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### Message from Kevin:



#### *Walking in Love, Light, and Wisdom*

December 2015 transitioned quickly into January 2016 and with it the end of the fall semester and the beginning of the spring. As we start the new semester, and engage in and seek to shape its unfolding events, I want to thank you for the work you are doing to serve as a transformative presence in our students' lives. As I am prone to say, our focus is on meeting each student where she or he is and walking alongside them with the expressed purpose of helping them become more and more the person God has designed them to be. So what does this walk look like? According to the Apostle Paul in Chapter 5 of Ephesians, fellow Christians are to walk in love, light, and wisdom. Walking in love inspires us to care deeply for and seek to serve others selflessly. Walking in light encourages us to seek what is good, pure, right, and honorable. It keeps us on course so that we are able to serve as a witness to and role model for others. And, as we know, modeling is one of the most powerful ways to influence another person's life—especially a student. And finally, walking in wisdom reflects a Christ-centered approach to living based on a discerning spirit, compassionate heart, and prayerful attitude. Wisdom is described throughout the Bible as being precious and desirable, and we are urged to pursue it. In many ways, wisdom is a cornerstone to the integration of faith and learning. So, as we enter into this semester and continue to walk alongside our students and each other, let's walk in love, light, and wisdom. I look forward to all that this journey has in store for us.

My best,





# BAYLOR

Division of Student Life

## *Student Foundation*

Throughout Fall 2015, the Student Recruitment Committee traveled to 30 college fairs throughout Texas. During these visits, Student Foundation members met with potential new students and shared their experience at Baylor and why Baylor is special to them. Through these visits to the Dallas, Houston, and Central Texas areas, the Student Recruitment team logged over 13,000 miles. Looking ahead to next semester, the Student Recruitment team will continue to share and welcome potential new students at Premiere and other events hosted by Admissions.



## *Santa's Workshop 2015*



After a semester of planning in the fall, the Santa's Workshop committee welcomed local preschools and Head Start centers to the SLC for a morning of Christmas fun. The student committee led by Mansfield, Texas, senior Taylor Osborne coordinated crafts, arranged lunch donated by Aramark, and provided gifts for approximately 600 children. Over 100 student athletes volunteered to spend time, help with crafts, and pass out lunch at the event. Santa made a special appearance to help pass out the gifts. The children enjoyed taking pictures with Santa and Bruiser and getting to see all their favorite athletes.

What started with two classes in Memorial Dining Hall has grown tremendously and is a cherished and highly anticipated event to the Baylor and Waco communities.

### *Congratulations Kelley Kimple, Terri Garrett, and Megan Patterson*



Kelley Kimple, Associate Director of Multicultural Affairs, completed her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in May 2015. Her dissertation was entitled “The Racial Identity of Multiracial College Students at a Predominately White Institution.” This qualitative phenomenological study was created to understand the trials and tribulations of how majority of the biracial/multiracial college student participants in the study felt forced to choose to identify as only one of the racial identities that makeup their racial background by their peers and society, and the affects it has on their ability to be accepted socially and their academic success.



Terri Garrett, Associate Director for Academic Initiatives in Campus Living & Learning, recently completed her doctorate of education in Higher Education Administration through Northeastern University. Her dissertation was entitled “Faculty Perceptions of Parental Involvement in Higher Education” in which she conducted a qualitative study examining the experiences and perceptions of ten Baylor faculty as they encountered parents attempting to intervene on their student’s academic behalf.



Megan Patterson, Director of Wellness, completed her Ph.D. in Health Education and Promotion through Texas A&M University. Her dissertation was entitled “Using Social Network Analysis to Better Understand Compulsive Exercise Behaviors among College Women,” which was a quantitative analysis using complexity science methodology to examine how network characteristics factor into healthy and unhealthy exercise behaviors in 204 Baylor women.

### *Campus Recreation SLC Updates*

It’s been busy at the SLC over the break! Here are a few things that were done during the holiday break.

#### **SPIRIT & TRADITIONS LOUNGE**

Installed new wall art depicting some of the many activities available to Baylor students, faculty, staff, and university guests.

*A Place for All Students*... the words behind this theme were taken from the operational plans of the five departments that office in the SLC and support the divisional and departmental goals that are on the pillars.

#### **GYMNASIUM ENTRY PILLARS**

Campus Recreation’s goals were added to the first set of pillars you see as you enter the gymnasium.

We help students:

- o Create patterns of *physical* activity that are congruent with healthy lifestyles
- o Develop *social* relationships built on trust and accountability
- o Discover *emotional* balance through physical activity and experiences
- o Relate physical activity and experiences to *spiritual* development

### *Campus Recreation SLC Updates Cont.*

Division of Student Life Strategic goals were added to the four pillars as you enter the gymnasium. Here's what they represent:

The Division of Student Life seeks to cultivate an environment where:

- o We help students discover calling.
- o We develop the whole student.
- o We build community.
- o We cultivate global citizenship.

#### **GYMNASIUM**

- o All four courts were refinished.
- o Basketball goals, backboards, and equipment were inspected and repaired (as needed).

#### **SLC POOL**

- o Repairs were made to the VORTEX pool.
- o The underwater surface of the pool was cleaned.

#### **FITNESS CENTER**

All fitness equipment was cleaned, repaired, or reupholstered.

#### **GENERAL CLEANING OF FACILITY**

The break provided needed time for painting, dusting, deep cleaning, and replacement of lights.

New Student Experience Peer Leaders are now certified at the Master Mentor level under the International Mentor Training Program. Sydney Shields, Graduate Apprentice for the Peer Leader Program, spearheaded the effort to demonstrate how NSE peer leaders meet and exceed the requirements at this top level. Please join us in congratulating our NSE peer leaders and the peer leader program!





### *Welcome Weekend 2016*

Welcome Weekend 2016 was a great success! Seventy-seven new students checked in on Friday, January 8, for the welcome session and participated in other events including Academic Open House sessions and a Campus Connections Dr Pepper Hour. Additional Welcome Weekend programming featured excellent opportunities to introduce new students to both the Baylor and Waco communities through athletic events, spirit and traditions programming, a dinner in downtown Waco and a “coffee and cider” reception at Common Grounds. Welcome Weekend provided new students opportunities for relational time together in informal environments and formal small groups led by upperclass student leaders who were selected by New Student Programs staff.

NSP is grateful for the leadership of Lauren Gray, second year HESA graduate apprentice, who led much of the planning and coordination of Welcome Weekend. Her work included securing event venues, catering, and transportation details, as well as student leader recruitment, selection, and training. She was supported by NSP professional staff and Jesse Ross, first year graduate apprentice. NSP was also supported by wonderful partners within the Division of Student Life to help make Welcome Weekend a success. Cody Finch spoke to new students about Baylor Traditions and encouraged them to participate in spirit and athletic events throughout the year. Jordy Dickey and Tranquility Gordon provided after-hours support and staffing for programming on Friday evening in the SUB. Daniel Haddad provided space in the University Parks Clubhouse for a social event on Saturday evening. Megan Patterson spoke during the closing dinner about the uniqueness of the Baylor community and encouraged students to explore and experience all that Baylor has to offer.



The included picture is a group shot of our Welcome Weekend student leadership team. (Top row left to right: Amiee Bennett, Annelise Ingram, Mari Arana, Joseph Babbitt. Second row left to right: Jonnel Benjamin, Jesse Ross, Jessica Cobaugh, Lauren Gray, Emily Knuab. Bottom row middle: Omar Mosqueda)

### *Van Davis Featured in Focus Magazine*

Our own Van Davis was featured in the *Focus* Fall 2015 issue. Check out the article on pages 17-19 at <http://baylorfocusmagazine.com/stories/>.

### *New Staff*

*Dr. Michael Myers*



Dr. Michael Myers began work on January 4, as the new Staff Psychiatrist in the Health Services. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree with honors from Dallas Baptist University in 1992. He received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio in 1999 and completed residency training in psychiatry at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 2003. He has been Board Certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology since 2012. Dr. Myers is married, has two children, enjoys watching college sports as well as San Antonio Spurs games, and is an avid supporter of Christian education.

*Jordan Hannah*



Student Life is pleased to announce the new Associate Director of Student Learning & Engagement and the Troy and Betty Mays Director of Student Foundation, Jordan Hannah. Jordan has a bachelor's degree in political science from Baylor and a master's degree in college student affairs administration from the University of Georgia. He has worked the past two and half years as the Deputy Chief of Staff for President and Chancellor Ken Starr. In addition to graduate assistantships in student conduct, student involvement, and orientation, Jordan also spent a year as President Starr's Special Assistant. Jordan's wife, Sarah Kathryn, and he are excited for his opportunities to work alongside students in developing and serving other students, attracting future students, and instilling a spirit of stewardship and giving among Baylor faithful. Jordan began work on January 19. Join in congratulating Jordan ([Jordan\\_Hannah@baylor.edu](mailto:Jordan_Hannah@baylor.edu)) on his new role at Baylor!

*Macy Warburton*



Macy Warburton serves as the Coordinator for Community Service in the Office of Community Engagement & Service. Macy has obtained a B. A. in political science and nonprofit leadership and an M. S. in counseling and college student development, along with a graduate certificate in academic advising. Macy has experience teaching, supervising, and motivating students in a variety of capacities and a lifelong passion for service and community. Macy assumes primary responsibility for coordinating community service efforts through serving as the administrator of the CONNECT platform, advising signature service organizations, and working with students, student leaders, and community partners to strengthen our community service partnerships.