

Dear Students:

I am writing with important and timely information about the room selection process for 2010-2011. In this letter you will find information on a very important date and some general information about the room selection process. You can also find room selection information on the web, which includes room selection updates and changes, a full room selection calendar, online room selection instructions, and other resources at www.wm.edu/offices/residencelife/roomselection. We hope this information will be helpful as you decide your housing plans for the next academic year.

If you plan to live in on-campus housing for 2010-2011 and would like the opportunity to participate in the room selection process there is a very most important date for you to be aware of: **February 19, 2010, the room reservation deposit deadline**. This non-refundable deposit is what enters you into the room selection process. A bill will not be sent for this deposit. Please visit the room selection web site for payment options and additional information about the room reservation deposit.

At The College of William and Mary, approximately 75% of our students live in campus housing each year but we only guarantee on campus housing to incoming freshmen. As I am sure you can imagine, with a majority of our students wanting on campus housing, it can create a situation where our initial demand for housing from our upper-class students exceeds our space availability. That demand for housing forces us to wait list some students for housing, meaning they are temporarily unable to select a room or roommate through the room selection process. The important thing for you to know is that in years past **all** the wait listed students who stayed patient with the process received an on campus housing offer.

Based on student feedback from room selection exit surveys over the past several years, we have reinstated wait listed students based on social class with rising juniors being reinstated first followed by rising sophomores. We just completed another survey with specific emphasis on the reinstatement process for wait listed students. We had a 61% response rate to the survey and based on the results, we will be changing the reinstatement order starting with Room Selection 2010. Of the three options, 38.55% (the majority percentage) of the students who responded to the survey choose the option that would reinstate rising sophomores followed by rising juniors.

Other results for the fall room selection survey include:

- We will continue to protect the following groups from the wait list process
 - Students who qualify as having a medical need.
 - Students currently assigned to overcrowds.
 - Students studying away for the spring semester.
 - Rising seniors.
- 73% agreed with the RHA proposal that Residence Life should void the time blocks of students who fail to select a room within 48 hours of their time block going live and reinstate a student from the wait list.
- 66% disagreed with allotting an additional Lodge to a Fraternity.
- 69% disagreed with allotting a Nicholas apartment to a Fraternity.

We know that the room selection process can be stressful for students especially their first time going through it or if you are initially wait listed. We will do everything we can to help ease that stress. If you have questions or concerns, please speak with a professional staff member in Residence Life so we can provide you with the most accurate information.

Sincerely,

Katrina J. Pawvluk

Katrina J. Pawvluk
Associate Director, Residence Life

Please go to our Website at www.wm.edu/offices/residencelife/roomselection for specific instructions regarding on-line room selection.