Volunteering is often something that students do passionately in high school, but it loses its priority as students get busy in college. Maybe this happens because it seems less beneficial than other activities that students have available to them. Economists tell us that the cost of doing something is always considered in comparison to the perceived benefits of engaging in the activity.

The late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. certainly understood the importance of serving those around him, and while he is most notably recognized for his contributions to the Civil Rights Movement, his legacy has untold lessons still yet to be uncovered.

On January 19, 935 Coastal Carolina University students completed a combined total of over 1,000 hours of service for the MLK Day of Service and Remembrance and the Greek Day of Service. MLK Day of Service is a nationwide event that seeks to encourage college students to turn their day off from classes into a day of serving their community. Fraternity & Sorority Life in the Office of Student Life decided to hold their annual event in collaboration with the day.

The University sponsors service opportunities to make it easier for students to get connected and cut down on their “cost,” all while highlighting the numerous benefits of volunteering.

The diverse perspective of our student body translates to the reality that not everyone places the same intrinsic value on community engagement as others. Therefore, it is important to frame the conversation in a new way, and for that, we look to the words of Dr. King:

If you want to be important—wonderful. If you want to be recognized—wonderful. If you want to be great—wonderful. But recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. That’s a new definition of greatness.

- from The Drum Major Instinct, Feb. 4, 1968, in Atlanta, Georgia

Service extends beyond the warm fuzzy feeling toward an expansion of the minds and abilities of our students to be leaders, not only in their fields of study, but throughout the globe.

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**Math Help for Your Student**

The Coastal Carolina University Department of Mathematics and Statistics is launching an outreach initiative to assist students with their math courses. The department teaches over 3000 students per semester and is committed to the success of each and every student. Every student admitted to CCU has the ability to successfully pass calculus and take math courses beyond calculus. However, it requires perseverance and a consistent work ethic.

This semester, 11 faculty members in our department have volunteered to be available at the HTC Center, Kimbel Library and the Math Learning Center and/or to hold review sessions two hours per week, beginning Tuesday, Jan. 20, and ending Wednesday, April 29. This will provide students the chance to experience how other instructors explain the material and to network with peers who are also having difficulty. The focus will be on the following courses: Math 130/130I, College Algebra, Math 131, Trigonometry, Math 132, Business Calculus, Math 139, Contemporary Mathematics, Math 160/161, Calculus 1 and 2, and Stat 201. (Continued on page 2)
Academic Spotlight: College of Science

The College of Science at Coastal Carolina University has been on a strong growth trajectory for the past several years. Driven by a nationwide interest in the value of science and technology, as well as the long-standing quality of several of our programs (particularly the undergraduate Marine Science program), almost 50 percent of first-year students at CCU choose a major in the college. This growth has led to the need to expand our facilities as well as our major offerings. We have also worked to expand the level of the degrees available at the institution.

The quality of the educational experience had a significant upgrade with the opening of Swain Hall about a year ago. This facility, focusing on health-related programs, this new 65-thousand square foot three-story building will focus on environmental areas and include faculty from departments that include Marine Science, Biology and Chemistry. With its expected completion in the spring semester of 2016, the key components of the main Science Quad will be completed. An additional building, situated between the Wall College of Business and Swain Hall, will be constructed in 2017 that will house the College of Science Departments of Sociology, Recreation and Sports Management, and Computer Science. In an academic sense, this building will act as a bridge between the data analytical approaches that are found in science and business.

In addition to the creation of these physical spaces to house the activities of the College of Science, we have also expanded our program offerings. Degrees that are in various stages of development and approval include our doctoral program in Marine Science: Coastal and Marine Systems Science, and two master’s degree programs — one in Information Security and Data Analytics. At the undergraduate level, our bachelor’s degree completion programs in Nursing and Health Administration continue to grow, and a new program in Engineering Science is in development. We also continue to explore 2+2 technical degree options with our partner institutions.

Overall, this is an exciting time to be a scientist at Coastal Carolina University. We are building our capacity to continue in our important role as a leader in science education in South Carolina and the southeastern United States.

- Dean Michael H. Roberts

Math Help continued...

Instructors have informed all students registered in math courses of the outreach initiative. However, we want to ensure that their parents are also aware of the program so that they can encourage their students to take advantage of this opportunity if needed. We also want to stress that students should not wait too late in the semester to get help. Learning math, perhaps even more so than other subjects, requires comprehension of the more elementary data before a student can move on to more difficult concepts. In many cases, one or two conversations one-on-one with a faculty member may be all it takes for a student to grasp an idea that proves difficult to assimilate during class.

Please contact Kathryn Caulfield at 843-349-2004 or via email at kcaulfie@coastal.edu for a complete listing of all opportunities.
Prepare for Spring Break with a Safety Chat

With many students planning to travel during spring break from March 9-13, the Coastal Carolina University Department of Public Safety wants to remind families of some best practices for spring break travel and safety tips. Regardless of where your student will be spending his or her break, following these safety tips can make spring break relaxing and SAFE.

When Students Travel...
It is recommended that students, who will be vacationing during Spring Break, travel in groups as a safe practice.
* If your student will be traveling, encourage him or her to be aware of the laws pertaining to their destination.
* Ask your student to provide you an itinerary of their trip, complete with his or her hotel information and arrival and return dates and times.
* Throughout Spring Break, students should also always use the buddy system. Ask your student to watch out for themselves and their friends. If they’re going out together, establish a plan to check in on each other and return home together. They should avoid strangers and remain with their groups. They can help each other avoid trouble and stay safe.
* Students should avoid carrying all their money (credit cards, debit cards, checks and cash) in their wallet or purse. Only take enough money to get back to their hotel. Only carry one credit card. Make copies of credit cards and passports in case they are lost. Write down the number to cancel credit cards in case they are lost.
* Encourage your student to trust their instincts (If it doesn’t feel right, it probably isn’t right)
* Advise them to travel with reputable, and licensed transportation services.
* If your student chooses to consume alcohol, be sure they are aware of how alcohol is impacted by remaining in the sun on the beach all day, or even in a hot tub. Often times these conditions exacerbate the effects of alcohol.
* They should be aware of the signs of alcohol poisoning.
* Have an open conversation with your student about safe and legal spring break activities.

Before Students Leave...
• Before students leave their dorm, apartment or house, they should check that all doors and windows are secured. Parents should encourage students to avoid posting vacation and trip information to Facebook or any other social media sites.
• If possible, students should take their valuables with them or hide them out of sight.
• If vehicles are left behind, students should park them in well-lit areas and never leave valuables in the vehicle. The Department of Public Safety recommends parking in G lot near the library. Please view the link to the parking maps at coastal.edu/media/administration/pubsafety/pdf/ccu_map.pdf.

If Students are Driving...
• As students begin their trip, please encourage them to drive mainly during daylight hours and to switch drivers as often as possible.
• Students should take breaks from driving and rest if necessary. Never drive while tired or sleepy. The important thing is to arrive safely.
• Students should avoid driving and rest if necessary. Never drive while tired or sleepy. The important thing is to arrive safely.

If Students are Staying on Campus...
• Although students are on break, the Coastal Carolina University Department of Public Safety is not. Officers patrol the campus 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Public Safety stays vigilant during these breaks to ensure the safety of students remaining on campus and to protect the property that is left behind.
• Students should continue to practice safe behaviors around campus even though there are less people around.
• Students should always remember that laws and ordinances, as well as the Student Code of Conduct, are still enforced during the break.

If Students are Traveling Abroad...
The U.S. Department of State travel website is an excellent resource for students traveling abroad or to Mexico. Some basics include: (1) knowing the laws; (2) showing respect for others and authorities; and (3) making responsible decisions about alcohol.

For information and safety tips when traveling abroad, please visit the websites below:
cdc.gov/family/springbreak/
travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui
travel.state.gov/travel/tips/tips_1232.html#health

Spring break safety is something every family worries about. Taking a few steps to ensure your student’s safety can ease your mind. Make spring break a memorable experience for your student by helping them prepare for their trip safely. Should you have any questions, the Department of Public Safety is always available to help.

Coastal Carolina University Department of Public Safety: (843) 349-2177 Non-Emergency (843) 349-2911 Emergency

2015-2016
Housing Applications available now!
Remember – all freshmen and sophomores who live outside a 50-mile radius are required to live on campus, so have your student sign up early!

Stay Connected!
The Chant Family Forum is a great place for you to find information about what is happening on campus, as well as to ask any questions that may be on your mind. Staff, faculty and/ or students respond to questions within 24 business hours or on the next business day. Staff also create posts about programs and events on campus that you can encourage your student to attend in order to get engaged in campus life. Create an account online today at coastal.edu/connect/family to get and stay connected!

Up and Running: Lib Jackson Student Union

The newly renovated Lib Jackson Student Union has increased its size by 30,000 square feet to help enhance the lives of students at Coastal Carolina University by giving them a new space to hang out with friends, meet with groups or get something to eat. The Lib Jackson Student Union opened its doors to the students on Monday, Jan. 12 with the following new and updated amenities:

1. An expanded and updated game room
   - 4 pool tables, air hockey, foosball table, Ping-Pong table, common area, two PS4s and two Xbox Ones
   - Need your CCU ID to check out items
2. A 250-seat movie theater
   - Movies will be shown on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays
   - Movie times are 6 and 9 p.m.
   - Admission: $2 per person, popcorn included [Must present CCU ID when buying ticket(s)]
3. A convenience store — Main Street P.O.D. Market
   - Sells a variety of items
   - Provides popcorn for students with a movie ticket
4. Four state-of-the-art meeting rooms and one conference room
5. A variety of lounge spaces where students can relax and study
6. New location for Career Services, International Programs, Multicultural Student Services, and the Counseling Outreach Advocacy Student Team (COAST)
7. Student Organization Resource Center (SORC) — a designed workspace for all student organizations to meet and create marketing materials for their organizations

Hours of operation for the Student Union are Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. to midnight and Saturday and Sundays, 10 a.m. to midnight. Students can come at any time to play in the game room, relax in one of the lounge spaces or get food from the Main Street P.O.D. Market. If you have any questions about the Lib Jackson Student Union or would like a tour of the facility, please stop by the Student Union office located in room A-103.

Student Accounts — FAQs

CCU Parent: What does your office do?
Student Accounts: Our office collects payments for offices all over campus. If a student registers for classes, it triggers a bill in our office. Housing assignments, meal plans, parking tickets, medical service fees and club dues all come through our office. Our office does not make any decisions regarding the validity of charges requested by other offices and is bound by CCU’s written refund policy. If your student feels that something is incorrect, we will be happy to help them locate the appropriate department to assist them, but we may not be able to make changes ourselves without authorization to do so.

CCU Parent: Why can’t you talk to me when I call? You want me to pay the bill, but then you won’t tell me what I’m paying for.
Student Accounts: The bill is actually in the student’s name, and according to FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), we are only allowed to discuss the bill with the student. It’s very hard for us when we have supportive parents trying to assist their student, and we can’t disclose information.

CCU Parent: Is there anything that can be done about the lack of ability to talk to us?
Student Accounts: Yes. Your student can sign you up for Parent & Guardian WebAdvisor through their WebAdvisor account. There will still be a few things that we can’t discuss, but overall it’s very helpful.

CCU Parent: Sometimes when I call I get voicemail, especially when trying to pay at payment deadlines.
Student Accounts: We love to talk to our parents and students. One thing we enjoy is when students start questioning their bills; it shows that they are paying attention and learning life skills to help them when they graduate. There are nine permanent staff members in Student Accounts, and our student body currently numbers almost 10,000. Usually, our staff is adequate to handle the daily volume of calls and e-mails, but at cancellation times, our office is overflowing. Please be assured that we stay and return all phone calls and e-mails prior to our cancellation process on those days. If your call goes to voice mail, please leave a message and include your area code with the phone number. Please feel free to contact us at any time!

For additional information visit our website at coastal.edu/studentaccounts.