Greetings Parents and Families!

Welcome to the Parent and Family Connection Newsletter. Our goal for this newsletter is to provide you with current, relevant information that applies to your first-year student. This will be issued several times throughout the year. College is a busy time and we want you to stay informed as much as possible about all that is happening at FSU. We aim to provide you with details on University initiatives, important resources, and events on campus. This information not only keeps you involved and informed, but also allows you to recommend resources and events that you feel would be important for your student. We consider you our partners in helping your student have a positive, successful experience here at FSU. We hope this newsletter helps to keep you informed!

Ben Trapanick
Director of New Student and Family Programs

David Baldwin
Associate Dean of Students

Important Dates

Wet Feet Retreat dates:
• **August 28 - 30, 2019**

New Student Move-in:
• **Saturday, August 31, 2019**

Black and Gold Beginnings:
• **August 31 - September 3, 2019**

Start of Fall semester:
• **September 4, 2019**

Homecoming and Family Weekend:
• **September 20 - 22, 2019**
Mid-Summer Reminders

The start of the fall semester is right around the corner! While we want you and your student to enjoy your summer, we would like to remind you about some important things.

At this point in the summer several forms should have been submitted already. These could be financial documents, residency forms, or health forms. If these have not been submitted already, please make sure they are submitted very soon. The New Rams Checklist has all the necessary information! Also, if your student has already come to orientation and has not done so already, now is the time to register for fall courses or to be make any changes to fall schedules. Please have your student contact the Advising Center for any changes. To ensure enrollment in desired courses, early registration is key! For those students that have not come to orientation yet, the last date is August 14th, 2019 (students only).

If your student is planning to reside on campus, review the Student Packing list to make sure your student is fully prepared to come with the essentials, and also prepared to leave non-essentials at home, as well as those items that are not permitted in the residence halls. You may also visit our Residence Life page for all the necessary resident information.

Keep in mind, parents and families—adjusting to college life can be difficult for some students. Taking the time to talk with your student about this transition and encouraging a positive outlook can help dramatically with your student’s adjustment to FSU life. Don’t forget to stay involved throughout the semester!

Parking Permits

All commuter students will need to have a parking permit prior to the first day of classes and will receive this permit upon completing the application process. Applications are done online and are currently being taken. Resident Parking Permits are given out on a first-come-first-serve basis and spaces are limited. Any resident student that does not receive one for the start of the semester will be placed on the parking waitlist. For fees associated with parking and all other information regarding permits, please visit: University Police/Parking on campus.
Wet Feet Retreat 2019

We hope you are enjoying your summer with your student! As much as we don’t want summer to end, we have to prepare for the exciting fall semester that is right around the corner. If your student will be a first-year student, we think it’s important to keep you up-to-date on important events that are coming up that would be a great opportunity for your student to get to know other first-year students and help them form a connection with FSU.

The Wet Feet Retreat is a 2 night / 3 day adventure at Camp Burgess in Sandwich, MA which offers your student a chance to kick back and get their “feet wet” before their official first day of college. Students will get to know one another through games, skits, and campfires where they will snack on s’mores and hear ghost stories. Guest speakers will also be initiating conversations with students in an effort to help them explore their professional goals. Retreat Alum consistently say this is a wonderful and memorable experience! There is a $50 registration fee that covers all expenses, and it’s worth it! Your student shouldn’t miss out!

Wet Feet Retreat - August 28-30, 2019
Black & Gold Beginnings!

Black and Gold Beginnings is four days of fun events just before the start of the fall semester. Your student will have a chance to meet other members of the FSU community and make some new friends, as well as learn more about FSU. B&G Beginnings offers a lot of fun events! They will be able to grab some freebies at Ramapalooza and show off their skills in the Annual Lip Sync battle. We don’t think there’s a better way to break the ice and have our students form lasting connections. Please encourage your student to join the festivities!

**B&G Beginnings:**
**August 31 - September 3, 2019**

Homecoming and Family Weekend

FSU always looks forward to Homecoming and Family Weekend and considers it a fun and important weekend for you and your student! This event falls a few weeks into the fall semester and at a time when your student has had a chance to get into their groove. Please join us for this eventful weekend where there will be Ram football, soccer, and field-hockey athletic events to watch as well as student and family activities to join such as:

- Moonlight Breakfast from 10pm-12am
- Dancing
- Photo-ops with your student for lasting memories!
- And so much more!

There are plenty of fun Homecoming and Family Weekend events that build lasting memories for you and your student and we would love for you to be involved. Please join us for a weekend of food, fun, and family!

We hope to see you there!

**Homecoming and Family Weekend:**
**September 20 - 22, 2019**