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Commuter Affairs to hold seminar for students

April 01, 2009 | Teresa Dunham

Nearly 4,700 students at Liberty University live off campus. In response to their needs, LU created the Office of Commuter Affairs in August 2008.

“Some people think commuters don’t need to have anything because they’re independent students. I don’t think that’s true. I think we need to have just as much support for them,” said Larry Provost, director of commuter students. “They need somebody to advocate for them on an academic, social, and spiritual level and work with other departments on campus that also do the same thing.”

His office lobbies for good parking spots, helps commuters find someone to talk to when they need a spiritual or social boost, researches the best places for students to live off campus, streamlines communication and brainstorms ways to offer commuters special meal plans to save them money.

For the first time ever, the Office of Commuter Affairs is offering a Commuter Seminar on April 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Campus North 1500. Geared toward on-campus students who plan on moving off campus this fall, the seminar will become a regular fixture in the approval process for students who want to live off campus.

“We’re going to have workshops and chapel on representing God in the local community, financial management, roommate relations, selecting an apartment, renters’ insurance and other valuable information,” Provost said, adding that the event is also open to current commuters and any other interested students.

The seminar includes an all-day apartment fair and free lunch.

“It’s going to be a pretty extensive day,” Provost said. “We want to help them maintain their connection to LU while they’re off campus — especially their academic and spiritual connection.”