



Don't Break the Bank

Remember how your child's eyes shone the first time he clinked a quarter into his piggy bank? And remember how frantically your little saver tried to shake out his precious pennies when he heard the ice cream truck jingle?

Now that your child is a Baylor student, the financial needs are larger than an ice cream cone and more complex than what piggy could handle. Fortunately, the college years are a great time to start developing good lifetime financial habits. But your student first has to work through

misconceptions and plain-old inexperience when it comes to financial matters. To help, the Parents League has compiled a few myths that might be running through your student's mind and words of wisdom you can share in helping him or her not to break the Bear Bank.

Bear Bank breaker: "The credit card booth is right here, and they're going to give me a free t-shirt if I sign up! I'll look at the paperwork and interest rates later."

Hold onto your honey: "RUN! Don't look back! RUN! Into the Bear Pit if necessary! You'll be safer there," said Jackie Diaz, assistant vice president for student financial services. "If you and your parents discuss this and agree that a credit card account is a good way to build positive credit history, then do your homework and shop for the most competitive deal possible. It is important to

overdraft protection—and she keeps close tabs on her account balance.

Another bonus of using a check register or journal to track expenditures: Franklin Potts, associate professor of finance, notes that students may realize they're frittering away money into small—yet regular—purchases. "A lot of people buying a \$2 coffee every day don't realize what it amounts to over a month or a year. By keeping records, people see areas where they can cut back and save a little bit of money without drastically altering their lifestyle."

Bear Bank breaker: "All student loans are the same. And if they're offering to loan me that much, I should take it. Easy money!"

Hold onto your honey: "All loans are not the same. Not by a long shot," advised Diaz. She urges students to start with federal education



Did you know...

- Most undergraduate college students graduate with close to \$20,000 in student loan debt, and an average of \$3,262 in credit card debt.
- For student loans, the standard monthly payment on a 10-year repayment plan at 6.8% interest is \$218. By adding even a small amount to the minimum payment, students can be debt-free much earlier.



consider interest rates, fees charged and benefits gained. If you are not pulling in an income (or are bringing in limited income), don't be tempted with the illusion of easy money. Without financial back-up, you could wreck your credit score. You can buy an HDTV and Blu-Ray player and be the entertainment hub of your hall, but you will be paying for it for months, if not years, later."

Bear Bank breaker: "I can keep track of my spending in my head. But oops, there's another overdraft notice..."

Hold onto your honey: "My freshman year, I wasn't paying much attention. I overdrafted and they'd charge me, which would overdraft it again," recalled senior Faith Collins, a child and family studies major from Alvarado, Texas. Now Collins protects her money and her credit score with

loans, with their favorable interest rates and other benefits. "Looking at a loan as easy money is a trap. Someone is letting you use 'their money,' and you can rest assured that they will be calling on you to get it back, with interest."

Need more financial direction? Potts teaches a Personal Financial Decisions class, tailor-made to help students be better financial stewards. Also, Diaz is working on an online Financial Literacy program, set to launch this spring, where students will have 24-7 access to help with budgeting for college, understanding credit building, making good loan decisions and more money management tools. By discussing with your students their financial responsibilities and the importance of laying a solid groundwork during young adulthood, your student's Bear Bank can remain intact.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



We are pleased to have your students learning, growing and living in community with us. It is our hope that you feel connected to Baylor as well. The Baylor Parents League organization is dedicated to being your liaison with the university. Our goal is to help you learn more about Baylor so that you can, in turn, share with your student about services and programs to help maximize their college experience. Baylor's mission is to educate young men and women for worldwide

leadership and service, but that mission could not be fulfilled without your participation. You continue to encourage and support your sons and daughters as they undertake the rigorous and demanding role of a college student. We thank you for what you mean to the life of Baylor University and for sharing your precious sons and daughters with us during this season of their lives.

In today's economy it is more important than ever to equip our students with the best information available regarding financial matters. As your sons and daughters begin to take charge of their personal finances it is important that sound financial planning and advice be available to them. In this issue of *Perspectives* we have included some issues regarding personal finance that could affect your student and suggestions on how to address these issues. We hope that you will find some good talking points with your student to help navigate through the college years and beyond. We also address the ever increasing problem of identity theft and ways you and your student can prevent being victims of this serious crime.

If you are the parent of a graduating senior please note that for the first time in Baylor's history there will be three separate ceremonies for the May 2009 Commencement. There will be one ceremony on Friday, May 15 at 3 p.m. and two ceremonies on Saturday, May 16 – 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. For more information, please check the commencement website at www.baylor.edu/commencement or page 5 of this newsletter to be sure you have up-to-date information as you prepare to celebrate this most significant achievement in your student's life.

Judy Maggard

Young, But (Incredibly) Able Baylor Freshman, Sophomore Stand Out and Rise Above

Parents, faculty and staff alike all share the hope that their college student(s) will make an impact on the world—each with their own talents, gifts, dreams and drive—after graduation. But perhaps that's setting the bar too low. Baylor's underclassmen prove time and time again that you're never too young to set records, beat the odds and live victoriously whether in the classroom, on the football field...or in a battle for life.

Meet Kristin Elliott.

She never even heard the doctor say that she might never walk again. Kristin Elliott, of Richmond, Texas, was too busy thinking about getting back to school and getting back to life.

At age 16, Kristin was diagnosed with synovial cell sarcoma, a rare and aggressive form of cancer. But Kristin is a rather rare young woman.

"I love living, and there was nothing that was going to stop me from doing that," Kristin said. "It was God's strength through me."

Three surgeries. A 24-hour coma. Chemotherapy. Rehabilitation. As an absolute whirlwind tore through her teen years, Kristin gave herself over to living fully just as she always had: all-state volleyball competitions, high school graduation and consistent mission trips to Mexico and Zambia, which touched her heart...deeply.

After the cancer appeared a second time, doctors contacted the Make-a-Wish Foundation on her behalf. But instead of a Disney World vacation or a posh shopping spree, Kristin requested money to build an AIDS orphanage to house some of the Zambian children she and her sister had worked among the previous summer.

The foundation contributed \$2,600 in seed money. And—with brevity that was nothing short of miraculous—\$200,000 has been raised for the cause by friends, family and strangers who watched Kristin's story on ABC's "World News"—more than twice the amount needed for the aptly named Kristen's Miracle House. Part of the Tree of LIFE Children's Village, the house is coordinated by Family Legacy Missions International, a non-profit organization founded by Baylor alumni Greer and Susan Kendall. The extra funds will be used to build Kristin's Miracle Clinic for AIDS patients, a desperately needed addition to a Zambian hospital.

Now a Baylor freshman majoring in Child and Family Studies, Kristin—recently named an "ABC World News" Person of the Year—has been in remission for more than a year.

"God had a plan throughout the entire thing," Kristin said. "I'd always



2009 CALENDAR

MARCH

28 Bearathon

APRIL

4 Steppin' Out
10-13 Easter Holiday (Baylor closed)
17 StompFest
18 Spring Premiere
23 Diadeloso (No classes)

MAY

1 Last day of classes
6-12 Final exams
14 Residence halls close
15-16 Commencement
18 Summer Minimester begins
25 Memorial Day (Baylor closed)

JUNE

2 Summer Session I begins
5 Summer Minimester ends

JULY

3 Independence Day Holiday (Baylor closed)
7 Summer Session I ends
9 Summer Session II begins

AUGUST

12 Summer Session II ends
15 Summer commencement
20 New student Move-In
20-23 Welcome Week
24 Fall classes begin

SEPTEMBER

7 Labor Day Holiday (Baylor closed)
18-19 Parents Weekend

OCTOBER

16 Fall Break (No classes)
23-24 Homecoming

NOVEMBER

25-29 Thanksgiving Holiday (Baylor closed)

DECEMBER

7 Last day of classes
10-16 Final exams
19 Winter commencement



trusted Him that the cancer was going to serve a purpose greater than myself. I thought, 'I may not be able to see it, but I know it's going to develop from this.'" Indeed it has.

Continuing to catch onlookers by surprise, young Baylor students have that powerful combination of skill, determination and unbridled ambition. Through them it's clear...the sky truly is the limit.



Meet Robert Griffin.

This is where brain runs into brawn...and an attitude so positive that anyone in a 20-yard radius of this sophomore student-athlete risks getting sideswiped by optimism. For Robert, a challenge is an opportunity.

"I got that perspective from my mom and dad, who both grew up in New Orleans in pretty tough situations," Robert said. "They went into the military with the goal of giving their children what

they didn't have. Now all three of us have graduated from high school and will also graduate from college—a first in our family."

Graduating from Copperas Cove High School a semester early, Robert not only starred in three sports, but also earned the ranking of seventh in his class of more than 400. And, since entering Baylor in January 2008 as a political science major and a dual-athlete in football and track, he's only continued to excel.

Joining Baylor's track team as a 17-year-old, Robert won the 400-meter hurdles the Big 12 Conference meet and broke the NCAA Midwest Regional 400-meter hurdles record. Robert also participated in the summer U.S. Olympic trials, in which he advanced to the semifinals.

Then football season began for this dual-sport freshman. And what a season it was! Named 2008 Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year, Robert started 11 of 12 games of his freshman season, leading the Bears to a 4-8 season record and setting a major college football record for most pass attempts to start a career without an interception.

"Robert is a player with discipline and vision, and that rubs off on people," Baylor Head Football Coach Art Briles said. "People like to be around people with a plan."

Perhaps few know, however, that this star athlete's plan is to attend Baylor Law School.

"I want to be a lawyer," Robert said. "If playing pro-ball is what God wants me to do, then that's what I'll do. But law school is my goal. For me, it's always school first and sports second."



Where Finance Avenue Meets Friend Lane

The intersection of finances and friends—it can be a harmonious sharing of the street, or it can lead to road rage.

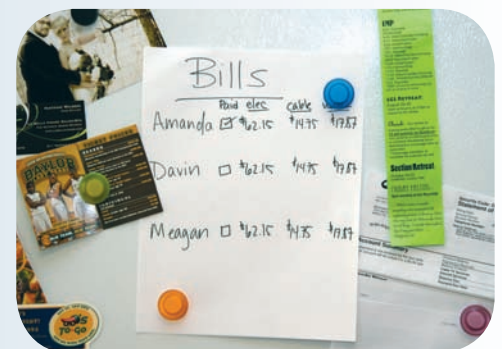
The intersection of finances and friends—it can be a harmonious sharing of the street, or it can lead to road rage. However, the intersection is unavoidable in college: whether living on- or off-campus, most students split space—and therefore, some financial responsibilities—with roommates. Read on for some tips on keeping the roads and apartments friendly.

Grocery shop together and split the bill, if you opt to share food. Jennifer Young, a freshman pre-social work major from Charlotte, Mich., noted that the HEB near campus is flexible about letting students divide up the final total. And Young and her roommates have discovered that the community fridge in South Russell Residence Hall is just right for larger sizes of “the best of the store brands,” saving money and trips to the store.

Develop a system for **collecting the bills**. Many rental management companies now let students pay online, but everyone in the apartment may be on the hook if a roommate doesn't pay on time. “What we did last semester was we had a board with everyone's name on it and just crossed off names as they paid,” electrical and computer engineering major Joe Terndrup, a Flower Mound, Texas, senior, said. And if you have to physically collect payment, Rhema McKinney, a junior language and linguistics major from Fort Worth, Texas, suggests telling roommates you need the money a few days before the bill actually is due.

Recognize that **your choices affect others**. “Yes, I may really want a burger and fries one day, but if that means I'll be short on my water bill, I can't have it,” McKinney pointed out. “If I don't have money to cover a bill, that means my roommates have to cover it. Living with roommates has forced me to be responsible and really think about others before myself.”

Carefully **consider personal loan requests**. It comes up—a roommate asking for a few bucks on a utility bill, for example. “I would suggest that lending money to friends is a quick way to ruin a friendship,” advised Linda Cates, director of the Office of Academic Integrity and past Attorney to Students. “However, if you do decide to loan the money, do it in a business-like fashion and get the agreement in writing, including when the money is to be paid back and include provisions for what happens if it is not paid back on time. If the person you are loaning the money to is not willing to do this, then he or she is probably not a good risk.”



Visit www.baylor.edu/cil to learn about the benefits of on-campus living.

Explore Baylor's tips for off-campus living at www.baylor.edu/offcampushousing.

And don't forget that financial aid counselors (254.710.2611 or Financial_Aid@baylor.edu) are a great resource for students taking control of their finances.

Be Aware, Prevent Identity Theft

Imagine...you decide to buy a new car or take out a loan for your student's tuition but are rejected because someone has opened a credit card in your name and charged thousands of dollars.

Identity theft is a serious crime that affects nearly 9 million Americans annually, according to the Federal Trade Commission. Identity thieves typically steal information by dumpster diving for important documents, "phishing" online or over the phone by posing as a financial institution needing quick facts or by taking your wallet, purse or laptop.

"Online fraud, taken as a whole—phishing, credit card fraud, everything—is actually surpassing drug trafficking as one of the top crimes internationally," Jon Allen, Baylor information security officer, said.

Students are especially at risk because they have not mastered the art of tracking their finances or shredding important documents. They receive credit card applications weekly and post information on social networking sites like Facebook. "We're a highly targeted population and that's why we really ramped up efforts to try to address that," Allen said.



BearAware, a Baylor ITS website (www.baylor.edu/BearAware), offers up-to-date security tips to help students be computer savvy and safe online. Here are a few suggestions:

Lock it: Just as you lock your house to protect valuables, always lock your computer to protect your information. Hold down ctrl/alt/delete and press enter to lock the screen before walking away.

Keep it secret: Password sharing is never a good idea; a fallout with a friend or roommate could endanger your identity. Baylor ITS prompts students to change their passwords every six months to increase security.

Be alert: Watch for phishing emails. Neither Baylor ITS nor any financial institution will ask for a username, password or other personal information through e-mail.

Keep bugs out: Beware of spam—the junk e-mails from random people. They may contain viruses that damage computers or enable hackers to steal your information. Baylor ITS encourages all students to install the latest version of Symantec/Norton Antivirus, which is free through the ITS website, www.baylor.edu/ITS.

Students who experience identity theft or feel like they are being targeted should immediately contact Baylor DPS at (254) 710-2222 or file a report online at www.baylor.edu/DPS.

Time to Celebrate!

Ceremony Schedule for May 2009 Commencement Ceremonies
For more information: www.baylor.edu/commencement



Friday, May 15, 2009

3 p.m. Graduation

College of Arts and Sciences

Anthropology, Forensic Science, Archaeology
Aviation Sciences
Biology
Business Administration
Chemistry and Biochemistry
Clinical Laboratory Science
Communication Sciences and Disorders
Computer Science
Dentistry
Economics
Environmental Science
Family and Consumer Sciences
Forestry

Geology
Earth Science
Geography
Geophysics
Mathematics
Medicine
Optometry
Physics
Psychology and Neuroscience
Sociology
Statistics
School of Engineering and Computer Sciences
Louise Herrington School of Nursing
All related graduate degrees

Saturday, May 16, 2009

9:30 a.m. Graduation

College of Arts and Sciences

Area Studies (Asian, Latin American, Slavic and East European Studies)
Art
Architecture
Art History
Studio Art
Biblical and Related Languages
Classics
Communication Studies
Communication Specialist
Film and Digital Media
Speech Communication
English
Language and Linguistics
Professional Writing
History
International Studies
Journalism

Medical Humanities
Modern Foreign Languages
Museum Studies
Music
Philosophy
Political Science
Religion
Theater Arts
Honors College
Great Texts of the Western Tradition
University Scholars
School of Music
School of Social Work
All related graduate degrees

2:30 p.m. Graduation
Hankamer School of Business
School of Education
All related graduate degrees

Four Years to Find the Right Fit?!

What Parents and Students Should Know

It begins the moment they first step onto campus: that challenging yet rewarding dance toward a college degree. But the goal of a Baylor education isn't really about the walk across a graduation stage. The purpose of those four (or more) college years is for your student to be able to confidently walk into a gratifying, successful career and calling afterward. And that takes some specific preparation and planning.

But don't worry. You're not left to figure it out on your own. There's an entire team of caring Baylor faculty and staff who are ready to offer guidance and help your student discover which major—and, ultimately which career—might suit him or her best.

POSITIONING STUDENTS for success.

Housed right in the heart of Baylor campus, the Paul L. Foster Success Center consists of five departments, each of which serves a particular student population: Academic Advisement, Academic Support Programs, Access and Learning Accommodation, Career Counseling and Career Services.



“What we offer is a critical thinking process where you, as a student, look at all of yourself, your gifts, personality and interests, and then gather more information about specific careers,” Pat Weaver, Baylor’s director of Career Counseling, said.

From free tutoring and academic mentoring to the opportunity to participate in mock interviews and resume workshops, the Foster Success Center is devoted to positioning Baylor students for success in both their academic and professional lives.

“Don't wait to take advantage of all the opportunities Career Services offer. The jobs are out there, but the students who have the wisdom to utilize our facility are more apt to find out about them first.”

-John Boyd, director of Career Services

“I try to encourage students to connect with us early on, because the earlier they do that, the more opportunities they're going to have,” John Boyd, director of Career Services, said. “We have a service that provides mechanisms whereby students can be best prepared and put their best foot forward when it comes to getting that job.”

AVOIDING THE PITFALLS.

Procrastination is the biggest enemy of successful career planning . . . period.

“Don't wait to take advantage of all the opportunities Career Services offer,” Boyd said. “The jobs are out there, but the students who have the wisdom to utilize our facility are more apt to find out about them first.”

Freshman Year

Take Inventory

- Get to know yourself as an individual by paying attention to the subjects you most enjoy and talking to friends and family about career ideas.
- Enroll in courses with the help of your Academic Advisor.
- Complete assessments offered through Career Counseling to find out more about how your aptitudes, interests, personality and values match with certain college majors and potential career paths.
- Review the undergraduate catalog for course requirements of possible college majors.
- Talk with advisors/professors/students in each major area in which you have an interest.
- During the summer, explore volunteer opportunities and employment in areas of interest to gain crucial experience for your resume.

Sophomore Year

On Your Way

- Begin introductory courses in your potential major fields.
- Identify and research possible majors and the occupations related to them.
- Choose your major based upon your career planning and eventual career focus. Remember: this is an important choice, but it's not necessarily your final decision.
- Focus your coursework within your major; don't use up all elective credits early.
- Develop a relationship with the Career Services office; get assistance with preparing for work after graduation and internship experience during college.
- During the summer, target work or volunteer opportunities within your chosen field, and participate in internships (if appropriate).

Career Planning in the College Years

Another trap many students fall into is waiting until senior year or even after graduation to gain work/internship experience. Big mistake. The number one thing employers are looking for in new hires today is experience.

“Choosing a major is just the beginning,” Weaver said. “You’ve got to build your resume.”

PARENTING in the career planning process.

Choosing a career can be daunting for anybody. And, many times, parents have their own hopes and dreams for what they’d like their student to accomplish. One of the best things parents can do in this process, however, is to help their student make his or her own decision.

“If a student expresses some interest in a certain area, parents can help by using their contacts and connections to help their student have someone to job shadow,” Weaver said. “But, ultimately, it’s important for parents to be supportive in their student’s process of making a decision.”

Another word to the wise: Seek to appreciate what your child is gifted in. It will empower him/her.

“Not everybody’s cut out to be a doctor,” Weaver said. “Being realistic about your student’s strengths is important.”

“If a student expresses some interest in a certain area, parents can help. But, ultimately, it’s important for parents to be supportive in their student’s process of making a decision.”

-Pat Weaver, director of Career Counseling



BUILDING UP to a successful Baylor graduate.

While each student’s college journey is unique, there are some basic building blocks—such as these included in the career counseling timetable below. These guidelines apply to and will benefit all students no matter their major or classification, preparing them for a successful transition from graduation to career.

Jump into the journey! Whether your student is a freshman or a fifth-year senior, it’s never too late (or too early) to benefit from pre-graduation preparation.

For more information on how your student can benefit from academic advisement, career counseling or career services at Baylor, please visit www.baylor.edu/successcenter.

Junior Year

Get Involved

- Develop teamwork and leadership skills by joining a campus organization or club in an area of professional interest; obtaining leadership positions is important.
- Check the Career Services website for information on seminars, internships and job opportunities. (www.baylor.edu/careerservices)
- Develop relationships with the leading professors and department heads in your major. They will be contributors to your job search, both directly as a referral source and indirectly as employers inquire about the leading students in the major.
- Attend fall and spring Career Fairs to gain internships. (www.baylor.edu/careerservices)
- Begin developing your resume and continue to refine it by adding content throughout your college years as you gain experience.
- During the summer, acquire additional work experience through internships, volunteering and/or employment.

Senior Year

Almost There

- Meet with your academic advisor to make sure all requirements will be met by graduation.
- Attend workshops on resumes, cover letters, interviewing and job search techniques.
- Fine tune and update your resume.
- Plan your job search or graduate school application strategy. If going on for further schooling, research graduate schools, apply early and study for graduate school admission tests.
- Interview with recruiters invited to campus by Career Services.
- Obtain at least three letters of reference from professors or department heads.

Small Town, Big Baylor Spirit

With a population of fewer than 10,000 people, Boerne, Texas, is probably the smallest community with a Baylor Parents League chapter. But for a small town, Boerne has big Baylor spirit.

“More Boerne kids are going to Baylor, and the high school students here are learning more about it. The number will continue to grow!” Jana Sprayberry, one of the leaders of the Boerne chapter, exclaimed.

And as the Baylor spirit spreads through Boerne, not only is the town painted green and gold—people are being brought together. Interestingly, for a town that just recently built its second high school, many of the parents attending Boerne Parents League gatherings don’t know each other very well.

“People who come to our meetings often aren’t connected in Boerne. We go to different churches—we have different circles. But when we come to Parents League gatherings, we are unified by the fact that we have Baylor students and that we truly long for the welfare of each child who’s represented in that room.”

—Jana Sprayberry

“People who come to our meetings often aren’t connected in Boerne. We go to different churches—we have different circles,” Jana noted. “But when we come to Parents League gatherings, we are unified by the fact that we have Baylor students and that we truly long for the welfare of each child who’s represented in that room.”

Of course, the Boerne students enjoy their parents’ newfound circle of friends in several ways. The network meets monthly for combination 1st Call to Prayer and Bear Care Boxing Parties, blessing Boerne Baylor students with prayer—and care packages!

“What has become popular for our group’s boxes is gift cards. Our kids get Chick-fil-A, Schlitzky’s,

Starbucks, Jamba Juice. They’re pretty excited when they get the e-mail package notice because they know they basically have free meals in there!” Jana laughed.

The Boerne parents also take full advantage of their network of community members burning up the highway between Boerne and Waco. Need to pick up your football parking pass or send dresses to your daughter for rush parties? It’s as simple as e-mailing their newfound Parents League friends to find out who’s going to Waco next.

Although Jana and her husband, Ray, are devoted alumni of Texas A&M, their Baylor spirit

is a testament to the strength of the Baylor community, at home and on campus.

“Since we’re Aggies, people ask, how is it that we had a Baylor Bear? And we can share that Ryan loves it there—it was God’s plan for him,” Jana mused. “We see the Baylor community and how Baylor takes in our kids and loves them.”

As the number of hometown Baylor-bound students grows, the Boerne Parents League is excited to meet new Baylor parents. As Jana noted, “some of us have gone to every single party, but we always have new faces. I am amazed by how quickly this group has become so cohesive.”



Parents League Pointers

The Boerne Parents League chapter just began in 2008, but they’re going strong because of a few simple things that help their Parents League chapter succeed.



- **Spread out the responsibilities.** Jana coordinates e-mail invitations with the Parents League office, and different families host gatherings each month. Less stress, more fun!
- **Maximize your time together.** Consider combining your 1st Call to Prayer and Boxing Parties. If you want to do both but can’t find time on the calendar, this is an easy solution.
- **Make Parents League a resource.** Have a question? Call up a Parents League friend and see if they have an answer. And use the connections you make to coordinate carpools or to caravan stuff to your students.

Parents League from *a* to *Z*

A Baylor education goes far beyond A-B-C and 1-2-3. But in our educational setting, using the ABCs to illustrate the benefits of Parents League activity seems only natural. In each issue of *Perspectives*, we include three or four tips to help you make the most of your time as a Baylor parent.

(To view the full list, visit our website at www.baylor.edu/parentsleague.)

E

Engage in the Baylor experience.

Even if you can't visit very often, you can attend hometown Parents League gatherings, visit the website, and of course, witness the transformation in your student.

F

First Call to Prayer, the monthly opportunity to pray with fellow Baylor parents for your students, blankets the campus in prayer and brings peace of mind to participants.

G

Gifts to the Parents Fund

support students via the Parents League Endowed Scholarship Fund, the Student Emergency Fund and the Library or Student Life Excellence Funds. For some, your investment in the life of your student may prevent you from making a gift to the Fund. For others, a minimal gift is affordable and, coupled with gifts from other parents, can produce significant results.

Visit www.baylor.edu/parentsfund to make a gift.

Share
the BEAR
Spirit

WOULD YOU ENJOY RECRUITING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS
IN YOUR AREA TO ATTEND BAYLOR UNIVERSITY?

BECOME A BAYLOR DELEGATE!

Formerly Bear Hunters, Baylor Delegates are volunteers—alumni, parents and friends of Baylor University—who “fling their green and gold afar” by sharing their own Baylor story with prospective students. Baylor Delegates are a direct extension of the Office of Admission Services; they are trained in recruiting methods, updated on the latest Baylor news and given the necessary materials to find the next spectacular class of Baylor University. Whether they're attending a college fair, distributing brochures to a church youth group or simply providing a student referral, Baylor Delegates are an invaluable part of the university's future.

For further information, please contact Jonathan_Evans@baylor.edu, coordinator of Volunteer Programs and senior admissions counselor.



Students Make Vocation a Mission

“Our approach is to educate and create opportunities for students, faculty and staff to use their discipline as a way to be the hands, feet and face of Christ to the world,” Rebecca Kennedy, associate chaplain and director for missions in Spiritual Life, said.

This past summer, staff and faculty led more than 100 students on discipline-specific mission trips to Ghana, Rwanda, Honduras and other places.

Engineering majors installed a micro-hydroelectric generator that supplied energy to about 30 homes in Honduras. Students in Rwanda researched the effects of genocide on the culture, created arts and crafts with children and prayed with AIDS patients. Locally, Baylor students shared Bible stories with children in low-income areas, taught English, volunteered with Special Needs Ministry and prayed with hospital patients.

“We think about missions as a lifestyle, not a one-time, two-week trip. We have given students a tangible way to think about their vocation as a mission,” Kennedy said.

“We think about missions as a lifestyle, not a one-time, two-week trip.”

-Rebecca Kennedy, Associate Chaplain and Director for Missions in Spiritual Life

Baylor = Best Value

Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine ranked Baylor University as one of the nation's top 50 “Best Values in Private Colleges and Universities” by measuring academic quality and affordability. More than 600 private institutions were surveyed and Baylor was one of only three Texas universities to make the cut.

Kiplinger's reviewed admission rate, test scores, student/faculty ratio and graduation rates to determine academic quality. Baylor's overall enrollment peaked this year with 14,541 students enrolled, and the average SAT score for incoming freshmen is more than 1200 for the third consecutive year.

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Baylor also ranked as the nation's second most affordable school in the area of “total cost.” On average, scholarships meet 50 percent of tuition costs for students in need and financial aid covers an additional 30 percent.

Though tuition will increase about seven percent in 2009, it will remain lower than peer universities and will accompany a substantial rise in need-based scholarships.





More Than Just Biology

Honored for the significant impact he's making in the lives of Baylor students, Dr. Marty Harvill, a senior lecturer of biology, was named a finalist for the Inspire Integrity Awards. The national award, presented by the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), recognizes faculty members who have significantly impacted their students' lives and instilled a high degree of personal and academic integrity.

To Harvill, teaching is an opportunity to promote integrity and civic involvement, and he regularly pushes students to uphold integrity in their classes and careers and attests that their choices reflect on Baylor as an institution.

To Harvill, teaching is an opportunity to promote integrity and civic involvement. One of his classes recently conducted water-testing research that they will present to the city council.

Harvill also works to connect students with their community. In fact, one of his classes recently conducted water-testing research that they will present to the city council.

Harvill was nominated by undergraduate members of the NSCS and named one of the 15 finalists by a regional selection committee.

Faster than the Speed of Light

Traveling faster than the speed of light was limited to science fiction, but Gerald Cleaver, a Baylor physics professor, and Richard Obousy, a Baylor graduate student, have developed a theory that may transform this fantasy into reality.

They propose that, in the future, we will be able to harness dark energy, the cosmic force that drives expansion of the universe, and create a "warp drive" that will propel spaceships.

"Think of it like a surfer riding a wave. The ship would be pushed by the spatial bubble and the bubble would be traveling faster than the speed of light," Cleaver said.

The theory complies with the laws of physics because the "bubble" would decrease the dark energy in front of the ship, drawing it closer to its destination without requiring the ship itself to exceed the speed of light.

"Any breakthrough in this field would revolutionize space exploration and open the doorway to interstellar travel," Cleaver said.

Just Give Me Jesus Travels to Waco

A two-day revival for women featuring Anne Graham Lotz, daughter of Rev. Billy Graham and founder and president of AnGel Ministries, will travel to Waco on September 11-12, 2009.

"The focus of *Just Give Me Jesus* is to bring women into a fresh encounter with Jesus Christ so that their hearts will be revived," Lotz said. Lotz will be joined on the program by Christian speaker and author Jill Briscoe, Stephanie Seefeldt and Christian recording artist Fernando Ortega.

The event, which will be hosted at Baylor University's Ferrell Center, is free and open to the public, and registration is not required. For more information about *Just Give Me Jesus* Waco, contact the local organizing office at (254) 751-7200 or JGMJesusWaco@gmail.com, or visit www.annegrahamlotz.com.

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Where the Heart Is

John and Camie Fetz admit to twinges of anxiety (okay, maybe more than twinges) when a piece of their heart—otherwise known as their daughter, Anna Marissa—left their Atlanta nest and ventured more than 800 miles away to attend Baylor University.

“Where our money goes is a reflection of where our heart is. A piece of our heart is at Baylor, so that’s why we do the little bit we can for Baylor students.” -Camie Fetz

Fortunately, those pangs faded away as Anna Marissa, now a sophomore, shared stories about her involvement in uniquely-Baylor opportunities ranging from the Honors Program to Steppin’ Out. “Baylor is a good place for her to spread her wings,” John said.

In thanking to Baylor for taking their youngest child under its wing, John and Camie support the Parents League Endowed Scholarship Fund. Confident that God’s hand led Anna Marissa to Baylor, the Fetz family is glad to make a Baylor education possible for students who are similarly led.

“Where our money goes is a reflection of where our heart is,” Camie observed. “A piece of our heart is at Baylor, so that’s why we do the little bit we can for Baylor students.”