New at the PRC...

Now that training is over and things are finally starting to slow down at the PRC (or are they? When is YOUR bulletin board due?), the PA’s took some time to evaluate we could do to add a little more spice to the PRC...

And what could be better than more stencils?! After installing a new stencil shelf to make room for more stencil availability, we ordered several new stencils for our users to enjoy! Come check them out:

- Sign post

We also realized that our fabric drawer had become quite sparse and shabby. As a result, the PA’s picked tons of new fabrics and felt in a wide variety of cute patterns and colors!

As the year goes on, keep an eye out for more fun additions to the PRC... such as new Bulletin Boards in a Bag or Programs at Your Fingertips! Also, be sure to let us know if you have anything you’d like to see added to the PRC inventory.

Secrets to Bulletin Board Success

Are your bulletin boards so top-notch that the rest of your staff envies your creative skills? If not, you might want to take a look at a few of these fun, easy ways to add that little something extra to your board:

**Color:** Do you ever struggle with color choices for your board? If so, you’re not alone. When choosing background paper & bordette, try to keep *complimentary colors* (colors that opposite one another on the color wheel) in mind. Also try adding color to your titles by using *PhoFontMaker* (on all PRC computers) rather than just using plain old letters, or even using patterned paper when creating stenciled letters.

**Catching titles:** Speaking of titles, nothing hooks a reader in better than an interesting title—this even includes bulletin boards! For example, one of the PRC’s Bulletin Boards in a Bag is entitled “While You Were Sleeping...” Aren’t you dying to know more? That’s the point!

**Pictures:** Like they say, a picture is worth 1000 words... And they can convey a message much more quickly and easily than words do!

3-D Materials & Objects: There’s SO much more things you can use to create bulletin boards besides paper! The PRC has a plethora of materials that add a lot of pizzazz without much effort: fabric, tissue paper, pipe cleaners, buttons... The list goes on & on! Ask a PA if you need helping coming up with specific ways to make your board come to life.

A Cleaner Look: Often times, *less is more* when it comes to creating bulletin boards. Too much clutter on a board can be overwhelming to look at, and as a result is less likely to be read!
Bulletin Boards in a Bag: Ideas for October

Is it time to change your boards already? Don’t worry! If you’re too busy with midterms and everything else that contributes to the craziness of October, let the PRC take care of one or two of your boards for you! Check out some of these Bulletin Boards in a Bag that relate to October holidays & events, getting through midterms, job/internship searching, and other problems that tend to come up during this time of the year:

- Getting Your Life Together
- Halloween Dinner
- Places to Study
- What’s Career Services?
- 10 Steps to Loving Your Body
- Roommate From Hell
- Study Skills
- Stressed Out?
- Eating Healthy
- Hate Crimes

If none of these appeal to you, check out the PRC website (http://www.wm.edu/prc) for previews of the plethora of other Bulletin Board in a Bag topics available, as well as Poster Printers and Programs at Your Fingertips!

“It seems that with October comes the harsh realization of just how over-committed some of us truly are. Be sure to encourage your residents to employ their time management and study skills, as well as to take things one day at a time so that they don’t feel overwhelmed.”

Another big problem that tends to come up in or around October is the strain that being apart and extremely busy puts on people who are in relationships, especially those who are in long-distance relationships. Every relationship is different, so it’s extremely difficult to give helpful advice on whether not a relationship can work. If you feel that a break-up might be on the horizon for one of your residents, be sure to take the time to comfort them and let them know you’re there if they ever need someone to talk to about it.

Don’t forget to keep an eye on certain residents, particularly freshman & seniors, who may have special issues and other needs to address this month!

“I have issues...”

There’s just something about October: it always seems to be the most stressful and hectic month of the semester. But what’s wrong? The leaves are falling, the sweltering heat is finally cooling down, there’s candy & costumes... None of those things sound that terrible!

As usual here at William and Mary, it’s all about the academics. October is mid-term and paper time! It seems that with October comes the harsh realization of just how over-committed some of us truly are. Be sure to encourage your residents to employ their time management and study skills, as well as to take things one day at a time so that they don’t feel overwhelmed.

Get to know Katie!

This month, the Underground would like to highlight the ins & outs of the PRC’s Resource Specialist — Katie Sumner! Katie’s job is to make sure that there are plenty of educational resources available to you both in the PRC and beyond. Whether you need to find a speaker for your program or just need more information on a topic you’d like to address with your residents. Katie’s your girl!

Here’s a few fun and random facts about Katie:

Name: Katie Sumner
Specialty Area: Resource
Nickname: Katie
Hometown: Centreville, VA
Year: Sophomore
Major: English / German Studies
Residence: Giles—German House
Favorite Color: Pink
Favorite Place in Williamsburg: Sunken Gardens

Favorite College Memory: Spontaneous dance parties in the hall
Place You Wish to Travel to: Europe
Favorite Food: Fried Chicken
Word You Hate: How can I hate a word! I’m an English major!
Dream Car: Any kind of convertible
Pet Peeve: Hard core rap.
Favorite Animal: Cats
Random Fact: I laugh in my sleep.

Katie Sumner: Our fabulous Resource Specialist!