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**IMPORTANT
MESSAGE**

Issues of FP will now be published online. If you would like to receive each issue electronically (twice each semester) please send your email address to lstuart@ferrum.edu to be added to the e-mailing list. If you prefer not to share your email address, you may access the newsletter online at any time by viewing FP on the Ferrum College website (www.ferrum.edu/fp).

July 2008

Dear Parents and Families,

It's hard to believe that August is here and your students will be on campus in approximately three-and-a-half weeks. It really does seem as if it was only a few days ago that the campus was filled with the hustle and bustle of over one thousand young men and women.

While our students and faculty are gone for these few months, we continue to work during the summer to prepare for the 2008-09 academic year. Summers are a busy time on the Ferrum campus with new construction, office relocations, new programs and events being developed, and the normal day-to-day office operations. Still, it does seem rather quiet without our students!

Just as our routines switch gears during the summer, I'm sure your routines have as well. For those of you with students already in college, you had to adapt to having them back home again and living under your roofs - and we all know that isn't always an easy transition for students who have gotten used to living "on their own" or for parents who are not used to this newfound independence. For those of you with students who will be attending Ferrum College for the first time in the fall, you are likely thinking about what they will need to bring with them to college and planning your shopping lists, or thinking about the paperwork that needs to be completed and getting those mandatory physicals.

Whether your students have already attended college or will be attending for the first time this year, I hope they are enjoying whatever projects they're engaged in and I look forward to seeing them at the end of the summer.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrea P. Zuschin
Vice President for Student Affairs

APZ/las



August, 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Ferrum College Family! “A Banner Year” is our overall theme for 2008-2009. When you visited the Ferrum campus you saw colorful banners everywhere, in recognition of our superior academic offerings, our outstanding athletic programs, our mission and vision, our vibrant student life, our cultural offerings, our commitment to student success, and our place in “historic Virginia” where we are embraced by azure skies and the gentle, red clay slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

As we prepare to greet one of the largest entering classes in our history, we have updated several of our existing residence halls, including Bassett Hall which is now fully air conditioned. We have made improvements to several classroom buildings and will be opening our newest residence hall, Margaret M. Clark Hall, in time for fall semester occupancy. We have installed new lights on our soccer field, and completed upgrades to our Fitness Center. Our academic programs are stronger than ever, our academic resource support services are available to help your sons and daughters achieve their full potential. Our dedicated student life staff members will make the students’ transition and/or return to College life the best experience it can be. Our Franklin Hall food service amenities, including a variety of healthy meal choices in the main dining room and at the Subway Restaurant, will be enhanced during the first few weeks of school by a “surprise” dining option in lower Franklin Hall, in addition to Subway and the Black & Gold Grille.

I personally look forward to greeting each of your sons and daughters this semester. It is so gratifying for me to get to know these wonderful young men and women as they begin the journey through this next phase of their lives. This will be a time of mutual enrichment and growth as your young adults work hard, with your continued support and the encouragement of Ferrum faculty and staff, to become successful students, responsible citizens and graduates of Ferrum College.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer L. Braaten
President

JLB/tmp

Helpful Tips For Parents From the Ferrum Community Health Center

***Linda Handy RN
Student Health Services
Ferrum Community Health Center
540 365-4469***

How can I help my child learn to take responsibility for his or her own healthcare needs?

- It is important for your students to know their own health history: allergies to medications and foods, significant family medical history, medication list (including doses, frequency, and purpose).
- Make sure they carry a copy of their health insurance card with them at all times, and that they know what coverage they have and how to contact the insurance company.
- Share with them the basics of how to make an appointment - describe symptoms, duration and severity of symptoms, any medications taken, temperature, etc. Remind them to have their class schedule available when scheduling an appointment.
- Suggest that your son or daughter obtain a flu immunization. We evaluate and treat numerous students with acute influenza during flu season, which usually appears during the most academically intense and stressful periods of fall and/or spring semester.
- Remind them that in order for information to be released to anyone about their healthcare, they must sign a release. Once your son or daughter has signed a release, the Health Center welcomes the opportunity to talk with you.

Believe it or not, students are sometimes unfamiliar with handling minor medical problems or even taking their own temperature. Frequently, one of the first questions a student will be asked if they call in to the health center with an infection is, "What is your temperature?" The typical response is either, "I don't have a thermometer" or "I don't know how to take my temperature."

Every student should have some basic healthcare supplies and equipment to deal with minor illnesses and injuries.

Suggestions include:

- First aid supplies such as band-aids, antibiotic ointment, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, medications for a cold
- Digital thermometer
- Cold pack (to reduce swelling after a fall, for example.)

However, if students do not have some of the above, they will be provided with a limited supply of medications for a cold, or headache, etc. when seen at the health center.

Parents - Be Aware of the Campus Programs Your Student May Overlook!

***Mr. Rol Walters
Director of Career Services***

Whether your college student is a freshman looking for a major, a junior looking for an internship, or a senior searching for a job, YOU may need to be the one keeping an eye out for which Career Services programs they should attend. Trust me – as a parent with college students, I know they miss a lot of opportunities simply because they are being typical college students. In other words, they are focused on classes, studying, extra-curricular activities and/or friends, and may not yet have selected a major, lined up an internship, or prepared a résumé for the up-coming Career Fair.

Below is a current list of events from the Career Services Office (www.ferrum.edu/career). You can help your college student by occasionally reviewing this list, which may change, and encouraging him or her to attend the appropriate programs. Some of the programs we sponsor are geared specifically for students at different points in their college careers – freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors. Other events are appropriate for all students to attend for different reasons. A freshman might attend a career fair to learn more about what is expected and to be better prepared for his or her junior year when he or she will be looking for an internship with an agency or company. A senior may attend the same career fair to interview with participating companies in the hopes of securing a full time job.

There are many ways we can be of help to your student, so please feel free to contact me, Rol Walters (rwalters@ferrum.edu), or Leslie Holden (lholden@ferrum.edu) in the Career Services Office (CSO) for advice. We want your son or daughter to succeed almost as much as you do!

Career Services Office 2008 - 2009 Major Events

Human Services Career Fair

*Friday, September 26, 2008
Panther's Den, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm*

Kaplan Free Test Drive
(for GRE, LSAT, GMAT, MCAT, DAT, PAT)
Saturday, October 25, 2008
at Roanoke College, 8:45 am

To registrar, go to www.kaptest.com, click on the test you are interested in, then click on "Find a Free Event"

Diversity Career Day

*Tuesday, October 28, 2008
at University of Virginia
(Transportation will be provided)*

Academic Majors Fair
Thursday, November 6, 2008
Panther's Den, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Challenge Career Fair
Thursday, November 13, 2008
9:00 am - 5:00 pm
at The Kirkley Hotel
Lynchburg, VA

Career Week

*February 9-13, 2009
Details coming...*

Career Premiere Internship and Employment Fair

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009
Salem Civic Center
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm*

Career Focus Dinners

*Every Tuesday from
mid-February to mid-April
Presentation and Dinner: 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
(You will need to provide your own transportation)*

Senior Salute

*Wednesday, March 25, 2008
Blue Ridge Mountain Room
10:00 am - 6:00 pm*

Professional Protocol Dinner for Seniors

*Wednesday, April 1, 2009
Blue Ridge Mountain Room*

Important Break Information for Resident Students

Mr. Jason Jones
Director of Residence Life and Housing

One of the most important, yet often forgotten, provisions about living at college are the break closings and openings. I encourage both parents and students to review all break opening and closing dates for Ferrum and make sure the necessary arrangements are made in advance for student departure and arrival. Please check the Academic Calendar for those dates, mark them on your personal calendars, and review them together. Parents and students should communicate with each other to plan ahead to be prepared.

When the college is closed for Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break, students are not allowed to stay in the residence halls and will need to leave Ferrum during these times. The College is considered closed during these breaks and no Residence Life and Housing staff will be around to help the students. The residence halls are locked and the Ferrum College Police Department checks to make sure that the buildings are empty. We encourage all students to go home during Fall and Easter Breaks, however when special circumstances arise, students can request to stay during these breaks only by contacting the Director of Residence Life and Housing with the reason for approval.

Students will also need to pay close attention to their exam schedule. Exam schedules are released at some point before final exams (the registrar's office will let students know and are printed in the Ferrum College newspaper). We ask students to

leave twenty four hours after their last scheduled exam. Students are strongly encouraged to read all emails from the College. There is a wealth of information communicated in this format.

Students will receive notice from their Residence Life and Housing staff reminding them about the break closings and about the policies associated with them (i.e., when the student needs to leave and when the student can return). We ask students to unplug all electrical items, clean their areas completely, and take home items that are irreplaceable or expensive. We also want students to turn off all lights, close the blinds, and finally to make sure that they lock their doors.

With planning students and parents can ride share, parents of multiple students can arrange ride swapping (parents take turns bringing students home), and all can share on the cost of gas. This is also a "green solution" for those making conscious decisions to protect/save the environment or just to save those dollars.

Arriving back to Ferrum it is important to realize that the residence halls will reopen at 1:00 PM after every break. This time is standard and will need prior planning to make sure that students arrive at the appropriate time. Students may not be able to enter the building if they arrive before 1:00 PM.

Breaks are as follows:

Fall Break	Thurs., Oct. 16 th – Sun., Oct. 19 th
Thanksgiving Break*	Sat., Nov. 22 nd – Sun., Nov. 30 th
Winter Break*	24 Hrs after last exam – Sun., Jan. 11 th
Spring Break*	Sat., Feb. 28 th – Sun., Mar. 8 th
Easter Break	Fri., Apr. 10 th – Mon., Apr. 13 th

**Students will need to make alternative housing arrangements during these breaks. Campus housing is closed.*

