**Dates to Remember!**

- 11/5  RSO General Meeting
- 11/9-11/10 Annual Campout
- 11/17 Kyle Field Clean Up

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**Changes in TAMU Policy Regarding First Year Grade Exclusions and Q-drops**

Over the summer President Loftin enacted changes to student policy governing First Year Grade Exclusions and Q-drops. These changes were initiated by the Student Senate and were reviewed and approved by the Faculty Senate.

Beginning at 5:00 PM, Friday, August 23, 2013, the following changes to First Year Grade Exclusion and Q-drop policy will occur:

1. Students will no longer be able to request First Year Grade Exclusions.
2. Students will be granted the lesser of:
   - four Q-drops for coursework taken at Texas A&M University or
   - a total of 6 drops for undergraduate coursework taken at any state-funded institution of higher education in Texas
3. The q-drop deadline will be extended from the 50th class day to the 60th class day during the fall and spring semesters.

Students are encouraged to work with their academic advisors to determine whether or not they wish to use First Year Grade Exclusion and to prepare and submit appropriate paperwork prior to the change date.

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**Continuing Student Scholarship Application is Up!**

https://scholarships.tamu.edu

Below is a listing of all the dept/colleges that participate with our one application:

- Scholarships & Financial Aid
- College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
  - Department of Agricultural Economics
  - Department of Entomology
  - Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences
  - Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
  - Department of Horticultural Sciences
- College of Education & Human Development
- College of Engineering
  - Department of Health and Kinesiology
  - Department of Aerospace Engineering
  - Department of Chemical Engineering
  - Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
  - Department of Engineering Technology & Industrial Distribution
  - Department of Mechanical Engineering
  - Engineering Study Abroad
- College of Geosciences
- College of Science
  - Department of Chemistry
  - Department of Information & Operations Management
- Mays Business School
- Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Department of English
- International Student Services
- Study Abroad Programs Office
- Texas A&M Foundation

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**Words of Wisdom**

“We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.”

~ Jesse Owens

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**Greetings from Erin…**

Howdy Ags!

Who would have thought that November would get here this quickly? Mid-terms are over, pre-registration for spring classes begins soon, and final exams are just around the corner. Even though you have busy schedules, now is a great time to take a step back and put this semester into perspective. What are some of the things you have been doing this semester that are moving you closer to achieving your goals? What are some action items that you can focus on to better achieve these goals? Perhaps you will need to plan a study abroad program, apply for an internship, or are simply looking for ways to involve yourself more at Texas A&M and the Bryan/College Station community. Whatever your goals may be, there are a number of resources on campus that are here to assist you. Have a wonderful month!

Thanks and Gig ‘em!

Erin Fisk
Regents’ Scholars Assistant Coordinator

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**Deadline February 1, 2013**
It’s easy to pass off Ferris Beuller (famed for his Day Off) as the ultimate slacker, however most of us have a lot to learn from dear Ferris.

**Do Your Research.**

Ferris was no dummy. When he decided to take on a big project (his day off, of course), he planned. He prepared. He researched. He chose the day, selected his accomplices, and even worked up a very believable illness (complete with clammy hands). And because of his preparation, his schemes were (mostly) successful. And that, my friends, is why you should study up before you write your midterm papers.

**Take Risks.**

Sure, Ferris planned carefully, but he also knew when to take a risk or two. (Like visiting Wrigley Field where he ended up on national TV, or dancing on that float at a parade near his dad’s office.) I’m not going to recommend you borrow a Ferrari without asking, but I do advocate taking risks that would improve your life—like trying out a daunting class, finally asking your crush out, or studying abroad in a foreign country. Ferris would do it.

**Be Cultured.**

A wise teacher once said, “The point of an education is to get the joke.” And oh, that is true. (Example: I can’t tell you HOW many jokes I catch on the Simpsons that I would have missed without paying attention in English class.) I believe Ferris would agree. He did not skip school simply to take in a movie. Oh no! He visited real, meaningful venues like the Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Board of Trade. He experienced lasting parts of our culture. So be like Ferris, and next time you’re trying to think of a way to spend a Thursday afternoon, hit a museum instead of a Starbucks. So you too may “get the joke.”

**Network.**

Networking will get you far, both in and out of school. Ferris was so tapped in to his high school’s web of students that no sooner did he show up “sick” than the whole school knew—they were doing a “Save Ferris” fundraiser by the end of his day off. So if you want to open up potential job opportunities early on, get to know your peers, your professors, and others in your industry.

**Occasionally, Take a Day Off.**

Work hard in school, at work, and at your relationships, but every now and then you need to give yourself a break. Take a Saturday to just enjoy the fresh air, see the sights, and do something you’ve always wanted to do.

Office hours—that little block of time during which your professor is actually available to talk to you, one-on-one, about (almost) anything you want. Dropping in for just a few minutes could be the best use of your time this week (and next week… and the week after…). Here’s why…

1. **You Want an A.** If you want to get an A in a course, attending your professor’s office hours can be one of the easiest ways to get there. Here you finally have the time (and smaller group or even one-on-one setting) to ask the professor questions. Discuss problems you are having in the class, get suggestions for how/where/what to study and hey, if you’re feeling brave, ask some questions about the upcoming test.

2. **You’re Applying for a Scholarship… or Med School.** Guess what scholarships and med schools both want? Letters of recommendation. How can you get a good one if you’re sitting in a lecture-hall-sea of faces? Well, you probably can’t. Spending one-on-one time getting to know your professor will make him or her more likely to be comfortable writing you one of these letters at the end of the semester. They’ll know what kind of student you are, what kind of person you are, and hopefully feel a friendship towards you that makes them want to help.

3. **You Might Learn to Keep Your Eyes Open.** If you’re having trouble staying awake in class, one sure-fire way to keep yourself alert is to make sure the professor knows your name. You’re not going to want to doze off if there’s potential that your grade could suffer—or you could get called out in the middle of class. Not the most fun way, maybe, but certainly effective!

4. **You’ll Meet New People.** You may be attending office hours for other reasons (like to get in the running for an internship, for example) but you could be surprised how enjoyable they can be. You may find yourself enjoying your newfound friendship (or mentee-ship) with your professor, and if his/her office hours are popular, you’ll meet other like-minded people from similar courses. The conversations that break out during these more casual meetings can be a lot of fun.

5. **You… Um… Still Want an A.** Let’s say you’ve been attending office hours for a few weeks, clearly making an effort in the class, and you mess up on a test. Office hours are the perfect opportunity to discuss this discrepancy with your professor—whether you’re hoping for a curved grade or just need help figuring out what went wrong, this is the time and place to discuss it.

Oh, and if you did something stupid like sleeping through a test, you’re more likely to get some kind of forgiveness from a professor you know than from one who’s never even noticed you in class.


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**Regents’ Scholars Organization Fall 2012 Schedule of Events**

**November:**
- RSO 3rd General Meeting (November 5th)
- RSO Annual Camp-out (November 9th to 10th)
- Kyle Field Clean Up (November 17th)*

**December:**
- Nursing Home (December 1st)
- RSO 4th General Meeting (December 3rd)
- Extreme board meeting (Date TBA)

Additional details pertaining to these events will be communicated out to Regents’ Scholars as the semester progresses.
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- **November 2012**

- **RSO Annual Campout**
- **FOOTBALL @ Mississippi St.**
- **FOOTBALL @ Alabama**
- **Brazos Valley Worldfest**

- **rsotable:**
  - 4: VOLLEYBALL vs. Arkansas
  - 5: RSO General Meeting
  - 6: MSC OPAS Presents Carol Burnett
  - 7: Student Senate Meeting
  - 8: Preregistration for 2013 spring semester.
  - 9: Singing Cadets Football Weekend Concert
  - 10: Game Day Open House
  - 11: Whoop! For Troops
  - 12: MCS OPAS Presents Carol Burnett
  - 13: Whoop! For Troops
  - 14: Student Senate Meeting
  - 15: Preregistration for 2013 spring semester.
  - 16: Singing Cadets Football Weekend Concert
  - 17: Game Day Open House
  - 18: elephantwalk:
  - 19: elephantwalk:
  - 20: elephantwalk:
  - 21: elephantwalk:
  - 22: Thanksgiving holiday.
  - 23: Midnight Yell Practice for the Missouri Game
  - 24: Game Day Open House
  - 25: Student Senate Meeting
  - 26: Student Senate Meeting
  - 27: Student Senate Meeting
  - 28: Student Senate Meeting
  - 29: Student Senate Meeting
  - 30: Student Senate Meeting

- **Events:**
  - Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Opens
  - MSC OPAS Presents...Pride and Prejudice
  - MEDALS Conference
  - VOLLEYBALL vs. Alabama
  - Last Day to Q-Drop
  - RSO Annual Campout
  - Brazos Valley Worldfest
  - RSO Annual Campout
  - Brazos Valley Worldfest
  - Game Day Open House
  - Corps March-In - Sam Houston State
  - FOOTBALL vs. Sam Houston State
  - Kyle Field Clean Up
  - Game Day Open House
  - Corps March-In - Missouri
  - FOOTBALL vs. Missouri
  - No Transit Service
  - No Transit Service
  - No Transit Service

- **Holidays:**
  - 11-11 Day
  - 11-11 Day
  - 11-11 Day
  - Thanksgiving holiday.
  - Thanksgiving holiday.
  - Thanksgiving holiday.
  - Thanksgiving holiday.

- **Remembrance Days:**
  - Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day.
  - Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day.
  - Bonfire 1999 Remembrance Day.

- **AIDS Awareness Week:**
  - AIDS Awareness Week
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