A Message from Kevin: Looking Forward to the Future; Celebrating the Past

There is no feeling like standing in front of Waco Hall and shaking the hands of the newest class of Baylor Bears (and the hands of their family members) as they make their way into the auditorium to start their orientation for the upcoming year. From California to Florida to a number of points in between, this year’s class is shaping up to be one of the smartest, most diverse, and largest in school history. They also have energy and enthusiasm that are contagious.

And what is not to be excited about? With a new President coming on board at the same time our first orientation session began, June is shaping up to be a historic month for Baylor University. Indeed, there is much to look forward to as we prepare for the upcoming year.

At the same time, there is much to be thankful for in reflecting on the past year. As we heard from Mr. Ramiro Pena, the Chair of the Board of Regents’ Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, during our division awards ceremony, our division is integral to the mission of Baylor. As he stated: “You put the ‘student’ in student life.” And we do so through helping to create an experience that is not only educational but transformational, as we work alongside our academic colleagues to renew the mind, heart, and soul as well.

Please know that I appreciate your work as we bring one year to a close and ready ourselves for the next. You are a true blessing to this University, and I count it a privilege to serve alongside you as we continually seek to improve our ability to impact the multiple dimensions of our students’ lives.

My best to you,
Kevin
Dr. Jackson congratulated Campus Recreation staff for a great semester of work at the End of the Semester Bar-B-Q on May 3.

**Baylor Fitness Team**

The Baylor Fitness Team competed at the ACIS National Fitness Challenge at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs on April 24. The team, composed of Kyle McGallion, Caroline Cobb, Alexa Farris, and Kevin Kuhn, placed 2nd overall! Alexa, Kyle, and Kevin were named to the Most Valuable Player honorable mention list; and Caroline, a Baylor freshman, was named the female MVP! The event will be televised on Fox College Sports on June 25.

**NEW STAFF MEMBERS**

- **Lauren Mutter**
  Records Technician
  Judicial Affairs

- **Craig Willie**
  Associate Director for Student Organizations
  Student Activities

- **Alicia Castillo**
  Ticket Office Operations and Budget Manager
  Student Activities

- **Lauren Mutter**
  Records Technician
  Judicial Affairs
Family Corner

Congratulations to Sandra Northern on the graduation of her daughter Bethany from Baylor University in May with a degree in Social Work. Bethany will begin the Masters in Social Work program in July.

Elizabeth Bradshaw, daughter of Dr. Ron Bradshaw and his wife Lynn, graduated this month from her homeschool education. Elizabeth will be attending Baylor in the fall as a University Scholar. Congratulations to the Bradshaws!

Van Davis and daughter, Bianca, posed outside of the famous “Big Texan” Restaurant in Amarillo on their trip to Denver for Bianca’s summer internship at the Denver Post over the Memorial Day weekend.

Congratulations to Marsha Green, whose daughter, Christine Van Pelt, graduated May 22 with honors from Reichard Catholic High School. Christine will be a freshman at Baylor this fall majoring in accounting. She is looking forward to move-in day!

Dr. Cynthia Wall will be leaving Baylor University after 21 years of service as a staff psychologist in the Counseling Center. She is moving to join her husband, Dr. Vik Wall, in Odessa, Texas. Dr. Wall has been a gift to the students of Baylor University, and her presence in the Counseling Center will be greatly missed. Please join us in wishing her all the best in her future.

Journey Beyond Dreams

The Journey Beyond Dreams College Experience Program at Baylor was held June 6-12. This year, high school students from Houston were joined by local students from Waco High, La Vega, and University High. Former NFL and Baylor football player Tyrone Smith, president of First and Goal, Inc., coordinates the program.

Campers were motivated to develop their “game plan for life” and were given the opportunity to experience life as college students. As they stayed in residence halls and participated in activities on campus, the students were greeted and encouraged by Baylor staff members including Kevin Jackson, Walter Abercrombie, Liz Palacios, Pearl Beverly, Brooke Sanders, and Amanda Ramirez. Members of NPHC and MGC sororities and fraternities also interacted with the campers, and current Baylor students. Jazzmine Woodard and Katrina Taylor served as camp counselors.