

Greetings Commission for Housing and Residential Life Members!
May 2013 Newsletter



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Amy Franklin-Craft, Ph.D.

Greetings,

I want to take a minute to thank those of you who were able to attend this year's conference. I hope you were able to pull some useful information from sessions you attended! I also want to provide you with highlights from both the commission and from ACPA:

Commission Membership

At present, there are 1039 professionals Housing and Residence Life professionals within ACPA. Of these members, 796 (77%) have signed up with the Commission for Housing and Residence Life (CHRL)! This is a great representation within ACPA, but we'd like to encourage even more involvement! Share this newsletter with colleagues, encourage them to sign up! We'd love to bring the number of professionals we serve up to at least 80% by September! Recognizing that people will only involve themselves with endeavors they believe to be worthwhile, the CHRL directorate board has chosen to do things a bit differently this year!

Commission Participation

As a directorate body, we have opted design commission activities to focus primarily on the development of Housing and Residence Life professionals in the core competencies identified jointly by ACPA and NASPA. Accordingly, you will see assessments, professional development opportunities, newsletter articles, resources, and much more provided to enable you to build

upon your skills and knowledge. We invite you to help us (to help you!). If you're interested in assisting us, please e-mail me at frankl96@msu.edu. Let me know your interest area or provide me with your phone number so we can talk. Our goal is to get commission members actively participating in commission initiatives. Work groups include:

- Assessment, Teaching, and Student Learning and Development
- Social Responsibility, Civic Engagement, and Pluralism
- Ethics and Legal Foundations
- Advising, Leadership, and Administration

ACPA Membership

Recognizing the valuable resources provided by a strong organization, one of our commission initiatives is to encourage greater membership within ACPA, even if not in our commission. If you're receiving this newsletter, you're clearly a member of ACPA. Did you know, that you could benefit if your employer has a college/university membership? Institutional membership has the following advantages:

- College/University Membership includes one complimentary General Membership and one full-time Undergraduate Membership.
- Additional staff and faculty may apply for a General Membership at a rate of \$79 (a 40% discount) after ACPA receives payment from the college/university.
- Discounted rates to advertise for positions at Career Central (C2), ACPA's year-round online job search portal.

Now is a great time to talk to student affairs leaders about a College/University membership! This year, culminating in the 2014 Conference in Indianapolis, IN is going to be amazing! You have the opportunity to participate in more than ten developmental opportunities throughout the year, write for or read ACPA's on line publication, "Developments," write for or read "On Campus" or the JCSD, and much more. You'll also be a party to A PARTY (pardon the pun)!

ACPA's 90th Anniversary

In preparation for ACPA's 90th anniversary, our commission would like to do a couple of retrospectives. You can help! If your department or university has archives of historical pictures of residence halls, policy manuals, etc. (particularly if they were printed in 1924), please contact frankl96@msu.edu. It would be fun to create a poster presentation, publication, or PechaKucha about Residence Halls through the Ages!

It's May, or almost, and just as the semester is winding down, so too shall I. Have a safe and uneventful semester end (you know what I mean!). Looking forward to your involvement!

Sincerely,

Amy Franklin-Craft, Ph.D.

Chair, Commission for Housing and Residence Life



Moving Off-Campus: What I Wish I Would Have Known

Written By: William Schimpf, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Endicott College

When I told my non-student affairs friends I was moving out of the residence halls, they said it was about time, while mocking me about being the "creepy old man" My friends in "the biz" looked at me with newfound respect, and a hint of jealousy. As a new live-in professional I remember sitting through several professional development sessions discussing finance and budgeting. I never paid attention to these sessions, as I was too busy daydreaming on how big of a TV I could get. Every RD gets a few "I'm not paying rent" gifts for themselves. Unfortunately I gave myself a no-rent gift often! From a TV, surround sound system (for my 10x8 living room), to a new car with, yup you guessed it, rims. But the spending got worse; why did I need 2 X-Box 360? Maybe to have a second one if one broke.

Paying rent is pretty much the worst thing imaginable, ok a little embellished, but rough. Nothing, I mean nothing, makes me miss the cinderblock palace more than writing half my salary on a check. My hand still shakes like a leaf as I drop that small piece of paper into mailbox. Although I still have my TV and both gaming systems, apparently they don't break that easy. I do wish I listened to my mentor who told me countless times to pay myself rent.

My wife dreams of a house with dogs, a fence and a cool new TV. (My once cool TV is already behind the technology curve and is looking smaller and smaller). So my live-in friends...from this point on, take money out of your paycheck every month and put it into savings for something, anything and don't do what most of us do ...I can borrow a few bucks I will replace it next week. None of us do this and we tend to spend it all.

Although paying rent feels like a dementor is sucking my soul out, the freedom of living off is incredible. Let's be honest, the social scene is tough when you live in. Trying to get a second date is difficult when you have to wave to the desk worker as you leave your apartment, oh and those dreaded fire alarms can ruin the best of moods. And who would have known a romantic dinner doesn't consist on ramen. Ok I am regressing....

My first month in my apartment I found myself in a bit of a jam when I knocked on a neighbor's door because he was clearly violating quiet hours. The retired drill sergeant with a drinking problem kindly reminded me there were no roommate agreements in the real world. I've had several experiences with neighbors that would never happen in the residence halls. Never in my live-in career did a resident knock on my door and ask for expired medication because his back hurt. Never did a resident knock on my door to tell me that my car was being towed because of a snow ban. (For those privileged enough to live in the south, a snow ban is a terrible occurrence that requires you to remove your car from the street during a snowstorm so the plows can get by.) MY car got towed, not the silly freshmen that parked in my RD spot kinda towed, but my car really getting towed. That's another \$200 to get the car out of impound! Speaking of cars, commutes are the worst. Rolling out of bed at 8:59 and into the office at 9am was a dream. I was legit surprised by the amount people who drive to work in the mornings. Real cops, Sorry Campus Police friends, don't know you and think you're cool like campus safety.

Thanks to those awesome Xboxes, surround sound, and a 2006 Chevy Impala I live in a small apartment in a large building, instead of a cute little house. How old is too old to keep bringing clothes home to wash at Mom's house? Yes, battling students for machines and sitting there to make sure no bleach or bodily fluids was added to my load was a hassle, but laundromats are

possible the most awkward place in the planet.

I loved living-in! However, I got married and quickly realized that nothing says romance like cinder block walls and freshman who puke on your doormat. Don't get me wrong, living-in was the best experience that any student lifer can have and nothing prepares us for our career more than the experience lived while living-in. In many ways I feel like a free man and absolutely love it. I just wish I would've put more emphasis on planning ahead instead of trying to play a role in "Keeping Up With the Hall Directors."



2013 RCI
Resident Curriculum Institute

October 20-23, 2013
University of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

The 7th Annual Residential Curriculum Institute (RCI) co-sponsored by ACPA's Commission for Housing & Residential Life and Assessment & Evaluation will challenge you to rethink the practices and grounding philosophies of your residential program! Follow this link for more information: <http://www2.myacpa.org/professional-development/2089>.



Attention History Geeks!
ACPA 90th Anniversary

For ACPA's 90th Anniversary, our commission would like to put together a retrospective of Housing and Residence Life Programs over the past 90 years. If you have pictures, information about policies (with dates), etc. Please send them to Amy Franklin-Craft at frankl96@msu.edu. Please use the following format:

1. Institution
2. Information included/attached
3. If you have a preference for how it's laid out
4. Are you interested in helping to create the final product?
5. Your contact information (name, e-mail, phone, institution, etc)



Did You Know?

"Judge: Colleges Are Covered by Fair Housing Act." April 22, 2013 - A federal judge has ruled that college and university housing is covered by the Fair Housing Act, [The Lincoln Journal Star](#) reported. The ruling came in a lawsuit by the federal government against the University of Nebraska at Kearney over a student's request to have a therapy dog live with her in university housing. The university maintains that it should not be governed by the Fair Housing Act, and that the judge is extending the law to higher education for the first time. But the judge said that if Congress had wanted to exempt higher education, it could have (or could in the future). The judge's ruling could be appealed and delay the rest of the trial on whether the university violated the act.



CHRL on the Web

Stay Connected with Us!

We are putting an emphasis on the Commission's social media presence! Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACPA.CHRL. On Twitter, follow us @ACPA_CHRL. Invite your Res Life friends to "follow" us and "like" us! Watch for a new blog hosted by the Commission in the near future!

[Get Involved with the Newsletter!](#)

Want to write an article?
Have a topic you want to know more about?
Have information or an event to share?
Just follow the link below!

[Submit to the Newsletter](#)

The next newsletter is coming in July!
Use the link above if you have articles, announcements or information you'd like to submit!



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