I.D.E.A.L Housing Opportunities

A new initiative of Housing and Residential Life is the I.D.E.A.L Residential Portfolio which stands for Individualized Developmental Experiences and Learning. This project is a reflective experiential project that gives current residents the opportunity to become engaged in Eastern’s community on their own schedule and internalize and articulate what their Eastern experience means to them. Residents that choose to participate in this program are more likely to have a higher level of satisfaction with Eastern. Besides the intrinsic values of the program residents who submit their portfolio in the spring semester will be awarded 20 Housing Priority Points for the room selection process. Complete information about the program can be found on-line at:

http://www.easternct.edu/housing/IDEAL.htm

THANKSGIVING BREAK

All first-year residence halls and Niejadlik Hall will close on Tuesday, November 26th at 6pm and will re-open on Sunday, December 1st at 10am. If you live in a hall that closes on the 26th and have a night class, please see your Hall Director and they will make arrangements for you to stay in the hall until Wednesday at 10am.

DEANS CUP STANDINGS

1st Burnap
2nd Winthrop
3rd Constitution
4th Mead

Check the schedule for upcoming events. Talk to your hall staff for further information on how you can get involved and show your school pride and hall spirit.

IMPORTANT HOUSING DATES

Friday, Nov. 15th and Sat. Nov. 16th – FAD at 8pm

Tuesday, Nov. 26th – First-Year halls and Niejadlik Hall closes at 6pm

Sunday, Dec. 1st – Halls open at 10am
From the Director ~ Health & Safety Inspections

This year, the University moved to a new system of conducting mandatory Health and Safety Inspections in the halls. For several years, per the housing contract, these inspections are a valid reason for staff to enter a student’s room without them being present, although prior notice should be given when possible. The new protocol is that students are notified of the week and day that inspections will occur, but not the specific times. This year, Hall Directors accompany RAs on these inspections and have the opportunity to meet their residents and talk with them while the RA is conducting the inspection. In the recent “Campus Lantern” article, there are concerns raised about being billed for garbage, dirty dishes in the sink and dirty laundry. At no time has a student ever been billed as a result of having “garbage, dirty dishes or dirty laundry” during inspections. A student may fail this portion of their inspection if the sink is full of dirty dishes that appear to have been there for a while, or for having garbage or dirty laundry that is overwhelmingly piled up and creating an odor or other unsanitary condition in the room. In these cases, a room may be failed and given instruction on what to do, and the room is then re-inspected within 24-48 hours. Another concern was housing staff keying in while students may be getting out of the shower, or sleeping. Housing (and facilities) staff should always knock on the door and give you the opportunity to answer the door before knocking again, announcing themselves, and keying into your room. If you find this not to be the case, please have a conversation with your Hall Director. Most students pass inspections every time, it is only a small handful of students that have to have rooms re-inspected. These inspections are done in an effort to maintain healthy living environments in the halls. While they are not meant to be an intrusion into the lives of students, they are necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of all resident students.
Residence Hall Association (RHA) Executive Board Training: In an effort to ensure that our RHAs have the training they need to conduct business, budget wisely, and plan the best events possible, this past weekend, our office conducted our first annual training for RHA e-board members. The day-long conference was open to all e-board members currently serving one of the RHAs in the 13 halls on campus. The president of the University Residential Outreach Council (UROC) opened the meeting with a welcome on behalf of UROC, which is the parent organization to the RHAs, followed by remarks from Dr. Nunez. Sessions for all participants included: financial paperwork and Robert’s Rules of Order, followed by break-out sessions for each position, and mini conference sessions on organizational goal setting, programming, time management and motivational advertising. LaMar Coleman, Director of Housing, was the keynote speaker and shared his insights with students on “The Art & Skill of Leadership.”