

## **It's a 'full house' as University welcomes new/returning students**

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Some 600 freshmen and transfer students join 1,275 upperclassmen as activities get underway for the fall 2007 semester at Alfred University. Newcomers are to arrive Aug. 22 for the start of a full orientation program before classes begin on Monday, Aug. 27. Returning students are scheduled to move in throughout the coming weekend. The opening Convocation, marking the 172nd year at Alfred University, is slated for 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 24, in the McLane Center. Dr. Alexis G. Clare, professor of glass science, will present "Self focusing: Not good for laser or people" for news students, faculty and staff. She says her talk "is about the advantages of seeing the bigger picture and having a realistic view of where you fit into it." Following the program, new students will be divided into groups led by faculty to discuss what it means to be a part of Alfred and the students' responsibility to the University community. On Friday, Aug. 25, newcomers will select three (out of 12) workshops to attend ranging from "Real People, Real Dreams, REAL LEADERS" to "Smart or Strategic: Managing Your Campus Assets," to "Research Power!" to "AU in a Click: Your guide to Hassle-Free Campus Computing" to "Party Guide 101" to "Privilege, Power and Difference." Brenda Porter, director of Residence Life, notes there is a "bumper crop," of some 525 freshman scheduled to live on campus, calling for some creative temporary housing situations. In some cases, lounges and common areas in residence halls have been set up as temporary accommodations for freshmen. Each student is provided a bed, dresser, and computer access, said Porter, and will be moved to permanent quarters as soon as possible. "We are always able" to place the overflow into permanent housing, she noted. In the meantime, "we are working very hard to make them feel connected and as successful as they can be." Prior to the majority of the students' arrival, Porter's 43, undergraduate residence assistants returned for weeklong training sessions covering policy and procedure, correct response to various situations, safety, and counseling for whatever situations arise.