What's Going 'Round
August 2015

Important Dates
August 19: Residence Halls open at 9 AM
August 19 - 25: Seminole Sensation Week
August 22: Drop/Add Opens
August 23: New Student Convocation
August 24: First Day of Classes
August 25: Fall Involvement Fair
August 27: Drop/Add Ends

For more information, visit the Registrar's Office

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Office Spotlight: Transportation and Parking Services

Parents' Weekend
2015
Transitioning to college is interlaced with a myriad of questions, but where to park and how to get around town should not be one of them. FSU Transportation and Parking Services work hard to bring students many resources and travel options for your time at FSU. Here are just a few programs, services, and guidelines to familiarize yourself with:

**Parking:**

Parking Permits: Starting this year, parking permits have gone virtual. They are required on all vehicles parking between 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Students received their permit at no additional charge for the 2015-2016 school year. For more information on all permit types, including visitor permits, click [here](#).

Parking garages: There are six multi-level parking garages located around campus. The top floor of each parking garage is for overnight parking, great if you are living on campus. In the West Pensacola and St. Augustine garages, the top two floors are overnight. The mid-level floors are commuter spaces, so no overnight parking there. The first floor is for faculty and staff, so you will be ticketed if you park there. You’ll notice that parking stall lines are red or white. Always remember white is for student parking, red lines are for faculty. To avoid a parking ticket, stay away from the red lines, no matter how tempting that parking space may look. You can also use the FSUTranz app to check available parking in each garage before you even get to campus!

Surface lots: All around campus there are parking lots that can be either overnight or commuter. Some are right next to residence halls while there are gravel lots on the outskirts of campus. At each lot entrance, there is a sign that designates it as either commuter or overnight, so keep an eye out for that if you are ever unsure of what a lot might be. Check out this [map](#) to see where all student lots are located!

**Transportation Services:**

*NiteNole*: From 10:30 PM to 3:30 AM during the fall and spring semester, this late night bus service offers free rides to students. The route takes you all around campus, down Tennessee, High Road, and Pensacola Street.

*NoleCab*: For just five dollars with a valid FSU Card, students can catch a late-night ride home. This cab service runs from 10 PM to 4 AM 7 days a week.

*S.A.F.E. Bus*: Did you put in another late night at the library and need a ride somewhere on campus? The S.A.F.E (Student Alert Escort Connection) Bus partners with the University Police to bring free rides to students on campus. It can be reached at 850-644-SAFE (7233) and runs seven days a week from 7 PM to 2:45 AM.

*Seminole Express*: This is a student service that provides transportation to, around, and from campus to the surrounding Tallahassee areas. There are several routes, all of which can be tracked in real-time on the TransLoc app! Hours vary based on semester, but in the fall all routes will run from Monday to Friday from 7 AM to 8 PM.

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**Parents' Weekend is October 30th - 31st, 2015**

Visit [pw.union.fsu.edu](#) to register!

Thank you to everyone who purchased Parents' Weekend football tickets through the FSU Family Connection special promotion! A portion of the proceeds will go towards the FSU Family Fund which provides valuable resources to all FSU students via the Division of Student Affairs.

If you still need to order football tickets, go to [seminoles.com](#) and use the normal ticket ordering window. As for all football games, these tickets are on a first-come, first-serve basis so continue to use this site for all of your game day needs!

**Thank you again, be sure to register for Parents’ Weekend & GO NOLES!**

**Encourage your Student to Apply to be an Orientation Leader!**

Does your student want to welcome the next generation of 'Noles into the Florida State community? Are they willing to make a commitment to personal growth, leadership, learning, and service? Then encourage them to apply to become a 2016 Orientation Leader!

Orientation Leader applications will be available [Monday, September 14th](#)!

Follow this [link](#) for more information and application requirements.
ZipCar: Need to run errands but don't have a car? Well, ZipCar is your transportation solution. This is a car rental service at an hourly rate. You sign up online, pay an annual membership fee, and you’ll receive a Zipcard that unlocks various Zipcars located around campus. The keys are already in the car as well as a gas card provided by Zipcar. Hourly rates range from $7.50 to $8.50 an hour or $69-77 for the day.

Transportation and Parking Services encompasses a wide range of services while seeking to be student friendly and focused. For more information, visit their office located next to the FSU Bookstore!

Transportation.fsu.edu
850 644 5278
10 N Woodward Ave Tallahassee, FL 32306
Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Explore, Experience, Engage, and Extend:
Student Involvement

Written by Missy Crowther, Family Connection Advisory Council Member

There's always something to do at FSU! This common phrase among FSU students and faculty represents the plethora of programs, activities, and resources available to new students. FSU has over 600 registered student organizations, as well as multiple offices, departments, and divisions that deal specifically with student involvement and engagement. As your student prepares for move-in day, encourage him or her to learn about the social involvement opportunities on and around campus. Studies have shown that healthy student social involvement impacts the student's first year success. This article discusses programs, activities, and resources available to your New 'Nole and to you as a family member.

EXPLORE
Orientation is the perfect time to become acquainted with the array of co-curricular opportunities available at FSU. Encourage your student to ask questions he or she may have about the things to do at FSU. Stop by Seminole Discovery, an organization fair, where student organizations and local businesses are promoted. In addition, take time during orientation to explore the campus with your student and to visit places that interest him or her. You can also tour Tallahassee to see the off campus possibilities that exist for your student.

Exploration can begin on the FSU website. Many students and family members use the website to learn about academics, admissions, and orientation. In addition, the website has excellent information regarding ways students can...
connect on campus. Below are a few examples of online resources available to your student:

- **'Nole Central** for information about organizations and events. Encourage your student to read through the selection and identify a few that groups or events that interest him or her.
- **Center for Leadership and Social Change** has information about community service, leadership, and identity resources along with partnered organizations. Students can review service opportunities and make plans to serve.
- **Oglesby Union** manages and promotes co-curricular activities through advising, mentoring, and programming and is home to **Student Activities Center** (organizations and involvement), **University Productions, Greek Life**, the **Art Center, Student Government, Interfaith Council**, and more.
- **The Center for Global Engagement** facilitates international diversity, fosters global understanding and awareness, and enhances internationalization on campus.
- **Campus Recreation** encompasses **Fitness & Wellness** (group fitness, training, aquatic programs), **Rec Sports** (intramurals, sports clubs, sports facilities), and **Outdoor Adventures**.
- **New Student & Family Programs** (New 'Nole, Orientation, Family Support) work with students from the moment they are admitted to Florida State University through the end of their first year. The office offers support to family members through **Family Connection** (publications, newsletters, online chats, and more).

**EXPERIENCE**

Interpersonal interaction is key to a great start at FSU. Encourage your student to experience the various events offered on campus and to explore new interests. Some students discover new lifelong passions and hobbies through activities offered on campus. FSU offers diverse programming as well as unusual events such as diving classes, martial arts/defense instruction, and classes with the Flying High Circus! There's something for everyone on campus.

**Seminole Sensation Week** is August 19 to 25 and is the perfect kick-off for your New 'Nole's social involvement experience. Students have access (with FSUID card) to free movies, events, concerts and food! The week begins with **Convocation** & the President's Welcome (with BBQ), and includes bowling, games on the green, speed friending (yes, and it’s great!), art, game shows, zip line, karaoke, food trucks, late night pancakes, and so much more!

Residence Halls also offer a variety of activities to inform students about ways to get involved in Residence life such as the **Inter-Residence Hall Council.** Off campus housing may also offer on site events for student residents.

**ENGAGE**

Studies show that engaged, involved students are more likely to have a successful first year in college as compared to students who do not actively participate in the campus community. Active and collaborative learning, academic challenge, support for learners, and student-faculty interaction are valuable aspects to foster student engagement and are mostly afforded by the college. Paramount to success is the student's personal effort. Encourage your student to persevere socially and relationally. Some students experience an immediate connection with a co-curricular group, representative, or fellow student, while others may take a little more time to do so. Encourage your student to continue to reach out and look for ways to connect. Students who need assistance can meet with a **Peer Involvement Mentor** who will help with involvement and connection.

**EXTEND**

The college years can be a time for expanding and stretching ideals and perspective. Encourage your student to be open-minded and willing to meet students with different interests, passions, and backgrounds than his or her own. Extending friendship to diverse student groups can result in prosperous new relationships. Implore your student to approach faculty and staff to form adult friendships as well. FSU offers students a myriad of networking opportunities such as diving classes, martial arts/defense instruction, and classes with the Flying High Circus! There's something for everyone on campus.

**Mark It Down & Live It Up:**

**Important Dates & Events at the Start of Fall Semester:** You’ve heard a lot of dates and events at FSU and this post brings them all to one spot.

**Stay Connected,**

**Join the Conversation Today!**

The FSU Family Connection program utilizes current online social media outlets to help Seminole Family Members stay connected and up-to-date with news, announcements, advice, and other items relevant to being family members of college students.

Through Twitter, you can “follow” the account @FSU_Family to receive brief updates from the family connection program in a Tweet announcement. Just create your own Twitter at www.twitter.com to follow us!

On Facebook, you can “Like” the FSU Family Connection Fan Page to see photos, receive news and participate in discussion commentary to stay connected with other FSU families and the FSU community. Just create your own Facebook account at www.facebook.com.

On FSU Family Connection Blog, you can read blog entries regarding the FSU family experience, which may include advice pieces, news articles, photos and reflections. No account is needed! Just click fsufamily.wordpress.com to read.

Send Your Student Some Fall Love!
possibilities through the aforementioned departments and centers. Encourage your student to seek new ways to relate to others.

This article references a small selection of programs, opportunities, and resources available to FSU students. Please browse the FSU sites and sections to learn more. As a parent or family member, we encourage YOU to get involved with Family Connection as well! As you encourage your student to Explore, Experience, and Engage his or her FSU community, please consider ways that you, as a parent or family member, can engage as well. Family Connection is available to you at no charge with excellent benefits that include:

- **Family-to-Family Mentoring Program**
- **FSU Family Guide**
- **FSU Family Calendar**
- **Seminoles in the City: Off-Campus Living Guide**
- **Monthly newsletters**
- **Special e-Announcements**
- **Family Safety & Crime Alert Bulletins**
- **Monthly online topical chats**
- **Social media interaction (Facebook, Blog, Twitter)**
- **Giving back: Parents' Weekend Garnet & Gold Silent Auction, FSU Great Give, and the Family Fund**
- **Support for your transition to the FSU family**
- **Opportunities for you to serve and connect with other FSU families**
- **Special family events (on campus and regionally)**

Family Connection members can apply in the fall to become members of the Family Connection Advisory Council (FCAC). The FCAC serves to advise the New Family & Student Programs and act as a liaison between families and FSU.

Go'Noles!

### Observing Religious Holidays

As we approach fall semester, we encourage students and families to be aware of Florida State's policy regarding absences to observe one's religious holidays. The full policy can be found at this link:

http://fda.fsu.edu/content/download/25650/164546/file/ReligiousHolyDaysFall14.pdf

Specifically, the Florida State University policy on student observance of religious holy days provides:

Each student shall, upon notifying his or her instructor within the first two weeks of the semester, be excused from class to observe a religious work-restricted holy day of his or her faith.

While the student will be held responsible for the material covered in his or her absence, each student shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the work missed. Instructors and University administrators shall in no way arbitrarily penalize students who are absent from academic or social activities because of religious work-restricted holy day observance.

Please encourage your student to communicate with instructors about his/her plans at the beginning of every semester.

### FSView: Is it Football Season Yet?

Check out this FSView article about the long-awaited arrival for the 2015 football season!

### Student Spotlights

Click on the faces of these Florida State University students who are featured this month on Blackboard campus.fsu.edu. Read their stories on research, teaching, community service, career goals, and leadership!

- **Andrew Blix**
  - Building a nursing career by helping others

- **Harrison Diskin**
  - **Harrison Diskin**

Wanting to send something to your student, but not sure what? **PiecesofThere** offers a variety of different care packages you can choose from and send! Be sure to check them out for all of your care package needs. **A portion of your purchase benefits the FSU Family Fund**!
Musician turned historian seeks connections between French and U.S. political history

Plan your trip to Tallahassee TODAY!

Best known as Florida’s capital city, Tallahassee shares a deep-rooted history and culture with unparalleled natural adventure and an upbeat vitality. From performing arts to outdoors and nature, Tallahassee offers something for everyone.

For information on local attractions and upcoming events, please visit: http://www.visittallahassee.com/

Family Connection Poll

Click on the Family Connection Poll to respond to this month’s question. Your response may be featured in next month’s issue!

Our June poll asked:
What is your family most looking forward to in the fall semester?

Top Three Responses:
1. Watching the social and academic growth of my student
2. Visiting for Parents’ Weekend
3. Great transition to college

Question Corner

Click on the Family Connection Question Corner icon to ask us any questions you may have about supporting your student at FSU. You can also email us...
Donate to the FSU Family Fund

Please donate to the Family Fund within the Division of Student Affairs by clicking the box above. Your gift helps fund student support services throughout the academic year to meet the needs of FSU students!

We Love Feedback!

In order to give you the best experience possible, we need your feedback! Please click the Suggestion Box above and let us know what you like, what you do not like, and what you would like to see included in future editions of "What's Going 'Round!"