

DATE

**FRESHMAN WELCOME LETTER – ALL PARENTS (MID-AUGUST)
60% RETURN RATE**

«Mailing_Name»
«Address_»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Dear «Salutation_1» «Salutation_2»,

Congratulations on «First_Name»'s decision to attend Vanderbilt!

When Vanderbilt Chancellor Gordon Gee approached us about serving as chairs of the University's annual Parents Campaign, we quickly accepted the challenge because of our family's positive experience at Vanderbilt.

Our daughter, Margretta and son, Cody begin their sophomore year this month in the College of Arts and Science. They have formed close friendships, enjoyed their classes and professors, and grown to love Nashville. In fact, they have so immersed themselves in their campus lives that we have a hard time catching up with them. Such is the life for parents of a college freshman, and thankfully, just one of numerous signs from children who are adjusting to college life successfully!

Vandy has been a wonderful fit for both our children. We knew they would be in good hands after interacting with the staff and faculty. We have also been impressed with Chancellor Gee's hands-on approach with students and parents. You can't help but be put at ease and charmed by the Chancellor as he passes out his famous bow tie cookies and helps move boxes on Move-in Day. As we all know, that day can be mildly stressful! We truly appreciate his personal touch and have found the same level of care and concern from the entire University community.

We also believe that Vanderbilt is intent upon graduating young men and women who are not only academic achievers, but who also have a broader sense of what it means to be a good person and citizen. As Parents Campaign Chairs, we are thrilled to play a role in reaching out to fellow parents to help a great university become even greater.

Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed family information card. The card will be used to send dean's list and graduation announcements to your local paper and to link your student's name to any Vanderbilt family members not in the University's records. It will also be used in our efforts for the Parents Campaign for Vanderbilt.

We look forward to the chance of meeting you over Family Weekend on September 29-October 1.

Best wishes to you and your student for a happy and successful freshman year!

Sincerely,

Alinda and Jim Wikert

Alinda and Jim Wikert (Margretta, AS'09; Cody, AS'09)
Parents Campaign Chairs, 2006-2007
Dallas, Texas

