

Family Connection

University of Florida
October 2014

Gator Parent and Family Association Newsletter

Dear Mickey,

Welcome back to the Gator Nation! By now, you are a professional at this college family thing, right? You've been there, done that. You've successfully made it through your student's move-in, their first day of classes, and final exams already!

However, this is a new year with new experiences for every Gator. Some of your students are living off-campus for the first time. Some of your them are coming back from their amazing summer internships and transitioning back into life as a student. They are getting more involved, taking on more leadership roles, and working harder than ever.

Even though you are a professional, it is still natural to have questions or concerns about your student's experience. Your student will likely face a few challenges along the way, but my hope is that those challenges turn into opportunities and successes. As the Assistant Director for Family Programs and Engagement, my job is to assist with the challenges and celebrate the successes with you.

There are so many resources at the University of Florida and I hope that you and your student both take advantage of all that we have to offer. If you need help finding or accessing any of these resources, please don't hesitate to ask me.

I hope that you will take this opportunity to also join the Gator Parent and Family Association. This year, there are lots of exciting opportunities for UF Families to engage in their student's college experience.

Have a great day and Go Gators!

Meet the Team



Dr. Jen Day Shaw

Associate Vice President
Dean of Students



Jaime Gresley

Associate Dean of
Students
Director, New Student
and Family Programs



Arie Gee

Assistant Director,
Family Programs and
Engagement
New Student and
Family Programs

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Gator Parent and Family Association



The Gator Parent and Family Association is open to all family members of UF undergraduate students.

Membership is free, but in order to take full advantage of the benefits, you do have to activate your membership by clicking [here](#).

Planning to attend Homecoming?

Make sure you stop by the GPFA hut at the end of the [Gator Gallup](#)

TapShield's Entourage feature lets students share their route + ETA with friends and family and automatically notifies contacts and police if students don't make it to their destination.

Please urge your student to download [TapShield](#) onto their smartphones and use it. The app is free and found on [iTunes](#) or [Google Play Store](#).

Click [here](#) to learn more about TapShield at UF!

First Year Florida Peer Leader Application



First Year Florida is the first-year student's guide to academic success at the University of Florida. This one-credit, one-hour per week course is packed with the tips, tricks, and tactics necessary for survival on this large, diverse campus. Class discussions and projects focus on student skills, social diversity, career decisions, and financial management.

Each class is paired with a university official and undergraduate peer leader to help students develop the practical, social, emotional, and intellectual skills that are essential to a fulfilling four years at UF. Applications to become a peer leader will open September 2 and can be found on the Dean of Students [website](#).

To learn more about First Year Florida, the Peer Leader experience and the application/interview process, applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of the FYF Information Sessions. These are on September 24 and October 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Reitz Union Matthews Suite.

October Events

Fall 2014 Career Showcase (Technical)	October 1
GatorNights: 2nd Annual Orange vs. Blue	October 3
Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving Pinch a Penny All Florida Invitational	October 3 - 5
Butterfly Fest	October 4
UF Symphony Orchestra	October 9
Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving	October 10
Soccer vs. Mississippi State	October 10
Volleyball vs. Georgia	October 10
GatorNights: Imagine	October 10
Football vs. LSU	October 11
Volleyball vs. Texas A&M	October 12
Conflict Resolution Week	October 13-16

your time at the University of Florida know that there is always someone here who cares and is able to help. All you have to do is call or email us at 352-294-CARE (352-294-2273) or by email at umatter@ufl.edu.

Remember at UF you are a valued member of our community!

Football Tickets



Gators, you still have a chance to purchase single game football tickets and see a game in The Swamp this fall.

Contact the Gator Ticket Office to find out more information on what single game tickets and premium seats are still available. Call today at 352-375-4683 or visit [GatorZone](#) to find out how to purchase.

Don't miss your chance to spend a Saturday in The Swamp with your family this fall and remember It's Great to be a Florida Gator.

Gator Dining: Declining Balance

DEPOSIT	GET
\$100	\$10
\$200	\$20
\$300	\$30

From September 22 - October 6, Gator Dining is offering a Declining Balance Reload program. For every \$100 students reload into their declining balance account, they will be awarded \$10.

[Live Nation Presents: Jason Aldean](#)

October 16

For more information, visit the [Gator1](#) site.

UF Homecoming - No Classes

October 17

**GatorNights: Always Friday,
Always Free**[Gator Grow!](#)

October 17

[Football vs. Missouri \(Homecoming\)](#)

October 18

[Volleyball vs. Arkansas](#)

October 19

[Family Weekend](#)

October 24-26

[GatorNights: Fall Carnival](#)

October 24

Thank you for all of your support families. Your students have been hanging out with us on Friday nights in the Reitz Union and as we've told them - we'll be around all semester and semesters to come with blockbuster movies, free food, live comedy and musicians, and so much more.

[Soccer \(Senior Day\) vs. Tennessee](#)

October 24

[Volleyball vs. Missouri](#)

October 24

[Volleyball vs. Mississippi State](#)

October 26

[Soccer vs. Vanderbilt](#)

October 30

[We're Always Friday, Always Free.](#)

Themes for October:

October 3 - [Orange vs. Blue](#)October 10 - [Imagine](#)October 24 - [Fall Carnival](#)

I wish you all the best as you continue this new journey with your student. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,

Arie Gee
Assistant Director for Family Programs and Engagement
New Student and Family Programs
Dean of Students Office
Division of Student Affairs
University of Florida

Quick Links[Gator Parent and Family Association](#)[UF Events Calendar](#)
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