

The Norse Parent

NKU Parents Association Newsletter

Your Student's Career Journey Begins NOW!

By Lisa McElfresh, Career Advisor

Pomp and Circumstance plays, the crowd stands and applauds, and the students exit the building as new college graduates. Commencement is an occasion for excitement and joy for all, but for those graduates unsure of their next step, this can also be an overwhelming and emotionally charged time. Encourage your student to begin planning now for his or her life after graduation.

Career planning is a lifelong process that includes self-assessment, career and/or major exploration, occupational research, gaining career-related experience, obtaining employment, professional development, and career transition. All undergraduate students should make their way to Career Services to talk about mapping their career journey. Our career advisors are available to assist your student through each stage of his or her career development. Students may call 859-572-5680 to schedule an individual appointment with a career advisor to discuss any of the topics listed.

All students should also plan to attend the spring Job Expo on Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2013 from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. This event will



feature more 100 employers and is a great way for students to network with various recruiters from the business, nonprofit, and government sectors, and learn about job and internship/co-op opportunities. Help your student understand the benefits of taking advantage of this opportunity.



Photo courtesy of Tim Sofranko, NKU Photographer

...continued on page 2

In this issue:

Career Services P. 1

Parents of the Year P. 2

Freshmen Leadership P. 3

Housing Deadlines P. 3

Important Dates:

All Month

NKU Basketball, Softball, Baseball and Tennis—[Click here to see the full NKU Athletics schedule](#)

February 16—23

NKU Theatre presents "Legally Blonde, The Musical"

February 27

Job Expo, 3-6pm in the Student Union Ballroom

March 1

Summer housing applications become available

March 4

Freshmen may begin accessing midterm grades

March 8

Last day to remove incomplete grades from Fall 2012

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Career...continued from page 1

In addition, hundreds of organizations actively seek employees through Career Services via a database called Norse Recruiting that is accessible 24/7 only to NKU students and alumni. Norse Recruiting currently houses information on more than 2500 organizations and more than 3500 contacts. Students may complete profiles, upload resumes and other job search documents, research companies, and search for and apply to jobs in the database

Did you or your student recently graduate from NKU? Alumni may also attend events and take advantage of the services provided by Career Services.

Help your student begin preparing for the future now by encouraging him or her to connect with Career Services in our new location in UC 225. For more details about events sponsored by Career Services, visit our website at <http://careerservices.nku.edu/students/programsevents.html>.

Congratulations to our 2012-2013 Parents of the Year, Serena and Larry Owen!

In his nomination essay, Serena and Larry's son Jibril McCaster, a sophomore at NKU, explained that his parents advocated and sacrificed for his success when others had all but given up. They worked multiple jobs, provided home-schooling, and throughout it all, managed to continue to serve their community.

Together, Jibril and his parents have created multiple awards and opportunities for others within the Northern Kentucky region, promoting service, education, and respect for one another. In fact, that's what the nominator said makes his parents stand out – they are “leaders, educators, and volunteers” who are not only champions for him, but also for our community. Serena and Larry Owen are truly examples of excellence for their support of their son and of our entire region.



President and Mrs. Mearns pictured with Serena, Jibril, and Larry

Did You Know...

You can help incoming NKU Parents!!

- Volunteer to be a Parent Panelist at one or more orientation sessions for summer 2013.
- Offer your experience and advice to new parents as they begin this important transition process.
- Receive additional information about NKU to help prepare you to be an informed panelist and parent!
- All volunteers get a free gift!

If you're interested, email parents@nku.edu or post to our Facebook page with questions at:

www.facebook.com/nkuparents

Congratulations to all of our Parent of the Year nominees:

- Michael & Robbin Blau, nominated by their son, Tyler Blau
- Jennifer Brady, nominated by her daughter, Megan Brady
- Thomas & Susan Chambless, nominated by their daughter, Ashley Chambless
- Sandra Clark, nominated by her daughter, Caitlyn Clark
- Keisha Garlington, nominated by her daughter, Janiqua Burgess
- Laura Grippa, nominated by her daughter, Stacey Grippa
- Mark Kesh, nominated by his daughter, Sara Keshtvarz
- Debbie Posey, nominated by Shauna Teters

CALLING ALL FRESHMEN looking for adventure and leadership!

Breaking Ground 2013

Breaking Ground is a retreat sponsored by the Norse Leadership Society for freshman students. Breaking Ground is designed specifically for freshmen in hopes that they take everything they learn and apply it to their future years at NKU and beyond. Breaking Ground pushes students mentally, physically, and emotionally in ways they haven't been pushed before. The retreat will be March 22-24, 2013 in Lansing, West Virginia and will include whitewater rafting along with many surprises. Freshman students must have at least a 2.5 GPA to apply. **An application is required and is due by February 27th at 4pm.** Students selected to attend the trip are required to pay \$75 for the three day event to cover cost of most meals, transportation and lodging. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Ruwe at ruwee1@nku.edu, Scarlett Jiha at jahas1@nku.edu, or Tiffany Mayse at Mayset@nku.edu. Application available at: <https://orgsync.com/20958/forms/27204>

Housing Deadlines

Today (February 18th) is the first day for current housing residents to select a **NEW room** for the 2013-2014 academic year! The online 2013-2014 Housing/ Dining Agreement is available online at <http://housing.nku.edu>. Prepayments can be accepted in the form of electronic check, cash, or money order AFTER completing the agreement. To pay by electronic check, please visit <https://mynku.edu> and select the "Student Self Service" tab. After selecting this tab, click on the "Housing Prepayment" link. To pay by cash or money order, please visit the Office of University Housing in Norse Commons 101.

- For a full schedule of housing deadlines for current students, visit: <http://housing.nku.edu/content/dam/housing/docs/Apply%20Here/Recontracting%20Instructions%202013-2014.pdf>
- For new students, May 1st is the assured consideration deadline to apply for on-campus housing. Learn more at: <http://housing.nku.edu/apply-here/2013-2014academicyear.html>

Please contact the Office of University Housing at (859) 572-5676 or via email at housing@nku.edu if you have any questions.

Campus Chatter

Updates from NKU

- Provost Gail Wells announced she will be resigning from her current role as of January 2014, at which time she will be moving to a faculty position. President Geoffrey S. Mearns made the announcement on January 31st and commended Provost Wells for 9 years of service to NKU.
- Dr. Peter Gitau has been selected to serve as Vice President of Student Affairs, beginning April 1, 2013. Dr. Gitau comes to NKU from Southern Illinois University and brings with him a wealth of experience. To read more about Dr. Gitau, visit <http://www.nku.edu/news/130211gitau.html>

“I Wish I Had Known...” Workshops are a Hit!

Based on feedback from parents of current students, the Office of New Student Orientation and Parent Programs has developed a new resource for our Norse family—the “I Wish I Had Known...” workshop series! So far, we’ve been able to offer 3 workshop dates around the topic of Financial Planning—Making sense of college costs, beyond FAFSA, with the help of our campus partners in the Student Achievement Center. The workshops have all filled very quickly allowing us to serve about 110 people so far, with about 60% being parents/guardians of prospective students and 40% being parents/guardians of current students. So far, we’ve heard great reviews! We hope to offer 2 more dates for this topic and expand to additional topics in the future! If you have an idea for a workshop topic, let us know what **you** really wish you had known by emailing parents@nku.edu.

A-Z Index

Ever been on the NKU website and not quite known where to start? The A-Z index is a great tool that often goes overlooked. In the top right-hand corner of the website, there is a small plus sign and text reading “Quick Links.” If you click there, a drop-down menu will appear with lots of helpful links, one of which is

the A-Z index, all the way to the left. Click on that and start searching! Nearly anything you could want can be found in this list! Have an idea for something that’s not on the A-Z index? Let us know and we’ll pass along the suggestion! Email parents@nku.edu with your ideas!

Featured Resource

Tip of the month:

It’s already getting to be that time of the semester again! Talk with your student about how he/she is doing in each course, and encourage him/her to create an action plan to achieve their goals for the semester. Here are a couple resources on campus that could be really helpful:

- Encourage your student to utilize Learning Assistance Programs for tutoring, writing and math center help, supplemental instruction for certain courses, AND for their success skills workshops that focus on topics such as time management, taking effective notes, and effective study habits. Students can even “drop-in” for certain services without an appointment or schedule an appointment online at <http://www.lap.nku.edu>
- Students may not realize exactly *how* much the Steely Library can do for them! Yes, they do have LOTS of books, but they also have helpful librarians who can assist students with getting started on research projects. If your student doesn’t know where to look for a resource, encourage her/him to “Chat with a Librarian” at <http://library.nku.edu/ask/>

Contact Us:

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