

Department of Residence Life Strategic Plan

December 2014

Vision

The vision of the Department of Residence Life is to offer Texas A&M University students a world-class on-campus student living and learning experience.

Mission

Our mission is to provide welcoming, educational, and sustainable community living at the heart of the Aggie experience.

We cultivate an environment where students:

- Engage, challenge, and grow together,
- Feel respected and supported,
- Focus on their academic goals, and
- Create positive, memorable experiences, and lifelong friendships.

We provide:

- Safe, sustainable, quality physical environments,
- Well-maintained historic and state-of-the-art facilities,
- Conveniently located cost-effective housing options, and
- Reliable and responsive service.

Core Values - We support the core values of the University:

To develop leaders of character dedicated to serving the greater good.

- Excellence – Set the bar.
- Integrity – Character is destiny.
- Leadership – Follow me.
- Loyalty – Acceptance forever.
- Respect – We are the Aggies, the Aggies are we.
- Selfless Service – How can I be of service?

About Us

The Department of Residence Life is a self-sustaining auxiliary department that receives no state funding. It is in the top 6 largest housing operations among Land Grant Institutions, the largest in the SEC (Southeastern Conference) and the largest of the “Big 3” schools in Texas. By the fall of 2015 the department will operate 50 residential facilities which include 25 residence halls and 13 apartment buildings, and 12 Corps of Cadets halls. The approximate capacity is 12,100 residents of which 7,400 live in residence halls, 2,100 live in apartments, and 2,600 live in the Corps of Cadets halls.

1. Develop and manage human, financial, physical and technological resources effectively and efficiently.

- a. Maintain on-campus housing occupancy and supporting revenue
- b. Plan, provide and maintain “state of the art” technology services to on-campus residents and department staff
- c. Provide an on-campus housing supply according to the following:
- d. Plan, provide and maintain “state of the art” housing facilities for on-campus residents. (See APPENDIX F)
- e. Recruit and retain a highly qualified and diverse staff
- f. Demonstrate fiscal responsibility as prescribed by the University system and institutional policies and procedures
- g. Continue to enhance best business practices

2. Enrich and enhance the academic experience and the academic success of student campus residents

- a. Develop, renovate, construct and maintain academic support space across on-campus housing facilities
- b. Implement the Residence Life Academic Support Strategic Plan in 2015
- c. Integrate academic initiatives into the residential setting by maintaining and adding residentially-based living learning communities, providing college/departmental based clustered housing, and/or exploring academic housing districts with specific colleges in partnership with faculty, administrators, and staff from academic units
- d. Investigate positives/negatives of clustering specific major courses of study in designated areas of campus
- e. Collaborate with Scholarships & Student Aid to provide on campus housing in support of Regents’ Scholars, Terry Foundation Scholars, POSSE Foundation Scholars, National Merits, and Gateway to Success students

3. Provide evidence of quality facilities, services, programs and opportunities that support the university’s mission in the recruitment, retention, and development of students

- a. Establish an assessment plan annually to contribute to the evidence-based practice as defined by the department’s mission.
- b. Engage in ongoing assessment, evaluations, and benchmarking.
- c. Update and market the benefits of living on campus based on assessment data and research that support the university’s mission in the recruitment, retention, and development of student opportunities.
- d. Investigate partnering with Academic Affairs to design and conduct a longitudinal assessment addressing retention, graduation rate, and progression to degree of residential students
- e. Maintain a designed, implemented and assessed residential curriculum for on-campus residents, facilitated by resident advisors.

4. Promote the University’s mission to build a diverse, respectful, sustainable and safe community.

- a. Cultivate a campus climate that is welcoming, supportive, and affirming for students, staff, families and the public.
- b. Cultivate an on-campus climate that understands the long term implications of sustainability on our global environment.
- c. Cultivate an on-campus housing climate that promotes an understanding of safety and unsafe behavior.

APPENDIX F

Department of Residence Life
Texas A&M University

New Construction/Remodel	Year Started	Buildings Demolished	Construction/Renovation Completed
UA Gardens Phase I	2009	Hensel T&U	2010
UA Gardens Phase II	2010	Hensel V&W	2011
Northside Hall (Hullabaloo Hall)	2011	Crocker, Moore, & McInnis Halls Lounge B	2013
Harrell Hall (Dorm 8)	2011		2012
Buzbee Leadership Learning Center	2011	Lounge D	2012
Lacy Hall (Dorm 6)	2012		2013
Ash Leadership Learning Center	2013	Lounge C	2014
Leonard Hall (Dorm7)	2013		2014
West Campus Housing Community Phase 1 - Apartments (P3 Project)	2013		
Campus Pointe Development/ TAMU Multi-use Project not a Department of Residence Life Project		College View, Avenue A & Hensel Apartments <i>(demo 2014 done by TAMU agreement with Midway)</i>	
South Commons	2014		
West Campus Support Building	2015		
Gainer Hall (Dorm 5)	2015		
Fountain Hall (Dorm 4)	2015		
Briggs Hall (Dorm 3)	2015		
Kiest Hall (Dorm 2)	2015		
Spence Hall (Dorm 1)	2015		
LLC 3	2015	Lounge A	
LLC 4	2015	Lounge B	
Lounge F	2015		
Utay Hall (Dorm 12)	2016		
Harrington Hall (Dorm 11)	2016		
White Hall (Dorm 10)	2016		
Whiteley Hall (Dorm 9)	2016		
Lounge E	2016		

****Future halls for demolition or renovation will be determined based on one or more of the following:**

1. Available funding
2. Available housing
3. University priorities
4. Department & Division priorities
5. Student feedback
6. Market information
7. ISES Report (Facilities Condition Assessment) and Sightliness Report
8. Approval process as outlined by the University & System

Year started indicates the start of design/planning not necessarily construction.