Happy November Parents and Families!

Claudia Arias-Cirinna
Director of Residence Education, Residential Life

We hope this newsletter finds you well as our semester continues to fly by here at UConn! It seems like just yesterday that your students were moving into the residence halls and we are now nearing December and the tail-end of the semester! As folks regroup from Thanksgiving Recess, we thought we would help you understand some of the typical changes you may see in your student.

- Your student has almost completed their fall semester and may come home very tired. Students have finished midterms a few weeks ago and are still struggling with sleep and managing their academics. Give them some time to recuperate and understand that coming home is a transition. Also talk with them about school. Ask them about classes, their residence hall experiences and any clubs and organizations they have joined.

- Your student has left home and may return home more independent. Expectations of what that means for both the student and the parents or families may need to be communicated when they come home.

- Although you are so excited to have your student home for the holidays, they may spend more time sleeping and hanging out with local friends than spending time at home with the family. This is typical for college students and you may need to

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set a schedule of expectations for each time they return so that there is a balance that meets your needs.

- There have been many events that have happened in our nation this summer and fall so be prepared to have some discussions with student and see how this has affected their student experience.

Some things to keep in mind when students are at UConn during the winter months:

- The weather in Storrs, CT is typically colder than the rest of CT and very windy. Encourage them to bring warm coats, gloves, sweaters and blankets to campus.
- Remind your student they should go to Student Health Services or see their primary care physician if they get sick.
- If they get sick and they need to miss classes for extended periods of time, please have them contact our Dean of Students Office who will communicate with their faculty (860-486-3426)
- Finals are around the corner, have them start preparing for this now so that they are not studying last minute.

We are excited to have your student back with us and we hope that you had a happy Thanksgiving!

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Housing Accommodations for 2018-2019

Chrissy Gray, Housing Assignments Specialist

Does your student have a health/medical condition or disability that could be impacted by their living environment?

The 2018-2019 Housing Application will be available on December 1, 2017, and it is already time for students to begin thinking about their housing plans for next year. Students who need housing accommodations for health/medical conditions or disabilities are encouraged to register with the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) by the second week of classes Spring semester classes to ensure that they are able to complete the process prior to selecting a housing assignment.

Students who have been approved by the CSD for housing accommodations will have their approvals communicated directly to Residential Life by the CSD. ResLife works in partnership with the CSD to ensure that all students with housing accommodations receive housing assignments that meet their approved accommodation needs, pending availability.

Students can begin the registration process by visiting the CSD’s website at http://csd.uconn.edu
NEACURH Regional Leadership Conference

Shannon Schmeding, Stamford Residence Hall Director

On Friday November 17 through Sunday November 19, UConn hosted approximately 400 student leaders and advisors from across the North East for the NEACURH Regional Leadership Conference. The North East Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (NEACURH) is one of the regional affiliates of NACURH. NACURH is the largest student run organization in the world.

A group of UConn students came together in March to create a bid for UConn to host. UConn was awarded the bid and had planned to host this 2-day conference for the last 9 months. Students and advisors met weekly, sometimes multiple times a week to make this a successful conference. There were approximately 50 different schools represented at this regional conference. The theme of the conference was entitled “The NEACURH Games 2017” modeled after the Hunger Games with an underlying theme of activism. There were over 70 program submissions from student leaders throughout the region. The conference was a huge success and a big thank you goes out to all those involved in the planning and execution of this regional conference.

For more information about NEACURH please visit https://www.neacurh.nacurh.org/general-information.

Winter Break Housing

Rachel Arpin Housing Assignments Specialist

All students who plan on staying on campus at any point during Winter Break, December 18, 2017-January 14, 2018 must fill out a Winter Break Housing Application.

Students who wish to live on campus over Winter Break must have both a Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 Assignment and must meet one of the following qualifications: live in a 9 month area, enrolled in a Winter Intersession Course, working for the University, Academic Internship or affiliated with a Team or University Sponsored Program.

Students remaining on-campus during Winter Break will have limited access to Residential Life staff.

Students must adhere to all University policies during Winter Break. Please refer to the Housing Contract for information regarding specific policies. Students may be asked to leave housing if policies are violated.

Remaining on campus during a time when classes are not in session is a privilege, and thus students are expected to uphold a high level of responsibility while staffing is limited.

Overnight guests will not be permitted during Winter Recess, due to limited staffing and specific billing policies.

For full Winter Break Housing Information, Rates and Policies please visit our website at: https://reslife.uconn.edu/winter-break-housing/.
Not all superheroes wear capes... Some apply to be RAs!

There’s still time to apply!

As the end of the fall semester approaches, your student has probably had contact with their RA. If this is your student’s first semester at UConn, their RA has probably helped them navigate making connections to other students in their community; become involved in campus clubs and organizations; and provided a person to talk to when your student needed someone to lend an ear. If your student is a returning student to UConn, they may have found it easier to be connected, but have still talked with their RA about their time on campus and different resources that the University offers to students both academically and as part of the student experience.

Maybe your student would like to apply to be an RA for next year….

The RA application is due on the last day of fall 2017 classes; December 8, 2017, by 5:00pm. The application is online, and is also submitted online. Please note that students are required to submit a 1-page cover letter and 1-page resume along with their application. Both documents can be uploaded directly to the application.

All information about the application, cover letter and resume requirements, and position qualifications are located on the Residential Life website: https://reslife.uconn.edu/resident-assistants/.

The application process is the same whether your student is currently at the Stamford or Storrs campus.

All candidates are screened on the following criteria (more details available on our website):
- 2.50 cumulative grade point average (CGPA) at the end of fall 2017
- Good standing in their residential community. (Students currently on University Probation are not eligible. Students with any other finding of responsibility will be individually reviewed for eligibility.)
- On-campus housing status. Students must live on-campus now, and be eligible to continue to do so. Current students who will have lived on-campus for more than 6 semesters at the end of spring 2018 are not eligible to apply. (Based on on-campus eligibility as noted in the 2017-2018 Housing Contract.)
- Have sophomore status as of fall 2018.

If your student has any questions, please feel free to send them my way! I’m more than happy to answer any of their questions. I can be reached at: nancy.abohatab@uconn.edu.
Meningitis Vaccination Compliance

The State of Connecticut requires that any student living in on-campus housing be vaccinated against meningitis. All on-campus residents missing meningitis vaccination information were notified in September and given instructions on how to obtain compliance.

Spring 2018 residents who are non-compliant with this requirement, who submit a 2018-2019 housing application by the deadline (January 22, 2018), may not be eligible to participate in the online room selection process.

Students can view the vaccination information that Student Health Services has on file at http://myhealth.uconn.edu > My Profile > Immunization History.

All vaccination questions should be directed to Student Health Services. Residential Life is unable to accept medical information.

2018-2019 Current Student Housing Application

Eileen McNamara, Housing Assignments Specialist

The 2018-2019 Housing application will be available for students in their MyHousing portal on December 1, 2017. This application will be for current UConn students to apply for housing for the upcoming 2018-2019 academic year and will allow eligible students to participate in room selection within MyHousing during the Spring 2018 semester. Students will be able to view all available spaces during their selection process and to pair up with other students to create a roommate group and select housing together.

On December 1, Housing Selection Central will also be available on the Residential Life website for students and families to visit and review information related to housing selection. As selection draws closer, we will share tutorials, infographics, and other data related to the number of applicants and the number of available rooms to help students begin planning their selection process.

What can I do to help my student?

1. You can encourage your student to follow our social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @UConnResLife) so that they receive tips and updates as we get closer to selection!
2. Talk to your student about their selection plans and encourage them to consider contingency plans if their specific room type or location is no longer available when it is their turn to select housing.
3. Have them email livingoncampus@uconn.edu if they have questions!

We have a lot of frequently asked questions listed on Housing Selection Central and we continue to update this resource as the selection begins, but we want all of our students to feel supported and excited to select housing for the upcoming year!
Important Dates

**December 1st**
2018-2019 housing app available; room and roommates selected online in Spring 2018

**December 18th**
Halls close at noon for Fall 2017; students can request to remain over Winter Recess for additional fees

**January 14th**
Halls open for Spring 2018

**January 16th**
First day of classes

**January 22nd**
2018-2019 housing app deadline for returning residents; deadline for Spring 2018 residents to turn in meningitis vaccination verification to Student Health Services

**March-April 2018**
Spring 2018 residents choose rooms and roommates online for 2018-2019

**March 11th-18th**
Spring Recess (no classes, halls remain open)

**May 7th**
Halls/suites close at noon for Spring 2018

**May 31st**
Hilltop & Charter Oak Apts close for Spring 2018

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We Hope That You’re Enjoying the Fall!

We are here for you and your students if you have any questions!

Contact Information
Department of Residential Life
Whitney Hall, ground floor
(860) 486-2926
livingoncampus@uconn.edu
http://reslife.uconn.edu

Find us on Social Media!
www.facebook.com/UConnResLife
@UConnResLife on Twitter and Instagram

We encourage all residents to use #LiveonandLearn to showcase the benefits of living on campus!