Hello LeTourneau Parents!

The semester is well under way and our students are busy learning to balance the basic 3 S's - studying, socializing and sleeping! It's been interesting to see how my own son's first year college experience has gone. All during his high school years, I told him if he wanted to go to LeTourneau he would have to learn to study. On asking him how life as a college student is, he replied, "It (the homework) has been an adjustment, but I'm loving LeTourneau."

Likewise, I have been on a learning curve, discovering all the responsibilities there are in this position, taking crash courses in new software to help me communicate with alumni and parents, and re-orienting myself to the LeTourneau campuses. If my son is lacking sleep because of studying and socializing, I'm having sleepless nights lying awake thinking of all the possibilities and thanking the Lord for bringing me back to LeTourneau.

As a former student and a member of the staff, I know the extra effort LeTourneau University takes to make sure each student has a successful experience. I've seen how the faculty and staff embraces students and have enjoyed having students in my own home over the years. As your representative on campus, please be reassured that I am available to you and that I have your best interests at heart - your students! Feel free to contact me with any of your questions or concerns!

Best regards,

Martha Steed
Dir. of Alumni and Parent Relations
PARENT'S COUNCIL

Note from a Parent:

Dave Hawthorne

Few things are as hard in the life of a parent as saying "Goodbye" to a child, even for a short time. I'll never forget seeing my son perched on the side of his newly made dorm bed knowing that we would soon be separated for several months. Melanie and I knew beyond doubt that LeTourneau University was where God wanted him. But our hearts ached anyway. We were grateful beyond words when we saw the floor leaders reach out to welcome him and begin making him feel "at home". We also brought our second son for the same experience, but this time we already knew what a great place LeTourneau was going to be for him. Still, our hearts ached as we knew that it would be months before we saw either of them again. That was, to a great extent, why we were so glad to see a postcard arrive asking if we would consider serving on the LETU Parent's Council. We just wanted a way to have more involvement in our sons' new lives.

The surprise was how rewarding the experience would be, on so many levels. We found kindred spirits in the other parents on the council. We prayed for each other, and not just at the meetings. Several times, we have sponsored prayer times for "new parents", then collectively prayed for the students, staff, and leadership of this great school. Some of the other parents have supported us specifically in prayer when we had special concerns for each of our son's protection or safety.

We found that the leadership of LeTourneau was sincere in their desire to listen to us. Many times we've asked our sons if they had anything they wanted us to bring to the meetings. Most of the time, they've been pleased with their campus experience, but the few times there were issues, we've been able to get a listening ear, and either resolution or answers. I've been grateful for the many times that division heads have spent quality time with the council, letting us know what they are planning and doing. We've seen them open their hearts to us and seen their love for our kids (and yours too!). We trusted that this was a great school before, but now we know it from watching its leaders.

We've been very well treated in response to our service. Twice a year we
come to the meetings, which have taken only several hours over a couple of
days. Then they feed us well, pay for our hotel rooms, and act as though we
are someone special! How cool is that? At other times in the year, we are
available if a parent wants to give us a call. In the fall, we try to contact as
many "new parents" as reasonable (by phone or email) just to see if they have
questions or if there is any concern that we can help resolve. That's about it!
The work asked of us has been minimal, and the blessings have been large.

Now the bad news. This is our last year on the council. We will miss meeting
the other parents, students, and staff there at LeTourneau. But we'll feel a lot
better if some great parents take our place. If service on the Parent's Council
sounds like a good fit for you, take a minute to call Martha Steed at 903-233-
3804. She is the new Director of Alumni and Parent Relations and she would
love to talk with you. Or, if you want, email me directly at
dave@turkeytimbers.org. I'd be happy to answer your questions. That's what
LETU parents do!

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**Academics/Student Life**

**First Year Experience** - The First-Year Experience (FYE) program Oversees
the transition of all first-year students academically, spiritually and socially. To
find out more about FYE, check out our website here.

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**NEWS**

**LeTourneau Inducts 10 Members into New Business Honor Fraternity**

**Save the Date:**

Parent's Weekend
February 12 -13, 2010

Do you know a stressed out, tired LeTourneau student? Why not make their
day and send them a care package or cake! You can purchase the following
from LeTourneau's Student Foundation:
Special Occasion Cakes
(birthdays, holidays, just because I love ya! cakes)
Finals Kits
(also serve as care packages anytime during the semester!) Make someone's day and support LETU student scholarships as well!

If you would like to unsubscribe, please let us know: parents@letu.edu

Update Your Information

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