



July 2009

Dear New Northwestern Student:

Welcome to Northwestern University! I invite you to begin participating this summer in the 2009 One Book One Northwestern project. Although "Wildcat Welcome," our orientation for new students, is nearly two months away, we are eager to include you now in a shared conversation about a thought-provoking book that raises important questions about environmental sustainability and global economic development.

This fall, One Book One Northwestern will focus on Tom Friedman's *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need A Green Revolution – And How It Can Renew America*. Mr. Friedman, a three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist from the *New York Times* and bestselling author, describes the global environmental crisis, which he argues affects everything from food to fuel to forests. In this groundbreaking account, he explains where we stand now and examines potential solutions. Enclosed is a copy of the book for you to read so you can participate in One Book activities and discussions when you get to campus in September.

The One Book project reflects Northwestern at its very best. The University community focuses its attention on a single book: students from each of the six undergraduate schools trade insights, work on projects, debate readings, attend performances and forge connections across schools and disciplines.

One Book officially kicks off on Monday, August 3, with an online discussion involving students and faculty from each of our campuses and undergraduate schools. To participate, simply log on to the One Book One Northwestern web site at: [www.northwestern.edu/onebook](http://www.northwestern.edu/onebook) and look for the Blog menu item at the top. If you need assistance, please send an email to [onebook@northwestern.edu](mailto:onebook@northwestern.edu) or call the Initiative on Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern (ISEN) office at 847-467-1475.

Finally, as you might note from my title below, I too will be starting at Northwestern this fall, so we will begin our Northwestern experience together. I look forward to meeting you and your family during Wildcat Welcome and at the President's Convocation on September 21, 2009. I hope you will also plan on participating in my inauguration as Northwestern's 16th president on October 9, 2009, when Mr. Friedman will give the keynote address.

See you on campus!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Schapiro".

Morton Schapiro  
Professor and President-Elect