

End of the Year Checkout Procedures

The end of the school year is fast approaching and this means finals, goodbyes, and checking out of residence halls. As your students prepare to leave Loras housing for the year there are a few things we would like you to remind them to do. If they live in a traditional residence hall they are asked to check out by 9pm the day of their last final. The halls officially close Thursday, May 17th. If they live in a house or apartment their lease ends on Sunday, May 20th. To check out of housing they need to schedule an appointment with one of their Resident Advisors to check their room over and to turn in their key. To make checkout go quickly, they should have all of their belongings removed from their room and their room should be fully cleaned. If they have questions about checking out they should contact their RA or Area Coordinator.

Loft return will be Saturday, May 12th. The students will have to disassemble their lofts and return them to specified locations. They will be contacted with those locations.

Have a Happy Summer from Loras College Residence Life!

Summer Housing Options

This summer Loras will offer three different summer housing options. All options are at a first come, first serve basis. Smyth Hall will be available for \$85.00 per week or \$650.00 for the entire summer. The Lynch McCarthy Apartment Complex will be available for \$85.00 per week or \$650.00 for the entire summer – utilities are included in this cost. The final option is for students who are signed up to live in a campus owned house. They are able to sign a summer lease for \$550 for the summer. This price does not include utilities. Any student living on campus for the summer will have charges billed to their student account. Please contact Alicia Lynch at Alicia.Lynch@loras.edu with any questions regarding summer housing!



Summer 2012

Upcoming Events:

- **May 12**
Loft Return
- **May 14-17**
Final Exams
- **May 17**
Res. Halls Close
- **May 19**
Baccalaureate / Commencement
- **May 20**
Leases End
- **August 15**
1st Payment for Fall Term Due

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Wrapping up the Year in Spiritual Life

This semester the Division of Spiritual Life has continued its interfaith dialogue efforts. On April 18th Loras College welcomed officials from the Department of Education Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Along with several other colleges, Loras staff and students shared our programs and ideas to encourage interfaith dialogue and service. Professor John Eby described the success of the *Children of Abraham* religious discussion series. This series has brought community together by providing dialogue opportunities with the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities from Dubuque. The student group, *Better Together*, is continuing to work to provide students with the opportunity to do service with people of different faith traditions. With the support of the Department of Education and the Interfaith Youth Core we are working to share our ideas with other colleges and universities.



Alumni heading to Baccalaureate mass



Students at Interfaith Dialogue Training

As the year comes to an end the Spiritual Life office is preparing to send off our seniors with a Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement on Saturday May 19th. We invite seniors and their families to join us for the Baccalaureate Mass in the Athletic Wellness Center at 10:00am. This is a great way for the community to celebrate the culmination of your student’s Loras College education. Planning for this special Mass is in the works. If you have any questions, please contact our liturgy coordinator, David Summers – david.summers@loras.edu.

R.C.I.A.

R.C.I.A., or the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, is a program for candidates from the Loras Community who seek Baptism and/or Confirmation. RCIA is also offered to those of other Christian traditions seeking to find out more about the Catholic Church. What a great opportunity to find out about the Catholic faith while at a Catholic college. This past year we had 3 candidates that were confirmed into the Catholic Church. We also have Catholic confirmed students that walk with these candidates as faith companions throughout the year to support them on their journey. If you have a son or daughter that might be interested in this process, please have them contact Debbie Gross at 588-7934.



SWINGING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!



Did you know that each summer, groups of Loras alumni organize scholarship golf outings and dinners to help raise money for students? Loras alumni remember their days as students and know the importance of continuing the legacy of giving. The following Loras Networks will be holding golf outings in the coming months; know that you and your student are encouraged to attend!

- June 28 – **Rockford** Scholarship Luncheon
- June 18 – **Cedar Rapids/Iowa City** Golf Social
- August 6 – **La Crosse** Golf Outing & Dinner
- August 9 – **Waterloo/Cedar Falls** Golf Outing & Dinner
- August 13 – **Dubuque** Golf Outing & Dinner

You don't have to be a golf pro to participate. Come in the evening and join us for dinner and great conversations with other Loras parents, students, and alumni. For more information on the golf outings and other Loras events across the country, please go to <http://alumni.loras.edu> and click on "Events." Parents of current students are an important part of our Loras family, so we do hope you can join us!

It's not too early to start planning for Homecoming. This year we will celebrate on September 28, 29 and 30. We welcome you to come to campus and enjoy the activities and events planned for the weekend. Check out the schedule by [clicking here](#) and be part of this memorable experience.

If you have questions about events or activities, give us a call at 800-245-6727, ext. 7170.

Go Duhawks!

LAW SCHOLARSHIPS AND LORAS STUDENTS

Four Loras seniors will begin their legal studies in the fall with the help of scholarships. These students have been accepted by, but turned down Wisconsin, Drake, St. Thomas, Illinois, Catholic, Loyola, Valparaiso, DePaul, Creighton, Marquette, John Marshall, University of South Dakota, and Michigan State. **Patrick Branson, Dubuque, IA**, will defer law school to serve with Teach for America for two years in rural Oklahoma and will use grants and scholarships from that teaching program to finance his legal education in Fall '14. The Accounting and English major was an award winning member of the Moot Court and Mock Trial Teams and sang in Concert Choir.

David Kula, Circle Pines, MN had a difficult time choosing among the five law schools where he had been accepted until William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul offered him a generous scholarship. David, a Politics and International Studies major, gained practical legal experience while working in Washington, D.C. for Congressman John Kline, Chair of the House Education Committee and House Workforce Committee, so Catholic University Law School would have given him the D.C. experience and exposure, but his father's alma mater in his home state of Minnesota won out because of the scholarship. Last year's Mock Trial Captain Kelly Dolphin, '11 will be there to show him the ropes.

Heather Jackson, Dubuque, IA, knew since she was a little girl on Nativity's middle school mock trial team that she wanted to become a lawyer. She will fulfill her dream at University of Iowa College of Law. Heather takes to Iowa's Trial Advocacy Team her four time All-American Mediator credentials plus eleven years of award winning mock trial experience. The Politics major spent three summers as a teaching assistant in trial advocacy courses at D.C's American University and Stanford University. Heather has already received assistance from Graham Carl, '11 in helping to find a place to live. She will be welcomed by other Duhawk law students who usually list top ranked Iowa Law as their first choice, but not always.

Mark Seda, Traer, IA had to give some serious thought to which of the scholarships he was going to accept. The Politics and History major turned down his home state Iowa Law to accept University of Nebraska's substantial academic award package. For a first generation lawyer-to-be, the decision was one of fiscal responsibility. Mark won regional awards as a member of the Loras Moot Court team and qualified for Nationals. He also played basketball for the Duhawks.

Elizabeth Kottkamp, North Aurora, IL, History and Politics major, has not yet made a decision about which law school to attend, but is leaning toward Nebraska where she has been granted an in-state tuition scholarship. Liz is considering deferring law school, which is the choice of some other seniors who took the LSAT this year and earned high scores, but decided to postpone law school for a few years. If Liz does defer, she will be in the majority when she enters as the average age for new law students is 26-29. Liz also was a member of the Moot Court Team and the recipient of the Loras Msgr. Green Award.

All five of the students have made the Dean's List almost every semester and all will graduate with honors in May.

"The law school admission process is highly selective and scholarships are even more difficult to come by," according to Prof. Mary Lynn Neuhaus, J.D., Pre-Law Advisor. "Only about one in four law students get anything in financial assistance more than loans. Working during the first year in law school is frowned upon by the American Bar Assn. which accredits law schools because of the rigorous curriculum." According to the March 23, 2011 edition of the Wall Street Journal, 2011 law grads had amassed over \$100,000 on average by graduation not including undergraduate debt. Some law schools, like Chicago's John Marshall has a debt load of \$165,000 for its graduates according to U.S. News & World Report.

"These students, along with the advice of their parents, made the right decision," according to Prof. Neuhaus, who added that these students have over \$150,000 in renewable scholarships among them.

HEALTH CENTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Summer is a great time for you and your student to take a look at and complete fall requirements.

- Review your immunization record. Does it need to be updated? Is your tetanus current? Have you received the meningitis vaccine since age 16?
- Do you take medication that must be renewed? Is it time for an annual physical or do you have medical issues that need to be evaluated by a physician?
- Is it time for a dental checkup or eye exam?
- Will you still be eligible for your health insurance during the 2012-2013 school year? Does the policy include Dubuque area medical providers as “in network” physicians?
- Do you have a medical necessity for an air conditioner or meal plan change while living in Loras College Student Housing? The applications are available on the Loras College Health Center website and must be completed, signed and stamped by your physician.
- Are you planning on studying abroad or traveling to another country? Have you met with the program director and a travel physician to determine what will be required or recommended?
- Does your major have requirements that need to be fulfilled for observation time such as receiving a TB skin test?
- Intercollegiate Athletes – A yearly physical and yearly completion of the forms posted on the Loras College athletic training website are required for all athletes. Lab must be included on all first year and transfer student’s physicals.



FIRST ANNUAL LAST CONCERT OF THE YEAR

May 5th

7:00 Fieldhouse

No tickets required,

Goodwill Offering for Music Program

This is the final concert of the season and will feature all the Loras College Music Ensembles and music faculty. Music by Offenbach, Gilbert and Sullivan, P.D.Q. Bach will be featured as well as other composers of Jazz, Musical Theatre, and Doo-Wop. Come be part of a new tradition on the Loras Campus and help us celebrate the ending of the academic year.

REMINDER TO PARENTS REGARDING STUDENT ACCOUNTS

All billing statements are available online only

How do I get access to this information - I pay my student's bill?

Your student will need to log in to their account through the Loras College Portal and set you up with a Parent Pin. Once that is done, you will receive an email with instructions on how to log in to and set up your login information.

When will I know it is time to make a payment?

*Students and other authorized users will receive an email and/or text message notification when a statement is available for viewing. Students will be sent this communication to their **Loras e-mail address**. Authorized users will receive this information to the e-mail address or phone number they have chosen.*

What are my options for making payments?

The online system will give students and authorized users the option of paying by Electronic Check, credit or debit card (for a fee), or auto payment. Online payment is our preferred method of payment. The online system frees you of worry over lost or misguided checks and the delay of the postal service which could cost you additional fees. If you prefer, parents or students can still mail or present check or cash payment to the Business Office in Keane Hall.

How do I view the details of my payment plan?

All students with an outstanding balance are automatically enrolled in a payment plan. To view your payment plan details and monthly amount due, please log in to your student's account. Under the section titled "Installment Payment Plans" you will find the details for your current Payment Plan.

Can I get my student account refund direct deposited into my bank account?

*Yes. The eRefund feature allows the student to have a student account refund direct deposited into the checking or savings account of their choice. Those students who are signed up for direct deposit will receive their account refunds up to 14 days sooner than those who wish to be paid by check. eRefund is fast, convenient, and gives the student instant access to their money. To sign up, the student must log in to their account and enroll. There is no fee for this service and you can change bank accounts or un-enroll at any time. ****Please note: If a student's credit balance is the result of a parent PLUS loan, by law we must refund the money to the parent unless instructed by the parent to disburse the money to the student.***

UPCOMING BILLING TIMELINE

May 10—Summer Billing statements are published.

June 15—All summer billing charges- tuition and housing- are due

Late July—Fall Billing and Payment Plans are published

August 15—First payment for the Fall 2012 term is due

DANCE MARATHON RAISES OVER \$155,806

As the school year draws to a close, there is no better way to celebrate an event that culminates over a year of planning and fundraising. This year your students raised \$155,806.36 through their participation in Dance Marathon held on April 20-21. The money raised will go to the University of Iowa Children's Hospital in association with the Children's Miracle Network. Nearly 350 dancers collected pledges to stay awake and on their feet for 12 hours between Friday and Saturday.

Loras' Dance Marathon has committed to annually fund a wide range of programs which include infant CPR kits for families with premature babies, vending machines that allow families to use tokens to receive healthy food options during their child's stay at the hospital, and the Room of Magic. The Room of Magic is a movie theater-like setting including concessions and bean bag chairs, taking away from the clinical nature of the hospital. Last year's total helped to fund CarePage websites and family support activities including family pizza nights, NICU welcome bags and PICU comfort kits. The organization's newest program, 'Beads of Bravery', gives young patients a bead for every treatment they receive while in the hospital. With this year's Dance Marathon proving to be such a huge success, we are excited to hear the impact that our money and hard work will have on the hospital.

Dancers spent the evening doing the morale dance, Zumba, volleyball, power hour, and hundreds of chants of "IT'S FOR THE KIDS!" Students also had the opportunity to interact with more than 100 Miracle Family members through the night, all of whom have benefited from the Children's Miracle Network.

Dance Marathon offers an avenue for college students to have more than just the average college experience as it provides both memories and meaning. While one year ends, the Executive Board has already begun planning for Dance Marathon 2013. Mark your calendars for April 20, 2013 because our event is at a new time of 12pm-12am! It is never too early to get involved or to donate to this great cause at www.lorasdm.org!

Nicole Myers

2012 Dance Marathon President



THE RHYTHM OF COLLEGE LIFE

Certain times in the academic year tend to be universally challenging to students. Parents who understand the ups and downs of the first college year are better able to help their son or daughter negotiate the challenges of transitions. Below are some typical adjustment issues faced this time of year:

May

- Final exam anxiety
- Apprehension about returning home for the summer
- Sadness over leaving new friendships and/or love relationship at school
- Realization of how college influences life decisions

Adapted from Mullendore, R.H. and Hatch C. (2000). Helping your first-year college student succeed: A guide for parents. Columbia, S.C.: OCM and Texas A&M University (2000).

Student Life Office Staff

Receive Email Updates

To sign up to receive email updates regarding Parent and Family information from the Student Life Office, including copies of the latest Parent Newsletter, please email Kimberly.Walsh@loras.edu.

For more information on Parent Programs and other services, check out our website at: <http://www.loras.edu/parents>

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Kim is from Dubuque, IA, and has been with Loras College since 1994. She received both her Bachelor and Master's degrees from the University of Northern Iowa.



Michele Nauman

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Michele is originally from Dubuque, IA and began at Loras in 2007. She received her Bachelor's degree from Saint Mary's University in Winona, MN and her Master's degree from Winona State University in Winona, MN.



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Lesley is from Dubuque, IA, and has been with Loras College since 1994.

