Hello Everyone! I am Lindsey Bray and I work in the Vice President for Student Affairs Office with the parents program.

Hi! I am Angie Dunlap, Coordinator for Student Activities

Hello, I'm Peter Groenendyk, I work in Residence Life and Dining Services

Hi. I am Sally Haring living in the Washington, DC, area and the parent of a U of M Freshman.

So parents, how are your students doing so far this semester?

Hello I'm the parent of a freshman also

Welcome, sharing and Mem1119!

Hello, I'm the parent of a freshman as well.

Do any of your students live in the Dorms?

Yes, Richardson, too.

How do they like living in Richardson?

How do they like it? Have they expressed any concerns?

Welcome Marty and hcoll! How are your students doing so far this semester?

My daughter loves her roommate and the many friends she has made. The only concern has been with security issues when she has to walk back to the dorm after dark

Generally, the report has been good from the social aspect. Not so good from the maintenance aspect--ongoing problems with the shared bathroom since Day 1 that never seems to get fixed.

My daughter is a junior and lives off campus but has lived in the dorm before

Mine does not live in the dorm yet
hcoll: My daughter is really enjoying school. She does seem a bit overwhelmed right now though.

Admin6: Is your daughter utilizing Tiger Patrol at night? If she calls the HELP line they will send someone to pick her up.

hcoll: I understand that is the end of the semester but it seems like the work load is very heavy. Otherwise she is very happy. She really is enjoying the Memphis community as well.

Admin6: I am happy to look into the bathroom problems as well. Do you know her room number?

TigerMom2013: Yes, however when she called on one night (last Thursday to be exact) she was told that they had not begun coming out before 6pm. It was already dark and she was across campus. She called me to have someone on the phone with her while she walked back to her dorm. I stayed on the phone with her until she walked into the lobby.

TigerMom2013: Apparently there was an incident recently with an assault on another female student that really concerned her.

Admin2: hcoll--this time of year a lot of students feel that way. You can suggest that your student visit the Center for Counseling, Learning, and Testing for some help.

sharing: The bathroom problem-- the room is number is Richardson 811.

Admin4: Are your students feeling connected on campus? Have they gotten involved with any student organizations?

hcoll: Is there something that I should be doing for her other than directing her there? Or should I just let her figure it out?

Admin2: Welcome Joey!

Marty: My daughter is very involved in her sorority and Campus Outreach.

Admin6: I do think they start at 7 PM. I will send an email regarding any maintenance submitted for the bathroom in 811 to have staff check to be sure it was fixed. I will also have them correct any outstanding issues.

Note: We received the following summary concerning room 811 later in the day. “Tony checked the room and found the following problems: Tub dripping, towel bar broken and the T-Stat broken. P&P was called to replace the T-Stat. Unit 20 will probably do it tonight. A follow-up will be done with them in the morning.”
Ms. Glenda will write a W.O. for Elmer to repair the dripping tub and replace the towel bar."

Joey: Thanks!

Admin4: Marty--glad to hear it!

Admin2: TigerMom2013: We will look into it. There are typically quite a few students still on campus at that time.

sharing: Looks like I lost my connection....

TigerMom2013: Thanks and I do understand that however it the other students on campus are not headed in the same direction as my daughter it really doesn't help her. What are the hours that campus police will begin escorting students back to their dorms?

hcoll: Would it be possible to have tiger help begin when it gets dark. As a mother, I can certainly understand TigerMom2013.

Admin6: hcoll: Does your student live on campus? If so, I am happy to have a staff member check on her and see if we can help.

TigerMom2013: For sure that would certainly help!

Admin2: TigerMom 2013: Tiger Patrol is from 6:00 pm to 2:00 am. We will look into beginning it when it starts to get dark.

sharing: On a completely different subject, does anyone know the approximate cab fare from campus to the airport?

TigerMom2013: That would certainly be a huge relief! Will a notification be sent to the students as well?

hcoll: She does not live on campus but I will absolutely direct her to the center. Thank you for being willing to check on her. If that does not work, could I follow up with someone on this chat?

meal: sharing, about $20

Admin2: You can follow up with me. She can stop by our office any time. Lindsey Bray, 235 Administration Building, 901-678-2115, lmbray@memphis.edu

Admin6: sharing: I think it is about $20.00 but the best bet is to call a cab company 577-7777 and get the latest rate.
hcoll: Great. Thank you Lindsey and I will pass your information on to her.

sharing: Thank you! I want my "lil' darlin' " to make it home for Thanksgiving! The kid never has enough $$$!

TigerMom2013: I understand that registration from Spring 2010 has begun. How long do the students have to register?

Admin5: Hi, I'm Dr. Stephanie Blaisdell, Director of Student Affairs Learning & Assessment. Sorry I'm late.

Admin6: sharing, she can probably catch a ride from someone in the dorm.

Admin3: Hi I am Rosie Phillips Bingham, Vice President for Student Affairs

Meal: Can the students who live on campus get bus rides to the basketball games?

TigerMom2013: Hello Dr. Blaisdell are you able to respond to my question about class registration for Spring 2010 and how long the students will have to register?

Admin2: TigerMom2013: Students have until Jan. 13, 2010 to register for Spring 2010. You can view the whole calendar at http://www.memphis.edu/registrar/calendars/dates/10s_dates.htm

Admin6: Students can catch a bus to the basketball games one hour before the start of the game. It leaves from Central Ave. outside Richardson Towers.

TigerMom2013: Great! Thank you so much!

Meal: Is that for any students or just those who live on campus?

Admin6: The bus is for any student. Come early because it is really popular!

Admin3: Tonight I will get an early preview of the new University Center. We are doing a presentation for our Board of Visitors. The building is fabulous even though it is still under construction. It looks like we will open in early February.

Admin2: You can view a live feed of the construction at http://saweb.memphis.edu/uc/newuc/ConstructionWebCam.htm

Mem1119: I heard that a new dorm complex is being constructed and is set to open soon. Could you tell when that is?

Admin6: The building will be ready for Orientation this summer. We anticipate that students will live in the building starting in Fall 2010.

Mem1119: Thanks, Admin6. How does a student go about checking eligibility to live there?
TigerMom2013: What class level will the new dorm be for?

Admin6: Students will be able to sign up for the new building in the near future. We will send notices out about reapplication in the early Spring.

Meal: Do students need to see their advisors before registering for the spring?

Admin3: I am really looking forward to the new living learning complex because with some of the honors students, emerging leaders and academic communities the hall will be very vibrant. Any level of undergraduate student can live there.

Admin6: Any student will be able to live in the new building. We will utilize the application date as their priority. One of the buildings will be for Honors and Emerging Leader students only.

Mem1119: My student tells me that the new UC looks impressive from the outside. I'm sure he'll get a 1st hand look inside, once it opens!

Admin2: Meal: Yes, they need to see their advisor before every semester

Mem1119: Admin6, When do you start accepting applications for the new dorm complex?

Meal: We've heard about expanded food options and hours in the new UC, do you have anything more you can tell us?

Admin4: I am excited about the new UC as well. Many of the student organizations, as well as Leadership and Involvement, Minority Affairs, Adult & Commuter Student Services will be housed there

Admin4: Also a new food court, a theatre (with a weekly movie series) and various other events and services!

hcoll: My daughter tells me that it looks really great!

Admin3: The new UC will have a Dunkin Donuts; a new whopper bar--we will be the first university in the country to have a whopper bar. There will be a pizza option, a bistro, taco bell, and a sit down restaurant. There will even be space for some games in the eating areas. Outdoor seating will also be available.

Mem1119: Lately my student has expressed interest in being more involved on campus. Where do you suggest he starts?

Admin6: Mem1119, the new building along with all housing will be available to apply for in the next few weeks for Fall 2010. We will not actually place returning students (make assignments) until mid-spring. Once returning students are housed we will start assigning new students.
Mem1119: Great, thanks again Admin6!

Admin3: I want to encourage all of you to continue to talk with your students because they will often not feel a part of campus even when they attend events and serve on committees. Just encourage them to keep coming to see us and to talk with their friends. They are not alone—even if they feel like "it’s just me".

Joey: I heard that a recent graduation ceremony was held at the Cannon Center. Would that be the new location from now on?

Admin4: Mem1119--We have about 160 student organizations your student can get involved in. For a list, he can go to the student organization website https://saweb.memphis.edu/rsoreg/RSOList.asp or come by the Leadership & Involvement Office--8th floor Wilder Tower (2nd floor UC once it opens).

The student organization listing is searchable by organization name or by category (i.e. social, religious, academic). It also gives contact info and membership requirements for each organization if you click on the organization name.

Mem1119: That's wonderful, Admin4. That would be another good excuse to visit the new UC more often!

Admin5: Yes, our Summer graduation was held at the Cannon Center. The December and May Commencements, which are much larger, will continue to be housed in the FedEx Forum. We are still evaluating the location for the 2010 August Commencement.

Joey: Oh, okay. We were just curious as to the reason. I suppose it would be easier to accommodate more visitors at the Forum.

Admin5: Joey - the FedEx Forum is really too large for the August Commencement, when we typically see about 300 students graduate. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of venues that are ideal for an event the size of our August Commencement.

Admin3: Remember there are other ways to be involved as well. For example doing a research project with a faculty member is a great way to learn and let the faculty get to know the student. Intramurals is fun and healthy. Volunteering for activities like note taking for students who are blind helps others and leaves you feeling good.

Joey: Admin5, could personal photographers take photos at the ceremony?

Joey: Admin5, We understand the reasons regarding the venue. Thanks for the clarification.
Mem1119: Excellent suggestions, Admin3! I'll be sure to share those with my son.

Admin5: Joey - personal photographers are welcome, however we can't allow photographers in front of the stage area in the Forum as they tend to obstruct the Commencement proceedings. We do have a team of professional photographers to capture the moment that a new graduate shakes hands with President Raines on stage, and just off stage, where the graduate poses with their diploma cover. We also set up a photo spot in the lobby where you can take your graduate's picture in front of a U of M banner.

Admin4: Another way for students to get involved is through our various community service programs. We have a monthly Service on Saturday program where they can choose from a variety of volunteer projects (and get free breakfast and free lunch!) Also, a tutoring program with a local community center and an Alternative Spring Break program, where we travel the week of spring break to do community service work.

Admin3: Are you all ready for the Thanksgiving break?

hcoll: I know that my daughter sure is! I am ready to see her again!

Admin2: Thank you all for joining us today! Are there any more questions?

Joey: Good to know, Admin5. We'll certainly keep that in mind. That will work for us.

Admin3: Ok just one little reminder to swap plates at the meal. Use the dinner plate for salad and salad plate for the good stuff! Oh who's going to follow this advice?!

Admin5: Joey - it sounds like you have a student nearing graduation. Over Thanksgiving dinner, you might inquire as to whether they have been to the Commencement website and completed the checklist.

Mem1119: Yes, we too are ready for the Thanksgiving break!

Joey: Good call, Admin5. Yes they are on track. Thanks for checking!

sharing: Thanksgiving = big thumbs up!!! (Except for the cooking part.) It will be great to have my son home.

Admin3: Ok everyone, good talking with you.

Mem1119: Well, got to go... Thank you to all for taking the time out of your busy schedules to do this! Happy Thanksgiving!!

sharing: Thank you all, Memphis Admins.
Admin2: Thanks again for joining! We hope to "see" you all in the Spring for another chat. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Admin5: Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Admin6: Thank you everyone. Goodbye

Admin4: Thanks for joining us! Happy Thanksgiving!!