

Student Life Division

Overview

Mission, Goals and Objectives

A basic assumption at Salem State University is that the University environment should provide a stimulus for the growth and development of students. There is a genuine concern that intellectual development and moral, spiritual and physical welfare be interwoven. This assumption is in concert with the belief that co-curricular experiences are an integral part of the student's attitudes, aspirations and other areas of achievement that are nurtured in the classroom.

Underlying the basic philosophical tenets of the Student Life Division is the goal of promoting individual student development. As a result, one of the major purposes of the division is to provide an environment which will aid students in attaining their fullest potential. This includes offering a wide range of activities that meet the intellectual, personal, social, emotional, spiritual and interpersonal needs of our students.

To this end, the Student Life Division shall dedicate its efforts and activities to a student development philosophy of education that not only complements, but also contributes to the mission and principles of the University and its faculty. This philosophic approach seeks to meet the needs of all students, to plan change rather than react to it, and to engage the full academic community in this collaborative effort.

In order to successfully meet the preceding goals, the University offers a broad range of student life programs which provide learning opportunities for students. Recognizing that students will face difficult developmental tasks and challenges during the University years, student life professionals are committed to an integrated approach to student growth which emphasizes respect for the worth, dignity and uniqueness of each individual. Programs such as Admissions, Athletics and Intramurals, Campus Center, Campus Ministries, Career Services, Counseling, Family Programs, Financial Aid, Health Services and, Judicial Affairs, Orientation, Public Safety, Residence Life, and Student Activities focus on developing student potential in the areas of citizenship, leadership, ethics and interpersonal competence.

George H. Ellison Campus Center

The George H. Ellison Campus Center helps to serve the University community through a variety of cultural, social, educational and recreational activities and programs. If you really want to find out what is going on, the Campus Center is the place to go. Student activities focus largely on the co-curricular experience of the student, as the Campus Center staff coordinate and facilitate the efforts of over 42 groups and clubs.

In order for any student group or club to function, each must be recognized by the institution by the end of the first academic semester. This process is designed to assure that all Salem State student organizations abide by University policies and procedures.

The major student organizations at the University are the Student Government Association and the Program Council. Student Government serves as the parent/peer governing body for its groups and clubs as well as serving as the governance structure for the student body as a whole. The Association is also responsible for overseeing the appropriation and allocation of the Student Government Trust Fund to its groups and clubs. Student representation to institutional committees is determined by this body. The Program Council is established to serve the entire student community by the development and presentation of activities and programs which serve the social, cultural, educational and recreational needs of the community.

The primary functions of the Campus Center include advising student leaders and groups, overseeing the process of the planning, implementation and evaluation of programs and activities, and providing on-going leadership skill development for those students involved in the various activities.

Career Services

The Career Services Office is available to support current students and alumni in career related decisions. Assistance in choosing a major, clarifying career direction, finding an internship, the graduate school application process and conducting a targeted job search are provided through the services outlined below.

- Counseling
- Seminars
- Panels
- Resume Critiques
- Job Fairs
- Career Resource Center
- On-Campus Recruiting

• **Internship/Job Listings**

• **Web-site**

For a complete listing of our programs and events please refer to our web-site www.salemstate.edu/careersvs.

To schedule a counseling appointment please call 978-542-6406.

Location and Hours:

Career Services Office, Rm. 105 Campus Center

Academic Year: Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 5:00pm.

Counseling and Health Services

Counseling and Health Services provides students with a comprehensive range of personal mental health counseling and medical services designed to support student development, health and wellness. When you use our services, your privacy is protected. No one outside of Counseling and Health Services has access to information about your care without your permission, except for certain limited circumstances, as identified by state and federal law. Complete information is available on our web page: www.salemstate.edu/chs.

Counseling Services Students frequently seek counseling for help with family or relationship difficulties, depression, anxiety, alcohol or drug problems, managing stressful events, and other personal concerns. In order to assist you in effectively facing these challenges and experiences, we offer confidential brief counseling, workshops, and referrals to community providers. Consultation services are available for all members of the Salem State University community. Counseling Services are available to respond to mental health crisis during business hours. If you have an urgent matter please let us know and we will see you as soon as possible the same day. For after-hours crisis please contact University Police at X6111. To make an appointment for a regular visit please call to schedule an appointment. For more information, call (978) 542-6410.

Health Services Health Services is committed to helping students maintain optimum health as they pursue their studies. In order to assist you, we offer comprehensive medical care and consultation on health-related issues, health promotion and prevention programs, as well as referrals and collaboration with area providers and primary care practitioners. The following services are available but are not limited to: treatment of minor injuries or illnesses, immunizations, strep tests, TB tests, and reproductive health care for women and men. Health Services bills each student's insurance plan for reimbursement of services, however, there is no associated co-pay and no balance billing is performed for services provided. For more information, call (978) 542-6413.

Location and Hours: Counseling and Health Services is located on North Campus in 107 Ellison Campus Center. Hours of operation are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Appointments are required, although some same day visits may be accommodated based on availability of providers. Please call (978) 542-6410 or (978) 542-6413 to make an appointment each day; please call (978) 542-6410 or (978) 542-6413 for current walk-in hours or to make an appointment.

Athletics & Recreation

The Salem State University Men's & Women's Intercollegiate programs are highly respected on both the regional and national levels. The University holds membership in the following organizations:

• National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) • Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association (ECAC) • Massachusetts State University Athletic Conference (MASCAC)

Salem State University has had many of its athletic teams selected for regional and national post-season competition and has hosted NCAA and ECAC tournaments. Additionally, the University has captured the Smith Cup, symbolic of overall athletic excellence within the Massachusetts State University Athletic Conference, nineteen of the forty years that the league has been in existence.

Currently, a variety of intercollegiate athletic programs are available at the varsity level for both men and women. These include:

Men Women

Baseball Basketball

Basketball Cross Country

Cross Country Field Hockey

Golf Lacrosse

Ice Hockey Soccer

Lacrosse Softball

Soccer Tennis

Tennis Volleyball

The Recreation Program along with Intramurals & Clubs is housed in the Gassett Fitness Center that is part of the O'Keefe Complex. The Recreation Program is open to all students, faculty, and staff. It offers numerous opportunities for participation in a new state of the art fitness center and a new basketball/volleyball gymnasium. Organized competitive and non-competitive team sports as well as many individual leisure activities are offered. These activities include ultimate frisbee, volleyball, indoor soccer, flag football, dodge ball, men's & women's ice hockey, basketball, rugby, broomball, ice hockey cheerleading, spirit dance team, Zumba, Pilates, yoga, TruFit and more. Individuals wishing to participate are encouraged to contact the Gassett Fitness Center at extension 4442. Please visit salemstatevikings.com for more information.

Interfaith Center

The Interfaith Center at Salem State University has been established to enhance and nurture a religious dimension at the University and in the neighboring communities in which Salem State University students live and work. While each of the major religious traditions represented at the Center seeks to preserve and foster the relevance of their respective religious communities, each recognizes the unique vocation of others to serve God through their own historical experiences, insights, and religious symbols and traditions. Thus, they join together cooperatively—in the spirit of mutual respect, dialogue, and justice—to enrich the religious life of the community. In addition to their own programs, all religious communities at the Center jointly sponsor activities and programs to:

1. Foster education and dialogue leading to mutual understanding and respect.
2. Promote service to others in the spirit of mutual aid which is the core of all religious traditions.
3. Discuss religious perspectives on social issues which face the University community and our nation.

The office on North Campus is located in Room 245 in Meier Hall and may be reached by calling (978) 542-6074 or (978) 542-6129.

Catholic Campus Ministry

Catholic Campus Ministry brings effective pastoral ministry to the entire Salem State University Community: students, staff, faculty and administrators. All are invited to be involved in developing a Catholic faith community through worship, prayer, study and service.

WORSHIP: Sunday Mass at 6:00 pm in Marsh Hall, Room 210. Seasonal celebrations and Confessions arranged upon request (see the *Log*).

PRAYER: Retreat information and programs both on and off campus.

STUDY PROGRAMS:

- Bible Study groups
- Sacramental preparation: Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage
- Peace & Social Justice Issues

LOCATION: On campus at Interfaith Center (Meier Hall, Room 245) (978) 542-6074.

CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTER: Father Ed Doughty

Diversity

Salem State University is committed to developing an inclusive community in which all students, faculty and staff can feel a part of. As an institution, we have a number of initiatives that helps to affirm our values in appreciating the uniqueness of every individual. Salem State University will continue to strive towards providing a rich experience that reflects diversity in all its forms.

Center for Diversity and Cultural Enrichment

The Center for Diversity and Cultural Enrichment at Salem State cultivates a campus-wide community that acknowledges, celebrates, and promotes the diversity of its members. One of the university's goals is to empower its students with the resources, skills and opportunities necessary for academic achievement, leadership development and purposeful civic engagement while providing them with a safe and welcoming environment. The center acts as a catalyst for exploring critical issues on campus by initiating discussions about race, class, ethnicity, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, and the historical and current realities that impact understanding of these topics. The center strives to enhance opportunities for educational growth, retention and successful matriculation of students from diverse backgrounds and further appreciation for diversity for the campus community. Through cross-cultural dialogues and examining the issues relevant to diversity and social justice, the university hopes to nurture a generation of informed citizens who find unity within our differences.

Please visit the Center for Diversity and Cultural Enrichment office, located in the Ellison Campus Center, Room 204 or call the office at 978-542-2318.

Liaison For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns

This person serves as a resource for the Salem State University Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community members. The Liaison works with the Gay /Straight Alliance (Salem State University's group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Students and their allies) in establishing support network on campus through educational and social programming.

Contact Joseph Kelleher, at glbt@salemstate.edu or (978)542-7046 for more information.

Orientation Programs

New Student Orientation

The New Student Orientation Program is coordinated by the Office of Enrollment Management and the Campus Center Office within the Division of Student Life. Student orientation leaders also play an integral part in the implementation of the program.

The program is designed to welcome incoming students to the University; to acquaint them with campus facilities, services, activities, clubs and organizations; to provide essential information on academic programs, policies and procedures; and to initiate the advising process in relation to registration and the selection of a program of study. During the fall semester a variety of "welcoming programs" are offered of both an educational and social nature.

Family Orientation

The Orientation Program also offers a Family Orientation for the parents, guardians or spouses of entering freshmen. The program typically includes presentations from University officials; information on academic expectations for students; a panel discussion on University courses and services; and small group meetings with orientation leaders on how parents can be most helpful to University freshmen. Periodically, follow-up sessions for family members are offered on issues relevant to the student's University experience.

Transfer Student Orientation

Transfer Student Orientation is an abbreviated program designed to introduce students to the University's programs, services and facilities; to provide information on transfer credit approval; and to aid students in preparing for registration. An academic advising session with a representative of the student's major department is also offered. Transfer students who are concerned about their credit approval should talk with either their School Dean, or a staff member in the Center for Academic Advising.

Campus Police

The mission of the Salem State University Campus Police Department is the preservation and protection of life and property, the prevention and detection of criminal activity, the maintenance of public order, and service to the Salem State University community. This primary objective is to provide a safe environment in which members of the community can pursue academic goals in an atmosphere of safety and security.

All officers have attended the Massachusetts State Police Academy.

Officers constantly patrol University facilities and grounds to protect and assist the University community as needed. The office works in conjunction with local, state and federal public safety divisions in areas of mutual concern.

Recognition Awards

Each year, the Campus Center Programs and Services Office coordinates student recognition awards. The recipients of these awards are determined by a committee composed of students, faculty members, and administrators. These awards include "Who's Who," "Silver Key," and "Special Recognition Awards."

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Universities is an award given to students either in the junior or senior year. It is based on one's leadership, character, and involvement in University community life. The award is also based on past and present work and service that the student has done to improve the University and its community. Who's Who is a National

Award in conjunction with Salem State University. The application and selection process takes place in the Fall Semester.

Silver Key Awards are presented to members of the Senior class who meet the following criteria: cumulative grade point average between 3.00 and 4.00, significant involvement within the major area of academic concentration, and participation in co-curricular activities within the University community. The application and selection process takes place during the Spring Semester.

Special Recognition Awards are presented to members of the Senior class who meet the following criteria: involvement within the major area of academic concentration and demonstration of significant involvement in co-curricular activities within the University community. The application and selection process takes place during the Spring Semester.

The Kenneth J. McIlraith Awards The Kenneth J. McIlraith Award is given to those officially recognized student organizations who best exemplify extraordinary leadership in their specific areas of Academic Affiliation, Community and Social Awareness and Cultural Activity. These awards are intended not only to acknowledge those active student groups, but also to reflect and signify the outstanding contributions which President McIlraith has made to the University. Past recipients include the Student Theatre Ensemble, the Afrikan American Students Association, Criminal Justice Academy, Catholic Student Community, Art Society and the International Students Association. These awards are announced at the annual Groups and Clubs Reception held in the Spring.

Residence Life

The Residence Life Program supports the educational goals of the University, which include the development of students' intellectual, social, and cultural potential. We believe that our residence halls are places where students can have a living-learning experience. Residence hall living affords a unique opportunity for students to interact with people from many academic, ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds.

Salem State University has five residence halls on campus capable of housing over 2,000 students. Our residence halls consist of two traditional style first year residence halls, a traditional style sophomore year experience residence hall, and two apartment complexes. Bowditch Hall houses 276 residents, while Peabody Hall accommodates 322 residents. Both residence halls are a part of the First Year Experience Program, are corridor style buildings, and house only first year students. Students can "like" Salem State Residence Life on Facebook to receive important announcements, view photos of the halls and selected events, or ask questions regarding residence hall living.

Each residential area has its own full-time, live-in resident director, who is responsible for the management of the building. The resident directors promote an environment that enhances the development of each resident, and assists the residents with their University experience in and outside of the residence hall.

A resident assistant lives on each floor, and together with the residents, they work to establish the kind of environment that will maximize personal as well as community growth. Becoming a resident assistant is a unique opportunity to gain valuable life skills and serve as a leader within the community.

Students play an integral part in creating an atmosphere and community that is conducive for all. Each hall has its own Community Council which is comprised entirely of resident students. The Community Council and the residence hall staff all work toward fostering a democratic community that will promote respect and understanding of the rights of others.

Peabody and Bowditch Hall are co-educational residence halls, and house only first year students. It is the goals of such a living arrangement to have all residents interact in a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. The Community Councils and residence hall staffs have sponsored such educational, social, and recreational programs as: evening chats with the President, pool tournaments, ice cream socials, study skills workshops, flag football, etc. On any given evening one can find residents playing video games, or getting together over a bowl of popcorn, having physical fitness workouts, and of course studying. In addition to resident assistants, Peabody and Bowditch Halls are also staffed with academic mentors. Academic mentors are upper-class leaders who coordinate academic success programs and assist residents in connecting with faculty and support services on campus. A 24-hour front desk provides security and serves as an information resource for residents with questions.

Marsh Hall houses sophomore (and some first year residents) in pod style housing. Marsh is an intentional community to help support sophomore students as they begin to transition further into their academic experience. Two faculty-in-residence and four academic mentors live in the building and plan a variety of programs and events in addition to the resident assistants and Community Council. Marsh also has a fitness room, laundry area, multiple lounges throughout the hall, and a mail room. A 24-hour front desk provides security and serves as an information resource for residents with questions.

Atlantic Hall houses junior and senior residents in apartments designed for six occupants and are designated as substance free. The units include two double and two single bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen, and living room. Two faculty-in-residence live in the building, and assist the staff in developing programs and activities for the residents. The ground floor of the residence hall includes a smart classroom, a laundry area, a mail area, a fitness room with treadmills and elliptical machines, and a 24-hour front desk. Bates Complex is the University's townhouse apartments which are located on South Campus directly across from the Harrington Building. Each of the apartments has been designed for six occupants. The units include a kitchen, living room, two bathrooms, and three double bedrooms. The Bates Complex is divided into "substance free housing" and "21+ housing". The international entryway allows domestic and international students to live together while learning about each other's cultures. There is also a commons building which has a laundry room, a mail room, and a meeting room. Some resident parking is available immediately adjacent to the townhouses.

Residence Hall Association

All students living on campus are members of the Residence Hall Association (RHA). As stated in the RHA constitution, the purpose of this organization is: 1) to represent the resident student population of Salem State University in all matters and affairs with the administration and all organizations concerned with or affecting resident students; 2) to insure representation for all resident

students; 3) to sponsor programs and activities between and among the various residence halls through the use of each Community Council; and 4) to take all necessary and appropriate action to improve any and all aspects of residence life on campus.

RHA sponsors educational and social programming within the residential areas as well as for the entire SSU community. In addition, RHA is affiliated with the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH) and therefore students attend various regional and national leadership conferences each year.

RHA has received numerous awards and recognition through their involvement in NACURH. Over the past several years, student leaders in RHA have won both national and regional awards, and the organization has been awarded the regional "Commitment to Diversity" award (2007), the national "School of the Year Award" (2006), the national "Student Award for Leadership Training" (2003), the national "RHA Building Block Award" (2000), and was one of two finalists for the national "Program of the Year Award" (2001). The Salem State University RHA continues to serve as a model for RHA organizations across the region and country, and is extremely active in NEACURH (The North East Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls) which is a part of NACURH. Each year, RHA brings groups of residents to regional and national conferences to network with other student leaders, attend program sessions, and develop their leadership skills. For more information on how to attend one of these conferences, attend an RHA meeting.

The governing body of RHA includes a seven member executive board and four voting representatives from each Community Council. Elections within the individual residential areas occur at the beginning of the fall semester. Financial support for RHA and Community Council is generated from the \$20.00 per semester Residence Hall Activity Fee. Students involved in Community Council have a direct impact on how this money is spent.

Community Council

Each Community Council is composed entirely of resident students. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to: designing living policies which are in the best interest of all residents; planning and organizing programming activities and events; and making recommendations to Residence Life, the Residence Hall Association, and the University regarding all aspects of residential life. For more information, please call the RHA office at (978) 542-4742.

Eligibility

Salem State does not currently have on-campus residence hall facilities for graduate students or married couples. Any prospective undergraduate student who would like on-campus accommodations in Bowditch, Peabody, Marsh, Atlantic, or Bates Complex should apply for housing with their admission application. Newly accepted students are guaranteed housing for three academic years contingent with students following the policies as specified in the Residence Life License Agreement, the Guide to Living on Campus, The Code of Student Conduct, the University Catalog, and this publication. After the third year on campus, residency will be based on a lottery, if applicable.

Housing Contract

Students are not required to live on campus, but once you do decide to live on campus, you are required to sign a Residence Hall License Agreement, which is binding for the entire academic year. You should carefully read the entire agreement and the various other residential living policies. Bowditch, Peabody and Marsh Hall residents are required to eat in the dining hall and must subscribe to either the 14 or 19 meals per week plan. Residents of the Bates Complex and Atlantic Hall are minimally required to have a Resident Meal Plan* which includes a \$255/semester declining meal plan and a \$75/semester flex discretionary account that can be used for meals, the bookstore, vending, etc. If students within these residential areas choose to do so, they may select a 10, 14, or 19 meals per week plan if they desire. Any questions relating to the Agreement or payment of fees may be answered in either the Office of Residence Life or the Bursar's Office.

*Please note that the declining balance meal plan only carries over from the fall to the spring semester. Unused monies at the end of each spring semester will be forfeited. The discretionary account rolls over throughout the tenure of a student. Unused monies from this account will be reimbursed when the student leaves the University.

Fees

The current rates for room and board can be obtained at www.salemstate.edu/bursar.

All rates and charges subject to change.

Residence Life and Off-Campus Housing

The Office of Residence Life, located on the first floor of Atlantic Hall at Central Campus.

Student Involvement & Activities provides listings of available off-campus housing units and assist students in finding suitable housing. The office **does not** inspect, approve, or recommend housing units; they are strictly a resource/referral service for students seeking housing.

They **do not** act as an apartment locating service, but we do provide information to enable you to make connections with other students who share similar housing needs.