



The Office of Housing and Residential Life Villages Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

WINTER, 2006

DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 10-11 Overnight Stay Program (Unity Day Program)
- February 24-25 Overnight Stay Program (Transfer Students Program)
- March 1 '06-'07 RA/PA selection process complete
- March 1 Directors' Open Forum
- March 4-5 Women's Empowerment Weekend
- March 12-13 Overnight Stay Program (General Program)
- March 27-31 Spring Break (OHRL Open)
- April 10-14 Reservations for Fall Quarter Begins

Welcome!

Greetings! I am excited to present the first issue of the Office of Housing and Residential Life Villages Newsletter. We are all proud of the on-campus living environment that we offer and of the services that we provide to our students. This newsletter offers us the venue to share that excitement with others.

As many of you know, CSUSB on-campus housing began in the 1970's with 406 beds for students. Between 2001 and 2003, our on-campus housing occupancy grew 150% and offered 1,015 on-campus beds. Most recently in Fall 2004, we increased our occupancy to 1,500 bed spaces. Talk about growth!

The growth and changes have been exciting and challenging for everyone. Because of the positive attitude and hard work of



Lovellie "Happy" Cimenski-Almogela

Director

the staff, we've been able to embrace the challenges. We continue to improve our services and our programs - and have gotten better and better each year!

I invite you to read through our newsletter and hope that you will share in our excitement about the wonderful things we are doing and offering. One of our goals has been to make "The Villages at CSUSB" a "Home Away from Home" for our students. By most accounts, it appears we are realizing our goals.

I invite you to visit with us when you get a chance. We enjoy giving a tour of the Villages! Best wishes for a successful and fruitful Winter quarter.

Thanks,

Lovellie "Happy" Cimenski-Almogela

Director of Housing and Residential Life

Staff News

Please join us in welcoming our newest employees to the campus!

Sylvia Delatorre
Custodian

Nick Gonzales
Lead Custodian

Simon Jasso
Maintenance Staff

Helen Rodgers
Custodian

Randy Hanlin

Associate Director, Housing Services

Celina Noriega

Coordinator of Judicial and Special Programs

Leaders of the Pack

Each month the department recognizes an exemplary employee. Our staff nominate their peers for this departmental honor. The selected employee is recognized at the monthly departmental meeting, receives a certificate and a \$25.00 gift card to Coyote Bookstore.

Fall Quarter Recipients: September: Celina Noreiga, October: Ben Gelb, November: Nicole Cowley.

Welcome Week

Welcome Week is an annual series of programs that take place the week before school begins. The goal of Welcome Week has traditionally been to socialize students into the culture and environment that is CSUSB Housing!

This year, Welcome Week took place on the week of September 18th–24th. This year's theme followed on the popular MTV show, "MADE", and was "I want to

be MADE...into a Cal State Coyote!" Unlike previous Welcome Weeks, this year's program took a broader campus approach, looking to socialize residents not only into CSUSB Housing, but into the entire CSUSB campus, making it the biggest Welcome Week program ever! Altogether, there were over thirty programs attended by almost 2,000 residents!

Highlight programs

included the "Power House" conservation festival, the "Coyote Ugly" dance, the "2nd Annual Luau," the "Reggae Jam Fest" concert, and the ever-so-popular "Emergency Preparedness Drills."

Offices and groups collaborating with Welcome Week included ASI, Campus Recreation, Green Campus, the Student Union Programming Board, Coyote Radio, University

Police Department, Foundation Dining Services, the Student Health Center, the Psychological Counseling Center, the Cross Cultural Center, and the Learning Center.



**"Students in LLCs are more likely than other residence hall counterparts and commuting students to persist in college and to graduate from college."
-Kochendoerfer**

The Living Learning Community Experience

2005 marked the inauguration of the Living Learning Communities (LLCs) at Housing. Learning communities broadly refer to communities of students who, by design, take classes together. A LLC takes the concept a step further by designing academic communities of students who not only take classes together, but also live together.

There are currently three LLCs: First-Year Experience (FYE), Global Scholars (GS),

and Arts Hall. The FYE LLC focuses on providing first-year students with the best possible academic, social, and developmental experience. The GS LLC brings together international students with academically achieving CSUSB students for a global cultural exchange. The Arts Hall focuses on bringing together all three disciplines of art (visual, musical, theater) in an environment that promotes artistic expression.

Although the Arts Hall and the GS LLCs have experienced mixed reviews, the FYE LLC has been wildly successful. Demand for the community of 48 students neared 200 applications!

This being it's first year, students in the program are being asked to take selected courses of USTD 100 in the Fall quarter, participate in the Leadership Academy in the Winter quarter, and enroll in a selected section of Political Science During the Spring Quarter.

Educational Programming Model

One of the goals for the Office of Housing and Residential Life is to support the Academic mission of the university. One of the ways that we do that is via our Educational Programming Model:

- V**aluing Diversity: programs that focus on raising awareness around identity, status, and power dynamics
- I**nvolved with Campus: programs that focus on not only bringing residents to programs /activities/ resources available on campus, but also bringing those resources to the residents
- L**iving Safely: programs that focus on informing students on things that they can do to not only safeguard themselves, but their community as well
- L**iving in Community: programs that focus on enjoying the benefits of being part of a community, but also how to safeguard the community respect
- A**lcohol & Other Drugs Education and Prevention: programs focusing on education, prevention, and realities of alcohol and other drugs
- G**eneral Well Being: Programs that focus on the interests and difficulties of residents
- E**ducational Success: programs focusing on the academic success of residents
- S**exual Assault Prevention and Healthy Relationship Education: programs that focus on the prevention of sexual assault and incidents and teach on how to establish healthy relationships with peers



Programming Report for Fall '05 Quarter

Using the Educational Programming Model, the Residential Life staff looks to provide learning opportunities to residents via active programs and bulletin/passive programs. The following is a report of our programming efforts during the Fall Quarter.

Program	Serrano Village	Arrowhead Village	University Village	Complex Wide	Total
Value Differences	17	5	9	9	40
Involvement with Campus	2	15	1	6	24
Living in Community	12	16	7	7	42
Living Safely	6	10	7	3	26
Alcohol and Other Drugs	5	2	4	5	16
General Well Being	7	15	11	5	38
Educational Success	8	7	6	6	27
Sexual Assault & Healthy Relationships	9	8	7	1	25
Total	66	78	52	42	238

Conduct Report for Fall '05 Quarter

The Office of Housing and Residential Life follows an educational philosophy in regards to student conduct, meaning that while we encourage responsibility for actions, we also try to work with students to help them learn from the experience in hopes of not repeating negative behavior. Below is a review of our conduct for this past quarter. Each tally represents a student who has been found responsible for violating that particular policy. For more information on what each policy means, please visit <http://housing.csusb.edu/policies.html>.

	Serrano	Arrowhead	University	Total
Alcohol	18	39	49	106
Alteration of Premises	0	0	0	0
Appliances	0	0	0	0
Balconies	0	0	6	6
Care of Apartment / Room	1	0	0	1
Care of Common Area	0	4	0	4
Community Respect	0	0	0	0
Computer Use	0	0	0	0
Concealment of Violations	0	0	0	0
Copyright Materials	0	2	0	2
Dangerous Behavior / Assault	2	4	0	6
Disorderly Conduct	0	1	0	1
Drugs & Controlled Substances	4	8	12	24
Fire Safety & Hazards	3	6	9	18
Furniture	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0

	Serrano	Arrowhead	University	Total
Gatherings	10	7	0	17
Guest	6	3	6	15
Harassment	6	3	5	14
Identification	0	0	0	0
Improper Room Transfer	0	0	0	0
Keys & Locks	1	1	0	2
Non-Compliance	1	0	2	3
Pets	1	8	0	9
Posting	0	0	0	0
Projectiles	0	0	0	0
Quiet Hours	10	44	28	82
Safety & Security	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	0	0	0
Soliciting & Sales	0	0	0	0
Smoking	9	7	15	31
Trespassing & Restricted Access	0	0	0	0
Vandalism / Theft	3	2	7	12
Weapons, Firearms, Explosives	0	3	0	3
Total	75	142	139	356

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Resident GPAs

In an effort to continually support the academic mission of the University, the Office of Housing and Residential Life encourages and supports that residents maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA. The following is a breakdown of student resident GPAs for Fall '05:

Village Complex	Number of Residents	Quarterly GPA	CUM GPA
Serrano Village	359	2.725	2.736
Arrowhead Village	545	2.584	2.724
University Village	370	2.404	2.627
<i>OHRL TOTAL</i>	<i>1274</i>	<i>2.571</i>	<i>2.699</i>

Joint Campus Effort for Housing Odyssey Systems Interface

With the increase in student housing over the last few years, the current method of financial record keeping proved to be outdated, and cumbersome. Bed spaces have increased over a few short years from 400 residence-hall bed spaces to the current total of over 1,400 spaces including apartment-style and residence-hall spaces. Along with the growth of on-campus residents came the increase in the number of resident accounts that the staff manages.

The Villages at CSUSB has its own world of payment collections, debts, holds, priority registration and student accounts with housing charges. For some time we have been looking at ways the process can run more efficiently. Our current software, purchased within the last few years, has had the capability of accepting and receiving

charges, but we have not had the opportunity to pursue this option. This meant that administrative staff had been maintaining two systems for years and with the growth of the on-campus community, record keeping was proving to be unmanageable.

The Office of Housing and Residential Life (OHRL) looked to the experts in the field at CSUSB. Through the hard work, and diligence of some very special people, we have achieved a major accomplishment which required many meetings, more meetings, testing,

and retesting. Simply put, this group created an interface that sends student information back and forth from SIS+ to the Odyssey database and vice versa each night. This allows the two systems to communicate with each other and gives the OHRL Administrative staff more flexibility in managing the accounts of our residents. This translates to better customer service for the students who live on campus as well as more accurate and up to date records.

The Office of Housing and Residential Life would like to thank the individuals who have been instrumental in accomplishing this overwhelming task:

[Jim Fish](#) - Administrative Computing Services

[Mojdeh Vaziri](#) - Common Management Systems

[Julie Keller](#) - Accounting Student Accounts

[Lenora Venturina](#) - Administrative Computing Services

[Richard Strawter](#) - Information Technology Consultant

Guest Housing and Conferences

Greetings from the CSUSB Guest Housing and Conference Program! The Guest Housing program is designed to provide clean, comfortable housing for CSUSB faculty, staff and guests of the University. Conveniently located right on campus, our fully-furnished, apartment-style units offer all the comforts of home. Available year round, Guest Housing is a great option for anyone in need of short-term, transitional, or emergency housing. Call us for more information and a tour!

Our Conference Program is available for groups throughout the country looking for a great place to host events, meetings, conferences, or camps. We offer fully-equipped meeting rooms, recreational amenities, clean, comfortable housing and food services all at competitive rates.

Contact us today to find out more about Guest Housing and Conference Program!
Phone: (909) 473-7800 or email us at conference@csusb.edu.