

CENTRE Parents

Spring 2010

Report from President Roush

Dear Centre Parents:



As I reported to the Centre College Board of Trustees at the annual January meeting, the College continues to make remarkable progress in student retention and advancement of campus construction projects. Below is a summary of the reports that were presented at the meeting. I think you will agree with me, that it has been a good year.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Stephanie Fabritius, vice president of academic affairs and dean of the College, reported that retention at Centre continues to grow stronger. The first-year student retention figure is currently above 95 percent, as it was this time last year for first-year students.

She also reported that the College successfully applied for and received funding from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for Asian Studies initiatives. The \$250,000 grant will allow the College to have a post-doctoral teaching fellowship in Mandarin/Chinese Studies for the next three years, advancing the College's strategic plan goal of expanding global citizenship initiatives. The grant will also provide subsidies for students studying in Asia, will allow for faculty to study internationally to enhance their global awareness, and will assist with the staffing in the Office of Global Citizenship.

In addition, it was reported that the College is moving forward on the implementation of its recently funded Mellon Grant. The College received a grant of \$452,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which will be used to establish a Mellon Global Fellows program for faculty. During the first year of the program, the global citizenship committee will collaborate with the faculty development committee to select 20 Mellon

Global Fellows from among those faculty members applying. Working groups, consisting of four faculty members per group, have been selected in the areas of East Asian Studies, European Studies, Latin American Studies and African-American and African Studies. In addition, the opportunity will be opened up to form one additional working group in a non-regional studies area of global citizenship.

Fabritius also reported that construction of the addition to Young Hall remains in full swing and is moving forward. The new two-story addition to Young Hall will add 45,000 square feet of space to this campus facility dedicated to instruction and research in the sciences.

ADMISSION

Carey Thompson, vice president of enrollment and student planning services, reported that early action applications were up 21 percent and overall applications were up 10 percent (now at 11%). In addition, campus visits are up 18 percent over the year ending December 31, 2009. The College looks forward to enrolling a first-year class of 360 in the coming fall term.

FUNDRAISING

Richard Trollinger, vice president for college relations, reported that at mid-year, gifts totaling \$5.1 million have been received from 5,540 donors. Alumni participation in annual giving to the College is nearing 40 percent, while parent participation already exceeds 42 percent. While the overall number of alumni donors (3,943) is about the same as at this time last year, the number of young alumni - those who have graduated in the past decade - is up somewhat. Members of the development staff feel that alumni participation is on track to reach its goal of 60 percent by June 30. As noted by *Forbes* magazine recently, Centre has what are regarded to be the most "fiercely loyal alumni in the world."

PLANNING

Clarence Wyatt, Claude D. Pottinger Professor of History, special assistant to the president, and chief planning officer, reported recent activity on a number of planning initiatives regarding the College's CentreForward strategic plan. Discussion has begun on the development of new minors as a result of the above-mentioned Mellon grant. An ad hoc committee is also exploring a wide variety of issues related to the growth of the student body now and in the future. Finally, community-based learning initiatives were discussed. This academic year, the College welcomed a community-based learning coordinator, working under AmeriCorps VISTA, to help faculty members incorporate community-based learning techniques and opportunities in the classroom.

The next scheduled meeting of the Centre Board of Trustees will be on the College's campus on April 14-15. In the meantime, I thank you for sharing your children with us and look forward to seeing you on campus again.

Sincerely,

John A. Roush
President

Increase in Bandwidth Due Soon

From: Art Moore, Director of Information Technology Services

The campus connection to the Internet will soon double in size. More precisely, it will grow from a 45 megabits per second connection speed to 100 megabits.

Early in Fall Term, soon after students had returned to campus, there was a noticeable increase in response time for processing videos and image files when students interacted with those more popular social networking sites like *Facebook* as well as during the viewing of clips from *YouTube*. The network had to buffer the contents of individual clips because of the extraordinary amount of traffic being processed. Videos would temporarily freeze waiting for additional images to load and play.

Not only students but faculty also commented on the anguishingly slow response of requests for web site pages and news feeds being used during class presenta-

tions and student exercises. The fact is that, though most noticed the symptoms while viewing video feeds, all traffic into the Centre network was grinding to a very slow crawl. An analysis of the traffic flow indicated that, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. the following morning, the bandwidth available for such activity was saturated.

A similar analysis conducted last March gave no hint that the bandwidth needed to be expanded. A modest but steady growth over the previous two years pointed to the likely need to expand the bandwidth prior to the opening of the academic year 2010-2011. That conclusion was consistent with the scheduled expiration of the existing contract for bandwidth service with AT&T, scheduled to end in March, 2010. The incredibly heavy use at the beginning of the current academic year caused College officials to rethink that strategy.

Cento articles, numerous meetings between vendors and College officials, much grumbling and lots of anticipation have all been part of the process. Working with a new corporate partner, Centre technical staff has been preparing for the switchover which should be complete by Spring Break.

Admissions for Fall Looks Good

From: Carey Thompson, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Planning Services

Last fall, the 333 students making up the Centre College Class of 2013 broke several admission records. And the shattering of admission records has continued - this winter has seen several application records broken by those hoping to be part of the Centre Class of 2014. Applications for this fall's incoming first-year class are up 11.72 percent over last year. The College received 2,230 applications, an all-time record. Two reasons for this increase are the Brown Fellows Program ("full-ride-plus" fellowships that cover tuition, room and board, four summer enrichment experiences and more) and the addition of lacrosse to Centre's intercollegiate athletic offerings.

Early Action applications are up 20 percent this year, and Regular Decision applications are up five percent. For the fourth year in a row, Centre received more out-of-state applications than in-state. Out-of-state applications are up 16 percent, while those from Kentucky students are up 9.8 percent.

News from Campus Counseling Services

From: Kathy Miles, Director of Counseling Services

In January of this year, a major study of mental health problems in American high school and college students was released, and has since made headlines across the country. Dr. Jean Twenge of San Diego State University is the lead author of a research group from five universities, who analyzed data from the responses of over 75,000 young people on the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI). The results have indicated an alarming rise in mental health problems in a number of categories. Although there are critics of the study, the fact remains that college counseling centers across the country are seeing a rise in demand for their services. That is the case at Centre as well. We want our Centre parents to know that we continuously evaluate the need for mental health services, and how we are responding. Some updates for you:

1. Centre annually participates in National Mental Health Screening in October, and National Eating Disorder Screening in February. Both of these events allow Centre students to complete a brief nationally recognized screening instrument, which assesses risk for various forms of depression, anxiety, and eating disorders. Students are given feedback about the screening results, and, if indicated, recommended to seek counseling.

2. We closely evaluate our services each year, and make changes when indicated. This academic year, after assessing the utilization of our off-campus services, we brought all counseling services on campus at Parsons Student Health Center. Our results to date indicate a much higher usage rate, doubtless related to availability and a closer linkage with other campus services. Student appointments are always scheduled around class and lab schedules, and, as much as possible, around athletic practice schedules as well.

3. Resident Assistants and Directors are trained to recognize mental health and substance abuse problems, and to refer students for assistance “sooner rather than later.” The prevailing message is to encourage early intervention before problems increase and affect stu-

dents’ ability to remain in school. This is our second year for RAs and RDs to be trained in QPR, a nationally recognized Suicide Prevention Program, developed by Dr. Paul Quinnett, a psychologist from Spokane, Washington. The program has also been made available to other students, staff, and faculty on campus. This fall, fraternity and sorority house managers took advantage of the training. QPR teaches all who take the course to recognize the signs of suicidal thinking, and to know how to intervene, give support, and refer to appropriate professional resources. If you would like information about the availability of QPR in your community, the website address is www.qprinstitute.com.

4. In all of the programs and services provided by Campus Counseling Services, we attempt to assist students in developing life skills and coping strategies that will be available to them beyond their life at Centre. We consider the college degree to be only part of what your student takes with him or her after four years. Knowing how to handle stress and loss, knowing how to utilize resources and seek support during difficult times, and recognizing the warning signs of anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and destructive relationships, are skills they will need for the rest of their lives.

We are always open to your input about needed programs on campus. Do not hesitate to contact me with your suggestions or questions. My phone number is (859) 238-5740, and my email address is kathy.miles@centre.edu. Our very best to you and all of your family for a great spring, and congratulations to those of you who have a graduating senior.

News from Career Services

From: Deb Jones, Director of Career Services

During the summer and fall, rising seniors who are applying to graduate school will be taking the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). This is the exam that most students take to apply to graduate school (except for professional schools such as law, medicine, etc. and MBA programs). The GRE General Test is a computer adaptive test (CAT). That means that the second question, and each subsequent question, is determined by whether or not the answer to the first question was correct. According to Educational Testing Service, this method determines ability using fewer questions. The

GRE contains three sections: Verbal Reasoning (VR), Quantitative Reasoning (QR), and Analytical Writing (AW). The VR section consists of one 30-minute section with 30 questions. These questions can be antonyms, analogies, sentence completions, and reading comprehension. The QR section currently has one 45-minute section with 28 questions. These questions can be arithmetic (elementary operations, number line, estimation, percent, ratio, rates, absolute value, and property of integers), algebra (functions of graphs, coordinate geometry, solving equations and inequalities, modeling, and solving word problems), geometry, and data analysis. The AW is 75 minutes and consists of two tasks: (1) issue (45 minutes), and (2) analyzing an argument (30 minutes). In addition, there is generally at least one section that is not scored but is used to re-search test questions. The test is offered at 600 test centers worldwide on a continuous basis with a pool of questions in continuous use. For information on the GRE, including how to prepare, go to www.gre.org. For other information on graduate schools, go to www.centre.edu/careers and click on "Graduate School" on the menu. Students may also meet with their career counselor for help with applying to graduate school.

What Are Your Students Doing This Summer?

Career Services likes to know what students are doing in the summer, including internships, research, jobs, travel, etc. to help future students plan, so please drop Sherri Gowins an email at sherri.gowins@centre.edu to let us know how your students are planning to spend their summer.

Career Services Invitation!

Career Services would like to invite you to review our monthly newsletter! You can either receive this newsletter via email at the beginning of each month or you can access it online. To read issues online, go to www.centre.edu/careers and click on "Parents." To receive the newsletter in your inbox each month, just send your email address to deb.jones@centre.edu with a request to be added to CareerNotes: Parents Edition.

Flu Update & News

From: Kathy Jones, Director of Parsons Student Health Center

The question of the year for Parsons Student Health Center staff has been, "How is the flu at Centre?" Throughout the 2008-2009 academic year eighteen students tested positive for the flu at Parsons. April of 2009 brought new challenges with the introduction of "swine flu," or novel H1N1, in the U.S. During the fall term of 2009, 62 Centre students tested positive for the flu at Parsons Student Health Center with record numbers of patients exhibiting flu-like symptoms. Considering the limitations of rapid influenza testing, many of those testing negative could have had the flu.

Seasonal flu usually hits campus during the third and fourth weeks of February. In February of 2010, one patient tested positive for the flu and only a few others presented with flu-like symptoms. The numbers of seasonal flu cases across the nation have been lower than usual for this time of year. Perhaps the prevention messages that saturated the media in the U.S. have been taken to heart with the result being decreased illness. Please continue to encourage your college student to follow CDC recommendations for the prevention of flu which include frequent hand washing with soap and water or alcohol based hand sanitizer, avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, avoid close contact with sick people, cover your cough, and get your vaccination. Parsons continues to offer the H1N1 vaccine free of charge with either version available, the live nasal spray or the inactivated shot.

To learn more about influenza, please visit www.cdc.gov. This website has additional information useful to the parent of a college age son or daughter. From the CDC home page, click on "travelers' health" to find recommendations for travel to specific countries. Another useful pathway would be to click on "life stages and populations," then click on "young adult." This will take you to a list of resources applicable to this population.

**The GRE will be updated
and changed in 2011 so
watch us for updates!!**

Important Housing Dates

From: Ann Young, Director of Housing

The housing/room selection process for 2010-2011 will be in full swing during the month of April. Your student will receive detailed information through email regarding sign-ups and selection dates and times.

End of the Year Closing: Residence halls and houses close at 6 p.m., Wednesday, May 19th. Underclass students participating in Commencement or invited Seniors Days guests are the only students allowed to stay on campus. All residence halls and houses close for the year at 8 p.m., Sunday, May 23rd.

Centre Students Spring into Service in 2010

From: Elizabeth Wisman, Bonner Coordinator

Centre has a long tradition of giving back to the Danville community, and this semester is no different. Through fundraising efforts and direct service, students are proving that they can make a difference.

As the weather warms up, students take their philanthropic efforts outside. A team of Centre students is working with faculty, staff, and members of the Danville community to start a campus garden. This will be an excellent way for the Centre community to learn about how to make an organic garden. The groundbreaking occurred in mid-March.

Another new project is a nutrition and exercise program for young girls called *Girls on the Go*. Each Monday, girls from local elementary schools come to campus to learn to make a healthy snack. Then, members of women's sports teams take the girls outside and teach them how fun exercise can be. To date, over 100 Centre students have helped with this program.

Students and staff raised over \$7,500 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass at the annual Bowl for Kids' Sake event. Twenty Centre students are currently Big Brothers or Big Sisters to local children. CentrePeace is currently sponsoring a clothing and household supply drive for Kentucky Refugee Ministries. All items will go to newly arrived refugees right here in our state. Numerous student groups are also planning fundraisers for Haiti earthquake relief.

Centre College has been named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement. According to recent surveys, between 75 and 80 percent of Centre students engage in community service activities consistently each semester.

For a school as academically rigorous as Centre, this is an impressive number and indicative of the passion that Centre students have for making a positive difference. Centre's holistic approach to education is what sets it apart from other institutions of higher education, and this approach makes it clear to students that giving back should be a priority.

RICE Symposium Coming Soon

On April 15, Centre College will hold the third annual Centre RICE Symposium, an event in which students present results from research projects, internships and creative endeavors. Making up the audience are professors, fellow students, alumni, staff and members of the local community. Like many academic conferences, the Symposium requires each participant to submit an abstract several weeks prior to the event. These are published in a single bound program.

During the Symposium, students present their academic works in one of four ways: paper presentations, poster presentations, exhibitions (typically for artwork), or performances. During paper presentations, students give a 12-minute talk about their research, internship experiences or other academic pursuits. Poster sessions allow students to create a large-scale visual aid to display their findings. Those wishing to showcase their art are given space to do so, and those performing musical or theatrical shows are given 12 minutes to entertain.

Update on Study Abroad

From: Milton Reigelman, Director of the Center for Global Citizenship

Because there were fewer applications for our semester programs than there have been for the past two years, we extended the deadline to apply for our semester programs in both Shanghai, China, and Merida, Mexico. We've now filled all of our "slots" for all of our semester programs. The ten abroad courses proposed for next year's CentreTerm have attracted significantly more interest than ever before. It now looks like three of the proposed trips - Israel/Jordan, Catalan (Spain and France), and Vietnam - will be "double" trips with about thirty students and two faculty members.

Winter Sports Wrap-up and Spring Sports Review

Men's Basketball

The Centre men's basketball team came up short against Eastern Mennonite University on Friday, March 5 as they fell 63-53 at Yoder Arena in Harrisonburg, VA. Centre competed in the NCAA Division III Men's Basketball Tournament for the fourth year in a row. Centre finished the season with an overall record of 18-9 and a conference record of 14-5. Centre juniors Alex Lloyd (Versailles, KY) and Amanda Stovall (Louisville, KY) were named to the 2010 SCAC All-Sportsmanship Team. Twelve men's basketball players and twelve women's basketball players were selected to the 2009-2010 squads. Centre senior Danny Noll (Ft. Mitchell, KY) has been selected to the 2010 National Association of Basketball Coaches Division III All-District Team.

Women's Basketball

The Centre women's basketball team finished the season with an overall record of 19-8 and 14-5 in the SCAC. Coming off of a six game winning streak the Centre women's basketball team was hoping to take it to seven so they could be the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference champions. The Colonels came up short though, as they fell to DePauw University 63-37 on Sunday, February 28th in the SCAC championship game in Jackson, MS.

Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving

Centre finished in 38th place overall on the men's side and tied for 47th place overall on the women's side. On Saturday, March 20, the fourth and final day of the 2010 NCAA Division III Swimming & Diving Championships, senior Meredith Angel (Campbellsville, KY) competed in the 100 m. freestyle and sophomore Colleen Maggard (Paris, KY) swam in the 200 m. backstroke, setting a school record. Maggard also set a new school record in the 200 m. freestyle at Nationals with a time of 1:54:54. Senior Hunter Hayes earned his second All-American honor in the 1-meter diving event at the 2010 NCAA Division III Swimming & Diving Championships, and senior Meredith Angel earned All-American honors there as well.

Baseball

Trailing 6-2 after five innings, the Centre College baseball team came back to defeat Miami University-Hamilton 7-6 in a non-conference game on Saturday, March 20, at Gary Wright Field in Danville. The Colonels have now won three straight games and four of their last five, for 6-8 on the season. Centre was picked to finish fifth in the East Division of the 2010 SCAC Preseason Poll.

Softball

The Centre softball team dropped games to Ohio Northern University and Birmingham Southern University on Sunday, March 21, on the second day of the Maryville College Classic in Maryville, TN. Centre lost to Ohio Northern 4-3 and fell to Birmingham Southern 5-2. Their annual March Mayhem Tournament was at home at Millennium Park on Saturday, March 13, and Sunday, March 14, and five teams participated. The Colonels opened play against Manchester College with a 10-5 win. In their second game of the day, they faced Oberlin College and won 11-3. On Sunday, March 14th, the Colonels lost their first game of the day to Manchester 3-2. In their second game, Centre got back into the winning column beating Oberlin 12-5. The Colonels won four of five games by beating Maryville College 7-5 in eight innings. The Colonels were chosen to finish fourth in the East Division of the 2010 Pre-season Poll.

Men's Golf

Heading into their first Invitational of the spring season the Centre men's golf team is ranked 15th in the nation in the NCAA Division III Head-to-Head standings, which is the highest ever ranking for the Colonels. Centre has a division record of 239-17. Junior Chris Morris (Maysville, KY) is also currently ranked eighth in the nation for Division III players. His average score is 73.26, and he has a compare record of 944-17. Versus top 25 players, Morris is 9-4. The men's golf team competed in the Jekyll Island Collegiate Invitational hosted by Oglethorpe University in Jekyll Island, GA March 19-21. The team finished the fall season ranked 21st in the NCAA Division III by Golfstat, the official ranking source of the NCAA.

Women's Golf

The Colonels competed at the Jekyll Island Collegiate Invitational, which was played at Indian Mound Golf Course, March 19-21. Sophomore Emily Bachert won the Invitational by coming from two strokes down to beat Susan Martin, the two-time Division III Champion from Methodist University. In the Colonels first match of the season, they hosted Rhodes College at Temple Hills Country Club in Franklin, TN on March 7th. Bachert won the dual match with a score of 78, and was a medalist for her play in the match. Bachert (Bowling Green, KY) is ranked number one in the country for NCAA Division III women's golfers. She has a compare record of 439-0, and her scoring average is 78.99. Versus top 25 players, she has a record of 13-0. The Colonels finished the fall season ranked 21st in Division III by Golfstat.

Men's Tennis

The Centre men's tennis team won their first match of the year as they beat Cedarville University 6-3 at home on Saturday, March 13. Despite being a young team, the men's tennis team is expecting to have an exceptional season. Four starters are returning from last season's team and eight new faces have been added to the mix. The freshman class is looking to break into the top singles positions, as well as strengthen the doubles line-up. Centre has a tough regular season schedule, but the team will be well prepared for the SCAC Tournament, which will take place in Little Rock, AR, during the last weekend of April.

Women's Tennis

The Centre women's tennis team was able to win their second match of the season as they beat Campbellsville University at home 7-2 on March 10th. The women's team will have a challenging year, but with the experienced players that are returning and with the good recruiting class that came in this year, the team will be looking to challenge for an SCAC championship. Centre lost their top two singles players from last season's team, but the squad added a couple of freshman that should make up for the losses. The Colonels are relying on a tough regular season schedule to prepare them for the SCAC Tournament at the end of April in Little Rock, AR.

Track & Field

The Centre men's and women's track teams opened their outdoor track and field season on March 20th in Memphis, TN, at the Rhodes College Open. Several NCAA Division I schools also competed in the meet. Senior Jason Parks (Louisville, KY) finished in second place in the men's 10,000 meter run after recording a time of 33:44:60. In the men's long jump, junior Chrys Jones (Harrodsburg, KY) was seventh overall after jumping 21-04.75. He also took sixth in the triple jump with a jump of 46-00.75. Senior Lauren McCafferty (Newport, KY) took eighth place in the 10,000 meter run, completing the race in 40:42:65. Junior Kasey Jackson (Joplin, MO) was 10th in the 400 meter hurdles, as she ran the race in 1:07:02. In the women's discus throw sophomore Emily Niehaus (Maineville, OH) finished in 10th after throwing 111-04. She also took third place in the hammer throw after throwing 171-03. Niehaus also had a 10th place finish in the shot put, recording a 37-11.25. Sophomore Loran Crowell (Harrodsburg, KY) placed eighth in the javelin throw after recording a 109-07.

The Colonels will next compete in their annual Centre Invitational meet on Saturday, April 3, in Danville at Farris Stadium.

A stylized graphic with the words "Happy Spring!!!" in a bold, blue, bubbly font with a white outline and a slight shadow effect.

From the Office of Parent Programs!

Centre Cooks!

Centre Cooks, the Centre Parents Association cookbook, is still available for the discounted price of just \$10.00 plus \$5.00 shipping per book. Plus, get a Centre potholder free with each purchase while supplies last.

Treat yourself, family, and friends to this fantastic cookbook with over 350 of Centre students' favorite recipes.

To place your order, call Amy Wilson in the office of parent programs at 859-238-5208, send an email to amy.wilson@centre.edu with "Cookbook" in the subject line, or return the following order form to Amy Wilson at Centre College, 600 W. Walnut Street, Danville, KY 40422.



Centre Survival

Any time is a good time to treat your student to one or more of these great packages offered exclusively through Centre Survival.

Final Exam Survival Kit - \$15

Breakfast in a Bag - \$9

Party Pack - \$35

Manicure: mini - \$18, classic - \$28

Pedicure: mini - \$30, classic - \$45

Massage: 30 min - \$40, 60 min - \$60

Centre Survival has packages for any occasion. Check out the Parents web page at http://www.centre.edu/centre_parents to print out a complete listing of services.

CENTRE PARENT COOKBOOK ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Cookbooks: _____

x \$10.00 + \$5.00 S/H = \$15.00

Total Cost: _____

____ Check payable to Centre College

____ Visa ____ MasterCard

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Centre Survival Order Form

Please give 2 days notice for all deliveries. Due to campus regulations, all deliveries are made through the campus post office, and therefore made *Monday-Friday only*.

To be delivered to: (Please Print)

Name _____

Campus Phone # (859) _____

Delivery Date _____

Message for Gift Card:

Given by:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone # (____) _____

Please fill out the order form, circling your item(s) of choice, and return it with check or money order to: Centre Survival, Janet Martin, 600 W. Walnut Street, Danville, KY 40422.

Questions? Call (859) 236-7848