Learning Beyond Classroom Walls

Your student can reap world-class benefits from UGA’s strong international programs

You’ve just gotten used to the idea of your college student transitioning away from home to the university campus, but don’t be surprised to learn that a well-rounded UGA experience is not confined to the classroom or the campus.

Because UGA recognizes studying abroad develops skills and offers experiences a classroom setting will never provide, the University maintains three international campuses: one in a Costa Rican cloud forest, Cortona, Italy and Oxford, England. In addition, UGA offers faculty-led study abroad groups to dozens of countries, exchanges in which students enroll directly at a partner university abroad, and independent research and internship opportunities. With prior approval, students also may attend many study abroad programs offered by other institutions and organizations and receive transfer credit toward their UGA degree.

Should your student take the plunge?

Being immersed in an entirely new culture can be scary at first, but it’s also exciting. It’s an opportunity to discover new strengths and abilities, conquer new challenges, and build character. Studying abroad can be a life-changing experience, influencing future educational decisions and choices in life goals.

Comparing cultural values and ways of life give students a broader perspective and understanding of their place in the world. They not only meet peers from the local area, but other international students who are also far from home.

In this age of globalism, studying abroad has become an increasingly important consideration for employers. In their view, these student are independent, self-motivated, and able to handle diverse situations. And if the student can add a foreign language to his resume, all the better.

The benefits are many but, with considerations of where to go, what to study, and financial assistance eligibility, the planning can be overwhelming. Though there is assistance through UGA’s Office of International Education, we encourage parents to take a guiding role when it’s time to make a study abroad decision, just as you did in other areas of your student’s education.

LEARN MORE >> www.uga.edu/oie
Calendar

November 19
UGA Minority and Small Business Expo

November 21
Art @ the Rock. Georgia 4-H juried art show and marketplace. Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Eatonton.

Family Adventure: Night Life ... It’s Not so Scary. Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Eatonton.

December 3
Holiday Concert. $15/ students $7 with valid UGA ID. Hodgson Concert Hall.

December 6
Performance: The Waverly Consort- The Christmas Story. Hodgson Concert Hall.

December 18
Fall semester commencement

January 7
First day of classes commencement

January 24
Performance: Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra. Hodgson Concert Hall.

January 26

January 27
Founders Day Lecture. UGA Chapel

January 28
100 Days to Graduation – Tate Plaza

January 30
Performance: Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy, Celtic Fiddlers. Hodgson Concert Hall.

February 8-12
Spring Ring Week, UGA Bookstore / Student Learning Center

February 18
Performance: Romeo and Juliet. Opening night. Fine Arts Theatre.

February 28
Performance: Coppelia - Moscow Festival Ballet. Hodgson Concert Hall.

March 1 – 31
Student Alumni Council application open enrollment

March 18
Concert: A Night at the Opera. Hodgson Concert Hall.

March 20
Dawg Trot. 5k Run/Walk. Performance: I Musici de Montreal. Hodgson Concert Hall.

April 17
Ring Ceremony.

FOR DETAILS AND MORE EVENTS
>> www.uga.edu/mastercalendar

A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Thank you for your continued support of the University of Georgia through this association. Many of you were on campus earlier this fall for Parents and Families Weekend, and I trust you found the program to be informative and helpful. The University of Georgia has traditionally been a springboard for engagement in a career and post-graduate life for our students. Today more than ever, UGA is introducing enrolled students to an amazing array of study abroad opportunities in an effort to prepare them for the world they will enter when they graduate. As you will read in this issue, such experiences can be a key component of a student’s undergraduate program; I hope the information in this newsletter will be helpful to you and your son or daughter.

The advice and input of voluntary groups such as yours are extremely important to us as we make important decisions about UGA. You are a valuable resource and we are grateful for all that you do.

Tom S. Landrum

Grant Highlight

University Health Center Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)
Financial Assistance Program
P&F 2009 Grant: $20,000

The college experience can be as convoluted as life itself. When a student is finding it difficult to cope with any combination of personal, social and academic pressures, the University Health Center’s Counseling and Psychiatric Services offers everything from counseling, psychiatric care, and crisis intervention to specialized services such as alcohol/drug and eating disorder programs. They also work closely with the University Health Center's medical personnel when it’s necessary to integrate mental and physical health care.

Though services are offered at a reduced cost for students who pay the student health fee, and there’s no additional charge for the telephone screening, initial consultation, or walk-in appointment, there are costs associated with ongoing counseling, psychiatric appointments, and other services. CAPS uses funds provided by the Parents and Families Association to cover these costs for UGA students in financial need. The grant is also used to develop online mental health education and interventions.

By providing services in-person and online, CAPS can increase the likelihood that students will remain in school and succeed at UGA.

>> www.uhc.uga.edu/caps

“‐‐The Parents and Families grant is so important to us. Fearing stigma, some students are reluctant to seek our services. Lack of finances shouldn’t be an additional deterrent. We absolutely depend on the Parents and Families grant for our ever increasing requests for financial assistance. The grant can make a difference for students struggling to function, academically or otherwise, due to mental health concerns. We can’t thank the Parents and Families Association enough for their annual support.”

Chuck Zanone, Ph.D.
Associate Director for Clinical Services
Counseling and Psychiatric Services
UGA welcomed over 300 participants for P&F Fall Weekend on the Athens campus, October 16-17. Parents had a chance to ask questions and voice their concerns with key campus administrators.

A drizzly day didn’t dampen the interest of participants making their way to specially arranged facility tours. Dr. Loch Johnson held everyone in rapt attention as he related inside anecdotes about the CIA during one of the faculty presentations.

Hairy Dawg and the UGA cheerleaders raised school spirit at the Tailgate Lunch as everyone watched UGA triumph over Vanderbilt.

What’s a visit to campus without a bite of breakfast and a bit of shopping at the UGA bookstore.
TRADITION
NEVER GRADUATES

The UGA Official Class Ring is available for students who have 60+ credit hours. The ring is the symbol of excellence, pride and tradition. Each year, students are presented with their class ring in the annual Ring Ceremony held in April. Students will be able to talk to representatives at each Ring Week (one in October and one in February) to get their ring exactly as they would like it.

Members of the Student Alumni Association receive $25 off the purchase of their ring.

WANT TO DEEPEN YOUR INVOLVEMENT AS A PARENT?

Consider Participating in the P&F Leadership Council.

As with many organizations, key leadership from volunteers is critical. The Parents Leadership Council provides that leadership on behalf of the Parents and Families Association. Membership is suggested for four years or for the period of time the member has an enrolled undergraduate UGA student. In addition, an annual gift of $2500 is required for council membership. More than 80 couples who are members of the council meet in the fall and spring each year and work through committees to administer the parents and families grant program and meet with campus leaders to provide a parents prospective on many key issues facing the University and its students.

If you are interested in strengthening your connection to UGA and take on a leadership role to represent parents, contact Tammy Gilland at tgilland@uga.edu for more information.

SENIOR SIGNATURE
The Senior Class Gift 2010

Grads will always remember their days at UGA.
Make sure UGA remembers them!

Make a Senior Signature gift of $35 or more for your senior to be included on the 2010 plaque. Senior Signature is a UGA tradition of giving that encourages graduating seniors to support students and academic initiatives through the Georgia Fund.

In recognition of this class gift, your senior's name will be included on the Class of 2010 Senior Signature plaque permanently displayed in Tate Plaza.

Remember, the deadline to be included on the plaque is March 31, 2010.
For more information or to give over the phone, call 888-268-5442.
Give online: www.givingtouga.com/seniorsignature

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