

CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES | NON-FUNDED WORK

Division of Student Affairs All Gender Room Assignments

Strategic Initiatives and Actions

Student Success

2.5 Examine and remove administrative barriers that impede timely degree or progression.

Capacity and Sustainability

4.12 Leverage technology to allow more time for people to engage in the activities that require human intervention (e.g., eliminating rote manual processes in favor of automatic ones).

Project Summary

Housing & Residential Education (HRE) has created an all-encompassing housing application that expands the traditional male/female room assignment option to include an all gender option for students. With the new option for students to choose an all gender room assignment, this will provide a more diverse and inclusive housing experience for new and returning students. Previously, all gender room requests required students to meet individually with HRE staff. In an effort to empower students and improve efficiency, HRE has enhanced their software, StarRez, to allow students completing their student housing application to electronically state preferences rather than meeting with staff. With this new implementation, HRE hopes to improve efficiency, student satisfaction and ratio of returning students.

Our campus is committed to placing students at the center of their educational experience. Housing & Residential Education (HRE) works diligently to ensure procedures continue to be student centered. The HRE staff is committed to personal attention and assistance, which for many students, begins with their housing application. Throughout history, residence halls were designed to distinguish students into two main groups: males and females. In an effort to promote an environment which encourages student success, HRE has implemented an all gender option to the housing application. This extends the option for students to select an all gender room assignment preference. Currently, housing assignments are conducted based upon gender. While there are mixed room assignments on the same floor of a residence hall, a typical room assignment consists of all males or all females. This addition provides students with the opportunity of an all gender room assignment. When a student wishes to search for a potential roommate, students who have selected this choice will only be able to search for other students who have also selected this preference as a living situation on their housing application. For roommate requests to be considered, all parties must accept each other's request in the Housing portal no later than the designated deadline date. For returning residents, additional time was provided to identify roommates and create roommate groups. Students were able to create all gender roommate groups without the need to meet with HRE staff. In the fall 2018 semester, a total of 56 residents had all gender assignments. In the spring 2019 semester, there was one addition for a total of 57. In providing choices for students to take the lead in different projects, such as establishing these roommate groups, it gives them the opportunity to step into leadership roles that they directly benefit from. We want every student to reach their potential and be effective community and global citizens. This is an opportunity for students to be placed in an environment with a diverse student population living within a near proximity for the duration of the school year. Living in a residential community provides an excellent opportunity for students to grow and develop in these areas.

Baseline Data

With recent growing numbers of gender identity and gender inclusivity efforts, HRE is committed to prioritizing a positive housing experience for all on campus residents. In the fall 2018 semester, there was a total of 56 residents who opted in for all gender assignments. In the spring 2019 semester, there was an addition, which brought the total to 57 students throughout the housing community.

Goals

For the coming 2019-20 AY, there are plans to create greater awareness for options that are being made available to both returning residents and new incoming residents. The goal is to continue creating all gender roommate groups without the need to meet with staff. In an effort to minimize the number of meetings with professional staff, HRE has enhanced their software, StarRez, to allow students completing their student housing application to electronically state preferences rather than meeting with staff. We will track utilization data for the 19-20 AY for baseline purposes and the number of students who return to HRE for the 20-21 AY.

Project Status

Complete, monitoring for tracking data.

Key Leaders and Divisions

Lead Division	Student Affairs
Collaborating Division	
Action Champions	Cindy Derrico
Action Project Leads	Janel Suliga