

To all 2013-2014 program plan reviewers,

Thank you for your investment in the living learning experience of the residence hall students.

The program plan for the first-year residence hall students has been becoming progressively more successful in expanding opportunities and avenues for students to make connections and to contribute their talent and leadership within the residential communities. Programs designed to give students a chance to have impact on their floor or residence hall such as Neighborhood Empowerment Teams (NET), Green Teams, Complex Community Council, Weekly Service, MLK Day of Service, You + 2, and the Student Initiative Fund have been incredibly successful. Cultural celebrations, exchanges, and International Education Week initiatives have also become strong traditions. These programs will continue to be improved, but remain stable in the program plan.

Based on the success of long-term programs that are designed to give students a chance to lead and impact, additional avenues are being created in the 2013-2014 program plan. New programs include:

1. Alternative Spring Break – Student leaders will take part in a weeklong service project during spring break and participate in a series of workshops before and after the trip to examine their leadership styles and practices.
2. Service Teams – Students will have the opportunity to join and form leadership groups playing a central role in each complex Weekly Service initiative.
3. Community Forums – Opportunities for students to gather twice per semester for open dialogue on issues in their hall communities.
4. Student and parent pre-arrival letters introducing student involvement and engagement opportunities

Programs dropped in this cycle include:

1. 48 Hour Film Festival – lack of student interest in creating short films
2. Main Street Challenge (environmental sustainability shopping contest) – moved from program plan and offered to student Green Teams as an option for their activities and contests
3. Cultural Celebration Day – moved from a program in each complex to a centralized activity through the Cultural Exchange Partner program

The program plan continues to improve with each cycle and many of we anticipate another very strong year for our students.

**University of Delaware**  
**Office of Residence Life**  
**FIRST YEAR HALLS**  
**2013-2014**  
**Student Life Committee Approved Version,**  
**3-20-13**

**Introduction:** The first-year student residence halls include George Read, Rodney, Dickinson, Russell/Lane/Thompson, and New Building A and B/Smyth complexes. These facilities house over 3,800 students in traditional residence halls with the exception of George Read, which has a suite-style floor plan (two rooms with one shared bathroom).

The first year program plan places an emphasis on helping students establish a sense of belonging in the larger University community through community development, campus involvement opportunities, and exposure to campus units and the resources they provide to enhance students' out-of-class engagement. The residential experience allows students to explore broad citizenship themes through a variety of philanthropic initiatives, community discussions, and opportunities to engage with their peers and University staff and faculty. Traditional first-year student needs are addressed through a variety of activities designed to orient them to the campus and assist them with their individual adjustment needs.

An emphasis is placed on providing first-year students with multiple and varied opportunities to engage with each other and the wider University community. Faculty will be involved in the residential environment wherever possible and students will be connected with large-scale University initiatives. Students will also be afforded many avenues to make their own distinctive mark in the residence hall community through hall government leadership, environmental sustainability groups and committees, and through a student initiative program, which provides students funding to create their own activity or social event.

***With the exception of the floor and building meetings held at opening, all activities detailed in this plan are attendance-optional. Students will not face penalties, perceived or real, for failing to engage in residential activities and programs. Staff and students will be informed that no activity in the residence halls is mandatory for students.***

**Implementation:** Staff members are expected to follow the guidelines within the program plan in developing activities for students. Members of complex community councils and individual students will be encouraged to and provided with resources to contribute to community life through a variety of initiatives of their own making.

Undergraduate and professional staff members will also serve on a variety of program-plan implementation committees and task force groups. Groups will be based on key elements of the program plan such as philanthropic initiatives, major programs, and larger social events. Each of the committees will have representation from the first-year complexes and a coordinating infrastructure will be developed to allow the full first-year staff to collaborate on program implementation. Each student staff committee will be coordinated and overseen by a professional Complex Coordinator or professional Residence Hall Coordinator who will operate under the supervision of the Senior Associate Director of Residence Life. The program plan articulates only a

portion of the duties of a residence hall staff member related to student outreach and student assistance. Staff members perform a wide variety of routine and non-routine roles that contribute to the overall student experience

**Foundation:** The foundation of the 2013-2014 first-year program plan is based on providing opportunities for students to utilize their talents in their residential communities, the complex buildings, as well as at the broader University of Delaware community. The first-year area Residence Life staff places emphasis on helping students identify areas of talent and skill and helping students connect their talents to opportunities in the halls and the University, but respect a student's decision if he or she chooses not to share his or her talents or get involved. Staff work with students from the perspective that engagement is more personally beneficial when it is active, that active engagement fosters ownership in a community, stems from personal influence, involves active reflection, and makes a contribution to the community and/or self.

Talent based engagement explores three facets: helping students discover talent, providing assistance as student takes action and develops initiatives, and helping students recognize their own impact. Each of these themes contributes to the philosophy of encouraging first-year residential students to get involved and connected with their floor communities, complex community, as well as the broader University community. Throughout a student's first-year experience at the University, the Residence Life staff will engage students in reflective conversations to help them gain a better understanding of the strengths and talents they can contribute to the larger community.

This foundation influences the design and implementation of the following elements of the program plan.

**Major All-Freshman Programs:** These large-scale programs are designed to provide information and a variety of campus involvement opportunities. A heavy emphasis is placed on engagement and interaction in program design. The programs will primarily take on a "fair" type of atmosphere and we will work with invited participants to create simulations, demonstrations, and other means to give our students the opportunity to play an active role in their own learning. For example, outdoor festivals and competitive events typically include a substantial amount of wait-time and service RSOs will be asked to set up tables to promote activities and discuss involvement options with freshmen. The all-freshman programs are loaded heavily in the Fall semester. For specific examples, see month-by-month charts on the following pages referring to the "programs" row.

**Campus Resource Connections:** This series will provide students with opportunities to connect to various resources on campus. In some cases, the staff will simply promote and support existing major campus programmatic initiatives such as Women's History Month, Latino Heritage Month, etc. It is expected that professional staff in first-year areas will reach out to colleagues leading these initiatives in order to offer promotional assistance and develop participation campaigns in the first-year residence halls. In other cases, such as collaboration for International Education Week, efforts will be made to assist or partner with the organizing unit. Additionally, Resident Assistants will be encouraged to invite UDPD Community Police Officers and "Healthy Hens" coordinators into the residence hall for presentations.

**Faculty Connections Opportunities:** A wide variety of opportunities will be made available for University of Delaware faculty to engage with residence hall students. Office of Residence Life's Student Engagement Coordinator will work with various faculty and extend invitations to host presentations, take part in major events, spend time with students in the dining halls, participate with community council activities, or other interactive opportunities.

**Floor Community Programming:** In order to enhance the opportunities for students to engage with one another and enhance their out-of-classroom experience, Resident Assistants will be required to host a minimum of two floor-level programs per semester that support a selected focus. Each focus area, and the related initiatives, will support divisional and University wide strategic initiatives. The initiatives (and their content) are to be created and approved in concert with the supervising Residence Hall Coordinator and Complex Coordinator. The focus areas are: Student Leadership, Global Awareness, Service, and Environmental Sustainability.

**Complex Community Councils (CCCs)** – Leadership groups that exist in each complex. Students will be encouraged to participate and become an active member of their community through the CCC. Interested students campaign for positions and are elected by a majority vote process in each complex. Student participation will allow them the opportunity to share thoughts and have an influence on the community. Each CCC is advised by the Complex Coordinator with assistance from the Residence Hall Coordinator staff. Residence Life Staff will provide a kick-off event to introduce students to the CCC, facilitate the election process to maximize student involvement opportunities, and provide meeting space appropriate for all students to take part in their CCC regardless of involvement level. Ongoing CCC activities will be developed by members of the CCC and will take place each month, supported by Resident Assistants through promotion and attendance. CCC activities in the past have ranged from social and educational programming to community service and advocacy activities. Each year CCC members are provided with examples of past activities to stimulate the development of ideas for current year's activities which are developed by the current group.

**Neighborhood Empowerment Teams (NET):** NET is an organizational structure that exists on every First-Year Residence Hall Floor. In essence, it is a floor run Neighborhood Association that will utilize the strengths and talents of the students on the floor to create dynamic activities, engaging meetings, and advocacy for the residents. This model revolves around the central idea that the floor will function as a team and the Resident Assistant will be there to provide support and guidance for the floor, much like a coach. A resident captain runs each floor team and is selected by their peers through an election process. NET Captains will develop floor committees, co-facilitate floor meetings, and serve as the voice of their floor. While the support from the RA will be necessary to encourage the development, the aim is to have the NET become a self-functioning body that only relies on the RA's leadership behind the scenes, if at all. As with all residence hall activities, membership in NET groups and participation of student led NET activities is optional for floor members. NET Captains are informed that floor meetings and social activities are optional features for floor members.

**Social Events:** The social events are designed to place an emphasis on student-to-student interaction and should serve as a point of connection for first-year students. Students will be invited to create their own social events with the assistance of Resident Assistants acting as event and logistics advisors. Funding for these social events is available through a student initiative program, which provides students funding to create their own activity or social event.

**Complex Traditions:** In each of the five First-Year residence halls, students and residence life staff have created and appreciated certain complex-specific traditions. Those traditions are as follows: Russell/Lane/Thompson complex hosts the "Russell Olympics" a social program held on the East Campus Turf for fun, social interaction and development of complex pride facilitated through Olympic type games. Dickinson complex hosts various social programs including pancake nights, Karaoke competitions, video game nights, and Dickie-Fest provided as a social outlet for students. Rodney complex also hosts a "traveling pancakes" program; in this case, the staff moves from building to building passing out pancakes in order to get to know Rodney residents better. Rodney also hosts a "Coffee House" program every Saturday night designed to provide an alternative late night program. George Read complex holds an annual Halloween lounge decorating competition in partnership with local youth organizations. George Read also hosts

the “GR Speaks” series in which offices and student organizations from across campus may share what they do with interested students. During these events, students can learn about local organizations, non-profit careers, mentorship, and service opportunities. Harrington complex designs “weekend events” that are social activities hosted every Friday and Saturday evening. Each tradition provides students with unique activities specific to the complex in which they live and can be adapted to other complexes.

**Cultural Display Cases:** In an effort for the Office of Residence Life to support cultural celebration and sharing, each complex has display cases in common areas for the specific purpose of housing “cultural artifacts” such as clothing, pictures, or other objects of residents who wish to share. Students will have the opportunity for their object to be displayed, along with information describing its significance, in the display case. Any objects that students choose to share will be returned to them in a time frame that they choose.

**Weekly Service Initiatives:** Complex Staff will work with a local service agency to create an ongoing partnership and hold weekly service opportunities for interested students to make a contribution while socializing within their residential community. Service activities alternate between activities hosted within the complex to generate awareness and take on projects to benefit the agency to on-site visits and service projects. In addition, an invitation will be made to any interested faculty to attend these weekly programs. For those students who wish to become more involved, any interested students may join a complex-wide group called the Service Team. The Service Team is a group of residential students who voluntarily assume leadership roles to assist in the ongoing implementation of their complex’s Weekly Service Initiative as well as partner with University entities or other local agencies to create additional service experiences for the residents of their complex. While agency partnerships periodically change, typical organizations include the Ronald McDonald House, the B+ Foundation (childhood cancer support), Friends of White Clay, Boys and Girls Club, the Emmaus House, and Kay’s Kamp (children suffering from cancer).

**Residence Life Alternative Spring Break Program:** A professional Complex Coordinator or Residence Hall Coordinator will oversee and coordinate an Alternative Spring Break service trip opportunity co-sponsored by the Office of Residence Life and the Office of Service Learning. Residence Life Alternative Break (RLAB) is an opportunity for a select number of interested first-year residential students to engage in active citizenship through participation in a long-term, community based, service project. This program is geared towards students who are interested in participating in a one week, service-immersion experience where they provide volunteer services to address a pressing community need.

In the weeks leading up to the trip, participating students will gather monthly to share their goals and aspirations towards giving back to the community, to identify and discuss issues impacting the community in which they will be conducting service, and to develop a positive and supportive group dynamic. Students who choose to participate in RLAB will also be encouraged to participate in pre-existing service opportunities at the University of Delaware. During the trip, participating students will travel in teams to engage in active service that meet the needs of one community while exploring the culture and history of the area. Participating students will have the opportunity to engage in reflection through journaling and small group discussion that encourages them to think critically about their role when serving the community. Once the trip has concluded, participating students will be afforded the opportunity and resources to develop and implement a floor-level service experience that brings awareness and education back to their peers.

**Prior to Opening**

|          | <b>Title</b>            | <b>Description</b>   |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| Outreach | Student Welcome Letters | Residence Hall Coordinators (RHCs) will send a welcome letter to students, via e-mail. Letter will include: An introduction of professional staff member and Resident Assistant (RA) staff, a welcome from live-in staff member, and information about opportunities for involvement within the residence halls. Students will receive their housing assignments the first week of August and these letters will be sent out shortly thereafter. |
|          | Parent Welcome Letter   | The RHC will offer parents a snapshot of specific leadership, philanthropic, and environmental sustainability initiatives we have within our residence halls. It also informs parents that their student will be receiving a welcome letter from their RHC.  |

## Opening Week

|                    | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Description</b>  |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Programs           | Parent Meetings   | Complex Coordinators (CCs) or Residence Hall Coordinators (RHCs) will host Informational meetings for the parents of First-Year students. Topics include: problem-solving resources, safety information, leadership opportunities, and programs available to students.  |
|                    | Campus Leadership Opportunity Advertisement & Recruitment | Resident Assistants (RAs) will offer information about various floor, building, complex, and campus leadership opportunities students can choose to join. For example, Complex Community Council executive board positions, Green Teams, Neighborhood Empowerment Teams (NET), Community Standards Board, sustainability task force, service advisory teams, and various student-identified floor committees.   |
| Social Events      | Eat & Greet #1  | RAs will organize a floor trip to the dining hall during the first weekend of the semester. This event is intended to help residents connect with their floor community.  |
|                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Night & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day Activities    | RAs will take residents to a series of activities hosted by Student Centers that will help students become acclimated to the campus culture and community.  |
| Community Meetings | Building Meeting  | Residence Hall Coordinators (RHCs), and CCs will hold a meeting for all students within their building. Introduction of learning opportunities for the year, residence hall policies, student code of conduct expectations, Complex Community Council (CCC) recruitment, and RA/Mentor RA (MRA)/Student Engagement Advisor (SEA)/RHC/CC introductions. The Community Resource Unit Police (CRUs) will speak during each Building Meeting about campus safety and their role in supporting the residential community. Additionally, the RHC will share information about how students can connect their talents and interests to involvement opportunities within the community and on campus. |
|                    | Opening Day Neighborhood Meeting                          | RAs will facilitate a meeting for all students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: introduction of community members, discussion of community expectations, Alcohol EDU reminder, and community team builders to establish connections among residents.   |
| RA Conversations   | Welcome   | RAs and RHCs will offer assistance and support to students.   |
| Floor Visuals      | Month Specific Floor Visuals                              | See Appendix I Month Specific Floor Visuals.  |
|                    | General Floor Visuals                                     | See Appendix II: General Floor Visuals.   |
| Faculty Connection | Move-in   | First Year Experience (FYE) program coordinator will be asked to send an invitation to First Year Seminar (FYS) faculty to act as greeters within the residence halls.  |

## September/October

|                    | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Description</b>   |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Programs           | Weekly Service Initiative                              | Complex Staff will design and hold weekly service opportunities for interested students to make a contribution to their local service agency partner. In September, the SEA and complex staff will host an Information Meeting about the Service Team to gather student interest.  |
|                    | Safety Fair  | A campus-wide program on “all things safety.” Invited participants include: Student Wellness and Health Promotion (safe sex, sexual assault, alcohol safety); UDPD (Self Defense Demo, property registration); Information Technologies (IT) (computer safety and protection); Environmental Health & Safety (fire safety); Residence Life (the “why” behind Residence Hall Regulations); Counseling Center (roommate assertiveness). In addition, an invitation will be made through the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee to any interested faculty.   |
|                    | Campus Day of Service                                  | Campus-wide series of community service activities hosted in various residence halls.  |
|                    | Cultural Exchange Partners                             | U.S. and International students will be invited to take part in a year-long cultural exchange partnership. An orientation and social will be held to gather all interested parties and connect them based on particular areas of interest. Students will be given tips to begin their partnership and an overview of the challenges and potential benefits of the partnership. Invitations will be sent to participants throughout the year to take part in additional all-partner socials and connection events. Participants will be encouraged to photograph any meetings they have outside of the all-partner socials so that these pictures may be shared amongst all Cultural Exchange Partners. Photographs may be displayed in public areas with the student’s permission to promote the program and intercultural dialogue. |
|                    | Eat & Greet #2   | RAs will organize a second floor trip to the dining hall. This event is intended to help residents connect with their floor community.   |
|                    | Student-Initiated Events                               | RAs will assist any student interested in planning his/her own program or social activity.   |
| Community Meetings | September Neighborhood Meeting                         | RAs will facilitate a meeting for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: discussion of individual goals/expectations/visions for floor community (goal is to create a mutually agreed upon statement of community standards and a set of goals for the year), Campus Day of Service, Single Stream Recycling, etc. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.  |
|                    | October Neighborhood Meeting                           | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting, with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: discussion around the adopted Complex service agency for the year, Alcohol EDU, and campus resources. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.  |
|                    | Student Initiative Fund (SIF) and You + 2 Info Meeting | Student Engagement Advisors will host an informational meeting for any student interested in coordinating a program or social activity for their floor/building community. Topics include: how to get funding, SIF procedures, etc.  |
|                    | Neighborhood Committees                                | A wide variety of committee involvement opportunities will be offered to students. Each of the 26 first-year buildings will offer student committee opportunities focused on the following areas: International Students & Friends Social Club; Weekly Service Leadership Team; Environmental Sustainability Green Teams; Cultural Connections Committee; traditional Hall Council representative bodies. Students will have wide latitude to form the vision and activities of their building organization.   |
|                    | Community Forum  | RHCs and Complex Coordinators will work with student leaders in their buildings and campus offices to hold an open dialogue forum on a choice of the following topics, dependent on student interest and need in the area: Interpersonal conflict, healthy college transitions, alcohol use, academic resources, and healthy eating.   |
| RA Conversations   | Involvement & Goal Setting                             | RAs will meet with interested students to share leadership opportunities and discuss goal setting for the fall semester.   |
|                    | International Student                                  | RAs and RHCs will make individual contact with each international student residing on their floor/building to provide  |



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|   | Outreach #1 - September                            | them with the opportunity to discuss available resources and invite them to upcoming community activities/events throughout the residence hall and campus.   |
|   | International Student Outreach #2 - October        | RAs and RHCs will make individual contact with each international student residing on their floor/building to discuss Thanksgiving break & housing options, provide them with the opportunity to express adjustment concerns, and invite them to upcoming community activities/events (especially International Education Week in November).   |
| Floor Visuals                               | Month Specific Floor Visuals                       | See Appendix I: Month Specific Floor Visuals.  |
|   | General Floor Visuals                              | See Appendix II: General Floor Visuals.  |
| Complex Community Council (CCC) Initiatives | Meet the Candidates Night                          | Complex Staff will host an event for students to meet all Community Council candidates and engage in a question/answer session. The Faculty Senate Student Life Committee will be requested to solicit any faculty members willing to attend the various sessions to discuss leadership, politics, or governance models.   |
|   | Hall and Complex Elections                         | A campus-wide election day will be held in each area of campus for all first-year student elections. Complex Staff will work with the Delaware Election Commissioner to provide students the opportunity to elect their Community Council leaders in the same manner they would participate in U.S. electoral processes, while also encouraging students to register to vote.  |
|   | Legacy Project Part 1                              | Out-going (sophomore) student leaders will be invited to return to their first-year complex and help facilitate candidate information sessions, promote student leadership, and take part in the election process for new students.  |
|   | Student Leader Initiatives                         | CCC student leaders will initiate, plan, and organize various events/activities based on student interest.   |
| Floor Community Programming                 | Campus Leadership                                  | In the month of September RAs should host at least one floor level program to encourage community building and engagement. These programs will reflect divisional and University wide strategic initiatives.   |
| Campus Resource Connection                  | Student Activities Night                           | RAs will invite all interested students to join them at Student Activities Night where they can find information about co-curricular opportunities available on campus.  |
|   | Latino Heritage Month                              | Complex Staff will advertise campus-wide Latino Heritage Month events.   |
|   | CPAB Block Party                                   | Complex Staff will advertise the annual Block Party 1 <sup>st</sup> weekend event.   |
|   | National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (NCAAW) | Complex Staff will advertise campus-wide NCAAW events hosted by Student Wellness and Health Promotion or other campus offices.   |
| Faculty Connections                         | Eat & Greet #3                                     | An invitation will be made through the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee to any interested faculty who wish to connect with First-Year students over a meal at the dining hall.  |
| Alternative Spring Break Pilot Program      | Information Session                                | Residence Life Alternative Spring Break (RLAB) service site leaders will host Information sessions about this initiative for all interested residential students. Topics include: possible locations, community needs, participant expectations, and application process.  |
| Other                                       | Operational Processes                              | Work to meet the general safety, security, and personal needs of students. Administrative processes include: Early Check-in, Check-in, Opening, Student Conduct Conversations, Triples Assistance, Room Changes, Fire Drills, Mail/Packages, Keys, Duty/Rounds, Office Hours, Crisis Response etc. Staff will also be responding based on observed needs to typical issues during this time such as campus familiarization, academic environment adjustment, homesickness, roommate conflicts, test anxiety, balancing social and academic responsibilities, first parties, long distance or new relationships, and establishing study habits. |

### November/December/February

|                    | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Description</b>  |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Programs           | Weekly Service Initiative                              | Continue efforts in weekly service initiatives from September/October but begin to transition ownership and responsibility to interested student leaders on the Service Team.   |
|                    | Cultural Exchange Partners                             | See September/October.  |
|                    | International Education Week                           | Residence Life Staff will work with the Institute for Global Studies, the English Language Institute, and the Office for International Students and Scholars to develop, promote and expand International Education Week events and encourage residence hall student involvement. (Specific emphasis on International Fashion Show and cultural fair with internationally themed Resident Student Organizations - RSOs).  |
|                    | Martin Luther King Jr. Service Activities              | A number of service opportunities in the residential complex and surrounding community will be available. In 1994 Congress passed the King Holiday and Service Act, designating the King Holiday as a national day of volunteer service. Instead of a day off from work or school, Congress asked Americans of all backgrounds and ages to celebrate Dr. King's legacy by turning community concerns into citizen action. Due to low winter enrollment and interested participants, this day has been converted into a service activity in February.  |
|                    | Student Initiated Events                               | See October.  |
| Social Events      | Study Breaks   | RAs and RHCs will host an event during finals week allowing students to take a quick break from studying.   |
|                    | Welcome Back Party                                     | RAs will provide opportunities for students returning spring semester to reconnect with one another. At each social event, information will be posted on the walls informing students of the financial and environmental impact of the event. Food at each event will also represent a wide array of cultures and facts about each culture will be provided with the food options.  |
| Community Meetings | November Neighborhood Meeting                          | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: effect of recycling habits on the environment, policies/procedures for Thanksgiving break, and upcoming events. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.  |
|                    | December Neighborhood Meeting                          | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: identifying service opportunities in their hometowns and in Newark, closing procedures/processes, information about open room change period, and upcoming study breaks. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.  |
|                    | February Neighborhood Meeting                          | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: reviewing and updating fall community agreements, introduction/orientation of new students to the floor community, review of residence hall policies, alcohol issues, safety guidelines, welcome students to a new semester, introduce Recyclemania, Relay for Life, Martin Luther King Jr. Service Activities, UDance, and other upcoming events. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting. |
|                    | Strength's Based Community Agreement                   | Floor members will be invited to participate in an activity designed to highlight individual talents and strengths and explore ways in which these individual strengths can benefit the floor or residence hall community when combined with others.  |
|                    | Community Forum  | See September/October   |
|                    | Student Initiative Fund (SIF) and You + 2 Info Meeting | See September/October.  |

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| RA Conversations                       | General Follow-up                         | RAs will invite interested students to discuss any transitional issues they may be facing.   |
|  | Involvement & Goal Setting                | RAs will meet with interested students to follow up on fall semester goals, create new goals for upcoming semester, and review involvement opportunities for the spring.   |
|  | International Student Outreach #3         | RAs and RHCs will make individual contact with each international student residing on their floor/building to discuss December closing procedures and housing options; and to provide them with the opportunity to discuss holiday celebrations typical to this area of the US.  |
| Floor Visuals                          | Month Specific Floor Visuals              | See Appendix I: Month Specific Floor Visuals.  |
|  | General Floor Visuals                     | See Appendix II: General Floor Visuals.  |
| CCC Initiatives                        | Student Leader Initiatives                | See September/October.   |
| Floor Community Building               | Global Awareness                          | In the month of November, RAs should host at least one floor level program to encourage community building and student engagement. These programs will reflect divisional and University wide strategic initiatives.   |
|  | Service                                   | In the month of February, RAs should host at least one floor level program to encourage community building and student engagement. These programs will reflect divisional and University wide strategic initiatives.   |
| Campus Resource Connection             | Relay for Life & UDance                   | Complex Staff will encourage students to support these campus events through floor/building teams and fundraising.   |
|  | Recyclemania                              | Complex Staff will encourage students to support the campus-wide Recyclemania competition in spring.   |
|  | Vagina Monologues                         | Complex Staff will advertise the Vagina Monologues in February.  |
|  | African American Heritage Month           | Complex Staff will advertise campus-wide Black History Month events in February.   |
|  | Career Services Online Module             | Collaborate with Career Services to promote the new Career Action Plan, which provides students with the opportunity to earn a career skills certificate.  |
|  | Signature Leadership Experience Promotion | UD Student Centers staff will be invited to first-year residence halls to promote the "Signature Leadership Program" and encourage students to take part in the numerous leadership opportunities UD has to offer.   |
| Faculty Connections                    | Faculty Outside the Classroom             | An invitation will be made through the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee to any interested faculty who wish to connect with First-Year students in a residence hall lounge and share unique hobbies, interests, or activities they engage in outside of their teaching.  |
| Alternative Spring Break Pilot Program | Orientation                               | In November, site leaders will inform selected participants about the mission and objectives of the service trip and the host agency with which they will be working with. Participants will go over trip logistics, fundraising, and receive the full itinerary of pre, during, and post trip responsibilities.   |
|  | Pre Trip Meeting Series 1-3               | Residence Life Alternative Spring Break (RLAB) service site leaders will facilitate meetings with students who have applied and been selected to attend RLAB Spring 2013. Site leaders will facilitate activities that encourage participants to foster relationships with one another, discuss and examine the needs of the community relevant to the service trip and go over logistics and information essential to participating in a community based service-learning experience. |
| Other                                  | Operational Processes                     | See September/October.   |

### March/April/May

|                    | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Description</b>   |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Programs           | Weekly Service Initiative                              | Continue efforts in weekly service initiatives from the Fall semester with the complex's local service agency. The SEA and interested student leaders will take ownership and responsibility for designing and implementing these events on the Service Team. The Service Team may also create additional service opportunities outside of the complex service partnership for any interested students within the residential community.   |
|                    | Student Story Collection                               | Interested students will have the opportunity to tell their student-leadership story, transformative events from their first-year experience, discuss moments when they helped another or their community, etc. With student permission, these student stories would be showcased within the community, departmental website, or the Student Leadership Awards in order to honor the contributions made by students and promote similar leadership among other students throughout their time on campus. |
|                    | Green Team: Make a Difference Day                      | All residence hall based student Green Teams will be invited to join forces and develop a single combined environmental sustainability project as part of UD's Earth Week celebration.   |
|                    | Green Room Challenge                                   | RHCs/HDs will host an informational meeting about the Green Room Challenge. The Green Room Challenge is a program that recognizes student efforts to minimize waste, recycle, and save power in their residence hall room.   |
|                    | Kill-a-Watt  | Residence hall students will be encouraged to take part in a variety of energy reduction projects as part of a competition between first-year student complexes.   |
|                    | Cultural Exchange Partners                             | See September/October.   |
|                    | "Join My Cause" Fair                                   | Students, faculty, UD staff, and members of the Newark community will be invited to promote civic or charitable causes. Students will be invited to explore the various involvement opportunities. The Faculty Senate Student Life Committee will be asked to solicit faculty members involved in charitable or service organizations to attend and network with students.   |
|                    | Residence Life Leadership Awards                       | Residence Life staff will host an awards reception for students who make significant contributions to their Residence Hall community and the University of Delaware in May.  |
| Social Events      | Student Initiated Events                               | See September/October.   |
|                    | Student Successes Celebration                          | Complex staff will organize an event to celebrate students' achievements and successes throughout the year in May. In addition, an invitation will be made through the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee to any interested faculty.  |
|                    | March Neighborhood Meeting                             | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: spring break closing, spring break safety, Recyclemania progress, UDance, Relay for Life, and upcoming events. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.  |
|                    | April Neighborhood Meeting                             | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: discussion about ongoing Freshmen philanthropy, information about the Environmental Sustainability Activities Fair/"Green Expo," and information about other upcoming events. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.   |
| Community Meetings | May Neighborhood Meeting                               | RAs will co-facilitate a meeting with their NET Captain, for all interested students residing on their floor. Topics/Activities include: information about the spring closing process and closure activities/celebrations for the community. Students who have taken leadership roles within the community will also have the opportunity to lead portions of the meeting.   |
|                    | Student Initiative Fund (SIF) and You + 2 Info Meeting | See September/October.   |

|  |                                      |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
|  | Community Forum                      | See September/October  |
|  | General Follow-up                    | See November/December/February.  |
|  | International Student Outreach #4    | RAs and RHCs will make individual contact with each new international student residing on their floor/building to provide them with the opportunity to discuss available resources and invite them to upcoming community activities/events. Also, for those international students who will continue residing within the building community, RAs and RHCs/HDs will make individual contact to discuss Spring break and end-of-term closing procedures and housing options. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss plans for becoming involved in extracurricular activities in the next academic year. |
|  | Community Forum                      | See September/October  |
| RA Conversations                       | Involvement & Goal Setting           | RAs will meet with interested students to follow up with spring semester goals and discuss on-going involvement opportunities.   |
| Floor Visuals                          | Month Specific Floor Visuals         | See Appendix I: Month Specific Floor Visuals.  |
|  | General Floor Visuals                | See Appendix II: General Floor Visuals.  |
| CCC Initiatives                        | Student Leader Initiatives           | See September/October.   |
|  | Legacy Project Part 2                | The CCC advisor will work with student leaders to develop “legacy statements,” take pictures, and pass on tips for student leaders among the incoming Freshmen class.  |
|  | Closing Budgets                      | Each CCC will audit their own budgets and discuss their management of student resources during the course of the year. Each CCC will put forth a “Fiscal Recommendation Plan” for the following year’s student leaders.  |
| Floor Community Programming            | Environmental Sustainability         | In the month of April, RAs should host at least one floor level program to encourage community building and student engagement. These programs will reflect divisional and University wide strategic initiatives.  |
| Campus Resource Connection             | Relay for Life & UDance              | See November/December/February.  |
|  | Recyclemania                         | See November/December/February.  |
|  | Sexual Assault Awareness Month       | Complex Staff will advertise campus-wide Sexual Assault Awareness Month events in April.   |
|  | Asian/Pacific Islander History Month | Complex Staff will advertise campus-wide Asian/Pacific Islander History Month events in May.   |
|  | U Don’t Need It                      | Complex Staff will support the University’s initiative to donate unwanted items to Newark’s collection in May.   |
|  | Carpet Recycling                     | Complex Staff will support the University’s initiative to recycle unwanted carpets when the residence halls close.   |
| Faculty Connections                    | Last Lecture Series                  | An invitation will be made through the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee to any interested faculty who wish to connect with First-Year students by delivering a presentation they would choose to conduct if it was their last chance to talk to college students.   |
| Alternative Spring Break Pilot Program | Pre-Trip Meeting Series 4-5          | See November/December/February   |
|  | Service Trip                         | Students who have been selected to attend RLAB will participate in a week long service-immersion experience at designated location over spring break.  |
|  | Post-Trip Meeting                    | Students who have been selected to attend RLAB will meet to conduct post-reflection activities, provide evaluations and final thoughts, and identify a plan of action to continue their individual commitment to service.  |
| Other                                  | Operational Processes                | Work to meet the general safety, security, and personal needs of students. Administrative processes include: Closing, Student Conduct Conversations, Triples Assistance, Room Changes, Fire Drills, Mail/Packages, Keys, Duty/Rounds, Office Hours, Crisis Response etc. Staff will also be responding based on observed needs to typical issues during this time such as roommate conflicts, test anxiety, balancing social and academic responsibilities, and establishing finals study habits.  |

## **Appendix I: Month Specific Floor Visuals**

Listed below are the visuals that every Residence Hall Coordinator staff is responsible for posting within their building during each of the specified months:

### **Opening:**

- Opening Decorations - Floor visuals to announce programs and activities and create a welcoming environment for community members.
- Welcome to the Neighborhood – A welcoming bulletin board that shows all of the ways to participate on the floor/building/complex level and lists activities happening around campus in the first month.
- CCC (Structure & Election Information) - An informational board about CCC (residence hall government) structure and election information.
- Student Leadership Opportunities - An informational board about the different leadership opportunities available on campus and around the city of Newark.
- BAC Alcohol Wheel (Provided by University Student Wellness and Health Promotion) – An interactive wheel providing information on effects of alcohol consumption tailored to individual student characteristics.

### **September:**

- Day of Service – An informational board about activities during the upcoming Day of Service.
- Latin American Heritage Month - An informational board about the Latin American community and campus-wide events.
- Campus Safety Tips - An informational board about ways to stay safe on campus.
- Personal Development Office Spotlight for Oct. Board - An informational board highlighting one of the many resource/opportunity offices at UD.
  - Writing Center
  - Communication Fellows
  - Academic Enrichment Center
  - Undergraduate Research
  - Study Abroad Ambassadors
- Faculty Connection Series - An Informational board on the scheduled Eat and Greet Session for the complex.

### **October:**

- Personal Development Office Spotlight for Nov. Board - An informational board highlighting one of the many resource/opportunity offices at UD.
  - Healthy Hens
  - Student Wellness and Health Promotion
  - Dining Services Dietician
  - Counseling Center
  - Career Services Center
- Signature Leadership Experience – An informational highlighting the Student Center’s Signature Leadership Program
- STD Prevention – General information on STD awareness, safe sex, and available campus resources

### **November:**

- International Education Week - An informational board about International Week based on information provided by the Center for International Studies
- Alternative Spring Breaks – An informational board about opportunities to do community service during Spring Break.

### **Winter/January:**

- Martin Luther King Jr. Service Activities – An informational board about the upcoming month’s Martin Luther King Jr. Service Activities.

**February:**

- Spring Opening Decorations - Floor visuals to welcome students back from Winter Break.
- African American Heritage Month – An informational board about the African-American Community and campus-wide events.
- Famous Resident Assistants – An informational board about famous Resident Assistants and the Resident Assistant Application Process.

**March:**

- Women's History Month Board – An informational board about Women's History Month, Women's Studies will be requested to provide posting materials.
- How to make the most of your summer? – An informational board about where to find information about summer jobs and internships.

**April:**

- Sexual Assault Awareness Month – An informational board that will advertise campus events and include information on S.O.S.
- Environmental Sustainability Initiatives- An informational board highlighting all of the activities available for students for Earth Week and within their complex (green teams, Kill-a-watt, green room challenge etc.)
- Service Involvement Opportunities- A board advertising the Join My Cause Fair and providing information regarding service opportunities on and off campus.

**May:**

- UDon't Need It- An informational Board highlighting the UDon't Need It program and tips for a cleaner, greener move-out.
- Asian/Pacific Islander History Month Board – An informational board about the Asian/Pacific Islander community and campus-wide events.

## **Appendix II: General Floor Visuals**

Floor Visuals (Bulletin boards and common area posters) are an important source of information and a representation of the community. Below is a list of approved floor visual topics that building staff can post on their bulletin boards and in common area lounges. Resident Assistants will work with their Residence Hall Coordinator to determine which Floor Visuals to post each month based on current theme. Content for the floor visuals must be approved by the Residence Hall Coordinator and Complex Coordinator.

**Academic** – (University of Delaware resources will be used such as: Academic Enrichment Center and First-Year Experience Office)

- Test Taking Skills
- Study Skills
- Time Management
- Adjusting to Classes in a Lecture Hall
- Differences between High-School and College
- Important Academic Information (Dates)
- How to Make the Most of Your Summer (Where to get info on internships, study abroad, etc)
- Academic Goal Setting
- Mid-Term Preparation
- Finals Preparation
- How to Work in a Group
- Choosing a Schedule

**Leadership** - (University of Delaware resources will be used such as: Student Center Office and Student Activities and Programs Office)

- Complex Community Council Initiatives
- RSO Connections
- Greek Letter Organization Involvement
- Student Government Association Information
- Resident Student Association Information
- National Residence Hall Honorary Information
- How to Get Involved at UD

**Personal Development** - (A variety of current resources will be used, Resident Assistants will work with their Residence Hall Coordinator and Complex Coordinator for advance approval)

- How to Handle Conflict
- Personal Budgeting
- How to Do Laundry
- Combating homesickness
- How to Balance Academic and Social Life

- Personal Goal Setting
- Room Decorating Board
- Finding your Place at UD
- How to Organize Your Room and Space
- Ways to Maximize Your Space in Your Room

**Wellness** - (University of Delaware resources will be used such as: Student Wellness and Health Promotion, Healthy Hens, and Student Services Center)

- Alcohol Awareness
- BAC Alcohol Board (Student Wellness and Health Promotion)
- Alternatives to Drinking
- How to Handle Stress
- The Negative Effect of Different Drugs (Student Wellness and Health Promotion)
- How to Stay Healthy
- How to Eat Healthy (Healthy Hens)
- How to Avoid Getting Sick (Student Health Services)

**Pop Culture** - (A variety of current resources will be used, Resident Assistants will work with their Residence Hall Coordinator and Complex Coordinator for advance approval)

- Famous Movie Quotes
- Famous Delaware Alums
- Pop Culture and Philanthropy
- Developing Fashion Trends
- What's in the News?
- Social Media & Communication
- Popular Applications for Computers and Phones
- Generational Differences Between You and Your Parents
- Past and Present Billboard Hits
- Music Boards



**Green Boards** - (University of Delaware resources will be used such as: The University Sustainability Task Force, Facilities, and University Sustainability Webpage)

- Benefits of Recycling Board
- "Single-Stream" How To Board
- How to Repurpose and Reuse Common Items
- Green Room Challenge
- Recyclemania
- Creative Green Ideas
- How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint
- Green Tips From, *"It's Easy Being Green: A Handbook for Earth Friendly Living"* Trask, C. (2006)
  - o Green Living Myths- Ch. 1
  - o Conserving Energy- p.50-57
  - o Regarding shopping "green" (Ch. 4 & 5)
  - o Travel and Recreation (p88-91)

**Campus Resources** - (University of Delaware, Newark, Philadelphia, and Wilmington resources will be used)

- On-Campus Jobs & Ways to make money On-Campus
- University Office Spotlights
- Local Food Options
- What to do on Weekends
- Campus Map/Bus Maps

**Floor Specific** - (Resident Assistants will partner with their residents in the creation of these floor visuals)

- Student Initiated Boards
- Student Initiative Fund (Office of Residence Life)
- Birthday Boards
- Floor Successes
- Floor Programs
- Floor Committees
- Floor Goals
- Floor Facts
- Floor Quotes
- Floor Memories

**Holiday Boards** - (A variety of current resources will be used, Resident Assistants will work with their Residence Hall Coordinator and Complex Coordinator for advance approval)

- Halloween
- Thanksgiving
- Winter holidays
- Valentine's Day
- Memorial Day
- Veterans Day
- St. Patrick's Day

**Guided/ Interactive Boards** - (A variety of current resources will be used, Resident Assistants will work with their Residence Hall Coordinator and Complex Coordinator for advance approval)

- Question of the Month
- Best Food On-Campus / Newark
- Best Place to Study on/ Off-Campus
- Service Initiatives
- Travel Boards (Favorite Places, Hometowns, etc)
- Semester Goals