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 aid in the Carolina experience?
- How can students and parents make a successful transition to Carolina?
....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 his/her Facebook than by talking to him/her
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 him/her to solve his/her 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

September

October

November

December
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

- Counseling and Human Development Center
- Campus Wellness
- Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center and Blatt Physical Education Center
- Healthy Carolina
- Thomson Student Health Center
Campus involvement

• Student Organizations
• Fraternity and Sorority Life
• Multicultural Student Affairs
• Community Service Programs
• Leadership Programs
• Study Abroad
• Residence Life and Hall Government
• Sports clubs
• Undergraduate Research
• ...and much more!
How would you respond to your student in this situation?

a. Reprimand him/her 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 him/her 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
  – ACE Coaching
  – Cross College Advising
What do you anticipate your student’s first visit home being like?

a. Everything will be the same as it was when he/she 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 his/her 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
  – Call boxes
  – Night shuttle and escort service
  – Carolina Alerts
  – RAVE Guardian App
  – Sirens
  – Haven
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 Student Conduct: www.housing.sc.edu/osc
Alcohol and substance abuse

• USC Student Code of Conduct (Alcohol Policy)
• AlcoholEdu
• Talking Points
• 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 son or daughter