What I Wish I’d Known

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AU Parent & AUPA Board Member

THE NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR STUDENT:
Be prepared for how much you will miss them (and they will miss you).

Learn to “parent” by text — I never call my student. I may text him to call me when he gets a chance, but this way they won’t look “uncool” by getting a call from Mom.

And, my big advice for parents: Don’t ask the question if you really don’t want to know the answer!

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES:
Involvement is very important! Have your student think ahead of time what he/she wants to join and be sure not to miss the application deadlines.

Campus organizations can be found in the Auburn A-Z Index on the Auburn website — LeaderShape and Tiger Tuesdays are two of the leadership organizations that were specifically mentioned.

Sorority recruitment takes place before the Fall Semester.

HOUSING:
Off-Campus Housing: Summer electric bills — decide ahead of time who will pay, continue to split the bills or just have the roommates attending summer school pay the bills.

Roommates: Get e-mails and phone numbers for the roommates as well as the parents of the roommates.

Be sure to note the beginning and end dates of leases — this is a real problem for students who move each year.

TRANSPORTATION/SAFETY:
Use Tiger Transit to get to classes and for going out at night to the downtown activities. Tiger Transit will also take students to Wal-Mart — check the different routes at www.auburn.edu/tigertransit

At night there is a Security Shuttle, call them (334.844.7400) and they will pick up your student and take him/her home.
ACADEMIC ADVISING, TUTORING, ETC.:

Use Study Partners from the beginning — available at the RBD Library.

Assume that your student if going to need tutoring in Auburn’s traditionally difficult subjects such as Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, Biology, etc. Get tutor recommendations from professors, Study Partners, or the College/School/Department.

Encourage your student to frequent the Writing Center — located at the RBD Library.

If your student wants to change majors, require them to counsel with the Auburn University Career Center BEFORE their major can be changed, so that there are not too many hours wasted.

It is better to drop a class and have to repeat it than make a grade which can keep the student from being admitted to the College/School of their choice (more than half of all colleges/schools have admission requirements; ex: AU School of Nursing requires close to a 4.0 for admission). Many parents don’t read/understand that fine print until it is too late.

Utilize Auburn University Career Center from the beginning — during Freshman Year.

Be aware of Academic Support Services and have the student use these services.

FOOTBALL:

If you are planning to go to football games, make your reservations as soon as possible! You need to call the hotels directly in most cases.

You can take Tiger Transit on game days from remote locations.

Tailgating is an art at Auburn — get in the spirit and enjoy!

When going to football games, get into the stadium early to watch the eagle fly! It is one of the coolest things you will ever see.