

# STUDENT AFFAIRS Connections

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS  
JUNE 2008 EDITION



VOL 1 | NO 4

## New Residence Hall Opens Fall 2008

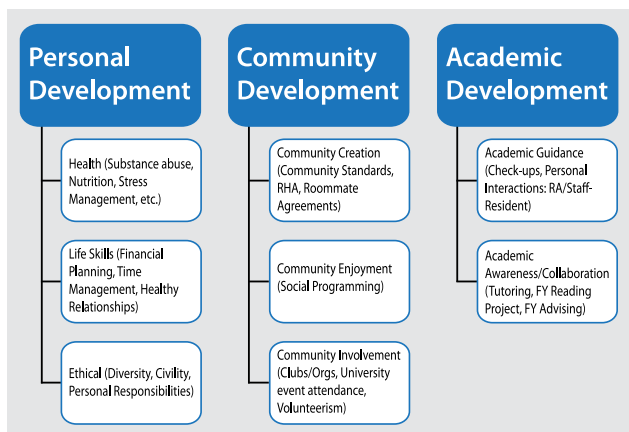
Everglades Hall (pictured above) is the first phase of the South Village residential community. Opening fall 2008, the 5-story, 124,000 square-foot residence hall will house 406 first-year students. Most units within this hall are two-bedroom single suites. Each suite has two furnished single bedrooms that share a split-style bathroom. There are also a very limited number of rooms that offer a private bedroom and bath. Everglades Hall is home to the First Year Residence Experience (FYRE) Program.

## Program Targets First Time in College Students

The First Year Residence Experience (FYRE) is a self-selected living option offered by the Office of Housing and Residence Life and is designed for first year residential students who want to build a solid foundation for success at FGCU. In addition to services and programs otherwise offered by the Office of Housing and Residence Life to all residential students, this program will be unique in the following ways:

- Both student and professional staff will receive specialized training in the area of first year student development
- Intentional collaboration with other key university units such as:
  - First Year Advising
  - Prevention and Wellness
  - Center for Academic Achievement
  - Career Development Services
- The FYRE programming model is specific to first year students and focuses on personal, community, and academic development.

Research shows that first year students who are supported academically, experience a seamless transition from home to college, and are involved outside of the classroom, typically have higher grades and a greater likelihood of graduation. The FYRE program will address key issues related to first year student success with the intent of enhancing the overall university experience.



## A Message From:

*Dr. Mike Rollo, Vice President of Student Affairs -*

As we continue to develop as a residential campus with an increasing number of traditional age students, the need to focus on the critical experiences of the first year became even more evident to our staff in the Division of Student Affairs. The FYRE program in Everglades Hall will provide us with an opportunity to both impact these students intentionally as well as learn more about their needs. This will enable us to develop more successful strategies to increase retention and success rates of first year students.



**For comments or suggestions regarding this issue, please contact:**

Dr. Pamela Schreiber,  
Director of the Office of Housing & Residence Life at  
(239) 590-1700 / [pschreib@fgcu.edu](mailto:pschreib@fgcu.edu)

**Connections is available online at [studentservices.fgcu.edu/publications](http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/publications)**

Connections may be obtained in an alternative format by contacting the Office of Institutional Equity & Compliance at 239-590-7405 or 800-590-3428, or the Office of Adaptive Services at 239-590-7956.

## Supporting the Academic Mission

Living in the residence halls provides students with many opportunities to develop their leadership abilities. Students can develop their personal and professional skills by serving as a member of the Resident Housing Association, joining the Resident Assistant staff, or working in many job opportunities within the Office of Housing & Residence Life. By doing so, students cultivate skills that are transferable to educational and career pursuits. Some leadership opportunities available to our residents are:

<b>Resident Assistant (RA)</b>	<b>Resident Housing Association (RHA)</b>
Trained student leader charged with supervising students living in the residence halls. RAs are prepared to make successful transitions from the college environment to the job market since they can demonstrate leadership, training, management skills, and community involvement as part of their collegiate experience.	RHA acts as the official voice of the resident student body living in the residence halls. Members have an opportunity to develop social, communication, and leadership skills as well as attend and participate in events, conferences, and conventions. Executive Board Member positions include President, VP, Dir. of Finance, Dir. of Records, Dir. of Technology and Communications Coordinator.
<b>Housing Judicial Council</b>	<b>Graduate Assistant (GA)</b>
A peer review board of representatives from the residence halls. Members of the Housing Judicial Council hear cases and determine sanctions for students found responsible for violating residential community standards.	Graduate students have the opportunity to develop strong personal and professional skills by gaining experience assisting the Residence Life Staff with Judicial and Training Programs.
<b>Assistant Resident Director (ARD)</b>	<b>Conference and Maintenance Assistant (CA) (MA)</b>
Assists the Resident Director with various administrative functions and serves as a resource for resident assistants; requires several years experience as a RA.	Summer positions responsible for assisting the OHRL in preparation and delivery of conference accommodations services (CA) and performing routine maintenance throughout the residential community (MA).

## Sustainability Efforts

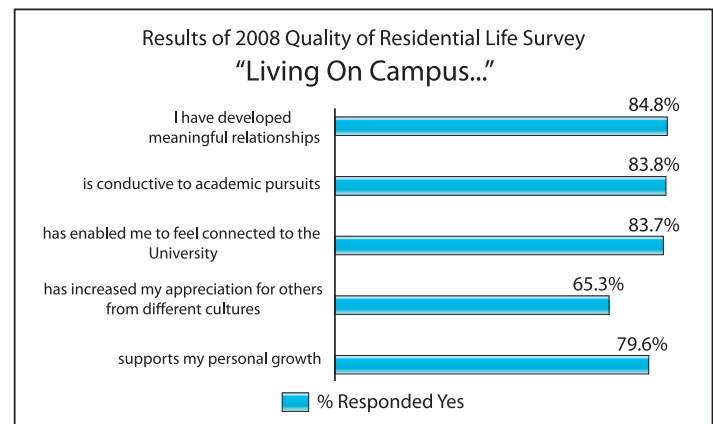
The Office of Housing and Residence Life (OHRL) has initiated the following programs to promote efforts to reduce energy consumption, conserve natural resources, and protect the environment in the University community.

- 4 ½ tons of recyclable materials collected since January from our newly opened Recycling Center.
- Reduced energy consumption by over \$44,800 by installing compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Replace aging air conditioning systems with higher efficiency air conditioning units – anticipated energy savings of between \$367 and \$528 per unit per year.
- North Lake Village Beautification Project - a yearlong initiative sponsored by OHRL & RHA focused on cleanup and landscaping.



## Did you know:

- We process over 3000 Housing Agreements for the Fall/Spring Semesters.
- We are a self-supporting auxiliary operation that generates income from student rent and do not receive funding from the State.
- The OHRL heard 832 judicial cases for Fall 07/Spring 08.
- Residence halls remain open through winter/spring breaks and only close for 2 weeks in August.
- Residence Life provides over 300 activities for residents each year.



*The Division of Student Affairs - Completing the University Experience*

ADAPTIVE SERVICES  
CAMPUS RECREATION  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES  
DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE  
EAGLE PARENT OFFICE

EAGLE VIEW ORIENTATION  
FIRST YEAR ADVISING  
GREEK LIFE  
HOUSING & RESIDENCE LIFE  
JUDICIAL AFFAIRS  
MULTICULTURAL STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT  
PREVENTION & WELLNESS  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
STUDENT SUPPORT & OUTREACH  
STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES  
TESTING SERVICES