

2015 UNL Parent Association Grant

First-Year Experience & Transition Program

Impact Statement – Parent Guidebooks

First-Year Experience & Transition Programs (FYETP) was awarded \$800 from the UNL Parents Association to purchase resource books for parents called “Navigating the First Year of College”. FYETP purchased 385 resource books for a total of \$790.50 with shipping.

FYETP handed “Navigating the First Year of College” resource books out during the final three weeks of New Student Enrollment. The last three weeks were chosen strategically since by and large the most effective and organized students come earlier in NSE.

FYETP staff heard many sentiments of gratitude from parents being given the book. Parents who had not attended the FYETP session even asked for a book at the FYETP table on more than one occasion. This book serves as a concise, easy to read, manual covering the biggest areas of concern and importance for parents and guardians of first-year college students. 375 parents and/or guardians received the resource book after 10 copies of the resource book were held for the lobby and to have for parents encountered during the year. Students whose parent/guardian received a resource book during the FYETP NSE session should be receiving better guidance and support from home. Approximately 375 first-year students are able to call their parents or guardians with questions about how college works or the best way to approach challenges and receive advice based on research and years of experience from individuals working closely with first-year students. FYETP has also received phone calls and emails from many of the parents and guardians who received the resource book.

FYETP believes these resource books allowed the office to connect with parents/guardians of students who may be more at-risk for not retaining at UNL. The resource books allowed us to better educate parents/guardians on what college life is like today, how to navigate the university, and best support their children.

