

Parent and Family Newsletter

The University of Utah

October 5, 2009

Volume 8, Number 2

As students look forward to Fall Break (October 12-17), we wish them the best while preparing for mid-term exams. In this issue, you will find information on:

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Look for the next edition of the Parent and Family Newsletter on February 1, 2010 and please let us know if you would like information on particular topics.

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Orientation Leader Hiring

Does your student need a job? Are they planning on staying in Salt Lake for the summer? Do they want to feel more connected to campus? Then we have the perfect job for them!

The Office of Orientation and Leadership Development is hiring Student Orientation Leaders for Summer 2010 and need an outstanding group of students to represent the University. It is a great full time job with an hourly wage. Your student will gain leadership skills, meet administrators on campus, learn everything there is to know about the University and its graduation requirements, and meet thousands of new students. Being an Orientation Leader is a great way to become connected to campus and have fun!

Please encourage your student to consider applying. Applications are available starting October 5th and are due by October 28th at 4:00pm in the Union Room 280.



Visit our website www.sa.utah.edu/orientation or call us at 801-581-7069 for more details.

Fall Break 2009 is October 12-17

Parent & Family Weekend Wrap-Up

Parent & Family Weekend 2009 was a great success! With well over 200 parents, family members, and students attending events throughout the weekend, this year's attendance is the highest ever. Families came to campus this year from as far away as Washington, D.C., Alabama, Georgia, and Wisconsin and from as close as here in the Salt Lake Valley.

Attendees mingled with other families, campus administrators and faculty at events such as a reception with University President Michael Young, a comedy show with Jim Gaffigan, free tours of Red Butte Garden and the Utah Museum of Fine Arts, and a tailgate party prior to the football game against the University of Louisville. The Utes were victorious over the Louisville Cardinals with a final score of 30 – 14.

We would like to express our gratitude to all those involved with Parent & Family Weekend: University staff and faculty, various venues around campus, and, most importantly, the parents and families of University of Utah students! We look forward to seeing you all on campus for future Parent & Family events. Go Utes!



Parent Association

Recently, the Executive Committee of the Parent Association, led by President Dave McClintock and Vice-President Cathy Cohen, concluded its Fall Meeting. New members Michael Kilchenstein, Larry Newhall, Skyler Rubel, and Joe Schuch were welcomed.

Highlights of the meeting included discussion of new initiatives and refining the mission of the Parent Association. The Executive Committee agreed that all parents and family members of undergraduate students at the U should be considered members of the Association. Existing subcommittees are being realigned to better inform parents about each subcommittee's focus and plans are being made to increase Association outreach and presence on campus.

The Committee decided to expand the Association's mission from being primarily a conduit for dissemination of information to including an advisory role. There is a vision of involving more parents and family members in an interactive community of support and encouragement for current undergraduate students. The Committee members desire to be more visible to and approachable by parents and family members. Thus the Parents website will be modified to identify each Committee member including a photo and his/her contact information. Please go to www.parents.utah.edu/paex.htm to see this new addition.

Learning to Lead Conference



Is your student looking to develop leadership skills? Then encourage them to attend the 5th Annual Learning to Lead Conference! The conference, hosted by the Office of Leadership Development, ASUU Presenter's Office, U Greeks, and UPC is **October 29** from **2:00pm-6:00pm** and will feature keynote speaker A.A. Akom. The conference will also offer a variety of workshops designed for new and experienced student leaders. This is a FREE conference; however attendees need to pre-register online at www.sa.utah.edu/leadership.

For additional information contact the Office of Leadership Development at 801-581-7069 or leadership@sa.utah.edu.

ASUU: Rock the U and Film Series

Rock the U

Rock the U is a 26.2 hour dance marathon that raises money and awareness for cancer research. During the event dancers are encouraged to stay on their feet for 26.2 hours to recognize the physical and emotional struggles that cancer patients face every day.

Entertainment, food, activities, and classes (everything from salsa to fencing!) are provided throughout the event. All funds donated go directly toward cancer research at the Huntsman Cancer Institute. This year rock the U will be held February 19-20. To sign up please visit www.asuu.utah.edu/boards/rocktheu and click the "register now" link. Donations for the event can also be made through the website. Please help us honor someone who has passed away from cancer, celebrate someone who has survived cancer, or encourage someone who is currently battling cancer. Cancer rocks a lot of worlds, it's time you rocked it back.



Film Series

The ASUU Presenter's Office is continuing its **FREE Film Series** with entertaining and diverse films. All films show on Thursday evenings at The Post Theater, 245 S Fort Douglas Blvd (Bldg 636). Shows begin at 7:00pm. Students can join the Facebook group, "ASUU Presenter's Office 2009-2010" to be updated on the latest information. For questions call 801-581-2788 or visit our website: www.asuu.utah.edu.

Career Services

Is your son or daughter wondering what the connection between an undergraduate major and a career is?

Students can find some answers by taking **Successful Career Planning** during 2nd session of Fall semester 2009. Through this class students will **discover** their career interests, values and personal characteristics, **explore** the world of work and **design** a career road map that suits their unique talents and meets their goals. This class meets Thursdays from 1:30pm – 3:00pm beginning October 22nd. For more information, please contact Jessica Mitchell at jmitchell@careers.utah.edu or 801-585-5065.



DEAN OF STUDENTS TIP OF THE MONTH

Remind Your Students to Sign Up for Campus Alerts

The U of U Campus Alert System gives U administration the ability to reach students with time-sensitive information during unforeseen events or emergencies using voice, email and/or text messaging. Students can sign up for the U of U Campus Alert System through their CIS portal and choose which methods to be contacted when there is a snow closure, major traffic interruption, or threats of personal or property damage.

For more information, see www.campusalert.utah.edu/.

Contact the Dean of Students Office at 801-581-7066 or www.sa.utah.edu/dos

Housing & Residential Education



Hall Closures:

Fall Break (October 12-17): All Residence Halls and Apartments will remain OPEN.

Winter Break: Gateway Heights, Chapel Glen, Officers Circle, & Sage Point will close on Saturday, December 18, 2009 at 2:00pm for the semester break and will reopen Friday, January 8, 2010 at 9:00am. Benchmark Plaza will close as well, unless you sign up for *Stay Over*. Residents not signed up for *Stay Over* must leave the halls by 2:00pm on December 18th.

Homesick

Moving away from home for the first time can be exciting and scary. A variety of emotions can be seen in first-year college students who are experiencing all kinds of transitions: meeting new people, saying goodbye to old friends, challenging academic courses, being away from home for the first time, and countless others. Talking with someone who can help process those emotions can continue to assist in adjusting. The U has many opportunities for students to get involved and meet new people. From student organizations to working on campus, there are many ways your students can make the U feel a little more like “home”.

Accounting

Please know that students who have balances on their accounts are receiving “10 Day Notices” and need to contact our office as soon as possible. Beginning in October, late fees will be assessed. We would like to address a few of the most commonly asked questions in regards to finances below:

Q1: When is my account considered late?

A1: An account is considered late if there is a balance on it after the 1st of the month. We allow a six day “grace period” for payments to be made without any late fee being assessed to the account. If an account still has a balance on it as of the evening of the 7th of the month, then a \$20 late fee may be assessed to the account.

Q2: I received a 10 Day Notice, what does this mean?

A2: Students receiving a 10 Day Notice have an outstanding balance on their account which needs to be paid. This notice is generated after late fees have been applied to student accounts. This notice is usually generated on or around the 10th of each month.

Q3: I received a “Pay or Quit Notice”, what does this mean?

A3: Pay or Quit Notices are sent to students who received a 10 Day Notice, but the account either was not brought to current or they did not meet with our office to address issues with their balance and make a Payment Plan. This notice must not be ignored as this addresses serious issues with the account’s standing.

Q4: I am receiving Financial Aid/ Scholarships, how does this pay for my housing?

A4: Financial Aid deducts the cost of tuition from any aid received (scholarships, grant, loan, etc). Upon completion of the tuition payment, any remaining credit is issued to the student through the University’s Income Accounting department. Housing bills are not directly paid from any remaining credit. It is the responsibility of students to pay the housing office when the funds are sent to them directly. Students may also choose to bring in the University check and sign it over to the Housing Office. In most cases, disbursements are done by the 3rd week of the semester. If a student has not seen aid disbursed, and they applied by Financial Aid deadlines, then they should consult the Financial Aid Department immediately.

If there is a question regarding an account, students may stop by the office during business hours, call us at 801-587-2002, or email us at accounting@housing.utah.edu. If parents or family members would like to make inquiries about a student account, then our office must have a FERPA Waiver on file for the student in question.

Academic Advising: Required!

Academic Advisors at the University of Utah are here to help your students reach their academic goals. Advisors can help students to make the most of their undergraduate experience, both in terms of completing a major, and getting involved in other experiences to enhance their education such as research, service, study abroad and student involvement. Students can meet with advisors whenever they have questions or concerns, but there are certain points when advising is **required** of undergraduate students. These advising points include the first semester of enrollment for new freshmen and second year of enrollment for all students. Students who reach 60 credit hours and have not yet declared a major are also required to meet with an advisor. Here is a brief timeline of these mandatory advising points:

FRESHMAN STUDENTS: Letters and emails have just been sent to new freshmen who started either Summer or Fall 2009. Students are required to meet with an advisor before registering for Spring 2010 classes.

BONUS: Students who meet with an advisor by November 6 will be able to register early for the spring 2010 classes!



SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS: Emails will be sent to second-year students on October 8th informing them that they must meet with an advisor by March 1st to avoid a registration hold.

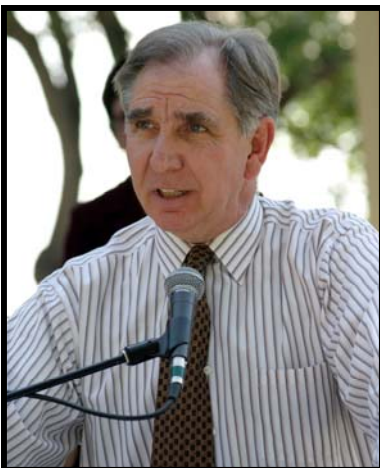
UNDECLARED STUDENTS: In November an email will be sent to students encouraging them to be proactive and declare their major. In February 2010, undeclared students with more than 60 credit hours will receive a registration hold and an email and letter explaining how to meet with an advisor to have the hold cleared.

We look forward to advising your students at these points and whenever they have questions. If your student has any questions about where to go to for advising or about these required advising points, please have them contact University College at 801-581-8146.

RHA: Residence Halls Association

If you are planning on living in the Residence Halls, what better way to get involved than in your own community! RHA is an organization composed of all Heritage Commons residents for the purpose of providing a safe, enjoyable, and productive environment for all. RHA is here for YOU! To get involved, contact RHA at rha@housing.utah.edu or call 801-587-0866. For additional information, visit: www.rha.utah.edu.

LEAP



LEAP students turned out in large numbers for the three kick-off events that brought the biggest LEAP cohort in history together. University President Michael Young spoke at our Opening Convocation on September 1, 2009, challenging students to make the most of their college experience. Then students attended workshops given on September 14 and 15 by Glenn Bailey of Crossroads Urban Center on the difficulties of making it in Utah with a low-wage job. Finally, they celebrated the LEAP community at our Opening Picnic on September 15.

In addition, LEAP Director Carolyn Bliss greeted parents and family members at the Parent and Family Weekend Opening Reception on September 25. LEAP is off to a great start this year! For additional information, visit: www.leap.utah.edu.

Student Health Center

Prevention is the Key to Success!

Flu is big news this fall, especially on college campuses. The University of Utah is working closely with the Utah Health Department to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning our institution. The University will keep students updated with new information as it becomes available.

At the Student Health Center we are working with the University to make sure our students work to prevent the flu and know what to do if they become ill. Here are a few things you, as parents, can do to help:

1. Encourage your student to get a seasonal flu shot – Seasonal flu shots are currently available for \$15 at the Student Health Center. ASUU may be sponsoring some additional free seasonal flu vaccine clinics later in the semester on campus. Information on free flu shots can be found on the Student Health Center's website, Facebook, and Twitter accounts. Encourage your student to add us to get the latest information.
2. Remind your student that **Prevention is Key**. Encourage them to wash their hands frequently or to carry hand sanitizer with them. Students can carry sanitizer wipes in their backpacks to wipe down desks or computer keyboards, and cover their cough.
3. Encourage your student to have a flu readiness kit (Kleenex, hand sanitizer, ibuprofen or Tylenol) on hand in case they get sick.
4. Encourage your student to stay home if they have flu or flu-like illness for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius) or signs of a fever (have chills, feel very warm, have a flushed appearance, or are sweating). The residence halls have a website link for students to self report flu-like illness to help coordinate meals, etc. so self isolation will be manageable. The Student Health Center is available for those who need medical attention.

Additional information on H1N1 vaccine:

1. H1N1 vaccine will be distributed by the local Health Department. The University of Utah should be getting the vaccine, but at this time the Health Department is not sure of the day or amount we will receive. We also don't know if there will be a cost associated with the vaccination.
2. H1N1 vaccine will only be given to students who meet CDC criteria (available at www.flu.gov). Thus any student over age 24 who doesn't have a high risk medical condition will not qualify (at least initially) for the vaccine. This may change as vaccine supplies increase and the high risk groups are vaccinated.
3. The Department of Health website www.health.utah.gov/immu/index.html has a flu shot locator link and telephone number to help students find a provide near by.

This site will list community resources for both seasonal flu and the H1N1 flu vaccine, when it becomes available. If our campus does not receive a supply of H1N1 vaccine we will refer students to this site for other potential locations for flu shots.

Please contact us by phone 801-581-6431 or come see us in person at the Student Health Center (555 Foothill Blvd) or 328 Student Services Building (201 South 1460 East). For additional information, visit our website: www.studenthealth.utah.edu



Library

A unique service the J. Willard Marriott Library offers to all students, staff, and faculty at the University of Utah is research consultation. Research consultations are designed to provide in-depth research assistance to library users in a wide variety of academic subjects and technical applications across disciplines.

A typical research consultation lasts approximately an hour; however, the length of the consultation can vary according to the user's needs. Some past research topics that Marriott staff have assisted students on are the Muses of Mozart, Political Issues Surrounding the Reform of the House of Lords in the United Kingdom, and the History of Mining in Summit County. Other consultations have addressed advanced functions available in Microsoft Word and preparing class presentations using PowerPoint and other software packages available for student use at the Marriott Library.



During one-on-one conversations, staff at the Marriott Library help students discover what they need to know to research more effectively. All Marriott staff are committed to assisting students in developing and improving their research skills for such school projects as class presentations, term papers, group projects, and honors theses. Encourage your students to visit us and take advantage of all the resources the Marriott Library has to offer. For additional information, visit: www.lib.utah.edu/portal/site/marriottlibrary.

Tutoring Center

Whether your student is a straight A student or someone who struggles academically, everyone will eventually encounter a class that seems overwhelming. The ASUU Tutoring Center is here to help---in two ways!

The ASUU Tutoring Center provides individual and group tutoring sessions for currently enrolled University of Utah students. Thanks to a subsidy from ASUU, students can receive assistance in a wide range of subjects at a reasonable rate, just \$6.00 per hour. Students who are receiving a PELL grant may qualify for free tutoring! Tutoring is very flexible. Depending on the availability of the tutor, appointments may be scheduled for any time including evenings and weekends, and always at a location that is convenient for the tutor and student.

In addition to individualized tutoring, the ASUU Tutoring Center also sponsors a drop-in tutoring facility housed in the Heritage Center. The Heritage Tutoring Center is located in Seminar Room #1 of the Peterson Heritage Center and provides **free**, drop-in assistance in math, science, and writing. Tutoring services are available Sunday-Thursday evenings, 7:00pm-10:00pm All tutors have been screened by the ASUU Tutoring Center and have received training in accordance with College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) guidelines.

The Office of Housing and Residential Education (HRE) will be hosting a kick-off event celebrating the opening of the Heritage Tutoring Center on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00pm. There will be refreshments and an opportunity to find out more about tutoring services.



For additional information call 801-581-5153 or visit the ASUU Tutoring Center in Rm. 330 SSB.

UPC: Union Programming Council

UPC is a family of seven student directors who lead the following UPC boards: Crimson Nights, Community Service, Arts & Special Events, Marketing, Publications, and Development.

Their mission is to plan, organize, and develop activities on campus with the help of dozens of associate directors and hundreds of volunteers. UPC serves as the heart of the Union, inviting every student to come participate, serve, and learn while enhancing their educational experience. Through these shared experiences and lifelong connections a real sense of campus community comes to life.

If your student is interested in getting involved with UPC have them email Rob Crosbie at rcrosbie@union.utah.edu or visit our website at www.upc.utah.edu.

This October UPC will be holding two events, Family Spookfest and the Black Pumpkin Affair!

Family Spookfest

Family Spookfest will be held in the Union for University student families and their children on October 28th from 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Come join us for many fun activities including a beanbag toss, cakewalk, pumpkins in the bucket, sucker pull, and a basketball throw!

Crimson Nights: Black Pumpkin Affair



The Union Programming Council's Crimson Nights Board is proud to announce the **Black Pumpkin Affair** on October 30th, 9:00pm– 2:00 am. Entrance is FREE with a University of Utah UCard AND 2 cans of food or \$5 with another college ID. Encourage your students to come and enjoy free food, wax hands, casinos, laser tag, ALL NIGHT DANCING, and much more!



Your Campus Life.
upc.utah.edu

Parent Resources Website
Visit our improved website for information,
updates, and resources for you and your student.

www.parents.utah.edu