Welcome First-Year Lumberjacks!

As a first year student, you will be living in the First-Year Commons. Designed by university administrators and the Residence Life Department, this program will help you succeed in your first year of college. The commons include Hall 14, Hall 16, Steen, Lumberjack Landing, and Kerr.

The benefits of participating in this program are many. You will immediately have an instant support system and a network of friends. Everyone living around you will be freshmen, with the exception of the highly trained student and professional staff members.

While you and your roommate may be going through similar issues, the staff will be there to help you in any way they can. Whether you are having roommate issues or need academic support, they can help or direct you to someone who can help.

The student staff members, also known as community assistants, serve as role models for their residents. These students all have at least a 2.7 grade point average so they can better serve as an academic role model. They also will be focusing their programming on topics that pertain to the first-year experience.

Professional staff members also will be available to help.

The No.1 goal of this new program is to help you succeed. Programs such as time management, note taking, study skills and communication skills will be held in all of the residences halls that encompass the program. The Ed and Gwen Cole Student Success Center, located in the new hall, Lumberjack Landing, will be open to all first year students. It will house multiple study areas, a classroom and computer lab.

The Residence Life Department and the Academic Assistance and Resource Center will team up to bring Supplemental Instruction to the center.

Students who are engaged in both the academic side and social side of college are more likely to succeed, receive a higher grade point average and graduate. Whether that is on campus, or within the Nacogdoches community, having a personal investment in your time here at SFA will help you be successful.

You could become engaged on campus by participating in one or more of the hundreds of opportunities living on campus allows you. You could get involved in your hall with Hall Council or Residence Hall Association. You could also get involved with the Student Activities Association, Student Government Association, Greek Life, and Intramurals. The Student Involvement Center can help you find your niche and you also will have access to the many resources at the Student Recreation Center and Steen Library.

So get excited, Lumberjacks! It is your time to shine, and living on campus will help you do just that. For more information, visit www.sfasu.edu/reslife or call (936)-468-2601.