

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The student handbook "The Key" is available to all members of the university community at: thekey.kutztown.edu

Please bookmark this site for your reference. A limited number of hard copies are available through the Dean for Student Services and Campus Life's Office in 262 of the McFarland Student Union.

Alternative media formats are also available and should be requested in advance from the dean's office.

THANKSGIVING CHECK-OUT

Thanksgiving break is just around the corner. Information on check-out from the residence halls, Golden Bear Apartments, and Sacony Commons Phase II Apartments will be sent to residents' on-campus mailboxes in November. Please note: residents need to be checked out by **11 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 22.**

Monday, October 30	Housing renewal begins at: www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo
Wednesday, November 1	Last day to contractually cancel housing for Spring 2007 without loss of deposit. Must cancel in person in Housing and Residential Services 106 Old Main by 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 1	Last day to participate in housing renewal
Wednesday, November 22	Residence halls close at 11 a.m. for Thanksgiving recess
Sunday, November 26	Residence halls open at 1 p.m.
Tuesday, December 5	Open room change, same hall 10 a.m. - noon
Thursday, December 7	Open room change, different hall 10 a.m. - noon Students should check their mailbox for more instructions
Saturday, December 9	Last day of regular classes
Friday, December 15	Residence halls close at 6 p.m. for winter recess
Saturday, December 16	Commencement begins at 10 a.m.
Sunday, January 14	Residence halls open at 1 p.m.
Monday, January 15	Martin Luther King Day observed – university closed. Residence halls remain open.
Tuesday, January 16	Classes start at 8 a.m.

Family Ties is published three times a year by the Division of Student Services and Campus Life and the Office of University Relations.

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Each issue of Family Ties can be viewed online at:
www.kutztown.edu/familyties



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Promoting Self Reliance: Growing a Healthy Graduate

There is no denying, when a son or daughter goes to university, it is a big step for any family. Just as students must adjust to living away from home for the first time, parents find it to be a difficult period in their lives.

Freshmen students also experience a sense of absence as the door closes on the daily routine of high school. It is natural for parents to want to be involved and for children to continue to depend on their sage advice of 18 years.

In the past, institutions of higher learning took over the roles of parent, teacher, and guardian, accepting full responsibility for their students' success or failure in the classroom and in their social lives.

Until the early 1960's, colleges would arrange dances and monitor when and how students of the opposite sex could visit each other. Mandatory attendance to weekend events was designed to take the sting out of homesickness. Students were required to eat at the same time, dress in formal attire for dinner, and be back in their residence halls well before an established curfew.

All of that has changed. Today, students are encouraged to take full responsibility for their actions. They are provided with a wealth of recreational, leisure, and social activities on campus including the newly opened Student Recreation Center and the McFarland Student Union.

And their dietary choices range from a complete meal in the South Dining Hall to various kiosks around campus that offer pizza, smoothies, cappuccino, and deli wraps. To further encourage responsible behavior, students can use a secure on-campus deposit account called Bear Bucks.

Like any new challenge, there seems to be an overwhelming number of choices. However, the exhilarating feeling of freedom that comes from leaving home for the first time brings with it the reality that wise decisions ultimately become an individual choice.

Often, parents have trouble letting go of last year's high school senior, even though their child is now legally an adult. To form a healthy and functioning young adult, it is best for parents to promote the student's independence.

In this day of cell phones, it is easy for students to hit the speed dial and receive advice. But freshmen must learn the interpersonal skills they will use throughout life, whether the next step is graduate school or a career.

By interacting with their roommates, peers, faculty, and administration officials on a personal basis to solve problems, negotiation skills improve along with self-confidence.

There are some issues where parental advice is welcome. One is money matters. Because a university degree represents a significant investment in the family's finances, parents should continue to coach the student on their money management skills.

Another is discussing the need to be committed to respecting and adhering to the rules, regulations, and policies designed to ensure the safety and welfare of students, especially first-year students in the midst of their adjusting year.

And finally, everyone needs a helping hand when health issues arise. Through the KU Health and Wellness Center and Counseling Service help is available directly on campus. Sometimes family support and advice is the best medicine.

"If I had one wish to grant all students as they embark on their college experience, it would be that from day one, to work at becoming positive memory builders," said Dr. Charles Woodard, vice president of Student Services and Campus Life. "Concentrate on building these memories, so that when the middle and later years come, students can look back on their KU experiences with personal pride and satisfaction."

New Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs placed



Dr. Carlos Vargas-Aburto has been named provost and vice-president for Academic Affairs. He will be responsible for all academic programs and academic administration at KU.

"We are pleased to have Dr. Vargas-Aburto join the administrative team at Kutztown University," said President Cevallos. "We are extremely fortunate to attract an individual with Dr. Vargas-Aburto's qualifications. He brings a wealth of experience to the position, as well as a commitment to diversity. He will be a strong asset to the academic mission of the university, as we strive to continue to uphold the standard of excellence that we have achieved in recent years."

Vargas-Aburto comes to KU from Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, where he served as provost and vice-president for Academic Affairs since November 2003.

"I am thrilled about the opportunity to be a part of the senior leadership team at Kutztown University," Vargas-Aburto said. "The university is well known for its high academic standards and the delivery of quality education. KU is located in a vibrant area and has a talented faculty. I am looking forward to achieving new heights in the years ahead."

Vargas-Aburto earned his Ph.D. in physics and aerospace science from the University of Michigan in 1978. He has master of science degrees from Michigan in physics (1975) and aerospace science (1974).

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Remember to File Your FAFSA Early

Kutztown University's priority filing deadline for scholarships and campus-based aid is Feb. 15. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be filed to be considered for university-based scholarships and various aid programs including Stafford loan, Perkins loan, SEOG grant, and Work Study.

If students meet the filing deadline, they will be evaluated for the Pell grant, PHEAA state grant and Stafford loan. May 1 marks the deadline for the PHEAA state grant program for Pennsylvania residents.

First-time aid applicants must file the original FAFSA while most former applicants may file the renewal FAFSA.

The FAFSA is used to apply for all forms of federal, state and institutional aid offered at Kutztown University. KU scholarships and student employment are also determined by the FAFSA. A student can file the FAFSA electronically by completing and submitting the application online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The U.S. Department of Education requires students to sign their FAFSA either on paper or by a personal identification number (PIN), which serves as an electronic signature. If a student does not have a PIN, one can be applied for at: www.pin.ed.gov.

If a student is required to provide parent information, then a parent's signature is also required. Parents can apply for a PIN on the same website. Printing and mailing a paper signature page is not necessary.

Students who wish to apply for a Stafford loan for the 2007-08 academic year need to answer "yes" to question #27 on the FAFSA. This will initiate the processing of the Stafford loan; therefore, it is no longer necessary to pick up the application from the lender.

Parents interested in applying for PLUS loans must continue to pick up their application through the bank previously used. Loan processing for incumbents will begin after Spring 2007 grades are posted to determine eligibility. Loans are processed in the order in which they are received.

Students should remember that eligibility for financial aid is determined by the results of the FAFSA, and continuing students must meet the satisfactory academic progress requirements. Federal regulations require a university to establish an academic progress policy as part of eligibility requirements for all federal financial aid programs. PHEAA grants are state aid with different eligibility requirements.

The Financial Aid Services staff is available to answer any questions by phone at 610-683-4077 or in person at 209 Stratton Administration Center from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, and 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

For students seeking employment, visit KU's student employment website: www.kutztown.edu/admin/finaid/employment/home.html.

Open Room Change Scheduled for December 5 and 7

At the end of each fall semester, current student residents are given an opportunity to select a different room for the spring semester. The list of vacancies for the spring semester will be available in each residence hall and apartment complex.

Room change forms will be located at the residence hall lobby desk and in 106 Old Main. Completed forms with signatures from the current roommate and the new roommate are required to change rooms.

To change to a different room in the same residence hall, the student must take the completed room change form to the designated resident coordinator office on Tuesday, Dec. 5 between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon.

To change to a different building, the student must take the completed room change form to Old Main Concourse on Thursday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Students 21 or older may participate in a room change to Sacony Commons Phase II for the Spring 2007 semester through this process.

Any student participating in open room change will be required to completely check out of their fall assignment at the end of the Fall Semester. All belongings must be removed, and the key(s) returned to the residence hall lobby desk or apartment office.

Students will receive more information in November in their residence hall/apartment mailbox. Information will also be posted at www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo.

Important information about HPV protection

The Center of Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, which drafts recommendations for the administration of vaccines in the U.S., unanimously voted to recommend that all girls ages 11 and 12 receive the vaccine Gardasil to guard against the human papillomavirus (HPV).

The vaccine is given in three injections over six months and will cost approximately \$360. The vaccine is most effective if administered prior to becoming sexually active before exposure to the viruses.

The vaccine protects against four HPV types, which together cause 70 percent of all cervical cancers and 90 percent of genital warts. Literature suggests that most insurance will cover the costs, but a lag-time may exist for reimbursement. Purchase of the vaccine may require an out-of-pocket expense.

Since the vaccine is very costly, KU Health, Wellness and Counseling Services does not currently plan to purchase the vaccine. The health care providers will administer the vaccine to students who bring provide vaccine to the Health and Wellness Center.

Two local pharmacies in Kutztown will stock the vaccine based upon demand. Both estimate the cost for a single dose at \$120 to \$150. For more information about the human papillomavirus virus vaccination, go to the CDC website at: www.cdc.gov.



KU Shuttle Bus Service

KU offers a daily bus service Monday through Friday with day and evening routes that cover much of Kutztown and most of the campus.

Convenient stops are available at central locations on campus and through out town including access to pharmacies, grocery stores, and shopping centers. Evening routes extend to off-campus housing in Sacony Commons.

Plus the KU shuttle service is user friendly for those seeking special accommodations. Students only need to swipe their KU card to ride the shuttle.

BEAR BUCK\$

For students looking for a flexible spending account that functions as a declining balance, the KU Bear Bucks program provides a secure way to monitor expenses over the school year.

By enrolling in the program, students can deposit money into their accounts and use those funds at a variety of stores, vending machines, and food kiosks on campus.

In addition, nearly 30 merchants throughout the Kutztown and Fleetwood communities now accept Bear Bucks as a way of making purchases.

Deposits to the account can be made directly in the Bursar's Office or through Online Student Services, or you may telephone the Bursar's Office or the One Card Office.

Because Bear Bucks is not a credit or debit account, cash withdrawal, cash return transactions, or check writing is not permitted. A report of all purchases is available to account holders online.

By simply signing up and making an initial \$25 deposit, the student identity KU Card will be activated for Bear Bucks purchases. For more information log onto www.kutztown.edu/kucard.

STUDENT REC CENTER OPENS TO THE PUBLIC

The fees listed below are the "Grand Opening Special" and are only in effect for the Fall 2006 semester. Membership includes the Student Recreation Center and Keystone Hall Pool. If you're visiting for a day or a weekend, your son or daughter can purchase a guest pass for \$5 which would allow you access to the Student Recreation Center and Keystone Hall pool for that day. If you need more information please contact the center at 484-646-4200 or visit the Recreational Services' website at recreation.kutztown.edu

MEMBERSHIP GROUP	FALL 2006 MEMBERSHIP	30-DAY MEMBERSHIP	POOL ONLY (6 months)	POOL ONLY (Annual)
Alumni	\$99.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$90.00
Parent	\$99.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$90.00
Family Membership*	\$396.00	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$360.00

**Family Membership Includes a member, a spouse or partner, and two dependents 16-years or older.*

On-Campus Resident Housing Renewal for Fall 2007/Spring 2008

To renew on-campus housing for the 2007/2008 academic year, students must participate on-line from Monday, Oct. 30 through Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2006. During this on-line process period, current on-campus students may roll over their \$125 housing deposit from Spring 2007 to Spring 2008. The 2007/2008 housing contract will be available on-line in October.

The Golden Bear Apartments are part of the on-campus residence hall system. By completing the housing renewal process, students will be able to participate in room selection for Fall 2007. Please note: to prepare for freshmen coming into the residence halls next fall, it may be necessary to reserve traditional residence hall beds specifically for freshmen.

To participate in this process, follow the links at: www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo. Select "Housing Renewal"; enter your social security number and pin number*; click on login; select "housing"; and follow the instructions to roll over your housing deposit. If you do not remember your pin number, please contact the Registrar's Office in room 115 Stratton Administration Center or call 610-683-4485.

**Do not share your pin number. Keep your information confidential.*