Welcome to the Chemistry department! We are excited to have you joining our program. You will receive an email with information about the orientation week scheduled prior to the beginning of the school year. We would like to share some general information that might be useful prior your arrival.

1) **Housing**
   It would be good if you could arrange housing prior your arrival to Winston-Salem. Although, there is no in-campus housing available to graduate students, there are a number of options that our graduate students can choose from. First, Wake Forest University owns several properties within close proximity to the campus, many of those are at walking distance from campus. These houses are completely furnished and graduate students can rent a room. This may be a good option for incoming international students to use as temporary housing. For more information you can check the following link [http://www.wfu.edu/properties/](http://www.wfu.edu/properties/).

   In close proximity to campus and also served by University shuttle services, you can find a number of houses, rooms, and apartment complexes that students can rent. For more information you can check the following link [http://graduate.wfu.edu/housing.html](http://graduate.wfu.edu/housing.html). You may also want to choose to contact one of the students in the department to ask for advice ([http://college.wfu.edu/chemistry/about-the-chemistry-department/graduate-students](http://college.wfu.edu/chemistry/about-the-chemistry-department/graduate-students)). Several of them have been through the process of moving to Winston-Salem and getting started into our program.

2) **Health Insurance**
   Health insurance is required for our graduate students. Students may purchase/enroll into any health plan as long as it meets the coverage criteria ([http://sip.studentlife.wfu.edu/enrollment/](http://sip.studentlife.wfu.edu/enrollment/)). Students need to demonstrate that coverage meets those criteria to obtain a waiver of the insurance provided by WFU by first day of classes. Additional information can be found at [http://sip.studentlife.wfu.edu/faq/](http://sip.studentlife.wfu.edu/faq/). Students may also opt to enroll into Student Blue, which is a plan that meets the coverage criteria. To have your plan reviewed, email your policy to studentinsurance@wfu.edu.

3) **Arrival at Winston-Salem**
   We would like to hear from you when you are planning to arrive in Winston-Salem. In case of international students the closest airport is Greensboro (GSO, airport code). If you let the graduate committee chair know when you are coming, we can try to coordinate with a faculty or a graduate student from our department to pick you up at the airport and drive you to Winston-Salem. Please just let us know.

4) **International students**
   You may find useful information about the visa process and arrival in US as a student at the international office webpage [http://global.wfu.edu/iss/info/](http://global.wfu.edu/iss/info/).

5) **Placement Exams**
   All our incoming students are required to take placement exams prior the beginning of their first semester. These exams are standardized multiple-choice tests from the American Chemical Society. The Placement exams (PE) serve two purposes: (1) to provide information to advise you on the courses you need and (2) to satisfy the departmental qualifying requirements which ensure that every student has some breadth
of knowledge across analytical, biochemistry, inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry. During the orientation week when you arrive at WFU, you will be required to take five PE examinations, one in each of the areas of chemistry. Additional information about the exams is available on the website.