August 2010

IMPORTANT DATES

A great place to keep track of what is going on at UCM is through our university calendar found at www.ucmo.edu/calendar/. A few of the many important dates for the fall semester include the following:

August 15 – Residence halls open at 8am
August 17 – Classes begin
August 24 – Last day for fall semester enrollment and changing classes
August 25 – Fall semester financial aid credit balance funds start being disbursed
September 15 – Fall semester Stafford Loan disbursement begins for freshman students who are borrowing for the first time
September 24-26 – Family Weekend
November 22-26 – Thanksgiving holiday – Residence Halls close at 6:00 p.m. Friday, November 19 and open at noon, Sunday, November 28
December 6-10 – Finals week
December 10 – Residence halls close at 6pm and reopen January 9 at noon

Additional information regarding the fall payment and registration dates can be found at www.ucmo.edu/portal.

MOVING IN

Residence halls open at 8 a.m., Sunday, August 15. You can check in until 10 p.m. daily. When you arrive at your student’s hall, look for specific check-in instructions.

Opening day can seem really hectic. Families are all unloading at the same time. For your own peace of mind, please make sure a family member stays with your belongings while unloading to ensure no other family accidentally moves it into a different room. Volunteer crews will assist in unloading your vehicle when you arrive on Sunday. Their job is to get your student’s belongings moved from your vehicle to the
sidewalk as quickly as possible so that your vehicle can be moved to another location. Your assistance will reduce traffic congestion and help the move-in process go as smooth as possible.

Students who pre-ordered loft kits can pick them up on Sunday, August 15, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Monday, August 16 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Students on the east side of campus (Ellis/UCC) can pick up the loft unit in the Ozark Room of the UCC. Students on the west side of campus can pick up their loft unit at Todd Hall.

Reserved refrigerators and pre-ordered carpet can be picked up from Nickerson Hall (entrance off Washington Street) during the following hours: Sunday, August 15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Monday, August 16, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. A limited number of refrigerators may still be available to rent. Even if you have not pre-ordered a unit, stop by Nickerson Hall during the above listed hours to see what is available. There may be a few extra carpets as well. Stop by if you are interested!

Please check the housing web site at www.ucmo.edu/housing/ for any last minute updates before you arrive.

PAYING BILLS

Each student has a cumulative balance account that is established through the addition of class charges, housing and meal plan choices and other miscellaneous charges. Credits in the form of approved federal aid, scholarships and cash payments are applied to the account balance through Student Financial Services in Ward Edwards, Room 1100.

Each student receives one paper billing statement per semester that is mailed to the home address. The initial billing statement and subsequent billing statements will be made available electronically at the middle of each month. If you would like to have the ability to view the electronic copies of the billing statements your student can grant permissions using our online billing and payment system.

The payment deadline is August 20, 2010, for students who registered between March 23 and August 14, 2010. To view established payment deadlines for the fall 2010 semester and to obtain information about payment options, please visit us at the Student Financial Services web site at www.ucmo.edu/sfs/.

Please note that the SFS Office experiences heavy call and email volume during the week preceding the beginning of the semester. If you need to speak with a representative, we encourage calling before 10:00 am or after 3:00 in the afternoon. We do our best to respond to students and families in a timely manner but there are wait times in the phone queue during specific times of the day. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the self-service features available in order to avoid frustration.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT VALIDATION

To avoid being dropped from classes, the student must validate enrollment in each class in one of the following two ways:

- Preferred: Attend each class on the first day the class is scheduled to meet. Or
- Alternate: If unable to attend on the first day, the student must contact each class instructor prior to the first class day to indicate his or her intention to continue enrollment. Contact may be accomplished by email or standard mail.

If the student misses the first day of class and is reported as absent by the instructor, the student will receive an email from the University warning of a possible course drop. The student will have 24 hours to contact the instructor indicating whether the student plans to attend or not attend the class. **If the student does not plan to attend, he or she will be directed to the student portal to officially drop the class. If the student fails to drop the class, he or she will be held financially responsible for the class even if he or she does not attend the class.**

This procedure is heavily dependent upon communication between students and faculty. Therefore it is critically important that the student check his or her correspondence and the UCMO student email account during the week before classes begin and during the first several weeks of the semester.

If you have questions about this policy, please contact Mike Grelle at grelle@ucmo.edu.
FAMILY WEEKEND 2010

Mark your calendar now for Family Weekend 2010 to be held September 24-26, 2010. Join in the fun events such as the UCM student talent show, athletic events, open houses, inflatables, fun run, and more. More information will be mailed to your home when the semester begins. In the meantime, information can be found at www.ucmo.edu/family/. We look forward to seeing you in September.

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The scholarship, grant, student loan and parent loan disbursements for the 2010 fall semester have been finalized for almost all of UCM's financial aid applicants. If you wish to verify that all requirements have been met for your student, you and (s)he should log on to the MyCentral Portal at https://mycentral.ucmo.edu/cp/home/displaylogin using your student's ID and Password. Click on the 'Student Services' tab then on the various links under UCM Financial Aid for more information. If you need clarification about any aspect of your student's assistance, please feel free to contact the UCM Office of Student Financial Services by telephone (660-543-8266) or by visiting www.ucmo.edu/sfs/ServiceTracking/index.php.

Receiving federal, state and UCM financial assistance comes with responsibilities and expectations on the part of the student. One of the most important responsibilities is that an aid recipient regularly attend all classes. Please be advised that if a student ceases attending or otherwise participating in one of more of his/her classes (or worse, does not attend at all), some or even all of the financial assistance that has been credited to the student's UCM account may have to be reversed. This action will result in a balance owed to UCM.

If your student has not yet applied for financial aid for the 2010-11 school year, there's plenty of time to do so. The 2010-11 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can still be completed and submitted on-line at www.fafsa.gov.

SUBMITTING TRANSCRIPTS

Make sure your student receives the credit they earned.

The summer has come and gone and your student is ready to begin fall semester at UCM. Have they earned dual credit while in high school? Did they take a course or two during the summer? If so, your student should request that an official transcript be sent to the UCM Office of Admissions from each regionally accredited college or university previously attended. In addition, be sure that final high school transcripts have been sent to the Admissions Office in order to complete the application file.

Official transcripts should be sent in a sealed envelope to:

UCM Office of Admissions
1400 Ward Edwards
Warrensburg, MO 64093

GETTING USED TO COLLEGE

New college students typically take a while to adjust to their new lives. It takes time to make new friends, find your way around, and learn what is expected. During this time, students may experience some homesickness and their grades may slip. Generally, students are able to regain their footing quickly and get back on track within their first year.

You can help your student with adjusting to college by helping to maintain some structure and balance in their lives. Encourage them to:

- Keep a schedule and set priorities
- Make time to study, eat, exercise, sleep and take care of themselves
- Set aside a reasonable amount of time for fun and socializing
- Get involved in campus activities
- Take advantage of the resources available on campus
Check their UCM email on a regular basis. E-Mail is the official form of communication with students.

**CAMPUS JOBS**

The likelihood of your student returning to campus for semester #2 increases if they work part-time on campus. The connectivity to campus as well as those transferable job skills that develop for their internship and full-time job down the road is important. The Office of Career Services assists students in connecting to these part-time opportunities on-campus as well as in the community.

On Monday, August 16, Career Services will host a Part-Time Job Fair in the Ballroom of the Elliott Student Union. Nearly 50 area employers (primarily on-campus) will be there to take applications and discuss opportunities for students. In addition, there are two online resources to connect with part-time opportunities:

**How Can I Find A Part-Time Job?**

Check available part-time jobs at the Career Services homepage: [www.ucmo.edu/career/students/](http://www.ucmo.edu/career/students/).

Step 1) Look for the Central Career Network (CCN) log in box on the right hand side of the web page.  
Step 2) Enter Username and Password.  
   
   Username: UCM email address  
   Password: Check UCM email address for message titled “Part-Time Jobs”.

Step 3) After you log in, go to “Quicklink”.

Click on “Part-Time Jobs in Warrensburg” for all postings.

Note: If looking for Work-Study positions, click on appropriate link.

**GREEK RECRUITMENT**

**What is Greek Life?**

The sororities and fraternities are comprised of unique individuals who are together complete. Being part of a Greek organization will leave you with many memories and help in your development of becoming better-rounded individual. Greek students share pride not only in their chapter but also in their institution. Greek students also share common goals of excelling in scholarship, leadership, service, friendship and education while developing relationships with the greater Warrensburg community. Take the next step in becoming a scholar and a leader by exploring Greek life.

**Greek Basics**

We have 24 fraternities and sororities. The Greek community represents 11% of the undergraduate student population.

Fraternities and sororities dedicate over 15,000 hours to community service and raise $20,000 annually for local and national charities. Greek Life at Central is a premier avenue for leadership opportunities.

**Recruitment**

Greek recruitment is a mutual selection process for potential members to learn about what all of our fraternities and sororities have to offer. Each new student should have already received some information about Greek life and will have a packet in their campus mail when they arrive on campus. We are not mailing packets over the summer.

**Save the Date!**
### Interfraternity Council Recruitment (Fraternity)

Student Involvement Fair: Wednesday, August 18, 2010, 3-5 p.m. in Union 240. All fraternities will host tables at this year's Involvement Fair. Students are invited to stop by each table.

Fraternity Information Event: August 24, 2010, 6-8 p.m. at the Elliott Union 237A. Fraternity Recruitment is 365 days a year.

### Panhellenic Recruitment (Sorority)

Sorority Open House Events: August 24-25. Registration is due by midnight, August 26, 2010. A link to registration can be found at [www.ucmo.edu/greeklife/](http://www.ucmo.edu/greeklife/).

### National Pan-Hellenic Intake

Informational meetings will be held during the fall semester. Please contact the Office of Greek Life at [www.ucmo.edu/greeklife/contacts.cfm](http://www.ucmo.edu/greeklife/contacts.cfm) for more information.

### For more information, please contact Greek Life at 660-543-8121.

If you would like to sign up to receive this newsletter via email, click [here](http://www.ucmo.edu/parents/newsletter/).