

# UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE®

Division of Student Life

## Residence Life & Housing

[www.udel.edu/ResLife](http://www.udel.edu/ResLife)

 /LivingAtUD

 @LivingAtUD

## Message from the Director



Welcome to Residence Life & Housing at the University of Delaware. Living on campus and getting involved in the campus community can be one of the most rewarding experiences of college. To be an involved student, is to be a connected student and research shows, a more successful student academically. In our halls, students can connect with other students, leadership opportunities, campus organizations, and more.

Residence Life & Housing staff members at the University of Delaware are committed to partnering with residents to create fun and engaging environments in the residence halls, a student's home away from home. More than 230 staff members have been carefully selected and trained to create and support welcoming and inclusive living environments that are conducive to students' academic, personal, and social endeavors. Beginning with an intentional room assignments process and continuing throughout the student's time living in the halls, residents have opportunities to learn how to be good neighbors; to learn about themselves, differences in people, ideas, cultures, and opinions; to utilize their talents in the community; and to develop friendships that will last a lifetime.

If you don't find what you're looking for in this booklet, feel free to visit us on the web at [www.udel.edu/ResLife](http://www.udel.edu/ResLife) or contact us by calling (302) 831-HOME.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen G. Kerr". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kathleen G. Kerr  
Executive Director, Residence Life & Housing

# University of Delaware Residence Life & Housing Mission Statement

To actively partner with students and campus colleagues to create a once in a lifetime community experience where students learn, contribute, thrive, and achieve their aspirations.



Residence Life & Housing is a large department, with nearly 200 Resident Assistants, and more than 30 full time staff members. To see how these positions can help you, visit our [Meet the Staff](#) page.

- See Our Organizational Chart
- Meet the Residence Hall Coordinators (RHCs)
- Meet the Complex Coordinators (CCs)
- Get to Know the Administration/Staff

*"UD has challenged me to support my practices and initiatives with theory or best practice. Furthermore, our department has supported my own passions as I work to integrate them into my work with students."*

## **Carlos**

Residence Hall Coordinator  
Joined UD in 2012



# Learn About Our Neighborhoods

We have five First-Year complexes and four Upper Division complexes that house approximately 7,500 students. We support a variety of living-learning communities, and have a diverse housing portfolio. Here's a snapshot:

## First Year Areas

Location	Complex	Room Types
East Campus	Russell, Lane & Thompson. 850 students, 2 RHCs	Traditional style / Coed by room
	Louis L. Redding, Eliphalet Gilbert & Smyth, 950 students, 2 RHCs	Traditional style / Coed by room
West Campus	Rodney 750 students, 2 RHCs	Traditional style / Coed by floor
	Dickinson 750 students, 2 RHCs	Traditional style / Coed by room
Laird Campus	George Read 550 students, 1 RHC	Suite style / Coed by suite

## Upper-Division Residence Halls

Laird Campus	Christiana Towers 1200 students, 2 RHCs	Apartment Style / Coed by apartment
	Independence 1200 students, 2 RHCs	Suite style / Coed by suite
	Ray Street. 350 students, 1 RHC	Suite style / Coed by suite
Central	North Central 550 students, 1 RHC	Traditional style / Coed by floor / Coed by room
	South Central 550 students, 1 RHC	Traditional style / Coed by floor, Coed by wing, Female-only housing

We have replaced or remodeled virtually all of our campus within the last decade - and we're still building!

# We Care About Professional Development

## Professional Development Funds and Plan

Each RHC is allotted \$1,000 for professional development. Within the first month, RHCs work closely with their supervisors to develop a personalized professional development plan, identify action steps toward accomplishing those goals, and articulate a supervision strategy. RHCs work with their supervisor to strategize about what committees to join and what opportunities will help prepare them for their next steps as a professional. These plans are used throughout the year, and progress is noted in performance appraisals.

## Projects and Committees

There are a variety of committees and projects that professional staff will participate in throughout the year that will further both our department and Residence Hall Coordinator development. We work very hard to provide our professionals with opportunities that connect to their personal passions and future career aspirations. Below are a few examples of some of the opportunities for staff:

*Pre- Hearings • Hearing Officer • Facilitate student conduct seminars • Instruct RA Class • Advise RSA or NRHH • Advise complex groups (Complex Community Council, Green Team, Service Team) • Professional Selection Committee • RA Selection Committee • Training Committee • International Education Week • Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service • Student Initiative Fund*

## Strategic Plan

All professionals in our department serve on at least one of our Strategic Plan Implementation Teams. This past year our four strategic plan areas were Engagement, Assessment, Sustainability, and Welcoming & Inclusive Communities. Currently we are in the process of beginning to draft a new strategic plan for our department - a wonderful opportunity for our professional team to play a crucial role in directing future department initiatives.

## Monthly Workshops

RHCs also attend a monthly professional development workshop. RHCs are assigned to peer dialogue groups with colleagues who share similar career aspirations and these groups work on small projects. We also offer monthly advisor trainings.

## Culture of Assessment

Our professionals work closely with assessment in a variety of ways. We compile reports a few times a year and share this information with one another so that we better understand the current trends on our campus. We assess the impact of the opportunities provided to our students and some professionals assist with designing assessment projects.

# Opportunities for Students to Lead, and the Role You Play

## Green Teams

Each complex has a Green Team, made up of students who want to encourage environmentally sustainable lifestyles. Green Team members learn about and promote recycling, responsible energy use, and many other sustainability practices. Green team members work together to design programs that are informative, fun, and support UD's Climate Action Plan which aims to lower UD's carbon footprint by 20% by 2020. As advisors, RHCs introduce students to current events, connect them to resources and opportunities on campus, work with them to connect students in their complex to environmental sustainability, and create awareness about how all students can help.

## Student Initiative Fund (SIF)

The SIF provides money and guidance from a central departmental source of funding to support individual residents to put on events for their floor, building, or complex community. RHCs are charged to educate RAs and students about the parameters of the program, to help students consider aspects of programming they may have overlooked, to challenge proposed budgets, and to help students understand the impact that they can make in their community.

## Neighborhood Empowerment Teams (NET)

These are found in our first-year residence halls. Through a partnership with RAs, students help to plan fun floor meetings and events such as birthday celebrations, community service events, resident recognition and more. Floor Captains and committee chairs are selected in late September. RHCs hold an initial NET captain retreat in the fall to help them understand their position and the resources at their disposal. Then, RHCs partner with their building's NET mentors (selected RAs) through the year to hold NET captain workshops, prepare them for monthly floor meetings, and check in on their floors progress.



## Complex Community Councils

Each complex has a group of elected and volunteer students to advocate for change, develop programs, and support their fellow residence hall members. RHCs, as advisors, hold one-on-one meetings with their executive board, support the group in advocating for the needs of their community, assist in event planning processes, and help cultivate a complex culture.

## Service Teams

Each complex has a Service Team that provides opportunities for students who wish to create community service experiences for the residents of their complex. Service Teams assist in the ongoing implementation of their complex's Weekly Service Initiative as well as partner with University entities or other local agencies to create additional service opportunities in their complex. Service teams are advised by RHCs or CCs and work with the leadership team in their areas to provide a variety of service opportunities that meet the interests within their complex.

## Service Initiatives

Residence Life & Housing provides opportunities for students to consider community needs, partner with local service agencies, and participate in a range of activities. We encourage students to use their unique skills, talents, and interests to practice civic engagement. RHCs help students understand the different ways they can partner with their service agency and help foster an on-going relationship with the agency.

## RA Internship and Leadership Exploration Program (RAILE)

RAILE is an leadership development activity that allows students to see into the life of a RA while gaining exposure to valuable leadership skills and campus opportunities that can be applied to their professional goals. It is not a requirement for consideration for the RA position, but portions of the program can be submitted along with an application. Through this experience, RHCs help students choose the options that best suit their goals, hold leadership workshops, conduct RA informational sessions, and meet with students to assist them in creating SMART goals for the semester.

*"My experience in Residence Life & Housing at UD has provided me with a great support system for my first year as a professional. It is helpful to have a great team behind you."*

### Cassie

Residence Hall Coordinator  
Joined UD in 2013



# About the Division of Student Life

The Division of Student Life supports the educational mission of the University through student advocacy, innovative services, and programs that promote student learning, personal development & well-being, and academic success. The division fosters inclusive communities, facilitates student engagement and leadership development, and promotes responsible citizenship.

## Division Professional Development Opportunities

- Learning about working with International Students with Speaker Dr. Gary Weaver
- Student Life Advancing Professionals Lunches (SLAP) with guests like Provost Grasso, VP of Student Life, Dawn Thompson, Dean of Students Jose Riera
- Assist with Decision Days, or Family Weekend
- Assist with Sorority Recruitment

## Departments within the Division

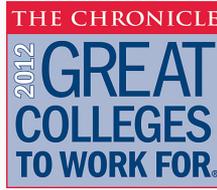
- Career Services Center
- Center for Black Culture
- Center for Counseling & Student Development
- New Student Orientation
- Office of Student Conduct
- Residence Life & Housing
- Student Health Services
- Student Services for Athletes
- Student Wellness & Health Promotion
- University Student Centers
- Dean of Students



## Work With Us

# Forbes

#4 of the "10 Best Colleges  
To Work For"



### Course Fee Waiver Program

Have tuition waived.

### Retirement Plans

Contribute 4% of your salary and UD will contribute 11%.

### Competitive Health Insurance Plans

Dental, vision, life insurance & long-term disability are included in our standard employment package at very reasonable prices.

### Employee Wellness

\$75 Wellness Dollars per year. Use for fitness classes at our campus gym, health screens, personal trainers or physical therapy.

Did we mention a staff and faculty gym? It's free!

## UD At A Glance

17,484

Enrollment

44%

of Undergraduates  
Live on Campus

80%

Graduate Within  
Five Years

92%

of Freshmen Return

1:15

Student to Faculty Ratio

18

Minute Walk  
Across Campus

# Delaware Living



32,367  
City Population



2011 Great American  
Main Street Award

## Average Weather



33°  
January  
Average



55°  
April  
Average



20"  
Average  
Snowfall



78°  
July  
Average



57°  
October  
Average



43"  
Average  
Rainfall

## Public Transportation on Campus

DART Bus • SEPTA • Amtrak • Megabus • Greyhound

## Delaware: In The Middle of It All

- 65 mins to Baltimore
- 110 mins to Washington DC
- 130 mins to NYC
- 50 mins to Philadelphia
- 90 mins Atlantic City





## Nearby Attractions & Events

Beaches

Outlets/Tax-Free Shopping

Brandywine River

Dover International Speedway

Wilmington Opera House

Longwood Gardens

Firefly Music Festival

Punkin' Chunkin'

Newark Bike Project

White Clay Creek Trails

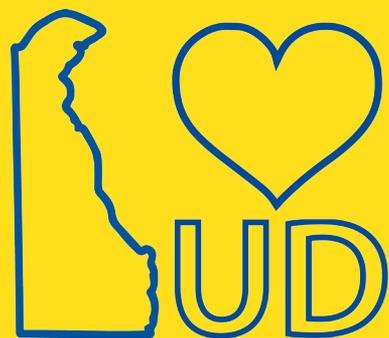
Minor League Baseball: Blue Rocks

Philadelphia Phillies

Philadelphia Eagles

Baltimore Ravens

Baltimore Orioles



**Explore Delaware**



## University of Delaware Mission Statement

The University of Delaware exists to cultivate learning, develop knowledge and foster the free exchange of ideas. State-assisted yet privately governed, the University has a strong tradition of distinguished scholarship, research, teaching and service that is grounded in a commitment to increasing and disseminating scientific, humanistic and social knowledge for the benefit of the larger society. Tracing its origins to 1743 and chartered by the state in 1833, the University of Delaware today is a land-grant, sea-grant and space-grant university.

The University of Delaware is a major research university with extensive graduate programs that is also dedicated to outstanding undergraduate and professional education. University faculty are committed to the intellectual, cultural and ethical development of students as citizens, scholars and professionals. University graduates are prepared to contribute to a global society that requires leaders with creativity, integrity and a dedication to service.

The University of Delaware promotes an environment in which all people are inspired to learn and encourages intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, free inquiry and respect for the views and values of an increasingly diverse population.