



Parent LINK

Parents' Newsletter

April/May 2005

Vol. 4, No. 6

Dear Parents,

This time next month our students will be into final exams. Graduation is very near at hand too. If you have a student graduating, congratulations! All of us know how proud you must be, and we also recognize you have played a role in their success. If you plan to attend graduation, we would recommend you begin now to look at hotel/motel options. Historically, rooms book up real fast. You will need to allow extra time for driving in Murray on graduation day, and make sure you allot extra time to arrive at the Regional Special Events Center (the location for graduation).

If your daughter or son is in the process of scheduling classes for fall or summer, please know we are here to assist them. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact us at 1-800-909-1507 or email me at paula.hulick@murraystate.edu.

We hope you have a lovely spring, and if your student is returning home after the first full year at Murray State, you should begin to plan how everyone will make the transition back. It can be an adjustment for you and for your student. You might want to begin to think about how you plan to approach this. Remember your daughter/son has been on their own for a year and sometimes the adjustment is difficult for them too.

Stay in touch. I have enjoyed talking or emailing with several of you.

Sincerely,

Paula Hulick
Special Asst. to the VP for Student Affairs

IMPORTANT Dates:

EXAM WEEK
May 7-13

COMMENCEMENT
May 14

Published by the Office of Student Affairs
Ordway Hall
Equal education and employment opportunities M/F/D, AA employer

Paula Hulick, Editor
Contact Paula @ (270)-762-5344
www.murraystate.edu

Pre-Scheduling Information

Freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors must be cleared by their advisor before they can schedule for fall or summer classes. Students should check their PIN for advisor information, holds, etc. If a student has checked their PIN and cannot determine their advisor, they may contact the Registrar's Office at registrar@murraystate.edu.

Students will be unable to schedule if they:

- owe money for the current semester
- are a senior with a major but without a minor
- are a junior who has not declared a major
- have an invalid mailing address in the system
- have an incomplete admission file for fall



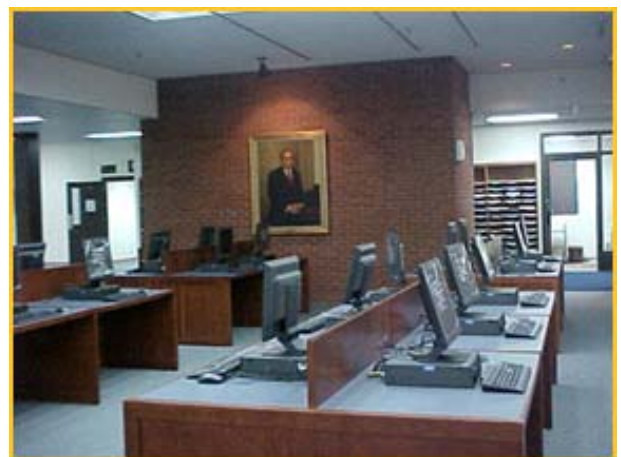
The PIN system will indicate the specific holds and who to contact for additional information. If a student simply has a bad address, they may go to the lobby of Sparks Hall to complete the change of address form and to verify the reason for the hold. The student must have their photo I.D. with them.

LIBRARY AND STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM PARENTS' FUND

The Parents' Fund is still growing with its support for the Waterfield Library project. Previous gifts have already supplied 44 new computers, new carpeting, seating, and study areas. Additionally, a new information desk has been placed in the lobby near the computer research center and staffed by a librarian **and** someone from The Center for Teaching, Learning & Technology to help students with research and computer usage questions.

Student callers are calling parents over the next few weeks to ask for their support of the Parents' Fund. Gifts received will be used to assist further with the renovations and with a new self-checkout kiosk that will be placed in the center of the library.

More information on the Parents' Fund can be found on the Murray State website at <http://www.murraystate.edu/ialu/parentsfund.pdf>. If you are interested in participating in these important changes in our University Library, please contact the Office of Development toll-free at (877) 22-0033 or by e-mail at giving@murraystate.edu.



Free
CHORUS

Through May 5th, the Lowry Center (ground floor) is offering free tutoring. No appointment is required. Courses offered include:

- * Biology 101
- * Chemistry 105,106. 201, 202
- * World Civ 101,102
- * Geosciences 101, 199
- * Math 117, 135, 250
- * Physics 120, 121
- * Spanish 101, 102
- * Writing/English (undergraduate coursework only)

For more information call 762-2392. Encourage your student to take advantage of this.

Seniors and Graduation: What's Your Role?

Believe or not, seniors can find graduation both exciting and somewhat scary. Some of the issues facing seniors involve balancing priorities, racing against time, and facing the unknown. Many students are trying to balance course work and a part time job, and senior assignments may require more time than the freshmen or sophomore assignments. In addition to this, they feel they are racing against the clock to find a job or to decide what they are going to do after they graduate. And while graduating is very exciting, once again they will be facing the unknown. They have been comfortable here and know many individuals; now they must venture out into uncharted territory with many unknowns.

Here are a couple of suggestions for helping your student through this transition:

- Tell them not to panic if they do not have a job yet. They can use the summer to fine-tune the resume, work with our Career Services Office, and to make sure they have good recommendations.
- Tell them it's ok to take a "flexible" job after graduation. This will give them some income as they continue to job hunt.
- When the question comes up, "What are you going to do after graduation?" encourage them to tell folks, they do not have a job yet and to ask if they know anyone in their field that might help them; networking is an important part of job hunting.
- When appropriate, you and your daughter/son should talk about post-college finances. This will make clear what your expectations are, and they can talk to you about their situation. Remember, there will be college loans that will come due and do not forget to ask about credit card debt.



And finally, continue to be supportive. They have just accomplished a wonderful goal; receiving a college degree. Help them to focus on this and to move forward toward their next life goal.

GRADUATION INFORMATION



Do you have questions about graduation? For current and up to date information, please check the following Murray State website:

<http://www.murraystate.edu/provost/commencement/deccom.htm>

You may want to put these on your calendar:



May 13th: Honors Day Ceremony; 2:30 p.m. in Lovett Auditorium

May 14th: Commencement and Investiture Ceremony, 10:00 a.m, RSEC

Important Dates



APRIL

- 8 * Advance scheduling of classes for summer and fall 2005.
Check schedule for assigned priority date
Last day to drop 2nd half semester class with "W".
- 29 * Last day to completely withdraw from all classes (WE or WP will be assigned if WD is done from April 4—April 29)



MAY

- 4 * Senior Breakfast, Curris Center Ballroom, 8:00 a.m. Seniors admitted free.
- 6 * Last day of classes; last day to remove a grade of "I" received during last term attended.
- 7 * Final exams begin.
- 13 * Final exams end.
Honors Ceremony, 2:30 p.m., Lovett Auditorium
- 14 * Commencement and Investiture Ceremony, Regional Special Events Center, 10:00 a.m.
- 17 * Spring 2005 final grades will be available on the PIN system.



JULY

- 19 * Billing statement mailings for fall 2005 begin



AUGUST

- 10 * All payment arrangements for fall 2005 due for those who scheduled April 8-July 19.
Class schedules will be deleted for nonpayment.
- 20 * Residential Colleges open at **noon for new freshmen.**
"GREAT BEGINNINGS" start for all freshmen.
- 21 * Residential Colleges open at noon for returning students.
- 24 * Classes begin.