July 22, 2015

Dear Parents,

We are excited about your student coming to Austin College and will work hard to get our students acclimated to life at Austin College. In conjunction with orientation for new students, on August 21-23 we will have activities for parents designed to increase your familiarity with Austin College, the expectations of the academic program, and the services available for students. You will also have the opportunity to meet many of the people at Austin College who will assist your student during the next few years.

Move-in is Thursday, August 20th between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM. When you arrive on campus, go directly to your student’s residence hall. From 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM that afternoon, students will be directed to report to the second floor of the Wright Campus Center (WCC) to check in. There will be a check-in location for parents in the Campus Center as well, located on the first floor lobby of the Wright Campus Center. Representatives from local banks, agencies, and other resources will be located throughout the first floor of the WCC with information about resources both on and off campus.

The formal activities for the weekend will begin on Friday, the 21st, at 10:00 AM with a welcome in the Mason Athletic-Recreation Center. During the afternoon sessions for parents, you will meet with your student’s mentor in a group setting with other parents of students in that C/I class; members of the Academic Affairs staff; and members of the Student Affairs Division, where you will learn about programs available for students. On Friday evening, dinner will be served by staff volunteers and students from various organizations.

On Saturday morning, pre-professional advising information sessions will be offered for parents. Lunch will be available in the dining hall if you wish to eat with your student before students go to their orientation session at 1:30. Students will be covered with the meal plan if they are on one, and parents may make a pre-paid reservation.

Several items of important information are included in this mailing.

1) A meal reservation form for parents and guests – TO BE RETURNED BY AUGUST 12th
In order to plan for the number of guests we will be hosting for meals, we ask that you use the enclosed form to reserve your meals for lunch in the cafeteria on Friday, the seated dinner on Friday evening, and / or lunch in the cafeteria on Saturday. **DO NOT RESERVE MEALS FOR YOUR STUDENT** – students on a meal plan will use their ID for lunches, and students will be in a separate dinner event on Friday.

The seated dinner for parents and guests on Friday, August 21st will be hosted by President Marjorie Hass and Dr. Larry Hass. During this meal, you will have the opportunity to meet some of our student leaders as well as C/I faculty. We recommend you make your reservations early to insure that you will be able to attend the dinner; we can accept reservations for only 400. If you do not make reservations for the Friday evening dinner, you may pay at the door **if space is available**. However, because of the popularity of this event, we cannot guarantee that space will be available without a reservation.

Please complete the enclosed form and **return it with your check by the deadline to ARAMARK** at the address on the bottom of the form.

2) A nametag form for parents and guests – **Please return by AUGUST 12th**
A nametag will be prepared for you in advance. It will also indicate your student’s C/I class and the meeting location for parents. Please indicate how you wish your nametag(s) to read, and return the form by mail, fax (903.813.2038) or email (ksore@austincollege.edu). **Separate nametags will be made for students, so PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR STUDENT’S NAME ON THIS FORM for that purpose.**

If you need to share either form with someone who will not be included with your information, they are available on the New Student Information site.

3) **Tentative schedule of events for freshmen**
4) **Tentative schedule of activities for parents** - You can compare the schedules and plan your family time for the orientation weekend. You will receive a final schedule for students and parents when you arrive; it will also be available on our website closer to the time of orientation.
5) **A checklist of information that has previously been sent to your student.** Since being admitted to Austin College, students have received various mailings, some containing items requiring response. Experience tells me that parents do not always get this information passed on to them, so a checklist is enclosed outlining all the significant information that has been sent to your student. You may want to discuss this information together. Your student can also see if everything is complete by checking the portal. As a parent, you can visit the “New Student Information” link on our website to review all of the information that has been sent to date to students and parents. Go to the Austin College home page; click on “Admission and Aid.” A bar will appear with “Trending” information – New Student Information link is next to the last on that bar.

For information on lodging, please go to the shermantx.org website for a listing of facilities.

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the Austin College community on August 21st. If you have any questions prior to that time, please do not hesitate to call me or my assistant, Karen Spore, at 903-813-2228.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Millerick  
Vice President for Student Affairs and Athletics

**Enclosures:**  
- Meal Reservation Form  
- Nametag Information  
- Freshman Schedule  
- Parent Schedule  
- Checklist of important information