Dear Transfer Student,

Congratulations and welcome to Dartmouth! You probably have dozens of questions floating around in your head about what the next couple of years will be like. While I can't provide any answers there, I can offer you a wonderful way to make your transition to Dartmouth smooth and comfortable. Your DOC Trip will provide you with an opportunity to meet other students and talk to your two upperclassmen leaders about absolutely anything you'd like! Additionally, you'll get a glimpse of the beautiful area surrounding Dartmouth. Last year 93% of transfer students went on a trip!

Trips isn't just about orienting you to college life, which most of you have already experienced. It is the best welcome Dartmouth College can give you. It introduces you to the beautiful New Hampshire wilderness, the crazy and quirky traditions that set Dartmouth apart, and overall it is so much fun! DOC trips are about pure fun, that's our goal!

When you register online, please be sure to indicate that you are a transfer student: we would like to put at least one other transfer student on your Trip so you get to know a mix of first-years and other transfers! Below are three recollections from transfer students about their DOC Trip and what it means to them. Oh! And don't forget to friend 'DOC Trips' on Facebook to look at past Trips photos, join us for live chats with Dartmouth students from across the world who can address all your questions, and learn about everything going on in Hanover to get ready for you all! I cannot wait to meet you in September...

Emily Unger '11
Trips Director 2011
doc.trips@dartmouth.edu
603.646.3996

Never thought you'd be doing this again, did you? At least I didn't when I transferred two years ago. I hope all of you are excited to come in the fall, rather than having the mixture of complete fear and uneasy excitement that I had before and upon arriving for my first Dartmouth fall. One thing that I kept on telling myself and those around me before arriving in Hanover was "I don't want to go through a freshman orientation again. Come on, I've already done that, right?" Think again...

Trips are unlike anything one could ever imagine. Within five days, your eyes will be opened to a way of life not understood by many outside of our close-knit community. You will experience traditions, lingo, and what it means to truly be a Dartmouth student, regardless of when you decided to enroll. Whether you consider yourself an athlete, artist, writer, musician, computer technician, or a part of any other social group one can imagine, Trips is there to give you your first warm welcome into a place you will inevitably call home. And it can't be
replaced. Though you may consider yourself a Dartmouth "student" right now, you will soon learn that you are in fact the new sons and daughters of our Dartmouth family -- a very unique group of sons and daughters that bring something very special to the table. And this family wants to make sure you have the best time of your life while you're here. There's only one way to start that, and it wouldn't be the same without you.

- Tommy Shanahan '10

As a transfer student at Dartmouth this past year, I was one of about 30 students coming into this truly unique atmosphere. Having missed the freshman experience at Dartmouth I was really nervous about how I was going to integrate myself into the community and make new friends. Needless to say, I was anxious when I walked up to Robinson Hall to set out on my first ever hiking trip with complete strangers. However as soon as I sat down among my fellow trippees and met my trip leaders I knew I had come to the right place. What really struck me about the whole first-year trip experience was everyone's enthusiasm, their easy-going attitudes, and how welcoming everyone was. I felt that among these people I could really be myself while going through new experiences, learning about Dartmouth, and meeting new people. The DOC trips reassured me that I made the right decision in coming to Dartmouth.

-Samantha Stimmel '09

As someone who has moved a lot in his life, I was apathetic before coming to Dartmouth. Not only that, having transferred from another university, I already went through freshman year and orientation once before. I knew what's up and didn't need to be coddled. But I was entirely unprepared for Trips. It seemed like the entire student body was there to welcome me. These were peers of mine who went out of their way, in a very extreme sense, to tell me what they seemed to know: that I truly belonged at Dartmouth. I've never encountered, and can't really imagine, a better way to arrive anywhere.

-Lee-Or Ankori-Karlinsky '11