Welcome to the Wayne State University Parent Newsletter.

Semester Check

We are beginning the second month of the winter 2015 semester and hope all is going well for you and your students.

We are gearing up to hold another Parent Advisory Council call. If you were not able to join our first call in November 2014, please consider joining us on a conference call Wednesday, February 25, at noon by dialing 313-993-3480. The call will take no longer than an hour and will give you an opportunity to connect with other parents as well as share any ideas, suggestions or concerns you have. The Parent Advisory Council gives you an opportunity to help us better serve parents, guardians, families and your students.

In our inaugural call, parents expressed interest in learning more about parenting college students. Because of your
input, we are working on providing additional information on our website as well as some programming to address parenting during the transition to independent adulthood.

Finally, how is your student progressing so far this year? WSU offers your students many comprehensive resources for their academic success. In this issue of the Parent & Family newsletter, you will find helpful articles to help you coach your student along. We always include helpful web links to several resources available to your students.

We invite you to also like our WSU Parent & Family Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/WSUParentFamily. This is an excellent way for you to connect with other Warrior parents and families and see what’s going on at WSU. When you like our page, you’ll see posts about opportunities to feature your students on special occasions such as graduation.

In closing, do not hesitate to contact me should you need assistance, or have any questions or concerns.

Linda Seatts-Ogletree, Coordinator, Student Life & Parent and Family Programs
parents@wayne.edu
313-577-2923
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Financial Aid News
By Karen Fulford, Associate Director, Office of Student Financial Aid

Complete the 2015-16 FAFSA

It’s time to complete the 2015-16 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Remember to take advantage of IRS Data Retrieval, which brings your tax information directly into the FAFSA form. The state deadline for students receiving the Michigan Competitive Scholarship is March 1. The WSU priority deadline is March 31.


WSU Private Scholarship application

The WSU Private Scholarship application for the 2015-16 school year is available at http://wayne.edu/scholarships/freshmen/privateapp. Encourage your student to apply now. Some scholarships
have requirements for additional materials. The deadline for the application, all materials and the 2015-16 FAFSA is March 31, 2015.

**Early Academic Assessment (Mid-Term Grades)**
By Liza Lagman Sperl, Enrollment Management Coordinator, Office of the Registrar

Early Academic Assessment (EAA), also called midterm grades, is one of the tools used by the university to assist our undergraduate students by providing feedback regarding their academic performance. From January 26 to March 2, midterm grades are submitted for students earning a C- or lower for courses numbered 3000 or lower (such as ENG 1020 or MAT 2010). Faculty teaching courses numbered 3000 or above are encouraged to give EAA grades, but it is optional. In both cases, students receive an email with directions to check their EAA grades in Pipeline.

EAA grades do not become part of a student’s academic record; their purpose is to give students a sense of how they are doing and encourage them to address any academic issues that are affecting their success. They are also used for advising and counseling. For more information and helpful tips regarding midterm grades, please visit success.wayne.edu/welcometosuccess.php.

**30 percent decrease in Spring/Summer 2015 Tuition**

Attending class year-round not only makes graduation arrive sooner, it can also help students save money. WSU offers an award that allows full-time undergraduate students to qualify for a 30 percent tuition discount toward spring/summer classes. To be eligible, students must be enrolled full-time during the fall 2014 and winter 2015 semesters, complete at least 24 credits between both terms and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher. Please note that the Spring/Summer Tuition Break cannot be combined with other tuition discounts (including employee and dependent discounts, senior citizen discounts and the Great Lakes Award), and will be applied as a financial aid award, which may affect a student’s spring/summer federal and institutional aid. For details, visit http://wayne.edu/tuition.

**Why Students Seek Counseling**
By Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)

College students seek counseling services for many reasons. Common concerns include:
• Adjustment issues
• Difficulty coping with emotions (e.g. depression, anxiety, anger)
• Interpersonal and relationship difficulties
• Health-related concerns (pregnancy, alcohol, STDs, problems with eating or sleeping)
• Concerns about academic issues (e.g. poor motivation, concentration problems, test anxiety)
• Stressful/traumatic experiences (e.g. financial/legal problems, assault, harassment, death)

Depressed mood, stress, anxiety and problems with academic performance are common concerns reported to the CAPS staff. Counseling helps students learn new coping skills, set goals, solve problems, make decisions and manage stress, but it also provides a safe and structured environment in which students can explore various aspects of their emerging adult lives — independence, values, personal goals, sexuality, intimacy and friendship.

Determining Whether a Student Needs Counseling

There are no set criteria for seeking services. Students wondering about whether their concerns are appropriate to bring to CAPS are strongly encouraged to make an appointment for a consultation.

As licensed mental health professionals, our staff is experienced in helping students who are depressed, anxious or have other psychological disorders. Although we help with these issues, we also work with many other student concerns such as loneliness or homesickness. There is no problem or issue that is too small to discuss. If something is big enough to bother a student, it’s big enough to talk about with a counselor.

Is It Time to Graduate?
By the Office of the Registrar

reg.wayne.edu/students/graduation.php

One of the last steps a student must take before receiving a degree is to apply for graduation. They must do so in Pipeline (pipeline.wayne.edu) no later than the end of the fifth week of classes during the semester after which they plan on graduating. The deadline for applying for winter term graduation is Friday, February 13, 2015. This deadline is strictly enforced by each school and college. To submit an application, click on the Student tab, and select Apply for Degree or Certificate from the Student Records menu.

There is a $40 nonrefundable graduation fee that must be
paid before an application for graduation can be considered. Payment must be made in the online application for graduation, either by credit card or electronic check. Currently registered students can choose to add the fee to their student account.

Make sure that before your student applies, they review their degree audit in STARS as well as make an appointment to see their advisor to confirm completion of all academic requirements. Write to the records office at academicrecords@wayne.edu or call 313-577-2100 with questions.

For a how-to video on applying for graduation, go to reg.wayne.edu/swf-videos/v11-applydegree.swf.

Healthy Choices
By Christie Bellak, MSN, RN

In addition to your student staying on track with their academics, they also can use some 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.

Wayne State Insiders
By Amy Roberge, Marketing Manager

http://events.wayne.edu/rsvp/rediscover-techtown-with-the-wayne-state-insiders/#rsvp

The Wayne State Insiders program offers free monthly events for alumni, friends, students, parents, faculty and staff who serve as informal ambassadors for Wayne State and our Midtown community. We welcome anyone excited about the positive impact of WSU and Detroit’s urban renewal. The more we learn, the more we can share and the greater our collective impact will be.

Join us in February and see what’s new at TechTown with Wayne State Insiders:

**Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2015**
Noon-1:30 p.m.
You’ve probably heard of TechTown, but have you been there lately? Since 2000, our cutting-edge business accelerator has become a hub where talent, technology and capital converge to spur growth in many sectors. The recently renovated spaces are designed to serve single entrepreneurs as well as entire communities of startups.

Join us as we hear from entrepreneurs and learn about new programs such as technology commercialization and retail development that are designed to catalyze downtown and neighborhood business districts. Lunch will be available at TechTown’s own pop-up restaurant counter.

**Campus shuttle GPS App Smarttraxx helps students and employees catch a ride**

It’s January and bitter cold. Your student has a class across campus and they are not sure if they have time to wait for the campus shuttle to arrive. Thanks to a new and improved GPS tracking system, now all they have to do is check their phone.

The SmartTraxx tracking system lets you keep tabs on the main campus and medical campus shuttles along with the weekend shuttles from your smart phone. Simply visit the Apple App Store or Google Play and download the SmartTraxx App, and then select Wayne State University.

WSU offers two complimentary campus shuttles that allow students to park their car and get from one side of campus to the other by simply flashing your OneCard. Main campus shuttles run in 15-minute intervals from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Medical campus shuttle service runs continuously in 30-minute intervals from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Weekend shuttle service is Friday and Saturday from 9 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Two complimentary shuttles service run
continuously from the Starbucks on Anthony Wayne and from University Towers on Cass Avenue to Campus Martius and Greektown.

For more information, including a list of shuttle stops, visit go.wayne.edu/shuttles.

**Black History Month and More**

February is a great time for your student to get involved with everything that is going on around campus. Living, learning and fun become one and the same if your student takes advantage of the opportunities to attend various Black History Month events in February. Your student can stay up to date with events that are being added daily by visiting the Black History Month calendar [http://events.wayne.edu/black-history-month/](http://events.wayne.edu/black-history-month/).

Other campus and community activities can be found on WSU’s regular events calendar.

**Brought to you by:**

WSU Parent & Family Programs
Parent Helpline: (313) 577-CALL
1-877-WSU-PARENT
parents@wayne.edu
parents.wayne.edu

Dean of Students Office

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Wayne State University Parent & Family Programs

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.

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**Our mailing address is:**
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786 Student Center
Detroit, MI 48202

Unsubscribe
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