

PARENTS



FAMILY

PARENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS > SPRING 2015

MAGAZINE



Parent & Family
Programs

A unique student housing property with a **“No Party policy”** and innovative amenities and services thrives in Tucson



Sahara Apartments is in its 10th year of operation as a student housing project in Tucson. Ted Mehr, the owner of Sahara Apartments, has introduced a lot of innovations to the Tucson student housing market.

Ted, who still manages the building on a day to day basis, developed this project as the “paranoid” father of a college age daughter, who was concerned about his own daughter’s safety and comfort when she had gone to live on her own while attending college.

Some of Ted’s ideas have been duplicated by others, and some are still unique to Sahara.

For example, Sahara is still the only building that does not allow parties on site. Our motto is “The oasis for QUIET student living”. At Sahara you are guaranteed a quiet environment. If anyone violates the rules, the residents can call the owner, Ted, no matter what time of day or night. And he will drive down to the building to make sure the violators understand that the policy is really enforced. When students move into Sahara, they get Ted’s cell phone AND home phone numbers, you know, just in case the cell phone runs out of battery right when someone needs to call. All residents are encouraged to call Ted if they feel uncomfortable about anything. That sort of attitude is not something that you will get from the corporate-owned high rise competition.

In case you think our no party policy means no fun, you should know that Sahara has an activity director who organizes many group activities sponsored by Sahara where the residents get an opportunity to get together and do fun things as a group. For instance at the time of this writing, for the month of October, we took our residents to Mt. Lemmon for the October Fest, Sabino Canyon for a 13 mile hike, “Tucson Meet Yourself” event downtown, had a game night on site with free food and refreshments, and a movie night. We



also went to the Corn Maze for Halloween and to the “International Festival of Tucson”. And that was just for October!

Sahara is still the only student building in Tucson that will give every resident a FREE bicycle to ride while living at Sahara. We even maintain and repair the bikes for free. And Sahara is the only student building that takes its residents grocery and mall shopping every weeknight.

Sahara is also the only student building that provides hotel accommodations on site, where visiting family and friends can stay when they come to visit our residents. The hotel also accommodates professors, researchers, workshop attendees and many groups of international students that are placed at Sahara by the University.

We treat our residents like they are expensive works of art in a museum. Our gated community is protected with an infrared beam system that alerts the owner with an automatic cellphone call if someone trespasses by climbing over the walls. Our 80 security



cameras record all events at the perimeter of the building and in the public areas. And our staff who live on site are ready to respond if required. These are some of the reasons why in our 10 year history we have never received a “Red Tag” from the police department.

Offering shuttle service to and from the campus is now standard practice for a lot of buildings, but we do it every half hour from 7 AM to 7 PM, on every school day.

At Sahara, you can enjoy the privacy of having your own studio apartment for a lot less than a single occupancy room at the Residence Halls, or to share an apartment at one of the high rise buildings with people whose lifestyles may not be compatible with yours.

While we admit we are not for everybody, nor do we want to be, there is a lot more that you should know about Sahara before you decide what your choice of student housing should be.

Check out our website and find out why Sahara has become more popular each year as the word has spread that you can have a safe and quiet environment and still have fun.

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Ted Mehr, Owner
 Ted@saharaapartments.com



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- **Bursar's Office** Billing questions, paying tuition and fees (520) 621-3232 <http://www.bursar.arizona.edu/>
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- **Off Campus Housing:** Student computer labs (520) 621-5859 <http://offcampus.arizona.edu>
- **Office of Student Computing Resources:** Student computer labs (520) 621-OSCR www.uits.arizona.edu/departments/oscr
- **Police (University of Arizona)** Emergency response, crime prevention 911 or (520) 621-UAPD <http://www.uapd.arizona.edu/>
- **Registrar's Office** Verification of enrollment, change of schedule, grade replacement opportunity (520) 621-3113 <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/>
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- **Residency Classification** Determination of in-state or out-of-state residency for tuition purposes (520) 621-3636 <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/residency/residenc.htm>
- **24/7 IT Support Ctr.** Student computer support (520) 626-TECH <http://247.arizona.edu>
- **Tutoring at the Think Tank** Drop-in, by appointment, course reviews and more (520) 626-0530 <http://thinktank.arizona.edu>
- **UA Parents & Family Association** (520) 621-0884 <http://www.uafamily.arizona.edu/>

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PARENTS & FAMILY MAGAZINE

Issue 17

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello Wildcat Parents and Families,

I am excited to share the spring 2015 issue of Parents & Family Magazine with you! You are receiving this magazine because you have made a generous donation to support the goals of the Parents & Family Association and I am deeply grateful for your support! I also want to welcome the parents and family members of the class of 2019 by sharing a copy of the magazine. I hope all of you find it a useful and informative resource and that you stay connected with the Parents & Family Association at the University of Arizona. Our goal is to help you feel connected and part of the Wildcat family by offering resources, support and involvement opportunities.

Inside this edition, you will find a message from the new Parents & Family Association Co-chairs, Joel and Katherine Lewis. Many of you who live in Southern California may have had a chance to meet the Lewis' at a recruiting event and know their Wildcat spirit and enthusiasm for the University of Arizona is contagious. We also have articles on the Guaranteed Tuition Program and on a new safety application for mobile devices called LiveSafe.

I want to encourage you to consider attending one of our programs or events during the 2015/2016 academic year. Parent & Family Programs hosts several activities during Wildcat Welcome including: Wildcat Family Conference, Proud Parent Social, and Bon Voyage Brunch. Details and registration can be found at www.welcome.arizona.edu. Family Weekend will be October 9-11 and registration will be available after July 1, 2015 at familyweekend.arizona.edu. If you are a golfer, I hope you will join us in our annual Family Weekend Golf Tournament which will be held on Friday, October 9, 2015. You can register online at uafamily.arizona.edu.

Finally, I am hoping that you will consider getting involved with the Parents & Family Association by volunteering for a committee, to help with an event, or to be on the PFA Board. You don't have to live in Arizona to get involved. Thanks to all the parents and family members who supported PFA this past year by sharing their time and talents!

We love to hear from parents and family members so please give us a call or send us an email if you have questions, comments or concerns. We can be reached at 520-621-0884 or via email at dos-uafamily@email.arizona.edu. If you are using social media, please follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/uafamily](https://www.facebook.com/uafamily), Twitter: [@uafamily](https://twitter.com/uafamily), Instagram: [@uafamily](https://www.instagram.com/uafamily) and Pinterest: [pinterest.com/uafamily](https://www.pinterest.com/uafamily)

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Kathy Adams Riester, M.S. Ed
Associate Dean of Students
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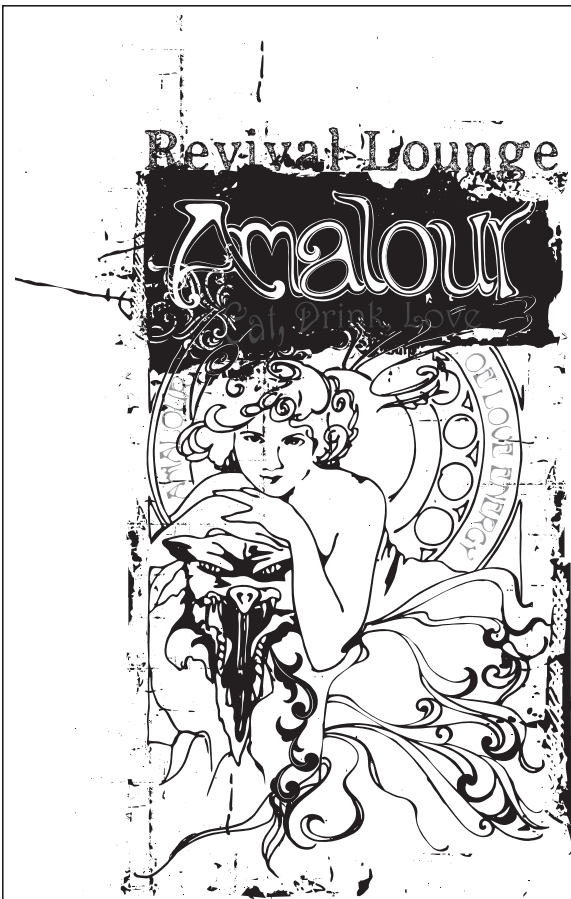
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PARENTS & FAMILY ASSOCIATION SPRING UPDATE

A MESSAGE FROM PFA CO-CHAIRS

BY JOEL & KATHERINE LEWIS PFA CO-CHAIRS

Hello Parents and Family Members! Once again it's spring time here at the UA, and we at the Parents & Family Association (PFA) would like to thank you for your time and support. It's a great time at the UA from the football team being PAC 12 South Champions (thanks, Coach Rodriguez) and also the men's basketball team for being PAC 12 Champions (thanks, Coach Miller). Now it's baseball and softball season and the spring sports are in full swing, Go Cats! In addition to a great sports season UA hosted several other large campus events like the Tucson Festival of Books in March and Spring Fling, the largest student run carnival in the country which is on campus April 10-12!

We had a great board meeting this winter. We met with various UA administrators and were informed about state legislative concerns for the

Parents & Family Association

UA Parents & Family Leadership Circle

The Parents & Family Association thanks the founding members for their support.

Larry Stemerman
 Bill & Polly Morehouse
 Alan & Janet Stein
 Andrew & Lee Comrie
 Earl & Claire Mendenhall
 Michael Green & Lesley Reisinger-Green
 Dr. Michael & Kristin Lew

To join the UA Parents & Family Association go to: <http://uafamily.arizona.edu/>

University and given updates on the PFA annual giving program. The Board visited the Think Tank to see where your donation dollars are going and

we visually witnessed that your gifts are being put to good use. We also listened to an update from Dr. Melissa

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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OFF TO A GREAT YEAR!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Vito, Senior Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management and Senior Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives and Student Success (a great PFA advocate) on what's coming down the road, and the future is bright and exciting here at the University of Arizona.

We want to offer a Big Wildcat Welcome from the PFA to the incoming freshman and transfer students and their parents! We are constantly looking for parents to be a part of PFA and to help us achieve the goal of being the best Parents & Family Association in the Nation and the best way to do that is be a part of PFA. We would also like to thank those parents who became founding members of the PFA Leadership Circle. Your support means the world for the students. PFA appreciates all gifts "big or small, we can use it all!"

Finally, we at PFA know that this can be a joyful and trying time in the lives of your students and for you as parents. Just know this, the PFA is here to help with whatever can be done to make your Wildcat's time here a success. So get involved. Have fun and enjoy! From all of us at the Parents & Family Association Advisory Board, we want to wish you a great and prosperous spring. When you're a Wildcat, you're a Wildcat for Life! BEAR DOWN!!!



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FAMILY WEEKEND

OCT 9 — OCT 11
2015

familyweekend.arizona.edu
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2015 SUMMER SEND-OFFS

PFA & ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PARTNERSHIP



KCCats photo

One of many summer send-offs hosted by UA Alumni Chapters across the country. This is the Kansas City KCCats at last year's event with incoming families.

BY JILL HALL, VICE PRESIDENT,
UA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

For more than 15 years, the University of Arizona Alumni Association and the Parents & Family Association have partnered to celebrate the UA's incoming freshman class by hosting Summer Send-off celebrations across

the country. National alumni chapters and current UA parents host send-offs to welcome incoming UA students. The send-offs also have the mission of educating students about the transition to college and help to create the feeling that these students are a part of the Wildcat Family, and now, Wild-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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Sun Link Streetcar: ♦♦♦

Sun Link connects the University to downtown via a 3.9 mile route consisting of 17 stops. The U-Pass, which PTS subsidized by 50%, also works on Sun Link making this another great alternate transportation option.

UA Zimride: ♦♦♦

A private ridesharing network for the UA that allows members to interact online and form carpools based on shared routes, schedules and interests. www.zimride.arizona.edu

Sun Tran U-Pass: ♦♦♦

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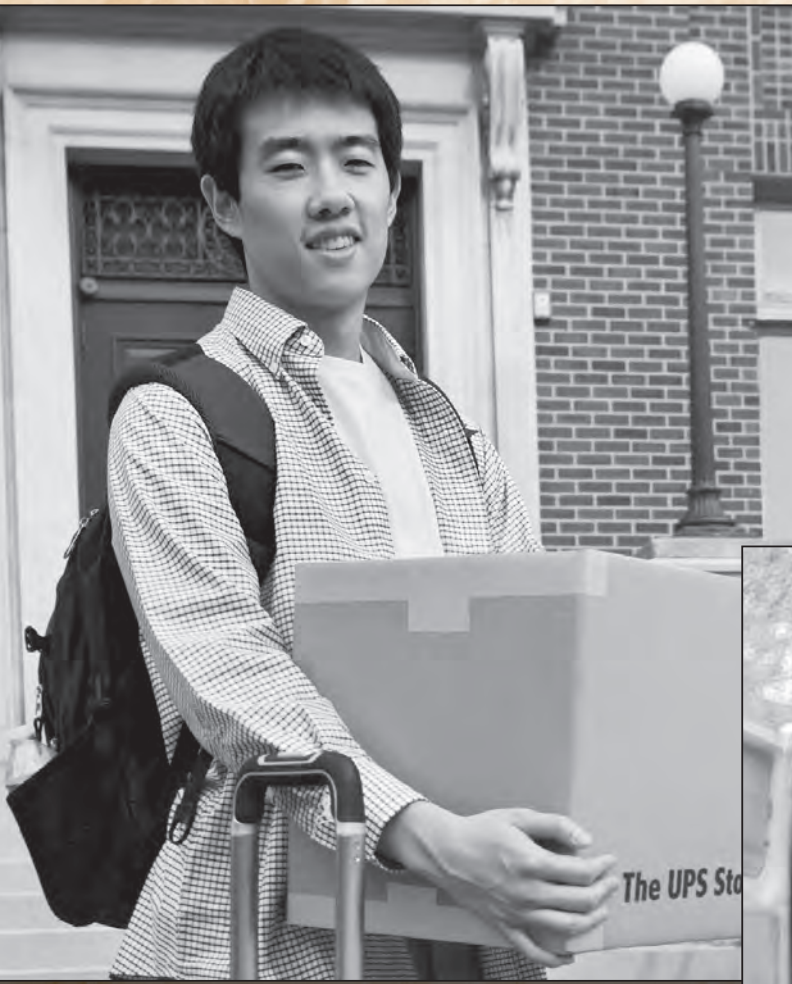
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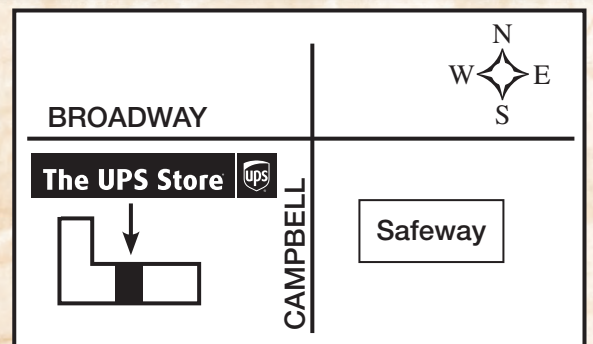
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2015 SUMMER SEND-OFFS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

cats for Life! These events also are a chance to educate parents and family members about campus resources including the Parents & Family Association and the Alumni Association.

Hosted by alumni, friends and parents of the UA, summer send-offs begin in early July with a culmination send-off in Phoenix. Incoming freshmen get the chance to meet other incoming students attending the university from their area and ask current students, staff, and alumni questions about life at the UA. Parents also connect with alumni and staff members for questions and answers. In 2014, more than 24 national alumni chapters and UA parents hosted summer send-off events.

For more information about 2015 summer send-offs or to find out about what is happening in your area, please visit the UA Alumni Association website www.arizonaalumni.com or the UA Parents & Family Association website at www.uafamily.arizona.edu.

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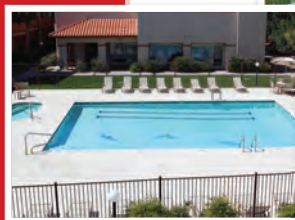
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WHAT IS GRIT?

AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

College can be one of the most rewarding yet challenging experiences that young adults face. It may be obvious that student effort and stamina are required to successfully complete college, yet how might we assist students in sustaining their fortitude to carry them through their academic career? What can families and universities do to cultivate a student's disposition to pursue challeng-

➤ What is grit? It is the ability to work strenuously toward challenges and maintain effort and interest over years despite failure, adversity, and plateaus in progress.

– **From “Grit: perseverance and passion for long-term goals.”**

ing goals with sustained passion and perseverance? At UA we are exploring how the concept of “grit” helps students achieve their goals.

What is grit? It is the ability to work strenuously toward challenges and maintain effort and interest over years despite failure, adversity, and plateaus in progress. The gritty individual approaches achievement as a marathon, not a sprint (Duckworth, Peterson,



Matthews & Kelly, 2007). Some characteristics of grit include perseverance, tenacity, deliberate practice, passion-driven focus, self-control and self-discipline, pursuit of long term goals, “stick-to-it-ness” under difficult conditions, and consistency of effort. Students who have grit are more likely to embrace challenges, persist despite

obstacles, see a path to mastery, learn from setbacks, find lessons and inspiration, and reach higher levels of achievement (Dweck, 1999). Such qualities are ideal in helping students recover from challenging situations and develop the tenacity needed to complete college and thrive either as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Dean of Students Office

Help Your Student Find Community



The Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) Affairs creates a safe space for thousands of students every year on the University of Arizona campus through our programs, trainings, events and through the LGBTQ Resource Center within the Student Union.



CHICANO/HISPANO STUDENT AFFAIRS

Chicano/Hispanic Student Affairs (CHSA) contributes to shaping a safe and inclusive campus environment that embraces students' cultural identity and support students' success as learners, leaders and citizens.



Asian Pacific American Student Affairs (APASA) remains dedicated to cooperatively developing and maintaining an inclusive environment that fosters a sense of belonging and an appreciation for the diversity, not only among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, but also within the entire University community.



Native American Student Affairs



Native American Student Affairs (NASA) provides culturally sensitive academic counseling and support services to American Indian/Alaskan Native students enabling them to achieve academic excellence. We nurture student success by encouraging all students to proactively explore and shape our diverse campus community.



The mission of African American Student Affairs (AASA) is to facilitate a support system that helps students achieve academic excellence and an enriching African American cultural experience. AASA provides opportunities for students to learn more about leadership, social justice and creating community.



The Women's Resource Center (WRC) offers a space to hang out, free resources (condoms! tampons! pregnancy tests!), two internships for academic credit - The Men's Project and FORCE (your feminist group on campus), as well as weekly events where you can discuss hot topics, watch cool films, get free food, and find a community of friends! - wrc.arizona.edu or SUMC 4th Level



The Common Ground Alliance (CGA) is a collaborative effort of The UA Cultural Centers, LGBTQ Affairs, the Women's Resource Center, and the Disability Resource Center to provide a comprehensive approach to helping students increase their multicultural awareness and their ability to address social justice inequalities.



<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/getting-involved>

WHAT IS GRIT?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

working professionals and/or graduate students.

Does grit play a role in predicting and explaining students' academic success? If so, how can we foster the development of grit among students? The Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Academic Initiatives and Student Success is currently examining such questions as it continues to strengthen and diversify its strategies for supporting student success and increasing rates of college completion, as research findings suggest it is possible to foster the development of grit among students.

To better understand how grit relates to UA students' academic success, the division collected data from the 2014 incoming freshman class to gauge their disposition for pursuing challenging goals with sustained passion and perseverance. Students were asked to rate their level of agreement in response to statements about their tendency to stay committed to projects, their ability to see a task or goal through to the end, and their self-perceptions of being persistent and hard working. Findings revealed that 82% of freshman survey respondents demonstrated high grit characteristics, while 18% demonstrated a moderate grit level. The division plans to follow these freshmen throughout their UA career to examine the relationship between grit level, GPA, and retention and graduation rates. Future entering freshmen will also be asked these questions. We believe our findings will help us tailor student experiences and interventions to foster optimal grit levels. In partnership with students and their families, our ultimate goal is to strengthen a student's disposition to pursue challenging goals with sustained passion and perseverance.

References

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Dweck, C. S. (1999). *Self-theories: Their role in motivation, personality, and development*. Philadelphia, PA: Psychology Press.

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GUARANTEED TUITION PROGRAM

BUDGETING FOR A UA DEGREE NOW EASIER

BY BETH MILLER

What would cause UA parents to jump up and cheer? In this case it was not a winning touchdown or seeing their student graduate; it was learning about UA's Guaranteed Tuition Program.

The Guaranteed Tuition Program ensures all incoming undergraduates have fixed tuition for eight consecutive semesters. Now students and parents will know the exact cost of tuition through graduation, making planning and budgeting much more predictable.

This new program was implemented last year in response to the needs of both students and parents. "I understand how critical it is to keep education affordable," UA President Ann Weaver Hart said when first announcing the program. "The UA wants



Wildcat families can be happy knowing that tuition and mandatory fees will be guaranteed for four years.

to see students graduate with the tools they need to succeed in the workforce. To do that, we must make sure they can afford to attend."

Students and parents will realize significant benefits through the Guaranteed Tuition Program:

► Financial Planning

Next to buying a home, college tuition is the biggest expense most people face. Knowing tuition will not increase for eight semesters will help parents and students plan ahead both before and during their college experience. Fixing the cost of tuition also helps students reduce debt by planning better because when a student knows their total tuition cost, they can plan their other expenses with greater certainty.

► Encouraging Four-Year Degree Completion

UA's Guaranteed Tuition Program encourages students to complete their degrees in four years and move forward to their desired career or graduate education. Students pay the same

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



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GUARANTEED TUITION PROGRAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

tuition through their eighth semester. Additional semesters are charged at higher, prevailing rates, making it a significant advantage for a student to complete their degree in four years!

- "I understand how critical it is to keep education affordable.... The UA wants to see students graduate with the tools they need to succeed in the workforce. To do that, we must make sure they can afford to attend."
 - UA President Ann Weaver Hart

➤ Demystifying the cost of a UA education

The Guaranteed Tuition Program means there is no need to recalculate tuition expense every year for budgeting needs. No more anxiety waiting to see if there will be a tuition increase next year, or worrying about how much it will be! UA students say this plan will not only help them stay in

school, but also help them manage their finances when they graduate.

➤ More Good News!

The Guaranteed Tuition Program is such a success, UA is expanding the program to include mandatory fees as well. Starting fall semester 2015, the cost of mandatory fees will also be fixed for eight semesters. This means both tuition and mandatory fees will be the same for eight semesters, adding another benefit to the program. It has also been proposed that continuing students will be able to opt into the guaranteed plan if they wish to.

Kathy Adams Riester, Associate Dean of Students and Director of UA Parent & Family Programs said, "We are thrilled to be able to expand the success of the Guaranteed Tuition Program to include fees as well. College expenses are now more predictable."

If you have any questions about this program or any other questions about a UA education, please visit <http://www.arizona.edu/future-students>

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All UA Parents and Family members of our students are welcomed as part of the UA Parents & Family Association. We hope that you will decide to make a contribution to PFA and/or join our email list that enables us to provide urgent parent communications during emergency situations.

We also know that some parents want access to more information and resources. Parents and family members who make a contribution of \$100 (\$50 if Pell eligible) or more will receive regular communication from the Parent & Family Programs staff during your student's academic career at the UA. These communications include:

- **A semesterly print magazine** mailed to your home address
- **9 E-Newsletters** with timely information and resources for your Wildcat
- **Regular Email updates** from the Associate Dean of Students and Parent & Family Programs Staff
- **A direct link to the Parent & Family Programs staff** who will help you navigate the resources in support of your student's success

Your donation will help support outreach and communication to parents and family members as well as vital programs that benefit all students' success on campus through special programs and the PFA Annual Grants Program. We hope you can show your Wildcat pride and make a difference by supporting the UA Parents & Family Association today!

GIVE ONLINE:
www.uafamily.arizona.edu
 or fill out and send us the membership form today

How Does My Contribution Make an Impact?

Your contribution helps The University of Arizona in the following ways:

1. **Student Support** In the past 30 years the Parents & Family Association has given more than \$2 million to campus programs and services that directly improve the quality of UA student life. We give where students and parents tell us it is important. In the past our support has gone to Safe Ride, Career Services, campus safety, and leadership programs. This year parent donations are supporting the Think Tank which provides free, centralized tutoring and supplemental instruction for students.
2. **Parent & Family Communications** The Parents & Family Association provides a number of ongoing communications to parents and family members including two yearly print magazines, and our monthly newsletter, "The Paw Print," and regular Parent email communication.



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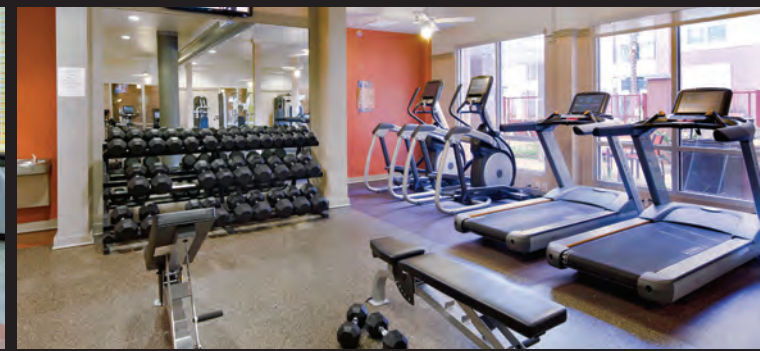
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DR. BRUCE JOHNSON A PASSION FOR EARTH EDUCATION

BY SERENA VALLE, GRADUATE ASSISTANT,
PARENT & FAMILY PROGRAMS

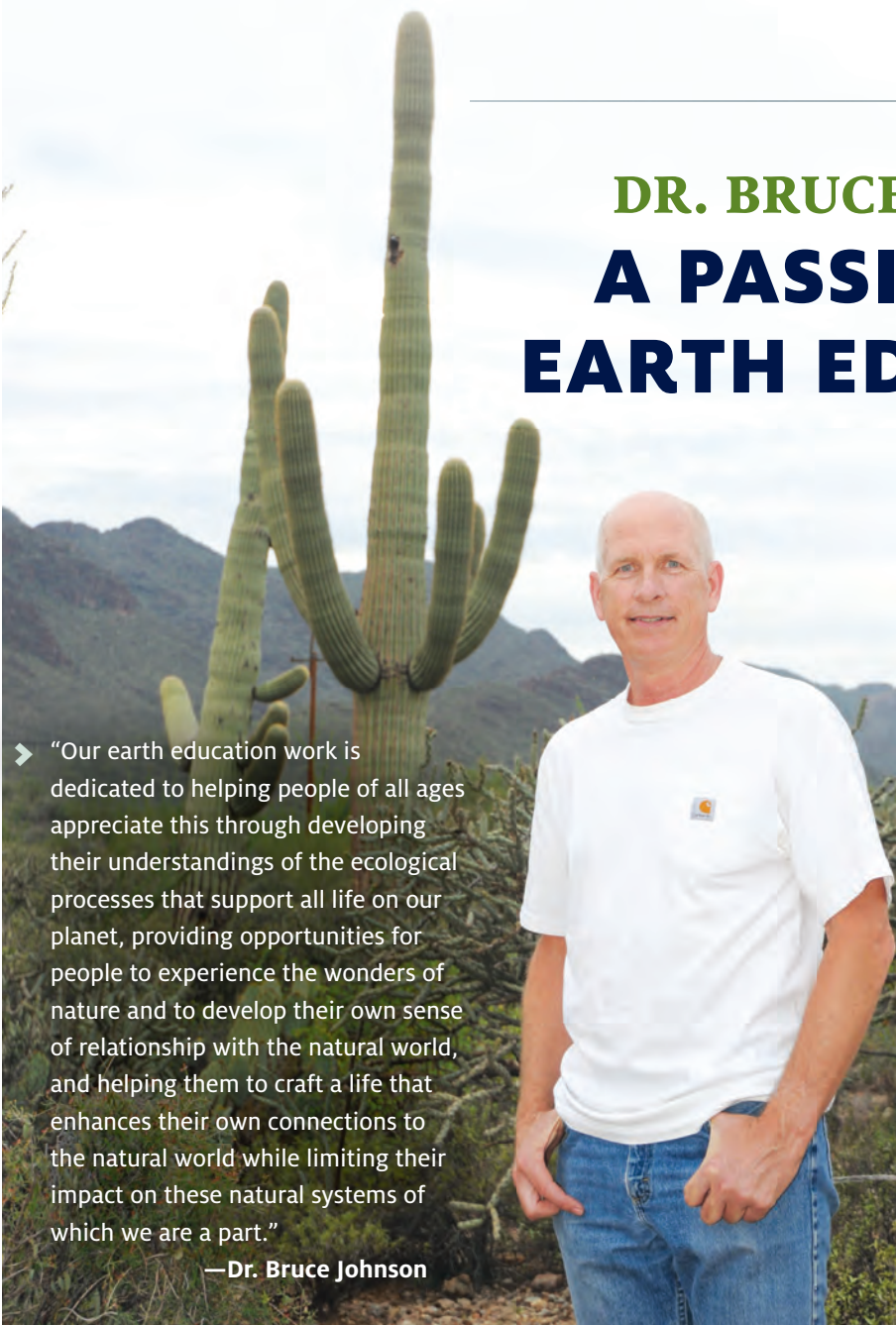
Entering his fifteenth year at the University of Arizona, Dr. Bruce Johnson is more passionate than ever about the future of earth education. He is a Professor of Environmental Learning and Science Education as well as the department head of Teaching, Learning and Sociocultural Studies at the University of Arizona. In addition, he is also the International Program Coordinator for The Institute for Earth Education (IEE) which is a not-for-profit, educational organization that designs programs for people to live more harmoniously and joyously with the natural world.

As an administrator, Dr. Johnson said his job is to “ensure that the important work of faculty, staff, and students can proceed with the highest quality and fewest distractions possible.” Johnson says within his eight years as department head, one of the most important things he has learned

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

► “Our earth education work is dedicated to helping people of all ages appreciate this through developing their understandings of the ecological processes that support all life on our planet, providing opportunities for people to experience the wonders of nature and to develop their own sense of relationship with the natural world, and helping them to craft a life that enhances their own connections to the natural world while limiting their impact on these natural systems of which we are a part.”

—Dr. Bruce Johnson



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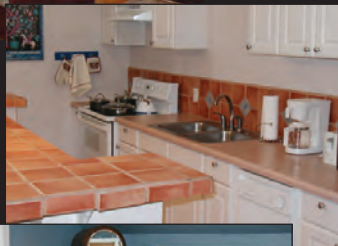
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A PASSION FOR EARTH EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

is how the University has smart and talented people including students, faculty and staff. He also shared his enthusiasm that he is “able to work with an amazing group of faculty and staff who are deeply committed to improving education in our local community as well as nationally and internationally.”

Dr. Johnson works with students who will be future classroom teachers in elementary and secondary schools. He also works with students who will be teachers in more informal education roles teaching adult learners. Environmental learning goes beyond formal education to also include the museums, outdoor centers, government agencies, non-profit organizations, business and industry in our community.

As professor and administrator, Dr. Johnson has had numerous opportunities to engage students and faculty with the broader community and this

is what makes the University special in regards to student-professor relationships. “Our faculty members are working on problems that matter outside of the ‘ivory tower’, and are eager for students to join them in the work.” When asked how students could get the best out of their educational experience at UA, Johnson said that “engagement is the key word for this as well. Rather than simply attending class and completing required assignments, putting in the effort to ask questions, go to office hours, and meet with other students outside of class time will help you learn as much as you can.”

Dr. Johnson originally wanted to be a herpetologist (a scientist who studies reptiles), but after high school he began a summer job teaching canoeing at a summer camp in Minnesota. This was the beginning of his career path and after that experience, Johnson said, “I got hooked on working with young people, helping them to learn about the natural world and their place in it.” For the next twenty years Johnson was a camp director,

➤ “It is easy today to think of nature as a pool of resources on which we depend and someplace nice to go on holiday. In reality, we are part of nature, as much a part of these natural systems of life as all other living things.”

– Dr. Bruce Johnson

adventure company owner/director, and a middle and elementary school teacher in Arizona and New Mexico. He has a Master’s of Science in Environmental Education. He then decided to pursue his Ph.D. in Education Psychology with a minor in Science Education because of his interest in conducting research that could make a difference beyond just the people he worked with on a daily basis.

His passion for the outdoors has correlated to his career in earth education. When asked what he was most excited to share about earth education, Johnson said, “It is easy today to think of nature as a pool of resources

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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▶ OCH FAIRS

Twice a year, in November and February, OCH hosts a housing fair on the UA Mall with apartment representatives ready to answer questions and offer tours.

▶ STAFF OFFICE

We're located on the 2nd floor of the El Portal building. Staff is available to answer questions during business hours.

▶ WEBSITE

Students can search for properties by specific features and proximity to campus. The site also has a list of roommates and a roommate matching service just for UA students.

▶ OCH HOUSING GUIDEBOOK

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A PASSION FOR EARTH EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

on which we depend and someplace nice to go on holiday. In reality, we are part of nature, as much a part of these natural systems of life as all other living things. Our earth education work is dedicated to helping people of all ages appreciate this through developing their understandings of the ecological processes that support all life on our planet, providing opportunities for people to experience the wonders of nature and to develop their own sense of relationship with the natural world, and helping them to craft a life that enhances their own connections to the natural world while limiting their impact on these natural systems of which we are a part." Dr. Johnson continued to talk about the importance of understanding that we are a part of nature.

Dr. Johnson shared that his favorite UA tradition developed 15 years ago, "as I was sitting in my office I would hear the marching band practicing at noon each day. After a while I noticed that they were playing the same tune every day, and I wondered if they only knew one song. I finally figured out that it was not practice; it was the Bear Down school song being broadcasted across the campus! I still like to hear it."

In closing, Dr. Johnson wants to emphasize that University students, parents, and families are a "part of the university community, and should take part in all that they can. Get involved in the local community. Find an issue you are passionate about, and you will be able to connect with people here who can help you engage with it."

References:

Earthkeepers™ in Bolivia Website:
<https://earthkeepersbolivia.wordpress.com/2014/10/06/prof-bruce-johnson-eei-visiting-the-earthkeepers-training-center-in-bolivia/>



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In 1930, Mrs. Marshall formed an asset based foundation for the express purpose of helping those less fortunate in the community. Since 1930, solely through the management of its real estate assets, Marshall Foundation gives away 5% of its net worth every year.

Mrs. Marshall’s died in 1956, leaving all of her assets to a volunteer Board of Directors. To date, Marshall Foundation has invested \$69 million in a twenty-year redevelopment of Main Gate Square, creating a vibrant urban destination for the University of Arizona and the Tucson community.

Today, Main Gate Square is a lively pedestrian area with tree-lined streets, outdoor dining, stores, salons, attractions and special events that cater to the entire community.

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PFA & OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

WORKING TOGETHER COMES EASY

BY **KENNETH CREECH**, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECRUITMENT, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA PHOENIX OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Working together has come naturally for the Office of Admissions and Parents & Family Association (PFA) volunteers, because we want the same things: students and their parents feeling comfortable with the student moving down the street or across the country to attend the University of Arizona. Parent sessions at orientation and Summer Send-Off celebrations around the country have provided us the opportunity to share key information with parents and to celebrate our incoming freshmen.

When Joel and Katherine Lewis began helping at recruitment events in Southern California, there was no way to know that they would become some of the most influential volunteers we have ever seen. They speak to parents from a perspective that the



Wildcat Country event in El Paso, TX

Anne Lassen photo

staff in admissions cannot; that of a parent who has been in their shoes, and watched their children excel at the UA. Based on their participation, we realized a need to do more to help families understand the process, and to get information from someone who can share their experience. Parent engagement in our outreach efforts was

a great opportunity just waiting to be expanded. Since then, we have been seeking out new ways to engage parents in the process, to make sure they are just as excited about the future as their students.

During the 2014-2015 recruitment year PFA and Admissions have

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PFA & OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

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expanded our partnership to bring current PFA parents and prospective parents together in as many ways as possible. During the fall, PFA parents attended Wildcat Country events across the U.S. where they were able to answer questions of prospective parents, and share their own experiences navigating the admissions and enrollment process. Once admissions decisions started rolling out, parents in key territories helped admissions counselors write personalized postcards to those recently admitted students, congratulating them on their acceptance.

When PFA organized Coffee Chats, they contacted the admissions office and we invited prospective families and students to the events and provided information to the students, while the parents talked about the things that were important to them. In February, parents at two high schools in Maricopa County were

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33



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PFA & OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

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treated to a breakfast with current PFA parents, where they heard more about opportunities afforded to students at the UA, and how it helped their own students find success. In March, parents in New York, Illinois, Colorado, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California and Arizona shared their experiences with families at our Wildcat Days events, helping engage students and their parents in the next steps of

the admissions process.

There is no doubt that this increasingly important connection between PFA and Admissions will continue to grow. It is with your help and shared experience that we are able to provide relevant and important information to the next group of Wildcat Parents and Families. Thank you for your help! If you are a parent who is interested in sharing your experience and helping to recruit new Wildcats, please contact Kenneth Creech at kcreech@email.arizona.edu.



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NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

HELPING STUDENTS TAKE THEIR NEXT STEPS

BY DAMIEN SNOOK, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
NEW STUDENT SERVICES

Welcome to the Wildcat family! The next few months will be very busy preparing your student for their upcoming transition to the University of Arizona. We hope to make that process a little bit easier through the Next Steps Center and New Student Orientation.

During New Student Orientation, students meet with an academic advisor, talk with other new and current students, learn more about campus resources, and walk away ready for the first day of class.

You are also invited and encouraged to participate through our Parents & Family Orientation program, which is tailored to address the needs and concerns of families. While your student registers for classes, you have the opportunity to learn more about services to help your student succeed, meet staff from across campus, and find out how to get connected and stay involved with the university.

There are a few things your student needs to do in order to be ready for New Student Orientation. Luckily, the UA has you covered with the Next Steps Center (nextsteps.arizona.edu). The Next Steps is the site wherein your student will pay their enrollment



fee and register for an Orientation program. It is also where your student needs to complete important academic procedures to be ready for Orientation.

It is imperative that students complete their Math, Second Language, and Writing placement before attending their Orientation program, and the only way to do so is through Next Steps. The purpose of these placement activities is to help your student succeed in their first semester by ensuring they register for the level of classes that matches their current abilities and experience. All students should complete placement requirements at least seven business days prior to

their Orientation session.

The Math placement exam consists of one of two tests based on your student's math experience: Algebra or Calculus. Students should read all instructions and dedicate three hours to testing. If your student has prior college or AP credit, this information will be accounted for in their placement. Students who do not complete their Math placement will not be placed into Math classes or subject-dependent courses such as Science and Statistics.

Through the Next Steps Center, your student should complete the placement checklists to determine if they also need to take a Second Language exam or Writing assessment. Students will be asked about their experience, provide information about prior and anticipated credits, and be prompted with further instructions if an exam is needed.

Student should access the Next Steps Center on a regular basis so they are prepared to attend and thrive at New Student Orientation. If you have any questions in regards to Orientation or Next Steps, don't hesitate to contact us at (520) 621-5293. Once again, welcome to the Wildcat family, and we look forward to seeing you and your student this summer at Orientation!

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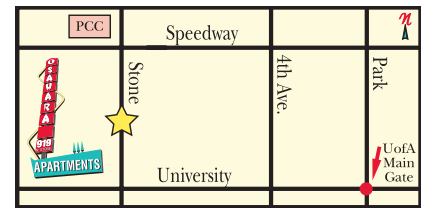


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There are other apartment buildings that also offer lower rates than the dorms and the High Rise Towers, but none offers the range of amenities and services that Sahara does. Some offer beautiful grounds but their beauty is only skin deep. Read the reviews about the apartments you are thinking of renting. One place to check is www.ApartmentRatings.com. The reason Sahara has such high ratings compared to most other buildings is that Sahara is the only major student property in Tucson that is locally owned and owner managed on a daily basis.



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UA LAUNCHES NEW SAFETY APP

BY CHRIS SIGURDSON

The University of Arizona Police Department plans to launch a new campus safety app that will be available free for students and family members to download to their smart phones in April.

The LiveSafe app has several advantages over call boxes and emergency phone calls and also allows students to call the UA's Safe Ride service or let their friends virtually monitor their walk home.

➤ "The University of Arizona is taking advantage of the technology students already keep close at hand to help make campus safer...The technology available means the app can do much more than a 911 call."

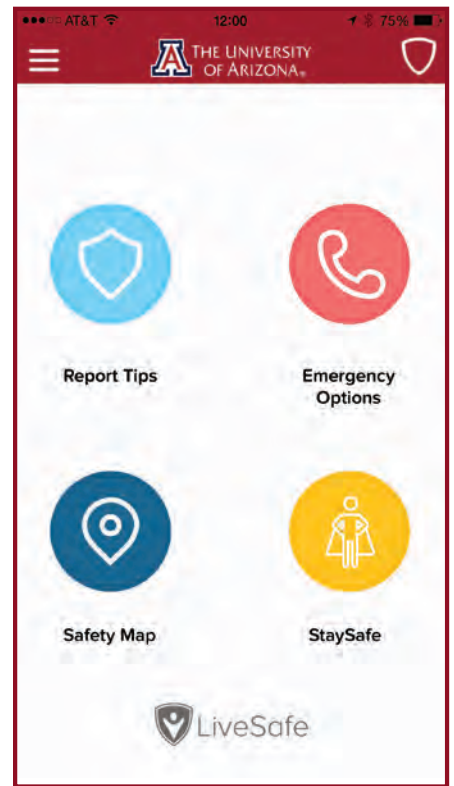
– **Brian Seastone, chief of police, UA police department**

"The University of Arizona is taking advantage of the technology students already keep close at hand to help make campus safer," says Brian Seastone, chief of police for the University of Arizona Police Department. "The technology available means the app can do much more than a 911 call."

The first button lets students report crimes via phone or text. Texting can be important for students who don't want people to know they've contacted police, Seastone says. "It also will let students attach photographs or videos they think will be useful to the police."

In addition to reporting crimes, the app also allows students to alert UAPD to situations or people they think could be dangerous. They also can call UA's Safe Ride service to get a ride home.

The second button gives students access to emergency information and tips on what to do in the event of a crime or severe weather event. The



The app is simple and easy to navigate.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

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UA SAFETY APP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

third button alerts students to unsafe areas nearby.

The fourth button allows friends to virtually monitor their walk to any location such as a class, dorm or off-campus residence. The SafeWalk function works with the student's contacts and the phone's GPS capabilities and has to be turned on by the student to work.

"We expect that to be a popular option for somebody who wants some assurance that somebody's making sure they get home. The application includes a panic button the student can press to signal UAPD if needed," Seastone says.

The application was funded in part with the support of student government, the Associated Students of the University of Arizona (ASUA), as well as the University of Arizona Campus Emergency Response Team, Risk Management and Safety and the Sr. Vice President for Business Affairs. The LiveSafe app works on Apple and Android phones.



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