PARENT CONNECTION

THE COLLEGE | THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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Photo by Melina De Bona, Class of 2015
WELCOME TO OUR FIRST ISSUE

Welcome to the first issue of the Parent Connection. This new publication replaces the previous News for Parents and Families emails. I hope you will find this newsletter provides you a picture of campus life and serves as a guide to the upcoming quarter. But this newsletter is only the start of what everyone here in the College hopes will be a vibrant and active new year within our community of UChicago parents and family members.

Our new Parent and Family Website launched in May, and I hope that parents.uchicago.edu will become a regular destination for you as you seek information and opportunities at the University. We also launched the exciting new UChicago Parents Community Online this past August. This new community provides parents opportunities for engagement with other parents, campus news, and information about upcoming events. Visit www.uchicagoparents.org to get started.

As Associate Director for Parent and Family Relations, it is my job to serve as a contact and resource for parents. I will be working throughout the year to provide you with updates, news, and important information about what’s happening on campus. And if there is something you need help with, a comment you want to share, or feedback you want to provide us, please feel free to contact me. I am easily reached by email at mhendricks@uchicago.edu. Also feel free to let me know if you’re coming to campus as it would be great to meet more of our UChicago families in person.

All of us here on campus are excited to kick off this new academic year, and I hope it will be filled with great opportunity and wonderful new experiences for all of us. Whether you are a new parent or the family of a returning student, welcome to this special place where we are all united in the common quest to educate and provide our students with the tools to change the world.

Warmest Regards,
Matthew Hendricks
Associate Director, Parent & Family Relations

FAMILY WEEKEND 2013

Preparations are underway for Family Weekend 2013, a celebration of the UChicago Family Community. As with previous years, the most popular events have returned, including our model classes, tours of Hyde Park and Kenwood aboard double-decker buses, and the delicious Dean’s Champagne Brunch. But we have also thrown in a few new events as well. The Institute of Politics will be hosting a Politics Media Lounge for political junkies to keep up with the events of the day. There will be hardhat tours of the still under-construction Becker-Friedman Institute of Economics, and Student Health is joining us to provide parents with more information about student health offerings and to answer questions about the University Student Health Insurance Program (USHIP).

Family Weekend is once again teaming up with Homecoming to bring families the popular Homecoming Block Party and Maroon Football game. Also going on during the weekend is the 35th annual Humanities Day with more speakers and model classes for attendees to choose from. (Please note that Humanities Day does require a separate registration, which you can access at humanitiesday.uchicago.edu.)

We hope that you will join us during the weekend of October 18-20th for Family Weekend. Our registration site is open online at familyweekend.uchicago.edu, but we encourage you register soon. Online registration closes on October 13th. We hope to see you on campus soon for this beautiful fall tradition.

Join us October 18-20th for a celebration complete with model classes, tours, open houses, and a homecoming block party.
MAKING NEW CONNECTIONS

On August 9th, the UChicago Parents Community Online made its debut at www.uchicagoparents.org. The new website brings together news, events, blogs, and photos along with opportunities for parents to connect to one another. The new community is free to join, but it does require a valid email address.

The College has long invited parents to engage with the University community through events, lectures, discussions, and volunteer opportunities. This new website makes that goal easier than ever thanks to a mix of real-time news updates and an easy to navigate events list. Parents can even register for many events straight through the site itself. Additionally, parents will find information about other ways they can support the educational and career goals of our students by giving back to the University in the form of philanthropy or volunteerism.

The UChicago Parents Community Online will not replace other communication tools or the Parent and Family Website. Instead, we hope that this new site will create a new avenue of connection between the College and the families of our students. If you have any questions about the new community, email mhendricks@uchicago.edu.

FEELING THE SPIRIT

The University of Chicago prides itself in providing spiritual life resources to students of diverse faiths. Not only are there many places on campus and within Hyde Park to pray, meditate, or find a spiritual community, but there is also a Spiritual Life Office dedicated to meeting students’ spiritual needs on campus. This office connects students to religious advisors, supports student religious and spiritual organizations in achieving their purposes, and offers a rich variety of programming connected to spirituality and religion in today’s world.

If your student is looking for ways to practice faith, encourage him or her to:

• Browse a list of local religious institutions to find a spiritual community nearby.
• Meet with a religious advisor to discuss aspects of a specific religious tradition or faith and spirituality in general.
• Get involved in a student organization to connect with other students of a particular religious or spiritual tradition.
• Participate in a variety of Spiritual Life events, including daily meditation sessions or weekly yoga at the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, a hub of spiritual life at the University of Chicago.
• Philosophize over snacks at the Spirit Café or check out a book at the Spirit Library.
• Visit quiet, contemplative spots on campus, including Botany Pond, Bond Chapel, and the Chicago Theological Seminary. There are also prayer spaces and a spiritual lounge in the Rockefeller Chapel’s Interreligious Center.

Sundays at Rockefeller: Weekly at 11am

Sundays at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel offer a worship ceremony that draws on the cathedral tradition, incorporating music, readings, and liturgical resources from many times and many places. The sacrament of bread and wine is offered to all who wish to receive it. All are welcome to enjoy the majesty of the architecture and beauty of the Rockefeller Choir, which features 30 to 40 voices.

Learn more about Spiritual Life opportunities at: http://spirit.uchicago.edu
PREPARING FOR POST-GRADUATE SUCCESS

Career Advancement kicks off 2013-2014 building on impressive momentum.

The University of Chicago understands that career development is a high priority for parents. As a new academic year begins, the Career Advancement team is looking forward to seeing your student on campus and working with them to explore their professional interests and goals.

Class of 2013 Outcomes: Status at Graduation
Your students will begin this academic year with the momentum of a very successful 2012-2013 recruiting season. The class of 2013 has continued UChicago’s trend of successful outcomes, with graduating fourth-years accepting full-time jobs, matriculating to graduate and professional school programs, joining entrepreneurial start-ups, and preparing to travel the world.

Over 95% of the class of 2013 graduated with plans, and this success sets the stage for even more opportunities for current students.

Regardless of your student’s area of interest, there are a wide-range of career paths and exploratory opportunities for him or her. In particular, the UChicago Careers In (UCI) pre-professional programs expose students to specific industries and offer an unparalleled complement to their work in the classroom. These industry-specific career preparation programs are directed by an expert in the field and students who participate in the UCI programs have access to personalized advising with these experts, professional development workshops, internships and networking opportunities. Students are encouraged to explore all of these programs to learn more about what fields might be the best fit for future career paths:

- UChicago Careers in Business
- UChicago Careers in Education Professions
- UChicago Careers in Entrepreneurship
- UChicago Careers in Health Professions
- UChicago Careers in Journalism, Arts and Media
- UChicago Careers in Law
- UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service
- UChicago Careers in Science and Technology

Over 95% of the Class of 2013 Reported Substantive Post-Graduation Plans*

*Substantive post-graduation plans include employment, graduate/professional school, studying for graduate/professional school entrance exams, volunteering, travel, and actively searching for employment.

Class of 2013 Industry Outcomes
UChicago students also continue to thrive in a number of industries. In May of each year, we survey all of our graduating fourth-years. With a response rate of more than 94%, we feel very confident that our data accurately reflects the plans of our graduating classes. 97% of respondents who reported having accepted full-time jobs as of graduation reported a job type. Those named most frequently were:

- Education & Academia
- Business & Financial Services
- Science & Technology
- Consulting
- Government/Public & Social Service
- Media, Publishing, & Communications
- Arts
- Law
- Other

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You and your students can learn more about the UCIs and the rest of our exciting career development programs by exploring the Career Advancement website.

Career Advancement is here to support your students at all stages of their professional development. As the year progresses, Career Advancement will provide continued updates regarding programs and resources for students, and parents are encouraged to visit our website often for highlights regarding what is happening on campus.

Rising fourth-year Wolfgang Connell, a member of UChicago’s varsity football team, says it best, reporting after his summer internship that, “...from day one at The University of Chicago, I have been given the opportunity to experience a wide range of classes and topics, from early American history to the artistic medium of videogames and cinema. Through it all, my propensity to learn has been tested greatly, but at the beginning of my fourth year, I know that I am more prepared now to go out into the workforce than if I had chosen any other school.”

As Career Advancement prepares for the start of the next academic year, Wolfgang’s experience is just one example of how these programs support students throughout their time at the College. The Career Advancement team is looking forward to providing this support to your students in the coming year as well!

Check the calendar on page 16 for upcoming events from Career Advancement and visit careeradvancement.uchicago.edu to learn more about the department.

**UCHICAGO LEADS**

The Office of the Reynolds Club and Student Activities (ORCSA) is excited to announce the launch of the UChicago Leads initiative this Autumn Quarter. At the University of Chicago, we believe that every student has the potential to be a leader, and we strive to provide opportunities for students to identify and develop the skills necessary to become global leaders who will make a significant impact and transform the world.

As the umbrella program, UChicago Leads includes leadership development programs, student organization training, and advising for RSO leaders. The programs and services offered through UChicago Leads seek to develop leadership capacities such as innovation, humility, resilience and adaptability, and interpersonal skills. In order for students to apply their specialized knowledge and make a difference in the world, they must learn to think critically, adapt to changing conditions, and develop interpersonal skills that enable them to be effective team members and leaders. We believe these qualities can be learned through a diverse, robust engagement in University life outside the classroom, and we have developed programs available for students to assist in the development of those skills.

This autumn, through a unique partnership with the Gallup organization, the University of Chicago has developed a pilot program focused on educating and developing students for leadership using the StrengthsQuest leadership assessment. The StrengthsQuest Program begins with an online leadership tool provided through Gallup; this online assessment identifies the student’s “Top 5” talents and then provides examples of how they may be able to build upon these strengths and leverage them to maximize their success as a student leader.

All students in the Class of 2017 were provided a StrengthsQuest access code prior to the start of the Autumn Quarter and will be invited to a series of focused programming offered throughout the year. The instrument’s emphasis on identifying students’ top five skills and focused attention of developing those skills will help students at all stages of their personal development, from a successful transition into University life to assisting with career exploration!

In addition to the StrengthsQuest program, we have several leadership development opportunities planned for the year, including the Student Leadership Institute and the “A Way with Words” public speaking workshop series. For more information about these exciting programs, please check out studentactivities.uchicago.edu.
It’s a familiar story: Zidi Chen started playing the violin in the first grade when her mother signed her up for group lessons. Chen recalls that she thought it was “lame” and that she “didn’t like practicing at all”—she and her mother would fight all the time about it.

“I basically hated violin until middle school—but it’s not like I hated playing, I just hated practicing,” said Chen. But when Chen joined a youth orchestra in the seventh grade, her perspective changed.

“It was fun because that was pretty much the first time I actually got to play with other people my age. It’s cool to hear the whole orchestra rather than just yourself. Then I just started liking playing,” Chen explained. “I still hate practicing—everyone hates practicing—but I like playing so much now that I think it’s worth it.”

Chen’s most memorable concert experiences, both the ones that she’s performed in and the ones she’s attended as an audience member, have been collective performances. She singles out playing a concerto with her high school orchestra senior year and attending a transformative performance from the Berlin Philharmonic in high school as especially unforgettable.

“The aesthetics of them on stage was really impressive,” said Chen. “They were all together and they were all playing using the exact same amount of bow—each single player, so you could see a sea of bows going in the same direction—totally in sync. It was just so cool. If you go to concerts for any orchestra that isn’t a well-known ensemble, their bows are sort of in sync, but not really, and there’s always someone who does the totally wrong thing. That’s very realistic. What I saw with the Berlin Philharmonic was unbelievably surreal.”

Fast forward to this past winter quarter, when Chen was one of four exceptionally talented students—and one of just two undergraduates—that emerged victorious from the University of Chicago Concerto Competition. The competition, which is held just once every two years, drew a record number of contestants hoping to earn a spot performing with the University Symphony Orchestra.

Although Chen realized that she would have another shot at the competition as a fourth-year even if she didn’t win this February, she knew that she had to view it as a do-or-die event if she wanted any chance at winning. And this mindset paid off: Chen performed Alexander Glazunov’s Violin Concerto in A minor, Op. 82 in Mandel Hall on Saturday, April 22nd.

For Chen, a second-year Economics major, balancing being a non-music major with her musical pursuits is a non-issue.

“Music is a big part of my life, but I don’t think it takes up that much time. I have orchestra rehearsals once a week. I have a lesson once a week. I practice a bit in-between,” Chen laughed. “It’s only been this past quarter when I’ve really had to get ready for this concert and the competition that it’s been busy.”

When she’s the busiest, Chen points out, it’s not from having to practice violin.
“I find that whenever I’m busy, it’s because I have problem sets due, discussion sections, office hours to go to…and then sometimes music takes a backseat.”

Though she doesn’t see herself pursuing music professionally after college, for now, Chen continues to be heavily involved in the U of C music scene.

“A lot of people I know stopped playing after high school as soon as they got to college because it was like, ‘I don’t have time for that,’” said Chen. “But for me, it just made sense that I would keep playing. It never really occurred to me to stop. I kept playing and then there was the competition in February. I did that.”

Chen said that the University’s support has been crucial in allowing her to continue to play and develop as a musician.

“There’s the very obvious financial aspect,” said Chen. “They do a lesson scholarship; you have to audition for it every year. They pay up to 60% of your lessons. The orchestra conductor, Barbara Schubert, has been really good about recommending violin teachers. After I won the competition, they also had someone from Eighth Blackbird, which is a contemporary ensemble, a very, very good, Grammy-winning ensemble—the violinist in that ensemble, to coach me. I think just providing the opportunity to have this whole concerto concert is really great.”

The concert also held special significance for Chen for personal reasons.

“I kind of see it as the last chance that I have to play with an orchestra. And for a soloist—for any musician—I think that’s a pretty big event. I kind of see this as my last chance to do it. Because after college, I don’t know what’s going to happen. I want to kind of close off my career, so to speak, on a good note. It’s closure.”

Chen wistfully notes that she’s very happy, in hindsight, that her mother forced her to keep playing the violin.

“I love music. There’s a lot more to do. There’s a lot more to learn. And it’s kind of sad, because I won’t get around to all of it. I don’t know if I’m ever going to do anything major with it. It’s just a part of my life. And I hope that it will always be a part of my life.”

Find more Uniquely Chicago stories at college.uchicago.edu/uniquely-chicago.

UChicago has become a prime destination for food trucks, drawing eager customers along Ellis Avenue daily. In fact, students can even track which food trucks are on campus thanks to the UChicago Food Truck Twitter feed, @UCHiNOMgo, which is run by Avi Schwab, Web Projects Manager for College IT.
Q: Tell us a little about the Seminary Co-op and explain what you mean by Co-operative.

A: The Seminary Co-op Bookstore is a customer-owned co-operative. It was founded in 1961 by seventeen initial investors, and was originally in the basement of what was then the Chicago Theological Seminary, at 58th and University. We moved one block east, to our current location, in November 2012, and today have over 53,000 members, all of whom are part owners of the bookstore. Our focus is on academic books, with sections that reflect the strengths of the University’s intellectual community – we sell a lot of philosophy, economics, linguistics, anthropology, literary criticism, history, etc., but we also have strong literature and graphic novels sections. Our other branch, 57th Street Books, focuses more on trade and general interest books – they have a great kids books section, as well as mysteries, science fiction, cookbooks, and pretty much anything you can’t find at the Woodlawn Ave. branch, as well as some crossover.

Q: What makes the Seminary Co-op special as compared to other booksellers in the area or online?

A: We wouldn’t be the store that we are without the community that we’re in. Hyde Park is such an incredibly diverse neighborhood, and we try to ensure that the books that we sell reflect this diversity. Our long-time general manager and buyer, Jack Cella, has a finely-honed talent for knowing what our customers want to read, and stocks our shelves with that in mind. We’ve also become, over the years, a meeting-place for chance cross-disciplinary discussions; I can’t tell you the number of fascinating conversations I’ve heard between customers browsing the front table or settling in among the books for a chat. I think that any good independent bookstore reflects its community in this way, and this is an asset that simply can’t be replicated online.

Q: Is membership required? And what benefits come with membership?

A: Anyone can buy books at the Co-op -- you don’t have to be a member. Members buy three $10 shares of stock in the bookstore, for a $30 total investment, and are then part owners of the business. Members who spend at least $100 dollars during our fiscal year (July-June) receive a 10% purchase credit towards future purchases during the following fiscal year. In other words, if you were to spend $150 during our 2013-2014 fiscal year, on July 1st 2014 you would get a $15 credit to use in the store any time during our 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Q: You recently had the Grand Opening for your new building. What kinds of comments are you getting about your new space?

A: A lot of our long-time members were initially a bit wary about the move – they were very attached to that labyrinthine, subterranean space. We’ve had an almost entirely positive response to the new space, however. The architects, Stanley Tigerman and Margaret McCurry, did a great job of echoing the good aspects of the old store while at the same time making it much more customer- and employee-friendly. Stanley, who is a long time member of the Co-op, interviewed a number of customers regarding what they liked best about the old space. Apparently the common theme was that they liked the sense of getting lost in the stacks, and the claustrophobic feeling that one could be completely buried in an avalanche of books. The architects managed to recreate the labyrinthine sense in a much more open setting, with natural light and functional heating and air conditioning at the appropriate seasons, which has been a bit of a novelty for us. They did keep the exposed pipes and conduits on the ceiling, but high enough that we no longer have to worry about hitting our heads. The selection of books and the knowledgeable employees remain the same, in a much more inviting space.

The Grand Opening was a tremendous amount of fun, and it was really a pleasure to see how many familiar faces came out to help us celebrate. [Acclaimed author] Aleksandar Hemon gave a wonderful keynote speech, and drew a standing room.
only crowd in a tent on the lawn out back. We were also entertained by CMAC, one of the University’s many fine a capella groups.

Q: What are you all most excited about as the new academic year begins? What’s coming up that you would like people to know about?
A: We have a number of events coming up that I think students and parents alike will find really interesting. On October 7th at 6pm at UChicago’s International House, we welcome David Kilcullen, author of the highly acclaimed book *The Accidental Guerrilla and Counterinsurgency*, who will be discussing the potential for future conflict in urban coastal cities around the world. And on October 17th at 6pm, John Nichols & Robert W. McChesney visit to discuss their new book, *Dollarocracies*, about the impact of unbridled campaign spending on our politics and elections. A full listing of our upcoming events can be found at www.semcoop.com/event.

Q: How can parents keep up with what’s going on at the Seminary Co-op Bookstore?
A: Parents and students can sign up for our weekly newsletter, which highlights some of the new arrivals that we’re especially excited about. We also have an events email list—anyone who would like to be added to either list can email us at orders@semcoop.com.

Q: Which books are creating the most buzz right now?
A: As far as local authors go, anything written by Martha Nussbaum is an instant Co-op bestseller. Her new book, *Political Emotions*, has been selling very well. More broadly, Javier Marías’s new novel, *The Infatuations*, is very popular. Another book that’s been doing very well since it first came out in hardcover in 2011 is *Feynman*, Jim Ottaviani and Leland Myrick’s graphic novel about physicist Richard Feynman. It came out in paperback this past March, and continues to be a favorite among customers.

See video of the Seminary Co-op at www.uchicago.edu/features/seminary_co-op_deepens_intellectual_life/ and visit them online at www.semcoop.com.

**MAKING LIFE EASIER**

The Office of International Affairs and the Bursar’s Office are very pleased to announce a new service available to those who need to transfer funds from abroad to the University of Chicago to pay for tuition and fees. While international students and their families have always been able to make payments via wire transfer, feedback about this process has indicated that it can be expensive, slow, and unreliable. The University has now partnered with peerTransfer to provide a system that has several advantages:

peerTransfer allows you to:

- Pay from many different countries and banks;
- Reduce the cost of foreign exchange;
- Save money on bank fees and ensure your payment is received in full;
- Receive peace of mind with 24/7 multilingual customer support;
- Track your payment from start to finish.

peerTransfer ensures that your international payment can be easily identified and posted to your student account. You can begin the payment process by going to uchicago.peertransfer.com or by clicking the peerTransfer link when you are paying your E-Bill. Students can also register online via my.uchicago.edu, the University portal for student services.

For questions about making a payment with peerTransfer, please email support@peertransfer.com.

For questions regarding billing and related matters, please email the Bursar’s Office at bursar@lists.uchicago.edu.
**ERIN McDERMOTT**  
LEADING THE WAY FOR THE MAROONS

UChicago’s new Athletic Director is focused on victory for the Maroons in the classroom and on the field.

**Q:** To start off, tell us a little about your career background.  
**A:** While at UMass, I was a graduate assistant at Mount Holyoke College and to finish my degree, I completed an internship for NACWAA (see Career at a Glance) and worked in the athletic department at San Francisco State University. Through a NACWAA program, I met an associate athletic director at Columbia and she encouraged me to apply for a new position. I was hired into that position and stayed there for three years. I then moved onto Princeton where I worked my way up over 13 years from an assistant athletic director for compliance and general administration to associate and senior associate AD for compliance and campus relations to executive associate and deputy AD for operations.

**Q:** What got you interested in athletic administration?  
**A:** Playing basketball at Hofstra opened my eyes to the support structure that the athletic administration provided and made me start thinking about pursuing athletic administration as a career. I am passionate about the education sport provides to competitive athletes and was determined to help women and other underrepresented groups have an equitable experience in sport. I experienced inequity at times and thought more diverse voices needed to be part of the structure so inequities were addressed proactively. My primary objective is to provide the best and most competitive experience we can to all student-athletes while they are fully engaged in a rigorous academic environment. That doesn’t mean that they all need the same things but we need to be vigilant that we are addressing all of their needs as much as possible to ensure a positive, successful competitive experience.

**Q:** What brought you to UChicago?  
**A:** I was immediately interested in the athletic director position when I learned that it was open and a search would be conducted. I wanted to be an athletic director but only at an institution that would be compatible with my values and philosophy for college athletics. Coaches are educators and part of the teaching and learning experience for student-athletes. Student-athletes are in college to learn in all ways possible and fully engage in a campus community. They want to compete on successful teams but they prioritize academic endeavors and certainly, completing a degree. I knew UChicago would fulfill those expectations and offer student-athletes a tremendous experience at a premier institution of learning, in one of the greatest cities in the world. Athletics should be a vibrant part of campus life for all students who want to participate in various levels and open to the entire campus community. I was drawn to the energy and excitement surrounding the university and knew Athletics could help enhance that.

**Q:** What are your goals as Athletic Director? What do you hope to bring to University of Chicago Athletics?  
**A:** My goals are to provide an excellent and educational experience to all students who participate in our programs. We will strive to compete for UAA and national championships in intercollegiate sports. We will strive to offer competitive and fun experiences to sport clubs and intramural athletes. We will work toward servicing the full campus community to promote general health and wellness.

**DID YOU KNOW:**  
UCHICAGO ATHLETICS HISTORY

In October of 1892, the Board of Trustees selected goldenrod as the school’s official color, but UChicago football coach Amos Alonzo Stagg didn’t approve. The yellow was too easily soiled and made for “regrettable symbolism for our opponents”. He suggested maroon since it was not in use by any major school in the midwest. The baseball team was the first to appear in the color during the 1894 season. Learn more at athletics.uchicago.edu.
I hope to bring knowledge, energy and a new perspective to UChicago Athletics in order to achieve these goals, build relationships and engage alumni/ae.

Q: What are you most excited about as you start your new position?
A: I’m most excited about the energy and “buzz” surrounding the University of Chicago nationally. Athletics will be part of that and we can do great things here. I’m excited about being at this University in this city. I’m excited about the quality of people in Athletics and working with our exceptionally talented students.

Q: What do you see as the biggest challenge that you will face?
A: Biggest challenge will be navigating a complex institution as a new community member and realizing our goals given the resources we will probably need to achieve many of them.

Q: What will you be doing in your free time?
A: I will be exploring this great city as much as I can, especially while the weather is outdoor friendly. I practice yoga. I enjoy being with friends and I do have a few in Chicago. I do need some down time on occasion and spend that at home with my felines, Jem and Scout. I will certainly be spending some quality time on the phone and Face Time to stay in touch with family and close friends and look forward to many of them visiting me here in Chicago.

Career at a Glance:
- Bachelor’s degree – International Business from Hofstra University (BBA)
- Master’s degree – Sport Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (MS)
- Past 13 years working at Princeton University – Deputy Director for Athletics (3 years); served other 10 years in other roles (Assistant AD to Senior Associate AD)
- Prior to Princeton – Assistant Director of Compliance and Special Projects at Columbia University
- Intercollegiate basketball player and a multi-sport high school athlete
- The second female athletic director at the University of Chicago
- NACWAA Board of Directors (National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators)

BENEATH THE OLD MAROON

C Stands for Courage by Carl Burton
Harvard proudly floats her crimson banner,
Yale’s flag as blue as the azure sky;
Iowa’s flag bathed in golden sunbeams,
Dartmouth proudly floats her green on high, green on high.
The Card’nal of Wisconsin floats to Northland.
Pennsylvania boasts her Navy,
But there is no better letter worn on any hero’s sweater
Than our “C” of Victory.

C stands for cherished courage,
H for her honor high,
I for her iron-bound interest,
C for her college cry, CHI-CA-GO,
A for her aim so ardent,
G for her gallantry,
O stands for Old Man, the best coach in this land, the big “C” for victory.

Wave the Flag (UChicago Fight Song)
Wave the flag of old Chicago,
Maroon the color grand.
Ever shall her team be victors
Known throughout the land.
With the grand old man to lead them,
Without a peer they’ll stand.
Wave again the dear old banner,
For they’re heroes ev’ry man.

Scholarly Yell (Yes, this exists.)
Themistocles, Thucydides,
The Peloponnesian War,
X squared, Y squared,
H2SO4.
Who for? What for?
Who we gonna yell for?
GO, MAROONS!

A selection of songs and cheers from UChicago’s history to help anyone “Bleed Maroon” collected by Adam Kissel
In an age of innovation, digital technology, and social media, parents of college students have access to more modes of communication than ever before. Of course, just because new methods exist, that doesn’t mean your student will necessarily want you to use them. Understanding how and when to utilize new forms of technology is essential for parents to keep in touch and show support, but technology and social media can also be foreign, overwhelming, or downright confusing.

There is an important balancing act that parents must perform between staying in touch and giving students an appropriate level of privacy. The question that every family must grapple with is how to stay connected while also working to foster independence, which is an important step in any student’s development. In order to help parents navigate this situation, we’ve put together a list of useful communication tips.

What you should do...

• Ask your student for permission to follow them on Twitter or friend them on Facebook before you request it through the site. Some students don’t want to communicate with their parents via social media platforms so have that discussion with them before you put them in the difficult position of saying yes or no to that friend request.

• Recognize that many college students text or email far more often than they talk on the phone. Sending regular texts or emails to let them know you’re thinking about them can enhance your relationship and keep you in the loop.

• Keep phone calls short and sweet. Many students prefer frequent, short conversations to long, pre-scheduled ones. If talking on the phone doesn’t become a chore, students will be more excited to check-in.

• Be strategic about which questions you ask. If you just let your student drive the conversation, you probably won’t get much out of them. So ask about events they have attended, organizations they’ve joined, or sights they’ve seen around the city. The more specific you are with your questions, the better the quality of the answers you will receive.

• “Like” the University’s Facebook page to remain up-to-date on campus news. You can learn a lot about your student’s life by understanding what is going on around them.

• Browse pictures on the university’s Tumblr page to see events, student performances, and other activities taking place on campus. This will help you better visualize your student’s life at the University of Chicago.

• Strike a balance between staying in touch and being too involved in the day-to-day details. If your student is struggling with something, encourage them to make use of their resources on campus. If you aren’t sure who to refer them to, visit the Parent and Family Website and check out the Vital Information section for help.

• Send care packages. Despite increasing technology, students love to get snail mail more than any other type of communication!

Avoiding Communication Mistakes

• Don’t expect your student to immediately respond to missed calls or voicemails. Recognize that your student is busy and may not be on the same schedule as you.

• Don’t forget that phone calls can often be a cathartic experience for students. They may call and vent all of their stress, but that doesn’t mean they need an intervention. They will probably feel better after having talked to you, even if they have stressed you out in the process.

• Avoid the “Like” button or commenting on everything on his or her Facebook profile. If you are privy to this information, be sure not to abuse it. Facebook can be a great tool to peek into your student’s life, but it becomes “uncool” when you “Like” something too.

• Whether you like it or not, new technology platforms are here to stay, and they are changing the way that people communicate with one another. If you are unfamiliar with a certain type of technology, Google it. If you need a tutorial, watch a video on YouTube. And, most importantly, talk to your student about it to establish boundaries with which you are both comfortable.
WHAT STUDENTS ARE READING

Social Science 13100: *The Drunkard's Walk: How Randomness Rules Our Lives* by Leonard Mlodinow

Leonard Mlodinow vividly demonstrates how our lives are profoundly informed by chance and randomness and how everything from wine ratings and corporate success to school grades and political polls are less reliable than we believe. By showing us the true nature of chance and revealing the psychological illusions that cause us to misjudge the world around us, Mlodinow gives us the tools we need to make more informed decisions.

Creative Writing 12112: *The Coast of Chicago: Stories* by Stuart Dybek

The stolid landscape of Chicago suddenly turns dreamlike and otherworldly in Stuart Dybek’s classic story collection.

Humanities 13500: *Mules and Men* by Zora Neale Hurston

*Mules and Men* is a treasury of black America’s folklore as collected by a famous storyteller and anthropologist who grew up hearing the songs and sermons, sayings and tall tales that have formed an oral history of the South since the time of slavery. The folklore recorded in these pages captures the imagination and brings back to life the humor and wisdom that is the unique heritage of African Americans.

Physics 11400: *Origins: Fourteen Billion Years of Cosmic Evolution* by Donald Goldsmith and Neil deGrasse Tyson

*Origins* explores cosmic science’s stunning new insights into the formation and evolution of our universe—of the cosmos, of galaxies and galaxy clusters, of stars within galaxies, of orbiting planets, and of different forms of life.

Humanities 11000: *The Epic of Gilgamesh* translated by Andrew George

Gilgamesh, King of Uruk, and his companion Enkidu are the only heroes to have survived from the ancient literature of Babylon, immortalized in this epic poem that dates back to the third millennium BC. A timeless tale of morality, tragedy and pure adventure, *The Epic of Gilgamesh* is a landmark literary exploration of man’s search for immortality.

A selection of the books being assigned this quarter in UChicago undergraduate classes

Book descriptions reprinted from Amazon.com

In August, UChicago announced the building of a new residence hall to replace Pierce Hall. This new hall and dining commons will open in 2016. To learn more, visit [http://housing.uchicago.edu](http://housing.uchicago.edu).
SHOWING YOU CARE

On-campus and Off-campus partners offer great gift ideas and discounts for UChicago parents.

Whether for an upcoming birthday, in recognition of a special achievement, or just to say “we’re thinking about you”, a care package can be a welcome surprise for any student. With this in mind, we have teamed up with on and off campus partners to provide parents with some great options to make their student’s day.

Thompson House residents, located in International House, run their own birthday cake delivery service, with all proceeds going to support House programs and study breaks. For $15, payable via check or PayPal, parents can request a tasty birthday treat in a variety of favors delivered along with a birthday card in a specially decorated box.

We have also worked out some special deals with some exciting partners with long ties to the University of Chicago. Sugar Bliss Cake Boutique offers a wide array of cupcakes and cakes from one of the Loop’s most celebrated bakeries. Sugar Bliss will deliver to addresses on and around campus and has offered a 10% discount during the first month of each quarter.

Another great partner, Sweet Home Chicago Gifts, lets parents create uniquely designed gifts and care packages that are limited only by your imagination. Whether you are looking to appeal to your student’s personal interests or even to put together a “Get Well Soon” gift pack, Sweet Home Chicago has lots of great options for you to choose from. In addition to ongoing sales, they offer delivery to addresses across the city and 10% off your order when you mention a discount code.

For discount and mailing information, as well as links to all of our partner sites, visit the Care Packages and Treats page on the Parent and Family Website, parents.uchicago.edu.

Don’t Miss an Issue of the Parent Connection Newsletter or Anything Else...

Make sure that we have your correct mailing and email address to ensure that you don’t miss important mailings or other information from the University of Chicago. Take some time with your student to visit my.uchicago.edu and double check the contact information that we have on file.

Federal law mandates that only your student can make changes to the information in their official record, and this includes the contact information for family members or guardians. It is a good idea to double-check your contact information at least once a year or after any moves or changes to your email address. For additional questions, contact the College Programming Office at 773.702.8616.

Let Us Know Your Thoughts by Participating in our Family Feedback Program

We want to know what you think, and your thoughts might appear in future editions of the Family Connection Quarterly Newsletter. Simply visit parents.uchicago.edu/familyfeedback and leave your comments about our newsletter, thoughts about being a UChicago parent, or whatever is on your mind. Make sure to give us your name and email address as well.

While you’re there, take a moment to answer our Family Feedback Question of the Month. Your answers will be combined with the thoughts and opinions of others to help us a take the pulse of our parent and family community.
Dear Mom and Dad,

I hope you are doing well back home in Minnesota; the sunny September weather here in Chicago has been fantastic. The quarter hasn’t even started yet, but thanks to Orientation my days have already filled up with things to do! I know it was a little sad to see me off to college early this year, but it was easier to move into housing before everyone else, wasn’t it? Since I’m a Student Director, I’m in charge of making sure Orientation Week runs smoothly and helping the Orientation Leaders welcome the new students to campus. Luckily for them, the rising first-years have three Chicago Life Meetings that will help guide them through an overview of what life is like at UChicago and in an urban setting. It was hard work helping the House O-Aides move the first-years’ belongings into Burton-Judson; too bad there aren’t any elevators in a building from 1931!

Since this year I’m on the executive board of Phoenix Funds, a finance-related student group, I’m included in the pre-academic year planning process. Not only am I helping to develop the curriculum for fall quarter, but also my personal goal is to bring at least two speakers to campus to meet with the group. Since I interned at Prudential Financial in New York over the summer through the Jeff Metcalf Internship Program, I received many names of people in Chicago who would be interested in meeting with our students. I hope we can use that to our advantage when we are recruiting first-years at the Student Activities Fair! My other student group, the Professional Students Diversity Network, already has our first event planned out: representatives from the CIA are coming to explain what they do and how they planned out their careers. It’s a good thing that the Maroon Key Society and the Student Government Committees that I’m involved with, like the Campus Dining Advisory Board and the Elections and Rules Committee, don’t start their meetings until later in the year, otherwise I wouldn’t have any time for classes!

Speaking of classes, I’m really excited for what I’m taking in the fall. I’m taking Advanced Macroeconomics, which is the last class in the economics core sequence. After this, I will only need to take electives to finish off the major! Hopefully I can try to get into Professor Levitt’s class on the economics of crime! Other than that, I am also taking a Civilizations class to finish off my core requirements, and a computer science class on programming in Java. I researched all of my professors beforehand and they all had phenomenal reviews from other students, so I can’t wait until I can see them in person. I’ll have to stop by the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore beforehand to pick up my textbooks; it’s a good thing that I get the member discount since I’ll most likely end up buying some more books for pleasure reading!

Did I mention that I have a meeting downtown this weekend? I’m taking the #6 express bus from Hyde Park to the loop to have lunch with my old externship mentor. Do you remember last winter break when I had my weeklong externship at J.P. Morgan Chicago, in the Sales and Trading division? The person I shadowed said that she would be more than happy to meet with me before the start of the school year, and she’s also interested in hearing more about the University of Chicago Careers in Business: Financial Markets program that I participate in as well. I’m thrilled to have the chance to tell her about the Booth classes I’ve taken through the program, as well as the networking opportunities it has helped me to find. Since I’ll be busy this fall applying to find my 3rd year summer internship, hopefully she can help me find a company that fits me not only professionally, but also personally.

I know both of you sometimes worry that I’m not staying healthy, but I’ve been going to the gym regularly, I promise! It’s easy since the Ratner athletic center pool is open until 9:00pm and then I can stay on the cardio machines until midnight. The shuttle that stops outside the gym goes straight to my residence hall too, so it’s no problem even if I exercise late into the night. The first intramural sports don’t begin until a bit later in the quarter, so for now I’ve been playing soccer on the midway with my house to compensate. I can’t wait until the spring for my favorite: inner tube water polo!

I’m having a great time, as usual, and I hope you can come down for family weekend. If not, I’ll be sure to take the bus home for Thanksgiving!

Your son,

Steven
The Autumn Quarter begins with an exciting mix of events across campus and around the world. Find more events at [www.uchicagoparents.org](http://www.uchicagoparents.org).

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Restructuring the Global City</td>
<td>Mumbai, India</td>
<td>A symposium examining policies and processes shaping urban restructuring in India and the United States. Presented by the School of Social Service Administration and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. Visit <a href="http://www.uchicagoparents.org">www.uchicagoparents.org</a> for more information.</td>
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<td>October 14-18</td>
<td>UChicago Cares Wellness Week</td>
<td>Various locations across campus</td>
<td>Departments across campus team up to for a series of events related to maintaining student health and wellness. Learn more at <a href="http://wellness.uchicago.edu">wellness.uchicago.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>October 18-20</td>
<td>Family Weekend</td>
<td>Check-in occurs at Ida Noyes Hall 1212 E. 59th St.</td>
<td>A campus-wide celebration designed to provide families with a taste of the UChicago student experience. Learn more at <a href="http://familyweekend.uchicago.edu">familyweekend.uchicago.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>October 19</td>
<td>35th Annual Humanities Day</td>
<td>Check-in occurs at Stuart Hall Harper Quad</td>
<td>The Division of the Humanities invites you to explore new topics in literature, visual arts, linguistics, music and more. Learn more at <a href="http://humanitiesday.uchicago.edu">humanitiesday.uchicago.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>October 19</td>
<td>Homecoming</td>
<td>Stagg Field 5530 S. Ellis Ave.</td>
<td>Cheer on the Maroons and take part in the festive Homecoming Block Party. Learn more at <a href="http://homecoming.uchicago.edu">homecoming.uchicago.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
<td>Free Flu Shots for UChicago Students Available</td>
<td>Locations across campus</td>
<td>Students should bring their UChicago ID card and wear short sleeves. Find more information at <a href="http://healthcare.uchicago.edu/page/flu-program">healthcare.uchicago.edu/ page/flu-program</a>.</td>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Steps to Success: Exploring Your Strengths</td>
<td>Ida Noyes Hall 1212 E. 59th St.</td>
<td>First-year students who have taken the StrengthsQuest assessment will learn how to utilize their strengths to enhance leadership skills and career development.</td>
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<td>October 25</td>
<td>Deadline to waive out of University Student Health Insurance Program (U-SHIP)</td>
<td><a href="http://studenthealth.uchicago.edu/page/enrollments-and-waivers-2013-2014">studenthealth.uchicago.edu/page/enrollments-and-waivers-2013-2014</a></td>
<td>Those who wish to waive the U-SHIP enrollment should visit the Student Insurance website for the appropriate documents.</td>
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<td>October 27</td>
<td>Harper Lecture with Craig Hogan: Limits of Reality: Space and Time on the Largest and Smallest Scales</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>An examination of experiments being conducted at Fermilab and what scientists hope to learn from the new science of gravitational waves. Learn more at <a href="http://www.uchicagoparents.org">www.uchicagoparents.org</a>.</td>
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<td>November 3</td>
<td>Harper Lecture with Gil J. Stein: In the Shadow of the Taliban</td>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
<td>Learn about UChicago’s collaborations with the US State Department and the National Museum of Afghanistan while exploring the efforts to protect Afghanistan’s ancient cultures. Learn more at <a href="http://www.uchicagoparents.org">www.uchicagoparents.org</a>.</td>
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<td>November 9</td>
<td>Maroons Football vs. Carnegie Mellon</td>
<td>Stagg Field 5530 S. Ellis Ave.</td>
<td>The Maroons take on UAA rivals Carnegie Mellon at Stagg Field in the final home game of the regular season. Find more sports information at athletics.uchicago.edu.</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>College-Sponsored Opportunities Overview and Resume Review</td>
<td>West Lounge, Ida Noyes Hall 1212 E. 59th St.</td>
<td>Career Advancement offers students the chance to learn more about College-sponsored career development opportunities and tips for improving their resume.</td>
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<td>November 16</td>
<td>University of Chicago Chamber Orchestra Concert</td>
<td>Performance Hall, Logan Center for the Arts</td>
<td>This concert remembers the anniversaries of two composers who altered the course of music history, Richard Wagner and Benjamin Britten. Learn more at chicagopresents.uchicago.edu.</td>
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<td>November 16</td>
<td>Family Day at the Connecticut Science Center</td>
<td>Hartford, CT</td>
<td>Join alumni and their families for a day at the museum. Visit <a href="http://www.uchicagoparents.org">www.uchicagoparents.org</a> for more information.</td>
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<td>November 20</td>
<td>Steps to Success: College Resume Ready</td>
<td>International House 1414 E. 59th St.</td>
<td>First-year students will participate in a hands-on workshop to transform their high school resume into one that’s appropriate for applying for college-level opportunities.</td>
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<td>November 28-29</td>
<td>University Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<td>Find the full schedule of University holidays at <a href="http://www.uchicago.edu/academic/calendar">www.uchicago.edu/academic/calendar</a>.</td>
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<td>December 13</td>
<td>Autumn Convocation</td>
<td>Rockefeller Chapel 5850 S. Woodlawn Ave.</td>
<td>Find more information about the Autumn Convocation, including maps, hotel, and travel information at convocation.uchicago.edu.</td>
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<td>December 14</td>
<td>Residence Halls Close</td>
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<td>All residence halls will close at the end of the Autumn Quarter at noon and will remain closed until Sunday, January 5th. For more information, visit housing.uchicago.edu.</td>
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From September 22nd through September 29th, Orientation Week took over campus. Here’s a look back at some of the week’s events. Photos by Amanda Pagul, Class of 2015, and Freddy Tsao, Class of 2016.
For more coverage of Orientation Week and to see additional photos, check out UChicago News’ coverage at www.uchicago.edu/features/uchicago_community_welcomes_incoming_students/
Gargoyles and grotesques have become synonymous with Gothic architecture. Technically, a gargoyle is distinguished from other grotesques as a figure carved from stone that spouts water away from the building. The University of Chicago features many examples of both types of figures, including the gargoyles of Cobb Gate, designed by architect Henry Ives Cobb. The gargoyle has become an unofficial symbol of the University and features prominently in various aspects of campus life.

Background information by Special Collections Research Center. Photo by Freddy Tsao, Class of 2016.