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January Newsletter

Message from Kevin:



Living Each Day to Its Fullest

It is a new year and new semester—coming on the heels of one very exciting fall semester punctuated by approval to build a new residential community (East Village), our first Heisman trophy winner, an Alamo Bowl win, and several athletic teams that are considered among the best in the nation. As exciting as these and other developments are, we have also been reminded of the fragile nature of life with the passing of three students over the Christmas break. The loss of these young lives grieves us as a community and calls us to lean into our faith and each other for strength and support.

As such, it reminds us that life is finite—short of Jesus returning—we will all experience death. And, none of us knows how long the time we have on this earth will be. So, what are we to do with this realization? In Psalm 90:12, the Psalmist prays that God would “. . . teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom”—that we might live in a wise and discerning way. To do this, author and pastor Rick Warren encourages each person to figure out what they are placed on earth to do and then to live purposefully. Although many people in today’s society are confused about their purpose, scripture is quite clear as to why we are here:

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will” (Romans 12: 1-2).

The great news is we are part of a university whose mission it is to help students identify and pursue their purpose as consistent with God’s will in their life. We do so through the integration of faith and learning—that is, by developing a coherent set of experiences that challenges and supports our students to think critically, respond constructively, act compassionately, and pursue Christ courageously.

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BAYLOR

Division of Student Life

Living Each Day to Its Fullest *(continued)*

Bottom line is, we are here to be good guides to our students as they seek to understand more clearly and continue to grow into the person that God has uniquely designed them to be. Because, it is while pursuing your God-inspired dreams that you live each day to its fullest—regardless of the number of days on this earth that may be.

Blessings,

Kevin

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up (Galatians 6:9).

Baylor Students Step Up for MLK Day of Service

This weekend, the Campus Kitchen Project partnered with local AmeriCorps HealthCorps and VISTA members to help provide boxed lunches to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service volunteers throughout the greater Waco area. These Campus Kitchen members were some of the 145 students from many on-campus organizations ranging from Kappa Alpha Theta to Environmental Science and Pre-nursing students to Baylor Chamber of Commerce volunteers. Those who volunteered this weekend made 588 lunches, packed the meals in boxes, and delivered them to different garden sites on MLK day. The Baylor student volunteers were integral to the success of the project by helping plan the healthy lunch menu, recruiting volunteers for the weekend of preparation, and coordinating other volunteers while the lunches were made, packed, and delivered. Baylor students were found at many of the 15 garden sites, ready to serve the Waco community in honor of Dr. King's influential life.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE

JANUARY 16, 2012

WAYS TO SERVE & HONOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr.

- WREATH CEREMONY**
MLK Park at Suspension Bridge
Noon Jan 13
- PREPARE LUNCHES FOR MLK VOLUNTEERS WITH CAMPUS KITCHEN**
Jan 14 - Jan 16
REGISTER AT www.baylor.edu/campuskitchen
- RALLY AND CANDLELIGHT MARCH**
Speight Plaza next to Miller Chapel
5:30 p.m. Jan 15
- WORSHIP SERVICE**
Miller Chapel
6 p.m. Jan 15
- ZETA PHI BETA YOUTH PEACE MARCH**
Indian Spring Park
9 - Noon Jan 16
- FRED BATTS LUNCHEON**
Bledsoe-Miller Recreation Center
Noon Jan 16
- MLK LUNCHEON**
Baylor University
Noon Jan 18 Call 254-710-6948
- VOLUNTEER AT A GARDEN**
Noon - 3 Jan 16
REGISTER AT www.MLKday.gov





LEAD LLC and TYE-LLC Scholarships

Two new, unique scholarships will be awarded for the fall of 2012 to students who are admitted to the Leadership Living Learning Center (LEAD LLC) and the Transfer Student Living-Learning Center (TYE-LLC). These scholarships, which can amount up to \$3,000 (\$1,500 per semester), will help provide additional financial aid to students participating in these LLCs. Scholarships are based on acceptance and enrollment in the LLC, combined with financial need. Fall 2012 freshmen will be eligible all four years of their study, as long as they continue on with their involvement in Lead LLC scholarship-approved leadership activities. The Transfer Year Experience LLC Scholarship will help new transfer students have a unique opportunity to get acquainted with the campus community, get to know other transfer students, and participate in programs and activities especially designed to enhance your Baylor experience.

Upcoming Events

MLK Jr. Holiday
January 16

Acoustic Cafe
January 19

Men's Basketball
vs. Missouri
January 21

Women's Basketball
vs. Kansas State
January 21

Men's Basketball
vs. Texas
January 28

Women's Basketball
vs. Kansas
January 28

Baylor Symphony
Orchestra
January 31

First-Year Experience Feedback

This fall semester, Community Leaders connected individually with over 300 first-year students inquiring about their experience thus far at Baylor. Questions included the highlights/positives experienced as well as the struggles they've felt while at Baylor.

NSE thought you'd find this information interesting and helpful!

Top 5 Positive Aspects of BU Experience as Ascertained from Conversations

| Positive Aspects | % of Total |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Relationships | 24.50% |
| Academic progress | 12.31% |
| Independence | 12.44% |
| Involvement on campus | 11.32% |
| Roommate | 11.57% |

Top 5 Student Concerns Ascertained from Conversations

| Student Concerns | % of Total |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Academic progress | 43.5% |
| Time management | 20.0% |
| No concerns | 14.2% |
| Roommate concerns/tensions | 10.6% |
| Relationships | 9.4% |



W.I.S.D. Superintendent to kick-off Spring Lecture Series



Dr. Bonny Cain has been working in public education for 34 years. She has served in numerous roles from elementary teacher to superintendent. In 2009, under Dr. Cain's leadership, Pearland ISD earned a coveted TEA Exemplary rating, becoming the fifth largest school district in Texas to accomplish that feat. Dr. Cain received her doctorate in educational leadership and cultural studies from the University of Houston. She became superintendent of Waco I.S.D. in 2011.

When: Tuesday, January 24, 2012

Time: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Where: Kayser Auditorium

Midday Prayer Service

Burt Burleson will be leading a brief midday prayer service that will begin at 12:20 p.m. on Thursdays. The chapel is, of course, open for silent prayer before that, but the prayer service will not begin until 12:20 p.m. The liturgy is simple and primarily centered in readings from Scripture and intercessory prayers offered for our community. It will last for about 10 minutes.

Welcome Weekend

New Student Programs proudly hosted Welcome Weekend at the beginning of the month for incoming students and their families. Students from across the country and the world joined us for some food and fun as they familiarized themselves with the campus and community. Students enjoyed watching a Baylor men's basketball victory, spending some time in downtown Waco at Ninfa's and the Olive Branch, and getting to see all Baylor has to offer socially and academically. Welcome Weekend was the perfect kickoff to a new semester.





Outdoor Adventure Student Guide Training Course



Student Life Spotlight

Dan Jepson
graduate assistant for
outdoor adventure



Field of Study

**Masters of
Engineering**

Hometown

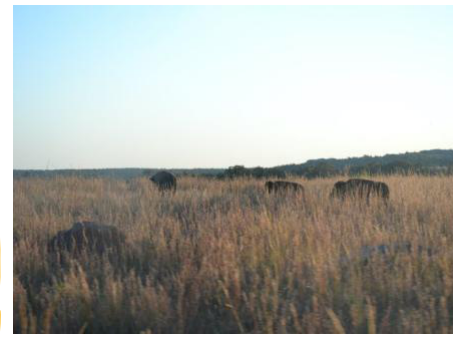
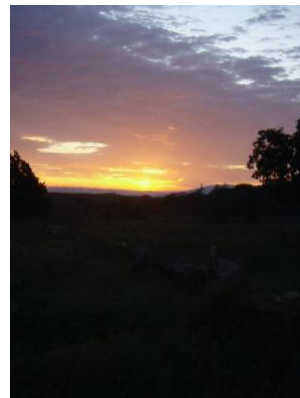
Cincinnati, Ohio

Interesting Fact

Dan took a big step over the Christmas Holiday and popped the question to Ms. Lisa Wiley, A Master's of Public Health Graduate Student here at Baylor. She said "YES, I WILL MARRY YOU!!"

Baylor Outdoor Adventure braved the frigid cold temperatures and went north to the Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge for a staff training December 15-17. They took six aspirant student guides and four staff for a fun filled three days of teaching the outdoor technical skills of: fire building, backcountry cooking, effective outdoor lesson design, risk management, basic campcraft, and rock climbing.

For many of the students it was their first time camping in this area. The weather was clear but quite cold at night. The water in their bottles froze. On the last day it only got to 32°F at noon. The park is known for its beauty of open range buffalo, elk, and longhorn coupled with rolling hills and rugged granite mountains. They shared incredible views and good laughs, learned a lot, and grew as a team. All in all it was a great trip to invest into the lives of the student staff who will soon be leading trips of their own. The Outdoor Adventure team is looking forward to seeing their growth and development into leaders on our campus, in our community, and beyond.





BAYLOR

Division of Student Life

Student Life Center Hours of Operation



January 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 CLOSED Happy New Year! | 2 CLOSED Baylor Holiday | 3 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. <i>Intercession</i> | 4 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. <i>Intercession</i> | 5 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. <i>Intercession</i> | 6 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. <i>Intercession</i> | 7 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. <i>Intercession</i> |
| 8 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. <i>Intercession</i> | 9 6 a.m. - Midnight <i>Classes Begin</i> | 10 6 a.m. - Midnight | 11 6 a.m. - Midnight | 12 6 a.m. - Midnight | 13 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. | 14 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. |
| 15 1 p.m. - Midnight | 16 1 p.m. - Midnight <i>MLK Day</i> | 17 6 a.m. - Midnight | 18 6 a.m. - Midnight | 19 6 a.m. - Midnight | 20 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. | 21 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. |
| 22 1 p.m. - Midnight | 23 6 a.m. - Midnight | 24 6 a.m. - Midnight | 25 6 a.m. - Midnight | 26 6 a.m. - Midnight | 27 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. | 28 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. |
| 29 1 p.m. - Midnight | 30 6 a.m. - Midnight | 31 6 a.m. - Midnight | 1 6 a.m. - Midnight | 2 6 a.m. - Midnight | 3 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. | 4 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. |

