



THE BUZZ

December 2011



Winter Break

All students must leave for winter break 24 hours after their last exams. Only students who have scheduled finals will be allowed to remain in the residence halls to study.

The Residence Halls will **close to all students** at 10:00 am on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011. Students who have not left by 10:00 am will be subject to a \$25.00 fine.

Students whose ride has not shown up by 10:00 am on Tuesday, December 20, are to wait with their belongings in the Glass Lounge in St. Brigid Hall. No one will be permitted to wait in their room.

Break Housing Forms

Students with a college-related reason to be on campus anytime during the winter break period should complete a Break Housing Form. This is required not only for students asking to remain in the Residence Halls after their last final, but also for anyone with a need to return early in January (i.e. accelerated classes begin January 4, 2012).

Please remember, any students on judicial probation will not be approved to remain in the residence halls during any college break period.

Break Housing Forms will only be available on-line on the resident life page of the college web site (gmc.edu). Forms must be completed and submitted electronically to the Office of Resident Life by Tuesday, December 13, at 5:00 pm. Late forms will not be considered.

It is important to remember that anyone applying for housing during the break period is not permitted in the Residence Halls unless their request has been approved by the Resident Life Staff. All students who have applied for break housing will be notified in writing in their GMC e-mail account if their application has or has not been approved.

Students Moving Out Permanently

Residents who are not returning to on-campus housing for the Spring 2012 semester must personally meet with John Verdi, #130 Loyola Hall (x460, verdi.john@gmc.edu), prior to moving out. Even if another office on campus is aware of this change, it is important that you see John **ASAP** to complete the necessary paperwork.

Students not returning need to be completely moved out of their room at the end of the semester. In order to avoid excess charges, the room should be cleaned, swept and inspected by an RA. All keys must be turned in at the time of the check-out process to prevent a replacement charge.

Room Vacancies

Residents who have a vacancy in their resident hall room should expect to receive a roommate for the Spring semester. It is imperative that all residents with vacancies prepare their room for a new roommate. Members of the Resident Life Staff will visit rooms with vacancies during the Health and Safety Inspections to ensure that all rooms are ready for students to move in on January 11, 2012. Any student who does not follow proper procedure will be subjected to either fines or a judicial hearing. Your cooperation to this is much appreciated.

Health and Safety Inspections

Health and Safety Inspections will occur on Tuesday, December 20, 2011. The Resident Life Staff will be entering all rooms beginning at 9:30am to conduct the inspections. Staff will be checking for fire safety, sanitation, and other safety conditions. Violations of College policy will be noted and will result in judicial hearings. See the "Room Condition" section of the online Resident Life Handbook (pages 19,20) for additional information or contact any member of the Resident Life Staff. **All residents must complete and sign the "We're Outta Here" form on their room door upon leaving the Residence Halls for the Winter break.**

23-Hour Quiet Hours

23-Hour quiet hours begin on Sunday, December 11, at 10:00 pm and continue through the rest of final exams. Please be respectful of these quiet hours for everyone's Academic benefit during this important time period. Quiet hours will not be enforced from 5:30 – 6:30 pm, however, please note that courtesy hours are always in effect.

Students on Probation Reminder

Consequences for students on Residence Hall probation include loss of the privilege to reside in the Residence Halls during any college break period. In addition, resident students who proceed through the Room Selection Process in the spring semester, will receive a lottery number at the end of their rising class; these students are allowed to be "pulled-into" a room by another student(s) during the selection process.

Before Leaving for Winter Break

Don't Forget....

It is expected that all residents complete the following before leaving their room for the winter break:

- ✓ Turn off the lights
- ✓ Unplug all items (including surge protectors)
- ✓ Turn HVAC units down, fan to auto (not off)
- ✓ Clean room and remove all trash/food
- ✓ Take all valuable items home with you
- ✓ Close and lock windows, pull blinds/curtains
- ✓ Lock Door
- ✓ Unplug, defrost, and EMPTY fridge (keep door open to prevent mildew)
- ✓ Remove all decorations from windows, door frames, common areas
- ✓ Any items (i.e. dishes, shoes, clothes, food, etc.) left in common areas on the day of closing will be disposed
- ✓ All food in the common areas refrigerators and freezers must be removed prior to closing. Any food/dishes remaining will be disposed
- ✓ Submit any maintenance item requests on-line prior to leaving
- ✓ Place your signed "We're Outta Here" form on the outside of your residence door as you leave for break

College Closed

All college offices, including Resident Life Offices, will be closed December 23, 2011 through January 2, 2012. Please be sure to conduct any necessary "business" prior to leaving for winter break.

Finals Breakfast

Student Services is hosting a "Finals Breakfast" on Monday, Dec. 12, from 8:30 – 10:30 pm in the Waldron Cafe. Take a break from your studies! Enjoy a hot breakfast served by GMC faculty, staff, and administration.

Final Exam Schedule

The final exam schedule will be posted in Loyola Hall near the public safety offices and in the main lobby area of Alexandria Hall. You can also access this through the GMC web site (gmc.edu) by clicking on Current Students, Registrar, and then 2011 Final Exam Schedule.

Graduation Applications

Students who are expecting to graduate in May 2012 must apply for graduation in the Registrar's Office in Campbell Hall. Information is available on the gmc.edu Registrar's page. The deadline for May applications is December 15, 2011.

Residence Hall Security Upgrades

Best practices for College residence halls nationwide include construction and renovation of existing facilities to conform with a one point entry and exit system. The purpose for this practice is to enhance the safety of all residents in buildings that are not open access facilities. College policy allows for only residents, their escorted registered guests and authorized staff to be allowed in the residence halls. One point entry and exit systems strengthen the ability for Public Safety and Security to enforce this important policy.

When Alexandria Hall opened in January 2006, it was constructed in this manner and all other means of emergency exit were constructed with a 15 second delayed alarm system that is designed to automatically release when the fire system is activated. During the past several years similar equipment has been phased into a renovation schedule in St. Brigid and Loyola Halls. During the upcoming year it is anticipated that this work will be scheduled for completion or at least near completion during the 2012 summer throughout Loyola, St. Brigid and Siena Halls. Once completed all residence halls on campus will conform with this important best practice safety system of one point entry and exit which for the Loyola, Siena and St. Brigid complex will be the current St. Brigid Hall main doors located by the existing Public Safety and Security Desk. In the meantime, all students are reminded that the residence halls are not open access facilities and while guests are welcomed, in accordance with the Visitation policy, they must be registered with Public Safety and Security and escorted into and out of the residence halls at all times.

James McNesby

Director Public Safety and Security

Rick LaRosa

Director Resident Life

(originally announced in September and reprinted in October, November)

Resident Life Appeal Board

The Resident Life Appeal Board is composed of a panel of residence hall students whose primary responsibility is to review cases that have been appealed as a part of the disciplinary process for residence hall students. When a formal appeal is submitted, the board is then charged with the responsibility of convening to review the disciplinary decision in question. The board consists of students who have demonstrated a commitment to the mission and values of the College. These residence hall students are appointed for their ability to be consistent and impartial. Students interested in serving on the Resident Life Appeal Board should contact the Associate Director for Training and Judicial Affairs who is located in Loyola Hall 140 or at johnson.keisha@gmc.edu.

Black and White Dance

Friday, December 9

10 pm – 1 am

Formal Dress

Tickets \$5.00 (purchase from RAs in advance)

Proceeds raised will be donated to an

Orphanage in Dominican Republic

Sponsored by GMC ResLife

Suite Heat


In order to have your heating units work efficiently in your room, please do not block heating units with furniture, refrigerators or TVs! Be careful not to put "heat producing" items such as refrigerators or televisions underneath your wall thermostats.

Mr. Mackie wants you to know...

The most common high risk drinking behavior that students at GMC engage in is doing shots. (29% of GMC students) - AlcoholEdu 2011, 2012

All "Shot" glasses are not the same. Most do NOT have any indication of how many ounces they hold. Most hold MORE than one standard serving if measuring the typical 40 - 80 % proof hard alcohol. (the typical small glass shot glass holds 2 oz.—1.6 servings) AlcoholEdu 2011, 2012, August. Retrieved from www.healthcorp.org/sites/default/files/high_riskshotsandrink.pdf

There maybe more alcohol in your drink then you are aware of.
Think before you drink!



R.A.I.S.E.
Reducing Alcohol Incidents
through Student Education

Abby Platt, M.S., NCC
AOD/R.A.I.S.E. Counselor
215-666-7300 ext 395
Platt.A@gmc.edu

FROM CAREER SERVICES

Jobs, Internships and Volunteer Opportunities

Check out College Central, (www.collegecentral.com/gmc), the exclusive job website for GMC students and alumni.

Upcoming Career Events

Nursing/Healthcare Job Fair

Wednesday, Dec. 7 from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Keiss Hall

For a current list of registered employers visit <http://www.gmc.edu/students/careerservices/Events.php>

Other Job Fairs and Events

Go to www.collegecentral.com/gmc to see other recommended events outside of the college.

Mark your Calendars

GMC Career Services partners with other schools in these job fairs:

- Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair is March 15 at West Chester University
- Intercollegiate and Government Job Fair is March 28 at Neumann University

From The Health and Wellness Center

It's that time again. Cold and flu season is upon us and good hand washing is your first defense. Correct hand washing:

- Wash your hands in warm water, use soap and lather up for 10-15 seconds
- Make sure you get in between the fingers, under the nails, and wrists
- Rinse and dry with a clean towel

If you do suffer from cold or flu get plenty of rest, increase fluids, and wash your hands. Take over the counter remedies to treat your symptoms. If symptoms worsen or last longer than 7-10 days stop by the Health and Wellness Center in Loyola Hall.



The Resident Life Staff would like to wish all Gwynedd-Mercy College residents a blessed, happy, healthy and safe Winter Break.

Rick, Keisha, John, Michelle, and Lori

