This is the time of year when we truly feel the cycle of life higher education. We recently bid adieu to the WVU Class of 2019 as they headed to our alumni ranks! Our freshmen, sophomores and juniors have now (hopefully) advanced to their next rank and our new incoming freshmen class (eventually to be the WVU Class of 2023) is also starting to cross high school graduation stages across the country. Congrats to all on these accomplishments!

Before students completely check out for summer – please remind them to *frequently* check their MIX e-mail account over the summer months. This is how we communicate important updates to them – some that will require action before they return to campus and could have cost implication if missed (i.e. students insurance waiver opens June 3 and closes August 1, fall bills come out July 6 and are due August 1, etc.)

Also, parents, this will be the last Parent E-newsletter until early July, after we have welcomed and added all new families during New Student Orientation (NSO) that starts next week. Included below, find some notes on financial aid and billing, considerations for action now that spring grades are out, as well as reminders and announcements for all parents. Some last-minute pre-NSO notes for Parents of Incoming Students can be found below including details on NSO Parent Receptions as well as some final reminders and commencement wrap up items for Parents of Recent WVU Graduates including info on how to sign off this listserv. Thanks again for all you have done to support your students. When you reply for removal, let us know what is next for your graduate - congrats again!

If you have questions or if we can be of assistance, please don’t hesitate to reach out. We are here throughout the summer so call the Parent Helpline at 1-800-988-0096 or simply reply to me at this e-mail. Enjoy the longer days and warmer weather – farewell until July! In this edition:

PARENTS OF RECENT WVU GRADUATES
- Graduation Gee-Mail and Wrap Up
- HOUSEKEEPING: Removal from the Listserv and the Parents Club

SPRING GRADES
- Good Grades and Goals!
- Considerations for Those Struggling Academically

FINANCIAL AID AND BILLING
- Mark your calendars: fall charges available July 6; Due August 1

PARENTS OF INCOMING STUDENTS
- Join us the night before NSO for Parent Receptions and Student Kickbacks
- RISE WVU program – July 15-August 2
- Residence Hall Opening and Closing Dates for 2019-20

REMINDERS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Deadline EXTENDED for Late Spring Rental Book Return – June 3
- AETNA Student Health Insurance – ANNUAL Waiver to Open June 3
- Graduation Application to graduate in August – Opens May 21, closes July 5
- WVU Dining renovations announced
- Summer Read: WVU selects ‘Educated: A Memoir’ as 2019-20 Campus Read
- Fall Family Weekend Dates – September 27-29, 2019

PARENTS OF RECENT WVU GRADUATES
Graduation Gee-Mail and Wrap Up
Last weekend, West Virginia University sent nearly 4,600 of its newly-minted graduates onward to the next chapter of their lives. Before marching across the grand stage at commencement, some of those students were respectfully ambushed by WVU President Gordon Gee with his trusty Gee Mail microphone: http://bit.ly/GradGeeMail

- Other graduate Profiles can be found here: http://bit.ly/WVUGradProfiles
- Photography: Commencement photographs that were taken by GradImages should now be available to students as noted here: http://bit.ly/GradPhotography. Other photos taken by WVU Photography throughout the weekend can also be found here: http://bit.ly/WVUGradPhotos.
- Career Services: We also remind our recent alumni that the WVU Career Services Center remains dedicated to helping all alumni so please reach out as needed: http://bit.ly/CSCAlums
- Alumni: Also, as your students embark on this next chapter, remind them to seek out one of our many local chapters of the WVU Alumni Association in their new hometowns: http://bit.ly/WVUAlumniChapters Congratulations to the WVU Class of 2019!

HOUSEKEEPING: Removal from the Listserv and the Parents Club
With the end of the year, for many of our parents it is time to say goodbye. Thank you for all you have done supporting your student during their time at WVU. As you move on to the next chapter of your life, many of you have become Mountaineers-at-heart, and we value that bond with you! While we welcome you to stay on with us if you have another Mountaineer on the way or one who may return shortly, we want to invite those of you who want to relinquish your membership in the Mountaineer Parents Club that choice. To do so, simply reply to this e-mail with the following information:

Parent Name(s):
Student Name:
Other Comments/Farewell Messages/Etc. (We love to hear what is next and where your student is off to in this next stage of their life):

Parents of graduates or those who have been with us for five years should have received a separate e-mail with continuing membership options. If we don’t hear back from you here or in response to that e-mail by May 26 (extended from May 16), we will remove you from the listserv for your convenience. Again, thank you for all you do to support your student’s success, parents!
**SPRING GRADES**

**Good Grades and Goals!**

As a reminder, final spring grades officially posted online May 9. Students can view these in their MIX/STAR Accounts and parents who have been granted the access by their student can view via the Parent/Guest Portal: [http://bit.ly/WVUPGPortal](http://bit.ly/WVUPGPortal). For those who did well, here are some continued goals to work toward to help them stay focused and on track:

*Dean’s and President’s Lists* – The online Spring 2019 Dean’s and President’s lists will post in June: [http://bit.ly/WVUDeansLists](http://bit.ly/WVUDeansLists). The Dean’s List highlights undergraduates who earned a 3.5 GPA or higher, and the President’s List recognizes undergraduates who achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA.

*Latin Honors* – As students’ progress toward graduation, Latin Honors (Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Cum Laude) are another recognition they could receive. These graduation honors are based on cumulative GPA requirements of a 3.4 and higher: [http://bit.ly/WVULatinHonors](http://bit.ly/WVULatinHonors)

*Good Grades: Now What?* – There are a number of resources students can explore from home as they make plans for upcoming semesters:

- Summer classes are still available. These can often help students get ahead, complete a minor, graduate early or provide time to focus on a challenging class: [http://bit.ly/WVUSummerTerm](http://bit.ly/WVUSummerTerm).
- Education/Study Abroad options might be worth considering. Did you know that exchange programs allow students to study abroad at certain institutions for the same cost as their WVU experience? WVU offers opportunities over spring break, in the summer or over a fall or spring term: [http://bit.ly/WVUStudyAbroad](http://bit.ly/WVUStudyAbroad).
- Prep that resume and use summer wisely! Perhaps they can still find a summer internship, or career-related volunteer or shadow experience. Once students return in the fall, career fairs get under way early - in September. (Did you know that many of our seniors are hired in the fall before they actually graduate?) Be sure to highlight achievements and update resumes with activities from this past year/summer now: [http://bit.ly/CSCEvents](http://bit.ly/CSCEvents).
- Check out DegreeWorks. The end of the semester is a good time to log on to their DegreeWorks account to check on their degree progress. DegreeWorks helps students keep track of academic progress and hopefully speeds time to graduation. It provides real-time advice and counsel by having all academic information in one convenient place and allows students to review plan B majors through the “what-if” feature, calculate what GPA they need to achieve an overall goal, and plan classes for upcoming terms, among other features. Students are able to easily see which classes and requirements have been completed and which still need to be filled. Encourage them to check it out today: [http://bit.ly/WVUDegreeworks](http://bit.ly/WVUDegreeworks).
- The ASPIRE Program Helps Students Go Beyond - Many of our students go on to do great things and are often recognized on the national and international stage for their accomplishments and achievements. Our ASPIRE Program works with many high-

Considerations for Those Struggling Academically

If spring grades were less than stellar, we encourage you to talk with your student about their academic performance and plans for the upcoming semesters. If students were below a cumulative 2.0 GPA, here is information about academic suspension, possible financial aid suspension, summer school and the contractual readmission appeal program (deadline to file is June 1.)

Loss of Scholarships – Students receiving scholarships and some grant aid often have minimum annual CGPA and credit hours levels that they must achieve to retain these forms of aid. For WVU based aid, these levels can be found here: http://bit.ly/WVUSchRenew. If these levels were not met at the end of spring, students were notified and have until the end of the Summer Term to reach these levels or lose their aid. Please note, if not regained via summer 2019, once lost, most forms of aid are not able to be re-awarded if/when a student reaches the threshold beyond summer.

Academic/Financial Aid Suspension – The standards used to determine a student’s eligibility for suspension are based on an overall GPA below a 2.0. If placed on suspension, students are required to sit out for a semester or more, depending on the suspension terms, unless they successfully appeal. Summer school can be used to help avoid suspension. Students whose GPAs fall below a 2.0 GPA are eligible for suspension from the University in May and have been notified officially by the Office of the University Registrar and Student Financial Support and Services. http://bit.ly/WVUSuspensionCRP

Contractual Readmission Appeal – If placed on suspension, students are required to sit out for a semester or more and also face possible suspension of their financial aid. As a streamlined, online process, students have the opportunity to apply for Contractual Readmission to appeal both academic and financial aid suspensions. Contractual readmission applications must be filed by June 1. For more information about the process and next steps, review http://bit.ly/WVUSuspensionCRP.

What Can They Do Now? – Encourage your student to have an honest look at why they didn’t have a good semester/year. Mistakes happen, but it is important to know how you got somewhere to avoid the same mistakes. There are resources students can explore from home to help them plan for their particular circumstance:

- Summer school – often summer school classes (at home or WVU) can be used to help get a GPA higher than a 2.0 before the fall term suspension sets in. Many options and start dates (next groups start June 3, June 24, and July 15) exist. They should consult with their advisor if they have questions. http://bit.ly/WVUSummerTerm
- Check out the WVU Catalog – It offers guidance on grades, GPA calculation and helpful policies such as D/F repeating that are often helpful in raising a GPA quickly: http://bit.ly/CatalogGrading.
• Major Change – If they are considering a change of major, they can review DegreeWorks to use the “what-if” feature. It allows students to explore how changing a major might affect their path to graduation and what coursework it might require in relation to what they have already completed. http://bit.ly/WVUDegreeworks. They should also consult an academic advisor for guidance and to start the process.

• GPA Calculation Planning – DegreeWorks offers help projecting what students need to meet a certain GPA with various calculation tools: http://bit.ly/WVUDegreeworks. If a student needs to have a cumulative 3.0 GPA at the end of summer to maintain a scholarship, these tools can help determine how many hours and what GPA they need in an upcoming semester to reach that goal.

• Advisors – Before adding classes or making changes to schedules, students should consult an academic advisor to make sure they remain on track. Keep in mind that summer classes start at various points throughout the summer term. NOTE: many advisors work with New Student Orientation in the summer so please allow extra time for a response.

• Accessibility Services – Is there a chance your student is struggling with an undiagnosed learning disability or other learning challenge? Check out the resources offered by the Office of Accessibility Services now to see if your student qualifies for accommodations: http://bit.ly/WVUOAS

FINANCIAL AID AND BILLING

Mark your calendars: fall charges available July 6; Due August 1

It is never too early to start thinking about how to pay for educational costs. For students registered for fall classes, fall charges will be available around July 6 to students through the student’s WVU Portal and in the Parent/Guest Portal (http://bit.ly/WVUPGPortal) if your student has granted you access. Students who owe a fall balance will also be sent an eBill via their MIX email around July 6. Payment for the fall semester is due in full by August 1. Any financial aid that is ready to disburse (has been accepted with no unsatisfied requirements – have students check their WVU Portal today and take care of any outstanding items!) will reflect as anticipated payment on the bill. If a student has registered for fall classes but does not plan to return, it is their responsibility to drop their classes to avoid billing.

Students who have financial aid that is more than their institutional charges for the semester will receive a refund for the difference to use for educational expenses. The fastest and easiest way to receive a refund is through direct deposit to a U.S. bank account. Visit http://bit.ly/WVURefunds for information on how to sign up. NOTE: Funds cannot be dispersed until 10 days prior to the start of the term.

In advance of official fall billing, you can estimate fall 2019 costs by utilizing the “Plan for Your Cost Your Way” planner at http://bit.ly/CostPlanner. Estimated costs can vary if your student has changed majors, dining plans, housing arrangements, etc., so be sure to plan ahead.

If you are looking for a monthly payment option, consider signing up for the Tuition Payment Plan: http://bit.ly/TuitionPayPlan. May 31 is the last day you can sign up for the six-month option for fall 2019. (Five-month plan available until June 30. Four-month plan available until July 31, etc.) This is an interest-free plan that will allow you to spread your charges into more
manageable payments. The earlier you sign up, the longer you have to pay and the smaller the monthly payments. Once fall charges are available in July, you can adjust your contract amount if needed. If you have any questions, please call Tuition Pay at 877-821-0625.

Students can also consider tuition refund insurance. Through GradGuard, families can protect their tuition investment if a student is unable to complete a semester due to a covered medical reason. For more info, visit GradGuard: http://bit.ly/GradGuard or call 866-724-4384. The deadline for enrolling is August 20, 2019, for the 2019-20 academic year – prior to the first day of classes.

Upperclassmen can purchase fall books online now via the registration integration process, and if they anticipate having financial aid that will cover both their fall charges and their books, they can have this applied directly toward their books from now through August 7: http://bit.ly/BooksFinAid. Incoming students can also use excess financial aid to pay for books. Incoming students can purchase their textbooks when they are on campus for New Student Orientation or online at http://bit.ly/BooksFinAid after they schedule classes at New Student Orientation, but before the August 7 deadline.

To make sure students get financial aid, billing and other important messages over the summer, please remind them to monitor their MIX email regularly! For questions on WVU billing or payment options, please contact the Mountaineer Hub at http://bit.ly/MtneerHub or 304-293-1988.

PARENTS OF INCOMINGS STUDENTS
Please be sure to review the Financial Aid and Billing section above as that is relevant to both current and incoming families! Also for clarification from the prior Parent E-Newsletter regarding payment plans, if you are looking for a monthly payment option, Tuition Payment Plans are now available: http://bit.ly/TuitionPayPlan. May 31 is the last day you can sign up for the six-month option for fall 2019, however, other monthly plans will remain available after that point: (i.e. five-month plan available until June 30. Four-month plan available until July 31, etc.)

If you have any questions on these or others topics moving forward, please don’t hesitate to call the Parent Helpline at 1-800-988-0096 or simply reply to this e-mail. I am happy to help and look forward to working with you moving forward! Katie Gallagher – Parent Advocate, President’s Office.

Join us the night before NSO for Parent Receptions and Student Kickbacks
If you plan to come to Morgantown the night before New Student Orientation, parents and students each have their own special event!

- PARENTS are invited to a Parent Reception where you can meet other parents, folks from around the University and enjoy some light appetizers.
- STUDENTS are invited to a Student Kickback where they can meet other incoming freshmen, meet and mingle with student organization leaders, get their picture taken with the Mountaineer, enjoy games and activities and munch on some great snacks.
Both events take place 5:30 – 7:00pm at Evansdale Crossing, located at 62 Morrill Way.
Students are on the first floor and parents are on the fifth floor. Free parking is available in the
Student Recreation Center parking lots. Both events are very casual. For questions, please
contact us at 304-293-2506 or by email at parentsclub@mail.wvu.edu.

Students and parents can also shop for the latest WVU gear at the WVU Bookstore at Evansdale
Crossing from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. We offer 20% to 25% off one WVU item for EACH
PERSON who downloads our app. Search "My College Bookstore" through Apple or Android,
the Mountainlair will also be open during all Orientation programs. The WVU Bookstore is here
to help you through your student’s journey, in the classroom and on campus. For emails that
include everything you need to know about textbooks, supplies and more, sign up
at http://bit.ly/WVUBNSignUp. Shop with confidence and trust; the WVU Bookstores are proud
to give $1.5 million each year to WVU in nonathletic student scholarships. Sorry, discounts
cannot be combined.

RISE WVU program – July 15-August 2
Partnering with offices across campus, the RISE WVU program seeks to create opportunities for
students of color and other underrepresented groups to build an academic community and persist
towards graduation through engagement and mentoring. This summer we would like to invite
you to participate in our Summer Bridge Program. We offer a three-credit course (Sociology
101), room and board, academic support, peer-mentoring and connection with faculty and staff.
The program is 3 weeks long running from July 15th to August 2nd with a cost of $300. Please
visit our webpage to learn more and apply: http://bit.ly/RiseBridgePgm. We are also on Twitter
and Instagram @RiseWVU, Follow US!

Residence Hall Opening and Closing Dates for 2019-20
The residence halls have released their official opening and closing dates for 2019-20. More
specific details for fall move-in will be given out at New Student Orientation in June. Please note
that the residence halls officially close during Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring Breaks. Since
parents often make the trip to pick up their students, please reference the dates and times, since

REMINDERS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
Deadline EXTENDED for Late Spring Rental Book Return – June 3
If you or your student has been charged a fee for not bringing back a spring term book rental, if
you mail them to the WVU Bookstore by June 3rd, we will reverse the charges. Please ship
book(s) with a note that includes: student’s name, email and phone # to:
WVU Bookstore - Mountainlair
ATTN.: Textbook Dept.
1550 University Ave.
Morgantown, WV 26506
Fees will be reversed when books are received. Questions? sm583@bncollege.com.
AETNA Student Health Insurance – ANNUAL Waiver to Open June 3
Mark your calendars: Students with insurance can complete the annual student insurance waiver starting June 3; it is due by August 1. NOTE: Incoming students can also submit proof of immunizations as part of this waiver process. WVU requires all domestic students taking six or more credits and all international students to have health insurance – either on an existing plan or through the WVU Aetna Student Insurance Plan. If covered by their own plan, students can submit this annual waiver to opt out starting June 3. 2019-20 Aetna Benefits Summary

Graduation Application to graduate in August – Opens May 21, closes July 5
If your student will reach graduation standing at the end of the summer term, they will need to officially register for graduation this summer. This application is now open and will close July 5: http://bit.ly/WVUGraduationApp. Note: there is no ceremony held in August; any August graduates are welcome to walk in the December Commencement ceremonies.

WVU Dining renovations announced, fall meal plans go on sale in June
When students arrive back on campus this fall, they may not recognize some of WVU Dining’s locations. Construction is underway this summer at several locations to enhance students’ dining experience including Café Evandsdale, Hatfield’s (transitioning to a residential dining hall), JACS (becoming Jazzmans coffee shop and bakery) and a Chick-Fil-A expansion in the Mountainlair. Chick-fil-A will also be opening in the Health Sciences Center and join Mindful and Burgershop as an option. Students, faculty, staff and guests will have greater variety in food options amid updated surroundings, and in residential dining facilities, a more interactive experience. Renovations are underway with plans for completion before classes begin. Fall meal plan options will be going on sale in the month of June. We can’t wait for you to enjoy them: http://bit.ly/DiningRenos.

For those interested in purchasing fall meal plans, these will go on sale in June. Residence hall students are required to have a meal plan and will have three great options to choose from: http://bit.ly/ResHallDiningPlan. For upperclassmen living off campus, meal plans are also a convenient, affordable and new plans provide greater flexibility: http://bit.ly/UpperclassmanDining.

Vaccination Update from Student Health
A note from our Medical Director at Student Health: http://bit.ly/MeaslesPSA Please also know that the following vaccinations are required for WVU students: http://bit.ly/WVUImmunizations.

Summer Read: WVU selects ‘Educated: A Memoir’ as 2019-20 Campus Read
Looking for a summer read? We invite you to join the WVU campus community in reading Tara Westover’s best-selling book, ‘Educate: A Memoir’ that has been chosen as West Virginia University’s 2019-2020 Campus Read. The story recounts her pursuit of a college education after being raised “off the grid” in the rugged mountains of Idaho: http://bit.ly/1920CampusRead.
Reminder: Fall Family Weekend Dates – September 27-29, 2019
I have had a number of questions recently about the Fall Family Weekend dates. As a reminder, FFW will be held, September 27-29. More details will be forthcoming once the fall term starts via this Parent E-news as well as online here: http://bit.ly/WVUFallFamilyWeekend.

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