



# PARENT CONNECTION

Spring 2011

[www.jwu.edu/northmiami/parents](http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami/parents)

[paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu) • 305-892-5366

## FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Dear JWU Parents:

As we look to the end of this academic year, I hope that you and your student have enjoyed the JWU experience. The spring term is very exciting in many ways. Some students



**Ismare Monreal**  
Dean of Students &  
Parent Liaison

are getting ready for their graduation while others are making arrangements to go home for the summer and also preparing for their return in the fall. It is a time to mark the accomplishments of the academic year and start preparing for the coming year.

If your student is returning next academic year, here are some things you should know. During the Spring term we have a *Fall Registration* event to assist students in completing the scheduling process for the upcoming fall.

By finishing this process early, students will have better chance of getting into the classes they need and also an opportunity to receive more of the financial assistance they may receive. This issue contains just some of the steps our students should take to ensure a successful return in the fall. Please speak with your student to make sure they have taken these steps.

For those of you whose student is graduating, I extend my deepest congratulations. You made it too! I hope to see you all at commencement. Make sure to check out our Commencement article within this issue to learn about ways to ensure a smooth celebration of your child's accomplishments.

As always, if there is anything I can assist you with, please feel free to contact me at 305-892-5366 or at [ismare.monreal@jwu.edu](mailto:ismare.monreal@jwu.edu). Have a wonderful summer!

Warm Regards,

Ismare Monreal

## Graduates prepare for commencement

As the university's most significant event, commencement not only marks the conclusion of each academic year, but it also marks a significant milestone for each student who walks across the stage and the friends and family members who have supported the student throughout his or her journey.

The North Miami Campus' 2011 Commencement ceremony will be held Saturday, May 21 at the Broward County-Ft. Lauderdale Convention Center (1950 Eisenhower Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale). Following are a few tips that can help make this special day as smooth as possible.

### What your child should do

If your child has not done so already, he or she should visit the Bookstore to pick up the cap & gown. Each graduating student may pick up one cap & gown set (which includes four announcements) at no charge. The Bookstore will have caps and gowns available through 10 a.m., Friday, May 20. Students who cannot pick up their caps and gowns by May 20 may pick them up at the convention center on the morning of the ceremony.

### The ceremony

■ See **GRADUATION**, Page 3

### Commencement 2011

Saturday, May 21

Graduate arrival by 8:30 a.m.

Guest arrival by 9:30 a.m.

Broward County Convention Center

[www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami](http://www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami)



JWU's commencement ceremony is Saturday, May 21. Students and families can visit the commencement website for more details about this important academic ceremony. ([www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami](http://www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami))

## Want a smooth start for fall 2011?

### Returning students: complete Fall Registration

Whether students are starting their first or last year of college, preparing for a new academic year takes time.

The campus' Fall Registration program was designed to help minimize any challenges students may have in returning the following year by guiding students through some of the steps they will need to complete before the 2011-2012 academic year. Students who complete the Fall Registration process will have the classes they need in the fall, a solid financial plan, and proper housing arrangements.

Following are five of the most important steps students should complete before the end of the Spring term:

**1. Self-schedule for fall 2011 in jwuLink (<http://link.jwu.edu>).** As of May 4, class registration is open for all students.

**2. Create a fall term payment plan with Student Financial Services (305-892-7006).** This includes completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. Returning students must be financially cleared for the fall term by Aug. 5 or they will receive a hold. It is important that returning students meet this deadline since fall term schedules and housing assignments will be deleted for those who do not meet this requirement.

■ See **FALL REGISTRATION**, Page 3

# How to help your child on the journey to success

**Martha Sacks, Ph.D.**

Director of the Center for Academic Support

It's springtime! Birds are singing, the beach is calling, and college students are working diligently on their spring term courses.

Our primary goal as college professors and administrators is to prepare your child for success – success in the classrooms, success in their careers, and success in their lives. For some students, the path to success is smooth and even; for other students the path can be a bit bumpy and some even stray off the path at times. 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.

How can you help your son or daughter be as successful as possible?

Communication is crucial at this period in their life. First, when communicating with your children, it's important to realize that this is the time that many of them will start to assert their independence as they transition from being too dependent on you to being ready and able to live on their own and be self-supporting.

As they transition into this more independent stage, their goals may shift, their priorities may alter, and their plans may often 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 even if your child has difficulty expressing their feelings or themselves.

Second, be alert for warning signs that your child may be suffering from too

much stress, too much partying, or too little sleep. These circumstances can cause any child to struggle. Some students develop persistent problems with depression, which can be treated, but which often goes overlooked while the students suffer in silence. We have identified some common warning signs in the sidebar within this article.

Of course, as you review this list, you see several contrasting behaviors, weight gain vs. weight loss, increased sleeping vs. decreased energy level, or moping around vs. feeling agitated. The key red flag for you as the parent can be if you notice a significant change in any area of your child's behavior or personality. If a warning bell goes off during one of your conversations, don't ignore it, please call us at the Center for Academic Support at 305-892-7026 and we would be happy to reach out to your child.

We want to help and we can help your child. Every term we meet with many students who realize they would benefit from counseling. Your child doesn't have to fit the definition of clinical depression to benefit from counseling. Any student who comes to us and indicates a desire to meet with a counselor is referred to Jewish Community Services, the organization which is contracted to provide counseling to our students. The university has worked with Jewish Community Services for many years. Students who have used their services always report that they are satisfied with their services. As part of our commitment to serving our students, Johnson & Wales covers any expenses not covered by our student insurance plan, so all of the

## Signs your child may need extra assistance

- Feeling depressed or irritable most of the day
- Feeling of hopelessness
- Change in weight – either weight gain or loss; change in appetite – either increased or decreased
- Increased sleeping
- Decreased energy level – feeling tired all the time
- Missing class and/or withdrawal from social activities
- Feeling worthless or guilty
- Moping around or feeling agitated

counseling services are free to our students.

The mission of the Center for Academic Support is to support students in their efforts to develop their talent and empower them to direct their own learning. We outreach to students by meeting with them during open houses and registration, visiting classes, asking faculty for referrals, and advising them if their grade point average drops below a 2.0. We also support them through our individual advising and tutoring efforts. When a student meets with one of our tutors, a notice is sent to the professor explaining the tutoring service that was provided. In addition, our faculty members strive to facilitate active learning in their classes and strongly support their students' academic endeavors. If your child tells you that he or she has been missing classes, please call us at the Center for Academic Support.

Spring is in the air, and we live in a beautiful area. Many students are excellent at multi-tasking, but it's hard to study at the beach or in a pool, and it's impossible to focus if your child begins to suffer from depression or too much stress. Please keep the lines of communication open with your children, and know that they will experience occasional bumps in the road. Listen to your child, but understand that whatever you're hearing is coming from only one perspective. We encourage you and your child to call us whenever there is a question or concern: 305-892-7026. You may also email me directly at [martha.sacks@jwu.edu](mailto:martha.sacks@jwu.edu).

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.

### North Miami Campus Directory

#### Main Phone Numbers

305-892-7000 or 1-866-598-3567

#### Academic Affairs/Vice President's Office

305-892-5366

#### Administration/President's Office

305-892-7039

#### Admissions

305-892-7000

#### Athletics

305-892-7607

#### Bookstore & more...

305-892-7064

#### Center for Academic Support

305-892-7026 (formerly Student Success)

#### Experiential Education & Career Services

305-892-7029 (Career) 305-892-7619 (ExEd)

#### Health Services

305-892-7594

#### Information Technology (Help Desk)

1-866-JWU-HELP

#### International Student Services

305-892-7554

#### Library

305-892-7043

#### Residential Life

305-892-7071

#### Safety & Security, Campus

305-892-7011

#### Student Academic & Financial Services

305-892-7038 (SAS) 305-892-7006 (SFS)

#### Student Activities

305-892-5363

#### Student Employment

305-892-7039

## PARENT PERSPECTIVE

# Arlan family shares JWU experiences

*Bill and Iris Arlan, parents of culinary arts sophomore Eric Arlan, spoke to Parent Connection about their family's experiences with the North Miami Campus. The Arlan family is from Edison, N.J.*



**1. How did your son become interested in his chosen major?** Eric always had an inquisitiveness for a career in the culinary arts. As a youngster, he would be in the kitchen watching me cook and always asked many questions about the different dishes and desserts that I would prepare.

**2. How did your son and family learn about JWU?** We learned about JWU from researching on the Internet. When Eric was a junior in high school he showed an interest in going to a culinary school after he graduated high school. I found some information regarding the culinary boot camp that JWU offered and found the program to be an excellent choice for him to see if this was really something that he wanted to do. If it wasn't what he wanted then it was only a small amount of money spent and not college tuition. I feel that this was the best \$600 that we could have spent to find this excellent program.

**3. What do you feel makes JWU the right fit for your child?** Each and every person who is involved in the education of these students makes it their priority to make sure that these students are there to get the very best education that they can. If a student has a problem, the Center for Academic Support has a 100% dedication to make sure that any issues are dealt with immediately. Nothing is ever a large task for these wonderful educators.

**4. What advice would you share with parents who are going through the college transition?** The parents and the student should look at all their options and make the right decision as to what the student really seeks to aspire. One would not want to spend a tremendous amount of money and find out that a specific program is not for them. They need to do their research and of course, word of mouth is always a good recommendation.

**5. How do you think students can have the best experience possible at JWU?** Students need to focus on their studies, get involved in activities and most of all "follow their dreams."

## Fall Registration: a returning student's key to success

■ From **FALL REGISTRATION**, Page 1

**3. Extend school health insurance coverage to include the summer months.** This extension of insurance is an affordable way to protect your child while he or she is on summer break. Call Klais & Company: 330-867-8443 for details.

**4. Sign up for on campus housing (visit <http://housing.jwu.edu>).** Housing is very limited for fall 2011, so we encourage students to complete this process before spaces are filled.

**5. Make sure all holds are cleared by checking jwuLink.** jwuLink may be accessed at <http://link.jwu.edu>.

Fall Registration clearance is only the first step to getting ready for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Even after a student has successfully completed the Fall Registration process during the Spring term, students must still



monitor their JWU email and jwuLink accounts throughout the summer to ensure they satisfy any other university requirements.

Questions? Call JWU at 305-892-7000 or 1-866-596-3567.

## Families encouraged to plan ahead for a successful commencement ceremony

■ From **GRADUATION**, Page 1

The commencement ceremony begins promptly at 10 a.m., but guests may enter the hall to find seating as early as 9 a.m. Students are not limited in the number of guests and seating will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Guests must arrive by 9:30 a.m. and graduates must arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. to ensure a prompt start to the ceremony. Doors will close at 9:45 a.m. to allow the procession to enter the convention center.

The university's goal is to conduct a meaningful, dignified ceremony. The significance of this day and the recognition of our students' academic achievements, should be observed with respect. Disorderly conduct and rowdiness from guests or graduates will be grounds for immediate ejection. Additionally, graduates, parents, family and friends are asked to remain seated in the convention center through the duration of commencement as leaving the ceremony demonstrates extreme disrespect to all in attendance. Please remember that it is important for the last graduate to get the same acknowledgment that the first graduate received.

A professional photographer will be taking pictures of each graduate and proofs will be sent via email to graduates within 24 hours.

### Accommodations

South Florida is very busy in the spring, so we encourage families to make airfare, hotel, rental car and restaurant reservations as early as possible to ensure you will receive the

best rates and preferred accommodations.

The Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center is located in downtown Ft. Lauderdale, approximately 20-30 minutes away from the North Miami Campus. The convention center charges a small fee for parking, so we encourage guests to carpool as much as possible. Please keep in mind that the convention center is near Port Everglades, and security checkpoints exist at all entrances. All visitors must present valid government-issued photo identification.

The commencement ceremony generally concludes by 12:45 p.m., so we encourage families to make lunch reservations no earlier than 1 p.m. to allow adequate time to depart the convention center and arrive at the restaurant.

For information on area hotels and restaurants, visit [www.sunny.org](http://www.sunny.org) for Greater Ft. Lauderdale, and for Greater Miami, [www.miamiandbeaches.com](http://www.miamiandbeaches.com).

South Florida is a large metropolitan area, so be sure to check the distance to the convention center and your child's residence before finalizing hotel or restaurant arrangements.

Congratulations, graduates!

### Questions

- Commencement Information hotline: 305-892-5388
- Commencement Information window: Student Academic & Financial Services (University Center 1st floor)
- Commencement website: [www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami](http://www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami)

# Mark Your Calendars

## May 2011

- 9 Student Leadership Awards
- 13-19 Finals
- 20 University Awards & Circle of Excellence Awards
- 20 Residence halls close at noon for all non-graduating students
- 21 Commencement
- 22 Residence halls close at noon for graduating students

## June 2011

- 3 Residence halls open for summer
- 6 Summer session 1 begins  
Summer internship begins
- 30 Summer session 1 ends

## July 2011

- 4 Holiday, university closed
- 5 Summer session 2 begins

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

- 8 New student fall payment deadline
- 11-21 New student summer orientation sessions  
([www.jwu.edu/northmiami/orientation](http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami/orientation))
- 28 Summer session 2 ends

## August 2011

- 5 Returning student fall payment deadline
- 20 Summer internship and online classes end
- 31 Residence Halls open for international students

## September 2011

- 2 New resident student move-in
- 3 Returning resident student move-in
- 6 2011-2012 academic year begins

## New residence hall opens to great excitement



The campus community celebrated the opening Biscayne Commons, the campus' newest residence hall, with a luau on the lawn. The campus' next addition, The Wildcat Center, is scheduled to open in winter term 2011-2012.

**ABOUT PAWS:** Parent Ambassadors Working for Students (PAWS) is an initiative designed to engage North Miami Campus parents in the university experience. *Parent Connection* is published twice a year and mailed to each student's permanent address. To add your name to our email distribution, email [paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu) with your name and your student's name and J# (if known). For more information on PAWS, visit the university's Web site at [www.jwu.edu/northmiami/parents](http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami/parents), call 305-892-7567 or email [paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu).

Would you like to receive *Parent Connection* and other notifications via email? # (if known) and to [paws.mia@jwu.edu](mailto:paws.mia@jwu.edu) and we will add you to our mailing list.

TO THE PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF:

Information about important upcoming events is just a click away:

**New Student Orientation:** [www.jwu.edu/northmiami/orientation](http://www.jwu.edu/northmiami/orientation)

**Commencement:** [www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami](http://www.jwu.edu/commencement/northmiami)

Parent Ambassadors Working for Students (PAWS)  
Student Affairs  
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North Miami, FL 33181