In the Know
e-Newsletter for UC Davis Parents and Families

JOIN APFA

December 2014

Dates and Deadlines

CAAAA Events

Academic

Jan. 2 – Financial Aid available via Direct Deposit
Jan. 5 – Instruction Begins
Jan. 16 - Late Fee Payment Deadline
Jan. 21 – Last day to add
Feb. 2 – Last Day to drop

Financial

Housing

Jan. 2 – Resident Halls, Dining Commons open
Jan. 2 – Last day to change meal plan
Jan. 20 – Room transfers begin

Study Abroad

Mondavi Center

UC Davis Department of Music

UC Davis Arboretum

UC Davis Athletics Events

Make a Gift

As an Aggie parent, there are many ways to support the

Holiday Shopping that Helps UC Davis Students in Need

Still have shopping to finish? Shop the UC Davis Store on Amazon this holiday season and support UC Davis students in need. The UC Davis Store is a customized storefront on Amazon designed for UC Davis students, alumni, parents and friends. Just visit ucdavis.amazon.com and, by purchasing any item available on Amazon through this portal, you can support UC Davis student programs and services. Amazon Prime members receive free two-day shipping on most items. Explore ucdavis.amazon.com.

Proceeds from the partnership fund the UC Davis Stores Award, which, through a partnership with UC Davis’ We are Aggie Pride students-helping-students group, provides funding for books and course materials to struggling students.

More Blue and Gold Shopping

Give the gift of Aggie Pride this holiday season to your student and all your family members by shopping at UC Davis Stores. There is an incredible array of Aggie wear available at the stores—everything from charm bracelets to t-shirts and caps. The campus also offers uniquely UC Davis gifts through its Good Life collection, which includes scarves and ties, books, tomato and olive products. The collection also includes the Campus Crown line such as one-of-a-kind bowls made from campus trees that required heavy pruning or needed to be felled for safety reasons and oak-leaf jewelry from the Arboretum. You can purchase in person or online at ucdavisStores.com.

The campus store is open on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from noon - 5 p.m.. The downtown store is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

View parent and family merchandise online.

Apply for Scholarships by January 7

The UC Davis Undergraduate and Prestigious Scholarships office awards more than $3 million in scholarships per academic year, with awards ranging from $100 to $9,000. Thanks to the recently completed Campaign for UC Davis, nearly 1500 new scholarships have been created at UC Davis in recent years. The application process takes less than one hour to
university. Join the Aggie Parent and Family Association for discounts, family resources, and great events.

You can also give to the Parents Fund because giving back is not just an Aggie tradition, it is transformative. If every parent gave just $100 each year, we would have an additional $300,000 to launch new programs, fund research, and invest in your student's experience.

In the Know

Newsletter Archive

Additional Resources

Aggie Parent and Family Association
Aggie Pride Parents
Housing
Parents Fund
Registrar
Financial Aid
Student Affairs
Student Disability Center
UC Davis Parent Resources
UC Davis Home

Student Housing Update

Residence Hall Meal Plan Change Period

Students living in residence halls and Student Housing Apartment can upgrade or downgrade their winter quarter meal plan online at myucdavis on the myHousing tile or in person at their Area Service Desk or the Segundo Services Center room 1200. The deadline to make changes is Friday, January 2, 2015. Fall quarter swipes and Aggie Cash will roll over to winter quarter. For more information, visit the Changing Meal Plans page on the Student Housing website.

Winter Quarter Housing Fees

Winter quarter Housing fees are due Monday, December 15, 2014. Students may view their account balance or enroll in a Deferred Payment Plan at mybill.ucdavis.edu.

Second Year Housing - Start Planning Now

Believe it or not first year students should already be thinking about second year housing options. Student Housing will hold several workshops in the dorms during January to help educate students about what to consider when searching for off-campus housing. The workshops will cover topics such as choosing roommates, budgeting, what to consider before signing a lease, etc. Workshop dates will be coming soon to the Student Housing website. For more information click here.

Transitioning Home for the Holidays

"Hi Mom, I'm home!" As your student heads home for the holidays you will find that they are unusually tired. The first quarter, especially for freshmen students, is grueling. In the midst of the chaos, be sure to pause to enjoy the sweet moments – they will be gone before you know it! Here are a few tips about surviving the first visit home from Huffington Post blogger, Linda Wolff, and in the Know contributor and member of the UC Davis Parent Council, Carol Ware.

Home Sweet Home

Things may be very different when our Aggies come home for winter break. They want to be treated like adults, they may behave like guests ("Chores? I'm on vacation!")), and they may think they know much more about everything than we do. These are times of transition (just what we needed all over again), so be prepared! After finals, they are likely to be very, very tired, and hopefully have a lot to share about their fall quarter.

Our Aggies may seem different to us. They grow and change in their own time. We can support them, celebrate their successes and watch them become grow. I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and all good things for 2015.
What Aggie Parents are Saying

Quotes from the UC Davis Parent Network Facebook Page

We recently asked families what they enjoyed most about having their student home for Thanksgiving weekend. Here's what you had to say:

- **Marian Lena Lindo** Both boys came home from UC Davis and the best part of having them home was hearing their laughter resonate throughout the house and our ping pong games. Miss their faces, hugs and kisses.
- **Sylvia Ortiz** The simple things. Hugging her and watching my daughter sleep in her bed in her room was so comforting.
- **Sheri Miles Aust** My daughter did get home (trying to make it a surprise) and a friend drove there and back on Wednesday to bring her! She was so happy to spend time baking and being with her dog again.
- **Lourdes Barbarini Baez** Watching my Davis student devour my Turkey Stuffing! She loves it so much, she bragged to her roommates, so I made her a whole casserole to take back to share.
- **Andra Lewis** I enjoyed just having him at home. Our house seems more like a Home when the familiar noises of his day to day activities are heard, our conversations and having him spend time with his girl friend baking cookies in our kitchen.
- **Christina Koch** Loved having my daughter and her friend who is from abroad for thanksgiving and they helped cook as they’ve become very good at it since being out of dorm.
- **Karla Rocha** La mejor parte fue verla y abrazarla. Te amo Karla Quezada♡♡♡ Translation: The best part was seeing and embracing her. I love you Karla Quezada.
- **John Ax** We loved having our daughter home for the holiday, her roommate also joined us as she lives abroad. She was also able to spend time with her friends who are attending other colleges, cool for the girls to get together on Saturday and make Christmas cookies.
- **Michelle Winter** Just having her home again --- loving on the family dog --- laughing with her brother & sister ----- leaving my phone on the kitchen counter instead of my nightstand ---- she's only been gone a day and I already miss her so much!
- **Donna Magnani-Convertino** The moment we saw each other at the airport was surreal! It had been 2 months!!

Parent Council Applications Now Being Accepted

Now through February 13, applications are now being accepted for the Aggie Parent and Family Association’s Parent Council. You must be an active member of the Aggie Parent and Family Association to apply. Not a member? [Join Now](#)

Council members serve an important role at the university by providing invaluable support to parent programs at UC Davis. This includes volunteering at events, providing feedback and suggestions on all aspects of the program, assisting with welcome receptions for new students at various locations throughout the state, and assisting with move-in weekend, Parent and Family weekend, and regional coffee talks.
The position is a two-year commitment and applications must be completed individually (not as couples or partners, although couples are welcome to apply separately). Council members are asked to attend two meetings each year during Picnic Day (April) and Parent and Family Weekend (October) as well as occasional committee work. For more information or to apply click here. Applications must be received by Friday, February 13, 2015.

Check Out Our New Website

We are pleased to announce our brand new parent website. The website received a makeover in conjunction with the Cal Aggie Alumni Association website, to more closely match the UC Davis standard formats and to provide users with a more user friendly template. While the initial roll-out of the website took place at the end of November, we are still able to make changes and would welcome your feedback. If you have comments or suggestions, please e-mail us at alumni@ucdavis.edu.

Thank you!

Student Involvement on Campus

Do You Wish Your Student Was More Involved in Campus Activities? Check out this blog for ideas on how your student can connect on campus.

Help Support Students in Emergency Situations

by Andrea H. Elliot, Director of Development Marketing and Communications

Student philanthropy group We Are Aggie Pride (WAAP) experienced a dramatic increase in applications for assistance during fall quarter and the group awarded a record 16 students with emergency funding from the Students Helping Students Fund.

"We provided more awards to students during fall quarter than we did all last year," said Awards Director Stephanie Goley, a returning WAAP Board member and second year clinical nutrition major. "So there is obviously an increased need for assistance among the student body. While we are really grateful to help so many students, we are going to need more funding support from students, parents, alumni and local businesses if we are going to address this increased need. It's really that simple."

Established in 2011, the all-volunteer organization run by a board of 15 student directors and four volunteer staff advisors has raised over $100,000 in funds and already helped more than 50 students stay in school through financial emergencies that range from tuition assistance, to buying groceries and paying rent. All awardees go through a strict financial aid screening process to determine whether or not they have other options available to them before they are given support from WAAP’s emergency fund.

"We aren’t the only group seeing this level of need on campus. The ASUCD pantry also saw a 42 percent increase in students needing food assistance," said Jane Eadie, associate executive director for the Cal Aggie Alumni Association and staff advisor for WAAP. "But the bottom line is, until we get an endowment for the program, we need all hands on deck.
Career Corner

Top Five Mistakes Job Seekers Make!

by Ken Barnes, Internship and Career Center

Some seniors spend their last year stress-free (except for exams) knowing that they already have a job lined up when they graduate. Others head into summer still frantically searching. Why is it that some do well in the job search while others flounder? Below are the top five mistakes jobseekers make before graduating.

- **Not getting their résumé critiqued.** Students often make incorrect assumptions about resumes: they should be as short as possible, they should only contain two bullet points per experience, details aren’t important, etc. Getting résumés critiqued by career service professionals increases the odds of competing with hundreds of thousands of other job seekers entering the market in June. Along with not getting résumés critiqued, students don’t include cover letters with their applications. A cover letter is a bridge between the author and their résumé. Where résumés list details of one’s achievements, cover letters tell the story. They convey passion, desire, and motivation behind actions. Cover letters are also writing samples, so readers gain more insight into skills possessed by applicants. Get both reviewed by career service professionals!

- **Not attending job fairs.** For whatever reason, some students don’t see value in attending job fairs. This is a huge mistake. Employers pay significant fees to gain first-hand access to students. Attending job fairs gives you valuable face-time with actual company reps. This is the same face-time that jobseekers try to obtain outside career fairs, so why not utilize this highly-advantageous service that’s specifically designed to connect students to employers with jobs?

- **Not preparing for the interview.** Many students think their ability to communicate well is all they need for a successful interview. Though communicating well is one of the ingredients for a successful interview, doing the proper research is probably the most important. If an applicant doesn’t know what recruiters want for a particular opportunity, they won’t be equipped to stand out. Prepare for the interview by researching the company, becoming informed, and learning how applicants can fit into the position and company. Attend an interviewing skills workshop for more information on how to prepare.

- **Not networking.** Students, just by going to college, encounter a significant number of industry professionals. Building their network and utilizing it during the job search can save countless months in the job search. It will also benefit them later on when they (inevitably) switch careers. People change careers multiple times before retiring (as high as seven, based on some surveys), so developing a network now will benefit them throughout their lives. Networks include faculty, staff, alumni, and others.

- **The Number 1 Mistake that students make... Starting their job search to close to graduation.** This is by far the biggest mistake graduating students make. Many companies recruit early in the school year to secure the best talent and also curb their recruiting costs. By waiting until spring quarter, students not only risk missing the recruiting cycle of several companies (especially in the tech industry), they miss out on thousands of job opportunities (literally).
that the campus encounters, and hundreds of thousands of opportunities in the job market. Starting the job search early not only increases the number of tools one has for finding opportunities, it also increases the number of opportunities exponentially.

Of course there are lots of ways to make your job search successful – or unsuccessful. By reading this article, the odds of a successful job search have increased significantly! Talk to the professionals; career service specialists who routinely connect with employers and know how to increase the odds of finding jobs. The Internship and Career Center is open Mon. - Fri. from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and has advisors in every field. Students can stop by during drop-ins or set up an appointment. For more information, visit our web site at http://icc.ucdavis.edu.

**Parent Profile**

**Family Matters**

UC Davis is a family affair, and Becky Heard helps make that happen as director of Parent and Family Programs.

"UC Davis is a very large campus, but it feels so small because it really provides opportunities for us to engage and come together," she said. "You feel like family when you walk on campus."

Heard serves the Aggie Parent and Family Association, organizes gatherings to involve students' families in the life of the university, and edits a monthly newsletter for parents.

Heard and her husband have seen three children through college and have one still in school. Together, they've had successes and learning opportunities. "It helps me understand the transitions that parents encounter along the way," she said.

Heard is passionate about helping families find the campus resources they need. "A student may be struggling and have no idea where to turn," she said. "There is nothing more gratifying than helping students and parents troubleshoot or putting them in touch with the resources that will help the students succeed."

Parents helping parents is part of the UC Davis family's strength, Heard said. Parent volunteers participate in admission events and celebrations around the world to send new students off to campus. They're also there to help parents with the logistics — and emotions — of moving their freshmen into residence halls to begin a new life chapter. Heard is especially proud of how a new parent advisory council is reaching out to the parents of students who are from underrepresented backgrounds or will be among the family's first generation to graduate from a university.

"I have such a great fondness for our community of parents, many of whom have become friends," she said, "and all are members of the Aggie family."

[Read Becky's story.](#)

**In the News**

Alumna makes major donation for classroom and recital hall
A new classroom and recital hall building at the University of California, Davis, will be named the Ann E. Pitzer Center to honor an alumna who donated $5 million toward the building. Read more.

Donations needed for cats and dogs of homeless

Help is welcomed this holiday season to help take the chill out of life on the streets for the dogs and cats of area homeless people. Read more.

UC Davis launches first-of-its-kind program for former foster youth

The UC Davis Guardian Professions Program is the country’s first program dedicated to helping former foster youth earn graduate and professional degrees. Read more.

Napolitano welcomes Senate Democrats' funding plan

UC President Janet Napolitano responded favorably to California Senate Democrats' proposal on Dec. 2 to keep tuition flat for in-state students and boost general fund spending for higher education by $156 million. Read more or learn more.