

Parent Electronic News  
West Virginia University  
February 5, 2016

With the fourth week of the semester complete, students are now a quarter of the way through the spring term. As you will see below, this is also a time of the semester when a lot is happening and as they say – time flies when you are having fun. Specifically, information on the Graduation One-Stop Shop for our May graduates, and the ever popular Career and Internship Fair for all students follows. These events, among others, are coming up quickly so be sure to scan the items for info that might be of interest to your student and forward on as a reminder!

For many of you as parents, this is also a good time to remind you that the 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid is due for maximum consideration of aid by March 1. Info follows on some free workshops coming up to assist with the process. Also please know that you can submit the FAFSA based on estimated taxes to meet the March 1 deadline and then update any necessary information:

<http://bit.ly/1SbaXfl>. Also be sure to see the ALERT below on tax form e-mails recently sent, as these might be needed to complete the FAFSA.

With that said, we wish you an early Happy Valentine's Day meaning there is still time to mail a valentine to your student! If not, in this world of technology, perhaps you could just text them a Valentine's Day greeting instead. Whether they tell you or not, your support means a lot, parents! In this edition:

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- **\*ALERT\*** Tax Form e-mails from Xerox TCRS are legitimate
- Upcoming Events on campus! <http://bit.ly/1NKOVFI> or <http://bit.ly/1KvARHI>
- 2016 Student Government Association (SGA) Elections - Applications due February 10
- Applications for Chimes and Helvetia Honoraries Now Open – Due February 12
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### **Parents Club Question of the Month**

With summer and fall advising just around the corner (more on this in an upcoming Parent E-newsletter!), we recently updated our Parents Club Question of the Month to find out if your student has changed his or her major since coming to WVU. Click here to let us know: <http://bit.ly/1PFvFBA> and we'll share the results in an upcoming edition.

### **Parents Club Spring Break Buses**

Does your student need to make travel arrangements home for Spring Break? Let us help. The Mountaineer Parents Club Spring Break Bus information can be found here including times and locations: <http://bit.ly/1vStQFj>. Local clubs are also sponsoring buses to central Maryland, northern Virginia, Long Island, and southern New Jersey.

As a reminder, residence halls will close for spring break Friday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. and reopen Sunday, March 27, at noon. Please note that Sunday, March 27 is Easter Sunday and classes resume on Monday, March 28.

### **Campus Safety – Download the Live Safe App**

As a reminder, WVU students can download and use the LiveSafe safety app for free. This app allows them to make anonymous reports to University Police including posting pictures or videos to assist with an incident. Students can also utilize the SafeWalk feature of this app. This allows students to have a friend or family member virtually “walk” with them if they are walking alone. If they have late classes or study sessions, this is a great way to “buddy-up” and make sure they arrive safe and sound. For more on the app, go to: <http://bit.ly/1XoTTBX>.

### **Technology Service Centers now on both Campuses**

Information Technology Services has opened a new Service Center offering walk-up technical support on the ground floor of the Evansdale Library and will continue offering ITS Connect service at the Mountainlair next to the Post Office. Hours at both locations will be 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday through February. At both Service Centers, staff can assist students with a range of services and applications supported by ITS, such as eCampus, Office 365 and Login. They also provide connectivity support and basic diagnostics and troubleshooting. <http://bit.ly/1T3vfr6>.

### **\*ALERT\* Tax Form e-mails from Xerox TCRS are legitimate**

Parents – Your students should be aware that emails recently sent from the address [tcrs@xerox.com](mailto:tcrs@xerox.com) are legitimate attempts to deliver 1098T Tuition Statement forms for the 2015 tax year. These emails are NOT phishing attempts and are safe for responding. Xerox TCRS (Tax Credit Reporting Service) is a third-party vendor that produces forms for WVU Tax Services. Students registered during 2015 will receive forms in the mail unless they have consented to receiving them online. Students who have given that consent are now receiving these emails. The Form 1098-T is issued to any student who is either a U.S. citizen or an international student with a valid Social Security number in WVU systems. <http://bit.ly/1oduPlh>.

### **Upcoming Events on campus!**

Curious what's happening on weekends on campus? Each week, Student Life gathers the various events from across campus. Students can visit here for a list of updates and events for the weekend ahead: <http://bit.ly/1NKOVFI>.

We also have additional fun activities already planned throughout the month of February for our students to enjoy. As part of this '*New year, New fun*' initiative, students enjoyed a Campfire Night on the Mountainlair plaza last night complete with s'mores, hot cocoa and crackling fires! The next event is this Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> when students are invited to attend West Virginia University's birthday party from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Mountainlair! There will be FREE cake at noon with the bowtie guy himself and a photo booth will also be waiting for birthday photos! In addition, there will be \$1.49 bowling and billiards all day and \$1.49 food specials in the Lair in honor of the occasion. Encourage your students to drop by! For more on this and other upcoming 'New Year, New Fun' February activities, visit: <http://bit.ly/1KvARHI>.

### **2016 Student Government Association (SGA) Elections - Applications due February 10**

Is your student passionate about and want to make a difference at WVU? Are they interested in government and leadership? The WVU Student Government Association elections are getting ready to kick off soon. Complete with candidate meetings, campaigning, debates and voting over the next month, the SGA allows our students to engage in the leadership and governance of the student body. If your student is interested, they can go to: <http://bit.ly/1SQAtOJ> for more information. Student Government Association packets are due at noon on Wednesday, February 10.

### **Applications for Chimes and Helvetia Honoraries Now Open – Due February 12**

Students who excel academically and are interested in giving back to their campus and community are urged to apply to join Chimes or Helvetia, two prestigious honoraries at West Virginia University! Helvetia and Chimes are honoraries unique to West Virginia University and are for sophomore and junior students respectively. Please visit <http://bit.ly/1KvBbGB> for

each individual application. Selection is based on a student's college career with criteria including a combination of academics, honors and awards, campus activities, leadership, community service, and contributions to the field of study. To be considered, students must have at least a 3.3 GPA. Students inducted into these honoraries will be recognized in April. Students must complete their applications no later than Friday, February 12 by 5:00 p.m.

### **Graduation One-Stop Shop – February 15, 16, 17**

If your student is graduating in May, encourage him or her to stop by the Graduation One-Stop Shop. Seniors can get questions answered, order official class rings and commencement regalia among other things. Key University departments will also be on hand to provide upcoming graduates with the assistance needed to be prepared for graduation and beyond. Students can also sign up to win fun giveaways!

The Gradation One-Stop Shop is scheduled for February 15 on the Evansdale Campus in the Engineering Mineral Resources Atrium and February 16-17 on the Downtown campus in the Mountainlair Commons Area. These will be held from 11 a.m. -2 p.m. <http://bit.ly/1Syczjt>

### **\*HIGHLIGHT \* WVU Career and Internship Fair – February 17-18**

If your student is in the market for a summer internship or full-time job after graduation, we have good news! The spring career fair is only two weeks away, and over 120 employers have registered to date. Alumni are also welcome to attend.

The West Virginia University Career & Internship Fair will be held Wednesday, February 17 and Thursday, February 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Mountainlair Ballrooms. Nationwide employers from diverse industries, government agencies, and non-profits will be recruiting for internships and full-time opportunities across all majors and ranks.

Attending campus career fairs provides students with the unique chance to practice their networking skills as they meet face-to-face with potential employers, distribute their resumes, and gather information about which companies are hiring and interested in their specific set of skills.

Preparation is key – So what can I do, you ask?

- Encourage your student to attend the career fairs.
- Send them to Career Services to have their resume reviewed.
- Suggest that they check out the “How to Work a Career Fair” button on our website: <http://bit.ly/1rrd7Gr>
- Make sure they have at least one business-appropriate outfit at school.

But my student is only a freshman, you say! What should they do?

Great question! We always encourage freshmen to stop by the career fair. It is a great way for to learn what it is all about, while practicing their networking and interviewing skills. But before they go, they need to know a few things. To help with that – we have developed a short, but informative presentation. Click the link below to discover what freshmen can expect and what they should do to get ready for their first career fair. <http://bit.ly/1vjUCa6>

### **Get FREE 2016-17 FAFSA assistance– February 21**

Good news! On February 21, West Virginia will host the sixth annual College Goal Sunday Event! This is an opportunity for students and families to get FREE help completing the FAFSA. Local financial aid professionals will offer one-on-one, confidential support to anyone planning to attend college. College Goal Sunday will be held on February 21, 2016 from 1 to 4 p.m. Workshops are located across the state so you can participate at whichever location is closest to you – no matter which college you attend. You do not have to be a West Virginia resident to participate. Visit <http://bit.ly/1EMKf5w> for details and registration. Please help us spread the word about College Goal Sunday by sharing this information with others who may benefit – high school seniors, current college students, or adults who want to attend college or other parents of college students. And remember – students attending WVU need to file their 2016-17 FAFSA by March 1 for maximum aid consideration: <http://bit.ly/1SbaXfl>!

### **Major Match Fair – March 1**

Is your student still deciding on a major or interested in learning more about majors, minors, careers or classes to take? Encourage them to join us for the Major Match Fair, Tuesday, March 1 in the Mountainlair ballrooms from 10:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Tables featuring representatives from the various WVU colleges, majors and services will be set and up and information will be available for both undergraduate and graduate levels. This fair will help students explore academic and career possibilities and all are welcome to attend. Students are encouraged to ask questions and express their interests and goals. For more information, visit their website at: <http://bit.ly/1Pphugy>.

### **2016 Summer Undergraduate Research Experience – Apply by March 1**

The Summer Undergraduate Research Experience is planned May 31-July 29 and is accepting applications from University faculty and undergraduates. SURE provides West Virginia undergraduates with \$3,900 in exchange for eight weeks of summer research with University faculty. Faculty are cautioned that SURE primarily provides stipend support for undergraduates. Enrichment funding from the faculty member's college may be available. Undergraduates apply by March 1 at: <http://bit.ly/20eYRRq>. Questions should be sent to [undergradresearch@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:undergradresearch@mail.wvu.edu).

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