



Welcome!

We recently welcomed your students as the newest members of our campus community and we are very glad they have joined us!

They have embarked on an exciting and wonderful journey and are about to undergo many transitions, both academically and socially. I'd like to share a little about what you may expect.

They might be experiencing some academic challenges. After all, college is a very different experience from high school. They may find they need to study longer and do more reading in preparation for classes than they had to do in high school. Some may have already had quizzes and discovered that high school-level study strategies don't always work in college. However, you can help by encouraging them to examine their study strategies and by reminding them about resources available to them such as their individual instructors and the Academic Resources Center. New students also have Gateway Advisors, faculty and staff who

help them adjust to college life in and out of the classroom. We suggest you encourage your student to communicate openly with his or her Gateway Advisor to ensure that the transition to college is as smooth as possible.

They are also probably trying to figure out where they fit in socially. It's difficult to move from the high school environment where they knew everyone to the college environment where they may not know anyone. It takes time to find the group of people with whom they identify. Their new friends may be found in classes, their residence halls, student organizations, or activities and events. You can help by being supportive and listening to them when they call with these concerns and by encouraging them to leave their rooms and attend campus-wide events and activities.

Above all, know that your student has joined our Ferrum College community and is not alone. In the interest of growth and development, we encourage

Questions? Contact Us!

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you to have your student try to work through concerns with our faculty and staff. If it seems to not be resolved, feel free to contact us directly.

Again, we are happy to welcome your students to our campus. We think we are off to a great start of the 2005-2006 academic year!

Sincerely,
Dr. Andrea Zuschin
Dean of Student Affairs

FYI - WHAT'S GOING ON AT FERRUM COLLEGE?

It's common for students who haven't really found a group of friends yet to say, "I'm bored, there's nothing to do here." One response from you could be to just listen to them and give them time to continue adjusting to college. You could also share with them some of these activities and events:

Monday Night Football - every Monday night - 9:00 p.m., Panthers Den.

Wednesday, September 7 - Club Fair - 4:00-7:00 p.m., Panthers Den. An opportunity for students to sample the clubs and organizations on campus!

Thursday, September 8 - Online voting for the Big Band begins.

Friday, September 9 - Karaoke - 9:00-11:00 p.m., Panthers Den.

Wednesday, September 14 - Women's Issues Coalition - 7:00-8:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. An opportunity for women to discuss healthy relationships.

Wednesday, September 14 - Bingo - 9:00 p.m., Panthers Den.

Friday, September 16 - Off-campus Movie Night in Rocky Mount. Students sign up in advance in the Student Leadership and Engagement Office.

Saturday, September 17 - DJ Party - 10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m., Panthers Den.

Wednesday, September 21 - Comic - 5:00 p.m., Panthers Den.

Wednesday, September 21 - Men's Issues Coalition - 7:00-8:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. An opportunity for men to discuss healthy relationships.

Friday, September 23 & Saturday, September 24 - Ferrum Challenge - Students sign up in advance in the Student Leadership and Engagement Office.

Sunday, September 25 - Sidewalk Chalk Contest with cash prizes!

Monday, September 26 - Ice Cream Social - 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon outside Franklin Student Center.

Tuesday, September 27 - Spirit Day outside Franklin Hall - 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Wednesday, September 28 - Men and Women's Issues Coalition - 7:00-8:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. An opportunity for men and women to discuss healthy relationships together.

Wednesday, September 28 - Banner Making Party - 8:00 p.m., Panthers Den. Free food and drinks as students make banners for the Homecoming Football Game!

Thursday, September 29 - Powder Puff Football Game - 6:00 p.m. Students sign up in advance in the Student Leadership and Engagement Office.

Thursday, September 29 - Touring Play "The Belle of Amherst" - 7:30-9:00 p.m., Sale Theatre. Free performance. Canned goods will be accepted at the door.

Friday, September 30 - Human Services Career Fair - 10:00-11:00 a.m., Panthers Den.

Friday, September 30 - Pep Rally - 8:00 p.m., Swartz Gym.

Friday, September 30 through Sunday, October 2 - Homecoming Weekend. A variety of activities including a home football game!

This long listing of September events still doesn't include:

Athletic events - Fall sports include Football, Volleyball, Men's Soccer, Women's Soccer, Cross Country, and Tennis, and seasons begin almost immediately. Encourage your students to come out and cheer for our teams as they compete in the USA South Athletic Conference.

Upcoming events such as Ferrum College Appreciation Day, the Folklife Festival, Alcohol and Health Education programs, Residence Education programs, or Ferrum Outdoors activities.

The Ferrum Express - It travels from Ferrum to Rocky Mount on Thursdays and Fridays from 5:00-11:00 pm and on Saturdays from Ferrum through Rocky Mount to Roanoke from 1:00-11:00 p.m. The cost to students is free; however, there is a \$1.25 charge to transfer to a Valley Metro bus that travels to other destinations in the city (such as Valley View or Tanglewood Malls, restaurants, and movie theaters).