Prescott College is committed to supporting your student’s educational success - the kind of success which forges lifelong bonds. *Trails Home*, the parent newsletter, is one way we hope to keep you informed and share useful information about the Prescott College Community. You may also want to visit the Prescott College Parent Web pages at: [www.prescott.edu/parents](http://www.prescott.edu/parents).

The next *Trails Home* will be published in January 2012.

**Living Learning Community This Fall at Prescott College**

By Laurie Silver  
Vice President for Student Affairs

Prescott College is pleased to introduce the innovative Living Learning Community this fall 2011 semester. Living Learning Community helps Prescott College students integrate their course and student housing experiences around a common theme. This pilot program, comprising 18 freshman students, will be replicated in fall 2012 for approximately 100 students. As members of the Living Learning Community, students have enhanced opportunities to interact with their faculty and develop strong student friendships. Students also benefit from the support of resident assistants and peer mentors. Student participation in collaborative studies and community service opportunities are other added features of Living Learning Community.

Students in this Living Learning Community will take linked sections of courses including Writing Workshop, Interpersonal Communications, and the liberal arts seminar Culture, Power, and Sustainability. The theme of the Living Learning Community for Fall 2011 is “Creating the Commons” with a focus on water. Water is, of course, a very important type of “commons” in the desert Southwest. Students will study how different communities and cultures have managed this shared critical resource. They will also experience field trips to creeks, canals, rivers, dams, and lakes as they learn about the natural and built environment in the Southwest.

Living Learning Community students will also learn about a range of topics designed to enhance their success at Prescott College. These include study skills, time and stress management, critical thinking, learning styles, decision making, understanding faculty and course expectations, health and safety, managing finances, and living in a diverse world. Activities and events on campus will provide opportunities for connection with other Prescott College students.

Living Learning Communities provide a home base and strong foundation for new students’ successful transition to college. Higher education research shows that students who participate in Living Learning Communities experience a smoother transition to college, do better academically, and feel more connected to their college and classmates.

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**Upcoming Alumni and Parent Events in Connecticut and New York**

**Saturday, September 10, 2011**
11 a.m.
Day at Mystic Seaport - The Museum of America and the Sea
11 a.m. at the Galley Room (at the Galley Restaurant)
75 Greenmanville Avenue
Mystic, CT

You are invited to join Prescott College President Kristin Woolever for an Alumni and Parent Gathering at the legendary Mystic Seaport. The Office of Alumni Relations will provide a catered lunch at The Galley at noon. For a minimal fee of $15, guests will receive lunch, admission to the seaport, and access to numerous exhibits and galleries. The museum features a 19th-century coastal village, tall ships and vessels, a preservation shipyard, and more! Mystic Seaport is about 10 miles east of New London, Conn.

$15 per person
RSVP Required at: [http://mystic.kintera.org](http://mystic.kintera.org)
Please R.S.V.P. by September 9, 2011

**Monday, September 12, 2011**
6:30 p.m.
Wine and Cheese Tasting
Bar Carrera
146 West Houston in the West Village
New York, NY

You are invited to join Prescott College President Kristin Woolever for an Alumni and
Parent Gathering at Bar Carrera in Manhattan. Enjoy up to five Spanish wines and artisanal cheeses, artisan breads, membrillo paste, tomato jam, dried fruits, nuts, and olives. A detailed document and tasting sheet will be provided for each participant along with a guided presentation.

$15 per person
RSVP Required at: http://ny.kintera.org
Please R.S.V.P. by September 9, 2011

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About New Student Orientation

What are the Orientation groups? Students participate in one of three Orientation options (Health & Wellness *Yoga, Equine, or Backpacking). The majority of the students participate in the backpacking trip.

Who leads the students on their Orientation experience? Each Orientation group of 8-10 students is led by two instructors. One of the instructors is an alumnus or alumna who has also worked in the field of adventure education. The other leader is either a senior in adventure education or another alumnus or alumna. Course Directors oversee each two groups of students and instructors. Course Directors are well-seasoned with this program and others. All instructors are certified Wilderness First Responder (WFR) or Emergency Medical Technicians. Health and Wellness and Equine groups differ in size with 16 and 12 students respectively.

How are the groups formed? The faculty strives to balance the groups for gender, physical ability, experience with the outdoors, and degree program. The goal is to create safe, eclectic, and effective groups.

How long do the students hike each day? Students will hike somewhere between two and 10 miles each hiking day. Of course, the terrain will dictate how much they can achieve (trail vs. off-trail travel). There are also several days when students will not hike and instead focus on reflection or on their studies.

What is the curriculum during Orientation? The program orients new students to the Southwest environment, introduces Prescott College philosophies and processes, and fosters a sense of community. Students are also taught basic backcountry living skills, navigation skills, and lessons in natural history. Equine and Yoga participants will also be learning foundational skills and theoretical background of horsepersonship and health-based practices. Students are required to keep a portfolio of their personal reflections and growth, setting the foundation for Prescott College’s portfolio-based demonstrations of competency.

Can I send a package to a student during Orientation? Yes, but all packages should be kept small. Homemade sweets are very much appreciated and personal letters are invaluable. Remember that students will have to carry these items. All packages must be received by the Prescott College Service Center no later than September 10.

When do the students leave for Orientation and how do they prepare? Students spend two-and-a-half days in town getting ready for the semester – advising with faculty, choosing classes, and registering – using their own residencies as home base. The following four days are spent at Chauncey Ranch preparing for their field experiences, completing food planning, bag packing, and doing some hiking. Students will be traveling at elevations between 4,000 and 8,000 feet during their hike. The six days in Prescott at 5,000 feet helps to acclimatize students for the trip.

Recommended Vaccines

The following vaccines are recommended for college students by the Center for Disease Control: tetanus-diptheria-pertussis vaccine, meningococcal vaccine, HPV vaccine series, hepatitis B vaccine series, polio vaccine series, measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine series, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine series, influenza vaccine, pneumococcal polysaccharid (PPV) vaccine, and hepatitis A vaccine series.

Don’t Tell Me What to Do, Just Send Money
The Essential Parenting Guide to the College Years

By Helen E. Johnson & Christine Schelhas-Miller
Publication date: July 5, 2011
Available at bookstores nationwide.

Looking to send a Care Package? Keep it Green!

Find some ideas at: http://pecare.kintera.org

Current Parents Mentoring Prospective Prescott College Parents

"I'm so glad you offered a program like this. Thank You!"
~Prospective PC Parent

The primary purpose of this program is to build a connection between prospective parents
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<th>Parent Mentor Program</th>
<th>Forging Parent to Parent Communication</th>
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<td>and current Prescott College parents. Current Prescott College parent mentors assist with information through the sharing of their insights and experiences. For more information on participating in the Parent Mentor Program and joining the Prescott College Parents' Association, please contact: <a href="mailto:msmith@prescott.edu">msmith@prescott.edu</a></td>
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| Parent Articles of Interest | For the latest articles of interest to college parents today, connect with University Parent Connection's media information. Click on the following link: [http://www.universityparent.com/rss.xml?tr=y&auid=8615351](http://www.universityparent.com/rss.xml?tr=y&auid=8615351). Additional articles on grades, stress, student success, time management, and more can be found at: [http://www.campuscalm.com](http://www.campuscalm.com). |

| Lifelong Learning Center | The Lifelong Learning Center provides educational and service opportunities for learners of all ages. These life-enhancing learning experiences connect the learner to self, family, community, the environment, and the diverse cultures of the world. For more information and a schedule of classes visit: [http://www.prescott.edu/lifelong-learning/about/index.html](http://www.prescott.edu/lifelong-learning/about/index.html). |

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<tr>
<th>Seth Fairweather, Glass Artist Exhibit</th>
<th>September 2 to October 1, 2011</th>
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<td>Artist Talk in the Gallery, Friday, Sept. 16, 2011, at 5 p.m. Always free and open to the public. Prescott College Art Gallery at Sam Hill Warehouse, 232 N. Granite Street, Prescott, AZ 86301</td>
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<th>A Great Gift Idea!</th>
<th>Prescott College Parent Logo Clothing</th>
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<td>Proceeds Benefit the Prescott College Parents Supporting Field Studies Scholarship. Polos and baseball caps available online at: <a href="http://pcparentclothing.kintera.org">http://pcparentclothing.kintera.org</a>.</td>
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<th>Make Sure We Have Your Updated Info!</th>
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<td>We can’t stay in touch with you unless we have your current info – mailing address, e-mail, and phone number. You can update your info online at <a href="http://pcparent.kintera.org">http://pcparent.kintera.org</a> or by calling the Parent Programs Office at (928) 350-4502.</td>
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<th>Online Giving</th>
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<td>The Annual Fund for Academic Excellence is an investment in the future. Every dollar donated directly supports Prescott College in our mission to educate students in the Liberal Arts, the Environment, and Social Justice, by funding the College’s sustainable day-to-day operations and growth. Please continue to encourage our students to make the world a better place by contributing to the Annual Fund for Academic Excellence today! <a href="http://www.prescott.edu/give/annual-fund/annual-fund-intro.html">http://www.prescott.edu/give/annual-fund/annual-fund-intro.html</a>.</td>
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Prescott College Bookstore

Where else can you find great books, field gear, unique gifts, and community supported agriculture in one spot? It's not just for students anymore; it's your hometown bookstore.

For hours, location, and contact information go to: http://bookstore.prescott.edu/about-prescott-college-bookstore/.

Alumni Sharing Knowledge Career Network

"Career Center Counselors advise seniors to make connections with alumni..." - The Chronicle of Higher Education, February 13, 2009

Students will benefit from working with a Prescott College Alumni Career Mentor!

The Prescott College Alumni Sharing Knowledge Career Mentor Program matches students with alumni mentors who can assist with career-related decisions.

Review Alumni Sharing Knowledge Mentor Biographies at:

http://ASKPCMentors.kintera.org/

SAVE THE DATE!

Campus Tour • President, Deans, Faculty Mixer
Family Presentations • Class Presentation • Dean's Reception
Parent Association Meeting and More!

Prescott College Parents’ Weekend
April 13-15, 2012