November 30, 2020. If you resided in USH housing during any term of the 2020-2021 academic year or you were a current first-year student with a previously completed 2020-2021 lease agreement, you must complete a Housing Intent Form for the 2021-2022 academic year using the USH Resident Portal by November 30, 2020. The occupancy agreement must be signed by the student, and if applicable, the parent or guardian.

Enter this OCCS raffle for a chance to win a light timer! This timer will turn your lights on and off in response to the number provided when a student registers for an appointment. More information and terms of the raffle are available at the link provided. Free Student Legal Services is available on-campus by appointment. Currently, active students can make an appointment on MyWCU. At this time all scheduled appointments with the lawyer will occur via telephone call(s). Students are encouraged to bring documents to the designated appointment related to the legal issue (i.e., lease, citation, etc.).

Talking to your Student about Spring

As many of you know, while it was difficult, West Chester decided to remain remote in the Spring to ensure the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff. Many students, however, have expressed a desire to return to campus. Assuming that the need for remote learning will end soon, students, and families should consider this decision carefully.

Your college student has had many losses all pile up in a pandemic and a spring semester. Again, another loss that our students and families have to tackle. It can feel helpless as you watch your child make choices about returning to campus. Your student may not want to think about these things.

Your student is going to go through many different emotions during spring. One of the most common is anxiety. Your student might see spring break as a chance to have fun. As families consider returning to campus, your student might feel stress about what the future holds. They may also feel a sense of fear about what this means for their plans and future.

One thing you can help with, encourage your student to seek counseling support. Another way you can help is to try to create a safe space that your student knows they can talk to you about how they are feeling. It is important to try to listen without judgment and validate their feelings and needs.

Lastly, WCU has resources dedicated to overall well-being and student success. If current events in the lives of students have affected your student, we encourage them to seek counseling support. The Counseling Center offers free up to six sessions of counseling and can help with many issues, including but not limited to anxiety and stress management. They are now past the time to seek help. Your student should self-report by completing the anonymous and brief online questionnaire. They can also contact a counselor for a personal response over the secure website with any recommendations for further treatment.

If you are concerned about your student's well-being, please contact the Counseling Center to discuss the situation with a counselor. They can help you determine the best course of action for your student.

As always, please be in touch if you have any questions or concerns, I am more than happy to assist at your convenience. Contact information is provided for each department and office, so please feel free to reach out. Your student and their families appreciate the parents and guests sitting this one out. But stay tuned for some fun RamFam events coming up!

Greetings Ram Fam,

West Chester University of Pennsylvania

AMcCarthy@wcupa.edu

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