



# STAYING CONNECTED

March 2008

Volume 1, Issue 2

## NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHES A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

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In an effort to keep parents, guardians, and caregivers (hereby referred to as parents) informed and abreast of important matters, a monthly newsletter has been implemented. Entitled "Staying Connected." our goal is to keep you linked, knowledgeable, and up to date.

This month's issue will explore the new Emergency Alert System, **Send Word Now**; Final Exams Care Packages; Career Services; changes to the 2008-2009 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); the Search for Scholarship Dollars; and what you should know about Financial Aid and Academic Progress. This

month's spotlight is on a proud NSU parent from Hampton, Virginia.

As the spring 2008 semester quickly moves forward, important dates and events are as follows:

- ◆ **March 28**—Last Day to Drop a Course with Penalties
- ◆ **March 31**- Registration for Summer and Fall 2008 Semester Begins
- ◆ **May 2** Classes End (Last Day to Withdraw from the University)
- ◆ **May 3–9** Final Examination Period
- ◆ **May 10** Commencement

### NSU TRIVIA

Are you connected? How much do you know about Norfolk State University?

1. What is E-Commerce?
2. What is the fee for the FAFSA application?
3. What web tool allows view access to course offerings, academic and financial information?

The first two parents to answer all three questions correctly will win a prize.

Hurry!

Call 757-823-8673.

## NSU IMPLEMENTS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

As part of the University's effort to make the campus safe and secure, an Emergency Alert Service has been selected. The service, **Send Word Now**, allows the University to send alerts to thousands of students and staff simultaneously via any/all familiar communi-

cations methods such as email, text messaging, and phone calls. When unexpected situations arise and timing is critical, **Send Word Now** will help ensure that alerts reach students in a timely manner.

Please remind your student to check his/her email for important updates. Students will receive an email invitation to update personal contact information. For additional information, please visit [www.nsu.edu](http://www.nsu.edu) or call 757-823-8373.

## FINAL EXAMS CARE PACKAGE

Response has been terrific to last fall's Exam Care Package Program. In fact, for this spring, there are even more choices of packages that you can send to your student in time for finals. After all, a generous selection of tasty treats delivered on campus is always appreciated. Plus, you get to add a personal note sending your love and encouragement.

Within the next few days, you should be receiving a

packet with ordering details. Just write your note and seal it in the yellow envelope provided. Be sure to complete the envelope and order form. Your card and package will arrive just in time for final exams.

Care package selections are as follows:

- ◆ The Spartan Spirit Care Package
- ◆ The Support Basket Pack
- ◆ The Energy Kit
- ◆ The Stress Buster

Please respond by Friday, April 11, to guarantee delivery for spring finals. Please call 1-800-892-8741, or visit [www.nsu.edu/bookstore](http://www.nsu.edu/bookstore) for additional details.

"This is a great idea. The care package hits the spot!"

-Bryant Anderson, Student

**Look who's interviewing on campus!**

- \* **Target**
- \* **Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC)**
- \* **GEICO**
- \* **Wells Fargo**

## NSU CAREER SERVICES

Please encourage your student to utilize services offered in the Career Services Office. The office offers a comprehensive career development and assistance program to students, enhancing their capability for success.

Functions include the following:

- \* Identifying and developing employment opportunities;
- \* Maintaining e-Campus Recruiter, a data base of job opportunities that allows students to upload resumes and apply for jobs;
- \* Providing career counseling and advising;

Preparing students to suc-

cessfully transition from the classroom to a professional career; including the development of job search strategies, resume writing, and interviewing skills, just to name a few.

**This Month's Employers Include:**

-Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC)

-Wells Fargo

## NSU PARENT SPOTLIGHT

This month's spotlight is on **Ms. Princess McFall**, the proud NSU parent of Paul McFall. Paul is a Computer Science major and Presidential Scholar.

The mother of three young men, Ms. McFall states, "My relationship with NSU has been nothing but positive. I have nothing but good things to say. Noth-

ing but praises! I would recommend NSU to everybody." The educator further exclaims, "I wish I had known about NSU when I was searching for colleges. I love the family atmosphere, and how supportive the faculty are. The teachers develop a positive relationship with their students. His mentors

have also been superb. They have really looked out for my son."

Paul had a summer internship experience. "My son's summer internship with Northrop Grumman was truly a blessing - all connected with NSU." In closing she added, "I have been recommending NSU to parents."

## CHANGES TO THE 2008-09 FAFSA

The 2008-09 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Some of the major changes include the following:

- ⇒ 2008-09 FAFSA colors are orange for student and purple for parent information.
- ⇒ A Personal Identification Number (PIN) can now be issued in real-time from the PIN

Website or FAFSA on the Web. There must be a successful social security number match from the Social Security Administration prior to an applicant (and his/her parents if dependent) to immediately sign the 2008-09 FAFSA.

- ⇒ There is no longer a separate renewal FAFSA. Eligible students may choose to have data pre-filled.

### **Financial Aid Contact Information**

757-823-8381  
1-800-365-5517

### **Voice Response System**

757-823-2501

### **Fax**

757-823-9059

### **Counselors/Financial Aid**

**Last Names A-L**

[dlblount@nsu.edu](mailto:dlblount@nsu.edu)

**Last Names M-Z**

[pmouser@nsu.edu](mailto:pmouser@nsu.edu)

## SEARCH FOR SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS

The amount of financial aid awarded may not cover the total cost of tuition and fees, books and supplies, transportation, room and board, and /or personal expenses for the 2008-09 academic year. It may become necessary to seek scholarships to assist in defraying educational costs.

Please encourage your

son/daughter to apply for scholarships prior to the scholarship date established by the donor. The best place to begin your research is the Financial Aid web page ([www.nsu.edu/financialaid/scholarships.html](http://www.nsu.edu/financialaid/scholarships.html)). The Financial Aid web page provides both institutional and non-institutional scholarship information.

Below are some good places to start:

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.blackexcel.org/25scholarships.html](http://www.blackexcel.org/25scholarships.html)

[www.scholarships-4u.com](http://www.scholarships-4u.com)

**Remember that with all scholarships, the application deadlines are crucial.**

**Financial aid eligibility processing cannot be continued until all documents required for verification have been received. Most documents can be faxed to the Financial Aid Office at 757-823-9059.**

## FINANCIAL AID AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Norfolk State University is required by federal regulations to adhere to minimum standards of satisfactory academic progress (SAP) that relate to a student's eligibility for federally funded financial aid programs, including state, federal and institutional grants, scholarships, em-

ployment, and loan programs. Students must meet minimum satisfactory academic progress standards in order to receive and maintain eligibility for Title IV funds. The satisfactory academic progress standards apply to all students in degree-seeking programs of study who wish to be considered

for financial assistance.

Additional information can be found at the following:

[www.nsu.edu/financialaid](http://www.nsu.edu/financialaid)

**NSU**

Customer Care Center  
 700 Park Avenue  
 Norfolk, Virginia 23504  
 Phone: 757-823-8673  
 E-mail:  
 mdmarable@nsu.edu

Thank you for visiting our Customer Care webpage. We hope that you have enjoyed this issue of “Staying Connected,” a newsletter designed just for you. Be sure to let us know of articles you would like to see in upcoming issues. Please mark your calendar for our next issue, April 8.

Each month, “Staying Connected” will feature a parent. The April issue will feature winners of the NSU Trivia Contest.

Our goal is to provide you with the ultimate customer care experience. Please know that as our partner in education, you are valued, appreciated, and important to us. May we help you?

Let’s stay connected!

We want to exceed your expectations!

**CAMPUS DIRECTORY  
 757 AREA CODE**

**ACADEMIC SCHOOLS**

**Business**— 823-8920  
**Education**— 823-8701  
**Liberal Arts**—823-8118  
**Science & Technology**—823-8180  
**Social Work**—823-8668

**ADMIN. SERVICES**

**Admissions**—823-8396  
**Bookstore**—823-2037  
**Career Services**—823-8462  
**Cashier’s Office**—823-8462  
**Counseling Center**—823-8542

**Disability Svcs.**—823-2014  
**Financial Aid**—823-8381  
**First Year Experience**—823-8507  
**Graduate Studies**—823-8015  
**Judicial Affairs**—823-8222  
**Library**—823-8873  
**Post Office**—823-8332  
**Housing**—823-8407  
**Student Accounts**—823-8381  
**Student Center**—823-8200  
**University Police**—823-8102  
**Veteran Affairs**—823-2586