

RAMFAM Association Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2008 – 10:00-noon – LSC 208

Members Present: Julie Folden, Darren Hayden, Jeff Wood, Greg & Glenna Brissey, Tarun, Rita & Kush Deshi, Lynda Zeringue, Sally Goodnight, Ed & Linda Carpenter, Bob & Laura Huff, Cecelia Luhrs, Judy Sayre Grim, Mike Delduca, Ken Lowry, Blanche Hughes, Anne Hudgens, Kacee Collard

- After introductions of all present members and their student's stories, Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs at CSU, shared stories about her children and their college experiences. She welcomed everyone, encouraging engaged and helpful parent and family involvement.
- Anne Hudgens, Dean of Students, shared her professional history: She was the university's chief disciplinary officer for many years, she currently serves as the chief crisis coordinator and supervises wellness, student legal services, Greek life, off-campus student services/resources for adult learners, veteran services, conflict resolution and student conduct services, Hartshorn health services, counseling programs, DAY IV programs, and the student recreation center. She is a "big picture gal" and looks at students on a continuum from students who need extra help developmentally to students who are capable and ready for the world at 18. She spoke about mental health issues and made parents and families aware that CSU has a student case manager who follows students who are having trouble.
- Julie asked who looks at Residence Hall matching forms – Blanche indicated the forms are sorted by Key communities, Honors, or another academic group and then 1 or 2 other factors are considered to match roommates. This process is done electronically. She and Anne also indicated students are not always accurate on the forms. Anne mentioned the RAs on each floor received a copy of the matching forms to assist in the development of the roommate contract and other issues that may arise.
- Greg asked about the decision to change the phone lines in residence halls from external lines to internal lines. Blanche stated that, when she first heard the news, she looked at it through the lens of a parent, and completely disagreed with the decision. Housing and Dining Services staff showed her the survey completed by students that indicated the vast majority of the students in residence halls did not use their land-line. Please find the survey results attached in the HDS-Phone-Survey PDF file. Kacee noted the phones work across campus and are equipped to be able to dial 911 and receive reverse-911 calls. Anne indicated the emergency system does not begin with a reverse-911, rather an emergency Rave text to cell phones. While it was indicated that parents and families can register for Rave text alerts from the CSUPD website, CSU has limited alerts to students, in order to not overwhelm the system. *(Please look for more information on this topic in the October Parent and Family Newsletter.)*
- Bob asked about a back-up plan if all of the Rave text alerts overwhelm the cell phone tower capacity. Anne indicated the text alerts are the first action taken in an emergency, and then students, parents, families and other constituents are referred to the university website for updates.

- Laura indicated the summer Preview sessions were fantastic and very helpful. She commented on the positive help from the Police Officers, giving parents and families tangible things to do to prevent theft. She also applauded the acknowledgement of parent transition in the process of a student going to school.
- Ken said they had the same experience, and that his student was motivated to be a part of everything and join every club during Preview, but now that he is here, what is the university doing to ensure he is engaged? How are student organizations encouraging students to join? Kacee indicated there are over 300 student groups to join on campus, and that going to a meeting of one that the student is interested in is the first step. Anne said the newness of being in college is wearing off and students are looking for community and looking to find their niche. She asked parents and families to talk to their students about “what lights your fire”? If students who played soccer and attended youth group meetings in high school decide not to be involved because “that’s high school stuff” ask your student what they liked about those groups to try to help them find a group with a similar feel on campus.
- Parents and family members broke into committees for further discussion. Please see attached committee forms for ideas generated. If you are interested in being on a committee, and have additional ideas, members will be communicating via e-mail during the month.
- Finally, Jeff spoke to the new members regarding the purpose of the RAMFAM. He said it’s a community of parents and family members who can network and share experiences among them.
- Next meeting will be held Sunday, October 12, 2008 on campus. More details to follow!