The smoke in the valley is slowly beginning to disappear. We can begin see through the smog and reflect upon the world beyond Ellensburg. With this reflection many new students will begin to transition out of the “honeymoon” phase of their transition to Central. Many who have moved away from home or traveled for a long period can remember some point at which they longed for all the comforts of home. Friends, siblings, one’s room, the family pet and parents are remembered fondly and a desire for a return to what has been arises. However, those of us who have experienced transition remember that eventually everything falls into place and school, and all that is new, becomes familiar and new friends and places become a new place we call “home.”

We know that right now is a period of significant distress for many of our students. This is a normal stage in their transition. As parents you can best support your students by listening and affirming that their homesickness is a normal thing. Nearly all students yearn to return to the place where everything and everyone was comfortable and familiar. The same students who indicate they are feeling homesick are also expressing significant satisfaction for their new found freedom.

No transition is easy, but there are many resources to support them during this difficult time. Within our halls there are Residence Hall Coordinators and Resident Assistants that are eager to support students.

Involvement is another way to feel a sense of purpose and belonging. There are many clubs, and offices on campus seeking interested students. These opportunities include academic clubs, social clubs, faith organizations, common interest groups and service opportunities. If your student is having trouble finding the right fit the ASCWU in 236 of the SURC can be of help.
**What is MAP-Works?**

MAP-Works is a tool that enhances a student’s ability to be more successful in college. After completing a 20 minute survey, MAP-Works provides strategies for success with customized, relevant information to help your student get the most out of their first year of college. Additionally, University Staff will utilize the results to provide appropriate support on an individualized basis.

**What Does My Student Get Out of It?**

After completing a brief survey, MAP-Works will provide your student with an extensive, personalized report about:

- How to meet their expectations
- What their peers are thinking
- How to be more successful at Central
- What campus resources are available to help
- Personal support from CWU staff based on your survey responses

**What Can I do to Help?**

Completion of this survey is an assignment for some of the University 101 courses. It is great if you ask your student if they have taken the MAP-Works survey. If not please encourage them to do so. If they have, ask if what they agreed with and what they learned.

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**Fall 2012 Study Abroad Fair**

**When:** October 16th 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.  
**Where:** SURC 137 A&B

Learn more about studying abroad at the Fall 2012 Study Abroad Fair, which will be held on October 16. Program representatives and former study abroad participants will be available to discuss program options and answer questions. For more information about studying abroad, please visit: [http://www.cwu.edu/~studyabroad](http://www.cwu.edu/~studyabroad)
There is no doubt that for most if not all students there will come a time when their roommate is driving them up the wall!

This is a natural part of the college experience. Often we simplify the college experience and believe that learning only occurs within the confines of the academic courses. However, this conflict is a perfect example of life lessons. As a parent our natural response it to jump in and solve the problem for our student. In doing so we rob them of the opportunity to develop the skills that they will use later in life. So unless you intend to mediate their marital conflicts as well you may want to consider another option.

This is a prime opportunity to empower your child and provide them the support and encouragement that they need. This is an opportunity to reinforce your students ability to work through this on their own. You can provide them with resources that exist on campus and an empathetic ear. These two things will serve them well in the long run.

University Housing is well prepared to mediate and assist students as they find themselves confronted with roommate concerns. More often than not the issue include one of the five following concerns: sloppiness, sharing food/technology, friends/visitors, personal space, music tastes and quiet time. We have created a tool to help students negotiate these hot topics. During Wildcat Welcome Weekend all students are provided with a Roommate Contract which we strongly encourage everyone to complete. If your student is having issues ask what they indicated on the Roommate Agreement and encourage them to revisit it with their roommate. The RAs are available to help when needed, but most of the time this can be accomplished without their assistance. Another tool we have created to support peace and tranquility within the halls is the Community Living Agreement (CLA). This is a similar agreement on the community level to support peer to peer communication and respect.

**Tips for your student:**

- Communicate often, promptly and face to face.
- You do not have to be best friends.
- Set rules using a foundation of compromise.
  - Friends
  - Cleanliness
  - Sharing/Borrowing
  - Noise/Sleep/Study times
- Keep a balance of rights and compromise
- Express issues and develop tactful, effective confrontation skills.
Patton Oswalt—Saturday, October 13th

Stand-up comedian, writer and actor Patton Oswalt will hit the stage at CWU as the featured entertainment for Homecoming 2012. Oswalt’s laid-back style and unforgettable, sometimes irreverent, humor has garnered much success on the small and large screens, including comedy specials and a prominent role as ‘Spence’ on the CBS sitcom “King of Queens,” and roles in Ratatouille (as voice of the main character, Remy), Young Adult opposite Charlize Theron, and most recently Seeking a Friend for the End of the World with Steve Carell and Kiera Knightley (2012). He has also recorded five comedy albums, three of which made it to number one on the U.S. comedy charts.

Tickets available online at Wildcat Tickets or by visiting the CWU Welcome Center or Wildcat

Parents & Families Enhancing Education through the Students First Fund

Some say it takes a village... this is also often true in higher education. Private contributions to assist students with their education are becoming ever more essential in higher education as the state funded university model continues to shift toward a private university model. We are feeling this shift at CWU, so we have introduced the annual Parents Gift Campaign to compliment annual giving from CWU alumni, staff, and friends. This annual giving campaign specifically for parents gives families the chance to collectively help other students in need of that little extra support. In efforts to lessen the financial burdens on today's students, the Students First Fund was established to provide a stop-gap to help students stay in school when external circumstances get beyond their control. Every gift makes a difference, no matter the size. Giving to the Students First Fund assists students who have nowhere else to turn for financial support.

Gifts to the Students First Fund are used immediately to help students succeed. Since this fund was established in 2009, a total of $243,400 has been issued to scholarships, grants, and Student Success programs to bolster student achievement. Last year, contributions from the Students First Fund provided ten $2,000 scholarships and an additional $15,000 in student emergency grants. The Students First Fund also assisted the Student Learning Commons, undergraduate research, specialized tutoring programs including services for undeclared students, and programs for migrant and at-risk students. All of these benefits to Central's students are thanks to you, the parents and families.

Our goal this year is to raise $80,000 for the Students First Fund from the Parents Gift Campaign. This is an attainable goal, but we need your contribution to join the others in making it happen. With your support, we can provide even more scholarships, emergency grants, and funding for Student Success programs. Visit www.cwu.edu/give to make your contribution to the Students First Fund today.

Sincere Thanks,
Chris Frankenfield, Annual Giving
Hello CWU Wildcat Parents,

All of us within University Housing, Wellness and New Student Programs strive to make opening weekend a great experience for our students, as well as their families. One of our top priorities is making sure that move in for our students is as quick and easy as possible. Our “Movers and Shakers” program is a key component in making this happen. Movers and Shakers are made up of CWU students, faculty and staff who volunteer to help new students get settled into their new residence halls.

We would love to hear feedback from any of you about how your move in day went with your student and the “Movers and Shakers” program so we can improve where needed. We are also seeking any positive quotes that we may use for publicity of opening day in the future.

We look forward to hearing from you,

cwuparents@cwu.edu

Family Weekend

May 10-12, 2013

Family Weekend is scheduled for the weekend of May 10, 2013. More details about the schedule of events for the weekend will become available at a later date. Watch upcoming Newsletters for full details.
Letters and packages sent from a US Post Office are delivered to the CWU Mail Services Department. Their staff delivers the mail to each residence hall in the afternoon. Housing staff place the mail in the student’s mail box. Items which are too large to fit in the residence hall mailbox will be sent to the Residence Life [ResLife] office located south of Barto Hall.

Letters and packages sent by Express Mail, UPS, or Federal Express are delivered to the Residence Life [ResLife]. The delivery services arrive on campus any time between 11:00 & 3:00, Monday–Friday. The ResLife Office staff log the packages into our mail delivery system. They then send a delivery notice to the student’s CWU email account asking them to pick up the package.

Students may pick up their packages at the ResLife Office Monday–Friday, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.. They will need to show their CWU Connection Card for identification. Please note: There is no mail delivery service to the ResLife office on Saturday, Sunday, or academic/federal holidays. Packages will be returned to the sender after ten business days.

All mail to students regardless of how it is mailed should be addressed as follows:

**Student’s Name**

**Residence Hall Street Address**

**Room Number**

Ellensburg, WA 98926

*(Please use the student’s legal name. Avoid addressing the package with the student’s nickname, middle name, or the name of the person who ordered the item.)*
The First Six Weeks: Orientation Phase IV

The First Six Weeks program is Phase IV of CWU’s fall new student orientation program. Residence Hall Staff in collaboration with faculty and campus-wide staff to facilitate programs in the residence halls that address the academic and transitional issues first year students typically face the first six weeks of the quarter. Each new student has received a First Six Weeks Booklet that can be viewed online: [http://www.cwu.edu/housing/first-six-weeks](http://www.cwu.edu/housing/first-six-weeks)

Student Staff applications for the 2012-2013 academic year will be available online November 1, 2012 ([http://www.cwu.edu/housing/employment](http://www.cwu.edu/housing/employment)). If your student has considered a position in the residence halls now is time to further research their options. We will have interest sessions schedule in the next few months or current staff members are a great resource as well.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS:

- Developing skills, tools and habits that will aid in your academic success.
- Developing familiarity with library resources and research methods.
- Enhancing college success skills.
- Routinely attending class and making progress towards completion of your graduation requirements.

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS:

- Making connections with faculty, staff and peers.
- Identifying staff that will challenge and support you as you progress towards graduation.
- Developing relationships with peers who are providing academic and social support.
- Getting involved in campus activities, clubs and organizations.
- Taking advantage of faculty support.

UNIVERSITY NAVIGATION:

- Understanding how to navigate university policies, procedures and resources.
- Identifying offices that are valuable resources in your Central experience.
- Gaining comfort in utilizing online campus resources.
- Understanding basic academic policies and procedures and their impact on your progress towards graduation.

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP:

- Promoting student exploration and learning while preparing students for responsible lives in a diverse, interconnected and evolving world.
- Exploring your own social background and traits through the lenses of opportunities, status, power, and how you are treated by others as a result.
- Gaining an awareness of your own values within the context of others in your curricular and co-curricular activities.
- Taking responsibility and ownership of your own academic and personal success.
- Developing an awareness and respect for others.
- Understanding your rights and responsibilities as they pertain to the student rights and responsibilities policy.
- Recognizing the impact of your actions on the larger community.
- Understanding the implications of your decisions, related to overall wellness.
Grand Opening Ceremony for Central Washington University's New Hall

BARTO HALL
and Susan Rancourt Memorial

Friday, Oct. 12, 2012 • Begins at 4:15 p.m.

Join us for tours and refreshments.

For more information, contact: Elaine Ames at 509-963-1838 or amese@cwu.edu

University Housing, Wellness, and New Student Programs

509-963-1831 • 1-888-CWU-HOME
www.cwu.edu/housing

CWU is an AA/EO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation: CDS@cwu.edu
The CWU Alert Update System is intended as a "post incident" notification system. Subscribers to this ListServ will be updated following a safety related emergency at Central Washington University. This subscription system is open to anyone (parents, members of the community, students, faculty, staff, media, etc.). This is NOT considered a first response system, and no messages will be sent to this system while a safety related emergency is occurring.

By opting in, you are providing us with your permission to send information, which may include information protected under confidentiality rules, to e-mail addresses you provide. You may opt out of the system at any time.

Sign up to receive the alert updates at:
http://www.cwu.edu/alert/alertupdatesystem.html

Please note: If you choose not to subscribe to the CWU Alert Update System, you will not receive safety-related emergency e-mails directly from CWU. As an alternative, interested parties may monitor the CWU Emergency Closures page at: www.cwu.edu/closures.html.

Your son or daughter may also subscribe to an alert system. This is a separate system from the parent one described above. Your son or daughter should log onto the Public Safety web site for more details at:
http://www.cwu.edu/alert/index.html

October-
- 8-13 Homecoming Week
- 10 MAP-Works Survey Launch
- 16 Study Abroad Fair
- 19 MAP-Works Deadline

November-
- 2 Uncontested Withdrawal
- 11 Veterans Day University Closed
- 21-23 Thanksgiving Break

Stay Informed