

# The Wolfpack

February 2014

*An update for freshman students' parents*

Vol. 1 Issue 2

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EVEN  
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HAS  
GONE  
GREEN!



[Recyclemania 2014](#)

## Career and Professional Readiness Center a big resource for students

by Luis Rodriguez, '17

Congratulations! Your student is more than halfway through her first year of college. But you, as a parent, are already looking ahead – what happens after your student graduates?

St. Bonaventure University offers many tools for its students to excel beyond the classroom. The Career and Professional Readiness Center (CPRC) is an asset students find very helpful. CPRC can offer guidance for students still struggling to determine their major. Professionals will assist students in using such programs as Focus 2, an online assessment tool to help “determine your skills, interests, and preferences as they relate to various majors and career opportunities.”

Your student will also need an updated résumé to search for internships and summer jobs throughout her college career. The CPRC offers a step-by-step guide to creating a professional resume. If your student needs more assistance, they also offer résumé workshops and individual appointments with a CPRC representative.

For more information about the CPRC, please visit its website at [www.sbu.edu/cprc](http://www.sbu.edu/cprc).

## Emergency notification system joins 21st century

by Alexandra Allan, '16

Your student – and you – has another way to stay informed; the E2Campus emergency notification system sends text messages and emails about events such as winter storm warnings and campus lock-down drills. Individuals sign up to receive notifications.

“I always tell my residents to sign up for the emergency notification system. It’s important for them to know what’s going on around campus — even if it’s just a drill,” explained Troy DeWeever, a resident assistant (RA) in the freshman -residence, Falconio Hall.

Freshman Courtney Newhouse connected to the E2Campus Emergency Notification System during her first semester. “My RA said to sign up for the notification system because it would notify you sooner than email if there is an emergency

on campus. My mom even signed up. It calms her nerves because she knows what is happening on campus right away, so she doesn’t have to wait for me to call her,” said Newhouse.

Many students have positive experiences with the notification system. “It really helped when the parking lot behind Shay-Loughlen halls flooded. The emergency notification system told me

to move my car. It’s fast, easy and simple,” said Ashley O’Dell, a sophomore.

Students can begin the sign-up process by clicking on the link under the health and safety tab on [my.sbu.edu](http://my.sbu.edu). Alerts may be sent to both phones and email addresses. Parents can begin signing up for the service by clicking this link: <https://www.e2campus.net/my/stbu/>.



# IMPORTANT REGISTRATION REMINDER —

We're edging toward midterm break, heading for spring (eventually) and watching your student move through the rest of his first year of college.

Can't believe it? You will when you get the text or call wondering about classes and times for the fall and the panicky "I don't know what to take!" message. Registration will start March 24; course schedules for fall 2014 will become available sometime before that.

Time to return to your store of Wise Parental Counsel. Remind your student that the answers to many or most of his registration questions can be found in one of two places: the office of his adviser or my.sbu.edu.

Your student should start with my.sbu.edu, the University's intranet. There, he will find a link to "degree audit." From there, he can find a document that will tell him what courses he has taken and what he still needs to take, both in his

major and in general University requirements. Before he talks with his adviser, he should use the degree audit to develop thoughts on what he wants to take next semester.

(Does your student find the degree audit a bit confusing? Suggest that your student talk with his peer coach about how to interpret what he's seeing.)

When the fall 2014 schedule becomes available, your student can check the "search for classes" link on my.sbu.edu. That will tell him what classes are being offered next semester, when the classes meet and who will be teaching them. The class listings also include what prerequisites are required, if any, and, in many cases, information on the textbooks that will be used.



Your student should know from last semester whether his adviser will post sign-up sheets or prefers another approach for setting registration appointments. Encourage your student to put the appointment in his planner or in his phone to be certain he remembers.

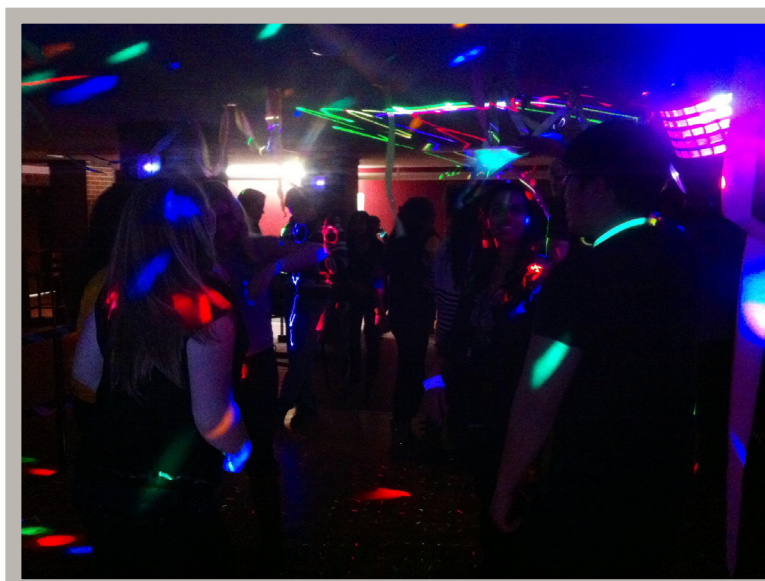
## WHO TO FOLLOW



@StBonaventure

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@FYEatSBU



**LIGHT UP THE SKELLER** – Over 100 students attended the Glow Dance Party in the Rathskeller on Saturday, Feb. 1, sponsored by the Class of 2017.

# THE FINANCIAL STUFF —

Many families need assistance to pay for a college education. Luckily, there are many sources which can be a part of your total family financial plan. Please follow these steps to ensure your student receives the best award for which he or she is eligible.

## File the FAFSA

To get started, you will need both the parents' and the student's PIN. If you forgot your PIN, you can get it again at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). File the FAFSA electronically at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Make sure to include St. Bonaventure's school code: 002817. If applying for aid for Fall 2014, use 2014-15 as the academic year for the FAFSA and submit 2013 income information on the FAFSA. The priority deadline for St. Bonaventure University returning students to file the FAFSA is April 1st. There is an option when filing the FAFSA online to electronically retrieve your IRS tax data. This will streamline the process and decrease the chances of being selected for verification. After you successfully file the FAFSA, watch for a Student Aid Report (SAR). Review the SAR and make corrections if necessary. If you are selected for verification, the SBU Office of Financial Aid will notify you regarding specific documentation you must submit (usually income verification, tax transcripts, verification of family size). Reply to this verification request as quickly as possible. The student's financial aid is considered tentative pending the completion of verification. New York State residents attending a college in NYS will be directed to the New York State Higher Education Services website ([www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org)) to complete the application for the TAP grant using a user name and PIN.



## Investigate other sources of financial aid

Private scholarships can be a source of additional funding for some families. However, many families find they need to borrow to supplement the student's financial aid package. If you decide to borrow, we recommend you exhaust all federal loan options (Federal Direct, Perkins and PLUS loans) before seeking private or alternative loans in the student's name. Federal loans have the best terms and rates available.

The SBU Business Office also offers plans that enable you to pay your balance in monthly installments. You will receive specific information about payment plans in a separate mailing from the Business Office. Questions can be directed to the Business Office at (716) 375-2100.

## Financial aid from SBU

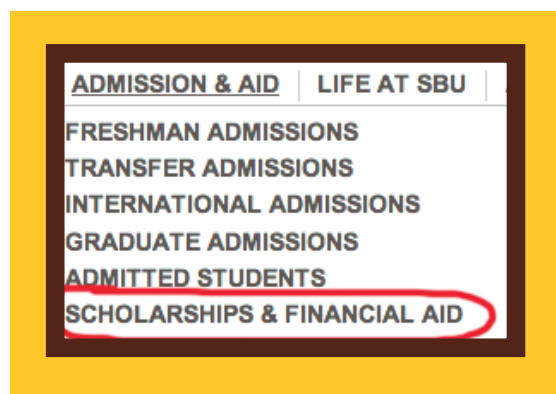
Your student should watch for a financial aid package by late

June. Academic awards are renewed at the same amount each year provided the student maintains the minimum cumulative GPA required for the award. Need-based aid will stay relatively the same as in prior years provided the family financial situation is relatively the same and federal funding sources remain constant. In all cases, the student must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress toward his/her degree to renew financial aid. Returning students receive notification of the financial aid award via their SBU email accounts. They should review the financial aid award on our secure site at [my.sbu.edu](http://my.sbu.edu), where they must accept or decline their awards. Please remind your student to watch his/her SBU email account for financial aid and other SBU notices over the summer.

For further information about financial aid at St. Bonaventure, please see our website at [www.sbu.edu](http://www.sbu.edu).

## Application tips:

1. File the FAFSA as early as possible. Estimate information if necessary and watch for the Student Aid Report.
2. NYS residents, complete the TAP application electronically as early as possible at [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org).
3. Keep copies of all application materials.
4. Follow up to make sure everything is received.
5. Pay attention to application and billing deadlines.
6. Respond as soon as possible to requests for additional information.
7. Seek out additional "free" sources of aid through private, state and federal organizations.
8. If you need to borrow, exhaust federal loan sources first.



Located under the "Admission & Aid" tab on [my.sbu.edu](http://my.sbu.edu), one will find a section called "Scholarships & Financial Aid."



## Housing Policy Change Supports Student Retention and Success

St. Bonaventure University Vice President for Student Affairs Rick Trietley today announced a modification to the university's housing policy, providing for required on-campus residency for students in both the freshman and sophomore years.

"In our continuing efforts to enhance student success and retention, we investigated best practices in student housing policies and found that residential campuses like St. Bonaventure most commonly require on-campus housing for at least two years," said Trietley.

The new policy, which takes effect in the fall of 2014, will expand the reach and impact of student development programming that is offered in the residence halls. This programming includes diversity experiences, career and professional readiness programs, ministries services and events, and alcohol awareness programming.

Trietley shared information about the new policy with the Student Government Association at its regular meeting on Feb. 11. He also consulted with the SGA leadership during the process of developing the new policy.

"Our student leaders agreed that living on campus for two years is in the best interests of our students and their academic success and personal development."

The full policy, including terms for exceptions, is available at [www.sbu.edu/residencelife](http://www.sbu.edu/residencelife).

*Office of Marketing and Communications*



## Housing post-freshman year

by Kailyn Jennings, '15

To participate in the room selection process this semester, students must pay a \$150 room deposit by Feb. 21. Please note this is a different date than listed in your parent calendar. The non-refundable charge goes toward the student's bill for the fall of 2014.

The room deposit can be paid online through [my.sbu.edu](http://my.sbu.edu). Follow the link [www.sbu.edu/roomdeposit](http://www.sbu.edu/roomdeposit), or pay in person at the business office in Hopkins Hall.

Due to demand, applications are required for those interested in living in apartments and/or Shay. Applications can be picked up in RC 204. Those wishing to live in other residence halls do not need applications. Co-curricular involvement forms, which help to reduce a student's lottery score for selection, can also be picked up there.

Room selection is scheduled for March 26 and 31 from 5 to 9 p.m. in Dresser auditorium in Murphy. Students will be emailed with the specific date and time they are expected to be there.

An online guide to room selection can be found at [www.sbu.edu/roomselection](http://www.sbu.edu/roomselection). Your student may also stop by RC 200 or 204 to ask residential education staff any questions.

**DON'T FORGET!**  
**HOUSING DEPOSITS**  
**FOR NEXT YEAR ARE**  
**DUE FEB. 21!**

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