College is a time of transition for both students and parents. The following information is designed to help you and your student as you prepare for the transitions. Please note that these issues are addressed in generalities and may not apply to the diverse experiences of all students or parents.

1. **Teacher to Student Contact**  
   **High School**: Teachers are available daily to identify and assist students who need help.  
   **College**: Faculty members are available during weekly office hours and by appointment to address students’ needs. Students must take initiative for assistance and guidance.

2. **Competition and Grades**  
   **High School**: Good grades may be obtained with minimal effort or studying and competition is limited.  
   **College**: Students at college compete with the best and the brightest! Minimal effort or lack of initiative in seeking assistance may result in poor grades and limited opportunity.

3. **Quarters to Semesters**  
   **High School**: Classes took place in marking periods or quarters. Some classes were the same for an entire year.  
   **College**: Students at UD take classes via the semester system – fall and spring, with final exams at the end of each semester. Not attending class or falling behind in studying may result in poor grades.

4. **Counseling and Guidance**  
   **High School**: Students often rely on parents, teachers, and counselors to set boundaries and help make decisions.  
   **College**: Students must rely on their own judgment; and they see the results of making their own decisions. Students are responsible to seek advice.

5. **Motivation**  
   **High School**: Motivation to complete work and succeed often comes from teachers and parents.  
   **College**: Students must motivate themselves to do well academically and get involved socially.

6. **Value Judgments**  
   **High School**: Students’ values are often strongly influenced by parents, teachers, peers, and the community.  
   **College**: Students have opportunities to develop their own perspectives, opinions, and values. They also have the freedom to test and challenge the environment around them.