

Freshmen centers highlight this fall's housing changes

CECE VON KOLNITZ News Editor

Most freshmen living on campus will live in all-freshman dorms called Freshmen Centers. These centers include in Patterson, McClintock, Wade Hampton, the Towers and Bates House.

Gene Luna, director of housing, said, "What that means is, because of the unique needs of freshmen, we (the department of housing) will invest some resources in those centers that we won't in the upperclass halls where students are more mature and have been at the university longer."

The Academic Center for Excellence in the Towers how contains more modern computers and networked computers. Freshmen centers will have resource areas, or places where students can find information about the university. Freshmen who live in the Towers will find a microfridge in their room, a feature which is included in their rent package.

In addition to these changes, Luna said there will be about 20 sections of University 101 taught in residence halls, including Bates House, the Towers, Sims, Preston and Columbia Hall.

A \$35 technology fee will allow more dorms to be wired directly to the university's computer backbone. Luna said in Sims, Bates House and Preston, students who want them can have computer connections in their room and a resident technology assistant will provide help.

•**Capstone Area Office** has been moved to Columbia Hall. Luna said a new lobby configuration in Capstone should enhance safety. He said housing wants to offer students who live in Capstone an access control system, which may include the use of their student identification cards to unlock doors. According to Luna, the installation of that system will begin next year.

•**The Roost**, formerly an all-athlete residence hall, will be a traditional residence hall this fall to conform to NCAA regulations.

•**Luna said this year, Sims**, the residence hall in the middle of the women's quad, will look outstanding. Renovations include wall-to-wall

carpeting in all of the rooms. He said Preston and Sims will be the new standards for residence halls on campus.

Room changes The procedure for changing rooms will be different this fall. On Aug. 28, students can change rooms within their building by going to their area offices. Students who want to change buildings must wait until Aug. 30.

"My guess is we're going to be pretty full, and room changes are going to be tight in terms of rooms available," Associate Director of Housing Gretchen Koheler-Sheply said.

She said students who want different rooms will have to depend on room changes.

Students who are still on the waiting list will have to hope for "no-shows." She said there are 55 women and 20 men on the waiting list.

For late-breaking news about housing and room availability, Koheler-Sheply said the RHA channel is the best place to look.

Positive momentum Luna said the department of housing will continue to make improvements.

He said, "We have some real positive momentum for continuing to improve campus housing at USC."

One goal is to help students make residence hall rooms into homes.

Each year, housing conducts a perception study to find out how safe students feel in their residence halls and their opinion of the condition of the halls.

Luna said the survey is one of the ways the department gets feedback from students. He said the best way for students to have a say in residence hall decisions is for them to become involved with their residence hall governments.

"I keep a close contact with our Residence Hall Association and our residence hall councils. They have a voice with me and with all of my staff," Luna said.

"We keep our doors wide open so we can hear what people think we need to do as far as improving campus housing."

Awards

Two named distinguished professors

Ward Briggs, director of the USC Classical Studies Program, and Carol Myers-Scotton, a linguistics and English professor, have been named Carolina Distinguished Professors.

The honor is reserved for faculty members who have an exemplary record of scholarship, teaching and public service.

Briggs and Myers-Scotton will join a group of 27 USC Carolina Distinguished Professors.

Briggs, who has taught at USC since 1973, has written numerous books, including *The Biographical Dictionary of North American Classicists* and a new book scheduled for publication this year, *Greek Authors, Dictionary and Literary Biography*. A native of Riverside, California, Briggs earned a bachelor's degree in English and classics from Washington and Lee University and doctoral degrees in classics from the University of North Carolina.

Briggs has also been honored with the Louise Fry Scudder Faculty Award, the highest honor give by USC's College of Liberal Arts.

Myers-Scotton, who joined USC's faculty in 1986, has also taught at Michigan State and Yale Universities. A leading expert in codeswitching, or the use of two languages in the same conversation, Myers-Scotton has published two books published on the subject and was awarded a three-year National Science Foundation grant in 1994. The grant provides \$220,000 to study the grammatical aspects of codeswitching. Myers-Scotton earned a bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of Wisconsin.

Carolina Distinguished Professors serve three-year renewable terms and receive a \$5,000 stipend. The award is based on recommendations from the deans of different colleges, the University Committee on Named and Distinguished Professorships and the provost.

Criteria for receiving the honor include outstanding performance in

the quality and number of scholarly works; the ability to enhance the university's reputation through regional, national and international work; quality of teaching; service to the university and their profession; and professional conduct.

Scudder Award goes to forensic anthropologist

Forensic anthropologist Dr. Ted Rathbun has earned the highest faculty award given by USC's College of Liberal Arts. The Louise Fry Scudder Faculty Award recognizes faculty members for excellence in undergraduate and graduate teaching, student mentoring and advising, and other contributions. Established in 1995, the Scudder award is the university's only award that recognizes every aspect of a faculty member's achievements.

Rathbun, a professor in USC's anthropology department, is one of only 42 licensed forensic anthropologists in the country. He has served as South Carolina's Deputy State Archaeologist for Forensic Anthropology since 1985 and has been a consultant to the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory in Honolulu, Hawaii, since 1989.

A native of Ellsworth, Kansas, Rathbun earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Kansas. He is former director of the American Board of Forensic Anthropology and a current editorial board member for the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*.

Honors

Alumni council names new board members

USC's Black Alumni Council has announced its new board members for the 1996-98 term.

The newly elected board members are Reggie Alexander, who was graduated in 1987 and is an employee of Allstate Insurance Co.; Terrance Alridge, who was graduated in 1988 and is an administrator at Spring Valley High School; Russell Brown, who was graduated in 1985 and is currently a USC graduate student; Davaris Davis, who was graduated

in 1992 and is a customer service employee of 3 Sigma; Deirdre Davis, who was graduated in 1989 and is an employee of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's human resources division; Vanessa Hill, who was graduated in 1988 and is an accountant for the USC Alumni Association; Derrick Huggins, who was graduated in 1990 and is director of USC Transportation Services; and Lewis Nelson, who was graduated in 1984 and is an employee of Allstate Insurance Company.

The BAC was established in 1980 to increase participation and involvement of black alumni in the alumni association and to sustain black alumni interest in university affairs.

The council has established the Richard T. Greener Endowment Fund, the first endowment and scholarship fund for black students studying and performing research at USC.

The Louise Fry Scudder Faculty Award is given annually and includes a one-time stipend of \$2,000.

USC's Department of Theatre, Speech and Dance is holding auditions for its fall semester shows Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. in Longstreet Theatre. The shows include "Fie! Fie! Fi-Fi!" a musical comedy by F. Scott Fitzgerald, directed by Richard K. Blair; "A Taste of Honey" by Shelagh Delaney, directed by Jim Patterson; and "To Kill A Mockingbird" dramatized by Christopher Sergel, from the novel by Harper Lee, directed by Ann Dreher.

Auditions are open to all actors. Because of production scheduling requirements principal roles have already been cast for "Fie! Fie! Fi-Fi!" but chorus roles are available. All other roles in these productions are open. Each actor should prepare a two-minute monologue. Each director will arrange callbacks for individual shows.

Graduate honored posthumously

Dr. Charles William "Bill" Murtiashaw III, a 1983 Ph.D. chemistry graduate who died last October, was awarded posthumously with the state's highest civilian honor during a ceremony at USC's Faculty

House. S.C. Sen. Warren Giese, acting on behalf of Governor David Beasley, presented the Order of the Palmetto to Murtiashaw's family during a reception honoring the late chemist's life. The award recognized Murtiashaw's "interest in and friendship to the state of South Carolina and its people."

The creation of the Murtiashaw Memorial Fund, which will support graduate fellowships and a lecture series in USC's department of chemistry and biochemistry, was announced.

Murtiashaw, a graduate of Dreher High School, was a senior research investigator with Pfizer Central Research when he died. During his 10 year career with the company, he made helped advance treatments for human and animal diseases, including diabetes, cancer, arthritis and other central nervous system diseases.

Those wishing to contribute to the Murtiashaw fund may do so through the USC Development Office. Checks should be made payable to the USC Educational Foundation, re: Murtiashaw Memorial Fund.

Announcements

USC receives seven research awards

USC recently received seven of 11 grants awarded to the state's Department of Defense EPSCoR program, a program to stimulate competitive defense research in South Carolina.

The grants, valued at more than \$3 million, qualify for matching funds from the S.C. General Assembly, making them worth nearly \$4 million. Among the most valuable awards were those given to Ron DeVore and Bjorn Jawerth, faculty members in the department of mathematics. DeVore's grant, worth \$515,000, will go toward image processing for both military and civilian applications. Jawerth's \$499,000 award will fund research applicable to the manufacturing of aerospace equipment.

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