Dear Families:

Here at Coastal Carolina University we understand your desire to stay connected to campus as your student returns to campus for the Spring semester. It is with that goal in mind that the Office of New Student & Family Programs brings you this family newsletter.

With this newsletter, it is our mission to provide you with academic, social, and community information that is upcoming and or has occurred on CCU’s campus. We find value in you wanting to know about the various campus activities and encourage you to join us at these events.

Here at CCU we want this newsletter to connect all families from coast to coast to our campus in Conway, SC. New Student & Family Programs wants to assure you that this newsletter is designed specifically for your information and enjoyment.

The newsletter will include a variety of entries ranging from family specific letters to campus wide student events. The newsletter will continue to be distributed to families twice each semester. We hope you will utilize this newsletter so you can be just as involved with the campus as your students.

If there are any special topic areas or items that you would like to see included in the newsletter, please don’t hesitate to contact us by email at orientation@coastal.edu or by phone 843/349.2707.

We hope you enjoy this inaugural newsletter.

Chant - A - Thon

Coastal Carolina University hosted its first ever Chant-A-Thon starting at 8pm on November 9th and the event continued until 1pm on November 10th. The event is a 17 hour dance marathon. The purpose of the event was to raise money for both the McLeod Children’s Hospital in Florence, SC and the Children’s Miracle Network.

Chant-A-Thon was brought to Coastal Carolina University by Tyger Glauser, Assistant Director, Office of Student Activities and Leadership. Chant-A-Thon served as a pledge amongst community members to symbolically stand for the children who can not stand for themselves. The McLeod Children’s Hospital has a mission to cater to the medical needs of children in a variety of unfortunate situations. The hospital strongly opposes turning any child away for treatment, regardless of the financial situations of their families.

In those 17 hours of celebration and awareness there were a variety of events that took place in the Williams-Brice Gym. These events included a late night dance rave, dancing lessons, and the official moral dance with the trained moral captains. The idea behind the 17 hours of awareness and celebration is to sacrifice the luxury of sleep and rest to symbolize relentless care for the children. The 17 hours is also to symbolize the 17 million children treated at Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals each year. The special guests of honor will be the miracle children from the McLeod Children’s Hospital.

The Chant-A-Thon was not only fun and exciting but beneficial to the community and the special ones in need. Coastal Carolina is proud that they could host their first Chant-A-Thon this year and hope to have a great turnout for the next day of celebration.

For more information, visit www.chantathon.com
Students returned to campus this past fall to find several new buildings completed all around campus. One of the buildings that brought the most excitement was the new HTC Recreation & Convocation Center. This new facility offers a fully loaded fitness and exercise area complete with features such as a climbing wall and indoor track. Coastal Carolina University also hosts home Basketball games and Volleyball matches in the gym area of the HTC Center.

On October 9th the venue was in pink overload managed to raise $200 for their efforts with 100 people in attendance. This is the second year Coastal has conducted the Zumbathon, and the first year that it was held in the HTC Center. The program had a promising turnout and the participants were delighted that they could be one dance move closer to a cure for breast cancer. Until then, the CCU students will continue to Zumba.

Learning Assistance Centers

As your student returns to campus excited and energized for a new semester many of them are coming back with plans and expectations to make this semester even better than the last one. This is an excellent opportunity for students to adjust their academic habits in order to improve or continue to excel inside the classroom.

Coastal Carolina University offers many resources to students to help them be successful in their classrooms and one of the best resources is the Learning Assistance Centers directed by Brianne Parker. These centers are housed in the Prince Building on campus and consist of the Foreign Language Instructional Center, Math Learning Center, and Writing Center. These centers specialize not only in their specific subject areas but in one-on-one tutor interaction. Instructors at the Learning Assistance Centers will help students find problem areas in courses and help them remedy the issue at hand.

The most important part about attending the Learning Assistance Centers is for the students to recognize that they are not admitting to failure. Instead, the students with enough effort to attend and follow through with their assistance are admitting to their willingness to improve. Sometimes, students drop classes and refuse to use this opportunity to get help. Director Brianne Parker states, “Students should not accept failure so easily.”

Families can help by casually following up with their students about getting help with their courses. Families are also encouraged to advocate the Learning Assistance Centers and other resources on campus like it. This will assure students that academic aid is all over Coastal Carolina University’s campus.

These campus resources such as the Learning Assistance Centers are available, specialized and confident that they can help students of all conditions of academic standing.

Encourage your student to start utilizing these resources early on in the semester and that way they will be ahead of their classmates when mid-terms and course papers are due. There is no such thing has having too much help!
A Piece of Advice From Dr. Nelljean Rice, Dean of University College

Dear Families:

The Coastal Carolina University faculty and staff are excited to begin the Spring semester and are ready to help ensure that your student’s new semester goes well. While we are gearing up for them to return to the campus and the classroom we encourage you to check in with your student throughout the semester to see how they’re doing in their classes and if they are participating in the many activities that are available to them through Student Affairs’ clubs and Campus Recreation events.

Now is a good time to discuss plans for how to improve or keep grades where they need to be. The students in First Year Experience will have a large research project coming up soon and they may also have research projects in several of their other classes as well. We have resources available in the Writing Center and in Kimbel Library for students who need help finding sources and formatting papers.

Here are a few tips you can share with your students to help them become successful in the classroom:

- Attend every class and do every assignment
- Sit in front of the class
- Be on time to every class
- Participate and be a responsible group member
- Learn to adapt to different instructors’ teaching styles
- Take notes to help you stay focused and remember the lecture
- Scan, read and review textbook and other reading assignments
- Organize your study time, do difficult assignments first, and allow more time than you think you will need
- Schedule 90 minute study sessions
- Don’t overextend yourself with work or social activities

And finally, families, you can help provide a bit of relief from freshman stress by:

- Sending care packages and/or upbeat notes
- Being encouraging but not nagging
- Letting students take responsibility for their own actions

Please don’t hesitate to contact me or your student’s first-year advisor if you have any concerns at this point in the semester.

Sincerely,

Nelljean Rice

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Coastal Students Answering the Call

On November 29th, Coastal Carolina University’s Volunteer Services along with a group of concerned students deemed the “CCU Relief Squad” hosted a Hurricane Sandy Relief Drive.

In late October 201 Hurricane Sandy devastated the residents along the eastern seaboard including Delaware, New Jersey and New York which is home for many of Coastal Carolina University’s students. Thanks to the amazing support of the Coastal community the event raised $361.19 and 803 items were donated including 536 articles of clothing, 24 pairs of shoes and 243 personal items. The in-kind donation value is estimated at $1630.00.

Online donations are still being accepted at http://www.wavesforwater.org/fundraiser/278 or http://www.ccdsd.org/donate/secure-online-donations/

For more information contact Nicole Cozzi at ncozzi@coastal.edu
Important Dates & Contact Information

Important Dates

Residence Halls and Dining Halls Open: January 12th

Classes begin for Regular Spring Courses: January 14th

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day– University Closed: January 21

Spring Break, no classes for Students: March 11– 15

Last Day of Classes: May 1

Final Exams Begin: May 3

Residence Halls Close: May 11

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