It’s the time of year when housing sign-ups happen and I am well aware that many of you put months of thought, prayer and conversation into this process. I know too that this process may be stressful and sometimes results in difficult conversations and hurt feelings. With that in mind I work hard to make the process as fair and compassionate as possible.

**Fair:** Each year I am saddened when I hear that students cheat the housing system. While I hope this is a rumor that is not true, please know that if you inform me of a specific situation where cheating is occurring, I will address it. However, when I don’t know when cheating is happening I’m unable to address it and unfortunately, you all are the ones who end up suffering the consequences of someone else’s dishonesty.

**Compassionate:** My goal is that I, along with the rest of the residence life staff will be as compassionate and helpful as possible to answer any of the questions you have about housing. In this edition of the newsletter I’ve packed in info that I thought would be helpful to you, but I know there are many individualized situations that are not addressed here. If your question is not answered or you are feeling unsure about a part of the housing process please do not hesitate to email me at rgood@messiah.edu, call extension 5239, or stop by my office.

Also, I tweak the sign-up process each year and many of the changes have come from student input. I’d love to hear your ideas if you have suggestions to make the process better. May you find peace in the midst of this process.

---

**INFO ABOUT HOUSING SIGN-UPS**

**Floor Changes**
Hess will house upper class women and Bittner will house transfer students and first year students. The other change is that Solly basement and third will house men.

**New Housebook Function**
This year you can see what rooms are still open BEFORE your timeslot. Hopefully this will allow you to create a plan and a back-up plan.

**Don’t Manipulate the System**
In the past students have used various methods to work around the system to benefit themselves or their group. Here are a few things that are considered to be manipulating the system and will cause you (and your group) to lose your (their) housing assignment:
- Signing up for an apartment AND a residence hall room.
- Signing up with more than one apartment group.
- Signing up with a person you don’t intend to live with in order to reserve more than one room on a floor.
- Signing up when you are intending to study abroad (some programs have been given permission to sign-up—if you don’t know if your program is allowed to sign-up for housing please contact Rhonda Good).

---

Here are some reminders and a few changes about housing sign-ups.

**Use the Roommate Finder**
If you’re in need of a roommate for your room or apartment please use the Roommate Finder on Housebook. It allows you to leave a short profile about yourself and you can see what other people are looking for in a roommate.
**Parking & Dining**

**Parking**
A new system is being implemented to sign up for parking. Continue to watch your email to find out how this process will work.

**Dining**
Beginning March 21 go to Housebook and on the left side click on the link marked ‘My Meal Plan’. You may select meal plans until July 1, 2011. If you have not selected a meal plan by July 1 you will be assigned the unlimited plan or the plan the you had the previous semester. Even if you wish to have NO MEAL PLAN you will need to go to Housebook to select this option.

**Cluster Housing**
As you probably know by now cluster housing will be happening in Miller & Hess halls. What this means is that you can sign up for a block of 3, 4, 5 or 6 rooms. One person from each cluster will sign up each group by filling in names and PIN numbers on Housebook on March 31 and April 1. Clusters will be selected by which cluster has the most credits. Students who apply for clusters will receive an email by April 11 to let them know if their cluster was placed in Hess or Miller.

---

**The Kelly Plan**
I am pleased to announce that capital budget funding has been tentatively approved to paint the Kelly apartments plus put in new lighting and a new fire alarm system this summer. The final approval doesn’t happen until May, but our Facilities department has already begun getting bids from contractors and expect to begin work in Kelly after graduation.

**Rhonda, How Likely Is It That . . . ?**
I often get asked really specific questions about the probability of certain housing choices happening. Really, I can’t see in to the future more than any of you, but I can tell you what has happened in the past. Here are the two things I get asked most:

**How likely are we to get a triple?** There are 68 design triples, 45 for women and 23 for men. If you don’t get into a triple and you’re still interested in one, please email me to get on a waiting list.

**How likely is it that we’ll get to live in Fry? Smith? A patio apartment?** Here are lowest number of credits that filled each apartment type in 2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fry</th>
<th>Kelly</th>
<th>Mellinger</th>
<th>Smith</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Person Patio</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Person Apartment</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Person Patio</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Person Apartment</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summer Housing**
Planning to work on campus this summer? Once you have an on-campus job you can fill out the summer housing application found on the Residence Life website under Dates & Events.

Summer housing is available to
- Students who will be a Messiah College summer employee
- Students completing an internship for Messiah College credit
- Students approved for a college related purpose

Meals and on-campus housing are provided for students who work 40 hours a week on campus. For those who are doing an internship or are on-campus for another school related reason the weekly rate is $225 and includes both room and board.
A common topic of confusion is that there are two different types of **DESIGN TRIPLES**. The first are the rooms that have a larger amount of square footage. In Grantham there are four of these, in Solly two and in Mountain View six. The bigger triples generally go to juniors. The second type of design triple rooms are only in Mountain View and Grantham. These rooms have the same square footage as the double rooms, but the doubles in these two halls are bigger and have higher ceilings. We have also placed a different type of furniture in these rooms that can be stacked and arranged into all kinds of configurations.

Seven themes have been approved for the special interest houses that are on or around the perimeter of our campus. Some houses still have openings. If you’re a junior or senior and have interest in joining one of these thematic communities please contact Rhonda Good at rgood@messiah.edu.

Here is a brief description of each of the themes:

**The ReCONciliation House** will house men and will work toward learning about Biblical reconciliation in a variety of contexts.

**Rafiki House** will house women. The house members are part of ISA/Mu Kappa and help create a safe space for international students, missionary kids and third culture kids. (no openings)

**The Restoration House**
this program has a male and female house and focuses on the environment, people, God and their interconnectedness. (no openings)

**The Social Justice “SoJo” House**
will house women and will enter their fourth year of learning about and being involved in issues of social justice both locally and around the world.

**The Hill House** will house women who will look at local and global issues. They are linked with the EpiCenter and will provide a safe space for those who are returning from a study abroad program.

**The Called to Care (C2C) House** will house women who are nursing majors who will focus on developing themselves as Christian nurses. (no openings)

**The Wellness House** will house women who will learn together about nutrition and other areas of physical and emotional wellness.

**SPECIAL INTEREST HOUSES FOR 2011-2012**

Usually we do this event on the day we turn our clocks forward for the spring, but that happened while you away for spring break, so this year we’ll spring forward on campus on Sunday, March 27 from 7:00—9:00 p.m.

Each of the upper class halls and the apartment buildings will have rooms that will be open to allow you to see the structure and furniture in each of the buildings before you make your housing selection.

There will be brochures available in the Fishbowl and the South Side Cafe. The brochures include a floor plan, details about each building and the rooms and apartments that are open for the evening. The brochures are also a good place to make notes about the room numbers you would be interested in when you sign-up for a room or apartment. The floor plans will also be available on Housebook, so you can reference them when you sign up for a residence hall room.
A WORD ABOUT APARTMENT SIGN-UPS

After you do verification on Housebook check the sign-up times below to determine when your group signs up.

Three person apartments sign up on Monday, March 28. Five person apartments sign up on Wednesday, March 30. Both sign up times are held in Parmer Cinema and begin at 6:00 p.m.

Plan to arrive 15 minutes before your times slot. When you arrive, there will be a table set up outside of Parmer where your group will receive a sticker with your names, ID numbers and credits on it. You will then wait in the seats of Parmer until your credit amount is called. One group at a time will be called up to the tables to look at the floor plans and select an apartment.

APARTMENT SIGN-UP TIMES

Monday, March 28—3 Person Apartments
6:05 p.m.  >325 sum total credit hours groups
6:15 p.m.  324-315 sum total credit hour groups
6:30 p.m.  314-305 sum total credit hour groups
6:45 p.m.  304-290 sum total credit hour groups
7:00 p.m.  289-275 sum total credit hour groups
7:15 p.m.  274-250 sum total credit hour groups
7:30 p.m.  249-225 sum total credit hour groups
7:45 p.m.  224-200 sum total credit hour groups
8:00 p.m.  199-171 sum total credit hour groups

Wednesday, March 30—5 Person Apartments
6:05 p.m.  >520 sum total credit hours groups
6:20 p.m.  519-500 sum total credit hour groups
6:35 p.m.  499-490 sum total credit hour groups
6:50 p.m.  489-480 sum total credit hour groups
7:05 p.m.  479-460 sum total credit hour groups
7:20 p.m.  459-440 sum total credit hour groups
7:35 p.m.  439-420 sum total credit hour groups
7:50 p.m.  419-390 sum total credit hour groups
8:05 p.m.  389-360 sum total credit hour groups
8:20 p.m.  359-330 sum total credit hour groups
8:35 p.m.  329-285 sum total credit hour groups

In 2010 the last group to get a 3 person apartment had 287 credits. (2009 - 204 credits; 2008 – 264 credits)
In 2010 the last group to get a 5 person apartment had 345 credits. (2009 - 340 credits; 2008 – 315 credits)

WHO LIVES IN FRY?

Mostly rising seniors. The juniors that get in live with super seniors, an RA, someone who had a medical housing need that required living in Fry, or juniors who were able to fill an opening for spring.