Parent CONNECTION

News for Families of Johnson & Wales University

JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY
NORTH MIAMI CAMPUS

PAWS
Parent Ambassadors Working for Students

November 2009 | www.jwu.edu/northmiami/parents | paws.mia@jwu.edu • 305-892-7567

FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Dear Parents and Families,

The fall term is underway, and the academic year is already off to a great start.

Our freshmen and transfer students have had the opportunity to settle in to their new environment at JWU, while our returning students have had a chance to reunite with old friends and establish new connections.

Ismare Monreal
Dean of Students & Parent Liaison

Whether you are the parent of a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior, I encourage you to stay involved in your child's college education.

Ask your child what they've learned so far, who they've met, and what their goals are. Most importantly, ask how you can help your child achieve his or her goals.

As you speak with your child, ask what he or she is doing outside of class. If your student is looking for a way to connect with JWU, encourage him or her to visit our Student Activities or Athletics departments to learn about the various clubs, organizations, varsity sports and intramurals we offer each day. These opportunities provide our students with an instant way to meet new friends and learn new things.

If your student is looking for a job or externship, make sure he or she visits the Experiential Education & Career Services office and checks out the Fall Career Expo, Thursday, Nov. 5 on campus.

In addition, now is the time for you and your student to plan for financial aid for the 2010-2011 academic year. The scholarship season begins each year in October, so check sites like **www.fastweb.com** regularly and make sure your student files the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the Feb. 28 priority deadline. For details, call our Student Financial Services team at **305-892-7006**.

As we continue to move forward together, I encourage you to take the opportunity to call us if you or your child need help throughout the process at JWU. Please feel free to contact me if I can help you, **305-892-7567** or **ismare.monreal@jwu.edu**.

Best of luck to you and your child on a successful 2009-2010 academic year at JWU!

President announces construction of student life, residence buildings

President Loreen Chant made an exciting announcement to the student body Tuesday, Oct. 13 when she revealed the university's plans to open both a new student life center and a new residence hall at the North Miami Campus by the end of the 2010-2011 academic year.

The student life center will be home for campus athletics teams and the Student Activities department's clubs, organizations and events. The facility will also include a new fitness center and a basketball court with stadium seating.

The new residence hall will be built on the current site of Biscayne Commons. Because feedback from prior student residents of Biscayne Commons was so positive, this new residence hall will be built while preserving the pool and recreational spaces that former student residents enjoyed so much when they lived at Biscayne Commons.

Student leaders joined President Loreen Chant on stage shortly after she announced the campus' plans to open a residence hall and student life center during the 2010-11 academic year.

Construction on both facilities is slated to begin in early 2010.

Campus educates students to prevent flu

Like many colleges and universities across the country, the North Miami Campus spent the past few months developing a comprehensive response plan for H1N1 influenza, the new strain of the flu that has spread across the country since it was first identified in the spring.

The university has shared tips with students, parents and employees, and is following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s guidelines for preventing H1N1.

Specifically, the campus is encouraging members of the campus community to:

- Wash hands frequently with warm water and soap and/or use an alcohol-based hand gel or foam. Additional sanitizing foam dispensers were added throughout the campus.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth without washing your hands first.
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve or arm. If you use a tissue, immediately dispose of the tissue.
- Do not share drinks, sodas, cell phones or lip balm with others.
- Stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine if you have a fever along with any respiratory symptoms.

"We encourage students and employees to take the health of the entire campus community very seriously," said Ismare Monreal, dean of students. "If you feel sick with flu-like symptoms, stay home and limit your contact with others so you can get well and prevent spread of the virus."

Additional information is available on the university Web site, www.jwu.edu/northmiami. Students and parents with questions can also call Health Services at 305-892-7594.

PARENT PERSPECTIVE

Beach family shares JWU experiences

Marlene Beach, mother of sports/entertainment/event management junior Patrick Beach, spoke to Parent Connection about her family's experiences with the North Miami Campus. The Beach family is from Bridgman, Mich.

Parent Connection: *How did your son become interested in golf management?*
Marlene Beach: He's in the golf concentration, and has enjoyed golf since he picked up a golf club at the age of five. He then played in high school. It's a good industry for him because he enjoys working with people, being outside, teaching and golfing.

JWU parents Stewart and Marlene Beach with son Patrick, a junior majoring in sports/entertainment/event management.

PC: *How did your family learn about JWU?*
MB: Patrick mentioned he did not want to study golf in Michigan, so we visited JWU's Denver Campus. While we were there, we learned that the North Miami Campus had a golf program, so he ended up heading down there.

PC: *What do you feel makes JWU the right fit for your child?*
MB: The No. 1 reason is the weather because he can golf year round. He also likes the feel of the campus. It is a small campus, but he can go out into the larger South Florida community to enjoy different activities.

PC: *What advice would you share with other parents who are going through the college transition with a child for the first time?*
MB: I think it's best to give your kids a little room. You don't have to call them every day; they'll call when they need you. Also, don't preach to them.

PC: *How do you think students can have the best experience possible at JWU?*
MB: My best advice is to get involved right away. There are so many opportunities, and luckily at JWU you don't have to wait three years to do what you really want. Patrick was able to take golf courses early on, so he knew right away if that was what he really wanted to do with his life.

To be interviewed for the Parent Perspective column, e-mail paws.mia@jwu.edu.

Success in college takes planning, dialogue

By Martha Sacks Ph.D.
Director of Student Success

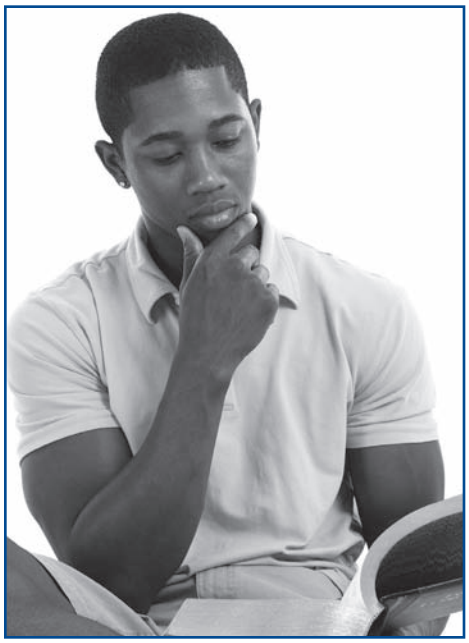
Fail to plan or plan to fail is a popular saying of many motivational speakers. College holds numerous opportunities as well as various challenges for students. These challenges can be viewed as opportunities for development or as obstacles; you can help your child focus on the positive by being a supportive parent and a positive influence. As the term progresses, you and your child can take steps to plan for success at JWU. Your planning should include at least three main areas: academic, time management, and financial. Whether your child commutes to school, lives at home, or is a freshmen or a returning student, these suggestions can help.

"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today." Malcolm X

Study, study, study. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, encourage your child to visit Student Success where there are advisors, professional English tutors, and peer tutors who can provide assistance in time management, study strategies, and every course that's offered on our campus. If your child prefers to work independently, but has struggled in writing, he or she may want to visit online resources like the University of Wisconsin's Writing Handbook (http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/). Also, many of our faculty post copies of their notes in their Public Folders which every student can access online through the university's e-mail system.

"The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work." Vincent Lombardi

Busy, busy, busy. Time management is another area that many college students find challenging. Free from the confines of a high school schedule, many freshmen explore opportunities in a wide range of activities. Helping your child plan a schedule that allows adequate time for studying could be a big benefit. As many students find themselves stretched thinly between the demands of class time, campus activities, sports, and work, they struggle to find time to study. You can help by reminding them of the importance of balance and also the importance of putting adequate time into their studies. The Study Guides and Strategies Web site (http://www.studygs.net/timman.htm) provides strategies for developing a time management plan. If you think your child may be taking on too much, our student success advisors may be able to help them reach a compromise that will help them succeed. We are eager to assist!



Time management and good study habits are just two of the life skills your son or daughter can learn in college.

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." Thomas Edison

Money, money, money; debt, debt, debt. How do you help your child plan financially? You can help your child prepare by having an open discussion about your family's financial plan for college. Credit card companies are eager to serve college students, and unfortunately many students succumb to the trap of credit card debt. Prepare your child to "Just say no!" to credit card enticements; explain the pitfalls of credit card debt and the trap of high interest rates. Review some financial Web sites, including BankRate (http://www.bankrate.com), set up a plan of financial support, and discuss this plan repeatedly with your child. Work together. If you think your son or daughter can manage a job in addition to school, our Career Services office can provide help with job leads, writing a resume, and interview techniques.

"The greatest discovery of any generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering the attitudes of their minds." Albert Schweitzer

While academic, time management, and financial planning can help your child prepare to succeed, open communication is key to your child's ongoing success. As their parents, you can keep the lines of communication open by being supportive, consistent, and clear in your expectations. We can help. Contact us in Student Success at 305-892-7026 if you have any concerns about your child, and we'll be happy to assist you. Plan for success!

"Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." Henry Ford.

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

College is a busy time for all students and their families. We hope these commonly asked questions help you stay up to speed with your student's progress at JWU.

1. Is my student insured through the university? Yes, all students receive insurance through the University's Student Health Insurance Plan from September through May. Coverage will cease as defined in the insurance brochure and for terms students do not begin. Insurance information is available through Health Services (305-892-7594 or 305-892-7009). **Since this coverage is intended as basic, supplemental insurance, we encourage you to maintain any insurance you may already have for your student.**

2. My student has a hold on his/her account. What should he/she do? Students receive holds on their accounts for a variety of reasons. These holds should be addressed as soon as a student is notified of the hold. Descriptions of holds, as well as the procedures for resolving each hold, are located in the Student Handbook under "General Information and Policies" in the University Holds section. To have the hold removed, contact the appropriate department listed within the Student Handbook.

3. How can my student change his/her schedule? After their first term at JWU, students may change their schedules in uconnect (http://uconnect.jwu.edu). Schedule changes for first term freshmen are done on a limited basis and only for students who have extenuating circumstances. First term freshmen should call Student Academic Services at 305-892-7038 to schedule an appointment with their advisor.

4. I would like to mail something to my student who lives on campus. Which address should I use? All packages and letters should be mailed to your student's attention at Johnson & Wales University, P.O. Box 619027, North Miami, FL 33181. Mail for resident students is processed through Flamingo Hall. Students will receive a notification that they have a package, and may pick it up from the Flamingo Hall front desk between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

5. How does the Dining Dollars program work? The university has a Dining Dollars program in which students can carry money for The Mix dining center on their Wildcat cards. Dining Dollar accounts are managed through the Student Accounts Window at Student Academic & Financial Services (first floor of University Center, 305-892-7070). As students utilize their meal plans, the cost of their selections is deducted from their Dining Dollars account. Resident students, as part of their room and board charges, are provided with a declining balance meal plan which allows them to purchase meals, snacks and take-out food. The standard declining balance accounts are replenished with $60 on a weekly basis throughout the term. Students may purchase Add-on Dollars on their declining balance accounts with a 10 percent bonus. For more information, call Student Financial Services at 305-892-7070.

6. When will I receive my refund check? During the fourth week of each term a student may request a refund if their account is clearly overpaid. Refund requests must be made by telephone or in person at Student Academic & Financial Services (305-892-7070, University Center, first floor). After the fifth week of a term and once eligibility is determined, refunds take up to 10 business days for processing at our Providence Campus. The student may request that their refund check be forwarded to their mailing address. If proceeds have been received from a PLUS loan, the refund will be made payable to the borrower and mailed to the address shown on the PLUS application. If a student does not request a refund, the funds will remain on the student's account until the expiration of that academic year.

7. My student does not remember his/her PIN or password. What should he/she do? Both uconnect and the JWU e-mail system allow students to reset their PIN or password. Students can reset their uconnect PIN online at http://uconnect.jwu.edu. To do so, enter your J#, select the "Forgot PIN" option, then answer a series of security questions. Students who need additional assistance should visit Student Academic & Financial Services. JWU e-mail passwords may be reset by visiting http://email.jwu.edu and clicking on the "Password Reset Manager" link. Once the correct answers have been submitted the student will be prompted to create a new password for their JWU e-mail account. Students who cannot reset their e-mail passwords via Password Reset Manager should visit the computer lab in Academic & Student Center 106.

8. I need to officially verify my student's enrollment at JWU. How can I do this? Most students may print their own enrollment verification letters conveniently and easily via uconnect (http://uconnect.jwu.edu, Enter Secure Area > Student Records > Print Enrollment Verification Letters). In order to use this enrollment verification service (provided by the National Student Clearinghouse), students must have a Social Security Number on file. If a student does not have a Social Security number on file with the university or if the student is an international student, please contact Student Academic & Financial Services (305-892-7038) to request an enrollment verification letter. Enrollment verification is generally available one month after the start of each term. For specific dates and additional information, check the Enrollment Verification section of the Student Handbook.

9. How can I access my child's grades and academic records? As a parent, it's important that you understand the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which defines and protects your student's rights once he or she is registered for classes. FERPA limits the information with respect to your student's educational record that university officials can share with you. Even if the student signs a consent form, the information that you may be allowed to review will be limited. The Student Authorization to Release information form is available online, www.jwu.edu/northmiami > Student Life > Academic Services > Forms. Parents looking for academic and/or financial information pertaining to their student can view their son/daughter's academic record by obtaining their student's ID number and PIN to access these records via uconnect, http://uconnect.jwu.edu. Access to uconnect will allow students (and parents) to view grades and transcripts, obtain Enrollment Verification letters (for insurance purposes), and view their students academic schedule.

10. What if I have additional questions? You may call the university directly for assistance, 305-892-7000 or 1-866-598-3567. Additionally, the university Web site (www.jwu.edu) and Student Handbook (www.jwu.edu/northmiami > click "Student Life," click "Student Handbook") are two great resources that help students and families answer a variety of questions.

City councilman, campus administrators share leadership experiences

Scott Galvin, a councilman for the City of North Miami, joined three campus administrators in sharing his experiences as a young civic leader with more than 50 students from the leadership living learning community.

Mark Your Calendars

November 2009

5	Fall Career Expo
6	Winter new student payment deadline
13-19	Finals
20	End of fall term
20-30	Thanksgiving Break *(Residence halls remain open)*
29-30	New student move-in
30	Term start & orientation

December 2009

1	1st day of class for winter term
18	Holiday break (*Residence Halls close at noon)*
18	Registration opens for spring term *(See Student Handbook for specific dates)*

January 2010

3	Return from holiday break *(Residence halls re-open at 8 a.m.)*
TBA	Fall 2010 room deposit due
TBA	Fall 2010 online room selection opens
18	Holiday, no classes

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

February 2010

5	Spring new student payment deadline
19-25	Finals
25	End of winter term
26 - Mar 9	Spring break *(Residence halls remain open)*
28	Priority deadline for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (www.fafsa.ed.gov)

March 2010

7	New student move-in
8	Term Start and Orientation
9	1st day of class for spring term
19	Registration opens for optional summer term (all students)
23	Spring Career Expo

April 2010

16	Registration opens for fall term *(See Student Handbook for specific dates)*
30	Summer student payment deadline

May 2010

TBA	Summer housing placements
1	Summer school tuition due
14-20	Finals
20	Spring term ends
21	Residence halls close at noon
22	Commencement
31	Residence halls open for summer students

June 2010

7	Summer session 1 begins , summer co-op/internship begins

July 2010

1	Summer session 1 ends
5	Holiday
6	Summer session 2 begins
9	New student fall payment deadline
29	Summer session 2 ends

August 2010

6	Returning student fall payment deadline
21	Summer co-op/ internship ends

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 twice 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** with your name and your student's name. For more information on PAWS, visit the university's Web site at **www.jwu.edu/northmiami/parents**, call **305-892-7567** or e-mail **paws.mia@jwu.edu.**

Would you like to receive *Parent Connection and other notifications* via e-mail?

E-mail your name, your student's name and your student's J# (if available) and to paws.mia@jwu.edu and we will add you to our mailing list.

TO THE PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF:

Private scholarship season
has just started!
* File your FAFSA by Feb. 28
* Visit www.fastweb.com to view scholarship offers
* Questions? Call Student Financial Services, 305-892-7007

JOHNSON & WALES
UNIVERSITY

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