Howdy!

Welcome to the July issue of the Regents’ Review.

As you begin your career as a Regents’ Scholar at Texas A&M University, I would like to encourage you to take advantage of valuable information by reading the Regents’ Review and checking your TAMU email on a daily basis (this is how our office will communicate with you!)

As we prepare for your arrival on-campus, I would like to remind you of the requirements of the scholarship:

- Live On-Campus
- Attend the Regents’ Scholars Orientation Meeting on August 18, 2008 from 7:00-9:00 PM required, 9:00-10:00 PM optional (more information will be mailed to you soon!)
- Participate in an Academic Success Program (your program is determined by your college)
- Have financial need

In addition to these very important requirements, there are additional dates you should mark on your calendar:

- August 17, 2008- Move-In Day
- August 18-24, 2008 Gig’ Em Week (you will need to stay on-campus during the week to participate in the activities. For more information, visit http://studentlife.tamu.edu/nsp/GEW/)
- August 24, 2008- Freshman Convocation and Regents’ Scholars Fall Reception

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks & Gig’ em,

Suzanne Sealey
Regents’ Scholars Coordinator

Meet Your Regents’ Scholars Program Staff!

Name: Suzanne Sealey
Title: Regents’ Scholars Coordinator
Email: ssealey@tamu.edu
Phone Number: 979.845.3978
Hometown/State: San Antonio, TX
High School: Winston Churchill HS

Enjoys working with students because of seeing the transition from scared fish to students who take ownership of Texas A&M and of their futures.

Biggest fear as a freshman: overall failure...from finding a solid group of friends to making the grades; being away from home for the first time.

Favorite aspect of A&M: the friendliness...

Best piece of advice received as a student: “Don’t hesitate to seek the answers to your questions!”

Name: Drew Smith
Title: Regents’ Scholars Assistant Coordinator
Email: drew.smith@tamu.edu
Phone Number: 979.845.6875
Hometown/State: Detroit, MI
High School: Stevenson HS

Enjoys working with students because of the amazing potential that is in every student!!!

Biggest fear as a freshman: Going to school with ≈32,000 strangers!

Favorite aspect of A&M: Howdy!

Best piece of advice received as a student: “Get to know your professors: sit in front of the class (unless they spit); introduce yourself; take advantage of office hours...make yourself stand out to them!”

Answer the Opinion Poll on the top of page 3 to win A&M goodies!
Gig ‘em Week 2008 starts Sunday August 17th and lasts through Sunday August 24th.

Gig ‘Em Week is Aggieland’s official Week of Welcome. Gig ‘Em Week provides students an opportunity to learn more about the campus, each other, and college life in general through a series of educational and social events sponsored by university departments, colleges, student organizations, residence halls, and community members.

Events include: Ice Cream Social, Pizza Taste-Off, Aggiefest, Freshmen Convocation, etc.

You will receive a stamp-card at your Regents’ Scholars Orientation. Collect all of the stamps and win a prize!

REGENTS’ SCHOLARS PEER MENTORS

Howdy Class of 2012! We are pleased to introduce to you the Regents’ Scholars Peer Mentors. The mentors will help you during the transition from high school to college.

You have the opportunity to get to know each of the peer mentors before you even arrive on campus! Profiles of each peer mentor are available on the Regents’ Review site https://financialaid.tamu.edu/regentsreview; click on “Regents’ Peer Mentors.” We encourage you to look through the profiles and see who is from your hometown. They are available for you to ask questions, help you find campus resources and to be a friend.

You will be assigned a peer mentor during orientation; however, you may contact any or all of the peer mentors.
**(MONEYWISE AGGIE)**

**ELECTRONIC DIRECT DEPOSIT:**

If financial assistance exceeds the student’s total tuition and fee bill, a refund will be issued in either electronic or paper form. Your financial aid refund is to be spent on educational expenses, including textbooks and living expenses for the entire semester.

Electronic direct deposit of refund checks is much faster than receiving hard checks via the U.S. Postal Service. Once signed up for this service, all refunds due to the student will be electronically deposited into the bank account that the student designates. **Students may sign up for this service at myrecord.tamu.edu** and select AggieE-Refund under Financial Resources and speed up the refund process by as much as a week.

It is highly encouraged that you open a checking account of your own while in college. There are many banks local to College Station and Bryan, as well as some that are located in cities across Texas and offer free student checking. Any refund money you may receive can be send directly to this account for you to use for education related expenses throughout the semester.

**(FISH CAMP)**

Every year nine hundred counselors willingly give up time and effort in order to welcome Texas A&M’s greatest and most important tradition: The Freshmen Class. Through a 4-day orientation program held in Palestine, TX, freshmen are given the opportunity to learn Aggie Traditions, ease their way into college life, develop leadership skills and create bonds that will last a lifetime.

You can register online at [http://fishcamp.tamu.edu](http://fishcamp.tamu.edu). Online registration will be open until July 7, 2008, or until sessions are full. Financial assistance is available.

As a Regents’ Scholar, you may register for Sessions A-F. Session G interferes with your requirement to attend the Regents’ Scholar Orientation on August 18, 2008.

For more information, please contact the Fish Camp office at (979) 845-1627.

**(HEALTH INSURANCE)**

**General Information**

Health insurance coverage is important while a student is in college. Student Health Services is an ambulatory clinic and does not provide major hospitalization or treatment outside of the clinic.

Please visit [http://shs.tamu.edu/hlthservices.htm](http://shs.tamu.edu/hlthservices.htm) for more information about services that are provided. Different sources provide health insurance to students. Sources of health insurance are:

- Group insurance
- Parent’s health insurance
- Student’s individual policy
- A Student Health Policy

**Insurance Policies Available**

The University has endorsed a Student Health Policy and Graduate Student Policy. This insurance is available to all students. You may want to review this policy and compare your current coverage when considering health insurance. This policy may be useful when:

- The student reaches the age of attainment on a parent’s policy, meaning they are no longer covered
- The student gets married
- The student becomes legally independent
- The student is studying abroad.

Any Texas A&M University student can purchase the policy. This policy can be purchased locally through:

Dunlap Financial Services  
111 East University Suite 110  
College Station, TX 77841  
(979) 260-9632

Policy information is available on the Internet for undergraduate students at [http://www.tamuinsurance.com](http://www.tamuinsurance.com).

Please visit [http://shs.tamu.edu/index.html](http://shs.tamu.edu/index.html) for more information.
If you have already attended your New Student Conference, you probably met your Academic Advisor when you registered for Fall classes. Your Academic Advisor is an important resource person when it comes to your academic career at Texas A&M.

It is very important that you take the time to get to know your Academic Advisor, whose role is to help see you through your degree plan, from start to finish. When you arrive on campus in the Fall, spend time getting to know your Advisor and letting her or him get to know you.

Your Academic Advisor needs to know you well enough to give you advice and direction and help you create a degree plan that best meets your interests and needs. You will need to invest in a relationship with your Advisor in order for that to happen.

Wise words from a fellow Aggie: “Getting to know my academic advisor has been one of the best choices I made, because he is well-informed about the processes that will help me succeed and is always able to answer all my questions. He is also very welcoming and this always helps in times when I am frustrated. It’s great.”

-Roxi, ’08

Did You Know???

July is national ice cream month…

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month!