It’s more than a roof over your head...

Pam Schipani
Executive Director of Residential Life

Clearly living on campus has advantages when compared to living off campus. The proximity to all university services, the added security that comes from locked and monitored buildings, the sense of community that comes from living near and with only other college students, the support provided by highly educated and trained professional staff, the ability to change rooms and/or roommates if a student is unhappy with their housing assignment, one bill for housing heat, electricity, water, all utilities, and the ability to just pay for academic year housing. But, you might not know that there is much more that residential life provides to students living on campus.

The residential life program utilizes a residential learning model as a tool to deliver our mission which is to enhance students’ personal, interpersonal, and intellectual growth by creating safe and inclusive environments, producing innovative programs and services, and fostering meaningful relationships. There are three main learning goals for students living on campus which all members of the residential life staff from RAs to directors hope students will achieve. The goals are:

1. Students will become personally successful by exploring their identities, values and wellness.

2. Students will become interpersonally competent by communicating effectively, navigating relationships, and developing a sense of responsibility to others.

3. Students will become intellectually engaged by thinking critically, making decisions, and developing intercultural perspective.

(article continued on page 2)
Residential life staff are intentional in the delivery of material and activities aimed at assisting students with the accomplishment of these goals. We use various strategies which are specific opportunities and approaches to the work done in the residential areas. The strategies include:

- Passive education – which includes bulletin-boards, emails, community signage and online learning modules;
- Resident conversations – which are on-on-one meetings between resident assistants (RAs) and residents;
- Roommate conversations – facilitated by residential life staff;
- Community conversations – which is a hybrid of the traditional floor meeting and floor activities;
- Traditional types of programming presented either by campus partners who are experts in their field or residential workshops put on by my residential life staff.

Residential life is very excited about our learning model and are hopeful that students will actively engage in the opportunities we have developed for them. Our goals as stated above are designed to help students achieve educational and personal successes. When talking to your student about their experiences in the halls include a question about what they are learning about their self through the experience of living on campus.

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**Spring 2018 Room Change and Summer Room Change Process**

The spring semester room change process opened to Storrs campus students on Monday, January 29th and closed on Friday, February 16th.

The next opportunity for students to change assignments will be the online summer room change process. Students will be able to register from April 23rd until May 21st in MyHousing.

Registered students will be issued a selection time for when they can go into the system beginning on May 30th and change assignments. Once active in the selection system, students will be able to change rooms as many times as they would like until the system closes on June 10th. More information on this process will be emailed to students and also posted on our website.

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As of February 26th

| Residents living on-campus | 12,070 |
| Room change applications received | 238 |
Summer Housing

For the summer of 2018, summer housing students will be housed in the recently constructed Werth Tower. This is an exciting location to host our summer residents as the facility includes an abundance of study space throughout the hall, a game room, air-conditioning, breathtaking views of campus, and many more amenities that residents will enjoy throughout the summer. Additionally, McMahon Dining Hall and the newly renovated Putnam Dining Hall will provide meals to summer residents throughout the summer. Graduate student housing will be hosted in on-campus apartments.

All summer assignments will be made in double occupancy spaces and based on availability. If a summer resident needs a medical housing accommodation, they should work with the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) as soon as possible.

To be eligible for summer housing, residents must be enrolled in one or more summer session courses, be employed on campus, and/or working in a campus lab during the time frame they apply to live on campus. The summer housing application will be available beginning on March 1, 2018. Additional information about summer housing, including room rates, will be posted on our website in late February 2018.

St. Baldrick’s Fundraiser

The annual St. Baldricks’ Fundraiser, hosted by the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), will take place on Friday, March 23, 2018 from 3:00-8:00pm in the Student Union Ballroom.

St. Baldrick’s is a volunteer-powered charity committed to funding research to find cures for childhood cancers and give survivors long, healthy lives.

Please join us to shave/cut your hair, and for fun, snacks, prizes, and more!

Spring Recess 2018

All residential areas on-campus remain open during Spring Recess, March 11-18, 2018.
Residential Life Student Advisory Committee

We value the input of the students who live in the residence halls at UConn. As a venue to receive feedback and suggestions, the Department of Residential Life hosts the Residential Life Student Advisory Committee (RLSAC).

The RLSAC has existed for a number of years to provide students from around campus the opportunity to discuss and share their perspective on the services, facilities, programs, processes, and staff of Residential Life. The RLSAC meets bi-weekly throughout the semester. The meetings are hosted by a staff member from the Residential Life Central Office and a Hall Director.

Weekly agendas are shared with participating students to guide the conversations, but an open floor is always provided to allow students to contribute their thoughts to the conversations.

As a department, we have found the RLSAC to be a valuable resource to guide our work and ensure that we’re providing the best residential experience. We also find that students who participate in the RLSAC enjoy the opportunity to share feedback and suggestions. Students are challenged to think critically about concerns and how to best address them.

Participating in the RLSAC is a great leadership opportunity for residential students and many go on to apply to be a Resident Assistant (RA).

During the spring semester, our meetings will be held on March 7, March 21, April 4, and April 18 from 3-4PM in the Student Union. New members are welcome to join at any point in the semester and can simply email livingoncampus@uconn.edu to express interest and will receive additional details about upcoming meetings.

It’s Almost Housing Selection Time!

Eileen McNamara, Housing Assignments Specialist

One of our most exciting times of year is when current UConn students have the opportunity to go into our selection system and pick housing for next year! We have tutorials, frequently asked questions, and specific details about selection available on our Housing Selection Central website to help students feel more comfortable with the process.

The best advice that we can provide for students is to have multiple plans in place. Due to the nature of room selection, Residential Life does not offer predictions or guarantees that a specific room type, hall, or floor will be available for students to select, and we find that students often get stressed if they only have one plan that is suddenly not an option when it is their turn in the system. If your student wants to pick housing with a group of roommates, we also encourage them to consider how the group would divide if there aren’t enough spaces. Will everyone split and select as individuals? Will two of them stay together and the others will make their own plans? Students should bear in mind that they can add/remove students from their roommate group throughout the process, and students must both match in the system in order to select housing together.

What can I do to help my student?

1. You can encourage your student to follow our social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @UCConnResLife) so that they receive tips, updates, and selection data as we get closer to the big day!

2. Talk to your student about their selection plans! Students will have the ability to choose any available rate, which means that all room rates may be visible. This is an opportunity to discuss budgets and plans while they make their choices.

3. Have them visit Housing Selection Central (https://reslife.uconn.edu/housing-selection/) or email livingoncampus@uconn.edu if they have questions!
Important Dates

**March 1**
Summer Housing Application available in MyHousing

**March 2**
Campus Change Application Deadline

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

**March 16**th - 29th
Current UConn students choose rooms and roommates online for Honors and Learning Communities for the 2018-2019 year

**April 2**nd - 20th
Current UConn students choose rooms and roommates online in the General Selection Process.

**April 23**rd
Summer Room Change Application available in MyHousing.

**May 7**th
Halls/suites/Northwood Apts./Mansfield Apts. (except for Hilltop & Charter Oak Apartments) close for all students at noon for Spring 2018

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

We Hope That You’re Enjoying Winter!

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

Contact Information
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(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!