



THE BUZZ

January 2012



Room Selection 2012

Room selection information will be available to students on Monday, January 30, 2012. Any student who is interested in living on campus for Fall 2012 must submit an application to the Office of Resident Life and a \$250 deposit through Student Billing in Campbell Hall. Eligibility for housing will only be considered after BOTH items have been submitted.

PLEASE NOTE:

In accordance with Student Billing, the College's policy requires that room deposits for room selection will not be accepted or processed, nor will lottery numbers be issued for any student who has an outstanding balance on his/her account. Watch for more information on room selection in the February issue of The Buzz.

Honors Housing 2012-2013

The Office of Resident Life and the College Honors Program are pleased to announce that, beginning in the fall of 2012, students enrolled in Honors may apply for housing in a section of the residence halls reserved for Honors Program participants. Honors housing will be located on the first floor, A-wing, of Alexandria Hall. Current students and new students who have been accepted into the Honors Program may apply for this specialized housing during the Room Selection Process. If you have any questions about this housing opportunity or if you need further information, please see a member of the Resident Life Staff or the Director of the Honors Program.

(originally announced Nov. '11 and reprinted in Jan. '12)

Cable Upgrade Scheduled for Summer 2012

Following the close of the Residence Halls this Spring Semester, Comcast will be installing a new piece of cable equipment referred to as a Head-End on our campus. The purpose of this will be to eliminate the need for each television set to be equipped with a DTA (Digital Transport Adapter) box as is currently necessary in order to receive the channel lineup purchased by the College. The Head-End will allow students the convenience of plugging their cable cord directly from their television set to the cable outlet on the wall without the need of taking responsibility for any additional cable box related equipment that needs to be signed out and returned at the end of the year. Every cable outlet will then provide the College purchased channel line-up signal and the Head-End equipment will not allow for additional channels beyond these to be transmitted to individual student units. As a result, Comcast will no longer accept individual student agreements for channels beyond those purchased by the College.

Resident Mailboxes

Have you forgotten your mailbox number? Contact the Office of Resident Life (#132 Loyola Hall, x305) to find out what your box number is. It is important that you check your mailbox on a regular basis for important resident life and college information as well as personal mail.

With Cool Weather Comes...

When it gets cooler, mice often try to make a home inside. To prevent this in your area, please put your food in plastic or metal boxes and containers. Never leave food packages open in your room. The easier it is to find food, the more likely mice are to stay! Thanks for your cooperation in keeping the residence halls a "mouse-free zone".

Phone & Internet Assistance

Is your telephone not working? Are you having problems with your computer or connecting to the internet? Is your internet or phone outlet not working?

The IT Service Desk can assist you with these problems. Please contact them by phone at x444 or by e-mail at IT@gmc.edu for assistance. If no one is available when you call, please leave a detailed message so someone can respond to you.

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.

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, December)



Vandalism Is Preventable WINNERS!

Congratulations to our **December VIP Winners:**

Alexandria Hall: Ashlee Lippincott
Siena Hall: Jenna Gaydosh
Loyola Hall: Jessica Rotella
St. Brigid Hall: Oscar Mikols

All winners were randomly picked from floors that remained vandalism free for the month. Each winner receives their choice of GMC Gear and a \$15.00 gift card.

Congratulations to our **Fall Semester GRAND PRIZE WINNER:** Caitlin Weniger

The grand prize winner was randomly picked from floors that remained vandalism free for the semester. The winner of the grand prize drawing received a Kindle Fire. Watch for information on January's drawing and remember.....**Vandalism Is Preventable!**

Welcome New Resident Director!

On behalf of the Office of Resident Life, we are pleased to announce that Jennifer Fransen will be joining the staff team as the Resident Director of Loyola, St. Brigid and Siena Halls. Her office is #139 Loyola Hall, ext. 173, email fransen.j@gmc.edu.

Jennifer will be joining us from Temple University where she served as a Resident Director since 2008. During her time at Temple, she gained a wealth of experience that has helped strengthen her passion for working with and making a difference in the lives of students. Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Public Administration and a Masters of Science in Higher Education, both from Florida International University (Miami, FL). Jennifer is eager to begin work at Gwynedd-Mercy that will provide her with opportunities to engage the whole student. We are equally excited to welcome her aboard.

Please join us in welcoming her in a spirit of hospitality.

From The Career Services Office

Below is the current list of GMC Career Services events:

Interviewing Marathon

When: Wednesday, Feb. 22, from 5:00-7:00 PM
Where: Waldron Board Room
How: Contact Career Services to reserve your 30 minute appointment: 215-646-7300, ext: 230 or careerservices@gmc.edu

Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair (DVEC)

When: Thursday, March 15
Where: West Chester University
*More information coming soon

Nonprofit & Government Career Fair

When: Tuesday, March 20
Where: Saint Joseph's University
*More information coming soon

Government & Intercollegiate Job Fair (SEPCHE)

When: Wednesday, March 28
Where: Neumann University
*More information coming soon

Heat Reminder

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.

When should I go to the Health & Wellness Center?????

Here are some (not all) of the symptoms that are a definite sign that you need to check in with us:

- You have a fever that lasts more than a week
- Come in right away if you have a fever of 102 or higher
- If you have severe diarrhea for more than two days or even mild diarrhea lasting a week
- Constipation for more than two weeks or bloody diarrhea....come in right away
- Severe headache, backache or stomachache; let us check it out to make sure it is not something serious and to find some relief for you
- Red, swollen or "hot" joints can be a sign of infection that needs urgent medical care
- If you are still unsure, do not hesitate to come in and get checked out! Call ext. 306.

Happy New Year from the Counseling Services Staff!

We hope that the holiday season was filled with laughter, peace and much needed rest. As the New Year begins, make the commitment to align your inner values and beliefs with your actions; be mindful in your intentions; and cultivate your inner potential.

Counseling Services will be here to support you in all your efforts.

Counseling Services are free and confidential for all GMC students. Email or call to make an appointment. Counseling Services is located on the 2nd floor of The Griffin Complex in the hallway heading to Waldron.

Upcoming Events...

January 16 – 20 Martin Luther King week with daily events including a Common Hour on 1/18/12 hosted by C.A.R.E.

January 26 "Sexy Millionaire Quizzo"
Alexandria Hall, 7:15 - 8:30 pm
Prizes will be given to the winning team!

Getting Ready for Spring Semester 2012

The holiday break has come to an end and it is time to think about your next semester. Here are a few things you can do now to help will make your life a little easier later.

1. Buy Your Textbooks Early. You can purchase your textbooks for next semester so that you are prepared for the first day of classes.

2. Organize Your Calendar. One of the best ways to manage your time is to keep a detailed calendar of your assignment deadlines. Develop your system now, either on paper or electronically, so that you'll be set to get organized when the semester begins.

3. Read Your Syllabi. Once you get your syllabi, and try to do so before classes start, reading through them. This simple step can help you figure out what to expect for the upcoming semester.

4. Make a Budget. Money is always a concern for most students, if this is true for you, take action by writing a detailed budget now. This won't give you more money, but it will help you feel more in control by knowing where and when you need to spend your money.

5. Make Some New Year's Resolutions. Now is a great time to make some realistic and specific goals for the new semester.

Starting off the semester on the right foot is the first step to making your semester a great one. Keep up with the pace by staying on top of your work and make time to have fun! Have a great semester!

Jeanne McGowan, L.C.S.W.
Director of Counseling Services
Email: counseling@gmc.edu or
Call 215-641-5571 (x571)