Welcome to the Wayne State University Parent Newsletter.

Happy New Year!

It’s 2014 and we hope you had a wonderful holiday break and a joyous New Year!

Hopefully you and your students have had time to evaluate last semester, have celebrated the successes and have discussed how things might be done differently in the future. The winter 2014 semester can serve as a new beginning.

You should ask your student if they have met with their academic advisor and registered for classes yet. Late registration and late adds begin Monday,
January 6, through Saturday, January 12. Students pursuing Business, Engineering or Education degrees should visit their specific college for advising. **All other students should contact the University Advising Center** at univadvising@wayne.edu or **313-577-2680**.

Please remind your student that tutoring is available in almost every subject. Academic advisors and professors can be great resources, and tutoring labs are open at convenient hours to help students succeed. It’s very important to define realistic goals with your student. If they have been struggling, our best advice is to start early with tutoring. Waiting until after midterm grades are available can, in many cases, be too late.

Finding the positive and offering support will go a long way in helping your student be successful. Here are a few conversation starters to help your student stay on track and seek help when needed.

Do they feel the assignment and test scores reflect their best effort? Waiting until the last minute to complete an assignment or study for a test rarely results in a good outcome.

Did they turn in all their homework on time? Homework pays dividends in multiple ways. You get credit for doing the work and you learn how to do the work. This will make a student better prepared for the test.

Are they using good time management? If a student struggles in math, they should be in the math lab doing their homework after every assignment.

Are they going to every class and arriving on time? Attendance is taken at the beginning of class.

Are they sitting close to the front? Studies show that students who sit in the first two rows actually earn better grades.

Are they paying attention and taking notes or are they texting and looking at Facebook? Class is like a job; don’t waste time.
Do they read the syllabus? There is a lot of good information, including assignments and expectations, in each course syllabus.

Success begins with your student’s desire to learn and their commitment to their education. While parents and family members can offer support and guidance, students must take ownership of their education. We have listed information resources your students can access under Quick Links at the end of this newsletter.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, or you need some suggestions or a listening ear, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Linda Seatts, Coordinator, Parent and Family Programs
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313-577-2923
(1-877) WSU-PARENT

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**Healthy Choices**

In addition to your student staying on track with their academics, they also need balance. Remind your student to get enough rest and perhaps get involved in an activity or two. With the Mort Harris Recreation and Fitness Center open until 11 p.m. each Monday through Friday, students have lots of opportunities to squeeze in some exercise — and some socialization as well!

Your student also has access to the Campus Health Center located at 5200 Anthony Wayne Drive in suite 115 (next to Einstein Bros. Bagels). Hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. If your student must miss class because they're sick, make sure they document the illness.

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**Don't Miss Out on Financial Aid: File the 2014-15 FAFSA**
It's not too early to plan for the 2014-15 academic year. The 2014-15 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be available on January 1, 2014.

Students are encouraged to file early to take advantage of all available aid. The 2014-15 FAFSA is used to apply for aid for the fall 2014, winter 2015 and spring/summer 2015 semesters.

You will need your 2013 tax and income information. If you estimate these figures, you will need to submit an update once your taxes have been filed.

The FAFSA can be filed online at fafsa.ed.gov. Beginning in February, you will be able to transfer tax return data directly from the IRS website into the fields on the FAFSA.

Review important information and deadline details on the WSU Office of Student Financial Aid website: finaid.wayne.edu.

Satisfactory Academic Progress and Winter Financial Aid

The Office of Student Financial Aid is required by federal regulations to review all fall grades in order to determine a student’s satisfactory academic progress (SAP) status for the winter semester.

A student must meet SAP standards in order to receive financial aid.

Missing or incomplete grades will prevent a SAP status review. If a student has questions about missing grades, we encourage them to contact their course faculty member.

After the review of final grades, students will be notified of their eligibility status. This information is also available in Pipeline under the Financial Aid tab.

Information about SAP is available at
Questions about financial aid? Please call 313-577-2100 or send an email to studentservice@wayne.edu.

The Warrior WRT Zone Is Open to Help With Projects, Papers and Presentations

The doors to the Warrior Writing, Research and Technology Zone (The WRT Zone) opened this past fall, creating a one-stop shop for Wayne State students to get research, writing and technology assistance. Located on the second floor of the David Adamany Undergraduate Library, the new space integrates the services of the Writing Center and Student Technology Studio and adds a new research assistance component.

Through the combined help of librarians, academic staff and graduate student assistants, the new space offers a myriad of services. The writing and research specialists offer assistance in drafting, revision and documentation as well as help in finding books, articles and resources, evaluating resources, avoiding plagiarism, and much more. The technology side of the collaboration aids in formatting papers and dissertations, assists in creating e-portfolios, video editing, building presentations, and the creation and editing of graphics using modern equipment and specialized software.

Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are given priority. To make an appointment with a research, writing or technology specialist, visit wrtzone.wayne.edu.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute – January 17

Students, families and community members are invited to Wayne State University’s annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute at the Max M. Fisher Music
Center on Friday, January 17.

The keynote speaker is Dr. Mae Jemison, former NASA astronaut, founder and president of two medical technology companies, and currently leading the 100 Year Starship initiative.

Net proceeds from the event will support Adopt-a-Classroom, a nationally recognized organization that invites the community into classrooms to increase opportunities for student success by empowering teachers with partnerships and funds to purchase resources.

Tickets are $10 to attend just the program, or $65 for the program and luncheon. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit http://events.wayne.edu/2014/01/17/2014-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-tribute-50020/.

This event is open to the community.

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**Alternative Spring Break DETROIT**

Alternative Spring Break Detroit, or ASBD as it is fondly called by its participants, is a unique service-based program that allows students to spend their spring break giving back to the community where they live, learn, work, and play. During the week of March 9-13, students will experience diverse opportunities, meeting other WSU students while learning about the history, culture, growth and future of Detroit. Your student can find information and apply to participate in this exciting and fulfilling event on the DOSO website at www.doso.wayne.edu/asbd.

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**Get Involved!**

If your student is feeling a little lonely, encourage them to join a student organization or sorority or fraternity. There are many fun campus events during each week of the winter semester. Students can visit the DOSO website at http://doso.wayne.edu/ to
join hundreds of fellow Warriors participating in organizations and gathering weekly for events such as Thursdays in the D.

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**Students Can Get Emergency Messages About School Closures and More**

The WSU Broadcast Messaging Service delivers emergency notifications and other significant university messages to WSU students, faculty and staff using the communication devices everyone uses on a regular basis these days. The service gives your student the convenience and flexibility of being able to choose the types of messages they want to receive from Wayne State and how they want to receive them: via text message, instant message, email or a combination of the three.

Note that emergency alerts are automatically sent to all students, faculty and staff via WSU email. Wayne State students also can sign up to get administrative messages from the Broadcast Messaging Service regarding course time or location changes, final grade postings or hold releases, for example, as well as financial aid notifications and announcements from faculty about their courses. Additional features, message types and categories are added to the Broadcast Messaging Service as the need arises. Students can access it directly at [https://m.wayne.edu](https://m.wayne.edu) or through Pipeline. For more information, visit [http://computing.wayne.edu/broadcast/index.php](http://computing.wayne.edu/broadcast/index.php).

Note: This service is not available to parents or family members.

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**Brought to you by:**

WSU Parent & Family Programs  
Parent Helpline: (313) 577-CALL  
1-877-WSU-PARENT  
parents@wayne.edu  
parents.wayne.edu
Thank you for signing up as a member of the Wayne State University Parent Information Network and allowing us to share WSU news and updates.

Our mailing address is:
Wayne State University
Parent Services
5221 Gullen Mall
351 Student Center
Detroit, MI 48202

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