

# Parent CONNECTION

News for Families of Johnson & Wales University



JOHNSON & WALES  
UNIVERSITY

NORTH MIAMI CAMPUS

PAWS

Parent Ambassadors  
Working for Students

Winter 2008

www.jwu.edu/northmiami • paws.mia@jwu.edu • 305-892-7567

Volume 1, Issue 2

## FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Dear Parents,

As we move into the winter term, I want to begin by wishing your family a wonderful holiday season.

As you will see in an article on page 3 of this newsletter, the scholarship season is here. Each year, millions of private scholarship dollars go untapped because students do not take the time to apply for them.

Considering the current state of the economy, we anticipate that many students will be applying for these opportunities in the upcoming months. Please encourage your student to visit [www.jwu.edu/sfs](http://www.jwu.edu/sfs) or our Financial Services office to begin their scholarship search. Remember that all financial assistance money is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.



Ismare Monreal  
Dean of Students &  
Parent Liaison

In addition, if you are experiencing the negative effects of the economy and your 2008 household income will be less than your prior year's income; please know that the Department of Education allows students to amend their FAFSA forms. The appeal request and supporting documentation must be submitted to the student's financial planner, and they will revise the current financial aid eligibility. This change may result in additional financial assistance for your child. For more information, please contact our Student Financial Services department at 305-892-7006.

As we continue in this journey together, please remember that we are here to help you and your child if you need assistance. If you have a question, feel free to contact me at [ismare.monreal@jwu.edu](mailto:ismare.monreal@jwu.edu) or 305-892-7567.

I wish you and your family a joyful holiday season and a very prosperous new year!

Regards,

Ismare Monreal

## Unique classes available at JWU

*Students explore new avenues in elective courses*

Preparing students for a prosperous future requires courses that provide real world experience as well as those that challenge students to learn more about the world around them.

In the past year, several new courses have been introduced to allow students to explore topics of personal interest that may or may not be part of their chosen curriculum.

Recently added electives include Marine Biology, Studies in Drama, Introduction to Food Writing, and the Study of Terrorism. These types of courses get students engaged in their local community, introduce them to challenges facing municipal governments and help them to understand the global obstacles ahead.

For example, students enrolled in the Marine Biology course have the opportunity to learn about the marine environment, which is so vital to South Florida's ecology, culture and economy. As part of the course



Students in the North Miami Campus' first Marine Biology class, including Christina Muniz, Kioma Renaud and Daphnie Montoya, hit the South Florida seas to explore marine life earlier this fall.

students can earn their scuba diving certification and learn about the human impact of commercial and marine related industries.

"Our goal is to prepare our students for their careers, but a big part of that includes helping them to develop leadership skills," said Vice President/Dean of Academic Affairs Larry Rice '90, Ed.D. "Understanding how the business, civic and community sec-

■ See **Unique Classes**, Page 2

## Plan now for winter break

With the holiday season fast approaching, now is the time to begin making plans for the upcoming winter break.

### Residence halls

Residence halls and the campus shut down on Friday, December 19, 2008 at noon and will not re-open until Sunday, Jan. 4, 2009 at 8 a.m. Students are required to vacate the residence halls by noon of the day following their last class in December.

If you have questions about the winter closing, please call Residential Life at 305-892-7585.

### Airport shuttles

Safety & Security is offering free shuttle service from campus to Miami and Ft. Lauderdale airports on Friday, December 19. Shuttles depart at 6 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon.

Students should plan to arrive at the airport two hours before their departure time. The service is available on December 19 only, and pick-up service from the airport is not available.

To reserve a space on the shuttle, please contact Safety & Security at 305-892-7604 with your child's departure information.

## PARENT PERSPECTIVE

# Visit JWU to learn more about your child's career

By Jane and Stephen Struck

Parent Contributors from Destin, Fla.

Our son Christopher has always expressed an interest in culinary arts, even as early as age five. His influences have included his grandfather's love for cooking and his early understanding that food was the center of all family gatherings.

Now a culinary arts freshman in the university's advanced standing program, Christopher started writing a food column at age 13 for our local paper. The column allowed him to make several contacts, including Chef Tim Creehan, owner of the Beach Walk Café, a popular restaurant in Destin.

Christopher worked with Chef Creehan during the summer, assisted him in the production of his original line of marinades,

taught cooking classes, and supported the chef on special catering jobs.

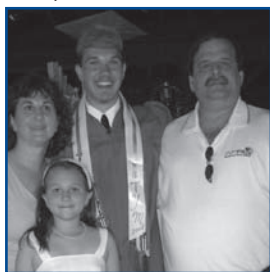
He soon realized that in order to own and operate a successful restaurant he would need both culinary and business skills. This is what made him interested in JWU. He took culinary arts courses, articulated by JWU, at our local vocational school as a part of his high school curriculum. Soon, with the help of his high school instructor Chef Mason, we made arrangements to visit the North Miami Campus with Christopher.

JWU is more than just a culinary school, it also provides the education in business that is so important. In addition, meeting Chef Wagner during our school visit and listening to his advice made us realize the university was a good fit.

If you haven't done so already, stop by the campus to learn more about your child's new environment. Talk to as many instructors as you can, and observe how they interact with the students. You will quickly see that the instructors constantly stress professionalism in all aspects of their instructions – and it shows.

We know a degree from JWU is second to none. When he finishes JWU, Christopher will have all the necessary tools to achieve his life's dream of owning his own upscale restaurants.

To submit a column for Parent Perspective, e-mail [paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu).



JWU parents Jane and Stephen Struck with their son Christopher Struck, a culinary arts freshman, and daughter Anne.

# College Success 102

*Holidays offer a time to listen, reconnect with your college child*



Take some time with your child to enjoy the holidays and listen to their goals, successes and challenges.

By Martha Sacks, Ph.D.

Director of Student Success

It's winter break and holiday time! Many of you will be seeing your sons or daughters for the first time since they started the 2008-2009 academic year. What can you do to help your child be as successful as possible?

College is an opportunity for students to grow and develop their independence. However, college is also a time of change and change can be very stressful.

As your child becomes more independent between now and graduation, his or her goals may shift, priorities may alter, and plans may change. In order to keep the lines of communication open, it's important for you to try to listen without judging, to respond without criticizing, and to be open to hearing what your child is trying to say.

Your child is about to start the second term of the academic year. Now is an excellent time to assess progress: How did your child do? What did he or she enjoy? What are your child's goals?

## Students broaden horizons in new classes

■ From **Unique Classes**, Page 1

tors work together to solve common challenges help students build critical thinking and other important skills."

Other course electives added this year allow students to learn more about careers in complementary fields. Many culinary students have enrolled in the Introduction to Food Writing Course. The course introduces students to food writing for cookbooks, magazines, newspapers and Web sites, including restaurant reviews.

Students who have a flair for the stage, may want to consider the Studies in Dra-

Each party - you, your child, and the university - has a shared responsibility for your child's success while he or she is in college.

### The university's role

We pledge to provide a student-centered, experientially-based, industry-relevant, employment-focused, and globally-oriented program. We also pledge to provide the personal and academic support that our students may need to be successful in our programs.

### The student's role

Each student should give his or her best effort, advocate for his or her needs, make education a priority, attend class, and fulfill the requirements of his or her program.

### The parent's role

As a parent, you should support both your children and JWU in this journey. While your children are now young adults, they are also in the process of discovering their independence. There are always challenges, and you are their first line of defense and support. They need to know you are there for them and that they can count on you.

### Where to go for help

The first place most students and families call when they need help coping with the college experience is the Office of Student Success (Academic & Student Center, 5<sup>th</sup> floor or 305-892-7026).

We want your children to grow to be productive, happy, successful individuals, and we'll do everything we can to help them on their journey.

ma course, where students read and analyze plays.

"Giving our students the opportunity to excel inside and outside of the classroom is important to Johnson & Wales," Rice said. "They will become well-rounded people and become global minded employees through these experiences."

Students interested in these or other elective courses are encouraged to view the Course Projections listing in the Academic Planners section of the Student Handbook, visit <http://uconnect.jwu.edu>, or contact Student Academic & Financial Services at 305-892-7038.

# Financial FAQs for JWU Parents

*Financial Services provides guidance on affording college*

## 1. We heard that the "Scholarship Season" starts in October and ends in March. What does that mean to my son or daughter?

October through March is the most active time for private scholarships, and is when students seeking financial aid should focus on researching opportunities and submitting applications.

Companies give students millions of dollars in scholarships to help them further their college educations and reduce their debts, but scholarships will not find your son or daughter; they have to go out and find the scholarships. The JWU Web site, [www.jwu.edu/sfs](http://www.jwu.edu/sfs), is a great resource for locating scholarship opportunities.

Students are also encouraged to meet with their financial planning counselor (University Center, 1st floor or 305-892-7006) for help with financial aid, or Student Success (Academic & Student Center 102, 305-892-7026) for assistance with essays often required for many scholarship applications.

## 2. My son or daughter is planning to receive financial aid for the 2009-10 academic year. What should I do now?

As mentioned in question #1, private scholarship season is October through March, so now is the best time to begin looking for these opportunities. In addition, families should remember to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by February each year.

To do so, complete your 2008 income taxes by February so that you can complete the FAFSA by the priority deadline of Feb. 28, 2009. Meeting this deadline gives students the greatest access to financial aid. Students who meet this deadline and have a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher may also qualify for additional

institutional aid from the university.

Students and families may complete the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/) or pick up a hard copy in Student Financial Services. Please contact SFS (305-892-7006) if you have questions about the FAFSA or require assistance with your financial plan for the 2009-10 academic year.

## 3. What job opportunities are on campus for my son or daughter?

The university offers three types of employment for students: Federal Work Study, Student Assistant and Resident Assistant.

**Federal Work Study Program:** These need-based, federally funded part-time jobs give students the opportunity to gain work experience at various sites, both on and off campus, while earning money for their college education. If your son or daughter has been awarded work study as part of their financial aid package, yet has not started working, he or she should visit Student Employment (Academic & Student Center, 5th floor) or call 305-892-7039 to be placed in a work study position.

Students may also pursue **student assistant positions** in various campus departments. These positions offer an hourly wage and scholarship (typically \$1,000 per term). Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 for two terms or more to qualify. For additional information, visit <http://jwu.erecruiting.com> or call Student Employment at 305-892-7039.

Students may also pursue positions as **resident assistants**, which offer students up to \$2,200 per term in RA scholarship monies. RA position availability may be obtained by having the student call Lauren McGregor at 305-892-7078.

## Study abroad creates cultural connections

Johnson & Wales University offers more than 20 study abroad programs that allow students to see the world while gaining college credit.

In recent years, student participation has increased as international experience not only provides an understanding of diverse cultures but also sets students apart as the workforce becomes ever more competitive.

Students can take part in the summer study abroad program for approximately one month with courses led by JWU faculty. The university encourages parents and students to review the programs online ([www.jwu.edu/studyabroad.aspx](http://www.jwu.edu/studyabroad.aspx)), and to discuss the programs with the International Center at the Providence Campus, 401-598-1406.

"Study abroad is an experience that the



JWU students enjoyed a trip to Costa Rica last summer as part of JWU's Study Abroad programming.

students will remember their whole lives," said Alan Seidman D.B.A, Hospitality College chair. Seidman has led three summer study abroad trips to Australia with the university.

Applications for Summer 2009 Study Abroad are due by Feb. 1.

## uconnect: a resource for students, parents

As a parent, you might be interested in seeing how your student is progressing in their classes, making sure their emergency contact information is up to date, or you might even be curious about when your child will graduate. The university has an online service called uconnect (<http://uconnect.jwu.edu>) that is the perfect place to retrieve this information.

Students use this service to schedule classes and update important contact information, and parents (with the student's permission) may also use the service.

We encourage our students to self-schedule, and we encourage you to be part of the scheduling process. Here are some tips for navigating and self-scheduling on uconnect.

### uconnect tips

- When signing on to uconnect, your child must give you his or her university ID and PIN. Students who need to reset their PINs should visit Student Academic & Financial Services.
- The e-mail password and the uconnect PIN are different.
- Browse through the three different tabs (Personal, Registration/Records, and Financial) to see what's available.
- To view grades click Enter Secure Area >Registration/Records >Student Records >Academic Transcript
- For insurance purposes you may print an Enrollment Verification Letter. For Enrollment Verification Letters click Enter Secure Area > Registration/Records > Student Records > Print Enrollment Verification Letters
- Information to have ready before printing an enrollment verification form:
  - Student's social security number
  - Date of birth
  - Policy information
- Courses students should register for are available on their degree progress in uconnect. Enter Secure Area > Registration > Degree Audit & Planner
- To register for classes: Enter secure area > Registration > Look up classes to add

# 2008-2009 Calendar

## November 2008

21	End of fall term
22-30	Thanksgiving Break (Residence halls remain open)
30	New student move-in

## December 2008

1	Check-in and Orientation
2	1st day of class for winter term
19	Holiday break - Residence Halls close Registration opens for spring term <small>(visit <a href="http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami">www.jwu.edu/northmiami</a>, then click through the following pages: Student Life &gt; Academic Services &gt; Course Registration &gt; Registration Dates)</small>

## January 2009

4	Return from holiday break (Residence halls re-open)
12-29	Returning Housing Deposits due for fall '09
13-Feb. 2	Returning Housing Applications due for fall '09
19	Holiday, no classes

## February 2009

4	Returning Housing Room Selection times e-mailed to campus
6-23	Returning Housing Selection (based on class year and lottery)
6	Spring new student payment deadline
26	End of winter term
27	Spring break - Residence halls remain open
28	Priority FAFSA filing deadline <small>(apply online: <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>)</small>

*This calendar is for planning purposes only, and is subject to change.*

## March 2009

8	New student move-in
9	Check-in and Orientation
10	1st day of class for spring term
20	Registration opens for summer term <small>(visit <a href="http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami">www.jwu.edu/northmiami</a>, then click through the following pages: Student Life &gt; Academic Services &gt; Course Registration &gt; Registration Dates)</small>

## April 2009

17	Registration opens for fall term <small>(visit <a href="http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami">www.jwu.edu/northmiami</a>, then click through the following pages: Student Life &gt; Academic Services &gt; Course Registration &gt; Registration Dates)</small>
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## May 2009

TBA	Summer housing placements
1	Summer school tuition due
21	Spring term ends
22	Residence halls close for underclassmen at noon
24	Commencement Residence halls close for graduates at 4 p.m.
31	Residence halls open for summer students

## June 2009

1	Summer co-op/internship begins
1-25	Summer session 1 begins and ends
29	Summer session 2 begins

## July 2009

23	Summer session 2 ends
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## August 2009

TBA	Returning student payment deadline
15	Summer co-op/ internship ends

## Commencement 2009

Commencement is the most significant academic event for students and the entire university community. It is the culmination of years of hard work and personal and financial sacrifice for students and families alike.

### Save the Date

Sunday, May 24, 2009, time TBD  
Miami Beach Convention Center, Hall C  
1901 Convention Center Drive  
Miami Beach, FL 33139

### Details

The Commencement Web site and information booklet will be available by late January 2009. These sources contain important dates, details on the ceremony and travel and lodging discounts  
**Web site:** [www.jwu.edu/commencement/](http://www.jwu.edu/commencement/)  
**Booklet:** visit the Graduation Window at Student Academic & Financial Services

### ABOUT PAWS

Parent Ambassadors Working for Students (PAWS) is an initiative led by the Office of Student Affairs at the North Miami Campus to engage parents in the university experience. *Parent Connection* is published four times a year and mailed to each student's permanent address. To add your name to our e-mail distribution, e-mail [paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu) with your name and your student's name. For more information on PAWS, visit the university's new Web site at [www.jwu.edu/northmiami/](http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami/) and click "Parents," call **305-892-7567** or e-mail [paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu).



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