Welcome to the first issue of the fall 2012 Parent Newsletter for the parents of students who are beginning their education at Ursuline College! There will be two more issues later in the semester to continue to acquaint you with campus resources. You and your daughter/son are now members of the Ursuline family. We have over 10,000 alums, the vast majority of whom choose to reside in the Greater Cleveland area and contribute greatly to their communities.

CAMPUS RESOURCES
Each issue of this newsletter will highlight a campus resource. The Student Service Center (also called One-Stop) is a primary resource for Ursuline students. Located in Mullen 203, the center is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM and Friday from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. In this office students can pay their bills, set up credit on their college ID card to use in the bookstore and dining areas, add or drop classes with their advisor’s approval, obtain parking permits, and obtain financial aid information. The Student Service Center is staffed by Lisa Peak and Lauren Jesnosky. The phone number is 440 646 8309.

MID-TERM BREAK AND MID-TERM WARNINGS
Midterm break is October 15th – 19th. While everyone enjoys a break from the demanding pace of college this is often a stressful time of the semester due to midterm exams and assignments. Some instructors give exams before midterm break and others give them after midterm break. It’s important for students to pay attention to the syllabus for each class so they will be prepared. Faculty may choose to issue midterm warnings to students who are not earning “C” or above in their courses. These warnings are emailed from the registrar’s office to the student at her/his Ursuline email account after midterm break. Parents can ask their son/daughter if he/she has received any warnings and can remind them to sign up for tutoring through URSA, Mullen 312. It is also highly recommended that students make direct contact with their instructor in any class where they are having difficulty.

ACADEMIC ADVISORS ASSIGNED
Each student is assigned to a faculty or staff member who will be her/his academic advisor, new students should have received information on this. Meet Your Advisor Week was September 17th-21st. New students are always encouraged to set up an appointment with their advisor. This can be done through a phone call, an email or a visit to the advisor’s office. You might want to ask your student who her/his advisor is and whether or not she/he has met the advisor. The advisor is the person with whom the student will meet in order to register for classes each semester. They will support the student in pursuing her/his academic goals and in investigating careers.
MEET UC FACULTY
This month we feature Dr. Gary Polster who has been at Ursuline for 39 years. Dr. Polster is the chairman of the sociology department and teaches Introduction to Sociology to new students. He enjoys the collaborative classroom environment where ideas are shared by students and professors. Dr. Polster obtained his doctorate in American Cultural Studies from Case Western Reserve University and is the author of *Inside Looking Out*, a book that describes the life of a child growing up in Bellefaire Orphanage.

Dr. Polster has directed the Frontier Day Camp every summer at Ursuline for 37 years. He oversees a staff of forty who work with young campers with mild autism and learning disabilities. Ursuline students are encouraged to serve on the staff of this camp and can earn credit while doing so. Dr. Polster has three sons and six grandchildren.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS
There are several transition tasks that new college students encounter. It may be helpful for parents to be aware of these so that you can support your son/daughter in working through them. The following list is adapted from [http://www.lc.iastat.edu/appendixa.pdf](http://www.lc.iastat.edu/appendixa.pdf)

- Resolving separation and loss in leaving home
- Adapting to a new college environment
- Initiating new relationships
- Meeting the academic demands of college
- Decision-making and self-discipline skill development
- Clarifying values and understanding university culture

To help students deal with these issues Ursuline provides support services through our Office of Counseling and Career Services. Student Affairs, including Residence Life, offers a variety of programs and activities all designed to help students transition successfully to college life. Ursuline Resources for Success in Academics offers tutoring and other academic assistance. You may want to encourage your son/daughter to explore these services if it appears that support would be beneficial.

IMPORTANT DATES
October 15 - 19: Mid-term Break
   Mid-term warnings are issued after break.

October 21: Feast of St. Ursula
   (Patron Saint of the Ursuline Sisters)

November 2: Last Day to Withdraw from a Class

November 12 -18: Founder's Week

November 21 -25: Thanksgiving Holiday

COLLEGE GLOSSARY

**Syllabus:** course guidelines, assignments and grading explanation.

**Core Curriculum:** the Ursuline Studies Program – a broad range of courses required of all students.

**Curriculum:** the courses required for a degree. Ursuline provides audit sheets for each major that list all the required courses for that particular major. Audit sheets are available at [ursuline.edu](http://ursuline.edu).