When in doubt, reach out!

Dear Emory Families,

In this season of thanks, I want to thank you for your generosity to our university community. By supporting your child in their collegiate endeavors at Emory, you have provided the necessary resources to ensure that our students flourish. For this, I thank you on behalf of a grateful institution.

With Thanksgiving Break followed closely by the start of the final exam period, it is hard to believe that the semester will end shortly. Many students experience increased anxiety and stress during this period. Ample resources exist to help mitigate those feelings including the academic support programs highlighted in this newsletter. Additionally, students experiencing serious challenges should reach out to their Resident Advisor or discuss it with a member of the Counseling and Psychological Services team. We also have a wonderful student-run Helpline that operates from 9pm-1am. You can learn more at http://helpline.campuslifetech.org/.

Finally, if you are concerned about your student, then please reach out. Emory’s Student Intervention Services team works with students to support them and their families through struggling times. Making a referral is easy. You can call 404.430.1120 or submit a referral at http://www.emory.edu/CAMPUS_LIFE/xis/referrals/index.html.

Emory is a caring community, and the Division of Campus Life is committed to helping each student succeed. We are incredibly thankful for your partnership.

Thankfully,
Andy Wilson, PhD
Senior Associate Dean for External Relations
Division of Campus Life
Jessica Simon 15B represents the voice of over 4300 residential students who live and learn at Emory. As president of the Residence Hall Association (RHA), Jessica leads over 175 student leaders in more than 10 hall councils as well as a 15-person executive board. Ensuring that residents have memorable social engagement as well as advocacy outlets, Jessica takes her role as the leader of the university’s third largest organization very seriously.

Jessica, who has been involved with RHA since her first year as president of Few and Evans Hall, attended the Culver Military Academy in Indiana where she honed her exemplary leadership skills. Her other involvement includes serving as a member of the Student Alumni Board, Delta Phi Epsilon sorority, and several university-wide task forces. Additionally, she serves as an 1836 Dinner Host leading academic and social engagement between students, faculty, administrators, and alumni.

Jessica’s academic engagement has led her to pursue a business degree in the Goizueta Business School. Interested in organizational management and strategic thinking, she utilizes her student leadership experiences to inform her in-class learning. Thereby, making the most of her Emory experience.
Emory Pathways to Academic Success for Students

EPASS Peer Tutoring and Mentoring support is offered through the Office for Undergraduate Education, Emory College of Arts and Sciences. Peer Tutoring is available for a variety of specific courses. During a session you can review course content, master basic concepts and develop more advanced skills under the guidance of a fellow student. Undergraduates meet with a peer tutor in one-on-one or small-group sessions. Tutors are available for English as a Second Language support. The ESL tutors are trained to work intensively on grammar and language issues common to ESL students. Do you need help with writing a paper? The Writing Center has tutors available.

Peer Led Mentoring Groups at Emory, are based on Collaborative Learning, a successful instruction method in which students work in groups toward a common academic goal, provide an opportunity to work together to explore important concepts, review class notes, discuss reading assignments, practice test-taking strategies, and prepare of examinations. Sessions are facilitated by an Emory undergraduate student recommended by faculty and trained in group facilitation skills.

These trained peer mentor leaders guide weekly sessions in an effort to apply the following goals:
• Teach students how to think about their learning
• Apply and model what is learned in class/text
• Bring together facts and ideas
• Go beyond answering the question
• Practice using problem sets/complex cases
• Practice how to transfer skills/knowledge beyond the questions on the sheets

IMPORTANT DATES

November 28 - December 1
Thanksgiving Recess (halls remain open)
December 10
Classes End
December 12-19
Exam Period
December 19 - January 12
Winter Break
January 12
Halls Open
January 14
Classes Begin
January 20
Emory’s Day On Volunteer Emory
January 20
MLK Day (no classes)
January 21
Add/Drop/Swap Ends


 Academics remain at the core of the college experience. But the world of scholarly pursuits has a whole new look. “Popular Kabbalah and Contemporary Culture? The Mathematics and Politics of Secure Digital Communication?” queried a puzzled father after his daughter called home to report on the classes she planned to take. Like many parents he was more than a little suspicious of courses with such esoteric titles, courses he wouldn’t have found in a college catalogue when he was his daughter’s age.

Today’s liberal arts students are computer savvy, and often choose to supplement their major studies with courses in business and technology. An increasing number chose to double major, often combining a liberal arts and a technical or pre-professional discipline. They talk about “keeping their options open” and “hedging their bets”--- in case the job market shifts or they don’t get in to a professional or graduate school. Moreover, students enrolled in undergraduate professional programs are taking more liberal arts courses than they used to. For example, MIT has broadened its acclaimed engineering program to include more coursework in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. There is more crossover in general.

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**GIVE BACK-FAMILY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

Family Ambassadors volunteer to assist with outreach activities to support other Emory families. Family Ambassadors give of their time and perspectives to nurture a strong community of Emory families. Some activities may include:

**Panel Volunteers:** Serve as panelists at various programs to provide perspectives of families

**Orientation Volunteers:** Staff the Parent and Family Programs hospitality table during New Student Orientation

**Family Weekend Volunteers:** Staff the Parent and Family Programs hospitality table during Family Weekend

**Reception Host:** Faculty and administrators travel the country to meet families in key cities throughout the year. Host a reception at your home, office, or club.

**BECOME A FAMILY AMBASSADOR TODAY!**
EMORY STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP on a daily basis through their involvement with residence life, Volunteer Emory, Greek organizations, athletic teams, a capella groups, and countless other activities. Ajay Nair, senior vice president and dean of Campus Life, is committed to fostering this sense of leadership and service in every Emory student. Make your gift today to the Campus Life Fund for Excellence and help provide the opportunities for students to hone leadership skills and prepare for the future.