FAMILIES MATTER

A Newsletter from the Parents and Families Organization at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

parents@edinboro.edu

www.edinboro.edu/cwis/studaff/recreation/pfo/home.html

Dear Edinboro Families:

Welcome to the start of what will be a very exciting year for us. In the fall we will begin the celebration of the University's Sesquicentennial year – our 150th anniversary. Preparations are already underway for an impressive schedule of events, activities and publications.

Spring semester is always one of the busiest times of the year on the Edinboro campus. This year we will celebrate SnowFest on February 1-5; the 10th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Luncheon on Friday, February 3; and the 7th annual Frank G. Pogue Honors Scholarship Luncheon featuring NBC News correspondent Andrea Mitchell on Thursday, March 2.

This semester is also a time when we celebrate the rich cultural heritage of our students through such events as Black History Month in February, Women's History Month in March, and HIV/AIDS Awareness Week, Disability Awareness Day, Arts Week, Holocaust Remembrance, and Asian Heritage Month in April.

In addition to the Sesquicentennial, this year will mark the start of one of the most important construction projects in the University's recent history – the expansion of the University Center. Construction starts in January and is expected to be complete in the spring of 2007. Other major projects that we expect to see in 2006 are the renovation of

Academy Hall and construction of a new building, the Institute for Human Services and Civility.

For those of you who aren't familiar with winter in northwestern Pennsylvania, this time of the year can bring dramatic wintry conditions to our area. Edinboro is often credited with having the most snowfall in the state. From time to time, these conditions require us to cancel classes for short periods of time. To keep all of our students informed of class cancellations we update the University Hotline at 814-732-2676 and the University's webpage at www.edinboro.edu.

We encourage everyone to use their best judgment when traveling during severe weather and to allow for extra travel time. To help with weather emergencies, the University has its comprehensive Winter Weather Safety Guide available online under "Campus Life" at http://webs.edinboro.edu/pubrel/winter.html.

Thank you for taking time to be involved in your loved one's life at Edinboro University through your involvement with the Parents and Families Organization.

Sincerely,

Frank G. Pogue President

GREETINGS FROM PARENTS AND FAMILIES ORGANIZATION CO-CHAIRPERSONS, BOBBI AND ALAN CUMO

We are honored to have been re-elected as co-chairs of the Parents and Families Organization (PFO) at the Family Weekend Fall Fest. For those of you who were not able to attend, you missed a wonderful weekend. This event is held annually in October and it is a great way to spend some time with your student.

The PFO can be described as "college PTO/PTA" (without the constant fundraising!). We are here to assist you and your student. Many times you may have questions or concerns and not know who to go to for answers. Just email parents@edinboro.edu and we will do our best to help you. This email is monitored by Mr. Kahan Sablo, Dean of Student Life, Mr. Jon Pulice, Director of Alumni Relations, and the PFO. Rest assured that one of us will respond to you as soon as possible.

2005 PARENTS ANNUAL FUND A BIG THANKS

Thank you to all of the parents who supported our 2005 Parents Annual Fund! The Edinboro University Parents campaign plays a pivotal role in securing unrestricted gifts to benefit current students.

Thanks to our parents, library reference materials have been updated and new reference books have been purchased. These include but are not limited to instructional and supplementary materials including classics and standard works needed by undergraduates in all disciplines.

Parent gifts have an immediate impact. Each year our Phonathon kicks off with the

Parents campaign. Within two weeks this fall, over \$24,000 in gifts and pledges was raised for the Baron-Forness Library and other programs as designated by parents. This demonstrates tremendous support given the recent catastrophes and the eagerness of the Edinboro Family to show support to so many meaningful causes this fall.

We want to thank our parents for their commitment to Edinboro University and sincerely feel that parents are as much a part of the community as students, faculty, staff and alumni. You will also be recognized for your contribution as your name will appear in next year's *Edinboro News* Annual Donor Report.

HUGS FROM HOME

Edinboro Dining Services is now offering a gift service for friends and family of on-campus resident students. The program, called *Hugs from Home*, offers friends and family the opportunity to select various gifts to have hand delivered to the student. Gift choices include everything from cakes of all sizes, homemade cookies, ice cream, pizza parties, balloons and every student's favorite – Flex Account Gift Certificates. It's perfect for students celebrating a birthday, holiday or just because! Each *Hugs from Home* order is delivered to the student with a personalized gift card. Cakes are delivered with candles, plates, napkins and cutlery also.

The **Hugs from Home** brochure and order form can be downloaded from the Edinboro Dining Services website:

www.Dineoncampus.com/Edinboro/?cmd=cater ing. For more information, please contact the Edinboro Dining Services Catering Office at 814-732-1500.

In addition to the Hugs from Home program, Dining Services also offers the award-winning **"Send Munchies"** gift delivery

program, which is perfect for students living off campus. **Send Munchies** upscale cookies and desserts are packaged fresh and delivered directly to the student, whether they live on or off-campus. Orders for **Send Munchies** can be placed online at *www.sendmunchies.com*.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND SERVICES

The Office for Student Financial Support and Services will be conducting a series of Financial Aid Workshops in January and February of 2006. The intent of these workshops is to give students guidance in the financial aid renewal process for the 2006-2007 academic year. Other topics will include satisfactory academic progress and summer school cost and aid availability.

Although the dates and times of these workshops have not been finalized, parents and families are asked to encourage their sons and daughters to watch their e-mail and the Spectator for details and to attend one of the sessions.

The preferred filing deadline for the 2006-2007 FAFSA is March 15. The goal of these Financial Aid Workshops is to educate the students so that they are able to work with their parents in the completion of the financial aid forms, etc. This will be an opportunity to learn what changes have occurred and to get questions answered.

Please feel free to contact the Student Financial Support and Services Office at: 814-732-5555 or toll-free at 888-611-2680 or via e-mail at *finaid@edinboro.edu* if you would like any additional information.

HOMECOMING 2005

The beautiful fall weather made for an enjoyable setting on the campus of Edinboro University as we celebrated Homecoming Weekend 2005.

The weekend officially kicked off Friday with over 130 loyal golfers participating in the 14th Annual Alumni and Friends Homecoming Golf Outing, with the proceeds supporting the Fighting Scot Statue Project. The activities continued throughout the day with the 17th Annual Speech and Hearing Alumni Conference and into the evening with a bonfire. the crowning of Homecoming Queen Katherine Henning (Alpha Gamma Delta) and Homecoming King Justin Hull (Sigma Tau Gamma) and a spectacular fireworks display. The evening concluded with the Traditional Friday Night Celebration at Culbertson Hills Resort with alumni, faculty, staff and friends gathering to reminisce, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and dancing, courtesy of the Alumni Association.

On Saturday morning, students, families, friends, alumni and community members were treated to "Brunch on the Lawn," compliments of President and Mrs. Poque, with many of these guests passing through the Alumni House to pick up their commemorative Homecoming button and pompoms, before watching the Kilted Mile II - The Tartan Run and Homecoming Parade wind through campus and the town of Edinboro. The theme for this year's parade "Video Games" provided for some wonderful floats. Winner of the President's Award was "Super Mario Brothers." constructed by Sigma Tau Gamma and Alpha Gamma Delta. This is the fifth consecutive vear Sigma Tau Gamma has earned first place in the trophy competition.

The weekend celebration ended with the Fighting Scots Football team winning their game under blue skies and sunshine.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join the entire Edinboro Family as we celebrate Homecoming Weekend 2006. The tentative date is Friday, October 6th and Saturday, October 7th. Hope to see you. there!

FAMILY WEEKEND FALL FEST 2005 WAS A GREAT SUCCESS

This year's Family Weekend Fall Fest was a great success. Combined with our annual fall Open House in an effort to highlight the multitude of activities that occur on campus, Edinboro University was in full gear as we welcomed over 3,500 parents, family members, students and potential students to our campus.

The weekend began on October 21 with a concert featuring music department faculty and students and with a hayride to Finney's Pumkinville for a scary walk through a haunted corn maze. Those who desired a less frightening entertainment opted to view one of the many showings of the movie, *Bewitched*.

The following day began with a continental breakfast hosted by President and Mrs. Pogue and a holiday craft fair. At the annual meeting of the Parents and Families Organization, Bobbi and Alan Cuomo were unanimously reelected chairpersons of the organization. Art displays, departmental open houses, and a multitude of fun games were available for everyone's enjoyment.

Congratulations to our Fighting Scots Football team for a 24-7 victory against

Slippery Rock University. The women's Soccer team gave it their best effort, but unfortunately experienced a 1-3 loss to Indiana University.

Saturday evening offered even more activities for the weekend. After enjoying a delicious meal that included recipe selections submitted by parents and families of Edinboro University students through the "Recipes From Home" website, members of the Edinboro Family were able to enjoy a theater performance of "Father of the Bride," "Boro Living Game Shows," and an Ecumenical Church Service, with music provided by our own United Voices of Edinboro. The weekend ended on Sunday with a family golf outing at Culbertson Hills golf course.

We thank those of you who endured the rain and made the trip up to the Boro to visit us, and we look forward to your participation at next year's Family Weekend Fall Fest.

SPRING '06 COMMENCEMENT: JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Although the spring semester is just beginning, parents and families of students that will be graduating in May might want to make special note of the following events. 2006 Torch Night, a pre-Commencement farewell for graduates and their families, will be held Friday, May 12, and features a unique sandwich buffet. On Saturday, May 13, our Commencement celebration will begin with a family brunch from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in Van Houten Dining Hall. The Commencement ceremony will begin at 1:00 p.m. in McComb Fieldhouse. Watch for your invitation to arrive in mid-April.

