Parents as Partners

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Today...

• What are common transition experiences that students and parents may encounter?

• What are the roles of incoming students, their parents, and the university?

• What university resources are available to all in the Carolina experience?

• How can students and parents make a successful transition to Carolina?
Where do you call home?

a. South Carolina
b. Southeast
c. Northeast/Mid-Atlantic
d. Midwest/Mountain States
e. West/Southwest/International
How many of your children have attended college?

a. one
b. two
c. three
d. four or more!
....Seems like yesterday
The Three I’s

• Identity
• Intellectual Development
• Independence
Continuing roles

- Students: **emerging adults**
- Parents/families: **partners**
- University of South Carolina: **support**
I expect my student to communicate with me:

- a. Two or more times a day
- b. Once a day
- c. Two to three times per week
- d. One to four times a month
- e. I’ll know more from their Facebook than by talking to them
What your mother is thinking

When you don't answer her texts
Promoting healthy communication

• How frequently will you communicate?

• How will you communicate?
My student’s biggest transition will be:

a. Being away from home
b. Adjusting to the new academic environment
c. Leaving a significant relationship or close friends
d. Adapting to a big campus and large classes
e. Managing their lives independently
Preparing for the transition

- Coach your student through hardships by encouraging them to solve their own problems
- Allow your student to chart a course toward adulthood
- Help your student learn to use campus resources
What to expect: First semester

August

October

December

September

November
Possible Scenarios
What is the biggest challenge this student is facing?

a. Health and wellness issues (i.e. stress, anxiety, mild depression)
b. Sleeping too much
c. Having trouble getting involved on campus
d. Having trouble making friends
e. All of the above
Health and Wellness

• Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center and Blatt Physical Education Center

• Healthy Carolina

• Center for Health and Well-Being

• Counseling and Psychiatry
Campus Involvement

• Student Organizations
  • Fraternity and Sorority Life
  • Multicultural Student Affairs
  • Faith-Based
  • Community Service Programs
  • Leadership Programs
  • Sports clubs
  • …and much more!

• Professional Opportunities
  • Internship
  • Organizations
  • Work Abroad

• Academic Interests
  • Study Abroad
  • Undergraduate Research
How would you respond to your student in this situation?

a. Reprimand them for missing the test and make sure this is a learning opportunity
b. Email your student’s academic advisor and ask for a repeal on the student’s exam grade
c. Encourage them to schedule a meeting with the professor and to explore campus resources for improving study skills and academic success
d. None of the above
Empower your student to take initiative

Speaking with the professor shows maturity and investment in the coursework.

Student Success Center
- Tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, Success Consulting
- Transfer & Veteran Services

University Advising Center
- First-Year Advising
- Exploratory Advising
- Writing Center
What do you anticipate your student’s first visit home being like?

a. Everything will be the same as it was when they left for school
b. It will be a tough transition, but we will have a discussion beforehand
c. My student will be coming home almost every weekend, so things won’t be that different
d. I already plan to convert their old bedroom into a home office
Discuss expectations

- Acknowledge first-semester transitions
- Help your student recognize that high school relationships may have changed
- Affirm your student’s newfound independence
- Discuss your expectations with your student
What about...?

Campus Safety
Behavioral/Conduct issues
Alcohol and substance abuse
FERPA/HIPAA
In case of an emergency, my student:

a. Is not afraid to call the police and others for help
b. Has the street smarts to make good decisions
c. Still has a lot to learn
d. Is oblivious to possible danger
Campus safety

Common-sense safety
Division of Law Enforcement and Safety
- Emergency Call boxes
- Night shuttle and escort service
- Carolina Alerts
- Sirens
- RAVE Guardian App
If your student is written up for a violation of university policy, you would likely tell your student:

a. “I will support you, but please learn from your mistakes.”
b. “Call me regularly with updates; I’m paying for this education and need to know every detail.”
c. “Don’t do anything; I’ll take care of this.”
d. My student won’t tell me anything.
Student conduct

- The Carolinian Creed
- Student Code of Conduct
- Academic Integrity and the Honor Code
- Office of Academic Integrity:

www.sa.sc.edu/academicintegrity
Alcohol and substance abuse

- USC Student Code of Conduct (Alcohol Policy)
- AlcoholEdu/Sexual Assault Prevention for Undergraduates (Haven)
- Talking Points
- Gamecock Recovery
- Substance Abuse and Prevention Education Office: sape@sc.edu/803.777.3933
FERPA/HIPAA

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
- FERPA waiver
- The best way to get information about your student is from your student
In Summary

• Acknowledge the Freshman Transition
• Understand the balance of challenge and support
• Encourage your student to work through problems
• Recognize campus resources
• Discuss expectations with your student
Parent Social

- **When**: Following dinner, until 8:30
- **Where**: Directions can be found on pages 88-89 of the Garnet Guide
- **Why**: Pick up free Mom or Dad t-shirt
Questions?