

Dear Clarion University parent:

As you have probably heard, the bargaining unit that represents faculty has announced a strike that became effective at 5 a.m. today, Oct. 19, 2016.

The university has prepared for this event in the hopes it would not occur, but with the understanding we needed to be ready to continue to serve your students. We are ready to continue to provide quality interactions and services for all of them.

The students are seeing, in the coming days, a schedule of activities that are educational in nature, as well as expanded recreational activities for them. The lists of those events are available for viewing, along with more general information, at www.clarion.edu/strikeinfo.

Not only will we monitor any activities related to negotiations and the strike, but we also will be closely monitoring activities for students and making modifications as needed to ensure that during this time they are provided with events and activities that enhance their educational, cultural and recreational experiences. We will also continue to provide the same high-quality services that make our campus a home for your students. Their residence halls will have the same friendly faces ready and waiting to help, their meals will be warm and ready, and the helpful staff in the student service areas are here to help them with whatever they need.

We encourage students to take this unfortunate situation and make it a positive experience by interacting in what might be different ways with their friends, other students whom they may not know yet, and the staff. Our professional staff welcomes feedback on the opportunities provided and on other possible opportunities they would like to see during this time.

We know the public have been, in some cases, encouraged to support one side or the other in this time. We will not encourage you one way or the other but rather, we ask you to give reasonable thought to your positions on the current issues and make an informed decision.

Students are asked to continue checking their email accounts for regular updates from the university. We hope this situation does not last long, but regardless of duration, we are here to provide them with positive opportunities to engage on campus and make use of this time.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility.

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