You and your student made it through the first two weeks of school! Celebrate for a bit and then realize that it is truly the first six weeks of school that are the hardest for students. If students persist through the first month and a half, they will make new friends, reconnect with old friends, settle into a routine, know the faculty members’ expectations, and stay enrolled at Colorado State University. If your student is struggling, there are a number of great resources. Check out the article below to see just a sample of the resources available to your students.

Included in this email newsletter are the following articles:
- Colorado State University Supports Student Success
- Get Involved with the Colorado State Parent & Family Council
- Learning Outcomes for Parents & Families
- Examples of Projects Sponsored by Parents Fund
- Family Weekend & Homecoming Information
- Ram Connections Mentoring Program
- Fraternity & Sorority Recruitment

A number of you were challenged by the last email newsletter. If the links don’t work, you can scroll down the email to read the articles or go directly to the Parent and Family Website to read the newsletter online (as well as archived newsletters). Here’s the link (cut & paste into your browser, or click on it directly): http://www.parents.colostate.edu/newsletter/

Please remind your student about two exciting upcoming events:
President’s Fall Address and All University Picnic: September 6 @ 11:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Division of Student Affairs Day: September 12 @ 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

This is a long newsletter, full of important information! We are partners in your student’s success, and thus, included are articles in anticipation of a variety of student issues during the month of September. If you have suggestions for future articles, please send them my way! I hope to see all of you at Family Weekend & Homecoming – October 5-7!

Sincerely,

Jody
Colorado State University Supports Student Success!

Below are just a few of the numerous offices and services to support students while they are enrolled at Colorado State University. Encourage your student to make an appointment, visit the websites, and reach out to a faculty or staff member if they have questions or concerns. There is no reason for students to not receive the help they need!

- **Residence Hall Issues:** their resident assistant, assistant residence director and residence director are easily accessible in their building and know a lot about navigating the campus and available resources. (http://www.housing.colostate.edu/halls/index.htm)
- **Off-Campus Issues:** Off-Campus Student Services/Resources for Adult Learners is by the Transit Center in the Lory Student Center. They deal with roommate/landlord/neighbor issues, as well as assist with other concerns for students living off campus. (http://www.ocssral.colostate.edu/)
- **Fraternity or Sorority Issues:** Greek Life is located on the main level of the Lory Student Center and offers a listening ear and access to great support systems. (http://csugreeks.colostate.edu/)
- **Academic Issues:**
  - **Ingersoll Natural Science Tutorial Hall** offers free tutoring for all Natural Science courses in the lower level of Ingersoll Hall from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday. (http://www.natsci.colostate.edu/tutoring/)
  - **Learning Assistance Program** offers study skills, time management, test taking, note taking, and other workshops and sessions, in addition to testing for learning disabilities. The LAP is located in the lower level of the Clark Bldg, in the Counseling Center. (http://www.counseling.colostate.edu/services/academic/learning-assistance-center/index.asp)
  - **Academic Advancement Center** provides academic assistance and mentoring for First-Generation, Limited-Income, Students with Disabilities and Students of Color through Federal funding. The AAC is located in the Gibbons Bldg, on the Oval. Check it out to see if you qualify for these services. (http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/AAC/)
• The Writing Center offers assistance with researching, organizing, writing and editing essays and papers. The staff work with students to learn how to improve their writing and get past writer’s block. They are located in the lower level of Eddy, Room 6. (http://writing.colostate.edu/)

• The Center for Advising and Student Achievement serves University Option Option students as well as students who are majoring in some of the Health Professions and Life Sciences. If your student has questions about choosing or changing majors, encourage them to speak with an academic advisor in CASA. (http://www.casa.colostate.edu/index.cfm)

• The Career Center has two locations to better serve students! They just opened their satellite office in the Lory Student Center next to Sweet Sinsations in addition to their main location in Ammons Hall. The career center staff love to work with students beginning in their first year through graduation. (http://career.stuser.colostate.edu/)

• Tutoring Services have been compiled into an online brochure. Encourage your student to print it out and seek tutoring. It’s the smart students who get tutored! (http://www.ocsral.colostate.edu/ral/documents/Tutoring_Brochure.pdf)

• Faculty Members! All faculty members have office hours and many are willing to visit with students immediately after class. Frequently, instructors offer review sessions, can suggest tips for studying, and supplemental reading for clarification.

• Health-Related Issues:
  • Hartshorn Health Service is a full health provider, with physicians, nurses, dentists, physical therapists, a pharmacy, and a lot more! Your student has already paid their health fee which allows them to access most services without additional charges. Most tests, prescriptions, dentistry and treatments are at least 20% less than in the community. (http://hartshorn.colostate.edu/)
  • The University Counseling Center is located in the lower level of the Clark Bldg and provides individual, couples, and group counseling, a variety of workshops, stress management programs, and other assistance. Students receive five visits each semester at no additional cost and each session beyond the five is at a ridiculously low price of $10 per session! (http://www.counseling.colostate.edu/)
  • The Campus Recreation Center is a hot spot for students to work out their emotions, get exercise, and meet other students. Intramurals, group fitness classes, and fitness evaluations are also offered at the “Rec.” (http://campusrec.colostate.edu/)
  • The Wellness Zone, located on the main level of the Lory Student Center brings the above three services together for a holistic approach to student wellness. Programs, services, and resources go to the students rather than waiting for the students to find the services! (http://wellness.colostate.edu/)
  • Drug and Alcohol Education and Intervention is offered by two offices: Alcohol and Drug Prevention and Education (http://alcoholprev.colostate.edu/index.shtml) and Drugs, Alcohol and You Programs (http://day.colostate.edu/index.asp). Explore both websites for terrific information for students and families.
- **Financial Issues:** Student Financial Services has a great website as well as caring counselors waiting to speak with your student. They are also the folks to speak with about residency, scholarships, loans, paying your bill, the Colorado Opportunity Fund, and student employment! ([http://sfs.colostate.edu/](http://sfs.colostate.edu/))
- **Getting Involved/Leadership/Service Issues:** We know that students who are involved on campus are better students, so we encourage all students to join a few clubs, work on campus, and volunteer in the community during their time at CSU. Student Leadership, Involvement and Community Engagement, as well as Campus Activities, and our student government: ASCSU, are great places to start! ([http://www.slce.colostate.edu/](http://www.slce.colostate.edu/); [http://www.sc.colostate.edu/involvement.aspx](http://www.sc.colostate.edu/involvement.aspx); [http://www.ascsu.colostate.edu/](http://www.ascsu.colostate.edu/))
- **Finding Your Niche:** The seven Advocacy Offices offer gathering places for all students, mentoring, as well as serve as great resources for information about different populations.
  - Asian Pacific American Student Services: ([http://www.apass.colostate.edu/](http://www.apass.colostate.edu/));
  - Black Student Services: ([http://www.bss.colostate.edu/](http://www.bss.colostate.edu/));
  - El Centro Student Services: ([http://www.elcentro.colostate.edu/](http://www.elcentro.colostate.edu/));
  - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Student Services: ([http://www.glbtss.colostate.edu/](http://www.glbtss.colostate.edu/));
  - Native American Student Services: ([http://nass.colostate.edu/](http://nass.colostate.edu/));
  - Resources for Disabled Students: ([http://rds.colostate.edu/index.asp](http://rds.colostate.edu/index.asp)); and
  - The Office of Women’s Programs and Studies: ([http://www.wps.colostate.edu/](http://www.wps.colostate.edu/)) – please note, The Men’s Project is located within this office as well!
- **Transitioning to Colorado State University:** Ram Connections Mentoring Program assists new students (first year and transfer) with their transition to CSU. The website as well as the following article describes the benefits of gathering with a faculty/staff mentor and upper-class student peer mentor with a small community of students who share a common interest/background. ([http://ramwelcome.colostate.edu/ramconnections/](http://ramwelcome.colostate.edu/ramconnections/))

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**Get Involved with the Colorado State Parent & Family Council**

We want you to be involved! Join the CSU Parent & Family Council. It requires very little time commitment but a lot of heart and head commitment. Please open the pdf. flier to read more about the subcommittees and volunteer opportunities including helping with recruitment, fundraising, student issues, and programming. Meeting just a few times a year, we conduct most of our business over email and the telephone. If you are interested, fill out the form and mail it to Jody Donovan, or send an email with your contact information and the subcommittees you’re interested in. Thanks in advance for supporting CSU!
Learning Outcomes for Parents & Families

“Learning, Involvement and Support”

Students’ transition to college can often impact individual family members as well as the family unit as a whole. At the same time, parents and families can significantly influence students’ transitions. Colorado State University actively partners with students’ parents and families to support students’ academic success and personal development while also assisting families to become appropriately involved and connected with their students and the University.

Colorado State University created Learning, Involvement and Support Outcomes for CSU parents and families who choose to participate in the variety of programs and services specifically designed for them. Therefore, Colorado State’s Parent and Family Programs will assist parents and families to:

- Understand transition models as they relate to students and family members’ transition experiences when students enroll in higher education.
- Become aware of the variety of concerns and behaviors related to students transitioning to college and employ developmentally appropriate strategies to effectively support students through this process.
- Support students’ academic endeavors by celebrating exploring new interest areas, engaging in conversations about learning, and pursuing life long learning.
- Learn about Colorado State University’s student support services, resources and programs, and empower students to access these services when seeking assistance.
- Develop new relationships with their students that acknowledge and support the developmental process of becoming mature, productive, and engaged citizens of a global society.
- Recognize that many students will make mistakes and use poor decision-making while in college, and must be held accountable for their choices in order to learn how to be more successful in the future.
- Balance students’ need to be independent with the need to contact appropriate campus or community resources if students’ physical or mental health is at risk.
- Encourage their students to learn about others’ diverse cultures, values, beliefs, and practices while also exploring their own unique backgrounds and ideologies for improved awareness of self and others.
- Develop a positive relationship with Colorado State University through participating in campus events, supporting student involvement, giving to the University through outreach, service or fundraising, and advocating on behalf of Colorado State at the local, state, and federal levels.
Examples of Projects Sponsored by Parents Fund

We Thank You, Parents and Family Donors!
It is with sincere appreciation that we recognize 1,987 parents who generously made gifts totaling $101,262.74 to the CSU Parent Fund last year. Examples of recent programs funded by the Parents Fund include:

- The CSUPD Citizens Police Academy – an opportunity for students to experience the training and experience CSU police officers go through to prepare for the police force on campus.
- President’s Leadership Program – a two-year, academic-credit, leadership curriculum involving self & societal awareness, service, and social justice initiatives.
- The Positive Impact Program for Football Games – a peer education & intervention program to reduce alcohol use and abuse at Hughes Stadium.
- Community Welcome – a City/CSU initiative to welcome students back to the City, teach them to be good neighbors, and provide information about City ordinances and laws.
- RAM Ride – a free, safe, non-judgmental ride home that runs Thursday-Saturday nights coordinated by students, for students.
- Family Weekend events especially for families!
- All publications and services for parents and families.

The Parents Fund is a much valued resource for the Division of Student Affairs. The funds have been used to improve student organizations and campus programs. The funds have created and enhanced numerous educational, multicultural, social, and academic programs to benefit the Colorado State University students.

Please contact Eveline Yang, Director of Development for Scholarships and Student Affairs if you are interested in giving to The Parents Fund. Her contact information is eyang@ua.colostate.edu, or 970 491-3938.

Family Weekend & Homecoming Information

We apologize that the Family Weekend & Homecoming Registration website was down over the weekend. Please check back to see if it is working once again. We have a great schedule planned for October 5-7, 2007! Friday kicks off with sitting in on your student’s classes, an all University BBQ, Pep-Rally, Bonfire, Fireworks and a Volleyball Game. Make sure you arrive to Fort Collins on Friday in time to participate in all of these events.
Saturday includes an early morning 5K race, Pancake Breakfast, CSU Community Parade, Bagel Brunch, Open Houses, and the big football game! Sunday closes with a golf tournament, Hike to the A, and an informative gathering focused on Ho using Options after the First Year. The $25 registration for Family Weekend provides access to many events and the opportunity to purchase discounted football tickets. Check out the full schedule and registration at: [www.homecoming.colostate.edu](http://www.homecoming.colostate.edu)

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**RAM Connections Mentoring Program**

RAM Connections: First Year Mentoring Program is a program designed to assist first year and transfer students in making a successful adjustment to Colorado State University. Students can join a group that will meet together regularly throughout the semester with a faculty/staff Mentor and an upper-class student Peer Mentor. The group will provide students with opportunities to build strong connections with the CSU and Fort Collins communities. RAM Connections is sponsored by Orientation and Transition Programs in the Center for Advising and Student Achievement (CASA).

Benefits of participating in RAM Connections include:
- Immediate connection to other new students who share common interests
- Useful information about adjusting to CSU to boost success in and out of the classroom
- Opportunity to immediately get involved in leadership positions and a variety of campus activities, clubs and organizations
- Connection to a faculty or staff member and a successful upper-class student who serve as mentors and guides
- Achieve the goals stated on students’ Plan for Success that was completed at Preview Orientation or online.

We strongly encourage students to register for a RAM Connections Mentoring Group by going to the website and selecting a group based on their interests: [http://ramwelcome.colostate.edu/ramconnections/](http://ramwelcome.colostate.edu/ramconnections/). Ask your student about it! Questions? Contact Keith Lopez at (970) 491-6011 or keith.lopez@colostate.edu.

[www.homecoming.colostate.edu](http://www.homecoming.colostate.edu)

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**Fraternity & Sorority Recruitment**

**Greek Life at CSU: Academics and Service**

The Greek community at CSU is one way for students to become involved in an organization committed to community service, academics and the development of brother and sisterhood. It provides opportunities to support local and national charities, through the 365 Days of Service initiative or individual interests, and fosters scholastic success for members. The CSU campus-wide grade point
average (GPA) in spring 2007 was 2.79. Greeks maintained a higher GPA of 2.87 with the highest GPAs belonging to Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity at 3.2 and Pi Beta Phi Sorority with a GPA of 3.12.

The Greek Life Office encourages excellence through its Seal of Approval program. This program identifies high performing chapters by examining scholarship, community service, conduct and accountability, risk management and new member programming through separate application processes. A chapter must obtain 80 percent proficiency in each area to obtain the seal. Chapters with the seal can ensure members will receive a positive experience in an environment that fosters academics, friendship, and personal development. In an effort to achieve campus-wide Greek excellence, chapters who do not obtain the seal are put on a plan to help them achieve proficiency in the future. To identify chapters who earned the Seal of Approval, click on http://csugreeks.colostate.edu/sealofapproval.aspx.

Parents and families should be aware that CSU has withdrawn recognition of the Pi Kappa Alpha (PIKE) fraternity as a student organization. As noted by Dr. Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs, in a recent letter to the campus community, “PIKE lost recognition several years ago based on a long pattern of problems primarily related to high risk alcohol use including contacts with local law enforcement for various community complaints such as parties and noise violations.” While the organization still actively recruits on campus, the university strongly encourages students to affiliate with chapters recognized by the university. Families should discourage their sons from joining unrecognized Greek organizations.

Fall 2007 recruitment for fraternities and sororities recognized by the university will be held September 15-19. To participate, students must be enrolled at CSU full time, must have a high school GPA of at least 2.75 (college GPA requirements vary by chapter) and must not have serious judicial violations on their record. For more information, please visit the CSU Greeks website at: http://csugreeks.colostate.edu