

So Now You're the Parent of a Berry Student

Debbie Heida
Vice President for Student Affairs and
Dean of Students



What are your goals for the
collegiate experience?



What are your students'
goals?



What are your fears and
anxieties about this
experience?



Case Study #1

In assisting your son in planning for college, you're really concerned about his ability to get a job and you think it's smart to major in business. While he is more interested in philosophy, you have convinced him that a major in finance is the way to go. After six weeks at berry, he calls you to say that he is switching his major to philosophy.

Case Study #2

Your daughter has come home for Christmas break after her first semester at Berry. During the break, your daughter begins to come and go as she pleases. Much to your chagrin, she rarely tells you where she is going, what time she will be home, and with whom she is spending time. The situation continues until your daughter goes out for the evening and does not return until the next morning.

Case Study #3

Your daughter came to Berry very excited about college life after life in a small town. She seems to be having some difficulty making friends and has come home several weekends since school started. Last night she called home crying, saying “please come get me; I don’t fit in here and want to come home.”

Case Study #4

Your son is complaining a lot about his roommate. First it was something about how loud he was and about his girlfriend hanging out in the room. Last weekend, he complained about how messy the room was. You encouraged him to talk with his roommate but he says he just wants to move rooms.

How will we communicate with you?

- ◆ **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act—
whose records are they?**
- ◆ **Health and Wellness and Counseling Centers
– legally bound by confidentiality**
- ◆ **Parents' web page:
[http//www.Berry.edu/parents/](http://www.Berry.edu/parents/)**
- ◆ **Parents' newsletter**

Contact information

- ◆ **Debbie Heida**
- ◆ **(706) 236-2207 office**
- ◆ **(706) 378-2929 home**
- ◆ **Dheida@berry.edu**
- ◆ **Deanofstudents@berry.edu**

“Deanly” advice

- ◆ **Encourage problem solving**
- ◆ **Help them stay on campus as much as possible**
- ◆ **Don’t redecorate their room**
- ◆ **Allow 24-48 hours before doing anything**
- ◆ **Have patience and perspective**
- ◆ **Communicate**
- ◆ **Visit – but call first**

Thank you!

Enjoy the rest of SOAR!

