

Co-op Family Collection



MOM
Bumper Sticker
298786 / \$1.25



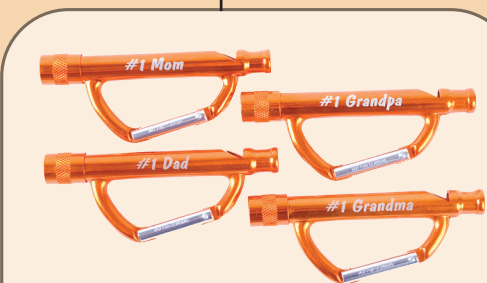
DAD
Bumper Sticker
298794 / \$1.25



GRANDMA
Bumper Sticker
298808 / \$1.25



GRANDPA
Bumper Sticker
298816 / \$1.25



MOM, DAD,
GRANDMA, GRANDPA
Keychain / Flashlight / Whistle
#790507 / \$6.99

Additional Family products are
available on our website at
www.universitycoop.com



MOM, DAD,
GRANDMA, GRANDPA
Rosewood Name Pen
#121201 / \$6.99

UNIVERSITY CO-OP
UNIVERSITYCOOP.COM / 1.800.255.1896
2246 GUADALUPE STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78705

A MESSAGE FROM THE VPSA

PLANNING AHEAD

By Dr. Juan González
Vice President for Student Affairs

Greetings:

The fall semester is upon us, and it is time once again to gear up for what is often the busiest part of the year here at the University. Classes are in full swing, students are studying for their first round of exams, football fever is in the air and Parents' Weekend planning is keeping everyone busy.

In the last issue of *Texas Parents*, I wrote about how proud I was of our new Student Affairs five-year strategic plan. This document, which includes a comprehensive mission and vision for Student Affairs, carries a theme or motto on its cover—**Student Affairs: Where Life and Learning Intersect.**

This phrase encapsulates the driving force behind the Division of Student Affairs. We exist, in essence, to help your student succeed and grow, and we believe that growth and success must be measured in many ways. Academic success is one gauge of how well your student is performing, but there are a variety of indicators other than grades. Those who take the most from their college experience are those who recognize that learning happens both inside and outside the classroom.

In fact, I recently had our units count the services they offer that are collaborative efforts with the academic side of the family and a rough survey yielded 140 programs. This idea of integrated learning carries through most of what we do, whether it is a program to recruit the best students from around Texas like the Honors Colloquium, or the increasingly popular "Academic Community Centers" for studying and advising on-site in the residence halls, or Summer Orientation, or the professor-led Freshman Reading Round-Up book discussions. And of all the campus programs and events we offer, I would have a hard time thinking of one that better typifies this approach to complete learning than the annual Parents' Weekend.

If you can, I hope you will join us October 27-29 to attend the welcome reception, meet your student's favorite professor, take a behind-the-scenes tour, get some exercise by signing up for the annual Pumpkin Run, view an exhibit at the Blanton Art Museum and enjoy some authentic Texas barbecue. Come experience the mix of learning, tradition and fun that comprises Parents' Weekend.

I truly enjoyed my first chance to attend Parents' Weekend last year, in October of 2005, and I am looking forward to getting to mingle with parents and students again at several of this year's events. Honestly, it is one of the most enjoyable aspects of my job.

To those of you who are actively involved in Texas Parents already, please know how much we appreciate your participation and support. To those of you who are getting involved for the first time, please accept a very warm welcome to a valuable component of the University. I know that you will enjoy being a part of Texas Parents, and more specifically, of Parents' Weekend 2006.

- To read the complete Student Affairs Strategic Plan, visit us on the Web at www.utexas.edu/student/vpsa.
- To see the list of books chosen by top professors for this year's Reading Round-Up, visit www.utexas.edu/student/reading.



Pre-Graduate School Internship

By Carolina Rosero, 2005 UT Graduate

Now that your student is attending college, many questions arise. What will happen after graduation? Is your student considering graduate studies, a doctorate or law school? The Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) Pre-Graduate School Internship allows undergraduate students to explore such questions and many others.

By teaming up with graduate student mentors, interns and mentors work collaboratively to design an internship unique to each student. Throughout the semester, interns explore questions regarding conducting research, serving as teaching and research assistants, writing for scholarly audiences, participating in seminars and other various topics unique to graduate studies.

Dr. Richard Cherwitz, professor of Communication Studies and founder of the IE Consortium, and Johanna Hartelius, director of the Pre-Graduate School Internship, hold workshops and meetings throughout the semester. During this time, interns interact and share their experiences and learn about graduate study, obtaining admissions and funding and creating career possibilities.

The IE Pre-Graduate School Internship is a unique opportunity for students to truly understand the importance of academia in society and the practical value of a degree.

To find out more about the Pre-Graduate School Internship and to download the required contract, visit www.utexas.edu/coc/cms/faculty/cherwitz/. For further information please e-mail Professor Cherwitz at spaj737@uts.cc.utexas.edu.



Interns and mentors get to know one another.

Questions about Texas Parents? Call us at 512-471-2353 or visit us at www.texasparents.org.