

Towson Family Ties

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Home for the Holidays

Winter break is the perfect time to relax away a busy semester. But spring is not too far away, and there is no better time to start preparing for the upcoming semester! It may seem early, but considering winter break spans over a month, creating a game plan for the spring and next summer break can help your student start the new year a step ahead. So, what can you encourage your student to do to make the most of their time? Here are some things to have them look into:

1. Evaluating their current credit standing

Your student just finished a full course-load of credits and requirements. Have them write down what classes they finished, which ones they are taking in the spring, and which ones they still need. Keeping track of completed and remaining major requirements and GenEd/Core credits can save an incredible amount of time and prevent stress for future semesters! The Degree Progress Report on MyTU is a perfect place to start! Have your student visit “<https://inside.towson.edu>”, click on “Towson Online Services/PeopleSoft”, and log in.

2. Look into summer work and internships

Although it may seem too early to be lining up things for the summer, this is actually when most applications are due! Whether your student is interested in completing research, doing a career-related internship, or looking to make some summer money, encourage them to start figuring out their options. For university-based undergraduate summer programs, applications are usually due in February, so this is especially important. If letters of recommendations are needed, have your student ask for them in advance as well!

3. Spring Break and Study Abroad!

Part of the college experience is determining your plan for Spring Break. Many students also think about whether or not they will be able to do at least a week of Study Abroad. In both situations, it's helpful to have conversations with them. Talk to your student about what plans they are thinking about making (or already have made) with their friends. It may be a difficult thought to have your student leave the country, especially if they are freshman, so let them know your concerns! For those looking to do something volunteer-based, Alternate Break Connections (ABC) always plans service trips for spring break that they can look into. Most colleges within Towson, especially the Honors College, also provide academic Study Abroad opportunities that range anywhere from three weeks to an entire semester.

Regardless of what year your student is in, winter break will always be the perfect time to prepare for the rest of the academic year and beyond. But the holidays are also needed to catch up to life and take a little vacation after the semester. A balance between both is the best way to gear up for a productive and successful year ahead!

Important Dates:

- ❁ **December 21st**
Last day of exams and end of term
- ❁ **December 22nd**
Residence halls close for all on-campus students at 9am
- ❁ **January 8th, 2012**
Commencement for Winter 2011
- ❁ **January 3rd**
Classes begin for Minimester 2012
- ❁ **January 4th**
Bills due for Spring 2012 tuition
- ❁ **January 28th-29th**
Residence halls open for students, move in from 9am to 5pm
- ❁ **January 30th**
Classes begin for Spring 2012 and Change of schedule period begins

Memories of Fall

*As the semester comes to a close,
here is what TU students will remember most of all...*

Coaching the OneTowson student
basketball team to victory over the faculty!
- Kristen G., Junior

Being on Orientation Leader for
Freshman Orientation 2011.
- Chris S., Junior

Joining a fraternity.
- Kevin K., Freshman

Decorating our room for the holidays
with my roommate Alex!
- Britney O., Sophomore

Being able to unite as a school and show school spirit
for our newly winning football team! Our school really
came together as ONE TOWSON!
- Olivia S., Senior

Being on the taping of *Ellen*. I stood outside in the
rain and the cold...but it was a whole lot of fun!
- Sara H., Junior

Playing SportsCenter on my tuba for the first time
at a football game for the Student Section!
- Angelica F., Freshman

Seeing the football team become
CAA Champions! #restoredtheroar
- Marissa G., Senior

Involved@TU?!

Is your student looking for a way to get involved on campus??
Spring semester is a great time to join a new club or to explore options for next year!

Towson has over 250 student organizations, including:

- * Sports Clubs: everything from Ultimate Frisbee to Surfing
- * Academic Clubs: for almost every major on campus (including Honor Societies)
- * Greek Sororities & Fraternities (Look out for Spring Rush!)
- * Student Government Association, University Residence Government
- * or Become a Resident Assistant or Orientation Leader for next year!

Mark your calendars: Spring Involvement Fair, February 8th 11AM-1PM in the Union

What's new in TIGERTOWN



The Towson Tigers football team was recently crowned as the 2011 CAA Champions! This was the first time in Tiger history that the football team won the conference, made the FCS playoffs, and brought home the CAA trophy.

After receiving a first round bye, Towson hosted its first playoff game against Lehigh University on Saturday, December 3rd. In a very close game, Lehigh took the win with a score of 40-38.

Be sure to look out for big things from our team and Coach Ambrose in the 2012 Football Season! Come out to the games, and help TU Restore the Roar as ONE TOWSON!



President Obama and the First Family were in attendance at the Men's Basketball Home Opener against Oregon State University. The family sat courtside to cheer on OSU's Head Coach, Craig Robinson, who also happens to be the First Lady's brother!

Also in attendance was actor Bill Murray, known for his roles in films like Ghostbusters and Caddyshack. Murray's son, Luke Murray, is an assistant coach for the Towson Tigers.

The OSU Beaver defeated the Tigers with a final score of 66-46.

Student Spotlight

On December 1st, student leaders from various aspects of campus life faced university staff from Athletics, Student Affairs and other prominent areas (coached by none other than Campus Life AVP Dr. Teri Hall) in Towson's first ever Student vs. Staff One Towson Basketball Game! The game ended with an impressive overtime win by the Student Team with a score of 47-40.



Student Team with Interim President Marcia Welsh

New Year's Resolutions

Graduate with Honors.

- Kyle E., Senior

Be a more positive person and not dwell on the negative things in life.

- Brian S., Junior

To have a healthy relationship and a bright future.

- Zoe F., Freshman

Explore a place I have never been before!

- Emily V., Sophomore

Get published in an academic journal.

- Ben M., Sophomore

Get back to the gym (I used to be a regular), learn how to work under stress, and graduate in the fall!

- Ver'Nita D., Senior

2012

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/290662777632383/>



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