UPCOMING PARENTS AND FAMILY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Get engaged in the NCCU community by becoming involved with the NCCU Parents and Family Association! The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in Alfonso Elder Student Union. Click here for more information and to RSVP.

You can become involved in three main ways through the Parents and Family Association:

- **Membership Committee**: Works to build the membership and involvement of the Association.
- **Parents’ Liaisons**: Stays up to date about resources to serve parents and families of NCCU students and ensures they are shared with the NCCU parents and family body.
- **Special Projects Committee**: Develops and plans parent events, programs, and services.

Send an e-mail to parents@nccu.edu to learn how to become involved today!

THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNSHIPS

Internships are work-related learning experiences that provide students with opportunities to gain knowledge and skills in a particular career field. Internships provide an opportunity to experiment and pursue careers that match academic and personal interests. As a career builder, internships are a chance to gain exposure to fields of interest without making a permanent commitment.

In addition to gaining great experience to augment your student’s college classroom learning, internships allow students to beef up their resume and make valuable contacts that can be essential to getting that ideal job upon graduation. In today’s competitive job market, it’s a combination of what your student knows and who they know that will make the difference. College internships are a great way to address both of those issues at the same time.

Internships are one of the best ways for college students to get needed job experience. Not only do students get hands on experience in an office setting and become part of a team...

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CONGRATS TO NEW EAGLE ALUMNI!

473 graduates participated in commencement exercises on December 13, 2008 The Parents and Family Association congratulates these new Eagle alumni and hopes they will continue to soar.

RENEW YOUR FAFSA EARLY!

Beginning January 1, 2009, remember to submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2009-2010 academic year. Renew your FAFSA early by clicking here. Find NCCU scholarship information here.

HONDA BATTLE OF THE BANDS

North Carolina Central University will join nine other Historically Black College and Universities in the Honda Battle of the Bands Invitational Showcase on January 24, 2009 at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta! Support the Eagles with your attendance! Tickets can be purchased at: www.HondaBattleoftheBands.com

QUICK LINKS...

- Understanding the Impact of the Credit Crunch on Student Loans
- Benefits of Summer Internships
- Finding College Scholarships and Grants
FRESHMAN EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM...

The Emerging Leaders Program is open to all first year students and the registration fee is $50.00. Involvement in this program will give your student an opportunity to build and improve his or her leadership skills, explore issues related to leading with integrity, and develop transferable skills needed for professional and career success.

Students will also attend the 22th Annual Student Leadership and Diversity Conference at the University of South Carolina and be given priority for participation in the 2009 LeaderShape Institute. This week long intensive leadership development program will be held at a retreat center in North Carolina.

Please encourage your student to take advantage of this exciting university resource by bringing returning the registration form and $50.00 fee to Peggy Watson Alexander in suite 236 of the Student Services Building by the deadline, Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at 5:00pm. Please call (919) 530-7088 with any questions.

UNDERSTANDING (AND OVERCOMING) THE CHALLENGES THAT FACE FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

While some students’ eyes may glaze over when their parents recall their college days, these students have an advantage. First-generation college students who are the first in their immediate family to attend college face a unique set of challenges. Without guidance from a parent who experienced college, first-generation students are at a disadvantage.

According to a report by the Institute for Higher Education Policy, first-generation students who enroll in postsecondary institutions have lower degree completion rates. While 56 percent of students whose parents have a bachelor’s degree attain a degree within five years of enrolling, only 44 percent of first-generation college students earn a degree...

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