Welcome Engineering Parents!

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD.
Welcome to College Life!

✓ Exciting time

✓ Highly ranked
  • UT Austin
  • Cockrell School of Engineering

✓ Congratulations!
Parent Orientation

✓ This meeting is for Engineering Parents only.

✓ Purpose: Educate and Answer
  • Assist parents during transition time
  • Parents still have important role
  • Reframe parental involvement
  • Sensitive to cultural differences

Source: NACADA webinar, Brian Nossaman, OU
Engineering Majors

- AEROSPACE
- ARCHITECTURAL
- BIOMEDICAL
- CHEMICAL
- CIVIL
- ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER
- GEOSYSTEMS & HYDROGEOLOGY
- MECHANICAL
- PETROLEUM

What Starts Here Changes the World.
Engineering At A Glance

Enrollment for Fall 2010

✓ Undergraduates 5,583
✓ Undergraduate Men 78%
✓ Undergraduate Women 22%
✓ Underrepresented Populations 20%
✓ Ranked 9th overall in the US

What Starts Here Changes the World.
Our Focus is the Student

Student

Advisor

Parent

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD.
## Vocabulary Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School</th>
<th>College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child</td>
<td>Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;We&quot;</td>
<td>my student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always yes</td>
<td>Sometimes no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td>Confidentiality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service</td>
<td>Professional Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: NACADA webinar, 2009, Brian Nossaman, OU*
Letting Go is a Process...

✔ Start practicing your new roles now
✔ Let your son/daughter begin to problem solve for themselves
✔ Brainstorm about how to accomplish a task
✔ Coach them on questions to ask
✔ Have them report back about the experience
✔ Praise them for taking care of things on their own
✔ Think of another task that they can accomplish

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Parental Encouragement

- Support by listening as THEY problem-solve
- Encourage communication about their experiences
- Help identify Engineering and campus resources

Source: WEP, Cockrell School

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Student Orientation

- College Meeting
- Departmental Meeting
- Academic Advising
  - Orientation Advisor
  - SAO Advisor
  - TAMS Advising
  - Honors Advising
- Registration

What starts here changes the world.
Student Expectations

Students are responsible for

- their behavioral choices
- following campus policies
- academic honesty
- personal integrity
- developing healthy study, eating, and sleep habits
- seeking academic or personal assistance when needed
- being a positive member of the community

Source: TLU 2003
Common First-Year Issues

- What it actually means to be an “engineer”
- Flooded with opportunities
- Many transitions at the same time
  - time management
  - social issues
  - academic pressures
  - emotional growth
  - money

Source: WESP, K-State
Academic Issues

✔ Studying and taking exams in college is VERY DIFFERENT from high school

✔ Intro classes lay the foundation for future engineering courses

✔ Many large classes in lecture format

✔ Always do the optional attendance and homework

Source: WESP, K-State

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Adjusting to UT in Five Stages

Stage 1: Honeymoon
Stage 2: Culture Shock
Stage 3: Initial Adjustment
Stage 4: Mental Isolation
Stage 5: Acceptance & Integration

Source: WESP, K-State

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FERPA
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

✓ Federal Law
✓ Protects privacy of student education records
✓ Restricts release of information

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD.
Office of Student Affairs

We help students succeed!
Advising, resource referral, etc.

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD.
Job search counseling
Workshops
Job fairs each semester
On-campus interviews
Online job board
Summer internships
Co-op and Extern Programs
Resource library

UT Austin (ECAC) ranks #4 for Best Career/Job Placement Services
Princeton Review 2009 Best 366 College Rankings

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD.
Over 60 Engineering Student Organizations

✓ Opportunities outside the classroom to develop skills
  • Leadership
  • Teamwork
  • Communication

✓ Create a sense of community
Created to recruit, retain and graduate underrepresented ethnic populations

Creates opportunities for students to interact with peers, faculty, alumni and industry

Builds a supportive network for advancement

Services are free and open to all
Connecting women in engineering to

- Peer mentors and faculty
- Campus and community resources
- Research, career and volunteer opportunities
- Industry engineers, recruiters and mentors

Activities

- Workshops, seminars and camps
- Online communities and hands-on activities
Academic Learning Community

✓ Full time advising services (Jester)

✓ Free drop-in tutoring and study groups
  • Math, Chemistry, Physics and Engineering intro courses
  • 4 days/week 8:30–10:30pm (Fall and Spring Semesters)
General Engineering

GE Supplemental Instruction Courses

✓ Offered for Chemistry, Math and Physics
✓ Small class format for personal attention
✓ Grading based on attendance

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Scholarships

✔ February 1: Engineering Scholarship Application deadline for currently enrolled students

✔ Throughout the year scholarships offered from companies, organizations and external groups

✔ Remember fill out the FAFSA every year!

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Freshmen Interest Groups (FIG)

Key elements
• 2 courses with FIG group
• Weekly FIG seminar

Why enroll in a FIG?
• Connect academic and social experience
• Regular contact with peer and staff advisors
• Intro to academic resources
International Engineering Education (Study Abroad)

✓ Gain global experience
✓ Build unique experiences for resume
✓ Not extend graduation timeline
✓ Many scholarships
Changing Your Major

✓ Students explore future possibilities
  • Taking different classes
  • Meeting new people

✓ Advisors help navigate academic and profession paths

✓ Don’t be surprised about indecision or questioning
Need a Computer?

☑ Laptop not required
☑ Computer labs available in each department and in libraries
☑ Most software made initially for PC, but compatible programs are being made for MAC
☑ Purchase software at UT Campus Computer Store in the Flawn Academic Center (FAC)
Course Scheduling

✓ Individual academic advising appointments to review student's background

✓ 1st semester students should take 12-14 credit hours

✓ Need to register for courses the advisor recommends

✓ May not love their class times
  • Wait lists
  • Add/drops
  • Access times improve over time
Top Questions Parents Should Ask

1. Are you going to class?
2. Are you studying at least 35 hrs/wk?
3. Are you reviewing the material in each class weekly?
4. Have you been to office hours yet?
5. Are you going to tutoring?
6. Have you formed a study group?

Source: WEP, Cockrell School
Parent Initiatives

✓ Join Texas Parents Association
  • Receive annual magazine
  • www.texasparents.org

✓ Parent’s Weekend
  • October 21 – 23, 2011
Any Questions?

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