2008 Undergraduate Student Update

• **Enrollment**
The 2008 Fall Semester will begin with the University welcoming more than 675 new students –over 565 freshmen and 110 transfer students.

• **Residence Halls**
There will be close to 1,000 students living in residence halls for the upcoming year.

We have acquired a few more apartments at University Towers, bringing the total to 104 apartments (296 residents). Most first year students will be in Evans, Chesapeake/Delaware, or other traditional style houses to better serve the needs of that population.

Jennifer Ramirez has been named graduate Resident Director for University Towers. Jennifer is a graduate of Gettysburg College and is pursuing a MBA at Wilkes.

Kacy Muir has been named resident director for Evans Hall. A graduate of Wilkes, Kacy will be pursuing a Master’s Degree in creative writing.

There will be two learning communities offered to first year students. One is leadership based and the other focuses on foundations in service learning.

• **Greenway Expansion/Completion**
The Greenway expansion project should be completed by the beginning of the fall semester. A new labyrinth (located towards the north end of the Greenway) will serve as a peaceful place to relax and reflect.

• **Move-In for Resident Students**
Move-in for returning resident students will be on Saturday, August 23rd from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Instead of reporting directly to the assigned residence hall, students should pick up their keys at the Residence Life Office. University Towers residents should go directly to the Towers. (Apartment student have the option of an earlier check-in by making arrangements with the Residence Life Office).

Optional move-in for freshman resident students will be on Thursday, August 21st from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Check-in for the remaining freshman students will be on Friday, August
22nd from 8:00 AM until Noon. Students should pick up their keys on the first floor of the Henry Student Center.

• **Wilkes Emergency Contact System**
  In an ongoing effort to rapidly deploy accurate information to campus in emergency or urgent situations, Wilkes has contracted with a new text message alert service called *e2Campus*, a leading self-service, web-based, mass notification network that empowers schools to reach thousands of people anywhere at anytime.

The university asks faculty, staff and students who *[previously registered](#)* their cell phone numbers for text message alerts and all new users to register their cell phone number at the new *e2Campus* service.

Please register your cell phone number at [http://wilkes.edu/pages/2611.asp](http://wilkes.edu/pages/2611.asp). When registering, you must have your cell phone number with you to receive the text message validation code necessary to complete registration.

• **Office of Student Development & Leadership Institute**
  The Leadership Institute will be offering a new Leadership Certificate Program, which will consist of interactive training workshops designed to give students the skills needed to resolve common challenges they may face in a leadership, academic or professional role. Workshops are open to all students interested in learning various skills and methods that can be utilized in collaborative projects and leadership roles. To learn more about the certificate program, please contact 408-4108 or email studentdev@wilkes.edu.

Rae Ellen Zekas has been named Graduate Assistant in the Office of Student Development where she will work on undergraduate leadership programs and student activities. Rae Ellen graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in Business and Communications and will be pursuing her MBA while at Wilkes.

Danielle Kern has been selected as Wilkes University’s AmeriCorps*VISTA and will be working within the Office of Community Service. In her role as VISTA, Danielle will work to build community service-learning partnerships aimed at alleviating poverty for maligned populations living in Northeastern Pennsylvania.
**Center for Global Education and Diversity**

The Center for Global Education & Diversity will provide institutional and regional leadership and programming in global education and diversity. The Center and its staff are trained to offer students useful cross-cultural information, provide support and advocacy for under-represented and international students, help students connect with multicultural community groups, provide information on Study Abroad experiences and assist in students’ cultural development. The Center for Global Education and Diversity will also advise the Multicultural Student Coalition and coordinates with the MSC in the planning of multicultural programs and projects for the campus community. The Center is comprised of several offices including Office of Diversity Initiatives, the Office of Global Education, Office of International Faculty and Student Services/Immigration Services, Office of Multicultural Programming, and Office of the Director of the IEP Program. The Center is located in the Max Roth Center on the corner of Franklin and South Streets.

**Off Campus Students**

If they haven’t already done so, students residing off campus (in apartments, not at home) are asked to provide their off campus address and telephone number to Dean Barbara King at the Office of Students Affairs (barbara.king@wilkes.edu or 408-4107). This does not substitute for the Wilkes Emergency Contact System or vice versa.

**Required Health Insurance**

Like last year, in an effort to ensure all students are adequately covered by medical insurance, the University will require proof of coverage from each student. If a student is unable to obtain medical coverage through other means they will be required to participate in the University’s Student Accident and Illness Insurance Program (provided through a third-party contract). An annual premium of $540 will be charged directly to the students account. The University is requiring all students to enroll or waive on-line at [www.studentassist.com](http://www.studentassist.com). You must also use the student password 0659 for on-line access. The full plan brochure, program features, and claims forms are also available here. Students who do not waive by September 30, 2008 deadline, will not have an opportunity to waive coverage and the annual cost after this deadline. All international students will be required to
enroll in this program regardless of any other insurance they might have.

• **Parking Permit Information for fall**
  All spring 2008 Resident, Commuter and Ralston parking permits expired on May 31, 2008. Distribution to approved Resident and Commuter parking permit holders will begin on Monday, August 18, and follow the published schedule listed below.

Payment, via student account debit, for parking permits must be made at the distribution location when picking up the permit. No one is allowed to make his or her payment for a parking permit at UCOM.

Parking enforcement (outside of handicapped and flagrant violations, e.g. parking on sidewalks) will be suspended from Monday, August 25, through 7:30 a.m. Thursday, August 28. Approved Resident and Commuter students have until Friday, August 29, at 4:00 p.m. to pick-up their parking permits. Failure to do so will automatically forfeit their parking permit, which will then be redistributed to individuals on the “wait list” (which starts the Second Round of distribution).

Any individual with past due parking tickets will have to make restitution prior to receiving any new parking permit. Per the current University Parking Policy, tickets may only be challenged through appeal to the Traffic Council.

**Parking Permit Distribution Schedule For Fall 2008**

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• **Key Fall Semester Dates**
  Club Day – Thursday, September 4 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
  Summer Graduation – Sunday, September 7 at 2:00 PM
  Party on the Square – Thursday September 18
  Homecoming Weekend – October 3, 4, 5
  Family Day – Saturday, September 27

• **Student Handbook/Calendar**
The Student Handbook is available online at the Wilkes University website (direct link) – (http://www.wilkes.edu/include/staffair/handbook.pdf). An event calendar is also available via the Wilkes website (http://calendar.wilkes.edu/main.php). If you have difficulty accessing these resources please contact the Office of Student Affairs (408-4100).

• **Offices Open on Saturday, August 23 and Sunday, August 24**
  On Saturday, August 23rd and Sunday, August 24th, the Student Service Center at UCOM, Residence Life and Student Affairs will be open from 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM. The Barnes and Noble Bookstore will be open from 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM on Saturday and from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Sunday.

• **Required Notifications**
  Please note that, consistent with federal legislation, information pertaining to graduation and persistence rates, campus crime statistics, as well as policies and regulations pertaining to these matters, are available at the Office of Admissions, the Registrar’s Office, the Office of Student Affairs and the Athletics Director’s Office.

• **IT Information**
  In an effort to reduce printing costs and environmentally unfriendly paper waste, the University has adopted a printing
quota per student. The details of this policy, along with other IT information (including a new wireless option), are available on the portal.