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University Housing Newsletter, March 2011

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UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Creating an environment where people can be exceptional

University Housing Newsletter

The University Housing Newsletter is a monthly publication of the department for staff members. It is **YOUR** news - you are encouraged to contribute articles or information to share with the department.

To contribute an article to the newsletter, email the entire article by the 25th of each month to Kent Perrodin at kperrod@uark.edu.

Articles will be reviewed for content and may be edited for publishing.



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS
STUDENT AFFAIRS

TSUNAMI RELIEF BAKE SALE RAISES OVER \$3800

University of Arkansas Japan Tsunami Relief ~Think Globally and Act Locally~

Pray for Japan. Hope for Japan. Love for Japan.

The University of Arkansas Japan Tsunami Relief ~Think Globally and Act Locally~ on Wednesday, March 30th in Holcombe Hall was a great success. Holcombe Hall Senate, Japanese Student Association and Red Cross on Campus collaborated together and were able to raise about \$3,800 during the two hour event!



After the earthquake hit northern Japan on March 11, Japanese Student Association immediately started to brainstorm ideas to plan and organize a fundraising program during the weekend along with their advisor, Dr. Fukushima. Meanwhile, Holcombe International Living Learning Community (HILLC) Hall Senate had their regular meeting on Sunday, March 13 and we discussed ideas and decided to support JSA by providing bake sale goods and its living room space for a fundraising activity. Red Cross on Campus also offered their help and all three organizations agreed to collaborate a fundraising activity on Wednesday, March 30.

As we started to invite people through the facebook event page, the number of interested students quickly reached 200. Considering the capacity of the Holcombe Hall and manpower of Hall Senate and JSA members, we decided to invite other cultural organizations and seek some help from them to make the program more successful.

We welcomed thirteen different student groups and each group organized their own fundraising table in Holcombe Hall. We had foods and snacks from all over the world! In addition to various baked goods by Holcombe Hall Senate, we enjoyed Japanese Student Association's curry and rice, Nepali Students Association's dumplings, Haitian coffee, Chinese Students & Scholars Association's special bubble tea (tapioca tea), Vietnamese Students Association's eggrolls and so on! All the participants enjoyed different tastes around the world and also learned about the situation in Japan through the presentation that was conducted in the International Students & Scholars' classroom. Of course, everyone enjoyed special performance, Soran Bushi Dance! Ray Salmon, an RA in Holcombe Hall has been a leader in this dance team and he did a wonderful job sharing Japanese culture.



All the students who helped us with this event showed their leadership and demonstrated the spirit of Think Globally & Act Locally.

Contributed by Nami Ochi

LOCKSMITH SHOP PLAYS KEY ROLE IN BUILDING SECURITY

University Housing has operated an in-house locksmith service since Halloween, 2007.

On the first floor of Hotz Hall behind a sign asking visitors to knock loudly, Gary Zweimueller, locksmith, and Steve Smith, electronic technician, bring over fifty-two years combined experience to an efficient and high-tech locksmith shop.

Advantages to an in-house locksmith include being able to design and manage the most efficient key way system for a complicated and large-scale campus, streamlining any lock change or maintenance requests through the department's work order system and centralizing inventory management and development.

For physical locks, Housing uses Corbin-Russwin, Best Lock and Assa Lock keyways across campus, with Assa Lock being the most secure system to manage. Currently Reid, Yocum and Walton Halls are completely on Assa Locks, with the rest of the facilities to follow.

The locksmith shop is computerized, with over \$20,000 of equipment, including a key cutter, key stamper (which numbers the keys - very cool, very LOUD), milling machine, belt sander, grinder/polishing machine, duplicator and drill press. Key blanks are secured in a safe.

On the other side of the shop Steve works with the DSX Door Access, the CCTV, and the Building Fire Alarms.

For the DSX Door Access Systems Housing maintains each individual door so that it closes properly, is locked, and allows appropriate access. All DSX doors are monitored at the Hotz 4th floor dispatch center.

There are over 300 doors that Housing controls and monitors.

Steve maintains the CCTV video surveillance systems in our buildings. This entails making sure cameras are positioned right and are in focus. The CRE's and the Security director must also have access to the recorded video so that they can solve crimes and resolve other issues. Housing deploys over 600 cameras across campus.

Lastly Steve maintains and monitors the fire alarms. Smoke detectors must function properly and all other fire alarm devices work according to the fire code. We have over 6000 smoke detectors in Housing facilities.

Door and fire security is the responsibility of everyone on campus, but our in-house locksmith and electronic technician have the task of keeping our security systems efficient and effective to work with and viable into Housing's future.



RESIDENT ASSISTANT SELECTION WRAP-UP

In March, we wrapped up our yearly 5 month Resident Assistant (RA) Selection process for the 2011-2012 academic year. Selection of our great RA staff provides the foundation for all of the great work we will do next year. These students put themselves “in the trenches” for Housing; they are our eyes, ears, hands, and in many ways, our heart! This year our theme was Become a (RA)zorback. We wanted to link the importance of the position with the Razorback pride so many of our students feel. The RA position is the foremost leadership opportunity for students and we tried to really stress the position as the pinnacle of the five principles of the University of Arkansas: Integrity, Mutual Respect, Inquiry, Citizenship, and Connection. RAs are mentors for our freshmen in every true sense of the word. They counsel, advise, support, and challenge students to a healthier, happier, more mature life.

To that end, our selection process is very intense and competitive! After a month of speaking to various clubs and organizations on campus, we put up the application on November 1st of 2010. For the freshmen who applied for the position, that was a mere 3 months of college before they decided they were interested in giving back to their campus in such a unique and awesome way. These applications were due the first week of class in January. Shortly thereafter, every candidate interviewed with a professional staff member from the department or division and 2 current RAs in a conference-style interview day. This is a high-energy and eye-opening opportunity for the students to interview, surrounded by others who are also interviewing for the position. It is so fun to see the friendships begin to form as they meet each other and share in their nervousness before the interview times.

Those who pass the interview stage of the process are invited to take part in Group Activities, so that the Residence Education staff can get a closer look at how they interact with a team and at their emotional intelligence. They participate in groups of eight through 3 activities and are evaluated by one staff member. After we take all of their scores throughout the process, we have a starting point to begin discussing what we saw throughout our interactions with the students. We take all of the feedback into account and look into who we feel will make the strongest connections with our students and who will fit the best together and in each of our very unique residence hall communities. I have to admit, selection is more of an art than a science, but I believe you can tell from the caliber of our student staff that this process, though arduous, has yielded some very rich rewards!

In the end, anywhere from 25-50% of our original number of candidates are selected. It is highly competitive! So if you happen to meet any new staff members, be sure and congratulate them on a job well done and give them a hearty welcome to the team.

Contributed by Adam Stafford



THE PRINCIPLES OF HALL CLOSING

The academic year is coming to a quick end and it's time to start thinking about hall and apartment closing. We wanted to get all of our staff prepared for this undertaking so we developed our CERTS principles of closing.

Principle 1: Communication

Everyone in our department should have clear expectations about their role with hall and apartment closing (and we all have a role!). If you are unsure of your role with hall and apartment closing, be sure to ask questions of your supervisor so that you have a clear understanding of your role and expectations.

Principle 2: Education

All of our full-time and student staff must understand the closing process. Even more importantly, our residents must have a clear understanding about their responsibilities during the hall and apartment closing process. Here are some of the ways that we will be educating our residents and staff: staff meetings, floor meetings, the Housing website, the Housing department newsletter, flyers, staff training Powerpoint on hall and apartment closing, the Housing Facebook page and the Housing Twitter account.

Principle 3: Recognition

It is important for us to recognize that hall and apartment closing is a very busy time for our students (including Resident Assistants) who are trying to succeed on their finals while they are preparing to move out of the halls. Stress levels will be high for our students and our staff. If you are feeling stressed, be sure to take a "time out" to manage that stress. (Be sure to encourage others around you to do so as well!) Recognizing others' emotions and stress at this time will help in how you work with those individuals. Recognizing all of the good work and teamwork that your fellow staff members are doing is also important!

Principle 4: Teamwork

Each staff member's work contributes to a successful closing experience. It may be a cliché but it is the truth when it comes to our hall and apartment closing: Together Everyone Achieves More. Meeting our expectations related to closing and helping out

where needed will have an impact on our next (and final) principle for closing.

Principle 5: Setting Up for Success

How we end the spring semester has a direct and significant impact on how we start our summer. If we have a great hall and apartment closing, it puts all of our staff ahead of the game with summer school and conference preparations as well as finalizing plans for facilities projects in our halls. Let's end the spring strong so that we start the summer even stronger!

Incorporating Communication, Education, Recognition and Teamwork into our hall and apartment closing planning truly allows University Housing to Set up for success. Thanks in advance to all for your work with hall and apartment closing!

Contributed by Ruth Ann Davis, Judy Kendrick & Felisha Perrodin

FACILITIES STAFF MOVES

Robert Powers to Buck Droke, Plumber

Kevin Bourke: move from NWQ B & C to Walton/Sigma Nu

Steve Roach: move from Walton/Sigma Nu to NWQ B&C

Ron Johnson: move from Reid/Maple South to Project Team

Vince Voorheis: move from project team to Reid/Maple South

Charlie Roach: move from Quad A & D to Humphreys/SAE

Trey Graves: move from Humphreys to Quad A & D

Contributed by Aaron England

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

Alternative Spring Break (ASB) gives students the opportunity to engage in service and civic engagement regionally and nationally in communities ASB encourages teams of college students to become engaged in service with communities dealing with social issues such as hunger, poverty, disaster relief and racism. This service-learning experience allows students the opportunity to learn from the people and organizations they encounter, and gain a better understanding of the world, and become responsible citizens. It is a powerful week of reflection, service and team building that provides life changing experiences for students.

Alternative Spring Break Trips 2011

Southwest Arkansas

Departing March 20, returning March 24. The Southwest Arkansas trip focused around the



Texarkana/Hope area. This part of our great state gave us Silas Hunt, the first African-American student admitted to the University of Arkansas in the 20th century. The Southwest Arkansas group worked with community groups and with youth in local schools.

Technology

This is a technology themed Alternative Spring Break which partnered with agencies and community members in the Helena/West Helena and offered technology related services ranging from text message training workshops for seniors to computer building workshops with high school seniors.

Girl Empowerment Day Camp

This trip consisted of students facilitating a three day "day camp" for girls in the Arkansas Delta region focusing on "Girl Empowerment". Students assisted with the development of the program curriculum, lead lessons, played games and lead team building activities with the girls.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Rwanda Awareness Week: April 7 - 14**
- **Annual Take Back the Night March: April 15**
- **Annual Holcombe Dance Around the World Program: April 21**



COORDINATOR FOR RESIDENCE EDUCATION SEARCH PROCESS

The month of April not only brings April showers, but for Residence Education this is the time of year where we gear up for our Coordinator for Residence Education (CRE) recruitment cycle. As current staff members make the transition to other professional positions our vacancies are filled with talented recruits from all over the country and occasionally from international locations. Each year we attend “The Placement Exchange” as a way to share the professional experiences available to candidates. Designed as a partnership between several Student Affairs organizations, The Placement Exchange is a national recruiting fair offering candidates an opportunity to be seen by multiple schools such as the University of Arkansas. Support from all the partnering organizations increases the number and diversity of positions listed for candidates. As a way to expand our reach to candidates, the Residence Education recruitment team traveled to Appleton, WI to attend a regional placement exchange known as OPE or Oshkosh Placement Exchange for the first time in over five years. This allowed University Housing’s name to be front and center with candidates from across the Midwest.

We have continued to increase our credibility within the Housing field each year as we recruit top candidates from across the country. Our successes are being shared with those who express an interest in learning more about the initiatives not only within Residence Education, but within University Housing. This year is shaping up to be yet another successful recruitment season as our team of professional staff work feverishly to meet with candidates and work with our parameters to ensure those who move forward in our recruitment process are among the best and brightest new professionals in the field. With the number of Coordinator for Residence Education (CRE) positions posted this year, each of our staff members have played a vital role in making sure the quality and experience of our on-campus visits does not diminish.

The CRE position is one that touches each area of University Housing. Putting students first, our CREs have a significant impact on the lives of our first-year student population. The feedback provided from our Housing peers regarding our candidate search will help to continue our mission to put the interests of our student population first. Thank you in advance to all of those who are taking time out of their schedules to participate in this year’s search.

Contributed by Felisha Perrodin

THE STRAIGHT SHOT PRE-ROW WEEK PROGRAMMING

The Straight Shot March 28 –31

University Housing's (Residence Education) Pomfret Hall Senate in conjunction with UAPD, RESPECT, OCCSE, Pat Walker Health Center, Greek Life's GAMMA, Counselor's In Residence, and No Woman Left Behind hosted an Alcohol Abuse/Sexual Assault Awareness program called "The Straight Shot" over the course of the week before Row Week.

The Straight Shot is an educational event designed to provide students with information and tools regarding alcohol abuse, sexual assault, rape and responsible alcohol consumption. There were three days of rotating programs throughout nine halls three different areas on campus including Reid Hall, Maple Hill Complex, Holcombe/Futtrall Halls, Yocum Hall, Gibson Hall, and Pomfret Honors Quarters, involving different agencies to provide students with the ability to find and participate in interactive alcohol abuse/sexual assault awareness programming. There was also an interactive event entitled "Hope in the Hallway" providing an opportunity to walk through an interactive "party," observe dangerous behaviors and be educated on responsible alcohol consumption, bystander intervention, and campus safety.

Approximately 345 student attended The Straight Shot events.





HOLCOMBE GEOGRAPHY SERIES

Holcombe Korean Night

Our annual Korean Night Program was held on Friday, March 11 and it was a great success! This year, we decided to focus on the traditional aspect of the Korean culture within the program. Four students on-campus created a committee team (Jisoo Jung and Doseung Choi live in Holcombe, Youngsun Jung lives in Yocum and Joengbing Ahn lives in North West Quad) and they started their preparation as soon as the Spring 2011 semester started.

The first part of the presentation introduced basic facts about the country. Su Jung, a Korean student, taught Hangul during the presentation and a few students tried to write down their own names in Hangul as well. During the program, we enjoyed Nanta performance, which is a popular performance in Seoul, organized by five Korean students. Secondly, students introduced the Korea's national sport, Taekwondo. We invited the Taekwondo group from HPER. Their instructor also came to help give guidance to the Taekwondo team as they were performing. Then, we welcomed four girls wearing beautiful Hanbok (traditional attires in Korea) and they performed Samulnori. Samulnori is normally performed with four of traditional Korean musical instruments. We borrowed those instruments from a Korean Church in Springdale in advance. We enjoyed Korean games and, of course, authentic Korean foods prepared by Korean students. We had more than 150 participants and Holcombe Hall was a full of people who love Korean culture!

Since the Visiting Student Program has been rapidly growing, Korea is the third biggest country in terms of number of students at the University of Arkansas. Therefore, most of the Korean students are the visiting students and they are here to study only for one or two semesters. As a Residence Education within the Housing office, it is extremely important for RAs and professional staff to pay extra attentions to those students who are here for a shot term in order for us to maximize their experience while studying abroad.

Brazil

Giovani Rocha Batista Santos from Brazil is a Business major studying at the University of Arkansas as an exchange student this semester. He has been a great addition to Holcombe International Living Learning Community (HILLC). His presentation covered various topics with well-balanced thoughtful insights. Giovani and his friend, Buruna, did a great job presenting their country and they definitely made people want to go visit Brazil. Moreover, Brazil is a hot place now since it is the place



HOLCOMBE GEOGRAPHY SERIES

where the next FIFA World Cup and Olympic will be happening! Here are some comments from Giovani:

“I really enjoyed the Geography Series Presentation! I confess it was a little hard to choose from so many perspectives I could show from my country, but I ended up showing a good overview of my country’s history and culture. Firstly, it was a great opportunity to learn more about my own country and find out about the uniquenesses related to the history of my country that I would not find unless I had done this thorough research for the presentation. Secondly, I also believe it was a great chance to break stereotypes and possible assumptions people might make about Brazil like we are a Spanish-speaking country. Sharing my culture made my Brazilian identity even stronger and made me become even more proud of my own country and all the cultural richness it has to offer.”



Macedonia

Dani Jankovska is an international student in the Apparel Study major degree. She was a resident in HILLC last year. After a few Geography Series during the Fall 2010, she showed her interest in sharing her country in our signature program, Geography Series. She is the only student from Macedonia here at the University of Arkansas and was very proud of presenting her country! Some of her professors came and there were also a few administrative staff she personally knew. It was great to have them and it really showed that she has been having a great relationship with them through her academic experience at the University of Arkansas. Last year’s residents also came to the program to support her. She shared some highlights of the country’s history, dance and music culture, places to visit in Macedonia and so on. Some students also learned traditional dance steps from her. She cooked traditional meals to share with the audience. It was wonderful to have a former resident back in our program.

Contributed by Nami Ochi



UNIVERSITY HOUSING COMPETITION TOTALS

The competition total effort is 6293.25 pounds of recycled material!

Building	Cardboard	Cans	Plastic	Mixed Paper	Contaminated	TOTALS
Buchanan/Droke	41	16	21	14	0	92
Futrall	50	20	56	3	0	129
Gibson	132	50	137	151	0	470
Gladson/Ripley	35	10	27	2	0	74
Gregson	147	51	141	102	0	441
Holcombe	112	30	98	232	0	472
Humphreys	316	68	174	150	0	708
Maple Hill East	69	30	99	72	0	270
Maple Hill South	50.5	25.75	98	52	0	226.25
Maple Hill West	62	32	91	97	0	282
NWQ	232	91	262	270	0	855
Pomfret	443	159	354	303	-4	1255
Reid	151	57	167	137	-1	511
Yocum	203	39	121	145	0	508

Submitted by Judy Kendrick

FACULTY APPRECIATION AWARDS BANQUET

Three University of Arkansas professors — Carleton Holt, Jamie Hestekin and Vikas Anand — were named Teachers of the Year during the 12th annual Faculty Appreciation Banquet on March 8 at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House. The banquet was planned by the Associated Student Government and the Residents' Interhall Congress.

