May 2010 TOPICS

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*  KU Parent Association
  KU Parent Assistance Line (785) 864-5872
  *
  Please address your questions or comments to
  parents@ku.edu. Please do not use the "Reply" key to
  send e-mail messages
  *
  Remove from this List  Subscribe to this List

*  IMPORTANT KU PHONE NUMBERS
  Vice Provost for Student Success (785) 864-4060
  College of Liberal Arts & Sci. Acad. Serv. (785) 864-3500
  Counseling & Psychological Services (785) 864-2277
  Department of Student Housing (785) 864-4560
  Office of Student Financial Aid (785) 864-4700
  Office of University Registrar (785) 864-4222
  Student Health Services (785) 864-9500

* IMPORTANT KU DATES
  May 7  Stop Day (No classes, University offices open)
  May 10-14  Final Examinations
  May 16  Commencement 2010
  May 31  Last day for continuing students to make schedule changes for Fall
  June 8  First day of Summer term classes
  July 30  Last Day of Summer Term
  August 2  Add/Drop resumes for all students for Fall
  August 19  First Day of Fall 2010 classes
  September 25  Family/Band Day
  October 14-17  Fall Break (No classes, University offices open)
  October 23  Homecoming
  December 10  Stop Day (No classes, University offices open)
  December 13-17  Final Examinations
  January 21, 2011  First day of Spring 2011 classes
  March 21-27  Spring Break (No classes, University offices open)
  May 22, 2011  Commencement 2011

AUGUST PARENT BREAK STATIONS

The move-in weekend can be stressful for new to KU parents. The KU Parent Association will again be hosting Parent Break Stations near the three major student housing complexes of Oliver, GSP-Corbin and the Daisy Hill Halls. The Parent Break stations will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 15th. The stations will be open on Friday, August 13th for parents of women participating in sorority recruitment from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

We will have seasoned KU parents joining KU staff members in offering parents a cool drink of water, a friendly smile, and answer questions that parents have once their student is moved into the residence halls.

If you would like to volunteer to be one of those seasoned parents working at a Break Station, please send an email to parents@ku.edu with the subject line Break Station. All we ask for is a 2-hour time commitment and a friendly smile.
COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION  
KU’s 2010 Commencement is Sunday, May 16th at 2:30 p.m. in Memorial Stadium. Graduates from summer 2009, fall 2009 and spring 2010 will be honored at that time as well as during various open houses and recognition ceremonies. Information about KU’s 2010 Commencement is online at www.commencement.ku.edu.

Hotels in Lawrence do not have vacancies over Commencement Weekend. You may wish to book your 2011 reservation now. Commencement ceremonies for 2011 are on Sunday, May 22nd. The Lawrence Chamber of Commerce has a listing of local hotels. Visit: www.visitlawrence.com/visitor/accommodations/.

FALL SEMESTER INFORMATION  
Classes for the fall semester begin on Thursday, August 29th. KU does not hold classes on Labor Day which is September 6th. The fall break begins on October 14th and ends on October 17th. Offices are open during fall break; however, classes are not in session. Finals begin on December 13th and end on December 17th.

The complete calendar of fall semester is found here: www.registrar.ku.edu/~registr/pdf/enrollment/calendar_date_4109.pdf.

GRADES POSTED TO KU ENROLL AND PAY  
Students may find their grades via Enroll and Pay and select “View My Grades.” Students can print a copy of their grades from this screen. KU does not mail grades to students. If you, as a parent, want a copy of the grades you can have your student print the grades page from KU Enroll and Pay or you may request a copy of the grades by following the instructions found here: www.registrar.ku.edu/parents/grade_request.shtml.

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR GRADUATES  
For those students graduating and needing health insurance, the Kansas Alumni Association offers GradMed. This is an inexpensive, comprehensive, short-term health insurance for alumni as well as new graduates. You can learn more about this health insurance option by visiting: www.gradmed.com.

HOME FOR THE SUMMER  
Although your student still remembers the family rules, they have experienced quite a bit of freedom while living on their own at KU. The two of you may have differing expectations when he or she returns home for the summer. It is important to sit down and discuss plans for the summer. The following tips are adapted from www.collegetipsforparents.org.

- **Talk about curfew.** A residence hall student who hasn’t had strict curfews may have issues with them. Do you want to know where your student is at all times? Is it necessary to know if they will be home for dinner? Do you expect a check in before you go to bed?

- **Summer jobs and finances.** Do you want your student to contribute to their school costs? How much should be budgeted for summer fun?

- **Family responsibility.** Is your student expected to participate in family chores or assist with transporting siblings?

LEASES AND STUDENTS  
Legal Services for Students (LSS) LSS provides free legal advice to students who have paid the required campus fee. One area that keeps LSS busy is landlord-tenant issues. In a down economy, the number of housing problems evictions/overcharges for damages/failure to return deposits/refusal of landlords to make repairs has increased. LSS helps students resolve their landlord and tenant issues so they can focus on their studies and move on toward graduating from KU.

LSS will review leases before a student signs it. To prevent problems, it is vitally important that every student (and their parents) closely review the “fine print” in the lease before they sign. Ask questions of the landlord, and if the landlord cannot answer to your satisfaction, walk away. Have your son or daughter ask current tenants in a complex how the landlord responds to maintenance requests. Also, check online for ratings of the landlord and management company at sites like http://www.apartmentratings.com/rate/KS-Lawrence-1.html.

Anyone can check to be sure if a residence is safe and complies with minimum fire, zoning, and maintenance codes by calling the Lawrence Code Enforcement officer at (785) 832-3107. With the cold winter this past year, LSS saw an increase in the number of damage claims by landlords blaming students for frozen pipes; be sure to carry renter’s insurance, either a separate policy or through parents’ homeowner’s policy.

To learn more about Legal Services for Students visit: www.legalservices.ku.edu.
MAY IS NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
Students seek help from the KU Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) for a variety of reasons including personal challenges of anxiety, stress, and depression. According to a 2008 American College Health Association 49% of college students feel overwhelming anxiety and 30% feel depressed. Signs that a student may need to talk to a counselor at CAPS include poor grades and low motivation, sadness, tearfulness, poor concentration, anxiety or irritability.

For more information about college students and mental health visit: http://www.caps.ku.edu/ or http://www.healthyminds.org/.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY- MY SCHOOL’S VIDEO CONTEST!
University Visitor’s Network (UVN) presents its first annual MySchools Video Contest for college students to submit videos that express positive and creative aspects about their college or university. Through original videos, students can convey what they love about any aspect of their school experience. The student who submits the most creative video will receive a $5,000 scholarship paid directly toward his or her tuition. Second place winner will receive an Apple Ipod. Third place winner will receive a Panasonic Blu-Ray DVD player.

The videos must be between one and ten minutes and will be screened for appropriateness prior to being posted online. Nothing obscene or objectionable will be considered. Contest can be entered at: http://www.universityvisitorsnetwork.com/myschool_video_contest/ by December 31, 2010. Videos will also be posted on the UVN YouTube host. Must be 18 or older, enrolled in a college or university, and have a school e-mail address to enter. Winners will be announced by January 25, 2011.

Information is also available through Facebook and Twitter or from Rachel Parmet at Rachel@universityvisitorsnetwork.com www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=282788409416&ref=ts http://twitter.com/UniversityVisit www.Myschoolsvideos.com

STUDENT HOUSING INFORMATION
Thinking ahead to moving out
At semester's end, your student will schedule a check-out appointment with a Resident Assistant. Check-out includes reviewing the room for damage or missing items, completing a forwarding address card, and turning in keys. If your student does not check-out, charges could be assessed. For details: http://www.housing.ku.edu/handbook/movingout.shtml.

Student housing is continuing its efforts to be environmentally sustainable. Many students discard items during move out so we've established partnerships with local non-profits to donate unwanted clothing, non-perishable food, furniture, lumber, cinderblocks and carpet. We are helped in our recycling efforts by the KU Environmental Stewardship Program.

Apply now for next year!
Are you sending another Jayhawk to Lawrence next year? Student Housing would love to meet your student’s needs for a comfortable, convenient place to live. Studies show students who live on campus are more likely to get better grades and graduate on time. Visit www.housing.ku.edu for details. During the summer our rooms are used for conferences or other programs, so student housing staff will not be able to show you a specific room. However, room layouts are available on line and model rooms are also available for you to see.

Next year...we will see you in August!
The Department of Student Housing is excited to welcome next year's students in August. Residence halls and scholarship halls open at 8:00 a.m., Sunday, August 15, 2010. Jayhawker Towers opens at 8:00 a.m., Friday, August 13, 2010. Look for a mailing with move-in day details.
SENIOR CLASS GIFT
Since 1873, graduates have left their legacy at the University of Kansas by joining fellow classmates in giving to the Senior Class Gift campaign. Commemorate the years spent and memories made at KU by participating in one of the oldest traditions on The Hill.

Celebrate your graduate’s legacy with a personalized engraved brick in the Class Legacy Walk, located near the Rain Garden at the Ambler Student Recreation Center. Individual bricks are available through a tax-deductible gift to the Senior Class Gift campaign.

Leave your graduate’s legacy today! http://www.kuendowment.org/seniorclassgift.

SUMMER SCHOOL OPTIONS
KU offers students many options for summer term classes. There are classes on the Lawrence campus as well as the Edwards campus plus classes through Continuing Education. To see if a class from a different institution will transfer to KU, visit http://admissions.ku.edu/~admiss/credit/transfer/index.shtml. For more information about summer classes at KU visit: http://www.jayhawksummer.ku.edu/ or https://classes.ku.edu/Classes/ExternalDisplay.action.

HELPFUL LINKS
- KU Parent Association: www.parentassociation.ku.edu
- KU Information Center: www.kuinfo.ku.edu
- KU Alumni Association: www.kualumni.org
- KU Endowment Association: www.kuendowment.org
- KU on Facebook: www.ku.edu/facebook
- KU News: KU news releases are available online at www.news.ku.edu

Address your questions or comments to parents@ku.edu. Please do not use the “Reply” key to send e-mail messages.