

## Visit the new Website for Student Services and Campus Life!

Parents and students looking for information on everything from activities in the McFarland Student Union, to recreational services, public safety and other campus departments, will find the new Website for the Division of Student Services and Campus Life is easy to use and just a click away.

By logging onto [www.kutztown.edu/divisions/studentservices](http://www.kutztown.edu/divisions/studentservices), families will find a world of news and information!

### The Key to Success at KU

The Kutztown University Student Handbook "The Key" is available to all members of the university community at: [thekey.kutztown.edu](http://thekey.kutztown.edu)

A limited number of hard copies are available through the Dean for Student Services and Campus Life's Office, 262 McFarland Student Union. Requests for alternative media formats are also available and should be made to the dean's office.

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

Editors: Craig Williams

Contributors: Linda Bowen, Apryle Carney, Mary Gutekunst, Anne Reel, Dr. Charles Woodard

Design: Aubrey Fornwalt '08

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, Nov. 1	Last day to contractually cancel housing for Spring 2008 without a loss of deposit. Must cancel in person in Housing & Residential Services, 106 Old Main, by 4:30 P.M.
Monday, Nov. 5	Housing renewal begins on-line at: <a href="http://www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo">www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo</a>
Wednesday, Nov. 7	Last day to participate in housing renewal.
Wednesday, Nov. 21	Residence halls close at 11 A.M. for Thanksgiving recess.
Sunday, Nov. 25	Residence halls open at 1 P.M.
Tuesday, Dec. 4	Open room change, same hall 10 A.M. to noon.
Thursday, Dec. 6	Open room change, different hall 10 A.M. to noon. Students should check their mailbox for instructions on location of this process.
Saturday, Dec. 8	Last day of regular classes.
Friday, Dec. 14	Residence halls close at 6 P.M. for winter recess.
Saturday, Dec. 15	Commencement 10 A.M.
Sunday, Jan. 13	Residence halls open at 1 P.M.
Monday, Jan. 14	Classes start at 8 A.M.
Monday, Jan. 21	Martin Luther Kind Day observed—university closed. Residence halls remain open.

Each issue of Family Ties can be viewed online at:  
**[www.kutztown.edu/familyties](http://www.kutztown.edu/familyties)**



# KU

KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY  
of Pennsylvania

A member of the State System of Higher Education

# Family Ties

Important News  
for Families of  
Kutztown University  
Students

Fall 2007

## KU ALERT Added to Emergency Management Plan

As part of the overall campus emergency management program, the university has implemented KU ALERT which sends text messages and e-mail alerts to participating students when life-threatening events occur on campus.

This state-of-the-art mass notification system is available to all students simply by signing up online. All that is needed is a mobile telephone number, and/or e-mail address, KU login and password. Students may list up to two phone numbers and two e-mail addresses to receive the alert, and may change these at any time. By choosing two contact points, students can include parents in the alert system.

The system delivers emergency alerts to all registered mobile phones, Blackberry units,

wireless PDAs, pagers, Smart or Satellite phones, KU e-mail users and the university Website. Alerts will also "pop up" to anyone using Google, Yahoo, or AOL as their home page.

The KU Alert program is just one component of the university's emergency notification systems and was originally conceived by President Cevallos to serve as a notification medium to be used in the event of a pandemic flu outbreak. The university has been involved in planning for a potential pandemic flu outbreak in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. The planned use and recent implementation of the system has been expanded to include any other life-threatening situations affecting the entire campus community.

During the events that trigger the text message alert to be sent out, the university will also send alerts via campus building speaker systems, in-classroom telephones, campus radio and television stations, notifying regional media outlets, and other methods.

No advertising or non-emergency content is ever sent via the KU Alert system, and participation is open to all students. The university will use the system for life-threatening events only, and the information entered will not be shared with outside vendors, nor will it be retained by the university beyond the opt-out date.

For more information, or to sign up, go to:  
[www.kutztown.edu/kualert](http://www.kutztown.edu/kualert)

## Ruckus™ Offers Free Music to KU Students

In January 2006, Ruckus partnered with Kutztown University to offer its digital entertainment network to the KU community. The partnership provides students the opportunity to legally download more than 2 million music tracks, access Hollywood movies and television shows, create a personal profile, and share downloaded tracks with other students.

Ruckus offers the campus a number of subscription-based packages, most notably free music subscriptions to both on- and off-campus students. Other packages include:

- **Movie Subscription:** \$15 per term. Movie subscriptions are only available to students downloading on the Kutztown University ResNet network.
- **Ruckus-To-Go:** \$20 per term for the ability to transfer Ruckus music to a compatible portable player.

A technical detail that distinguishes Ruckus

from other subscription-based services is that a server is placed directly on the ResNet network. This keeps downloads on campus, fully leveraging the speed of the ResNet backbone. In other words, students connected to ResNet can download a music file in a few seconds and a full-length, DVD-quality movie in a matter of minutes. Those users with off-campus music subscriptions download files from Ruckus headquarters, so download times are dependent on the speed of the user's Internet connection.

All Ruckus media files are protected by Microsoft's Digital Rights Management. A Ruckus subscriber holds a digital license for each file downloaded. The license allows subscribers to play downloaded music on their personal computer for 30 days and movies for five days. When a license expires, subscribers simply need to log into Ruckus to re-acquire it and don't need to download the content again. Licenses are automatical-

ly renewed each time subscribers play a file provided there is an active Internet connection and a valid Ruckus subscription.

In spring 2005, KU began researching legal music services for students as an alternative to peer-to-peer file sharing programs like KaZaA, Limewire, and Ares, which expose students who use them to a variety of hazards including copyright infringement and computer virus/malware infection. They are also capable of consuming large amounts of bandwidth, which increases the cost of maintaining the network.

The Ruckus business strategy is to rely on advertising within its media player and therefore provides free music subscriptions to any student with a .edu e-mail address.

For more information about the Ruckus service, visit the Ruckus "frequently-asked-questions" web page at [resnet.kutztown.edu/ruckus](http://resnet.kutztown.edu/ruckus)

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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](http://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](http://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 2008-09 academic year need to choose the option "Loans" or "Loans/Work Study" 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 may do so by logging onto: [www.selectyourlender.com](http://www.selectyourlender.com)

Loan processing for incumbents will begin after Spring 2008 grades are posted to determine eligibility.

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.

Please note that PHEAA grants are state aid with different eligibility requirements.

The Financial Aid Services staff is available to answer any questions by calling 610-683-4077 or visiting the office at 209 Stratton Administration Center from 8 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday, with extended hours on Tuesdays from 8 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.

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

## Go Online for On-Campus Housing Renewal

Students living on campus may renew their on-campus housing for the 2008/2009 academic year beginning Monday, November 5 through Wednesday, November 7 quickly and easily by going online. Here's how:

- Log onto: [www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo](http://www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo)
- Select Housing Renewal
- Enter their personal social security number and pin number\*
- Click on "login"
- Select "housing"
- Follow the instructions to roll over their housing deposit. If the student cannot remember his or her pin number, they are advised to contact the Registrar's Office in person at 115 Stratton Administration Center or call 610-683-4485.

\*Student pin numbers are confidential and should not be divulged to others.

During the on-line process, current on-campus students will roll over their \$125 housing deposit from Spring 2008 to Spring 2009, which will allow them to participate in the room selection process during the Spring 2008 semester for their assignments for the 2008/2009 academic year.

To view the 2008/2009 housing contract please go to: [www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo/headlines](http://www.kutztown.edu/admin/harlo/headlines)

## New for Fall 2008

A new residence hall with 857 beds in junior suites is being built right now with a scheduled Fall 2008 opening. Room selection for the new building will take place during the Spring 2008 semester. Information will be sent to students' on-campus mailboxes during the Spring semester. To view the construction of this building online please visit: <http://rkinsley.oxblue.com/ksu/housing/>

At right: A rendering of the finished residence hall which is slated to open Fall '08.



## Recreational Activities Keep Students Active and Healthy

How can students avoid the dreaded "freshman 15," the extra pounds put on when students come to school and find they can eat French fries for every meal? The answer is a visit to Recreational Services, an on-campus program devoted to helping every student stay active, healthy, and fit.

Recreational Services offers five programs: open recreation, group exercise, intramural sports, recreational and club sports, and special events and tournaments.

Open recreation is the largest division. In addition to doing what they love most, many students like to try something new. Students can challenge their skills on the two-story climbing wall at the new Student Recreational Center, swim for fitness in Keystone Hall, or jog on the newly remodeled track in University Field.

And open recreation means they can learn how to play racquetball, build muscle strength, or join one of the more than 25 groups exercise classes—an easy and enjoyable way to get started in fitness.

The more structured intramural program consists of teams of KU students competing against other KU student teams for the valuable Intramural Champion T-shirt. Intramural teams vary in competitiveness and skill, but what doesn't vary is the amount of fun they have. Some of the intramural leagues include flag football, basketball, soccer, dodge ball, volleyball, and softball. Although most of the leagues require teams, students also can register as a free agent and still be able to participate.

The intramurals program also schedules numerous special events and tournaments that are just plain fun and help students to relieve stress. They include: Texas Hold 'em, billiards, table tennis, 64-HORSE, and Madden tournaments.

The 14 recreational and sports clubs are student-run and governed by the Recreational and Sports Club Council. Because the program encompasses many organized activities, the sports clubs vary in their focus and scope. Some programs such as the KU Equestrian Team, the KU Cycling

Team, and KU Rugby Team compete against other colleges and universities, while other club activities, like the Outdoor Club, take on an instructional or performance approach. Regardless of the level of competition, the clubs are open to students at all skill levels.

KU encourages and welcomes all students to stop by the Recreational Services Office in the Student Rec Center to sign up for one or more activities and develop an appreciation for life-long fitness. By establishing a healthy routine early in their academic careers, students will discover those "freshman 15" just melt away.



## Highlight on Counseling Services

As freshmen move in with new roommates and begin their first classes on a university campus, it is no secret there are a lot of decisions and adjustments to be made. Their surroundings, friends, schedules, and work load are all new, and at times it can become quite stressful.

According to the American College Health Association, the top five impediments to academic success are: stress, cold/flu/sore throats, sleep difficulties, concern for a friend or family member, and depression or anxiety disorders.

KU's department of Counseling Services is available to all students seeking help and offers guidance on a variety of problems from conflict resolution to coping with stress, depression, eating disorders, anxiety, and understanding self and the new environment.

Accredited through the International Association for Counseling Services Inc., the department's counselors provide sound advice on personal problems and concerns.

Students may call or stop by the office to schedule an appointment with a counselor. In the event of a crisis or an emergency, students will be evaluated on a "walk-in" basis. Services are strictly confidential, and information will not be disclosed without the student's consent, except as required by law.

For more information, contact the office at 610 683-4072 or visit the Website at: [www.kutztown.edu/divisions/student-services/departments/hwcs/counseling](http://www.kutztown.edu/divisions/student-services/departments/hwcs/counseling)

## Thanksgiving 2007 Check-out

Thanksgiving Break is just around the corner. Information on check-out from the residence halls and Golden Bear Apartments will be sent to residents' on-campus mailboxes in early November. Residents need to be checked out by 11 A.M. on Wednesday, November 21.