FERPA and PARENT ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Fran Campbell
University Registrar
What is FERPA?
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

- Created to protect the privacy of students
- Two Primary objectives:
  - To ensure the right of students to inspect and review their records
  - Places limits on the University for releasing a student’s educational record to an unauthorized third party without the student’s written consent
FERPA: Transfer of Control

- Through elementary and high school, the control over a student’s education record resides with the parents.

- This control transfers to the student when he/she reaches the age of 18 OR begins to attend any post-secondary institution, regardless of age.
FERPA: Academic Progress

- Information regarding a student’s **day-to-day progress** in a course is not available on a website to which parents or guidance counselors have access.

- **Final grades** are posted to the student’s **transcript** at the conclusion of the semester when final grades are submitted by the faculty.
FERPA: Keep Connected

• How can you stay connected with your student?
  • Ask your student to grant you access to his/her student account so you can view transcripts and other key information
  • Communication and accountability are key
FERPA: Problem Solving

• What if I discern a problem?
  • **Talk** to your student; expect information
  • If you think communication with your student’s professor, advisor, and/or another representative of the University would be helpful, your student will need to complete a **privacy waiver** with the Office of the Registrar before we can talk with you regarding the concern
Questions?

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