There is something special about a college campus and the starts our students get here. Every day we pass your students as they study for tests, learning concepts that will prepare them for their futures. They debate and discuss current events. They banter and laugh with friends they will have for life. We see shy students taking part in groups and leaders emerging. They walk side by side with some amazing faculty as they flow to and from classes. Here, every day, students are growing as adults by learning from both their failures and successes. The end of the academic year is an immensely fulfilling time as we see our students gain confidence.

For those visiting this weekend during Spring Family Weekend (details below), we hope you also get to see the transformation they have made from the beginning of the year! Looking ahead, Finals Week runs from May 4-9, and residence halls will close Saturday, May 9 at 5:00 p.m. Students are expected to vacate their rooms within 24 hours of their last exam to ensure a quiet environment for those still studying: http://bit.ly/1Hxr5Rj. Students should contact their Residence Hall Coordinator a week in advance if this poses a challenge.

Below there are many helpful and timely details including important dates for the upcoming 2015-16 school year, updates on graduation, finals, summer sessions, housing and financial aid. I also highlighted some of our “April Accolades” so you can share in the many wonderful things happening on campus! Just yesterday, WVU joined a handful of institutions including MIT, Case Western and Stanford as home to a “Newton Tree,” a direct descendent of the one that inspired Sir Isaac Newton’s theory of gravity. It is a gift from retired Senator Jay Rockefeller: http://bit.ly/1INKhZB. In addition to planting our Newton Tree on Earth Day, President Gee hit the streets last weekend with Gee-Mail as he and student leaders got a jump-start on tidying up the campus and community: http://bit.ly/1HsIuvS. It is a beautiful and exciting time on campus!

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SPRING FAMILY WEEKEND

The University will welcome parents and family members to campus this weekend as part of Spring Family Weekend on April 24-26. This annual event gives family members an opportunity to catch up with their students while enjoying fun activities on campus and in Morgantown: http://bit.ly/1Gn2Jbt.

POLICE ALERT: Phone Scam Alert Issued

The University Police Department is investigating an ongoing nationwide telephone scam involving students and parents. The calls appear to be coming from the IRS, an emergency services provider or law enforcement agency. The victim will be told that they have committed a crime, which may include running a red light and being caught by a traffic camera or failing to appear for jury duty. The victim will be instructed to send a payment immediately and threatened with immediate consequences if they fail to comply. Do not give any personal information over the phone. Instead, hang up and report the event to the University Police Department at 304-293-2677. http://bit.ly/1EjqwJV
FINALS PREP

The end of the semester is upon us. Finals week runs from May 4-9. Listed below are a few resources to help your student finish the semester strong:

Sunday, April 26: Academic Resource Centers will be hosting a finals de-stress event from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Brooke Learning Center and behind Brooke/Braxton Tower. We will have different activities such as tie-dying, cupcake decorating, flower planting, WELLWVU chillWELL events and plenty of food. We want to thank our students for using our services this year.

Tuesday, April 28: The Academic Resource Centers and Honors Learning Center will be hosting a finals preparation tutoring event called ACEs (Academic Center for Exams) from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Hatfields. Tutors from the ARC and Honors Learning Center will be available to help in a variety of subjects (chemistry, math, biology, statistics, physics, engineering, accounting) http://bit.ly/1Gn6MnW

Thursday, April 30: From 5:00-6:00 p.m. in G-06 of the Health and Education Building on the Evansdale campus, the Office of Student Success will host the final Students On the Road To Success (SORTS) Seminar to help students prepare for finals and come up with a study plan: http://bit.ly/1rAODPx. All SORTS are free and open to all WVU students!

Our Academic Resource Centers will be open until Thursday, April 30 offering free tutoring on a nightly basis in several subjects. http://bit.ly/1Gn6MnW

Starting this Sunday, the Downtown Library will be open for 24-hour study hours through finals week. http://bit.ly/1EjrkhK. The Evansdale Library generally remains open 24 hours-a-day throughout the spring and fall terms: http://bit.ly/1yU81LI. Libraries make a great place to study for finals. Now is the time to start!

We want all students to remain enrolled and in good standing at WVU, but we also understand that sometimes students need to completely withdraw from a semester. Before your students make any changes to their schedule, be sure they speak with an adviser. If your student is considering a withdrawal from the current term, please encourage him or her to discuss their options with an academic adviser, a professor, a Resident Faculty Leader, a financial aid counselor or another WVU staff member. Students can also call the Student Life Office of Student Success Programs at 304-293-5804. The last day to withdraw from this semester is Thursday, April 30.
LIBRARIES

Students Can “Ask a Librarian” From Home or the Library

When term papers are due and students need help finding credible sources, there are various ways to get research assistance without having to go to the library. WVU Libraries offer the “Ask a Librarian” service. Students can chat with or text a librarian and receive an instantaneous response. They can call a research services desk for help or simply email their questions. When in doubt, just ask. Visit http://bit.ly/1yU89e2.

Libraries Offer Poster Printing and Equipment

Students are often asked to complete multimedia projects for their courses. Whether they need to print a poster, create and edit a video, or record an interview, the Libraries can help. Visit http://bit.ly/1INP1yB to see the multimedia equipment and software that students can use for free.

GRADUATION

Free Graduation Photo Opp

University Relations will be providing students the opportunity to have graduation photos taken for free near the Health Science Center Pylons and Woodburn Hall on May 11-12. More information can be found at http://bit.ly/1yY9pNs.

Mountaineer Send-Off Planned for Graduates!

Encourage your graduating seniors to be part of our newest tradition hosted by President Gee! Thursday, May 14, see the beginning of a new Commencement week tradition with the Mountaineer Send-Off. Our more than 4,500 soon-to-be graduates can convene for one last time as the entire Class of 2015. As President Gee says, “We're going to create a new tradition here, which will be a way for us to celebrate.” The event is set for 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the WVU Coliseum, and families who may already be in town are also welcome to attend. For more on this event and Commencement, go to: http://bit.ly/1byVvH7.

SUMMER SESSIONS

Summer Payments

If your student will be taking summer classes at WVU, summer bills are now available on his or her STAR account. Classes have various start times throughout the summer. Full payment is required before the class begins. http://bit.ly/1qgEfHA
Summer Dining Services for Students

If your student is taking an on-campus summer class, we have special summer-specific dining plans available. We offer a 15-meals per week plan and a block of 20 meals to keep students full and focused during the summer months. For full details, go to: [http://bit.ly/1INPl0e](http://bit.ly/1INPl0e), or to sign up online, go to: [http://bit.ly/1Ka486j](http://bit.ly/1Ka486j). We’re happy to answer any questions via email at dining@mail.wvu.edu or over the phone at 304-293-0018.

HOUSING UPDATES

WVU Residence Halls: Stay with Us Again Next Year!

There is still space available for current WVU students who want to return to the residence halls for the 2015-16 school year. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The convenience of living on campus provides easy access to campus resources such as faculty and academic advisers, libraries, computer labs, residence hall dining halls and other campus eateries, the student health center, recreational facilities and student organizations. Additionally, students can interact with University faculty outside of the classroom by participating in a variety of campus-wide and residence hall programs. Learn more at [http://bit.ly/1Dot8SO](http://bit.ly/1Dot8SO).

Residence Hall Partial-Year Housing Available

Is your student graduating or leaving the area for study abroad, co-ops, internships, student teaching, National Student Exchange or other similar programs? If so, your student may be released from a WVU Residence Hall Room and Meal Plan contract for that period with proper documentation. **PLEASE NOTE:** Students living in University Apartments, privately owned apartments, or privately owned houses should check those leases for early termination information, penalties or release/sublet options prior to signing. Remember, leases are legally binding contracts, and students should be sure to note these details. Students who have questions about their leases or would like someone to review their leases are encouraged to visit WVU Student Legal Services in E. Moore Hall. An attorney is available, free of charge, to review legal documents: [http://bit.ly/1DUWwCr](http://bit.ly/1DUWwCr).

University Apartments

Limited spaces remain for non-freshmen in our University Apartments for the 2015-16 school year at our four communities:

- **College Park** has a very limited number of single-bed spaces! College Park offers fully furnished four-bedroom, four-bath private apartments, an on-site game room and fitness center and on-site parking.

- **University Place** has a few open units remaining. Located adjacent to the Downtown campus, UPlace offers a one-of-a-kind Sheetz grocery store and other commercial shops
including a pizza shop, 24-hour fitness center and restaurants that are slated to open late summer/early fall. The community also offers study and lounge areas throughout for student use.

- **Vandalia Apartments** has a few open full units on the downtown campus. Vandalia Apartments offers fully furnished one- and two-bedroom apartments, individual leasing, roommate matching, on-site parking and ALL utilities!

- **NEW University Park Apartments** located on the Evansdale campus, is within walking distance to the PRT or Health Sciences Center. University Park features two traditional residence hall towers offering freshman housing, but also includes several apartment complexes adjacent to but separate from the traditional residence hall operations. This community is well on track to open August 1, 2015, with on-site parking, and a shopping center to include restaurants, a coffee shop, fitness center and much more! Leasing is under way now for this brand-new facility!

University Apartments offer great housing options for upperclassmen, graduate students and faculty by offering different apartment and community features as well as a sense of independent living. Tuition and housing costs are still billed to the student’s account for ease of payment and financial planning. For further information, visit [http://bit.ly/1DUWA5f](http://bit.ly/1DUWA5f).

**FINANCIAL**

**Exit Counseling Required for Those with Loans**

Students who are graduating, transferring or who are no longer enrolled at least half-time and have borrowed federal student loans must complete the exit loan counseling process online. Emails were sent to graduating students in early April from Heartland Campus Solutions/ECSI, the loan servicer for West Virginia University. The email included instructions regarding the exit counseling process.

Exit counseling helps students through the important transition to loan repayment after graduation or leaving college. To better understand loan repayment options, we highly encourage students to come to the Financial Aid Office for personalized exit counseling. [http://bit.ly/1aW7ltH](http://bit.ly/1aW7ltH)

Questions? Contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-5242. Follow us on social media for tips and reminders on Facebook (WVU Financial Aid) and Twitter (@WVUFinancialAid).
National Article of Interest

College Students Becoming Less Financially Responsible Study Says: http://bit.ly/1JyV61W.

2015-16 IMPORTANT DATES

Fall 2015

Fall 2015 Student Insurance Waiver available online: Monday, June 8

Online fall billing statement available: Monday, July 6

Fall 2015 Student Insurance Waiver due date: Monday, August 3

Fall payment due date: Friday, August 7

First day of fall classes: Monday, August 17 (correction from past E-news!)

Labor Day Recess: Monday, September 7

Fall Family Weekend: Friday, October 2 – Sunday, October 4

Fall Break (residence halls remain open): Monday, October 12 – Tuesday, October 13

*Thanksgiving Break: Saturday, November 21 – Sunday, November 29

Prep day for finals: Wednesday, December 9

Finals Week: Thursday, December 10 – Wednesday, December 16

December Commencement: Friday, December 18

*Winter Break: Thursday, December 17 – Sunday, January 10

Spring 2016

First Day of Spring Classes: Monday, January 11

Martin Luther King’s Birthday Recess: Monday, January 18

*Spring Break: Saturday, March 19 – Sunday, March 27
Finals Week: Monday, May 2 – Friday, May 6

May 2016 Commencement Weekend: Friday, May 13 – Sunday, May 15

*During these breaks, our WVU Residence Halls are closed. For details on specific opening and closing dates and times: [http://bit.ly/1EjuamX](http://bit.ly/1EjuamX).

APRIL ACCOLADES

We’ve been busy here on campus! We invite you to help spread the word about all of the great things going on and how Mountaineers are leading the way! The next time someone asks about your son or daughter’s school, here are just a few outstanding announcements from this past month you can share.

- **PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:** Three WVU students have been named finalists for the prestigious Truman Scholarship [http://bit.ly/1HsIKLn](http://bit.ly/1HsIKLn). One of those finalists, Hannah Clipp, has already made history, being named both a Goldwater and Udall Scholar, the first WVU student to do so. [http://bit.ly/1Ejnbu4](http://bit.ly/1Ejnbu4)

- **SENIOR SCHOLARS:** WVU’s most prestigious student honor recognizes students who are first in their class in contributions and achievements in scholarship, leadership and service as Order of Augusta Scholars, chosen from our 45 Outstanding Seniors. [http://bit.ly/1DFjWbH](http://bit.ly/1DFjWbH)

- **INCOMING FRESHMEN:** The newest class of 20 Neil S. Bucklew Scholars all look to WVU to give them the opportunity and skills to make the world a better place. Their hopes and aspirations inspire us all. [http://bit.ly/1QpcoDO](http://bit.ly/1QpcoDO)

- **IN THE CLASSROOM:** Did you know that WVU is one of the only universities using a 3-D printer in its ceramics program? As one student says, "What they offer here you can’t get at your typical university.” [http://bit.ly/1yU3XuO](http://bit.ly/1yU3XuO)

- **RESEARCH:** WVU astrophysicist Maura McLaughlin was named co-director of a Physics Frontier Center, which brings a $14.5 million National Science Foundation grant to the Nanohertz Observatory for Gravitational Waves. [http://bit.ly/1JhM7Ft](http://bit.ly/1JhM7Ft)

- **ATHLETICS:** Men's Basketball Coach Bob Huggins was named Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year. The award is presented annually to the top coach in Division I men's basketball. [http://bit.ly/1GbSu6Y](http://bit.ly/1GbSu6Y)
- **FACULTY:** Four WVU researchers won Faculty Early Career Development, or CAREER, awards from the National Science Foundation, its most prestigious in support of junior faculty. [http://bit.ly/1byT2fL](http://bit.ly/1byT2fL)

- **OUTSTANDING TEACHERS:** The WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching recognizes faculty that students remember and will keep in touch with decades after graduating. [http://bit.ly/1Ka18GY](http://bit.ly/1Ka18GY)

- **SWEEPING THE STATE:** WVU students swept the Statewide Collegiate Business Plan Competition for the second year, taking three $10,000 first-prize awards to help make a business idea come to life. [http://bit.ly/1byUQWj](http://bit.ly/1byUQWj)

- **INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM:** A senior project led to a fourth-place international finish for the robotics team. [http://bit.ly/1Ka2QbC](http://bit.ly/1Ka2QbC)

- **ORGANIZATION IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT:** WVU’s Collegiate 4-H club members took home top national honors for service. [http://bit.ly/1GnmmTu](http://bit.ly/1GnmmTu)

**TIPS FROM THE TRENCHES**

**Career Services – How You Can Help, Parents!**

As the proud parent of a WVU student, you know that Mountaineers make excellent employees. Their hard work and dedication are unmatched. But, some companies need someone within the organization to encourage them to recruit at WVU. Please share the following career event details with your human resources department. Your employer and students will thank you!

Career fairs are the perfect place to establish and enhance your employer's brand on campus, whether it’s your first visit to WVU or you’re expanding your recruiting efforts to meet your increasing talent acquisition needs. Companies can register today in MountaineerTRAK: [http://bit.ly/1oGa9zh](http://bit.ly/1oGa9zh).

**WVU CAREER AND INTERNSHIP FAIR:** September 16 and 17, 2015

This event provides a great opportunity to connect with students and alumni in business, IT, engineering, social sciences, marketing and more who are looking for internships and entry-level positions.

**STATLER COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND MINERAL RESOURCES CAREER FAIR:**

September 23 and 24, 2015

This fair will help you find students dedicated to a career in engineering, computer science or safety management. The Statler College Career Fair will connect you with students and recent graduates seeking internships, co-ops or full-time employment opportunities.
DAVIS COLLEGE CAREER FAIR: October 21, 2015

This career fair will connect you with students from all majors within the Davis College, including: Animal and Nutritional Science, Agribusiness Management and Rural Development, Biochemistry, Horticulture, Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, Landscape Architecture, Fashion Merchandising and Interior Design, and more!

***OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED***

CAREER KICKOFF TAILGATE PARTY: September 4, 2015

Looking for new ways to increase your employer’s brand recognition on campus? The Tailgate engages students in career-related activities in a fun and festive atmosphere early in the semester. Volunteer your recruiters or hiring managers to network with students.

MOUNTAINEER UNIVERSITY EMPLOYER SUMMIT: July 15 and 16, 2015

As a recruiter you want to bring the best and brightest talent to your organization. The Mountaineer University Employer Summit will give you the tools to develop and grow an innovative recruitment strategy for success at WVU. Meet with deans, directors and faculty of key academic departments, as well as network and idea-share with your fellow recruiters.

/Katie Gallagher and Lisa Hanselman
Office of Parent Relations
West Virginia University