September 2010 E-Newsletter for Campus Residents

Dear Campus Residents,
Welcome to campus housing at American University for Fall 2010! As this message will highlight, we've had a very busy summer on campus! From welcoming new students and families during orientation, summer conferences, and the renovation of Anderson Residence Hall, I can certainly tell you that we are excited that the fall semester is finally here! Campus just isn't the same without you and I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead. I am hopeful that your semester has gotten off to a great start and that you are already achieving great successes in your classes.

Throughout the semester, I will be sending an e-newsletter to all campus residents with the goal of keeping you well connected to what's happening in Housing & Dining Programs. I invite you to read these updates with interest as they could be very beneficial to you. If you have any questions about what is written in this message, please contact your Resident Assistant, your Resident Director or our Main Office at x3370 or housingandinprograms@american.edu.

Sincerely,
Chris Moody
Executive Director, Housing & Dining Programs

General Announcements
2010-2011 Important Future Dates (mark your calendars!)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 13</td>
<td>Final exams end</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 15</td>
<td>Residence Halls Close at 12noon for Winter Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, January 2</td>
<td>Residence Halls Open at 12noon for the Spring semester</td>
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<td>Monday, January 10</td>
<td>First day of Spring 2011 classes</td>
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<td>Monday, February 1</td>
<td>Information available online about how to select housing for 2011-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 4</td>
<td>Residence Halls Close at 12noon for move-out for undergraduate students</td>
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EagleBucks.com
Don’t forget that you can add EagleBucks to your student AU ID card at any time and in any amount by visiting www.eaglebucks.com. If you lose your AU ID Card, please make sure to freeze your account at www.eaglebucks.com and to contact Public Safety at 202-885-2527.

Family Weekend Housing Available
Housing & Dining Programs anticipates having limited availability of campus residence hall rooms for rent over Family Weekend, October 22-24, 2010 on the Tenley Campus. If you're looking for a convenient place to stay near campus that is low-cost, we will have more
Campus Housing During Fall and Thanksgiving Breaks
The residence halls will remain open over the Fall and Thanksgiving Break periods, but many of the hall desks will be closed. South Campus residents should use the Anderson/Centennial Desk (x7700) and North and Tenley Campus residents should use the McDowell Desk (x7706) for any questions, needs or services as well as for access to your residence hall room. Desk operations in all halls will resume on the last Sunday of the break period.

Planning Ahead for Winter Break
Residents should make arrangements to depart for Winter Break within 24 hours of their last final exam. If you’re planning ahead for Winter Break, please note that the residence halls will close for all students on Wednesday, December 15th at 12noon (except Nebraska Hall and the Berkshire Apartments). I encourage you to begin making arrangements to leave the residence halls by this date for the Winter Break. More details on closing will be provided towards the end of the semester by your residence hall staff.

Limited Semester Break housing will be available on a first-come, first-housed basis at the Tenley Campus only, as all main campus halls will be closed. Applications will be available at Housing & Dining Programs in Anderson Hall in the next few weeks.

Campus will re-open on Sunday, January 2nd at 12noon for the Spring 2011 semester. Spring 2011 semester classes will begin on Monday, January 10th. We encourage students to schedule your return to campus between January 7-9th as campus service and hours of operation will be very limited between January 2nd-7th.

Personal and Property Safety in the Residence Halls
Residence halls on college campuses typically experience a higher rate of theft than other buildings at a university. There have been a number of reported thefts around campus in recent weeks since the start of the semester, so students should be vigilant about locking your residence hall room doors when leaving the room. If you have a bike on campus, Public Safety recommends using a U-lock to provide maximum protection against theft. For more information on recent campus thefts, please visit the Public Safety Crime Alert website at http://www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/crimealerts.cfm.

New In-Hall Mediators
Got conflict? Whether with your partner, roommate, or classmate, AU Conflict Resolution Services offers a new program for students on campus. Each residence hall has an in-hall mediator who hosts weekly drop-in hours and is available by appointment. In-hall mediators are trained in mediation and conflict coaching and available to help individuals or groups. For your hall’s mediator, visit http://american.edu/ocl/sccrs/Services-Overview.cfm. If you live off campus, our general services are available by contacting conflictresolution@american.edu.

Welcome from the RHA President
Hello, Residents!

I hope you had a great move-in and subsequently have enjoyed your first couple weeks at AU! My name is Sara Torneden, President of the American University Residence Hall Association.
(RHA). On behalf of RHA, I would like to welcome you to your new home, the residence halls.

The RHA Executive Board can’t wait to see the amazing things that our residents will accomplish this year! One of the best (and easiest!) ways you can get involved is by joining your Hall Council. Hall Councils provide advocacy, programming, and leadership opportunities to each resident. Each Hall Council has an executive board which consists of a President, Vice President of Advocacy, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Finance, and two General Assembly members. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, come out to your Hall Council Kick-Off Meeting next week to learn more about each position!

*Time & Dates for Hall Council Kick-Off Meetings:

Nebraska/Tenley Residence Halls- September 7 at 10:30 PM*(look for posted information in your hall for the exact location!)
North side Residence Halls- September 8 at 10:30 PM* (look for posted information in your hall for the exact location!)
South side Residence Halls- September 9 at 10:30 PM* (look for posted information in your hall for the exact location!)

Also, if you are interested in applying for our Administrative Board or have any questions, please send us an email to info@aurha.org for more information.

All the best,
Sara Torneden

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**New 4-Winds Technology**

Did you notice the new monitor at your front desk? In an effort to reduce paper use, many programs, events, and announcements will be displayed via the Information Monitor in your residence hall. Please be sure to check these out as you enter and exit from your hall.

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**Hurricane Season Preparations**

The current weather projections show our area will not be affected by hurricane Earl. However, campus officials are monitoring the situation and should the path of the storm change, we will convey any specific weather emergency instructions. Should there be a need for special instructions, the university will communicate information with the campus community via email, RAVE text alerts, and other methods.

Please make sure you are signed up to receive RAVE Alerts—go to [https://www.getrave.com/login/american](https://www.getrave.com/login/american). To register for AU Campus Connect/RAVE Text Alerts, simply click the "Register Now" icon, and provide your AU username and password, as well as your first and last name.

Here are some helpful reminders about recommended preparations before a hurricane:

- Move all furniture, including beds, away from windows.
- Objects should be cleared from the floor and from the tops of desks and dressers. Electrical appliances should be off the floor, preferably in a closet.
- Residents should place all valuables in a lockable closet or drawer, which should remain locked when the residents are not in the room.
- Close all windows tightly. Venetian blinds should be raised all the way to the top. Curtains or drapes should be closed.
- Each student should provide his/her own flashlight in case of power failure. Do not use candles or other flame-type lighting under any circumstances. Use battery powered light only.
- If you are instructed to go to a shelter, take blankets, a flashlight, clothing, prescription medications, and snack items, etc.

### A Few Other FYIs

- Campus residents should regularly check their AU spam email filter to ensure that you are receiving all of the official communications from American University. Please remember that all official communications from AU will come to your student.american.edu email address.

- During the first three to four weeks of opening, we receive hundreds of packages per day. As a service to our residents, all packages received between August 10th and August 13th were delivered to your residence hall room or the residence hall room listed on the package. If you have received any mail or packages that don't belong to you or any of your roommates, please promptly return the box to your residence hall front desk. Also, as of Tuesday, September 7th, all mail and packages will resume delivery within your particular residence hall. Please see the front desk for package pick-up or package pick-up hours for Anderson/Centennial.

- As a reminder, please be sure you are swiping your AUID and showing it to the staff member at the desk every time you enter your residence hall. Any students/guests visiting you in your residence hall MUST be claimed at the front desk of the building. Please see your Resident Assistant or a Desk Receptionist with any questions.

- De-tripling for first-year students in temporary triples will begin during the first week of September. Please check your AU email account frequently for updates.

- You can now follow us on Twitter at @AUHDP. We have begun posting important dates and deadlines via Twitter, so we hope that this will provide us with another way to reach out to you.

- Please continue to be mindful of our neighbors when traveling to and from off-campus. In light of AU’s development of a new campus facilities master plan, we want to be respectful of the neighbors and families living near campus. You can help us make sure that the AU community continues to have positive relationships with our neighbors by keeping noise levels down when walking along Nebraska and Massachusetts Avenues and by ensuring that trash is thrown into the proper trash receptacles.