April 2015

Dear Parents,

Spring has finally arrived at JHU, and the students are soaking up the long-awaited warm sunshine as they study, socialize, and enjoy our diverse programming. Class-wide events, longstanding traditions like the Spring Fair, games, and concerts are just a few of the reasons for students to feel glad to be a Blue Jay at this time of year.

Our campus is ablaze with gorgeous flowers and quirky surprises. Every spring, hundreds of pink plastic flamingos visit campus for a day. Nobody knows where they come from, or why they always migrate to the Upper Quad for one day only!

We are very excited to welcome our incoming Class of 2019 this fall. 24,717 students applied for our 3,065 spots in the class of 2019: among them were published authors, patent holders, business founders, and other high achievers. For the past several years, our incoming classes have broken academic records and set higher and higher standards for applicant quality.

Our athletes have been doing well this season! Just a few examples of our success: JHU rallied for a 9-7 win against Rutgers in the first Big Ten Conference men’s lacrosse game for both schools, the 20th-ranked JHU women’s lacrosse team upset ninth-ranked Stony Brook 7-5, and two Blue Jay swimmers won national titles on the first night of the Division III men’s swimming championships in Texas. Read these and more JHU sports stories here.

We are very grateful that so many of you have contributed internship opportunities for JHU students via PIN:200. Many of these opportunities are still available for sophomores and juniors: encourage your student to apply. Students can find PIN opportunities by searching for the keywords “PIN 200” in J-Connect.

To those of you who have a Blue Jay graduating this year, congratulations! We look forward to seeing you at Commencement. We hope your soon-to-be-graduate will remain connected to our vibrant alumni community.

As always, thank you for your involvement and support!

Sincerely,
Kevin G. Shollenberger, Vice Provost for Student Affairs
Carol M. Lorton, Director, Parents Programs

Exam Time Stress Relief
Stay Active. Exercise is not only a healthy and effective form of stress relief: it can also be fun! Students can opt to go to the gym (the Ralph S. O’Connor Recreation Center just renovated the fitness room and stocked it with brand new machines); participate in intramural sports; take dance, fitness, and martial arts classes; or just play outside on our beautiful lawns- whether they choose to toss around a Frisbee, practice Quidditch, or just walk and enjoy the gorgeousness of Baltimore in the springtime.

Prioritize Health. Remind your students that nothing is more important than staying healthy! The JHU Student Health and Wellness Center offers a broad range of primary care services and educational programs and materials.

Stressbusters are students trained to give free, relaxing 5-minute back rubs at JHU events. In addition to recurring events (such as the weekly Mellow Out Mondays in Q-level of the MSE Library), Stressbusters are available to be booked by student clubs, athletic teams, and other organizations for events. The Center for Health Education and Wellness (CHEW) sponsors Stressbusters, the SEE for Yourself Mondays Campaign (reminding students to Sleep 8 hours, Eat 3 Meals, and Exercise for 30 minutes), and other student organizations and initiatives.

Keep your eyes open for an opportunity to BOOST your Blue Jay with an XAM BOOST during Reading Week. Your Blue Jay will receive a personal note of encouragement from you along with a $5 gift card to The Daily Grind for a study break boost when you make a gift to the Parents Fund.

Important End-of-Semester Dates

- Undergraduate Registration for the Fall Term: Through Sunday, April 26th
- Last Day of Classes: Friday, May 1st, 2015
- Reading Period: Saturday, May 2nd - Tuesday, May 5th (Regular dining hours)
  - Final Exam Period: Wednesday, May 6th - Thursday, May 14th
  - Last Meal Served on Campus: May 14th, 5-7PM, Fresh Food Café
  - Closing of Residence Halls: Friday, May 15th, 12PM

Commencement

- Thursday, May 21st, 2015: Procession begins at 8:40 PM
- Speaker: Pixar Animation Studios president and co-founder Ed Catmull
- Continue checking the commencement website for updates and info about scheduling, parking, logistics, and commencement events.

Upcoming Events
• **Homecoming/Alumni Weekend:** April 17th-19th
• **Sterling Brunch:** April 19th, 10am-2pm
• **Nest Fest:** Picnic on the Beach (Friday, May 1st, 11am) and concert (7pm)

**SPRING FAIR April 23rd - 26th**
Spring Fair 2015 (April 23rd - 26th) is coming up soon and features a lot of new programming in addition to the traditional fair food, carnival rides, vendors, and festivity! It kicks off at 8PM on Thursday the 23rd on the Levering patio with fireworks, giveaways and a student DJ competition. Friday night features a concert with Nelly and Luke Christopher, and Saturday night at Ram’s Head Live is Sweater Beats ($5 for students, transportation provided). New this year is a section of JHU and MICA student vendors. Learn more [here](#).

**Signature Class Events**

**Freshmen: High Table**
On March 3rd, the Class of 2018 enjoyed a gourmet three-course dinner with Hopkins professors and university administrators in academic and formal regalia: the sixth year of this tradition.

**Juniors: Sunset Inner Harbor Cruise**
On April 2nd, the Junior Class enjoyed dinner, dancing, and celebrating with friends on a sunset boat cruise in the Inner Harbor.

**Sophomores: Gatsby style garden party**
On April 15th, sophomores took the opportunity to don their Roaring 20s finery for an elegant Great Gatsby themed dinner at Gertrude’s Restaurant at the Baltimore Museum of Art, with photo booths and music to match.

**Seniors: Senior Week (May 13th - 19th)**
Senior Week is full of exciting events for soon-to-be graduates! Just a few of them include a live performance of Dirty Dancing at The Hippodrome Theatre (May 13th, 8PM, transportation provided: buy tickets [here](#)), an overnight trip to Dewey Beach, Delaware with a beach bonfire, a yacht party, and the MSEe-Ya Party (May 19th, 9-11pm, MSE Library). Stay tuned for updates!
We would like to thank the many parents who have generously supported the Hopkins Parents Fund making our springtime and year-round programming for students possible, including Spring Fair, Signature Class Events, Nest Fest, the Foreign Affairs Symposium, and more.

Have a great summer!