REGENTS’ REVIEW

CATCH THE AGGIE SPIRIT AT GIG ‘EM WEEK 2007!

Gig ‘Em Week is Aggieland’s official Week of Welcome. The various Gig ‘Em Week educational and social events are sponsored by university departments, colleges, student organizations, residence halls, and community members and are designed to give Aggies an opportunity to learn more about the campus, each other, and college life in general. Currently enrolled students who participate become eligible for prizes, free food, and gain valuable knowledge, insight, and connections.

Gig ‘Em Week is coordinated by the Office of New Student Programs and takes place just before each Fall Semester at Texas A&M University. This year’s schedule of Gig ‘Em Week events is available on-line at studentlife.tamu.edu/nsp/GEW/schedule.htm. Regents’ Scholars may also pick up a Gig ‘Em Week schedule at Residence Hall check-in.

FUN TIMES AND FREE STUFF: AGGIELAND MARKET 2007 OPENS AUGUST 24TH

Aggieland Market is a day-long vendor fair held during Gig ‘Em Week that combines fun activities with free giveaways, door prizes and coupons from dozens of local restaurants and stores. All Texas A&M students are invited to come see what local businesses, agencies, services and university departments have to offer to you. For more information, please contact agoss@tamu.edu or call 979-845-1741.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2007
11:00am to 2:00pm
SUL ROSS STATUE AREA/ACADEMIC PLAZA

MSC OPEN HOUSE

Don’t miss A&M’s largest student organization recruiting event. Explore leadership in organizations serving Texas A&M, including MSC committees. 200 or more student organizations can recruit members. ALL students are welcome to this event held in the MSC and G. Rollie White Coliseum! Recognized Student Organizations can purchase tables at the MSC Box Office.

IMPORTANT DATES

Regents’ Scholars Orientation
August 20, 2007
7:00-9:00pm
The Zone at Kyle Field
Check-in begins at 6:00 pm
Attendance is mandatory
Late-comers will not be permitted

Regents’ Scholars Fall Reception
August 26, 2007
following Freshman Convocation
3rd Floor, Reed Arena

MSC Open House
September 2, 2007
1:00-6:00pm
University Center Complex

Gig’Em Week
August 20-26, 2007
http://studentlife.tamu.edu/nsp/gew/

Freshman Convocation
August 26, 2007
2:30pm
Reed Arena
http://www.tamu.edu/freshmanconvocation

First Day of Fall Semester Classes
August 27, 2007

Engineering Welcome
(Engineering Regents’ Scholars only)
Thursday, August 30, 2007
5:00-7:00 pm
Mosher Hall - Studio 12*
*Studio 12 is located in the basement of the Commons
How maroon is your wardrobe?
Send a picture of you in your aggie gear for the next Regents' Review.

**ADVISOR'S CORNER**
Kathleen Speed, Lecturer  
Center for Academic Enhancement

**Hit the Ground Running….**

…Is the mantra that the students enrolled in my section of CAEN 101 hear at the beginning of every semester. While it’s still summer and thoughts of classes and exams are probably the last thing on your mind, it’s never too early to begin thinking about strategies for academic success at A&M!

Hit the ground running the first day of class! On Day 1, your first round of tests will be about four weeks away, waiting until the week of the exam to begin reading the text, reviewing notes from class, practicing problems, memorizing formulas, and just plain learning the material may be too late for the majority of students. Why? You’ve heard it before, but I’ll say it again, college is much more difficult than high school!

I’m sure you’ve received lots of advice as to how to succeed in college. What follows is a list that was generated from veteran second semester freshmen and sophomore students. Here is their advice:

- Attend class
- Get a calendar and plan out your study time
- Review your notes before and after class
- Read every night
- When you read: outline the chapter, write in the margins, and turn headings into questions
- Attend SI, tutoring, help desks, and instructor/TA led review sessions
- Organize a study group
- When you need clarification on a topic: talk to your professor
- Don’t be embarrassed to ask for help with personal matters
- The night before the exam is for reviewing and not for learning new material
- Get a good night’s sleep before an exam
- There is no such thing as over-learning or over-studying
- Exercise and watch what you eat
- Find the balance between academics and the “other education”

The above is just a sampling of what these successful students advise, but hopefully helpful in getting you to think about what you need to do in order to succeed.

Learning and studying for all of your classes does not fall into the one-size-fits-all category. What this really means is that the way you studied in high school may not work in college. Different classes may require you to use different methods when learning the material. Experiment and try different approaches to reading, note-taking, and studying.

Unfortunately many students do not realize that they are in academic trouble until they get their exam grades. So, it is also important to continually monitor your learning. Take the advice of a famous TV talk show and ask yourself the following question: “How’s it working for you?” If you are not happy with your answer, then change or modify what you are doing. Waiting until the night before the exam to ask that question for the first time may be too late. If you don’t know how to change or modify what you are doing or you need help, ask your professors, academic advisors, and other professionals on campus. We are here to help.

Today’s the day! So don’t wait another minute, hit the ground running.

**JULY OPINION WINNER**

What are you most excited about being here at Texas A&M University?

Theresa Sendejo ’11:
I am most excited about the new transition into college life. The opportunity to gain independence and learn to manage my own life is very intriguing. I believe TAMU is an experience worthwhile because I have the chance to evolve in to a whole new person, but with some of my great qualities from the past.

I also know that eventually, I will be able to come back home in Houston to give presentations to high school students in my community who never thought they would be able to get far in life. I want to be that encouragement especially since I grew up just like those students, thinking there was no hope. Texas A&M University gives me the chance to begin a new journey, which will not only help me, but also those within my family and community. So mostly I am excited about being able to support more people in their dreams and goals in life.
**DOLLAR SENSE**

The fall semester is fast approaching. Many of you are wondering how, when and if you will receive a refund from your financial aid. Financial aid will begin posting toward your Tuition and Fee statement on 8/17/07. Once all funds are applied to your fee statement and if there is an excess of funds, a refund will be issued for the amount.

If you would like your refund sent directly to your bank account and not mailed to you, visit the AggiE-Refund website at http://myrecord.tamu.edu and sign up for direct deposit.

You should use the refund check to purchase books or any other living expenses you may have. If you still owe and need funds before tuition is due on 8/22/07, remember that Student Financial Aid can offer the Emergency Tuition and Fee Loan. You can apply for this loan online at http://financialaid.tamu.edu/stlapp.

*Note: A Master Promissory Note must be signed to ensure the emergency loan posts to your fee statement in a timely manner. After you purchase your books, you should take the remaining amount and divide it by four (for the months in the fall semester). This will give you the amount of money you have to spend on living expenses each month.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to call 979.845.3236 or email financialaid@tamu.edu.

**Refund Seminar: Make Your Dollar Stretch and Stay Out of Debt!**

- Monday, August 20, 3:30 pm- 5:00 pm @ Rudder Tower, Room 301
- Wednesday, August 22, 10 am- 11:00 pm @ Rudder Tower, Room 501

You have received your financial aid refund check, now what? This seminar will discuss strategies for managing money wisely while in school. Learn to set goals, budget how you live, and develop good spending and saving habits.

**WANTED: YOUR OPINION!**

Now that you are in college, how do you plan on improving your study habits?

Answer this question and be entered into a drawing to win Texas A&M gear. Send your answer with REGENTS’ REVIEW OPINION POLL in the subject line.

Send to: Drew Smith
drew.smith@tamu.edu
WORDS OF WISDOM
Regents’ Scholarship Peer Mentors

One piece of advice you would give every Regents’ Scholar

Rosa Ardines Get to know your teachers
Virginia Baker Go to class!
Krystella Bynum Learn time management
Karina Castillo Don’t let homesickness run you over…time heals everything!!!
Sade Dawson Make good decisions for yourself, because what you do now will shape your future.
Manuel Hernandez Always leave plenty of time to study
Alex De Luna Do NOT procrastinate
Ana Garcia Study, Study, Study
Stevee Habel Keep up with you class assigned reading- it WILL catch up to you during exams!
Rosa Hernandez Learn how to study effectively, because it’s more valuable to know how to study and not how much you study
Antony Huot Spend wisely
David Marquez Be prepared for that first wave of tests. If you don’t do well on the first set of exams…IT’S OK! You now have a gauge of how the prof tests, and you’ll be ready for the next ones.
Jennifer Munoz Work comes before play…but don’t be all work and no play (:)
Becky Ordaz Go to class. It seems like a simple concept, but people come up with so many excuses to skip class. Unless you are ill or have an emergency, just GO.
Chris Reyes College tests are way harder than high school tests…meaning DO NOT and I repeat DO NOT study 30 minutes before the test.
Jacob Salazar Make college station your home.
Jenni Stastry Join an organization!
Gary Young Do not procrastinate…please.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...WHAT’S REALLY IMPORTANT?

Globalization, politics, health, security, environmental quality biofuels, and technology are rapidly transforming our world.

In the future, only one thing is certain – the world will confront humanity with still more surprises, opportunities and problems. Students educated today must acquire the knowledge and skills to grasp and manage the unpredictable world of tomorrow.

At A&M, we have over 150 majors. Each major teaches a variety of educational theories, tools and skills. Each major is convinced that it is the best major at A&M.

So, what is really important? I think there are five basic components of a successful life.

1. Maturity – taking responsibilities for one’s own actions. Some of us “get it” when we are 14 and some of us will be 65 before “it” happens. There is no class at A&M that teaches this concept; but to be successful, you better develop it.
2. Moral Compass – being honest and fair. We cannot teach students to be honest. Mom and Dad had to make that commitment years long ago.
3. Work Ethic – another non-teachable trait. Can you give an honest day’s work and can you “make it happen” without others pushing or pulling you.
4. Problem Solving – a skill you must practice, practice, practice! Put yourself into situations where you have to solve problems. Try different options and do not give up.
5. Learning to Work Within a Diverse World – Not everyone is like you and certainly, they do not think what you think. Learn to listen, think, communicate and respect people that are not like you.

So, what’s really important? Look in the mirror!