Housing & Residential Life at Eastern CT. State University

Exceeding Expectations!

Good, Better, Best . . .
Never let it rest . . .
Until your “Good” is “Better” . . .
And your “Better” is “BEST”!!!!

By: LaMar Coleman
Philosophy

“All students can and WILL be successful if they have the motivated desire to do well and are given varied academic and social resources that eliminate all excuses for failure.”

Residence Life needs to “S.E.L.”

S = Systems of Support
E = Effective Environments
L = Linkages to Learning
Creating a Comprehensive Model of Residence Life Aimed at Student Success

Linkages to Learning

Student Success

Effective Environments

Systems of Support
Residence Life Must Embrace Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs

- Physiological needs
- Safety, Security, Comfort needs
- Belonging needs
- Self Esteem needs
- Self Actualization needs

Residence Life WILL Help Students to Meet All of These Needs!
Students are the Center and we MUST Reach Them!

Breaking a Large University Down to Size!
Eastern Connecticut State University is the state’s designated public liberal arts college. Within the Connecticut State University System, Eastern, a predominantly undergraduate institution, attracts and welcomes a diverse community of learners, supported by a teaching faculty, staff, administrators, and a residential campus, all of which promote intellectual curiosity, integrity, and social responsibility.

Eastern’s commitment to a liberal arts education is exemplified in its Liberal Arts Core Curriculum, a sequenced, interdisciplinary program that all students share, independent of their majors and career aspirations. As a result of this foundation, our students apply a broad range of theoretical approaches in a variety of active learning settings to cultivate the knowledge, skills, and perspectives necessary to prepare them for their personal, professional, and public roles.

In its role as a public university, Eastern develops students who can become productive, engaged community leaders. Eastern also serves as a social, cultural, and economic catalyst for the region and the state of Connecticut.

Eastern’s programs in the arts and sciences, teacher education and professional studies prepare students for careers or advanced study while providing them with the lifelong skills and confidence needed to succeed in a world of constant economic, social, and technological change.
University Vision Statement

Aspiring to be a public liberal arts college of first choice, Eastern Connecticut State University will create an unparalleled college experience for its students and achieve national distinction for its academic programs. Eastern’s faculty, students and staff will enhance the University’s position as an intellectual community, acknowledged for its engaged teaching, learning, research and creative work. Advancing its position as a model for social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and educational access, the University will be recognized as a resource that is responsive to the needs of the region and the state.
Eastern Connecticut State University Core Values

Academic Excellence
Engagement
Inclusion
Integrity
Empowerment
Social Responsibility
Housing & Residential Life Mission Statement

The Office of Housing & Residential Life strives to provide a nurturing, safe, enriching environment that fosters lifelong learning and allows students to grow intellectually and socially. Students will be exposed to an interactive living-learning experience that provides hands-on opportunities to interact with students in the residential communities designed to make their college experience meaningful.
Vision for Housing & Residential Life

Housing & Residential Life will be considered an integral component of the collegiate experience at Eastern wherein students will be engaged holistically to aid in their overall development and academic success. Acknowledged for our first-class facilities, student-centered staff, high achieving residents, innovative programs, and trendsetting initiatives, our assessed outcomes will demonstrate that we are a vibrant residential community of scholars who meaningfully contribute to the overall mission of Eastern Connecticut State University.
Outstanding Residential Facilities
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD OUTSTANDING RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

• Computer labs with wireless printing.
• 2\textsuperscript{nd} Shift Maintenance Staff Person for emergency after-hours repairs.
• Replaced carpet in Low Rise Living Rooms.
• Renovated Kitchens/Living Rooms in Occum.
• Automated Heating/Air Conditioning in Occum, Burnap & Crandall.
• Replaced stair treads in Winthrop, Burnap, Crandall.
• Elevators replaced in High Rise.
• Renovated RA Office in Burr.
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR OUTSTANDING FACILITIES

• Fob access added to buildings on hard key.
• Programming/Recreation space in older halls.
• Additional security cameras.
• Common area damage added to RHA agendas.
Professionally Developed and Cohesive Staff
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD PROFESSIONALLY DEVELOPED/COHESIVE STAFF

• First Fridays Professional Development Series.
• HD Internships with other offices.
• HDs attendance at professional conferences (NASPA, ACPA, NACA, etc.)
• Collaborations with UCONN Housing Staff.
• Staff Monthly “Pick-Me-Up” Initiative.
• Various webinars offered.
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

• Staff development activities once a month.
• Departmental Professional Development Fund.
• Increased staff outings/bonding opportunities.
• Continued roving staff meetings to allow buildings and best practices to be showcased.
• ConnSCU Housing Collaborations.
Intentional Learning Opportunities
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD INTENTIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

• RA Programming Model includes Educational, Community Service, and Adopted Programs.
• Passive Bulletin Boards.
• Dean’s Cup Educational Events.
• Priority Points for Educational Events.
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR INTENTIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

• IDEAL (Individualized Developmental Experiences and Learning) Portfolio.
• Summer Institutes to connect academic learning to out of classroom experiences.
• Expansion of Theme Housing Opportunities.
• Partnerships with academic departments.
Positive Student Involvement and Engagement
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

• Dean’s Cup
• Residence Hall Associations (RHA)
• RA Programs
• Friday After Dark (FAD)
• University Residential Outreach Council (UROC)
• Judicial Meetings
• Academic Progress Notice (APN) Meetings
• Use of social media to engage students.
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

• Update to RA Programming Model.
• RA One-On-One Interactions (Documented).
• Hall Director outreach to students.
• Hall Director All-Hall Programs.
• Director’s Resident of the Month Initiative.
Service Oriented Operations, Protocols, Policies and Procedures
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD SERVICE ORIENTED OPERATIONS

• Professional staff on-call 24 hours a day.
• Effective follow-ups on maintenance issues.
• Effective email communication to all residential students.
• Social media housing announcements.
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR SERVICE ORIENTED OPERATIONS

• Official training for Office Assistants.
• Weekend hours for residence hall desks.
• Method for submission of suggestions and feedback.
• Well publicized mission and vision for department.
• Implementation of emergency plan for Housing.
Promotion of Academic Excellence
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD PROMOTION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

• Honors Theme Housing.
• Educational RA Programs.
• 24 courtesy hours.
• Partnered with Inclusive Excellence Award Banquet.
• Education, Psychology, Social Work Theme Housing.
• Implementation of First Year Residential Experience Theme Housing.
• Implementation of Quiet/Substance-Free Theme Housing.
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES TOWARD ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

• Additional theme housing options.
• Development of residence hall study areas.
• Implementation of Residential Life “Book-of-the-Month” Program.
• Faculty-In-Residence Program.
• Additional partnerships with Academic Services Center (ASC).
High Housing Occupancy Each Semester
COMPLETED EFFORTS TOWARD HOUSING OCCUPANCY

• Implementation of Annual Housing Contract.
• Coordination of Occupancy Management Groups (OMG).
• Historically able to accommodate all student who desire on-campus housing.
• Use of Best Western for overflow housing.
• Improvements/Renovations in some housing areas.
• Online Housing Selection.
• Priority Points for Housing Selection
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES TOWARD HOUSING OCCUPANCY

• Affordable housing option.
• Creation of comprehensive marketing plan.
• Gender-Inclusive Housing Option.
• Early intervention for students with Bursar Holds.
• Housing Scholarship Possibilities.
OTHER GOALS

• Strengthen Residence Hall Associations
• Strengthen & Expand Theme Housing Options.
• Enhance Student Engagement Strategies.
• Develop Residential Academic Initiatives.
Any Questions?

Thanks for Your Attention!