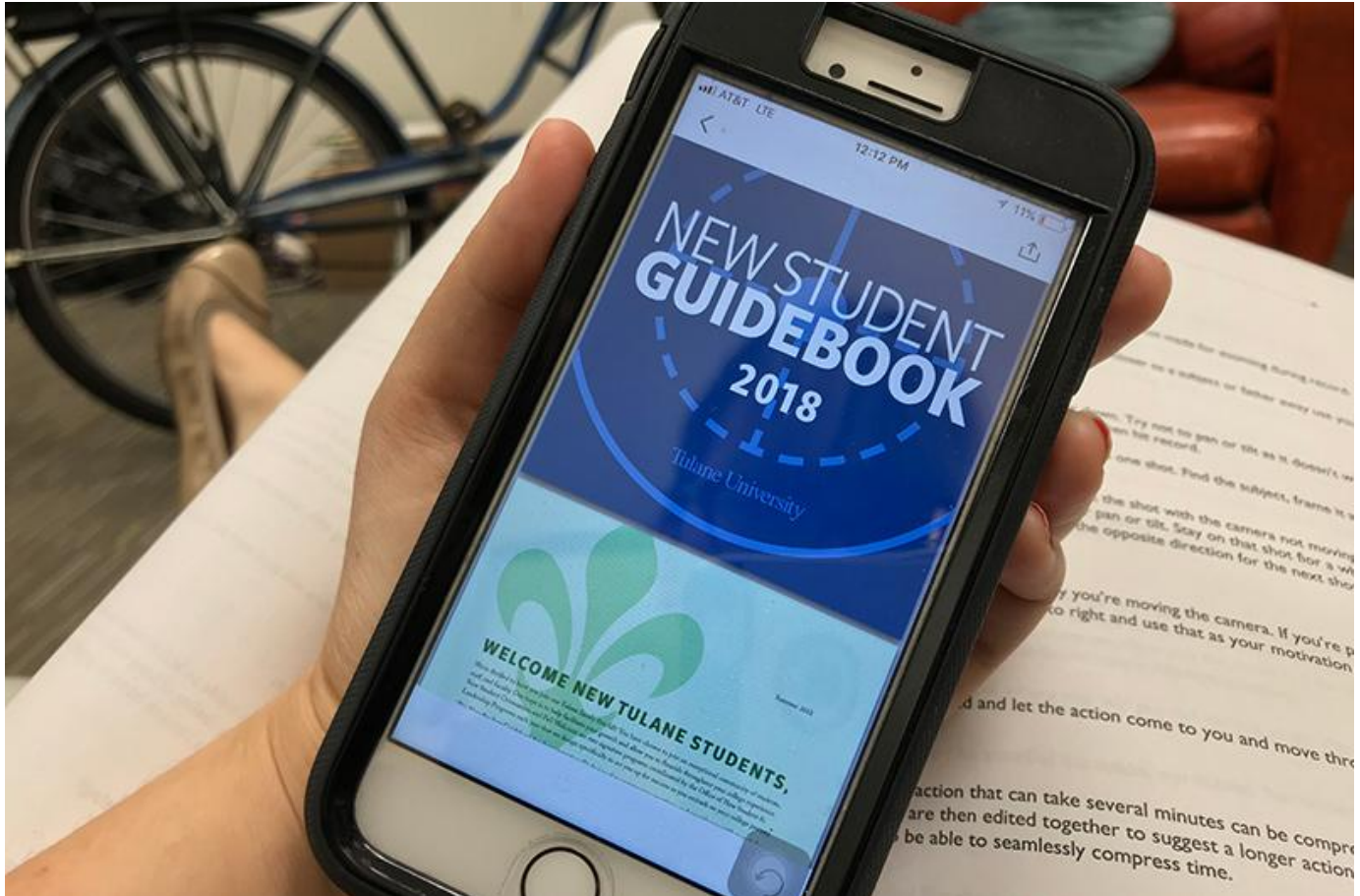


## Welcome app to smooth orientation experience

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First-year students can chat with peers and easily navigate the uptown campus with the new TU Welcome app. (Photo by Mary Cross)

New students can look forward to a smooth start to the fall semester, thanks to expanded [New Student Orientation](#) programming and the debut of the TU Welcome app.

[Brad Romig](#), director of new student and leadership programs, said the expanded programming includes more focus on the undergraduate academic experience and 18 different conference-style workshops for incoming students on topics such as starting a pre-law career path and the benefits of tutoring. The extended orientation model not only helps set students up for success inside and outside the classroom, but also creates a better opportunity to bring the Class of 2022 together for the first

time.

Romig said that Robin Forman, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, championed an improved orientation model when he arrived at Tulane in 2016.

“There was definite interest from the provost in having us think about how we transition our new students. As class size has expanded, the needs of our students have evolved,” added Romig. “With our old orientation model, students would come to campus for two days during the summer, and there was heavy emphasis on registering for classes. Students had to absorb as much information as possible before beginning classes. It didn't give us much time to inform them about resources and services.”

The [Office of New Student and Leadership Programs](#) also introduced the TU Welcome app, which offers easy access to the orientation schedule and provides directions for students exploring campus.

“To have a map that can give Google directions was important to us, and there's a number of resources that are at the touch of your finger, including contact information for TUPD and the Concerns Report,” Romig said. “One of the coolest features is the built-in ‘group me’ feature.”

“Within the app, students will have a built-in chat group with their orientation leader and peers, which will help students stay more informed about where they need to be and allow them to communicate directly,” added Romig.

First-year students arrive on the uptown campus during [Move-In Day](#) on Wednesday, Aug. 22, and take part in orientation activities through Sunday, Aug. 26.

To download the app, search “Tulane Orientation” in the Apple Store or in Google Play.

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