

Task Force - Living & Learning Outline

Scholars Village- University Scholars Program

I. Village general statistics

A. Date established

The University Scholars Program (USP) has been located in Sullivan Hall since 1985. The residential environment has been a vital and central component of the program's emphasis and focus since this time. Following the release of the report of the *Task Force on Leaving and Learning* in 2002, University Scholars Program and University Housing staff began developing the Scholars Village, which was inaugurated during the 2003-2004 academic year.

B. Number currently enrolled

Number by class, race, gender, college

Residents by Year

Race	Number	Percentage
First Year	299	67.34%
Second Year	95	21.40%
Third Year	39	8.78%
Fourth Year	8	1.80%
Fifth Year	3	0.68%
Total	444	100.00%

Residents by Race

Race	Number	Percent
Native Am.	1	0.23
African Am.	25	5.63
Asian	28	6.31
Hispanic	9	2.03
Caucasian	359	80.86
Undeclared	22	4.95
Total	444	100.00

Residents by Gender

Gender	Total	Percentage
Male	277	62.39%
Female	167	37.61%
Total	444	100.00%

Residents by College

College	Total	Percentage
CALS	70	15.77%
Design	4	0.90%
Education	2	0.45%
Engineering	228	51.35%
Natural Res.	7	1.58%
CHASS	42	9.46%
PAMS	30	6.76%
Textiles	18	4.05%
Management	29	6.53%
FYC	14	3.15%
Total	444	100.00%

C. Location

Sullivan Residence Hall

D. Projected Village growth 07-08

We anticipate the number of participants in 07-08 to be similar to this year's number.

E. Increase in participants since becoming a Village

The number of the participants has decreased somewhat since the establishment of the village due to the fact that the size of other programs/villages that recruit first year students (WISE, University Honors Program) has increased in recent years and because upper class students have begun to take advantage of new and innovative on-campus housing options like Wolf Village.

II. Village expectations of participants

A. 1st year participants

- First year village participants enroll in the Scholars Forum, a zero credit hour course that features lectures by prominent figures and performances by accomplished artists. These major lectures and performances are complemented by tickets to plays, concerts, international films, galleries, special museum exhibitions on campus and in the surrounding community and field trips to cultural sites and research centers throughout the region. The USP also delivers a film

series, discussion series, book club, alumni dinner series, and a faculty dinner series through the Scholars Forum.

- In 2006-07 first-year participants in the USP who live in the Scholars Village were eligible for the *Village In Action Program (VIA)*. The program provided these first-year USP students the opportunity to join one of six VIA groups. In the Fall 2006 semester each group included between 13-17 students, a staff member and a student Scholars Village Assistant. Each group attended six events: a welcome dinner followed by an acclaimed foreign film, an arts event, an educational field trip, an outdoor leadership event, a students' choice discussion, and an international dinner that included a conversation about the culture of an Asian country. 101 students participated in the program in Fall 2006. Because of the success of the Fall 2006 experience and at the request of student participants, the program is being offered again in the Spring 2007 semester, and 60 students are participating. University Housing staff members who work in the Scholars Village are participating in the program this semester
- Village residents are also encouraged to register for Honors and First Year Inquiry courses as they work to complete the University Scholars Program's academic requirements.
- To remain active in the village students must maintain a GPA of 3.25. First-year students who have GPAs between 2.75 and 3.24 are allowed a one-semester probation period to improve their GPAs to 3.25.

B. 2nd year participants if applicable

- University Scholars complete three semesters of the Scholars Forum. Most second year students complete this requirement during their third semester at the University but some complete this during their fourth semester at NC State.
- Second year students have the opportunity to take a leadership role in the village by serving as a Resident Advisor or Scholars Village Assistant.

III. Programming

A. Number and type of Village programs/activities 05-06

Scholars Village Assistants: The Scholars Village Assistants have done an outstanding job of making our village an intellectually engaging and socially active place. In 2005-06, they organized a dozen conversations focused on current events, ranging from a conversation about "Assimilation in Europe" to a discussion of "Evolution and Intelligent Design." Scholars Village Assistants organized several "Forum Follow-Up" conversations during the year. These peer moderated conversations allowed students the opportunity to engage in

discussions of "Stem Cell Research" and "The War in Iraq." They also led small groups of students around campus and across the Triangle as they coordinated the implementation of many of the optional activities included in the Scholars Forum. Social programming was also an important component of their work. The SVA "Cookie Nights" continued to be quite successful, sometimes drawing 200 village residents. Other social events included a trip to the North Carolina Zoo, multiple pizza get-togethers and a concert in Chapel Hill.

Scholars Forum: In recent years, the University Scholars Program staff has worked to increase the range of programming offered in the Scholars Village. In 2005-06, our Book Club and our Alumni Dinner Series were scheduled in the village. The USP office in the Scholars Village provides free newspapers (New York Times, News & Observer, USA Today) for Village residents; these newspapers are also used in the Scholars Forum and as the foundation for the conversations in our weekly discussion series.

Sullivan Hall Activities Council and Scholars Council: The Scholars Council and Sullivan Hall Activities Council organized numerous social, service, and educational programs for University Scholars and residents of the Scholars Village during the 2005-2006 year. To build and strengthen the community, they organized outstanding social programs such as the annual Ice Cream Social, Salsa Dancing, Wafting on the Eno River, Sailing on Lake Johnson, and trips to Adventure Landing and a Hurricanes game. Over 300 students attended the annual Semiformal in December and End of the Year Picnic in April! An Arts Series, an Etiquette Dinner, a World Religions Series, and a trip to Morehead Planetarium were some of the educational program offerings for the year. University Scholars also had opportunities to serve others in need by leading groups of children from the Boys and Girls Club at the annual Halloween Carnival, participating in Service Raleigh, and fundraising for the Red Cross at two video game tournaments.

B. Significant programs

See above.

C. What new Village initiatives have been created during the 06-07 academic year?

The *Village in Action* program (See II. a) was created during 2006-07. Student and staff response to this program has been overwhelmingly positive. We hope we have the resources to expand it next year.

D. Village student government/council structure and accomplishments

The Scholars Village has two student led organizations focused on delivering programming that is centered on the village and its residents. The Scholars Council is a group of 30 elected NCSU students who are participating in the University Scholars Program. SHAC is made up of residents from Sullivan Hall who seek to become active in Sullivan Hall's activities. SHAC manages funding supplied by the University and sets up programs open to Sullivan residents.

IV. Assessment

A. Activities

The University Scholars Program surveys students about the program and its activities at the end of each semester. In recent years, assessment activities have also focused on the programming delivered by Scholars Village Assistants, particularly the "Forum Follow-Up" and "Contemporary Issues" events they design and implement. USP and University Housing staff are scheduled to develop surveys during the remainder of the Spring 2007 semester for the residents of the Scholars Village and participants in the VIA program.

B. Key findings

Village residents who have participated in programs facilitated by the Village Assistants have evaluated the programs quite positively. They have claimed increased understanding of the topics covered, indicated that they were able to engage in meaningful conversations about the issues that were considered, and said that the events increased their interest in the topics discussed.

C. How was the data used?

SVA programming has been expanded. Peer-moderated conversations are an important component of the village experience.

D. How has the partnership with University Housing enhanced the Village?

University Housing and its staff have played a vital role in enhancing the village. They have helped to provide a vision for the village by assisting with the development of a mission statement and series of objectives for the village. They provide support for village programs and activities. They assist with the recruitment, training, supervision and evaluation of the Scholars Village Assistants. They are promoting collaboration between Resident Advisors and Scholars Village Assistants. They are participating in the development of new initiatives for the village such as the *VIA* program, assigning University Scholars to be Resident Advisors in the village and considering ways to upgrade several lounges in the village.

V. Administrative Council

A. Role

Policy decisions related to the University Scholars Program and its components are made by the University Scholars Program Advisory Committee. The committee meets 3-4 times each semester. The committee includes representatives from all of NC State's colleges, the Division of Student Affairs, and the Caldwell Fellows and Park Scholarships programs. There are also two

USP students on the committee. The committee has traditionally had one member from University Housing. In the interest of strengthening conversations about the development of the Scholars Village, the number of University Housing representatives on the committee was increased from 1 to 3 during 2006-07. Representatives from University Housing include Susan Grant, Director of University Housing, Kala Bullett, Associate Director of West Campus, and Hassel Morrison, Assistant Director for Sullivan Hall. In addition, University Housing and University Scholars staff meet approximately 4 times each semester to specifically discuss opportunities to enhance the direction of the Scholars Village experience. This group includes Sean Cassidy, Kala Bullett, Bengt Carlson, Hassel Morrison, Ken Johnson, and Allison Medlin. The focus of the group this year has been to address goals for USP and University Housing partnership, provide unique and intentional ways of connecting with village participants, and identify ways to strengthen the living/learning component of the village experience. Members of the group are currently focusing on SVA supervision/expectations and selection, village marketing and branding, lounge renovations, and village experience assessment.

B. Members 06-07

NAME	Dept/College Program	Position
Philip Dail	Chair / Textiles	Director of Advising & Admissions
Barbara Kirby	CALS	Assistant Director of Academic Programs
John Tector	Design	Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Michael Clinkscales	Education	Director, Teaching Fellows Program
Jerome Lavelle	Engineering	Assistant Dean, Academic Affairs
Brian Koehler	Engineering	Coordinator, First Year Engineering Program
Chris Chafin	First Year College	Adviser
Sheila Smith-McKoy	CHASS	Director of Diversity Programs
Paul Williams	Management	Professor
Lucian Lucia	Natural Resources	Associate Professor
Chaffee Viets	Parks Scholarships Program	Associate Director
Jo-Ann Cohen	PAMS	Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
Janice Odom	Caldwell Programs	Director
Kristin Thoney	Textiles	Assistant Professor
Susan Grant	University Housing	Director

Kala Bullett	University Housing	Associate Director
Hassel Morrison	University Housing	Assistant Director
Alex Miller	USP	Director, Associate Vice Chancellor
Sean Cassidy	USP	Associate Director
John Coggin	USP Student	Scholars Village Assistant
Robert Bradley	USP Student	Scholars Council

C. Number of Council Meetings for 05-06

USP and University Housing staff working in the Scholars Village met approximately six times during 2005-06. The USP Advisory Committee met six times during 2005-06.

D. What are the goals/objectives that have not been met and why?

Mission Statement and objectives have been developed. Goals are being met.

E. What are the next steps needed to advance the Village?

Our next steps will focus on enhancing the value of living and learning in the Scholars Village for our students, expanding the range of programming offered in the village and developing partnerships with other villages and units on campus. We are also beginning work on designing survey instruments for residents and developing assessment activities that will be carried out in 2007-08.

F. What specific resources are needed to enhance the Village? (Financial, space, renovation, etc.)

The large size of Sullivan Hall and the kind support of University Housing have combined to make the Scholars Village a home to over 400 University Scholars and have allowed us to make the Village a diverse, active and dynamic community. The lack of common space in the building makes it difficult to fully integrate our programming in the building and the building lacks indoor and outdoor spaces for informal and social and academic gatherings. In the short term, USP and University Housing staff plan to enhance several of the lounges in the building to reflect village goals, themes and programming. We also hope to schedule courses in the village in coming years to enhance its status as an academic and intellectual center for our residents. Longer-term goals will be defined as plans to redevelop West Campus move forward.

VI. Mentors

A. Name of position
Scholars Village Assistant

B. Number

6

C. Hours committed/week

6-8

D. Duties/expectations/job description

The Scholars Village Assistants:

- Assist with move-in in August.
- Assist with the design, development and implementation of the Scholars Forum series.
- Design programming that educates students about contemporary issues.
- Assist with the development and implementation of Village in Action (VIA) groups.
- Design programming related to the Division of Student Affairs diversity theme.
- Develop, advertise and promote building-wide social and educational events to Scholars Village.
- Build effective partnerships with the residential staff. An essential element of the Scholars Village Assistant position is the establishment of a collegial relationship with the Resident Advisors (RAs) on the floor. The efforts of the Scholars Village Assistant should complement and support the efforts of the RA.
- Take turns making their rooms available for viewing when a model room needs to be shown to prospective students.
- Serve as ambassadors for the USP at various events such as:
 1. CALS Honors Visitation Day
 2. Engineering Open House
 3. University Open House
 4. African American Visitation Day
- Serve as liaisons between the Sullivan Hall Activities Council and Scholars Council.
- Regularly attend events sponsored by SHAC and Scholars Council and encourage their fellow residents to attend these events.

E. GPA requirement

3.25

F. Compensation

Meal plan (7 meals and 500 points per semester) and hourly salary for working events associated with the Scholars Forum schedule. The USP provides funding for the program.

VII. Annual operating costs 05-06

A. Total Costs by contributor and function

1. Services in Kind

University Housing provides the USP with a suite of offices on the first floor of Sullivan Hall.

2. Dollars

Funding for the USP is provided by University Housing in the Division of Student Affairs and through state-appropriated budgets.

2005-06

Description	Amount
Meal Plans for Scholars Village Assistants (9)	\$9,000.00
Stipend for SVAs (9)	\$9,000.00
Support for Scholars Forum Activities scheduled in the Village	\$3,000.00
Scholars Council Funding	\$3,500.00
Support for Outdoor Leadership Activities that many residents participated in	\$3,000.00
Support for Field Trips that many Village residents participated in	\$4,000.00
	\$31,500.00

B. Projected operating costs for 06-07

2006-07

Category	Amount
Meal Plans for Scholars Village Assistants (6)	\$7,500.00
Salary for SVAs (6)	\$7,500.00
Support for Scholars Forum Activities scheduled in the Village	\$3,000.00
Support for <i>Village in Action</i> Activities, Meals and Transportation	\$6,500.00
Scholars Council Funding	\$3,500.00
Support for Outdoor Leadership Activates that many residents participate in	\$3,000.00
Support for Field Trips that many Village residents participate in	\$4,000.00
	\$35,000.00