



Family MATTERS

Winter 2006

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UNCG Begins Converting SSNs to UNIVERSITY ASSIGNED IDS

The University is making progress toward eliminating the use of the Social Security Number (SSN) as the primary identification number used in administrative processes that require a unique identifier.

By the end of this calendar year, SSNs for all students (former and current), faculty, and staff will be converted to a University assigned identification number. The impetus behind this initiative is to comply with the 2005 N.C. Identity Theft Protection Act, which restricts the collection and use of the Social Security Number.

Each university in the UNC system has been assigned a range of numbers. All UNCG identification numbers will begin with 88 or 89

prefixes. For added security, numbers will be assigned randomly. In early October, the University began assigning non-SSN identification numbers for new individuals. All current students, faculty, and staff will be notified when their number has been converted and when to begin using the newly assigned identification number.

To aid in this transition, a web 'self-lookup' tool is being developed that will allow individuals to type in their SSN and obtain their new identification number. However, for security purposes, a reverse lookup (to obtain the SSN) will not be available.

~ Reprinted with permission from *TECHNOLOGY AT UNCG*; October 2006

Big Fish Author Gets Freshmen HOOKED ON READING

The 2006 All-Freshman Read on October 23 made quite a splash, as the day culminated with a reading by Daniel Wallace, author of *Big Fish*. The novel was required reading in every section of English 101.

The All-Freshman Read program began over 10 years ago.

Dr. Elizabeth Chiseri-Strater, director of first-year composition, noted a couple of firsts this year. "The morning event was new," she said, referring to the conference workshops. And one other thing particularly engaged the students' interest. "We'd never had a book that was a movie," she said, referring to Tim Burton's film released in 2003.

"Our whole thing is just to get the students to read – and to enjoy reading. Many of them just don't have enough experience reading... We thought the freshmen would enjoy reading *Big Fish*."

Wallace spoke of how the novel corresponded to his father's life in many ways. "He said he did not want to be a big fish in a little pond," he said.

In response to a student's question, he humorously spoke to the realities of writing: "The structure [of this book] was arranged by the fact that I had a child. The short chapters reflect a short nap. A longer chapter, a long nap."

Earlier, students had participated in workshops in the Elm Room of the EUC.

Rae Ann DeRosse, a doctoral student and teaching assistant, ran a student discussion about fathers. "The All-Freshman Read is exciting because all students are reading the same book. This leads to discussion among students outside the classroom," DeRosse said.

~ Reprinted with permission from *UNCG CAMPUS WEEKLY*; November 1, 2006

UNCG RESOURCES FOR REACHING AND MAINTAINING STUDENT SUCCESS

Many family members run into this familiar situation: their students call because of a problem and hope that their family at home can help them fix it. Students are used to their family members having all the answers or at least knowing all the resources, but when it comes to resources offered by the University, many family members may feel a bit lost. Universities provide so many services that sometimes it can be confusing. Who do you call? It's easy to refer your student to Health Services when they are sick or to the Counseling and Testing Center when your student is experiencing stress, but where do you refer them when they express roommate trouble, classroom issues, or difficulties balancing classes and a job? The UNCG website is a useful tool (<http://www.uncg.edu/>) and many offices on campus can help direct you and your student to the appropriate resources, but here are some departments that every family should know.

There are many offices that serve specific populations such as the Office for Adult Students, Disability Services, Multicultural Affairs, and specific academic areas of study (i.e., the Bryan School of Business), which are great resources. In general, when in doubt, always feel free to contact the Office of Orientation & Family Programs which serves as a liaison and provides resources for parents and family members of UNCG students: families@uncg.edu or (336)334-5231. In addition to these offices, here are a few that can be helpful when your student isn't sure where to turn:

Students who live on campus have access to resources in their buildings and through Housing and Residence Life (please see

"Understanding the Staff with Whom Your Student Lives" in this issue) which offers help via student and professional staff members. Some housing staff members are full-time university employees who also serve in an on-call capacity and are available 24 hours a day for residential students. Additional information about Housing and Residence Life can be found at <http://hrl.uncg.edu/>.

If your students are in need of academic assistance, encourage them to contact Student Academic Services (SAS) located in the Mossman Building. The helpful and knowledgeable SAS staff has access to the academic resources students may need as they pursue their studies. They do a tremendous job supporting students and assisting them with a variety of academic resources on campus and can also be of assistance if students need to withdraw from classes. Information about SAS can be found at <http://web.uncg.edu/adv/>.

Often students find themselves dealing with challenges that impact all areas of their lives. At such times, students are often referred to the Dean of Students Office (336-334-5514) where staff can provide an array of resources for students, including success planning that focuses on the whole student (academic, career, mental health, social, etc.). Students can rely on the Dean of Students Office to provide them with support, resources, and assistance when dealing with a variety of issues. The office is available to all students and is a great resource hub for family members looking for some additional guidance. For more information, please see <http://deanofstudents.uncg.edu>.

~ Amy Jones, Assistant Dean of Students

UNDERSTANDING THE STAFF WITH WHOM YOUR STUDENT LIVES

Move-in is over, midterms are completed, finals are on the way, and perhaps reality has set in regarding life on campus for UNCG's residential students. As family members, you may not remember everything about the staff that lives in the residence halls. Here is a summary of who these people are and how they can be valuable resources for your student.

On each floor, there is a Community Advisor (CA) who is responsible for student development, programming, general administration, maintenance and facility administration, and helping to ensure students have a safe and inviting 'home away from home'. The CA is an upper-class student who is selected after an intensive interview process, which is followed by an extensive training period dealing with a wide variety of topics and issues students commonly face. The CA is someone to whom a resident can turn whenever an issue arises on the floor, in the building, or even on campus.

Another staff member with whom a student may come into contact is a Head Resident (HR) or Residence Director (RD). The HR or RD is a senior student staff member or graduate student who has attained their position after having worked previously as a CA for a year or two. They have responsibilities for student development, hall council advising, general administration, and maintenance and facility administration. In addition, the HR and RD have an integral role in the selection, training, supervision and evaluation of CAs.

In addition, each residence hall has a full-time professional staff member with a master's degree who is responsible for the administration, crisis management, and community development of the residence hall. There are eleven Coordinators for Residential Learning

(CRL) and two Residential College Coordinators (RCC) who live in the residence halls on campus. CRLs are academic advisors in the College of Arts & Sciences and teach sections of the University Studies (UNS 101) course for first year students. RCCs work with the living-learning communities and have teaching appointments within an approved department from the College of Arts & Sciences.

As with any community environment where individuals live close together, disagreements may arise at one point or another. The Housing & Residence Life staff is committed to providing a safe and comfortable living environment for all students. If a student has a concern related to a roommate, individuals on their floor, or individuals within their building, Housing & Residence Life has established a protocol to assist in addressing concerns as effectively as possible. When addressing a concern on the hall, a student should follow these steps:

- Individual(s) with whom there is concern
Meet and talk directly with the individual(s) with whom there is concern (e.g., roommate, floor mate, or other resident within the building).
- Community Advisor (CA) or Head Resident (HR)
If talking with the individual(s) does not resolve the situation, the student should meet with the Community Advisor or Head Resident (Housing & Residence Life staff members) on his or her student floor to discuss the concerns. These student staff members have had training in helping students work through conflicts and disagreements to try to reach the best resolution for all involved.

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- Residence Director (RD), Coordinator for Residential Learning (CRL), or Residential College Coordinator (RCC)

If, after working with the CA or HR, the situation still has not been successfully resolved, your students can meet with the supervisor of their residence hall. RDs are graduate students currently enrolled in a program at UNCG with previous housing and residence life experience and who report directly to a CRL. CRLs and RCCs are full-time, masters-level professionals who oversee the overall administration of 1-2 residence halls. These individuals have graduate degrees in addition to previous housing and residence life experience

which they bring to the management of the residence hall environment.

Each staff member is committed to providing a safe and comfortable living environment that helps promote academic success for each student. If you have a question or concern, please feel free to contact the Office of Housing & Residence Life through email at hrl@uncg.edu or call Monday-Friday, 8am -5pm, (336)334-5636.

~ Justin Williams, Coordinator for Student Success, UNCG Housing and Residence Life

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE: COLLEGE LIFE THROUGH MY EYES

College life—there's no easy way to describe it. It is a time filled with hard work, friends, classes, jobs, involvement, and a variety of experiences, both good and bad. As a Community Advisor, I have seen many of these facets of college life within the residence halls.

I am a senior at UNCG and have been a part of the Office of Orientation & Family Programs staff for 4 years and a Community Advisor in Cone Residence Hall for 2 years. As a Community Advisor (CA), I spend a large portion of my time with freshmen. Although I am not that far removed from these students, there are definitely differences in the things we are facing in college. I learn a lot from my residents. Being a CA has shown me that even though we are out on our own, we still need someone there to guide us; someone who has been where we are now standing and has some experience with college. That is what I do as a CA: I offer advice, share my experiences, and help students who are having trouble adjusting to college life, whether that is adjusting to the academic rigor of college,

being away from home, making new friends, finding avenues for involvement, or a plethora of other issues that arise.

I serve as a resource for students who want answers to questions. Some days they are simple questions like, "Who do I call for help with such-and-such?" Other days there are more complex problems that take some talking through to find an appropriate solution. Regardless of what each day brings, I enjoy my job and my residents. While there are situations and problems that have to be addressed, my residents and I have a relationship that goes beyond resident and rule-enforcer. I consider my residents to be an important part of my life and education here at UNCG, and I can only hope that they consider me to be an important part of theirs.

~ Katie Russo, FallFest Queen 2006, member of the Golden Chain, and Spartan Orientation Coordinator, is a senior History Education major and Teaching Fellow from Charlotte, NC who also serves as a Community Advisor in Cone Residence Hall.

PARENT/FAMILY ASSOCIATION

The Parent/Family Association is a great, free way to connect and keep up with what's going on at UNCG. Parents and family members are invited to take an active role in the lives of their college students by taking advantage of various available opportunities. All you have to do is visit the website <http://ori.dept.uncg.edu/families/> and click on the Parent/Family Association link to join. After you do, you'll begin receiving our monthly e-newsletter, *Family Connections*, filled with all sorts of fun and informative news. You'll also continue to receive other benefits such as this newsletter, hear from UNCG via email, and have access to FAMILYLINK, the email notification system for important events and news.

You may subscribe to FAMILYLINK by sending a message to listproc@uncg.edu and putting the following command in the message

box: subscribe UNCGFAMILYLINK-L Firstname Lastname (for example: subscribe UNCG FAMILYLINK-L John Doe).

Have a question, comment, or suggestion? Want to submit an article for an upcoming issue of *Family Connections* or *Family Matters*? Send us an email at families@uncg.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

PARENT FAMILY
ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to parents and family members celebrating graduation on December 14!

For more information about commencement, please visit:

<http://www.uncg.edu/reg/CommencementCentral.html>



Your new college graduates are invited to check out the UNCG Alumni Association!

<http://www.uncg.edu/alumni/index.html>



ON THE WEB AT <http://ori.dept.uncg.edu/families/>

To the Family of:

This document was produced at a cost of \$1507.00 for 7,850 copies (\$.191 each).

Looking Ahead

Fall 2006

December 4, Monday	Last day of classes
December 5, Tuesday	Reading Day
December 6-8, Wed.-Fri.	Final Examinations
December 11-13, Mon.-Wed.	Final Examinations
December 9, Saturday	Tentative official final exam makeup day
December 14, Thursday	December Commencement, Greensboro Coliseum
December 15, Friday	Tentative official final exam makeup day

Spring 2007

January 2, Tuesday	Undergraduate academic appeals deadline
January 2-6, Tues.-Sat.	Orientation, Advising, and Registration for all students based on student population and classification
January 8, Monday	Classes begin, 8:00 A.M.
January 8-12, Mon.-Fri.	Late registration and schedule adjustment
January 12, Friday	Deadline for undergraduates to apply to graduate in May 2007
January 12, Friday	Last day to change courses or course sections without special permission;
January 12, Friday	Financial Aid satisfactory academic progress appeals deadline; Last day to drop course for tuition and fees refund

January 15, Monday	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday— classes dismissed; offices closed
February 1-28	Undergraduate students declare or change major in February
February 12, Monday	Deadline for undergraduates to apply to student teach during Spring 2008
February 16, Monday	Six week progress reports due in University Registrar's Office
March 1, Thursday	Financial Aid priority filing date for 2007-08 academic year
March 3, Saturday	Instruction ends for Spring Break, 1:00 P.M.
March 12, Monday	Classes resume after Spring Break, 8:00 A.M.
March 14, Wednesday	Last day to drop courses without academic penalty
Mar. 19-Apr. 11, Mon.-Wed.	Summer and/or fall advising for continuing students, by appointment
Mar. 26-Apr. 11, Mon.-Wed.	Summer and/or fall 2007 registration for continuing students
April 6, Friday	Spring Holiday— classes dismissed; offices closed
May 1, Tuesday	University follows Friday schedule; last day of classes
May 2, Wednesday	Reading Day; Excellence Day
May 3-5, Thurs.-Sat.	Final Examinations
May 7-9, Mon.-Wed.	Final Examinations
May 11, Friday	May Commencement, Greensboro Coliseum

Parent Family Advisory Council

The Parent Family Advisory Council (PFAC), comprised of parents of current UNCG undergraduate students, is charged with serving as the board for the Parent/Family Association. The PFAC meets bi-annually to discuss current issues and ideas concerning the UNCG community. They also assist in planning events, contribute to publications for UNCG families, help raise funds for special projects, recruit new members to the Parent/Family Association, and serve as presenters at SOAR and other UNCG events.

If you'd like to be considered for election to PFAC, nomination forms and instructions for submission are available online at <http://ori.dept.uncg.edu/families/council/>; please submit an application by January 30, 2007. Applications will be reviewed by current members. New council members will be notified and invited to attend the spring Parent Family Advisory Council meeting at UNCG.

Current members of the PFAC include:

- Nancy & John Banister**
Mooreville, NC
- Maristev & Curt Bradley**
Charlotte, NC
- Elva & Steve Cooper**
Charlotte, NC
- Alison Earl**
Pinehurst, NC
- Kathy & Michael Heath**
Charlotte, NC
- Spoma Jovanovic**
Greensboro, NC

- Priscilla & Greg Leggett**
Fayetteville, NC
- Robyn & Chris Musselwhite**
Greensboro, NC
- Melodye & Reid Nash**
Valdese, NC
- William Richardson**
Ash, NC
- Mike Salanik**
Roanoke Rapids, NC
- Vicki White-Lawrence**
Stokesdale, NC