



Community Connections

SMU Residence Hall Newsletter for Students and their Families

Fall Semester Move-in

Summer 2009

Where to Check-in

Mustang Corral Arrival

Thursday, August 20
At Your Designated Time
*Sent with Hall Assignment
Notification on June 29*

Dedman Rec Center
Friday, August 21
9:00 -11:00 a.m.
Dedman Rec Center

Residence Hall Opening

Sunday, August 23
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Dedman Rec Center
5:00 p.m. to Midnight
Area Desks

Monday, August 24
9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Area Desks

Parking Information

When you check-in at Dedman Recreation Center, you will receive two parking passes for the un-loading spaces behind the South Quad and the North Quad "horseshoe" lot. The pass is good for 1 hour. You must move your vehicle after 1 hour in order for others to unload. Additional vehicles must be parked away from the residence halls.

Residence Halls Open for Fall on August 23, 2009

Welcome to residence halls at Southern Methodist University! As a resident, you will become a member of the best community to live, learn and be part of Southern Methodist University!

The residential experience at SMU is an integral part of the educational process. By living in a residence hall, you will develop friendships on your floor that will last a lifetime and cross over different backgrounds, academic interests and many other campus groups. Your residence hall community is not just the first, but also one of the most enduring communities you will join at SMU.

Hall Assignments

On June 29, your hall assignment will be sent to your SMU email address. If you are an incoming first-year or transfer student, your assignment will be based on 1) the date your application was received in our office; 2) your requested theme/academic focus community (if any); 3) your preferred halls; 4) whether or not you requested a single room. If you are assigned to a hall that you did not request, it is probably because the halls you requested were filled before your assignment was processed. Ideally Residence Life & Student Housing strives to assign students to one of their requested halls. However, some halls receive far more requests than space available in that hall. Every residence hall has great things to offer—take a look at the “facts and figures” on page 2 to get familiar with your hall.



Residence Halls Facts & Figures

What halls have suite-style bathrooms?

- Cockrell-McIntosh
- Half of Morrison-McGinnis
- Mary Hay
- Peyton
- Shuttles
- Snider side of Virginia-Snider

What halls have community-style bathrooms?

- Boaz
- McElvaney
- Half of Morrison-McGinnis
- Perkins
- Smith
- Virginia side of Virginia-Snider

What halls have single rooms and how many are there?

- Cockrell-McIntosh-3
- Morrison-McGinnis-52
- Shuttles-26
- Mary Hay-40
- Peyton-8
- Virginia-2 and Snider-4
- Boaz-3
- Perkins-8
- Smith-9

What halls are on the tours during AARO?

- Snider
- Shuttles
- McElvaney
- Perkins
- Morrison-McGinnis
- Mary Hay

All other halls are in use during the summer. If you are assigned to:

- Cockrell-McIntosh, see Morrison-McGinnis
- Smith, see Perkins
- Peyton, see Shuttles

Approximately 2,000 students at SMU live in 13 residence halls and 3 shared-interest houses. All communities feature the same brick Georgian architecture and are staffed with great Resident Assistants and Community Assistants, extra-long (80") twin beds, air conditioning, and community study/lounge space.

Behind the red brick there are some variations: suite bath versus community, singles versus doubles (with a few triples thrown in), larger halls versus smaller, all first-year halls versus those with students from all four classes, and many different academic-focus and shared interest community programs. But with all of that, you may not know these facts:

- 95% of the first-year class lives on-campus and first-years are the largest population in campus housing.
- The oldest residence hall is Virginia Hall, built in 1926.
- The residence halls are going "green" with low-flow shower heads and fluorescent lights.
- SMU (including the residence halls) participates in "single stream" recycling.... no need to separate your recyclable plastic, paper and aluminum unless it's a paper product used for food. And all rooms are furnished with a recycling bin.
- Over 700 residents participate in the academic-focus and shared-interest communities.



Where Do First-Year Students Live?

About 1,300 first-year students live in 10 residence halls. The remainder live at home with a parent or guardian. Below are the approximate numbers of first-years expected in each hall.

	Number	FY%
Boaz	197	100%
McElvaney	260	100%
Perkins & Smith	182	100%
Mary Hay	60-66	54%
Peyton	50-55	56%
Shuttles	84-100	62%
Virginia-Snider	170-182	70%
Cockrell-McIntosh	119-125	58%
Morrison-McGinnis	105-120	57%



Name that Theme

Several “theme” communities feature a specific academic focus or shared interest.

Honors Community: Located in Virginia-Snyder. Priority for assignment given to University Honors participants, President Scholars, Hunt Scholars and BBA Scholars.

Hilltop Scholars: Located in Smith and Perkins Halls. A strong and active first-year academic program. Residents take up to three Hilltop courses together each semester.

Fine Arts: Located in Mary Hay and Peyton Halls. Students interested in the arts may request to live in the FAC.

Engineering Floor: Located in Cockrell-McIntosh for 2009-10. Up to 28 engineering students, from first-years through seniors. Now in the second year.

Daniel House: Unique setting for students age 21 and over. Residents share townhouse-style apartments with 3 single occupancy bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, a kitchen and living area.

Multicultural House: Pursue the House mission of “Creating a community of unity and diversity.” Upperclass students may apply & interview. Enrollment in the DEP class is required.

SMU Service House: Interested in service learning? Apply and interview to live in the Service House. House dinners, a range of service opportunities and a great community await you.

Roommate Assignments & Information

Roommate information will be sent to your SMU email address on August 6 and will include your roommate’s name, SMU email address and home phone number.

If you made a roommate request before the June 1 deadline, we check that the request is mutual and then assign both roommates to the same hall. Requests received after June 1 are not guaranteed. (FYI, incoming students may only request a roommate, not suitemates.) If you are going “potluck,” we will use the roommate pairing information on your housing application to pair you with another student assigned to your hall.

Getting to Know Your Roommate

If you’ve never shared a room, you aren’t alone. Living with a roommate is a new experience for many students, and the anticipation of getting to know your roommate can be both exciting and stressful. Start with the basics. Talk with your roommate and ask questions about his or her habits (sleeping, listening to music, watching TV, playing video games or musical instruments) and about likes and dislikes. During the first week of school, you and your roommate will fill out your Roommate Agreement, which is an important tool to setting expectations of living together and how to handle problems when they arise. Even if you requested your roommate and you’ve been best friends forever, you’ll want to use the Roommate Agreement. Living with another person requires communication, flexibility and willingness to compromise.



Personalizing Your Room

What to Bring

- Bed linen: sheets, comforter, pillow, mattress pad (all beds are 80" extra-long twin size)
- Desk/study items including a non-halogen desk lamp
- Backpack, bookbag, laptop case
- Computer and power strip with surge protector/circuit breaker
- Clothes for Fall semester (leave cool weather items at home for now!)
- Towels, personal toiletries in a portable shower basket
- Photos, mementos, room decorations
- For laundry: basket, laundry soap, fabric softener, iron, small ironing board
- Personal electronics: alarm clock, small TV, DVD player, CD/MP3 player, game console, etc.
- Power strip: UL-Approved with a circuit breaker
- Hot pot/coffee maker with enclosed coils
- Cup/mug, dishes, utensils
- Stand-alone shelving or pre-fab storage units
- Tension rod & curtain for windows and/or closet area

Optional

- Small refrigerator (limit one 3.1 cubic feet size fridge per bedroom, so consider renting with your roommate)
- Storage drawers, plastic carts, "Elfa" storage
- Extra furniture like bean bag chair, etc. (all SMU furniture must remain in the room)
- Bike with a "U" lock (must remain outside or at the McElvaney Bike storage)
- Non-sticky drawer liner paper

Ahh, the joy (or agony) of shopping for a college student's room. No matter how well you prepare, you will 1) inevitably forget something and 2) bring more things than you actually need! Double rooms vary in size from 196 to 250 square feet, and there is no standard size. Even within one hall, room size can vary from between 5 to 20 square feet. You will first see *your* room in August after check-in. Keep that (and your roommate!) in mind when shopping.

Rooms are furnished with a bed (80" extra long twin), dresser, desk, desk chair for each resident. All rooms are carpeted (except Service House), and all windows have mini-blinds. A waste basket and recycle bin are provided in each room. A telephone with local service and voice mail is provided.

All residence halls are air conditioned and have a microwave available for resident use. Computers and vacuum cleaners are also available for residents.



What To Leave

While on the subject of what to bring, remember that there are things that are **not** permitted in rooms for fire safety and conduct regulations. Prohibited items are subject to confiscation and may result in a conduct or fire safety violation and/or fines.

- All cooking appliances, including but not limited to: microwaves, toasters, toaster/broiler ovens, open coil burners, electric fry pans and woks, hot oil cooking appliances
- Any kind of "multi-plug" adapter
- Appliances with any extra outlets such as lamps and vanity mirrors
- Standard electric extension cords
- Plug-in air fresheners/vaporizers
- Halogen lamps
- Any lamp with plastic shades
- Candles, incense, any open-flame device
- Fuel, of any kind
- Cinder blocks, bricks and boards
- Excessive furniture (SMU furniture must remain in the room)
- Alcohol, unless you are 21
- Empty alcohol containers/collections
- Illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia
- Weapons of any sort, including "ornamental" weapons
- Fireworks
- Grills of any variety
- Phones/fax machines/modems (incompatible with SMU system)
- Fido, Fluffy, Newt, Lizzie or Yurtle- the only pets allowed are fish (one 10-gallon tank, maximum)

Property Insurance

SMU's insurance does not cover personal property and the University assumes no liability for loss or damage to personal property for any reason. We encourage parents and guardians to check with their own insurance provider to see how a homeowner's policy might cover student's property while at college. If it doesn't provide this coverage, you may wish to consider renter's insurance that would provide the coverage you desire.



Refrigerator Details

Vital for Diet Coke, yogurt snacks and occasionally Ben & Jerry's... you'll want to keep them cold in a fridge. Refrigerators up to 3.1 cubic feet are allowed, with a limit of 1 per bedroom. Thinking about buying a refrigerator? Try renting one instead! Mustang Rental representatives will be at AARO and residence hall opening. It's convenient, reliable, and they deliver to your room. If you bring your own fridge, be sure to check the size of the unit. Any fridge bigger than 3.1 cubic feet is a potential fire safety hazard and therefore not allowed in the halls.

Laundry Details

It's almost inevitable... if you haven't learned to do laundry yet, your time is coming! Fortunately, laundry rooms are located in all residence halls and adjacent to the Multicultural and Daniel Houses. In the halls, the cost for using most laundry rooms is included in the rent for your hall. Here are a few tips to make it easier:

1. Remember the golden laundry room rule... don't leave your clothes in a machine, others will be waiting to use it!
2. Separate your red Pony socks from the white/light colored clothes and wash separately. Or, be prepared for a new shade of pink!
3. Respect the laundry room and help keep it clean for other residents.

Fire Safety Information

At SMU, we take fire safety very seriously and work closely with the local fire marshal. All residents should become familiar with the Fire Safety guidelines for their community (residence halls, apartments or greek houses). The Fire Safety brochure outlines what is permitted and what is prohibited in SMU residential facilities.

Violations of Fire Safety guidelines will result in a minimum \$150 fine, required attendance at a Fire Safety class and may result in further SMU conduct action. You will receive a copy of the Fire Safety brochure during the summer and at check-in. It is also available on-line, in the RLSH office and at the area desks. If you have any questions about the Fire Safety guidelines, please contact our office.

Community Standards

You will receive your own SMU Student Handbook (resident edition) at check-in. This handbook includes our Community Standards for students living on campus and establishes the fundamental guidelines for group living. The Community Standards seek to balance individual freedoms with the rights of the community, to establish communities that recognize and celebrate the dignity and self-worth of all community members, to support positive choices made by students, and to hold residents accountable when they choose to violate these standards. The standards are distributed at check-in so you will understand from the very beginning how you can be a successful community member. We take the standards seriously and encourage you to become familiar with them right away. The Community Standards and the Student Handbook (resident edition) are also available on line.



Meet Our Staff

There are a number of staff employed by SMU to run the residence halls. Here are a few of the staff you need to know:

Residence Hall Director (RHD): The person responsible for the “life” in your residence hall community. RHDs are full-time staff members with a Master’s Degree and supervise the Resident Assistants in your hall. In some communities, the RHD is called the Residence Community Director (RCD).

Resident Assistant (RA): RAs are students who live on the floor in your hall. RAs create community on the floor and are great resources for questions about hall or campus life, important policies and procedures. In some communities, the RAs are Community Assistants (CAs).

Assistant Director for Residential Life (ADRL): The ADRLs directly supervise several Residence Hall & Community Directors. Each is an experienced residential life professional and has a broad background in student development and residence hall management.

Facilities Manager (FM): FMs are administrative staff who coordinate response to maintenance and custodial needs. Feel free to talk with your FM if you have any facilities concerns or suggestions.

Utility Worker: A member of our staff who responds to quick-fix types of routine repair needs.

Custodians: Custodial staff are responsible for cleaning common space and bathrooms in residence halls. You are responsible for cleaning your own room, and for cleaning up after yourself elsewhere in the building. Common areas and community-style bathrooms are cleaned on a daily basis, Monday through Friday. Suite-style bathrooms are cleaned weekly. (Residents in apartment-style halls are responsible for cleaning their own bathroom.)



Moving to SMU Check-list

- Confirm your intent to live on-campus by reply email when you receive your Hall Assignment notice on June 29
- Register on-line for your mailbox OR renew your mailbox with the SMU Post Office
- Update your address book
- Pack! Check the What to Bring and What to Leave lists on page 4
- Ship boxes to yourself after August 11, 2009
- Change your address on magazine subscriptions and bills
- Talk with parents/family about spending money
- Read Fire Safety Guidelines
- Update your local address on Access.SMU
- Call or e-mail your roommate (information emailed on August 6)
- Opening Move-in Day: August 23, report to Dedman Recreation Center 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to get your residence hall key & paperwork (After 5:00 p.m., check-in at Area Desks. On August 24, check-in at the Area Desk 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- Meet the staff in your hall or house, RA/CA and Residence Hall or Community Director
- Set up your phone voicemail
- Get your parking permit and put it on your vehicle
- Attend your First Floor meeting, Rotunda Passage and Opening Picnic on August 25



Parents Newsletter

RLSH has established an electronic newsletter for parents of residential students. The newsletter is published twice a semester and contains news and information about upcoming events. Parent and family members may subscribe or unsubscribe at any time. See our website www.smu.edu for more information.



Dining Plans

All residents in the traditional undergraduate residence halls are required to have an SMU Dining Plan. (Dining plans are optional for residents in Daniel House, Multicultural House, Service House and Moore Hall.) When you register for Fall semester classes on access.smu.edu, you will need to confirm the selection of your meal plan on the Campus Essentials web page. Dining plans begin August 20, 2009. Complete information about SMU Dining Services can be found at www.smudining.com

Mail and Shipping

Residence hall students are required to have a mailbox at the SMU Post office in Hughes-Trigg Student Center. The mailbox fee is included in the residence hall rent and provides one year of service, from August 2009–August 2010.

First-year and new transfer students may register for a mailbox assignment on-line at www.smu.edu/pobox beginning June 20th. Click on “Register for Post Office Box” and follow the instructions.

Returning residents must renew their current mailbox assignment with the Post Office staff. (If your plans change and you decide to live off-campus, you will need to make payment to the Post Office for the annual box fee.)

All other new hall residents, including graduate students, or residents without mailbox assignments, may pick up their mailbox assignment in August at the SMU Post Office.

Mailbox assignments may not be arranged over the phone. For assistance with registering on-line or questions regarding with mailbox service, call 214-768-4450.

Mail must be sent to your SMU PO Box. (Mail service is not available at the residence halls.) If the proper address is used, delivery services including UPS and FedEx WILL deliver to SMU Post Office. The proper address for mail and packages is:

Your Name
Southern Methodist University
3140 Dyer St.
PO Box 75 ____
Dallas, TX 75275-____

When a package is received, a notice will be put in the mailbox. To pick up a package, take the notice and your SMU ID to the pick up window.

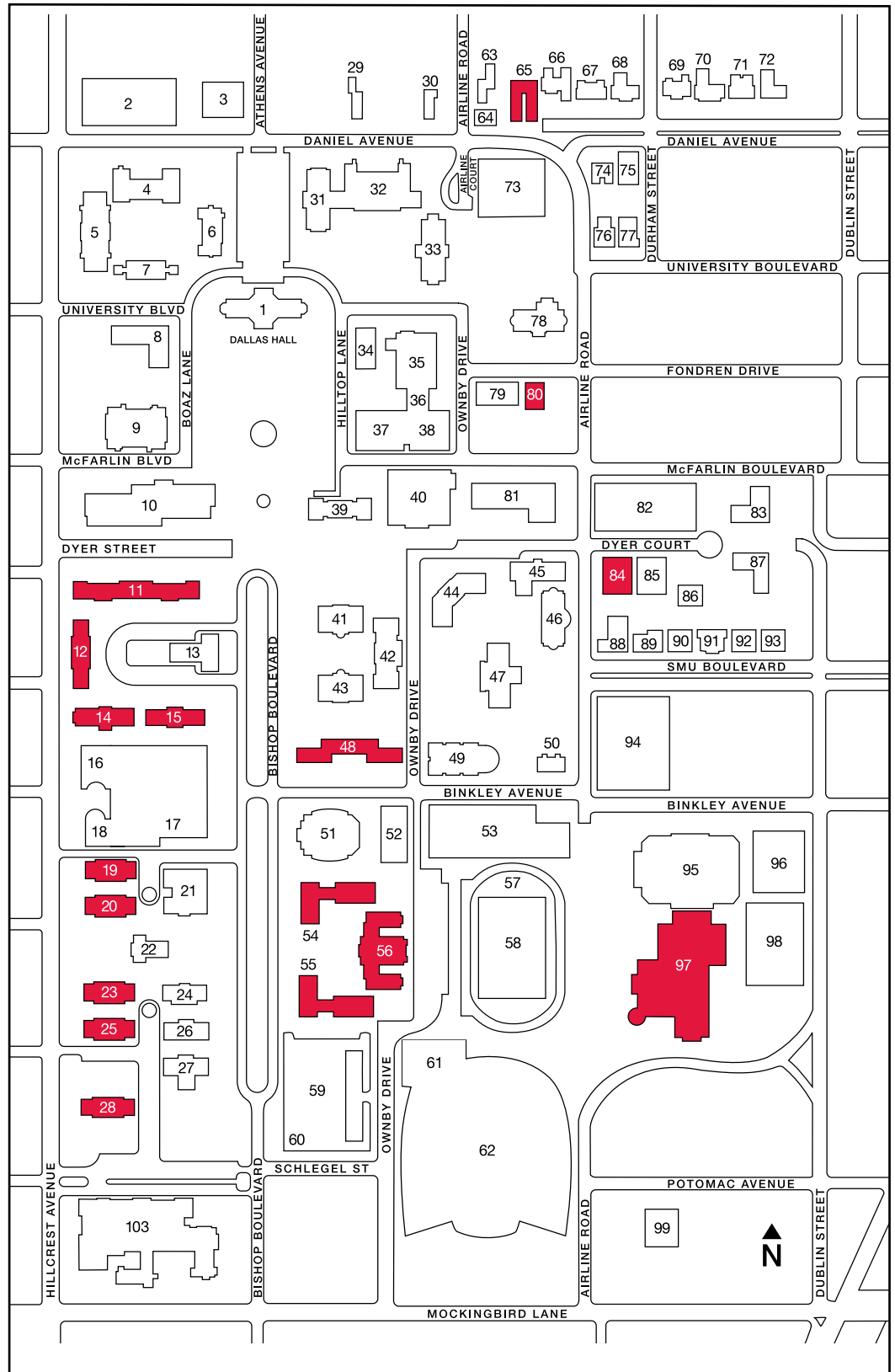
To ship something ahead of your arrival, simply address the items to yourself. Boxes should be shipped no earlier than August 11, 2009. When you arrive, pick up your boxes at Hughes-Trigg Post Office. Times & location for pick up will be posted.



Campus Map

List of Buildings is abridged

1. Dallas Hall
8. Perkins Administration Building
9. McFarlin Auditorium
10. Umphrey Lee Center
- 11. Virginia-Snider Hall**
- 12. Shuttles Hall**
13. Memorial Health Center
- 14. Peyton Hall**
- 15. Mary Hay Hall**
17. Owen Arts Center
- 19. Smith Hall**
- 20. Perkins Hall**
21. Bridwell Library
22. Perkins Chapel
- 23. Martin Hall**
- 25. Hawk Hall**
- 28. Moore Hall**
31. Heroy Science Hall
32. Fondren Science Building
33. Dedman Life Sciences Building
34. Hyer Hall
36. Fondren Library Center
39. Clements Hall
40. Hughes-Trigg Student Center
41. Maguire Building
42. Fincher Memorial Building
43. Crow Building
44. Caruth Hall
45. Embrey Engineering Building
46. Junkins Engineering Building
47. Blanton Student Services Building
- 48. Boaz Hall**
- 48. RLSH Office** (Enter on Bishop Blvd.)
51. Perkins Natatorium
52. Barr Pool
53. Binkley Garage
- 54. Morrison-McGinnis Hall**
- 55. Cockrell-McIntosh Hall**
- 56. McElvaney Hall**
57. Morrison-Bell Track
58. Westcott Field
59. Meadows Museum
60. Museum Parking Garage
61. Loyd All-Sports Center
62. Ford Stadium
- 65. Daniel House**
73. Airline Parking Garage
- 80. Multicultural House**
81. Patterson Hall/SMU Police
- 84. SMU Service House**
93. Upperclass Residence
94. Moody Parking Garage
95. Moody Coliseum
- 97. Dedman Recreation Center**
99. SMU Bookstore
103. Highland Park United Methodist



Residence Life & Student Housing

Southern Methodist University
 PO Box 750215
 Dallas TX 75275-0215
 Phone: 214-768-2407
 Fax: 214-768-4005
 E-mail: housing@smu.edu
 Web: www.smu.edu/housing

The Mission of the Department of Residence Life & Student Housing at Southern Methodist is to advance the goals and objectives of the University by creating residential communities that empower residents to value learning, citizenship and leadership in comfortable and well-maintained facilities.

*Photography: Hillsman Jackson, Renée Gibson, Susan Strobel Hogan
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