



Office of Retention
Services

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Remember...

*There are no
classes on Mon-
day, September
6th, in recognition
of Labor Day.
Classes will re-
sume at 8:00 am
on Tuesday,
September 7th.*

INSIDE TRACK

August 2010

FAMILY DAY

On September 18th, from 2:00pm to 6:00pm, Arkansas Tech University will once again host "Family Day." Join us at the Plaza (next to the football stadium) for a fun afternoon of activities followed by the football game.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Free hotdogs, soft drinks, chips, cotton candy, and sno-cones.
- Face painting for kids of all ages.
- 4 large Inflatables.
- Visiting with Tech faculty and staff.
- Discount coupons at the Tech Bookstore (Campus hours 1:00pm—5:00pm).
- FREE concert featuring TWO Award Winning Elvis Tribute Artists beginning at 3:00pm.
- A Family Day coupon for discount football tickets (\$5.00 general admission, \$3.00 for students, 5 years and younger—free). (regular price is \$10.00 and \$5.00)

Bring your lawn chairs & blankets for a concert you will not soon forget! Both Elvis Tribute Artists are family friendly and will not only entertain but visit afterwards so don't forget the camera!

HOW DID WE DO?

I truly hope that your student is enjoying their first few days at Arkansas Tech University. The University would like hear from you about the Move-in day/Parent Welcome Session this past Saturday, August 21st.

Were the student-workers friendly and helpful? Was move-in smooth? Did you enjoy the lunch? Did you find the Parent Welcome Session beneficial?

These are some of the questions located at the following ATU Parent Survey link:
<http://questionpro.com/t/ABhz6ZIKb4>

If that link doesn't work, please cut and paste it into the address line. Please take a couple of minutes to give us your valuable feedback.

Thank you so much. Your suggestions will help make it even smoother next year.

Keeping your family connected!



ON CAMPUS SAFETY TIPS

Encourage your student to:

- **Lock their room door.** Even though they “know everyone on their floor,” they can’t control guests and visitors strolling the hallways. The same goes for off campus residents — students never know who might make their way into the neighborhood.
- **Get to know the campus public safety officers.**
- **Don’t prop open doors to residence halls or other buildings on campus.** This makes Public Safety’s job more difficult and compromises the overall security measures in place.
- **Deny strangers access to their residence hall** (by not letting in people behind them)—even if they *think* the person is a student.
- **Treat the campus grounds with respect.** Vandalizing and damaging directional signs, fire extinguishers, and other safety equipment costs the college valuable funds and effort that could be directed to other areas. In addition, those items won’t be available when a real emergency strikes.

A MESSAGE FROM CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Hello parents, my name is Jeff Hudnall, and I am the Career Development Specialist at Arkansas Tech University. Is your child undecided about what major to pursue in college? Tell them to search no further! Whether they are a traditional or non-traditional student, I’m here to help them find a major that best suits their personality, skills, and interests. We have a new inventory system called Focus-2 that is available at no charge to students attending ATU. Focus-2 is an online, interactive career & education planning system that combines self assessment, career exploration, and decision making into one major area of study. The Norman Career Services’ goal is to arm the student with appropriate tools to make good, well-informed decisions about their major at ATU which will ultimately result in graduation and employment in the career that is right for them.

Research shows that the best time to do career/major exploration is in the sophomore year of the student’s college life. That gives your child a full year to get familiar with college life and learn more about themselves. We as a staff at the Norman Career Services office want to reduce the number of times students change majors through career exploration. Just like any other journey, the sooner you prepare to take the journey, the easier it will be for you (and the people who care about you). So please, encourage your child to make an appointment with us today, so we can help set them on their journey to a successful life. You or your child can call Jayne Sewell at Norman Career Services (479-968-0278) to make an appointment. Thanks for your time and please feel free to contact the Norman Career Services department with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hudnall, Career Development Specialist, Doc Bryan, Suite 211, 479-968-0278

BROKEN, WHAT TO DO?

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING A WORK ORDER

Below are the instructions for your student if there is something that needs to be fixed in their room or residence hall.

- Students need to go to www.atu.edu/reslife.
- On the right hand side of the page there is a link for "Maintenance Request."
- The student should then follow the links through until they reach the actual form.
- Once the student has completely filled out the form, being as specific as possible, they should just click submit.
- The student should then get an e-mail within 48 hours confirming that the work order has been submitted to the Physical Plant.
- If the student does not receive an e-mail confirming receipt of the work order after 48 hours, they should contact the Housing Operations Office at 356-2060.
- Once the student has received a confirmation e-mail, the work order is now in the hands of the ATU Physical Plant department. Should the necessary repair not be made or the student not contacted within 72 hours of receiving the e-mail, they should contact Mr. Brian Lasey, Director of Physical Plant, at (479) 968-0261.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the student to submit the work order. While we understand that as the student's parent you want to be of assistance, we do require that the work order be submitted through the student to assure proper records and correct and exact information.

HEALTH MAGAZINE - 101

From Dr. Larry Root, Associate Dean for Student Development

Arkansas Tech Counseling Center has partnered with **Health 101**. This is a 20+ page online magazine on health and wellness issues, as well as many other topics which will be sent to your student each month.

A four-plus page version of the magazine will go to you if we have your e-mail address. The first day of each month a new issue will be sent, starting with a special Orientation Issue. This issue features articles like "What do Professors Really Expect?," "The Roommate Survival Guide," and "The 5 Habits of Healthy People." These provide excellent advice to help your student get off to a great start in her/his college career.

Go to the weblink below to access the Orientation issue. Then, the first of each month you will receive a reminder for the next issue and a link. It's as easy as that! By the way, the parent version contains a link that will provide access to the full 20+ page student issue. You can opt out of receiving the link at any time.

Health 101 Parent Website: <http://readsh101.com/go2atu-pp.html>

EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE SYSTEM

Arkansas Tech University has an early warning text messaging system as an additional means of communicating with the campus community during emergency situations on the Russellville campus. Students who register for the service receive a text message warning in the case of a serious campus emergency. Signing up for the system is optional, but it is strongly encouraged. Parents are also encouraged to sign up for the service.

To join the system, text the word **“tech”** to the number **50618**. Leave the subject line blank. After the message is sent, you will receive a confirmation message.

PARENTAL RELATIONSHIPS

Just because your student is in college doesn't mean they don't need you. Your student still needs all the wisdom, love, and support from home you can give. Here at Tech, we urge our parents to do three things:

1. Let go a little bit. It's hard for a student to start building his collegiate life in Russellville if his “old life” keeps pulling him back. Let your conversations contain a mixed balance of what is happening at home and what is happening at Tech. Try not to do everything for your student. Letting your child figure out things on their own can be a strength and character building process.

2. Students need to be able to make a few mistakes. Part of becoming independent involves making some mistakes. Students need support and understanding at all times.

3. Your student needs to know that you believe in them. Urge your student to try new things, subjects, and views. Successful students are able to experiment with their views because you, as parents, believe in their intelligence, initiative, and ability to make good decisions.

A Student Who Feels Trusted by Their Parents:

- Has more self confidence.
- Can stand up for what he believes.
- Knows he has support back home.
- Is better able to say “no” when the situation warrants.

A Student Who Feels Mistrusted by Their Parents:

- May defy authority because it's expected.
- Might not communicate about what's happening at college.
- Might look to others, some who will be good influences and others who won't be, for support.
- Might keep secrets that could be harmful.

ON CAMPUS COUNSELING SERVICES

Did you know that the University has counseling services that are FREE to the students? Located in Doc Bryan Building, room 233, counselor Valerie Breashears or Dr. Larry Root would be glad to speak to your student about academic situations, behaviors, relationships, and feelings that students might be having. Their office hours are Monday—Friday, 8:00 am until 5:00 pm and their phone number is 479-968-0276.

INSIDE TRACK
August 2010

WONDERBOYS FOOTBALL HOME GAMES

- September 2nd
TECH vs. Lambuth
7:00 pm
- September 18th
TECH vs. HSU
6:00 pm (Family Day)
- October 9th
TECH vs. OBU
6:00 pm
- October 16th
TECH vs. SAU
6:00 pm (Homecoming)
- October 30th
TECH vs. Valdosta State
2:00 pm
- November 13th
TECH vs. Southwest Bap.
2:00 pm (Senior Day)

TECH
Parent Association