



Office of Retention Services

Luke Heffley,
Parent Relations Coordinator

Doc Bryan Student Services
Center, Room 233
1605 Coliseum Dr.
Russellville, AR 72801

Email: lheffley@atu.edu
Phone: (479) 964-3281
Fax: (479) 968-0208

Spring Break

TECH will be observing Spring break from 7:00 am March 23rd — 7:00 am March 30th.

INSIDE TRACK

March 2009

ACADEMIC CHECK-IN

WE'RE HALFWAY THERE

With Spring Break right around the corner, some students are realizing that they are halfway through their spring semester. Is your student doing well thus far?

There is an easy way for you to find out if your student is performing in the classroom — ask them. Don't be afraid to talk with your student about their mid-term grades. While these are simply a brief glimpse of the student's performance thus far, mid-terms can be a great way to have some great conversations about your student's classes and what they are learning.

Tentatively, grades will be posted online on the student's OneTech website by Friday, March 13th and will be sent to the student's "permanent" address **next week**. (March 16th—20th).

CAMPUS LIVING: RESIDENCE LIFE UPDATE

Single students under 21 and with under 60 hours of college work completed are required, as space permits, to live on campus in University-owned housing.

If your student is living on campus this semester, by now they should have returned their Fall 2009 Housing Intent form to their residence hall staff. If they have not, they should contact their Residential Director (RD) immediately. This form is very important for both students returning to Tech (to assist them in getting a room assignment for the fall) and to those students not returning to Tech (to ease their Hall Check-Out procedure and avoid any charges).

(next page...)

Keeping your family connected!



CAMPUS LIVING: CONTINUED

Students who indicate they will be returning to housing in the fall will receive their contract on March 29th. This contract must be returned to the Office of Residential Life no later than noon on **Friday, April 3rd**. If they are living in a University apartment, the student should submit the **Deposit Slip Receipt** directly to the Office of Residential Life no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 1st. Provided the contract is received by that time, the exact date and time will not affect when they are allowed to sign up for rooms. The exact time that they are allowed to begin room sign-up is based on the number of credit hours they will have earned by the end of this semester as well as their cumulative G.P.A.

Students will receive a letter notifying them of the sign-up date and time when they may begin reporting to the Office of Residential Life to choose their hall and room. This year students will be assigned to groups to choose their room, so there will be no reason for your student to “camp-out” for room selection. Should they not be able to report to the office during that time, they can report any time afterward.

2009 SPRING BREAK

*March 23rd 7:00 am —
March 30th 7:00 am*

SAFE SPRING BREAK: TIPS FOR PARENTS

Spring Break can be a great time for your student to have fun and enjoy some well-deserved time off. It can also be a time that important decisions are made that can have serious consequences. Talk with your student and make sure that they are aware of some of the dangers. Here are a few tips...

- **Discuss exactly where they are going and what they will be doing.**
- **Ensure that they will be accessible via phone and/or email.** Maybe have a certain time that they will call and “check in.”
- **Have a frank discussion about drugs, sex, and alcohol.**
- **Make sure they travel with a buddy** (get his/her name & contact information as well as his/her parents’ contact information).
- **Make sure they know the law.** If traveling out of state or out of the country, there can be some serious consequences if laws are broken.
- **Give them important emergency contact numbers/medical documentation.**
- **Give your opinion.** You CAN say no! Yes, they are adults, but contrary to what you might believe, they do listen to you. If you feel uncomfortable about what they are doing, let them know. Sharing your own experiences can be a great way to show your student that you care for a reason.
- **Promote alternatives.** There are many choices for students during Spring Break: Missionary trips, volunteerism/community services, and staying at home are just some of them. Whatever their choice, discuss it with them openly and honestly. That way, the “break” will be good for everyone!

SPRING FEVER: COMMON SPRING TERM STRESSORS

INSIDE TRACK
March 2009

Here are a few things that your student might be experiencing:

- Hidden conflicts between roommates and friends begin to arise.
- Mid-term anxiety.
- Making plans for next year regarding housing, classes, and financial aid.
- Cliques become stronger within residence hall communities.
- Managing time commitments.
- Mid-semester slump and sickness.
- Declaring a major if they haven't already done so.
- Concern over summer employment.

CONGRATULATIONS Gulf South Conference Champions!

The Arkansas Tech Men's basketball team won the Gulf South Conference championship and have been invited to the NCAA D-II national basketball tournament! By beating Valdosta State in the championship game, the Wonder-boys earned the fourth seed in the South Regional against the nationally ranked Benedict College Tigers of Columbia, South Carolina. The tournament is hosted by Florida Southern in Lakeland, Florida. The game will tip off at 7:30 pm CST.

Remember, all of Tech's games in the NCAA South Regional will be broadcast live on the radio by KWKK (100.9 FM). In addition, the radio broadcast will be streamed on the internet at <http://athletics.atu.edu>. **GO TECH!**

UNDECIDED? NO PROBLEM!

Is your student unsure about his/her major and career? Consider suggesting career development. Career Development Specialist Brian Henderson will provide a series of personality assessment tools will be used to help your student find his/her ideal major or career based upon interests, motivational traits, personality, values, abilities, aptitudes, personal work style, and work environment preferences. Have your student contact our Career Development office at (479) 968-0278 or email bhenderson3@atu.edu for more information.

Updating Contact Information

If you are already a member of the TECH PARENT ASSOCIATION, but need to update your information, please go to...

[UPDATE INFORMATION](#)

Thank You.

For more parent information, please visit our website at ...

www.atu.edu/parents

TECH
Parent Association