“Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person’s character lies in their own hands.” --Anne Frank

Spring 2014

It’s Spring-time on the Hilltop. By this time your student should be thoroughly engaged in coursework. Hopefully the academic goals and objectives your student set last fall were met. If not, this semester is an opportunity to regroup and refocus. In order to help you promote your student’s success, we have included Important Dates & Deadlines and What Parents Should Know & Discuss with their Student. We have also added the NEW link for the “PARENTPOWER Inquiry Form.”

Important Dates & Deadlines...

WLU Priority Deadline for the 2014-2015 FAFSA. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for important details on filing for student aid.................................................................April 15
* West Liberty University’s school code is: 003823.

WLU Midterm Grades Issued.................................................................March 7

WLU Spring Break .............................................................................March 10-14

Last Day to Add 2nd Half Classes.......................................................March 21

Spring Holiday NO CLASSES ..............................................................April 18

Pre-Registration for summer and fall terms ........................................April 1-17

Last Day to Withdraw with a grade of “W” .........................................April 4

Last Day of classes and last day to drop a class..................................May 2

Final Examinations.................................................................May 5-9

Student Services Phone Numbers
Housing & Residence Life..........................................................304.336.8343
Financial Aid..................................................................................304.336.8016
Business Office............................................................................304.336.8944
Registrar......................................................................................304.336.8007
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What Parents Should Know & Discuss with their Student...

Continued Financial Aid Eligibility

As we addressed in the last issue of PARENTPOWER, financial eligibility is not “static.” Just because you filed your FAFSA on time doesn’t mean your 2014-2015 financial aid award will be the same as this year’s. Consider any changes in your family’s income and discuss with your student any changes in their academic standing, i.e. grade point average, credit hours completed, that might impact their award eligibility. Remember, students who fail to complete 70% of credit hours attempted may lose financial aid eligibility.

The Midterm Message

As you will note under Important Dates & Deadlines, midterm is March 7. Midterm grades are issued as a cautionary measure to alert students whose course grade is currently a “D” or “F” to take action! Appropriate actions include: meeting with the instructor to determine a strategy for improving grade, signing up for a peer tutor in the Learning and Student Development Center, dropping the course by April 5th to receive a grade of “W.” Remember, even if a student decides to drop a class after April 5th, the instructor has the discretion to issue a grade of “WP” (withdrew passing, doesn’t adversely effect GPA) or “WF” (withdrew failing, which has the same effect as a grade of “F” on GPA).

Why We’re “Pro” Pre-Registration & Academic Advising

Your student should not miss the opportunity to sit down with his/her advisor to develop a pre-registration schedule for the Fall and in some cases the Summer 2014 term(s). Some students attempt to develop their schedules independent of their advisor’s guidance. However, this can be problematic as advisors have information readily available to them about course offering changes, schedule sequences and pre-requisites about which students may not be clear. Additionally, pre-registering for the fall term increases the chances of students getting into the classes they want on the days and times they want.
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Remember, pre-registration dates are April 1-17. Students will be notified via email/Hilltopper Headlines of which dates they should register.

**Summer School: To Get Ahead or To Catch Up**

Summer School offers your student the opportunity to get ahead or to catch up. Your student may take classes at West Liberty or at another institution closer to home.

During your student’s pre-registration meeting, he/she can register for Summer School classes on campus. However, if your student wishes to take a class on another campus, he/she must complete the WLU Transient Application (click here to access and print the form): [http://www.westliberty.edu/registrar/students/transient-application/](http://www.westliberty.edu/registrar/students/transient-application/)

**West Liberty University Summer Schedule**

- Summer Term I (No classes on May 13 & 26) ............................................................. May 12-30
- Summer Term II ................................................................................................................. June 2-20
- Summer Term III (No classes on July 4) ........................................................................... June 23-July 11
- Summer Term IV ............................................................................................................... July 14-Aug 1

**Declaring a Major!**

Freshmen who have not figured out what they’d like to major in by the end of the spring term risk not graduating on schedule. If your student is still indecisive about a major, encourage him/her to stop by the Center for Student Success to complete The Self-Directed Search interest inventory. This effective tool uses your student’s self-reported interests, skills and abilities to direct him/her toward a best-suited major. For more information about the self-directed search visit: [http://www.self-directed-search.com](http://www.self-directed-search.com)
The Learning and Student Development Center covers the cost of the inventory.

**Physical & Mental Health**

As a proactive measure, WLU Health Services provides an online newsletter, Student Health 101 which is designed to promote student health in all areas. To view this month’s edition, click here: [http://readsh101.com/westliberty.html](http://readsh101.com/westliberty.html) Some students may encounter more pressing problems that interfere with their ability to meet their academic objectives. You or your student should contact the campus counselor, Lisa Witzberger at 304.336.8215, or lwitzberger@westliberty.edu if your student is exhibiting any of the following warning signs...

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- Feelings of hopelessness, worthlessness, guilt, depression
- Withdrawal from family, friends, interests,
- Exhaustion, difficulty focusing, making decisions
- Irritable, agitated, angry, vengeful
- Unsafe, impulsive behaviors
- Persisting physical symptoms (headaches, poor digestion, chronic pain)

**Have Questions? Complete the “PARENTPOWER Inquiry Form”**

The PARENTPOWER Inquiry Form provides an opportunity for you to ask questions you may have about West Liberty University in general or your student’s situation in particular. While FERPA laws prevent West Liberty University and its staff from discussing certain types of information about your student with you, it does not prevent us from answering those questions we can and providing appropriate advice and direction on questions or concerns we cannot address directly. To access this online form click here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dE9ENUZwN25lcEoyN0xkNC0xcktkcGc6MQ

**Encourage your student to apply for a PAID summer internship in Wheeling, WV!**

All majors qualify!

To apply go to:

You can also access this information by going to www.cfov.org (click on 'Grants' then click on 'Civic Leaders Fellowship Program.'

Contact Renee George at 304.242.3144 with any questions.

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