [thoughts for your first year](#) with respect to teaching, scholarly/artistic work, and collegiate citizenship

10:10- 10:50 am **Student-Centered Approaches to Teaching and Learning** - *Oden, 110*

[Tom Hawks](#) – Dean for Academic Advising and Support, Prof. English – hawkst@kenyon.edu

[Sheryl Hemkin](#) – Associate Provost, Prof. Chemistry – hemkins@kenyon.edu – Bailey House

Please review/skim the following articles before this morning's conversations:

K. H. D. Tang, [Student-centered Approach in Teaching and Learning...](#) (2023) APGA, 2 (2), 72–83.

R. A. R Garung, [Doing College Like a Champ](#), (2026) Psych Today, Aug 8.

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11:00-12:20 pm **Parallel Sessions: Successful Classes and Successful Students**

Group A - What Makes for a Successful Class – Oden, 120

[Phoebe Carter](#) – Assist. Prof. Arabic (MLL) – carterp@kenyon.edu

[Hilary Buxton](#) – Assoc. Prof. History – buxton1@kenyon.edu

[Kimmarré Murphy](#) – McCoy-Bank One Distinguished Teaching Prof Anthropology – murphyk@kenyon.edu

[Celso Villegas](#) – NEH Distinguished Teaching Assoc. Prof. Sociology – villegasc@kenyon.edu

This session will have you reflect on classroom strategies that facilitate learning and help students make progress on course/department/collegiate objectives. This session may also touch on other topics that relate to course goals, ex. timing and scaffolding of assignments, ways to think about requests like extensions, how the use of generative AI could be used to enhance or disrupt the learning process on specific assignments and the importance of explaining this to students.

Group B - What Makes for a Successful Student and How Class Structure Can Help – Oden, 110

[Andrew Engell](#) – Assoc. Prof. Psychology – engella@kenyon.edu

[Cate Cooper](#) – Assoc. Director of Health Promotion, Cox Health & Counseling – ramsey1@kenyon.edu

[Judy Holdener](#) – Prof. Mathematics – holdenerj@kenyon.edu

[Tom Hawks](#) – Dean for Academic Advising and Support, Prof. English – hawkst@kenyon.edu

The focus of this session will revolve around classroom policies and strategies that can help with student success. To help prime the conversation, please [think about the ideas in this one-page doc](#) prior to the meeting.

12:30 pm **Lunch - Oden Lobby**

12:30-4 pm Optional: - Curricular Conversations with The Gund

During lunch 12:30-1:30 pm (Oden Lobby) and 1:30-4pm (Gund Gallery Lobby)

[Jodi Kovach](#) – Deputy Dir. Curatorial Affairs and Education, The Gund – kovachj@kenyon.edu

[Diana Flatto](#) – Post-doc Museum Practices/Scholarly Engagement, The Gund – flatto1@kenyon.edu

Learn more about The Gund gallery and class-based educational partnership opportunities

1:30-2:30 pm Optional: AI Opportunities – Chalmers Library, room 320

[Steve Martin](#) – Senior AI Solutions Analyst – martins@kenyon.edu

Introduction of Kenyon's AI resources, tools for faculty, and discussion of practical information. If you have specific questions, [please add them to this form](#) to give us a heads up on your technical interests. (Note, this will not be a time for debate about the pros and cons of AI.)

Link to the "[AI at Kenyon](#)" info that was covered in this session. It is a great resource

Wednesday August 19th

8:30 am **Optional Coffee - Chalmers Library, 320**

9:00-11:00 am **Parallel Round Tables - Student Support & Policies** - meet in [Chalmers Library](#) 320 first

Table A - Student Support: Systems and Spaces – Chalmers Library, 302

[Robin Hart Ruthenbeck](#) – Dean of Student Development – hartruthenbeck1@kenyon.edu

[Brian Janssen](#) – Dean of Students – janssen1@kenyon.edu

[Marne Ausec](#) – Dean, Center for Global Engagement – ausecm@kenyon.edu

Please review the linked case study, [“The tip of the iceberg”](#) as a starting point for our conversation.

Table B - Academic Advising, Policies, and Service – Chalmers Library, 320

[Tom Hawks](#) – Dean for Academic Advising and Support, Prof. English – hawkst@kenyon.edu

[Betsy Billiter](#) – Assistant Director for Academic Advising – billiter2@kenyon.edu

[Ellen Harbourt](#) – Registrar – harboure@kenyon.edu

Please review the [Academic Advising slides](#). Tom Hawks will answer questions you have.

Please review the [“Registrar’s Office Help Guide.”](#) Ellen Harbourt will answer questions.

Required information for a Kenyon syllabus can be found at the [Anatomy of a Syllabus](#) and [this short video](#) will give background for why this information is important. Note, a statement on AI is required. [Sample syllabus language](#) regarding use of AI are found on this basic [Teaching and Artificial Intelligence resource](#) page.

Table C - Support for Health, Wellness, and Accommodations – Chalmers Library, 300

[Julie Prince](#) – Director, Student Accessibility & Support Services (SASS) – prince1@kenyon.edu

[Amy Ferenbaugh](#) – Senior Director of Wellness, Assoc. Director of Health Service, Cox Health & Counseling Center – ferenbaugh1@kenyon.edu

People often come to this session with specific questions about Health, Wellness and Accommodations. To help facilitate the conversation, if you have questions, [please submit them through form](#).

Learn more about our offices:

[Student Accessibility & Support Services](#) (SASS), information [for faculty](#):

[Cox Health and Counseling Center](#)

11:00-11:15 am **Break**

11:15-11:45 am **Chalmers Library: Your Research Starts Here** – Chalmers Library L150

[Sarah McKee](#) – Director, Instruction and Engagement, Library Services – stclairs@kenyon.edu

Join Chalmers Library staff as we introduce you to the wide range of library services and resources available to support your teaching and, ultimately, your students' research success. This session aims to cover topics like library instruction for your courses, placing materials on course reserves, special collections and archives, requesting purchases for the library collection, utilizing library spaces, and accessing research support. Faculty are encouraged to ask questions, share ideas, and explore ways to collaborate with the library. To help guide the conversation, we ask that you complete a brief survey and submit any questions in advance to this form: tinyurl.com/facultyorientation26.

Helpful information for getting library resources in place has been emailed to you over the last several weeks with the subject line, “Chalmers Library Services Spotlight Series”. A summary of this info is [found here](#).

11:45 am Lunch – *Chalmers Library “Carver Reading Room”, room 102*

11:45-1:00 pm Optional: during lunch and after – *Chalmers Library “Carver Reading Room”, room 102*

Continuing Conversations about Library Resources and Support

Continuing Conversations about Access and Accommodations; Health & Counseling

Staff from the Library, Student Accessibility and Support Services (SASS), Cox Health & Counseling will be joining us for lunch and will hang around to answer additional questions that you might have.

1:00-2:00 pm Optional: Classroom Technology Training – [Gund Gallery](#), room 101

[Paul Mollard](#) – Senior Director for Academic Technologies – mollardp@kenyon.edu

Kenyon IT orientation on the technology available in Kenyon's academic classrooms. They will demonstrate the standard classroom equipment setup, as well as be available to answer any questions you may have about using technology in your specific classrooms.

2:00-3:00 pm Optional: Moodle Training – *Chalmers 330*

[Alex Alderman](#) – Instructional Designer, Library Services – alderman1@kenyon.edu

[Chrissy Karafit](#) – Systems & Discovery Librarian, Library Services – karafit1@kenyon.edu

Training to get started with Moodle, Kenyon's course management software. Alex and Chrissy will be available to give an overview of the system or answer your specific questions. This ["libguide" \(library guide\) on Moodle](#) gives background info on common issues.

Thursday, August 20th

8:30 am Optional Coffee -- [Peirce Hall](#), Leach Dining Room (lower level dining area)

9:00-9:35 am [Group Instructional Feedback Technique](#) (GIFT) Demo– [Peirce Hall](#), lower level dining area

[Alex Alderman](#) – Instructional Designer, Library Services – alderman1@kenyon.edu

[Chrissy Karafit](#) – Systems & Discovery Librarian, Library Services – karafit1@kenyon.edu

To request a GIFT session for any of your classes, contact Alex (alderman1@kenyon.edu) for scheduling.

9:45-11:45 am Parallel Round Tables - Faculty Support, Teaching and Research Opportunities

Table A - Community Partnerships & Experiential Learning Opportunities – *Leach Private Dining Rm*

[Julie Brodie](#) – Director of Community Partnerships, Prof Dance – brodiej@kenyon.edu

[Mo Helser](#) – Assistant Director of Community Engagement – helser1@kenyon.edu

[Kimmarie Murphy](#) – McCoy-Bank One Distinguished Teaching Prof Anthropology – murphyk@kenyon.edu

A question to ponder before the session: “Given your teaching and research interests, what courses or projects could you imagine developing that would have a focus on experiential learning and/or community engagement?”

Information about the [Office of Community Partnerships](#)

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Table B - Kenyon Keys Initiative and Opportunities – Alumni Dining Room

[Wendy Singer](#) - Special Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiative - singerw@kenyon.edu

[Pashmina Murthy](#) - Assoc. Prof. English and Creative Writing - murthyp@kenyon.edu

The Kenyon Keys is a new initiative comprising six cross-disciplinary clusters: Data & Technology, Democracy & Publics, Global & Local, Health & Community, Making & Knowing, and Sustainability & Society. Each Key involves dynamic programming—from research to co-curricular trips to internship opportunities—that helps students make connections between their coursework, extracurricular activities, and professional interests.

Table C - Learning Centers for Students – Ramser Dining Room (L23)

[Anna Scanlon](#) – Director, Writing Center – scanlon1@kenyon.edu

[Les Wade](#) – Assoc. Prof Physics, Director, Math Science Skills Center (MSSC) – wadel@kenyon.edu

Information about the [Math Science Skills Center \(MSSC\)](#) and [Writing Center](#) (link to [basics for new fac/staff](#))

The following documents may be helpful for [crafting a writing prompt](#) and [developing a grading rubric](#), and some assignment ideas to help [Alleviate Plagiarism](#) and develop student comfort with the writing process.

Table D - Opportunities at the Green Centers – Chadeayne Dining Room (L24)

[Noelle Jordan](#) – Director, Brown Family Environmental Center & Kenyon Farm – jordan2@kenyon.edu

[Amy Henricksen](#) – Director, Philander Chase Conservancy – henricksena@kenyon.edu

[Samantha Bartram](#) - Green Burial Coordinator, Philander Chase Conservancy - bartram1@kenyon.edu

A question to ponder before the session: “Given your teaching and research interests, what courses or projects could you imagine developing that would benefit from collaboration or experiences with our green centers?”

Find more [information about our Green Centers](#) here.

Table E - Scholarly/Artistic Support & Student-Faculty Collaboration – Marriot Dining Rm (L25)

[Bruce Hardy](#) – Prof. Anthropology & Director of Student Research – hardyb@kenyon.edu

[Sarah Murnen](#) – Prof Psychology, Chair Faculty Development Committee (FDC) – murnen@kenyon.edu

Faculty Development Grants (in-house grant) opportunities can be found on this [Faculty Development Committee \(FDC\) page](#). This link gives [additional info on the grants](#)

Opportunities for summer faculty-student mentored scholarly and creative collaborations are found at the bottom of the [student research page](#).

11:45 am **Closing Remarks**

12noon **Optional: Lunch in Peirce Servery (sign-in “Provost”)**

12:45 -2:45 pm **Encouraged: Photographer Available for Website Photos - Peirce - lower level patio**