

# Special Interest Housing Application

## Stonehill College - 2010-11

### The Purpose of Special Interest Housing

The purpose of the special interest housing program at Stonehill is to support lifestyles and educational programs that uplift residence hall living for individual student groups, as well as for the general residence community. Successful special interest housing groups enhance the connection between the academic life and student life here at the College.

As part of the spring housing selection process, groups of students may initiate projects around a common interest and request to live together for the year. In such a setting, students can learn from each other and share their knowledge with the greater Stonehill community. It is usually a very competitive process, and students are strongly encouraged to focus their projects around intellectual issues, thus combining curricular and co-curricular programming in a residence hall setting.

### Requirements

All full-time enrolled resident students are eligible to apply for special interest housing. Applicants must submit the following items in order to qualify for selection:

- A complete participant list, including alternates; showing the ability to completely fill a suite or one side of a townhouse;
- A completed Advisor Agreement Form;
- A typed proposal outlining the goals and purpose of the special interest group (see below for more information). **Please, no more than 5 pages;** and
- A 10-15 minute presentation explaining the benefits the group to the special interest housing selection committee.

### Information & Timelines

1. **Information Session: Tuesday, November 17, 2009 from 5-6 PM Martin 105.**
2. **Information Session: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 from 5-6 PM in College Center 107.**
3. **Applications Available Friday, January 22, 2010.**
4. **Applications must be submitted to the Residence Life Office by 4:30 PM on Friday, February 5th, 2010.**
5. **Presentations: February 8th – 16th 2010. Note: applicants must sign up for a presentation time slot at the Residence Life Office when they submit their applications.**
6. **A selection committee consisting of students and administrators will meet to review proposals on Wednesday, February 17th, 2010.**
7. **Decisions will be communicated to students by Friday, February 19th 2010. All decisions made by the selection committee, including placement, are considered final.**
8. Only fully completed applications will be considered for selection. Applicants should understand that the number of groups selected for participation may be limited based on the availability of space and the occupancy needs of the College. Placement options may also be limited at the discretion of the selection committee.
9. Once accepted into the special interest program students relinquish their right to be considered for other housing options or to enter the general lottery process.

## The Written Proposal (please no more than 5 pages)

The written component of the proposal must include the following:

1. The purpose and goals of the special interest housing group;
2. Answer how the group will link academic learning to their residential setting;
3. State the specific learning objectives the group will achieve during the 2010-11 academic year;
4. State the specific requirements of all students involved in the project and answer how these requirements will benefit each individual in the group;
5. Provide a detailed summary or a calendar of proposed activities and projects for the fall 2010 semester;
6. Explicitly state the ways in which the special interest housing group will *involve and benefit* the following the greater Stonehill College community.
7. State the ways in which the group will utilize their Faculty/Staff Advisor to achieve their goals;
8. Describe the methods by which the group will evaluate the success of their program.

## Expectations

- Each special interest housing group must name a student coordinator who will meet with the Associate Director of Residence Life on a monthly basis throughout the 2010-11 academic year.
- The student coordinator will be required to submit a 1-2 page summary of the group's achievements to the Associate Director of Residence Life at each monthly meeting. These summaries should include a review of the group's activities for that month and discuss upcoming activities or work for the following month.
- At the final meeting of the fall 2010 semester, the student coordinator will be required to submit a detailed calendar of all activities for the spring 2011 semester.

## Failure to Fulfill Expectations

- Groups selected for participation in the special interest housing program should understand the high expectations associated with this program and its overall importance to goals and academic mission of Stonehill College.
- At the end of the first semester, special interest housing groups that are not fulfilling expectations may be terminated, and students may be relocated to other areas on campus.
- Individuals or groups failing to adhere to the terms outlined by either the group's proposal or the College's Community Standards may be subject to relocation or other discipline at the discretion of Residence Life.



# Advisor Agreement Form

Special Interest Housing Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

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- All special interest housing groups must be advised by a current Stonehill College faculty member or administrator.
- Students should contact and discuss the opportunity to work with an advisor before submitting an application.
- The amount of time that this endeavor might involve will vary depending on the faculty member.
- An estimate of a minimum amount of time is probably one or two meetings each month, and perhaps an event/activity each month.
- Students participating in the special interest group will be responsible for coordinating and running all events.

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*I have read the special interest housing proposal and agree to collaborate with the special interest housing group listed above during the fall 2010 and spring 2011 semesters.*

Faculty/Staff Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_