



Family Newsletter

August 2006
Volume 3, Issue 1

Reminders

In-state students must have completed the College Opportunity Fund Application. Go to <https://cof.college-access.net/cofapp>

August 24 - 1:30-7 pm
Orientation Check-in
College Union Building
Ballroom

August 24-26
Orientation Programs

September 29-October 1
Family Weekend
(see Page 3)

Encourage your student to use his/her campus email address. It is the official method for professors and staff to communicate with your student. Students who use only a personal email address will miss official college communications.

The next issue of the Family Newsletter will be posted on the Fort Lewis College website in mid-November 2006 at www.fortlewis.edu/visitors_parents/family_newsletter

New students and family members, please see <http://welcomecenter.fortlewis.edu>

Welcome Letter from the President

Welcome to the Fall 2006 edition of the Fort Lewis College Family Newsletter. This newsletter allows us one avenue to bring you into our family. At Fort Lewis College, we take pride in being a liberal arts college that is small in size, but large in our capacity to care for the individual student. Parents are a very important part of successful learning.

Many critical developments are in the works at Fort Lewis College. The General Assembly of Colorado and the Governor approved in 2005 legislation that raises freshman admission standards at Fort Lewis College to the same level as the University of Colorado and Colorado State, thus emphasizing the quality liberal arts experience (Continued on Page 2)



Brad Bartel
President

New Student and Family Orientation (Aug. 24-26)

Orientation is required for all students.

We encourage family members to attend our Family Orientation.

Our Family Orientation is designed to provide family members with an understanding of our liberal arts philosophy, our academic curriculum, services that are provided for your student, and information about ways you can work with us to help your student be successful. You should have received a brochure giving you an outline of the schedule and reservation information. That information is also available at <http://welcomecenter.fortlewis.edu/parents/index.htm>

See schedule at right for programs. Please note that the program "Welcome to Fort Lewis Community" which was scheduled for Thursday afternoon, August 24, has been cancelled.

One of the highlights of both the student and family orientations is our Convocation, a formal ceremony for new students to be recognized by our faculty and staff, and to be addressed by Fort Lewis College President, Dr. Brad Bartel.

If your student is living on campus, there is a mandatory meeting on Thursday night at 7 pm for them in the Whalen Gymnasium. Parents are highly encouraged to attend this important session to hear what is expected of both the community and the individual students residing on campus. Please do not miss this session!

The deadline for mailing Family Orientation Reservations and the fee of \$40 per person is **August 11, 2006**. We need the name of each family member attending, a contact email address or phone number, and a check or credit card number. That information should be mailed to Family Orientation Program, 120 Miller Student Center, Fort Lewis College, 1000 Rim Drive, Durango, Co 81301.

After August 11, 2006, family members should reserve by email: familyreservations@fortlewis.edu, by phone: (970) 247-7072, or by fax: 247-7686. The fee after August 11 is \$50 per person and will be due upon your arrival at check-in.

Family/Guest Schedule

Thursday, August 24

1:30 - 7 pm Orientation Check-in
College Union Building Ballroom

Afternoon Special Programs (optional)
Disability Services Information Session
Native American Student Special Session
Honors Program Reception
El Centro Open House

5 pm Dinner
7 pm Residence Hall Meeting
Mandatory for all on-campus students.
Guests are welcome.

Friday, August 25

7:45 am Continental Breakfast
9 am Introductory Program
10:30 am Fall Convocation
11:30 am Picnic
12:30 - 4:30 pm Afternoon Programs*
"Choices" Program
Student Services Program
Professor's Perspective
Parents as Partners in Student Success
Student's Perspective

Saturday, August 26

9 am - 12:20 pm Morning Programs*
See program titles above
Evaluations will be collected at your last session.

* Friday afternoon and Saturday morning family members and guests will be attending a rotation of the above-listed programs.

Welcome Letter from the President

(Continued from Page 1)

we provide. We have a five-year strategic plan for improving all aspects of the learning environment, and are also working on a master plan for how our physical facilities will look in the future. These two developments will place us in the forefront academically, and keep our campus as the most attractive in the nation.

For those of you whose son or daughter is starting at Fort Lewis College as a freshman, this is a critical time. The next few months of adjustment to college life, whether academically or socially, represent for many students, a 'make it or break it' time period. National studies indicate that if students make a positive transition to college during the first three

months, then the probability is high that they will be successful in their college career. Our faculty and student life staff will be working diligently with your sons and daughters during the first months to acculturate them to Fort Lewis College.

I invite you to the many Fort Lewis College social activities. During the fall, we have a full slate of athletic events and concerts. Please go to our college website (www.fortlewis.edu) to see what football, volleyball, soccer, or cross-country events are scheduled. Also, we have a diverse set of concerts at our Community Concert Hall, with nationally prominent performers throughout the year. These athletic and social events, when added to our prestigious Center of

Southwest Studies museum exhibits, our outdoor sculptures, and the inherent beauty of our campus, make us an exceptional destination for learning, growth, and contemplation.

Finally, I want you to know that you can contact me directly (bartel@fortlewis.edu) or my staff for assistance. Sometimes, due to federal restrictions, we cannot discuss your student's record. However, we will be as helpful as law allows. We want you to know we have your family's interest central to us.

Brad Bartel
President, Fort Lewis College

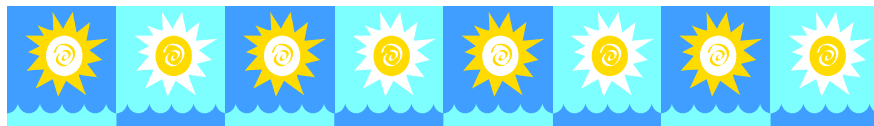
Freshman Community Service Project

Please encourage your student to participate in one of our Freshman Community Service Projects on Saturday, August 26 from 12 - 4 pm (lunch included). In addition to becoming more a part of the Durango community and experiencing the fulfillment of donating time and energy to a community service project, it is a wonderful opportunity for your student to make friends in a healthy environment. Students will have several volunteer options from which to choose, including working in an organic garden, helping with trail maintenance, walking dogs at the Humane Society, or decorating the Campbell Child and Family Center.

Your student may sign up for the Freshman Community Service Project now by e-mailing Michelle Bonanno at bonanno_m@fortlewis.edu or by signing up during check-in for Freshman Orientation on Thursday, August 24.

Students Who Decide Not to Attend College Must Cancel to Avoid Financial Obligations

Students who are registered for classes and decide not to attend have the responsibility to cancel classes BEFORE the first day of the relevant term in order to avoid a financial obligation for tuition and fees. This can be done through the student's WebOPUS account or in writing to the Records Office. Students who withdraw AFTER the term begins are charged according to the institutional schedule, using the actual date the student withdraws. Nonattendance does not constitute cancellation or withdrawal. Please see http://fortlewis.edu/administrative_services/accounting_office or the Tuition and Fees brochure for details.



Skyhawk Athletics Varsity Sports

For information about varsity sports and schedules of Skyhawk Athletics varsity sports events, please go to:

www.fortlewis.edu/flc_athletics/varsity_sports.asp

Vital Information Students Should Bring to Campus

By now your student should be advised and have a copy of his/her schedule. Your student should have been mailed a registration packet which contains a copy of the class schedule, instructions on how to modify the schedule, assessment reports, faculty advisor assignment, information about reserving textbooks, and the username, passwords, and PIN numbers for three computer accounts. These accounts are: 1) System network account; 2) Email account; and 3) WebOPUS records and registration account. You will want to make your own copy of this information.

If your student has not been advised, has not received his/her registration packet, or has misplaced his registration information, please contact the New Student Advising and Registration office at (970) 382-6985.

Family Weekend September 29 - October 1

Families are invited to visit their students and experience campus life in full swing when the golden aspen trees are at their best. We invite you to attend classes (with professor's approval), athletic events, go on hikes, and meet your student's friends. Most students really look forward to having families come for this weekend. For more information go to: www.fortlewis.edu/visitors_parents/family_weekend



Family Weekend Hike 2005

Grade Information

Student grades and schedules are posted on our college website which we refer to as "WebOPUS." The web address for "WebOPUS" is www.fortlewis.edu/web_opus. Each student has a student ID number (provided on ID card) and a secret pin number. Because privacy rules do not allow us to provide grade information, we recommend parents either obtain the student's ID number and the pin number from the student or communicate with the student about grades.

To Find Learning Support and Success Programs

for your student go to:

[www.fortlewis.edu/academics/
learning_support_success](http://www.fortlewis.edu/academics/learning_support_success)

Health Center: Immunizations and Insurance Information

There is a new state law as of July 1, 2005 that requires incoming freshmen living in student housing to either receive a vaccination for meningococcal meningitis or sign an exception. One of these must be completed **before** they can move into their residence hall. The vaccine is available at the Health Center for \$84.00.

The other requirement is a record of **two** MMR's (measles, mumps, rubella). The vaccine records can be faxed, mailed, or hand delivered to the Health Center (fax 970-247-7621). The records can often be found at the high school or doctor's office.

Reports of pertussis (whooping cough), particularly among adolescents and adults, have been on the rise over the last two decades. There is a new vaccine for adolescents and adults, ages 11-64, which includes tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis. We have this vaccine available for \$46.40 at the Health Center.

The Health Center offers a student health insurance plan. We recommend that you call your insurance company to see what they will cover while your student is at Fort Lewis College and to consider our plan if yours is inadequate. The insurance brochure will be sent out with the tuition bill the end of July or first of August. The information will also be available on the college website at www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/health_center



Tuition Stipend for Colorado Residents

Please remind your Colorado resident students to apply for the College Opportunity Fund (COF). COF is a new way for Colorado to provide state financial support to eligible students from Colorado for higher education. If your student does not complete the form authorizing the college to receive the COF funding, then the student will have to pay the additional tuition. For additional information about completing this form, go to www.CollegeinColorado.org

STUDENT HOUSING

Moving In

Students will check in at the residence hall/apartment to which he/she is currently assigned. Each residence hall/apartment complex will have signs posted to direct your student to the check-in location. Please make your travel plans to arrive on campus during your student's designated check-in times (see below). Unfortunately, the staff cannot accommodate exceptions. Check-in times are as follows:

Aug. 23: Check-in times for transfer and international orientation students only, 2 - 5 pm.

Aug. 24: Check-in times for freshman orientation students only, 10 am – 7 pm.

Aug. 26: Check-in times for returning students, 10 am-7 pm.

Aug. 27: Check-in times for returning students, 10 am-4 pm.

Late Arrivals

If your student cannot arrive on campus by the designated times, contact the Student Housing and Conference Services Office at (970) 247-7503 by Friday, Aug. 25 at 4 pm to let us know when he/she will be arriving. All residents with a contract are expected to be moved in by 7 pm on Sunday, Aug. 27. If your student has not moved in or notified the Housing Office that he will be arriving late, his assignment may be forfeited and used to house another student.

Required Immunizations

Make sure your student has completed the immunization requirements and has submitted these records to the Fort Lewis College Health Center before checking into his/her residence hall or apartment. See Page 3 of this newsletter for Immunization and Insurance information from the Health Center.

Substance Free Environments

To promote strong communities and academic settings, all residence halls are substance free environments. The use of illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco is strictly prohibited. Smoking is only allowed outside - at least 50 feet away from

the buildings. For students living in the apartments who are of legal drinking age, alcohol consumption is allowed only within the confines of their apartments.

Property Insurance

Personal property insurance (often referred to as renter's insurance) is highly encouraged. Some homeowner's policies will cover a student's belongings at school, but you will want to check with your insurance company to make sure. Many companies offer renter's insurance including National Student Services Inc., www.nssinc.com

Residence Hall Closures

All residence halls will be closed during Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring Breaks. Room and board charges do not apply. Exterior door locks to all residence halls are blocked during official vacation periods. Students need to find an alternate place to stay during the closure periods (no exceptions). During breaks, students are permitted to leave their belongings in their room; however, we suggest taking home items of extreme value. The apartment complexes will remain open.

Thanksgiving Break 2006

Close: Nov. 18, 9 am. Last meal served will be dinner on Nov. 17.

Re-open: Nov. 26, 1 pm. Meals begin with dinner on Nov. 26.

Winter Holiday Break 2006-07

Close: Dec. 15, 1 pm. Last meal served will be breakfast on Dec. 15.

Re-Open: Jan. 7, 1 pm. Meals begin with dinner on Jan. 7.

Spring Break 2007

Close: March 3, 9 am. Last meal served will be dinner on March 2.

Re-Open: March 11, 1 pm. Meals begin with dinner on March 11.

End of Spring Term 2007

Close: April 27, 1 pm. Last meal served will be breakfast on April 27.

Please note: Your student must check out of his/her residence hall/apartment within 24 hours after your student's last final to preserve the quiet, academic environment for others. Final Examination schedules are available on WebOPUS, www.fortlewis.edu/web_opus

What Your Student Needs To Bring

Sheets, blankets, comforter, pillows and cases (mattress size = x-long twin, 36" X 80")
Towels and washcloths
Closet hangers
Desk lamp and study materials (no halogen lamps)
Storage containers for food and other items
Throw rugs, posters, pictures and items to personalize your room
Laundry bag or basket, laundry detergent (liquid is recommended for use in the machines)
Television and co-ax cable (optional)
Computer (optional) and other study aids
Small appliances (apartment residents only, optional)
Kitchen utensils, dishware, pots, pans (apartment residents only)

Fire hazards - candles, kerosene lamps, halogen lamps, hot plates, toasters or any appliance with open coils.

Items of extraordinary value - if you do, we suggest you acquire personal property insurance.

Pets - the only pets allowed on campus are fish in an aquarium (10 gallons or less).

Weapons of any kind - firearms, bows, explosive devices, paint pellet guns, etc. are strictly prohibited.

Weapons cannot be stored in vehicles on campus.

Potential damage causes - waterbeds, dartboards.

Recommended

Do Not Bring

Why Should Your Student Get Involved?

Research shows that involved college students are more likely to graduate, and the students report greater satisfaction with their college experience.

Students have numerous opportunities for involvement in co-curricular activities while attending Fort Lewis College. There are close to 70 registered organizations and a myriad of other leadership opportunities such as Student Housing Resident Assistants, Student Orientation leaders and club organizers. These opportunities provide valuable experiences for students to recognize, develop and strengthen their leadership skills.

There is yet another good reason to get involved: **success!** Alexander Astin, an educator at UCLA, re-searched 200,000 students and determined that success in college is related to involvement (Achieving Academic Excellence). Astin defines involvement as including:

- Living on campus
- Working on campus
- Being involved in campus activities
- Having significant interactions with faculty, staff, administration or peers
- Being involved in research or other close relationships with professors

According to Astin, students involved in one or more of these areas tend to be more successful in college. Even if your student doesn't live or work on campus, there are many opportunities for them to explore to help enrich their college experience. For a complete listing, description and contact information for clubs and organizations, or to form a new organization, encourage your student to visit The Leadership Center.

The Leadership Center is located in Room 112 of the College Union - Phone: 247-7394

Residence Hall Directors

Bader-Snyder:	Laura Hager (970) 247-7471	Escalante Hall:	Brian Owoseni (970) 247-7601
Camp Hall:	Heather Deck (970) 247-7594	West Hall:	Alissa Zak (970) 247-7477
Cooper Hall:	Patty Garcia (970) 247-7476	Apartments:	RJ Martinez (970) 247-7610
Crofton Hall:	Lyttleton Callender (970) 247-7201		

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

From Campus Telephone:	9-911
From Off-campus Telephone:	911
From Pay Telephone:	911 (no coins necessary)

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Campus Police Office:	(970) 247-7491
Health Center:	(970) 247-7355
Counseling Center:	(970) 247-7212

Welcome Week

Fort Lewis College welcomes all previous and new students back the first week of school with exciting and fun activities designed to meet, greet, and educate. These events are sponsored by many campus offices and organizations.

Samplings of some events include:

- Sunday, August 27 Campus Scavenger Hunt: 3 - 5 pm, beginning in the CUB Animas Lounge
- Tuesday, August 29 Durango Welcomes FLC (food & music): 5 - 7 pm Main Ave., Downtown Durango
- Wednesday, August 30 Student Club Fair: 10 am - 2 pm on lawn in front of Reed Library
- Thursday, August 31 ROCA Movie Night: Blockbuster to be announced soon! 9 pm, Amphitheater
- Friday, September 1 Student Programming Council present the band Whiskey Blanket: 7:30 pm, Amphitheater
Women's Volleyball Hampton Inn Classic Tournament, all day beginning at 10 am, Whalen Gymnasium
- Saturday, September 2 Women's Volleyball Hampton Inn Classic Tournament continues, all day beginning at 10 am, Whalen Gymnasium
Men's Soccer vs. Regis: 4 pm, Dirks Field
- Sunday, September 3 Men's Soccer vs. Metro State: 1 pm, Dirks Field

For additional information on these and other activities the first few weeks of school look for publicity when your student arrives on campus or go to www.fortlewis.edu/current_students/student_clubs_orgs/leadership_center.asp

Fort Lewis College Fall Term 2006 Academic Calendar

Varsity Athletic Student Orientation (12:45 - 4:30 pm)	Monday, August 21
Transfer Student Orientation (8 am - 12:30 pm)	Thursday, August 24
Students with Disabilities Orientation (1 - 3 pm)	Thursday, August 24
New Student Orientation Check-in for Students and Families (1:30 - 7 pm)	Thursday, August 24
Honors Program Reception (3 - 4 pm)	Thursday, August 24
Native American Student Orientation (4 - 5:30 pm)	Thursday, August 24
El Centro De Muchos Colores Open House (4 - 5:30 pm)	Thursday, August 24
New Student Orientation for Fall Term and Family Orientation	Thursday-Saturday, August 24-26
Residence Life Mandatory Meeting for Students (7 - 9 pm)	Thursday, August 24
International Program Student Orientation (9 am - 3 pm)	Friday, August 25
Classes begin	Monday, August 28
Census Date	Tuesday, September 12
<i>Deadline for payment of final bill Fall tuition and fees due)</i>	
<i>Deadline for adding and dropping classes and payment of student bill)</i>	
Family Weekend	Friday-Sunday, September 29-October 1
Career Day (sponsored by Career Services)	Wednesday, October 4
Homecoming Weekend	Friday-Sunday, October 13-15
Mid-term grades available to students on WebOPUS	Thursday, October 19
Winter Term Registration:	
Advising	Monday-Friday, Oct. 23 - Nov. 3
Registration	Monday-Friday, November 6-17
Next Family Newsletter posted on the Fort Lewis College Website at www.fortlewis.edu/visitors_parents/family_newsletter	Mid-November
Thanksgiving Break	Monday-Friday, November 20-24
Last day of classes (<i>Deadline for withdrawing from term</i>)	Friday, December 8
Final exams	Monday-Friday, December 11-15
Commencement	Saturday, December 16
Final grades available to students on WebOPUS	Thursday, December 21



Convocation 2005

Look for the November issue of our Family Newsletter on the Fort Lewis College website at www.fortlewis.edu Click on Visitors/Parents, and then click on Family Newsletter. If you do not have access to our website you can request that we mail the newsletter to you. Please call (970) 247-7212, e-mail familynewsletter@fortlewis.edu, or send us the following information.

Family Name _____ Family Address _____

City _____ State and ZIP _____

Student Name _____

Please mail the above information to: Family Newsletter, Fort Lewis College, 1000 Rim Drive, Durango, Colorado 81301

Residence Directors

The Residence Director (RD) is a full-time professional responsible for the supervision of residential students and their development. The Residence Director and his or her staff are important to a student's success in adjusting to residential collegiate community living.

Lyttleton Callender, Residence Director for Crofton Hall

Lyttleton (prefers to go by "Les") was raised in Schaumburg, IL for most of his life. After a brief hiatus from school, he transferred from Carthage College in Wisconsin to attend and graduate from Columbia College in Chicago. At Columbia College, he added the roles of Tutor for the Fiction Writing department as well as Resident Assistant for the newly developed University Center. He has two years under his belt as an RA and his Bachelors in Creative Writing.

Brian Owoseni, Residence Director for Escalante Hall

Brian was born in Lagos, Nigeria and moved to the U.S. in 1995 when he was 11. He attended Farmingdale State University of New York, where he served as a Resident Assistant for 3 1/2 yrs and graduated in May 2006 with a B.S. in Aviation Administration.

Heather Deck, Residence Director for Camp Hall

Heather graduated from Western Michigan University where she spent 3 semesters working as a Resident Assistant. She received a BA in Psychology and Philosophy with a minor in Women's Studies. Heather has had additional education through her experiences as a volunteer at a crisis hotline and a research assistant with students working on graduate degrees in the Clinical Psychology program at WMU. As Residence Director in Camp Hall last year, Heather started the very popular Camp Hall Film Festival.

Patricia Garcia, Residence Director for Cooper Hall

Patricia was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She was an RA for two years at Eastern Illinois University and graduated with a Bachelors in Sociology and a minor in Women's Studies. Prior to coming to Fort Lewis College, Patricia worked for five years as a teacher and private tutor. In addition to her work as a Residence Director at Fort Lewis College, Patricia is also the advisor to the annual Miss Hozhoni pageant.

Laura Hager, Residence Director for the Bader Snyders

Laura Hager is originally from West Hartford, Connecticut. She graduated from Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Science in International Health in May 2005. She worked as a Resident Assistant and as an Outdoor Education trip leader while at Georgetown. When she isn't busy with her duties as a Residence Director, Laura volunteers as a tutor in downtown Durango.

Alissa Zak, Residence Director for West Hall

Alissa has worked as a Hall Counselor at Interlochen Center for the Arts and as an RA at Albion College where she graduated with a double major in Economics and Management/Spanish. Alissa also worked as a legal intern in Philadelphia, and studied in Seville, Spain for 6 months during her undergraduate studies. Alissa is originally from Michigan. In addition to her work as a Residence Director, Alissa is the advisor of ROCA (Residents on Campus Association).

RJ Martinez, Residence Director for Centennial and Mears Apartment Complexes

RJ is a Fort Lewis College Alumnus. He has served a Resident Assistant (RA), Assistant Residence Director (ARD), and now going into his second year as a Residence Director. RJ graduated with a BA Sociology with an emphasis in criminology. RJ is originally from Santa Clara Pueblo, NM; located in the 8 northern pueblo area. He has also worked as a youth coordinator for the Pueblo of Nambe. RJ volunteers his time outside of his Residence Director position with troubled youth in the Durango area.

Mental Health Issues



Each student deals with missing home in their own unique way. Some have sharp pangs of homesickness and need the reassurance of frequent telephone calls. Others call infrequently as they try to establish their own independence and go "cold turkey." Beginning college can be a very stressful time particularly if a student has a history of anxiety, trauma, or depression. For tips and how to find help go to http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/counseling_center/important_information_for_families.asp



Family Newsletter
260 Noble Hall
1000 Rim Drive
Durango, CO 81301

Phone: 970-247-7212
Fax: 970-247-7282
familynewsletter@fortlewis.edu

FERPA LAW - What You Want To Know

You should be aware of an important Federal law. This law is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA for short); it is also called the Buckley Amendment.

The purpose of this law is to protect the privacy of educational records. Educational records include admission application, transcripts, test score reports, grades, permission to register codes, academic standing information, registration information, billing information, advisor assignments, and disciplinary records.

When a student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending college, privacy rights transfer from the parent to the student.

This means that the College cannot discuss any of these things UNLESS one of the following two conditions is met:

The student has filed a "FERPA" release with the Records Office authorizing release of information to specific individuals. This paperwork must be signed by the student and filed with the Records Office.

A parent or guardian establishes through filing a copy of the Federal Income Tax return with the Records Office that the student is a legal dependent and that the parent or guardian wishes to claim access to the student's educational records.

This law can put the College between students and parents only if you have not previously discussed whether and how you will gain access to your student's educational record. If you desire access to your student's educational record, please discuss how that access will be gained:

1. Through your student filing a FERPA release,
- OR
2. Through your filing a copy of your Federal Income Tax return with the Records Office,
- OR
3. Through the sharing of your student's ID number and WebOPUS PIN.

Detailed information on FERPA is available on the Records Office website,
http://www.fortlewis.edu/academics/records_office/ferpa.asp