We Are Housing!

National Get Organized Month!

With the start of the New Year and all the resolutions that you may have made already, add a commitment to getting organized on to your list. The National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO) is sponsoring the first Get Organized Month this January.

While you are considering where to start with your new organization objective, consider taking some time to sort through your room or office and de-clutter your life. Creating a healthy and organized environment will help streamline your habits to save time, save money and reduce stress. Make it your goal to be productive and ahead of all tasks this semester. You can do it!

-Mr. Shawn Odom

RA Corner

RA Academic Success Rate

The standards to qualify as a resident assistant (RA) for FAMU’s on-campus housing facilities consist of maintaining a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and obtaining at least one semester of on-campus living experience.

To qualify for these standards may be one process but maintaining them is another. The workload for our RAs often go undermined but will always be appreciated. Our current rate for academic success among our resident assistants exemplifies where constant dedication can lead.

The current average cumulative GPA for our 75 resident assistants is 2.7. The minimum required number of class credit hours that must be completed successfully per semester to maintain a position as an RA is 12, a standard that is kept by all resident assistants in employment.

It may not be the most straightforward journey to take among the many avenues of opportunity that reside on FAMU’s campus, but the hard work and persistent excellence that our resident assistants uphold is a quality of housing that genuinely contributes to making the on-campus residential life irreplaceable.
With his passion for helping and educating others, Jarius Williams affectionately known as "Jay" has taken Florida A&M University (FAMU) residence hall Gibbs Hall by storm. Since stepping into his Resident Assistant (RA) role, Williams has been the go-to RA in Gibbs Hall. Influenced by his experience living and being a part of Residence Hall Association (RHA) in Gibbs, Williams decided on taking the role of an RA in his sophomore year at FAMU.

"Working with RHA heavily influence me on becoming an RA, living in Gibbs felt like living with family and I wanted to be a part of providing first-year students with an exceptional living experience," said Williams.

RHA is a campus-wide organization that is the voice for students living on-campus that provides professional development.

According to the Office of University Housing's Handbook, "the purpose of the RHA is to promote unity and community among residents, and to provide quality educational and social programming."

Besides being an RA, Williams is the president of Student Florida Education Association (SFEA), a member of National Society for Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), and the national honor society Phi Sigma Theta.

"Being an RA and active in other organizations taught me time management, networking, and effective communication," said Williams.

"The one thing I enjoy most about being an RA is building a community, I try my best to know every resident in this facility --- although I am assigned 40 residents -- I still try my best to know everyone," said Williams.

"Jarius help get out of my comfort zone I used to go class and straight into my room, but Jay got me to come out of my room, and because of that I got to meet some amazing people through him," said Ashaya Little, Gibbs Hall resident.

"Being an RA has been the greatest experience for me thus far I enjoy the team and the staff that I have in the building, I believe that we are the most dynamic group of leaders that University Housing have," said, Williams

Williams plans on being an RA again for the next school year.

"I love the experience of being an RA, I love all the coworkers I have in University Housing, and I love the residents I meet," he continued.

According to Little, describing Williams would include the words "nice, helpful, and dependable."

"Jay has a good influence on everyone, he pushes people to be the best that they can be, I would love to see him as an RA again," continued Little.

William's ability to lead has made him stand out as an employee as well, according to his supervisor, Resident Director of Gibbs Hall Larry Cummings.

"Jay is a hard-working, natural leader, and inspirational, he takes the initiative in being creative to pushing housing forward," explained Cummings.

"Jay is a servant leader, he doesn't put people in position without first willing to doing it himself," concluded Cummings. There are many RAs in the Office of University Housing that have a story of perseverance, yet they stay determined to be mentors and great examples for their residents.

The Office of University Housing appreciates you!
One of the main priorities for the Florida A&M Housing Department is ensuring the comfort and satisfaction of our residents. Keeping campus facilities to a set standard and maintaining a schedule of maintenance updates falls high on our agenda, so here are some updates that were recently put in place among our on-campus residential dormitories.

**Paddyfote Complex** was constructed in 1967 as a traditional Co-ed residence hall which resides today as a female-only hall. The residence hall includes individual room accommodations, community showers, and pavilions to encourage a community and foster a sense of sisterhood.

**Recent developments to the residential hall include:**

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<tr>
<th>Update</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Replacement of laundry room equipment</td>
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<td>Outside railing replacements</td>
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<td>Landings have been replaced with sturdier material</td>
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<tr>
<td>The stairwells have been redeveloped and renovated</td>
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<td>Restored residential elevator function ability</td>
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<td>Deep cleansing of community bathrooms thanks to service of Stanley Steamers*</td>
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The Pentaplex Comes Down
By: Jennifer Osias

The Pentaplex (Cropper, Diamond, McGuinn & Wheatley) is projected to be demolished in the incoming days. The time duration for this process is anticipated to be three weeks long. After the demolition is done construction for the student performance amphitheater will begin and is expected to last 22 weeks.

The Pentaplex was a female residence hall initially constructed in the 1930s-1950s in the heart of campus have resided students for over 70 years. Due to age, deterioration, and the thousands of dollars cost per year to maintain the residence hall the University decided to use the location to put the amphitheater.

New Team Members

Naja Hardmon is a third-year public relations student from Weston, Florida. She enjoys creating new opportunities for community development, creating and maintaining good relationships, and eating cheese-its. In the future, she hopes to obtain a job working within the music and entertainment industry and apply her skills to artist development.

Jerry Medireck is a third-year graphic design student from Miami, FL. Jerry loves to bring other people’s designs to life, think creatively to develop new design concepts, graphics, and layouts, and enjoys to make an improvement with his creative skills. After college, Jerry wants to continue his education in design and work at a design/brand management industry part-time.

Jennifer Osias is a senior public relations student, from Miami, FL. She serves has the Office of University Housing Spring 2019 Marketing and Communications Intern. When not creating content and being creative, She like to read, dance, photography, and explore the city of Tallahassee. You can always find her on FAMU campus with a 70oz water bottle.

Elijah Rutland is a 19 year old sophomore graphic design student from Macon, GA. He is the founder and CEO of his own custom art business, Fix My Sole. When not in class or drawing, he enjoys watching reruns of the Boondocks and reading comic books.