

STUDENT AFFAIRS

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Student Affairs represents a comprehensive and complementary educational experience led by the Dean of Students. Student Affairs professionals work in Orientation and Student Engagement; The Center for Honor Enrichment and Community Standards (CHECS); the James C. Windsor Center of Health and Counseling Services; the President's Leadership Program; the Office of Residence Life; and the Office of Student Activities; which includes Greek Life and Diversity Initiatives. The Office of the Dean also handles issues for Students with Disabilities. These areas work collaboratively to support the academic mission of the University, facilitate students' success and engagement, provide enrichment, and foster the opportunity to interact socially in several hundred activities offered annually.

Orientation programs help new students successfully transition to college life. The Setting Sail, Changing Tides and Welcome Week programs are required of all new students, providing guidance and insight into life as a CNU student. Further, University Fellows work directly with students seeking additional support or opportunities to become active and engaged members of Christopher Newport University.

Student Engagement provides meaningful and developmental opportunities that supplement what students learn in the classroom, engage them in leadership outside the classroom, and empower them to serve the community. Furthermore, the staff supports students by collaborating with other offices in an effort to foster campus traditions and shape the CNU student experience.

The Center for Honor Enrichment and Community Standards facilitates the integration of honorable living into the campus community and the lives of our community members. CHECS upholds the community standards of the university by working closely with the students responsible for administering the student-led Honor Council. The Center accomplishes these tasks through educational programming and the adjudication of violations to the Honor Code and Student Code of Conduct. Of primary importance is the Honors Convocation, which formally welcomes new students to CNU through the signing of the Honor Code.

The James C. Windsor Center of Health and Counseling Services facilitates students' personal exploration to assist them in being successful in their endeavors at CNU. Students can access basic medical support through the Health & Wellness Clinic, where services range from prescribing medication to healthy living assessments. Group and individual short term counseling is available to any student in need of assistance.

The President's Leadership Program (PLP) is a four year leadership education experience that empowers students to recognize their leadership potential and develop personal responsibility for the betterment of self and society. The PLP uses a developmental framework to structure out of class experience through distinct yet interdependent areas of focus. The framework serves as an integrated approach that engages students in the development of personal and social responsibility.

The Office of Residence Life (ORL) cultivates a campus living environment which supports residents as they transition towards independence. Our progressive housing model systematically moves students from halls with a focus on interpersonal skills and community development through halls with a focus on personal ownership and community contribution. Students who develop these life skills as they explore moral, personal and social values will learn to navigate the world after college and achieve greater success in the workplace.

The Office of Student Activities (OSA) sponsors a variety of social and educational events tailored to the needs and desires of CNU students. These events, many of which are jointly operated with one of the over 225 clubs and organizations on campus, have included major concerts, dynamic leadership speakers, popular comedians, and annual events. Within OSA, Greek Life and Diversity Initiatives are prominent areas.

Greek Life works closely with the social fraternities and sororities as well as the historically African-American Greek-letter organizations to provide a meaningful educational, service and social experience for students interested in Greek Life. Approximately 27 percent of CNU students join one of the ten fraternities, seven sororities or three historically African American Greek-letter organizations.

Diversity Initiatives support students from diverse backgrounds by promoting an environment that creates cultural understanding and an inclusive campus community. This support includes educational, cultural and social opportunities for diverse interactions and cultural education that enhances student awareness, understanding, and appreciation for diversity.

Students with Disabilities may seek support and services through the Office of the Dean of Students. Through accommodations received from the university, students with disabilities are provided the opportunity to be successful in their academic pursuits. Proper documentation must be filed with the Dean of Students and questions can be directed to this office.