VT faculty and staff have a different relationship with parents than high schools.

This is true for 3 reasons:

- **33,000 students**
- **Privacy laws that limit information release**
- **Developmental motivation**

Our structure encourages students to manage their own concerns.
Please Help Us Help Them!

• See Parents link in COS web page for important dates in your student’s life and suggestions for how to participate.

• http://www.science.vt.edu/student/orientation

• Help direct your student to the best resource when they need to problem solve.
Who are these Students?

Current Data on Generation iY

- Millennials born after 1990. Their world is shaped by the internet.
- >90% are on the net, 68% attend college.
- >90% play video or computer games weekly.
- 98% use Facebook (or 2% don't)
- >85% have a cell phone.
- 34% use Twitter.
By the Way...

This is an informal presentation.

You may turn on your cell phones in case your student calls.
What is the Plan!

My Student will Graduate...

A. In Three Years
B. In Four Years
C. In Five Years
D. When the money runs out
E. Before I retire (hopefully)

Data for College of Science is 4.01 years
Where Can Your Student Go for Help?
Staying on Track to Graduate

• Help Choosing Courses – Academic Advisor

• Understanding VT Requirements – Academic Advisor

• Re-evaluating your major – Academic Advisor, also Departmental or College Career Advisor
Course Performance

In this Order

• Questions about Course Material – see professor or teaching assistant during office hours.

• Lost in a Course? - Tutoring in Intro Courses at Student Success Center.

• Problems in multiple courses? Exam taking? Time Management?

• Study Skills Clinics at Cook Counseling Center

• Student Success Center
Missing Class

Class Attendance Policy?

• Missing Once – See syllabus for course policy or talk to instructor first.

• For Health Related Problems – Schiffert Health Center.

• Non-Health Related Emergencies – Dean of Students Office.
Other Course-Related Concerns

- Full Courses – Course Department Office
- Difficulty with Instructor – Instructor’s Department Head
- Grades – Instructor then Department Head
- Course Withdrawal – Dean’s Office
- Withdrawing from School – Dean’s Office
Other Concerns

• Incorrect Transcripts - Dean’s Office

• Problems with roommates/dorms – Resident Assistant

• Paying tuition – Bursar’s Office

• Money problems – Financial Aid

• Disabilities – Services for Students with Disabilities
When All Else Fails

Students should call or come to our office.

We do:

• Talk to every student on probation or returning from suspension.
• Direct students to the right resource.
• Problem solve in unusual situations.
• Have the three most important things for students in distress.
  • Kleenex
  • Chocolate
  • Rocking Chairs
Short Answer Exam

• Student: “Hi Mom. I just got my biology midterm back and I didn’t do very well.”

• Super Parent (calmly): “You sound disappointed. What do you think went wrong?”

• Student: “Dr. Via is really confusing, I forgot everything I learned when I walked into the exam and I don’t know if I still want to be a biology major.”

• Super Parent (not panicking): ???
How would you respond?

What would the *calm* parent say?

A. Did you call the President’s office?
B. Have you talked with the Instructor?
C. Did you talk with other students in the class?
D. What advice did your roommate give?
E. Drop the class! Don’t worry about Dr. Via, he is a jerk anyway…
Good for You!

All Parents receive the grade of: A
Grades

- Mid Semester Grades (first time students only)
- Grades for each course during the semester - Canvas
- Final Grades
- Transcript
- Permission for parents
One Last Thing

- VT really does expect students to take exams on the scheduled date.
- Missing exams only allowed in case of emergencies, not
- High School Dances
- Homecoming and Football Games
- Advise Ahead of Time on major family matters (weddings...)
- Plan your vacations around final exam schedules.
How are you doing?

You can always know your students grades by:

A. Asking their room mate.
B. Having the student share their Canvas site with you when they are home.
C. By calling the Professor and asking about your student.
D. Contacting the Dean.
E. Using Tarot cards.
• Family Weekend  (Sept. 30 – Oct. 2 & Apr. 21-23)
• Textbooks
• Check-in
• Transportation
  • Blacksburg Transit
  • Home Ride
  • Smart Way Bus
• Bicycles
We suggest that you **not** buy textbooks today!

1. **Reserve** your books for fall semester in person today or online at the University Bookstores
   - Main Campus University Bookstore: [www.bookstore.vt.edu](http://www.bookstore.vt.edu)
   - Volume Two (University Mall): [www.bookstore.vt.edu](http://www.bookstore.vt.edu)


3. Rent Textbooks: [www.bookholders.com](http://www.bookholders.com)
Fall Check-in

- Check-in begins Wednesday, August 17th
- Come early
- Plan for a long, exhausting day
Transportation

Blackburg Transit
www.btransit.org

Smartway Bus
Roanoke/Blacksburg
www.smartwaybus.com
Additional Transportation

Homeride

www.homeride.com

Bicycles

Old Bike, New Lock
Additional Transportation

Roanoke Regional Airport
ROA

Megabus

Christiansburg-Washington/New York

www.megabus.com
Student Leaders

Jesse

Linwood

Con-Ning

Megan

Courtney