The Student Advocate

Study Hard + Go To Class +Join A Club=SUCCESS!

Math is not everyone’s strength but we all know the simple addition and subtraction of every day life. If a student wants to do well in college, is the answer to simply add more study hours and subtract from social events and that will always equal success? The math of life is not always so simple. Attending class and studying hard is not always the winning formula for some students. Statistics are showing that students who are engaged in extracurricular activities are doing better in school than those who are not. Student engagement is now part of the formula for success according to many higher education researchers. Is it because students feel more motivated when they have a support group going through the same challenges as they are? Are they more driven to achieve so that socially they can feel more accepted by their peers that value academic success? Or is it simple math, from their perspective, that good grades + study hard=mom and dad are happy and I can stay here forever because I love my friends and I love college?? Who’s to say what motivates a student because everyone is different. However, we cannot overlook the math that shows engaged college students are doing better academically and are more likely to finish their degree. It all adds up! Please encourage your student to check out their options at Troy University. Here are 5 ways for your student to get involved on campus.

Student Involvement/SGA
http://trojan.troy.edu/organizations/
There are numerous clubs/organizations for your student to get involved with whether their interests are in politics, religion, Greek life, honor societies, publications, arts/music performance, or even special interest groups such as fashion or bass fishing. The list goes on and on. Troy has something for everyone!

Civic Engagement/Learning Communities
http://trojan.troy.edu/servicelearning/
If your student is interested in community service activities such as helping collect canned goods for struggling families, recycling, or simply trying to meet others with similar interests in groups that want to achieve academic success and be involved in events for a good cause, please have them check out Troy’s service learning groups and events on campus.

Troy University Career Services
http://trojan.troy.edu/careerservices/
Student engagement doesn’t always involve improving their social life, it also means engaging in a plan for their future. The Career Services office provides one-on-one career counseling to help your student become actively thinking about what they can do now to prepare for their dream career after graduation.

Workshops
http://trojan.troy.edu/today/
Getting a student to attend a workshop can be difficult because the word “workshop” doesn’t sound like a fun trip to the beach! But many times I have determined in our own workshops, that once they got there they were glad they attended. The Student Development Office offers workshops the first Tuesday of every month called Trojan Tuesdays where students can meet other students and talk with an academic counselor about topics such as picking a major, study skills, time management, communicating with professors, and registration preparation and more. See other workshops offered by many other departments at the Troy Calendar of Events Page above.

Center for Student Success
http://trojan.troy.edu/centerforstudentsuccess/
And once again being engaged also means being able to ask for help when it’s needed. The Center for Student Success offers many different areas of support all committed to helping a student achieve academically. Often students are hesitant to ask for help until they see that they are not alone and that many other students need a helping hand as well. The CSS offers tutoring, academic counseling, computer lab areas to type papers, and learning support groups for many populations of students. Please send them to Eldridge Hall if they need an extra hand.

Article by Dava Foster, Student Development Counselor