Parents Handbook

Plan II Honors Program
The University of Texas at Austin
Michael B. Stoff, Director
Alexandra Wettlaufer, Associate Director
Wendy Domjan, Assistant Director
2011-2012
A Message for Parents of Plan II Students

Congratulations and greetings to you as parents of a future Plan II student!

I am looking forward to meeting your student this summer, and I hope also to meet as many parents as possible. The Plan II advising team and I will meet with parents on the first day of Orientation from 12:45-1:45 p.m. in the Sinclair Suite of the Texas Union in June and July. We think it of great importance to meet with you during the summer.

Each student will receive personal attention from both peer and professional advisors at orientation. We have an excellent advising staff in the Plan II Honors Program. Mary Dillman and Melissa Ossian, our Academic Advisors, have years of experience advising undergraduates. They have put many hours into training the peer advisors who will be assisting them at orientation.

Please trust your student to make good academic choices with our advice. You can help by making sure that your student’s financial situation is in order and that all health needs are being looked after. You may also be able to help your student find good jobs or internships during this summer or summers to come. At our Orientation meeting, we will be providing you with important information about the wide variety of University resources available to assist your student throughout their time at UT.

Please encourage your student to get to know our advisors before a problem arises. Then stand back and enjoy the messages from school. They will be varied, I’m sure. The first year of college is a tumultuous time, but a wonderful one for most students. It is certainly a delight for us to watch high school students blossom into college students in a matter of weeks.

Also, please plan to see this for yourselves. Family Weekend is held in October, and Plan II will have events on Sunday, October 23rd. We hope you will enjoy the model classes and other events we will schedule on that day. Please check the Plan II web site for updates and information on Family Weekend.

Michael B. Stoff
Director
Congratulations—having a son or daughter admitted to the Plan II Honors Program is a big accomplishment, both for the student and for the parents who have guided them to this point. College is a time of great challenges and personal discovery for children and parents. This handbook is meant to answer basic questions parents may have as well as to provide useful references that we hope will ease your transition from primary director to consultant and supporter of your child’s new life.

WHAT CAN MY CHILD DO WITH A PLAN II DEGREE?

By now you may have heard Plan II described as “Education for a life, not a living.” The structure of the Plan II program is like a pyramid: students start off learning skills such as critical thinking and writing by studying works of great literature and philosophy during their first and second years, then tackling interdisciplinary and challenging topics at a high level in junior seminars, and finishing by examining a single topic in great detail for their senior thesis. This capstone project gives Plan II students highly specialized skills and knowledge that can be directly applied to a chosen career path, or graduate and professional schools. Just as important, though, are the skills Plan II will instill that are bigger than academics: community, service, citizenship, understanding of other cultures and viewpoints—these are the resources that Plan II aims to provide all its graduates, giving them the tools they will need to not only succeed in the working world, but more critically, in the real world. So to answer the question, “What can my child do with a Plan II degree?” the answer unequivocally remains, “What CAN’T they do?”
THE ROLE OF A PLAN II PARENT

Although we are providing this handbook to parents, it is first and foremost the responsibility of the student to stay informed of all important dates, deadlines, and university policies. Plan II provides this same information to students on our web site, in the Plan II newsletter, and through the Academic Advisors, who are available to students year-round. If you get a phone call from your child and they seem confused or upset over something school-related, you can’t go wrong by simply saying, “Go talk to your Plan II Advisor.” Even if we don’t know the answer, we will work to find someone in the University who does. Because of FERPA (explained on pages 6-7), it is always better if the student calls or comes in to the Plan II office themselves whenever they have an academic question or problem.

Learning to allow your children the freedom and independence they need to make their own decisions (and mistakes) is a challenging transition for parents, to say the least. Students who must take the initiative to find their own answers to academic dilemmas are much better equipped for life after graduation, when they will be faced with even more challenging obstacles. We sincerely hope your child never experiences an emergency situation that necessitates your intervention, but sometimes those circumstances can come up, and we are here to help if they should. For more everyday issues, resist the urge to become one of the dreaded “helicopter parents” (see article link below). College is your child’s time to discover what kind of adult they want to become, and they need the right kind of support from parental figures to help get there.

Resources:
- Letting Go: A Parents’ Guide to Understanding the College Years by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treegar

PLAN 2 NEWS

Plan II is as much about community as it is academics. Throughout the year, Plan II will hold events, student organizations will have meetings and social activities, outstanding speakers will come to the Joyces Room, and opportunities for internships, study abroad, and jobs will come up. The best way to find out about these opportunities is to check the Plan II web site and calendar regularly, and to read the Plan II newsletter (Plan2News), which comes out every Tuesday and Friday during the Fall and Spring semesters. Currently enrolled students will have the newsletter sent to them directly via email, and parents can access it on the Plan II web site: http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/plan2/news/plan2news/
While it is always up to the student to stay on top of important dates and deadlines, we find it can be helpful for parents to be aware of the semester schedule as well. If your student is confused or concerned about anything on the semester calendar, encourage them to call or come by the Plan II office for help.

**PLAN II EVENTS**

- **September 1**: Freshman Convocation
- **September 9**: Freshman Getaway
- **Oct. 22-23**: Family Weekend; Plan II events held on Sunday and include brunch and model Plan II seminars. Check the Plan II web site in the fall for details.

**FALL REGISTRATION**

- **August 10**: Tuition payment deadline for students who registered by July 15th (payment due by 5 pm). Classes will be dropped for non-payment.
- **August 18**: Registration for new students not yet registered
- **August 19**: Add/drops for those who registered and paid by August 10
- **Aug. 23-29**: Registered students may add/drop classes online
- **Aug. 30-Sept. 9**: Students may drop classes online but may only add courses with department permission
- **September 9**: 12th class day: last day to add a course (with department permission); last day to drop a course for possible refund (courses dropped after this day will appear as a “Q” on the student’s transcript)
- **November 1**: Last day a student may, with the dean’s approval, withdraw from the University or drop a course (except for urgent, documented nonacademic reasons)
### OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>University residence halls open at 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>Fall classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>Labor Day; no classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Registration for Spring 2012 begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>Tuition bills for Spring sent electronically</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 24-26</td>
<td>Thanksgiving holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>Last class day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 7-10, 12-13</td>
<td>Final exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 14</td>
<td>University residence halls close at 9:00 a.m.</td>
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### SPRING DATES

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 5</td>
<td>Tuition payment deadline for Spring classes (payment due by 5 pm). Classes will be dropped for non-payment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 12-13</td>
<td>Add/drop for spring 2011 for students who have paid by January 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>University residence halls open at 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>MLK, Jr. Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12-17</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9-12, 14-15</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>University residence halls close at 9:00 a.m.</td>
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FERPA

FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, is a federal law that pertains to the release of and access to student educational records. The law, also known as the Buckley Amendment, applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the US Department of Education. Go to http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/index.html to learn more.

To which information does FERPA apply? FERPA applies to personally identifiable information in educational records. Personally identifiable information includes items such as the student’s name, names of family members, addresses, personal identifiers such as social security numbers, and personal characteristics or other information that make the student’s identity easily traceable.

Educational records do not include the following:

Sole possession records (those records kept in the sole possession of the maker which are used only as a personal memory aid and are not accessible or reviewed by any other person except a temporary substitute for the maker of the record)

Medical or psychological treatment records that include but are not limited to records maintained by physicians, psychiatrists, and psychologists

Employment records, provided that employment is not contingent upon being a student

Law enforcement records

Records collected about an individual after the individual is no longer a student at UT Austin

To whom does FERPA apply? At UT Austin, FERPA rights apply to a student; a student is a person who is, or has been, in attendance at the institution, regardless of the person’s age. FERPA rights begin when the student enrolls; that is, when they have registered and paid and classes have begun.

May I access my child’s student records? At the post-secondary level, parents have no inherent right to access or inspect their son’s or daughter’s educational records. The right of access is limited solely to the student.
May I view my child's grades, exams, or academic progress? Final grades, grades on exams, and other information about academic progress are examples of the confidential information that make up part of a student’s educational record. This information is protected under FERPA and parents do not have access to it unless the student has provided express, written authorization.

How does a student submit written authorization? A Plan II student may come to the Plan II office and request an Authorization to Release Student Information form. This authorization form provides express, written authorization for one academic year. Plan II students may elect to submit a new form each year, if they so choose.

What about crisis or emergency situations? If non-directory information is needed to resolve a crisis or emergency situation, an educational institution may release that information if the institution determines that the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

Whom should I contact with questions or concerns? Direct general questions to the Office of Institutional Compliance, the Vice President for Student Affairs, or the Registrar, as appropriate. Send comments or suggestions to the Registrar’s office. More information can also be found at:

http://registrar.utexas.edu/students/records/ferpa/
Dual Majors and Degrees

PLAN II AND…

Probably the biggest myth perpetuated among both Plan II students and parents is that students need to add a second major or degree alongside Plan II in order to find a job after graduation. That seems to stem from the misconception that the Plan II degree is broadly-based, rather than specialized in just one subject area. However, remember that all Plan II students must write a senior thesis on a specific topic of interest to them, making them highly specialized in an area of their own choosing by the time they graduate. As we hope the Career Resources section of this handbook indicates, Plan II majors are highly desirable to employers. Thus, choosing a second major or degree should stem from a deep desire to study a particular discipline, rather than concerns over finding a job after graduation. Because Plan II students tend to have diverse interests, close to 80% of last year’s graduating class completed a second major or degree, ranging from Music Performance to Aerospace Engineering. These students work with two (or sometimes more) Academic Advisors throughout their academic career to guide them through the requirements of each major.

For those that do choose to pursue more than one course of study, the most common question we get from parents is “How long will it take for my child to graduate?” While a legitimate concern, certainly, there is no quick answer to this question. Each student’s choice of majors and personal situation (such as number of test credit hours, summer plans, study abroad, jobs, etc.) play a role in how long their college career will take. Encouraging your student to meet with their Academic Advisors regularly to plan their semesters is the best role a parent can play in keeping them “on track.”

If there is one piece of advice we hope all parents will take to heart, it is to allow your child to follow their passion when it comes to their studies and career path. Time and time again, it is the students following a program they are not passionate about who make lower grades and take longer to graduate. In addition, many of these students enter an unfulfilling career after graduation and eventually return to education later in life to pursue something different.
Career Resources

WILL MY CHILD GET A JOB?

Good news! Not only do Plan II students do very well on the job market, recruiters from a wide variety of employers contact the Liberal Arts Career Services office specifically asking for Plan II majors. Our students have reputations for being hard workers, quick learners, great problem solvers, and top-notch writers and researchers (in addition to being just plain smart). The saying “What CAN’T you do with a Plan II degree?” continues to hold very true. Recent graduates have gone on to work for companies such as Morgan Stanley, Accenture, Bain & Company, and Citigroup. Many also find employment in the government and non-profit sectors, at places such as the Texas Legislative Council, Teach for America and the Brookings Institution. More than a few pursue advanced degrees in law, medicine, academics, or other professions. Some become entrepreneurs and launch their own businesses.

PLAN II SOPHOMORE ADVISING PROGRAM

During their second year, Plan II students are required to participate in the Sophomore Advising Program, a year-long series of events that helps students set academic goals and learn about important career-related opportunities. The components of the Sophomore Advising Program include the Sophomore Summit event, a self-reflection questionnaire and essay, Plan II Career Week, and a one-on-one advising session with a UT faculty member. Participants in the Sophomore Advising Program include Plan II staff and alumni, faculty from across the campus, and multiple University offices. The Career Week workshops help students explore their individual interests in opportunities such as studying abroad, participating in undergraduate research, finding an internship, preparing for postgraduate education, and applying to programs like the Peace Corps or Teach for America. It is our sincere hope students will take advantage of the Sophomore Advising process to learn more about themselves, the resources available to them, and how they can proactively use their time at UT to prepare for the future. For more information on the Plan II Sophomore Advising Program visit:

http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/plan2/advising/soph.php
UNIVERSITY CAREER RESOURCES

The Liberal Arts Career Services (LACS) office is a resource that students should begin using during their very first year at UT. They help students compose resumes, find internships, and practice interviewing skills, among other things. Their online recruiting database, LiberalArts@Work, has a wide variety of employers seeking liberal arts majors. Some recent listings include Ernst & Young LLP, Merrill Lynch, the Office of the Governor, and the American Cancer Society. Encourage your son or daughter to register with their services: [http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lacs/](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lacs/)

LACS also provides pre-law advising for students interested in attending law school: [http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lacs/Students/PL-GS/PreLaw.php](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lacs/Students/PL-GS/PreLaw.php)

The Sanger Learning & Career Center provides counseling for students who have no idea what they want to do with their lives. They offer career testing (such as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator) at discounted prices, as well as assistance to students interested in applying to graduate programs: [http://lifelearning.utexas.edu/](http://lifelearning.utexas.edu/)

The Health Professions Office is the office that assists students interested in a health professions career (other than nursing). Students with questions about the classes required by medical schools, the MCAT, and how to apply to medical schools are directed here: [http://cns.utexas.edu/careers/health-professions](http://cns.utexas.edu/careers/health-professions)
GRADES/GPA

GRADE DISPUTES

Occasionally students may feel that a grade they received has been unjustly given, and often times parents are the first ones who hear about their frustration. In any grade dispute, the student must first meet with the professor of the course to discuss the grade and why a different grade should be assigned. If a student feels he or she has a legitimate complaint that can not be resolved with the professor of the course, the next steps are to take the issue to the head of the department offering the course, and then to the dean of the college. Consequently, Plan II staff are rarely, if ever, involved in a grade dispute, unless it is in a Plan II course. In this case, the student may elect to meet with the Plan II Director after first meeting with the professor.

ACADEMIC REVIEW

All Plan II students are expected to maintain a minimum 3.25 grade point average to remain in the program. Students whose GPAs fall below 3.25 but not below 2.5 will be placed on Academic Review. Any student whose GPA falls below 2.5 or who fails a required Plan II core curriculum course (as defined in the 2010-12 Undergraduate Catalog) is subject to dismissal from Plan II. The first semester students are placed on Academic Review, they are notified of their status and required to meet with the Plan II Academic Advisors monthly. If their GPA does not improve after one semester, they will then be placed on a contract, which typically requires them to undertake a specific number of hours with a minimum GPA during the following semester. If students fail to meet the terms of their contract, they will be dismissed from Plan II and counseled into another degree path at the University.

The Academic Review Committee looks at each student’s individual situation and certainly takes extenuating or non-academic situations into consideration. Whenever students are dealing with any type of non-academic problem, it is in their best interest to meet with a Plan II Academic Advisor immediately so that Plan II will be aware of their situation and can refer them to appropriate University resources.
Tutoring

ON-CAMPUS TUTORING RESOURCES

The Sanger Learning & Career Center provides both drop-in tutoring and one-on-one appointment tutoring to currently enrolled UT students. Drop-in tutoring is a free service and is offered in introductory Math, Physics, and Chemistry. One-to-one appointment tutoring is useful when students have specific questions about concepts covered in class or homework problems that require more time than drop-in tutoring can provide. Many Plan II students, especially those taking Calculus, should take advantage of this resource.

In addition to tutoring services, the Sanger Learning & Career Center provides academic counseling and workshops that address common high school-to-college adjustment issues such as time management, study strategies, and test anxiety. They also offer opportunities for students to sign up for a Peer Academic Coach, specially trained student coaches who meet with them weekly about how to study effectively for UT courses. More information can be found at: http://lifelearning.utexas.edu/

Each year, Plan II tries to recruit and hire tutors for two of the program’s more challenging science courses, Plan II Logic and Plan II Physics. Information about tutoring for these courses is distributed to Plan II students via the Plan II Newsletter, Plan2News.

If you feel your child needs some additional help with their classes, encourage them to visit the Sanger Learning & Career Center, or to simply come talk to one of the Plan II Academic Advisors, who can discuss these services with them in more detail.
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Office of Student Financial Services (OSFS) is the University office that coordinates applications for federal loans, university scholarships, work-study, and other means of financial support. For students to be eligible, they must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year (due March 31st). Plan II gives annual scholarships that are tied to the FAFSA information, in addition to the Plan II Continuing Scholarship Application, which must be submitted every Spring.

Even if your student did not receive a scholarship one year, it is best to submit the FAFSA and Plan II application every year so that it is already on file should a scholarship opportunity become available.

USEFUL FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES:

Plan II and Liberal Arts financial aid/scholarship information:
- [http://www.utexas.edu/cola/student-affairs/Programs/Scholarships.php](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/student-affairs/Programs/Scholarships.php)

OSFS:
- [http://finaid.utexas.edu](http://finaid.utexas.edu)
- [http://finaid.utexas.edu/sources/index.html](http://finaid.utexas.edu/sources/index.html)

FAFSA:

Student employment opportunities:
- [http://www.hirealonghorn.org/students](http://www.hirealonghorn.org/students)
Housing

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING RESOURCES

The Division of Housing & Food Service (DHFS) is the office to contact if any issues regarding living in a dorm on campus should come up. Plan II cannot assist in placement in dorms or requests to continue living in a dorm in subsequent semesters. Returning students may begin to apply for a dorm on November 1st via the DHFS web site: http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing

Information regarding the Honors Dorms can be found at: http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/uhc/residences

DHFS CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please e-mail all questions and comments to housing@austin.utexas.edu

Mailing Address:
Division of Housing and Food Service
P.O. Box 7666
Austin, Texas, 78713-7666

Telephone: 512/471-3136
FAX: 512/475-6532

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Make Checks Payable To: The University of Texas at Austin
UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

At University Health Services (UHS), your son or daughter will receive the highest quality care in a supportive environment that focuses on the needs of college students. You can expect everything from UHS that you get from your family doctor... and more.

UHS healthcare providers are physicians, advanced nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. They are supported by teams of nurses, pharmacists, laboratory and radiological technologists, licensed counselors, registered dietitians, and professional health educators. If your son or daughter needs medical specialty care not offered here, UHS can refer him or her to appropriate community resources. UHS safeguards medical information in accordance with all applicable privacy and confidentiality laws.

Students who wish to schedule an appointment at UHS should call the UHS Appointments Line at (512) 471-4955 to schedule an appointment. A limited number of same-day appointments and an Urgent Care are reserved for students with pressing medical conditions. There is a nominal charge for office visits, and charges apply for all tests, procedures, and supplies used to diagnose and treat illness and injuries.

Students can call the UHS 24-hour Nurse Advice Line at (512) 475-6877 anytime 24/7/365 to get guidance about whether and how to care for themselves at home, schedule an appointment, come to the Urgent Care Clinic, or go to an off-campus 24-hour clinic or emergency room.

UHS is not health insurance, and UT students are not automatically enrolled in an insurance plan. UHS can bill your insurance if your policy covers your student. More information about how insurance works with UHS can be found here: http://www.healthyhorns.utexas.edu/insurance.html

Students without health insurance can use UHS. However, they may need medical care when UHS is closed, require specialty services not provided at UHS, or suffer an illness or injury that requires an emergency room visit or hospitalization. Keep your son or daughter on your insurance plan if possible. Otherwise, consider Student Health Insurance, a UT System-approved plan by UnitedHealthcare: https://www.uhc.com/UTexasAustin
COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Counseling & Mental Health Center (CMHC) is available to assist students with many of their personal concerns so that they can meet the daily challenges of student life. Counseling services are provided by psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, and other mental health professionals. There is a nominal charge for UT students for each individual, psychiatric and couples counseling appointment.

The Counseling & Mental Health Center is open to registered U.T. students between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Their office is located on the 5th floor of the Student Services Building, and their telephone number is 512-471-3515.

Telephone counseling is a confidential service of CMHC that offers an opportunity for UT students to talk with trained counselors about their problems and concerns. A counselor is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays: 512-471-CALL (2255) (UT Students Only).

Complete information about CMHC services can be found at: http://cmhc.utexas.edu/

STUDENT EMERGENCY SERVICES

This office is the place to call when a student has an extended absence from school because of a sudden emergency or illness. Student Emergency Services can provide professors and on-campus supervisors with electronic or written letters notifying them of your student’s absence. Supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s note or letter from primary care provider) to verify your student’s illness or injury will be required. Most faculty are understanding of absences due to illness and injury, but the degree to which they can be flexible is entirely at their discretion.

In cases where the illness or injury requires a significant number of absences from classes, medical withdrawal or cancellation of registration may be necessary. Medical or mental health withdrawals/cancellations are handled by University Health Services (UHS), the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) and the student’s academic college. Student Emergency Services can explore this option with your student and can facilitate the withdrawal/cancellation process.

Student Emergency Services can be reached at 512-471-5017 (8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday). More information is available at their web site: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/parents.php
Campus Safety

STAYING INFORMED

The office of Campus Safety and Security ensures safety on campus by overseeing Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health and Safety, Fire Prevention Services, Parking and Transportation, and The University of Texas at Austin Police Department. The “Preparedness Central” section of their web site includes several informative links, including recent campus crime statistics:

http://www.utexas.edu/safety

Parents may want to bookmark the office’s Emergency Information web site, which provides up-to-date information about campus alerts, closures, and openings during emergencies or unfavorable weather situations: http://www.utexas.edu/emergency

Should a situation arise where you or your student feel the University Police Department (UTPD) needs to be contacted, call them directly at 512-471-4441, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

UTPD also puts out a regular “Campus Watch” bulletin that presents selected information about recent crimes reported to or observed by UTPD in the campus area. Anyone can subscribe to Campus Watch to receive daily reports by e-mail. Sign up at: http://www.utexas.edu/police/campuswatch

OTHER SAFETY SERVICES

The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) System is a program of realistic, self-defense tactics and techniques. It is a comprehensive course for women that begins with awareness, prevention and risk reduction, and incorporates hands-on defense training. UTPD offers this free class regularly, and female students can simply sign-up online at: http://www.utexas.edu/police/rad

Students can also call 232-WALK to arrange for SURE Walk Escort which provides evening escorts to campus locations. Encourage your student to take advantage of these free resources.
The **Behavior Concerns Advice Line** (BCAL) is a service that provides students, faculty and staff an opportunity to discuss their concerns about another individual’s behavior. An important way for the university community to feel connected is to create opportunities for caring and concern. BCAL provides a central resource to anyone who is concerned about an individual and may not be sure about how best to help them. By calling the advice line, or submitting information online, campus and community support networks may be accessed; optimizing the chance that individuals will receive needed assistance.

Students who are concerned about the behavior of a fellow student, faculty, or staff person on campus can contact BCAL at 512-232-5050 or submit an online form. Trained staff members will assist the individual in exploring available options and strategies. They will also provide appropriate guidance and resource referrals to address the particular situation. Depending on the situation, individuals may be referred to resources including but not limited to the Office of the Dean of Students/Student Emergency Services, Counseling and Mental Health Center, and the Employee Assistance Program.

Additional information can be found at: [http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal/](http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal/)
Other University Resources

DEAN OF STUDENTS

The office of the Dean of Students (DOS) not only coordinates orientation events, but also provides services that parents should be aware of including:

- Legal Services for Students: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/lss
- Student Judicial Services: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs
- Student Emergency Fund: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/studentemergencyfund.php

Other services include advising student organizations, fostering student leadership, and providing guidance to fraternities and sororities. A complete list of DOS services can be found at: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/newtodos/criticalfunctions.php

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Based in the philosophy that all students should be assured equal access and opportunity, Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) works to eliminate physical, instructional and attitudinal barriers by providing reasonable accommodations and fostering awareness within the University community. SSD determines eligibility and helps implement reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.

Students who need to register with SSD should call 512-471-6259 or go in person to the Student Services Building, Suite 4.104, and ask to make an initial intake appointment with a Student Affairs Administrator. More information can be found at: http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT DIVISION

The Student Division Office (part of the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office) provides numerous services for our students—particularly those services that require special consideration and are only within the jurisdiction of the dean, such as withdrawing for the semester or dropping a class.

The student division is located in GEB 2.306, and can be reached at 512-471-4271.

Complete information online at: http://www.utexas.edu/cola/_portals/parents-and-visitors.php

STUDY ABROAD OFFICE

The experience of study abroad is becoming increasingly critical in our global community. It is desirable to employers, and can be a life-changing experience for students. We encourage all Plan II students to make time in their academic career for study abroad, whether for a month, summer, one semester, or whole year. Numerous programs exist to accommodate schedules and degree plans, and so the earlier a student begins looking into opportunities the better. In addition, Plan II has a travel grant fund that we use to partially support our students’ study abroad endeavors. We hope to continue growing our travel grant program and someday achieve our goal of having all Plan II students study abroad.

Visiting the UT Study Abroad Office is the first step in the process; program information as well as a schedule of upcoming information sessions can be found at: http://www.utexas.edu/student/abroad

TEXAS PARENTS

The mission of Texas Parents, the Parents’ Association of The University of Texas at Austin, has been to support the needs of students and their parents. To keep parents informed, the organization publishes Texas Parents, the official parent magazine, mailed to all UT Austin parents each fall semester. The Texas Parents web site, www.texasparents.org, is another important tool parents can use to access information, advice and programs throughout campus. To keep parents involved, they host Family Weekend, an event where UT Austin families are invited to campus to learn more about their students’ experiences and their life as a Longhorn. Plan II holds events on the Sunday of Family Weekend, including a brunch and model Plan II classes. Don’t miss it!
Plan II Parents’ Fund

SUPPORTING PLAN II

Plan II created the Parents’ Fund many years ago to help defray the rising costs of the programs and events we offer each year. Thankfully, much of what we do academically costs us little because of the enthusiasm of professors from other departments, the helpfulness of the student association, and the hard work and loyalty of the staff. But there remain essential costs that are not covered by our University budget. Each year those costs increase.

In the fall, Plan II will mail you details about Family Weekend that will include more information about the Parents’ Fund and how to contribute.

If you have any questions about the Parents’ Fund and giving to Plan II, please contact our development specialist Phillip Dubov at <phillip.dubov@gmail.com> or visit:

http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/plan2/support/

Plan II knows that parents give to their children’s education in many ways and not just in dollars. We appreciate your support in all forms. The quality of students that make Plan II the jewel that it is could not happen without you, and we take seriously the trust you have placed in our program.

Thank you!