

August 12, 2008

What's new at Residential Life for fall 2008?

Welcome LSU class of 2012 and all of our returning students! As you arrive at your new LSU home on Thursday, August 21, *everything* may feel new to you, but we wanted to tell you about the improvements that the Residential Life staff have been working on for you this summer!

Blake Hall is reopening after being closed for major renovations and the construction of a brand new wing. Blake is home to the Agriculture Residential College, the newest of our 6 residential colleges, and is home to BIOSphere, one of the 3 new Freshman Interest Groups (FIG).

The other two new FIGs are Adventure Leadership and Career Exploration whose students will be living in Miller, McVoy, and Beauregard Halls. Although the Engineering and Business Residential Colleges opened this spring, the class of 2012 will be the first students to complete their entire freshman year in these new facilities. Nearly half of the first year students living on campus are participating in one of our Living and Learning programs!

Residents of Herget Residential College will enjoy the many improvements done over the summer. A fresh coat of paint, new ceiling tiles and light fixtures, new fire sprinkler system, new student desks, and new moveable/loftable beds will make these rooms more versatile, safer, and feel like new!

Students living in the Pentagon Halls will enjoy the newly landscaped courtyard area with a new lawn sprinkler system. The courtyard will soon be enclosed by a new wrought iron fence with gated card-access entry, improving security and the sense of community. In LeJeune Hall, 6 of the 15 bathrooms were remodeled, the first of a multi-year program. Taylor Hall received new floor tiles, a fresh coat of paint, and new moveable wardrobes. Beauregard Hall received a fresh coat of paint to go with its new floor tiles from last year.

The Horseshoe area residents will enjoy the new laundry facilities in each building, and the ground-floor residents of Highland Hall will have a completely remodeled bathroom.

Our parent administrative division's name was changed to *The Division of Student Life*, reflecting the expanded focus on improving the quality-of-life for our students. As part of these improvements, *The Office of the First Year Experience* was created to help carry out LSU's commitment to empowering our first year students for success!

Our wish is that all of these improvements will contribute to your successful career at LSU and beyond!