SELF-DETERMINATION & YOU

What can You Expect when Living in our Residence Hall Communities?

(noun) self-de·ter·mi·na·tion self-di-tər-mə-'nā-shən

1: free choice of one's own acts without outside pressure

2: the deciding by the people of a place of the form of government they will have



1972-1973

William & Mary's President, Thomas Graves, instated the ground-breaking policy of Self-Determination, providing students living in the residence halls agency in determining guest visitation and their own personal "freedom of movement" in and out of the hall. At that time, students were not permitted these privileges outrightly, where they had curfews and visitors (including fellow students of the same gender) were only allowed in common areas during certain hours. Since then, Self-Determination has evolved on campus to meet the needs of current students. Read on to see what it means for our communities this year!

SELF-DETERMINATION, THE THEORY

Edward L. Deci and Richard M. Ryan developed the Self-Determination Theory as a motivational theory that asserts every person has 3 underlying, basic needs- autonomy, competency and relatedness.

These needs must be satisfied in order for a person to be enabled to engage in goal-directed, self-regulated, autonomous behavior and ultimately become intrinsically motivated.



Autonomy

to freely integrate our experiences with our sense of self



to feel a sense of belonging with others





Competency

to have some control over our environment or the information necessary to make a meaningful decision

OUR GOAL FOR YOUR TIME LIVING WITH US:

William & Mary students will be able to determine what it means to be in community with others and their responsibility in its development and evolution as empowered leaders

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Community Councils are established at the start of the academic year in every hall. Anyone living in that area can be a member of Community Council! Councils meet weekly and act as a governing board for that area to create connections and provide opportunities for the student voice.



Typical functions include:

- setting a budget for the hall funds
- purchasing equipment for the hal
- determining rules and guidelines governing common areas both for residents and for outside groups requesting to use residence hall space



- discussing and offering solutions to problems occurring within the halls
- planning and implementing hall events.

HALL DUES

Hall dues are the collective funds to pay for activities and events planned by your Resident Assistant and Community Council! Community Council can also use them to purchase items for the hall, such as sports equipment, cooking utensils, games, etc. Help support community development in your hall by paying dues! Click on the link below to do so!

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

A Community Agreement is a working document that details the ways in which we will be in community with one another throughout the year. This agreement will initially be discussed during your first community meetings with you and the other members living on your floor, and will be a continued conversation over the course of the year with revisions made as needed.

The following questions could help you as you think about living in a residence hall community this year:

- Who do I want to be as a community member?
- What type of community do I want to be a part of?
- What steps need to be taken to design our community for success?
- How can we design our community where it's easy to do what's right?