



STUDENT AFFAIRS
Connections

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The Office of Housing and Residence Life

Green Eagles Living and Learning at FGCU

Department

FGCU's residence capacity is at 4,208, or 30% of its student body (11,279 undergraduate + 1,376 graduate = 12,665 total students). The newest addition to housing is Osprey Hall, a 533-bed residence hall that opened Fall 2012 and was designed to achieve LEED certified level. Osprey Hall has many green features, including the use of solar panels to reheat water, energy recovery units to reduce air conditioning demands, and low flow faucets and toilets.

Facilities Maintenance

The OHRL aims to minimize its impact on the environment. Whether it is a renovation project or a new construction project, the OHRL wants to invest in technologies that will reduce energy consumption and are ecologically friendly. "As we build forward," said Ron Dalton, OHRL Associate Director of Facilities, "we're looking at using LED lights in our next residence hall, Eagle Hall, and possibly adding more solar panels on the roof of that building."

Central Office and Business Operations

In addition to purchasing 30% post-consumer product paper and file folders, the Central Office reduces waste by taping P-card receipts to the backs of reused paper and reusing former resident file folders for incoming residents. In 2012, the OHRL stopped printing Returning Student Sign-Up brochures for every resident and now relies heavily on e-mail and social media. Housing applications are available online, and the Conduct Office went paperless in 2010. Recently, interview forms were printed on second-use paper.

A Snapshot of OHRL Green Efforts

- The OHRL has completed two LEED Silver construction projects in Biscayne and Palmetto Halls in South Village.
- For several consecutive years, electricity consumption has been reduced through initiatives including the implementation of new, more energy efficient products.
- Programming is aimed at educating residents to be more efficient consumers.
- Recycling programs are available in all areas and provide opportunities to donate and recycle.

A Message From:

Dr. Brian Fisher

Director of Housing & Residence Life

The Office of Housing and Residence Life (OHRL) is committed to providing students with an exceptional residential experience that will prepare them for success at FGCU and in a global community. As a part of the university's guiding principles, the OHRL is committed to the creation of a civil and sustainable society. This is achieved through initiatives in all areas of the department. From new construction to educational programming to business operations, the department is always looking for ways to be "greener."

For comments or suggestions regarding this issue, please contact:

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Connections may be obtained in an alternative format by contacting the Office of Adaptive Services at 239-590-7956.

Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee aims to improve the environmental quality in housing by promoting recycling and reducing energy and water use. Co-chaired by Ron Dalton and Liz Ingrao, the committee publicized the department's current sustainability initiatives and has several large-scale initiatives in the works.

"We're focused on recycling and/or reusing materials that are often thrown away during the course of a year," said Dalton. "We need to ask ourselves, is what we are producing trash or can it be recycled or reused? There's nothing on this campus that can't be recycled – it's just a matter of finding the right tools or processes to get it done."

Sustainability Committee Initiatives

Green Eagle Festival

367 participants were registered at the November 2012 Green Eagle Festival, an OHRL-sponsored event organized by the committee. The Resident Housing Association, Physical Plant, Service Learning, Student Government, and several Registered Student Organizations tabled at the event, raising awareness about green initiatives.

"Lights Out for Earth Day"

In 2012, the Residence Life team participated in the national "Lights Out for Earth Hour" initiative with programming in South Village, West Lake Village, and North Lake Village. The team also participated in this year's April 9th event.

Donation Centers

In Spring 2012, OHRL staff ran Donation Centers in North Lake Village (NLV) and South Village (SoVi). This year, the committee recruited student volunteers to form a Green Squad to help organize and load donations made in SoVi lobbies, the West Lake Village Community Center, and in Eagles' Landing in NLV. Past donations have included everything from clothing to electronics, items that would otherwise be trashed.



Photos from the 2012 Green Eagle Festival.

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