Welcome to the Nest!

Congratulations on your new Eagle! We are very excited for the start of a new chapter in your students’ (and your) lives and would like to help make sure the transition goes smoothly for everyone. This newsletter was designed especially to keep you informed about upcoming events and important information from the university. We will also fill you in on what your students may be going through in their first year in college, but most importantly, will focus on how you can communicate effectively with them to smooth out any bumps in the road to their success.

Transitioning to college can be overwhelming for both, your student and yourself. The first couple of weeks your both going to be experiencing all sorts of emotions but that is ok! Remind your student to breath when they’re feeling overwhelmed, then talk them through how to solve their problem - Who could you call or see to help you solve this? What office on campus might be able to help you? - these are great ways to help your student advocate for themselves without feeling as though you’re not able to help them. Remember to utilize our website for help with your student's transition and your parent and family calendar that you got at orientation, for contact information of different offices on campus.

We hope to get your students’ experience here at FGCU started on the right foot so we have a ton of fun activities planned for them during the Week of Welcome. Encourage them to attend these events so they can meet new people, get acquainted with the University, and begin to find their niche here at FGCU! This month enjoy some thoughts from First Year Advising for what to expect academically for your students. As always, feel free to contact us so we can assist you as best as possible.

Go Eagles!

Don’t forget to register for Eagle Family Weekend 2015!

November 6-8

Registration opens
August 24, 2015
First Year Advising Says…

Helping You to Help Your Student As we start a new semester here at Florida Gulf Coast University, we know that students are not the only ones experiencing a transition. Parents, you too will go through a transitional period as you learn how to support your student and guide them in the right direction. In order for you to do so successfully, we believe it is important that you stay informed and know how First Year Advising can help your student as they navigate through their first semester.

Meeting a First Year Advisor As we discussed with your student during Eagle View Orientation, all students will be required to complete a New Student Meeting and a pre-registration appointment with their First Year Advisor. New Students Meetings will take place in groups to discuss the transition to college, amongst other information that will be important for students to know, and the pre-registration appointments will be one-on-one meetings to ensure that students are on the right track. However, aside from these requirements, we encourage students to reach out to their First Year Advisor at any point in the semester to discuss anything from choosing or changing their major, to getting involved on campus, or to simply have a conversation about how their semester is going.

First Year Advising Locations First Year Advising has two convenient locations on campus that offer flexible hours to accommodate all students. We are located on Central Campus in McTarnaghan Hall and in South Village in Eagle Hall. It is important to keep in mind that all students are able to utilize the First Year Advising office in South Village whether they are living on- or off-campus:

- McTarnaghan Hall, Room 229
- Monday – Friday
- 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Freshmanadvising@fgcu.edu

- South Village: Eagle Hall, Room 4001
- Monday – Thursday, 8:00am – 7:00pm
- Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Freshmanadvising@fgcu.edu

All About Holds At this time of year, it is important that students regularly check their holds in Gulfline to ensure that they do not encounter any difficulty when registering for the Spring 2016 semester. The most common holds that students often are unaware are those that are placed by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions indicating that copies of final high school and/or college transcripts have not yet been received. Parents, if your student has this type of hold on their account, it is important to remind him or her that they must send an official, final copy of their high school and/or college transcripts if they completed dual enrollment courses. These documents must be received by Undergraduate Admissions by Tuesday, September 15th, in order for the hold to be removed from their account.

We hope that this information is helpful to both you and your student as you begin this exciting next chapter! Please remember to check the Parent Newsletter monthly for more information from First Year Advising.