

CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

# CONNECTION

EVENTS & NEWS DIGEST



## Claremont McKenna College Parent Network



### *Can We Talk? Striking a Balance with Your College Student*

By Dana DeBeaumont P'16

***"The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence." -Denis Waitley, motivational speaker and bestselling author***

As a parent, you knew many things would change when your child left for college. Parenting college students is different and parents often find themselves struggling to find the right balance. It can be difficult to transition to the role of follower after years of acting as the leader.

"College is a time where students may need to develop the skills to manage their own lives, and parents may need to allow their students the freedom to develop these skills," explained Carrie Park, Psy.D., senior staff psychologist at the Claremont University Consortium's Monsour Counseling and Psychological Services Center. "It's a growth process for both parents and students."

"Communication," Park said, "is key." Joshua Weiner, a child and adolescent psychiatrist practicing in the Washington, D.C. area, agreed. "The best thing for parents to do is to sit down with your kids and say, 'This is a big move,'" Weiner continued. "We support your independence but want you to know that we are available and here for you."

He advised parents to ask their students how often they'd like to talk and come home. Recently, a patient who is a new college student complained that his parents were calling the student constantly and that he felt guilty for ignoring their calls. "He was afraid to tell his mom how he felt, but I suggested he be direct and say, 'Hey Mom, I know that you call me every day, but it's hard to talk every day.' They needed to come up with a compromise." [Read more.](#)



### *Student Spotlight: An Interview with David Leathers '15*

CMC senior David Leathers '15 recently took the time to talk about his

formative study abroad experience in Jordan.

***Tell us about your study abroad trip and how it relates to your field of study.***

I'm a PPE (philosophy, politics and economics) major, but took Arabic my freshman year. I was very interested in current events and the Middle East was always in the news, so



### *Ask a Parent: Parents Weekend Edition*

**MJ Dodds P'13 P'15** is from Piedmont, Calif., and is the proud mother of William Dodds '13 and Andrew Dodds '15. **Stephanie Chakmak '87 P'16** lives in Las Vegas, Nev., and is the proud mother of Kathryn Chakmak '16.

Here, MJ and Stephanie answer questions regarding their past experiences at CMC's Parents Weekend, and offer advice to those who will be attending for the first time.

studying Arabic made sense. When considering places to study abroad, I wanted to choose a place where I could use my Arabic, and explore a part of the world where I may want to work in the future. For my final project during my study abroad, I blended my language, philosophy, politics, and economics studies by interviewing Jordanian business leaders regarding American investments in Jordan. I wanted to know how these investments are affecting the economic growth of Jordan, and how the business leaders feel about these investments. I was able to look at and analyze the data, and talk to people about the impact on their day-to-day lives. [Read more.](#)

#### ***How many times have you attended Parents Weekend?***

**MJ:** This is our sixth consecutive year with a student at CMC, and, with our hotel reservation in hand for February 2015, I can say we will have attended five of the six Parents Weekends.

**Stephanie:** I attended in both 2013 and 2014.

[Read more.](#)

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### ***Career Corner: Parent/Student Career Networking Event Planned for Parents Weekend***

The Parent Network Board Career Development Committee is working in conjunction with CMC's Career Services Center to host five parent-student networking sessions during Parents Weekend 2015. This event presents one-on-one mentoring opportunities to CMC parents in the fields of healthcare, finance/banking, legal/government, and technical and non-technical business. The sessions are designed to help students navigate the world of networking while connecting them with experienced parents in their field of interest.

This unique program offers benefits for both parents and students. Students are able to gain a sense of the culture, and learn about opportunities and the wide variety of jobs and career paths of a specific field. They can ask burning questions in a no-risk environment. Parents get a chance to more deeply connect with CMC and to actively make a positive impact on the futures of our students by sharing their professional experiences. [Read more.](#)

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### ***The Parents Fund Is Looking for New Committee Members***

Do you enjoy making connections? Do you like talking on the phone? Are you looking for a meaningful way to get involved? Join the CMC Parents Fund!

The CMC Parents Fund is an important source of financial support for the College, providing funding for many exceptional and unique aspects of your student's CMC experience. Gifts raised from the Parents Fund are used this year, and have an immediate impact on a multitude of student endeavors.

Parents Fund committee members serve as ambassadors for the College by making calls to families, providing invaluable parent feedback regarding solicitations, and working with the Office of Annual Giving on a number of strategic projects.

*For more information, please contact Assistant Director of Annual Giving Jessica Kurrle-Bair at (909) 607-9314 or [Jessica.Kurrle-bair@cmc.edu](mailto:Jessica.Kurrle-bair@cmc.edu), or visit [www.cmc.edu/giving](http://www.cmc.edu/giving). [Click here](#) to make a donation to the Parents Fund today.*

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### ***Upcoming Important Dates***

**Finals Week:** December 15-19

**Residence Halls Close:** Saturday, December 20, 2014, at noon. The senior apartments remain open. No campus dining available.

**Residence Halls Reopen:** Sunday, January 18, 2015, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Check in with Story House:** Sunday, January 18, 2015, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or Monday, January 19, 2015, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

*All packages will be held in the mailroom over winter break.*

**First Day of Classes, Spring 2015:** January 20, 2015

**Spring Break:** March 16-20, 2015

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## Chapter and Regional Events

### Asia Chapter

January 7-9, 2015

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Professor Minxin Pei P'11 Visit  
Hong Kong

### New York Chapter

Ongoing

[Holiday Toy Drive](#)

New York Area

Wednesday, January 14

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Robert Day School  
Networking Reception  
New York, NY

### Orange County Chapter

Thursday, December 18

[Newport Beach Holiday Boat Parade](#)

Newport Beach, CA

### Silicon Valley Chapter

Sunday, December 14

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Bob Walker's '64 Holiday Open House  
San Jose, CA

Thursday, January 15, 2015

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Evans Information Technology Advisory  
Board (ITAB) Networking Reception  
East Palo Alto, CA

### Utah

Saturday, January 24, 2015

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Sundance Talk with Professor  
Jim Morrison  
Park City, UT

### Campus Events

Tuesday, December 9

[Mid-Year Graduate Dinner](#)

Claremont, CA

February 14-16, 2015

**SAVE THE DATE!**

[Parents Weekend](#)

Claremont, CA

### Travel

June 19-21, 2015

[Euromet XXVI](#)

Berlin, Germany

December 5-12, 2015

[Hawaiian Seascapes Cruise](#)

Hawaii



PARENT NETWORK  
CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

**CMC Parent Network**

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