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ABSTRACT A national survey of two-year colleges with residence hall programs was conducted to determine the size and scope of the programs; the availability of specialized housing; programs and services available within the housing system; the existence of policies on room assignments, fire and safety, damage and vandalism, security, discipline, room searches, drug/alcohol use, etc.; priorities and concerns unique to two-year college residence programs; and plans and anticipated challenges. Questionnaires were sent to the Chief Executive Officers of the 244 institutions with current residence hall systems. Study findings, based on responses from 77 public and 27 private two-year colleges (a 46.7% response rate) included the following: (1) most public institutions with residence halls were found in the South and in states with relatively low population concentration per square mile; (2) the housing systems tended to be small, with 80% of the colleges having less than 500 beds; (3) 92.2% of the housing systems did their own maintenance/custodial services in-house, but only 41% utilized in-house food services; (4) co-ed housing was available on 39 campuses; (5) 38 colleges had special housing for athletes, 17 for married students, 12 for international students, and 4 had institutionally sponsored sororities and fraternities; (6) 70 campuses had conference housing during the summer; (7) study lounges were available in 72 housing facilities, 36 had tutoring available, 17 had computer terminals, and 2 offered credit classes within the facility; and (8) alcohol and drug use, eating disorders, and wellness or fitness programs emerged as major concerns. A list of colleges willing to share residence hall policy statements is included. (EJV)
RESIDENCE HALL SYSTEMS AT COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

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Vincennes University Junior College
Vincennes, IN 47591
812-885-4377

Roundtable Presented at the 1988 AACJC Convention
Las Vegas, NE
April 25-27, 1988

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J. E. Budig

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)"
RESIDENCE HALL SYSTEMS AT COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

It has come to our attention that a surprisingly large number of public and private community, junior, and technical colleges have residence halls systems. Yet virtually nothing is widely known about this enterprise.

How many two-year colleges operate housing systems? How large are they? Are the priorities and challenges of residence halls on two-year campuses the same as those at four-year campuses? What housing needs and services characterize the two-year college residence hall? A survey has been designed and conducted by Vincennes University to help collect needed information and answer these and other questions.

The Population and Sample

A total of 317 two-year colleges reporting "days per week for board" in a NCES publication ("College Costs: Basic Student Charges, 2-Year Institutions, 1983-84") were identified. These institutions were cross-checked against the 1986 AACJC Directory No. 3., "Statistical Analysis," to determine AACJC membership and most currently available full-time and part-time enrollment.

A total of 244 institutions with current residence hall systems were identified, 82 private and 162 public institutions. A questionnaire was sent to the Chief Executive Officer of these 244 institutions in June 1987, with a followup to nonrespondents in August. A total of 114 useable responses were
received (46.7%). Nine colleges had discontinued their residence hall program or were no longer operating as junior colleges.

Results which follow are based on the responses of 77 public and 27 private two-year colleges.

Summary of Findings

- The concentration of public institutions with residence halls is found in the South (Alabama, Mississippi, Texas) and in states with relatively low population concentration per square mile - i.e., those states with "wide open spaces" (Texas, Nebraska, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming).

- The largest public institution dormitory systems were found in California. In Kansas, Texas, and Mississippi, MOST of the public institutions operated residence halls.

- In the northeast sector, most of the institutions with residence halls were private institutions. The exception appears to be New York, where six branches of SUNY A&T operated residence halls.

Scope and Size

- Housing systems at two-year colleges tend to be small. Eighty percent of the survey respondents had less than 500 beds assigned (fall semester 1987). The three systems larger than 1,200 beds were Vincennes University Vincennes, IN (N=2,168); Ricks College, Rexburg, ID (N=1,360) and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton GA (N=1,130).

- Full time enrollment at virtually all of these institutions declined between 1985 and 1987. Only 25 of the responding institutions reported occupancy levels below 80%. Fourteen reported currently unused halls; nineteen were planning additional construction within the next ten years.

- The majority of the housing systems did their own maintenance/custodial services in-house (92.2%). About sixty percent contracted out food service, and 41% utilized in-house services.
Specialized Housing

- CO-ED housing was available on 39 campuses (28%) and will be discontinued at three campuses.

- 31 campuses have QUIET FLOORS and they are planned at seven more campuses. Two colleges plan to discontinue quiet floors.

- Special housing for ATHLETES was reported by 38 schools. It is planned by one school and two campuses plan to discontinue it.

- 17 campuses have housing for MARRIED STUDENTS. Four more plan it and two plan to discontinue it.

- Twelve colleges report special housing for INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. Two plan to enlarge their programs, one to add a program and two to discontinue specialized housing for international students.

- Four campuses report institutionally-operated SORORITIES/FRATERNITIES. Two of these campuses plan to discontinue it; a fifth plans to add it.

- Three campuses report specialized housing which is accessible to the HANDICAPPED. Two more report this as a pressing challenge.

- Specialized housing for HONORS STUDENTS was reported by four campuses.

- Seventy campuses reported CONFERENCE HOUSING during the summer; four more are planning it. Five institutions reported year-round conference housing. Two of the campuses with unused residence halls reported plans to convert it/them to conference housing.
Programming

What programs/services are available within your housing systems? Do you plan to add, maintain, enlarge, or discontinue these?

A. Academic/Academic Support

- STUDY LOUNGES are available on 72 of the reporting campuses. Four more campuses plan to add them.
- Thirty-six of the campuses report TUTORING in the residence halls; two more will add this.
- Seventeen campuses reported COMPUTER TERMINALS in the forms; sixteen more campuses have them planned. Funding was the major limitation.
- CREDIT CLASSES (in the residence halls) were reported at two colleges and planned at a third college. DORM LIBRARIES reported in three colleges and planned in two more.

B. Health Issues

- ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE emerged as one of the major concerns in junior college residence halls programs. Seventy-eight (75%) of the respondents reported education programs, and eight more were planning them. Six of the private church-related schools reported that this was "usually not a problem" on their campuses, but four reported educational programs either currently available or in the planning process. Fifty-nine schools reported intervention programs currently available, and six more will have them soon.
- EATING DISORDER programs were available at 33 colleges and planned at five more.
- WELLNESS OR FITNESS PROGRAMS were active at 47 colleges and planned at five more. Four colleges are enlarging their wellness/fitness programs.

C. Recreation and other support

- Seventeen campuses reported WEIGHT ROOMS in their residence halls. One will discontinue this and two are planning them.
- Nine campuses volunteered TV/VCR rooms as recreational facilities. Ten volunteered POOL/BILLARDS rooms and eight GAME OR RECREATION ROOMS.
- Four colleges reported COUNSELING CENTERS in the residence hall. One reported a CHAPEL as an additional support program.
Organization and Management Issues

Have you, or are you preparing, policies regarding the following:

- Three-forths or more of the respondents reported having, or being in the process of developing, policies relating to:
  
  Room Assignments  Fire and Safety  
  Billing/Payment  Damage and Vandalism  
  Alcohol/Drug Abuse  Residence Hall Security  
  Discipline/judicial system

- At least half of the respondents reported having or having under development policies relating to:
  
  A RH Handbook  Housing Contract  
  Room Search by Staff  
  Open visitation  
  Room search by staff

- A great deal of activity currently seems to be underway regarding development and implementation of policies in these areas:
  
  Assessing student satisfaction  
  Energy conservation  
  Resident Grade Point Average  
  Institutional charge-backs to auxiliary funds for general services

Thirty-two institutions indicated that they currently have and are willing to share their policy statements. They are identified below.
The Greatest Challenges Facing Community and Junior College Residential Housing Systems for the Next Five Years

- The most frequently mentioned challenge was DRUG/ALCOHOL ABUSE (N=36). Recent changes in the drinking age in several states was frequently mentioned.

- FINANCE is a major concern. Meaningful COST/EFFICIENT PROGRAMS was mentioned by 30 colleges. The cost of RENOVATION was cited by seven responses; and of ENERGY OR MAINTENANCE eight respondents.

- Maintaining OCCUPANCY RATES was cited by 18 colleges. Five campuses reported DECLINING ENROLLMENT as a major challenge. Eight reported COMPETITION from area rental units or neighboring colleges as a major problem. RETENTION was mentioned six times.

- PROGRAMMING is a major issue. Programming for an increasingly DIVERSE POPULATION was cited by 14 colleges. The continuing need to develop SELF-DISCIPLINE among a very young population was indicated as a challenge by thirteen colleges.

- DAMAGE/VANDALISM was a major challenge at nine colleges, and SECURITY in the residence halls at 7. Eight colleges reported needing MORE SPACE, and seven reported the need for housing for NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS. HANDICAPPED ACCESS was listed twice.
Are the Needs and Concerns of the Two-Year College Different from those of the Four-Year College?

- Although six respondents felt that the problems and concerns were essentially the same, ten others felt that there were major differences at two-year schools. Among the differences cited were:

1. Lack of (upper division) positive role models
2. Short period of time in which to make a positive impact on the students;
3. Wider demographic heterogeneity among the junior college student;
4. Frequently lower academic preparation of the incoming student;
5. Students frequently have lower academic aspirations
6. Larger amount of career indecisiveness among this group;
7. Larger degree of unrealistic career aspirations;
8. Poorer goal-attainment orientation among students; and
9. Weaker pool of applicants for residence halls professional and support staff (due to lack of upper division and graduate programs).

Is there a need for an organization (or clearing house) devoted specifically to the two-year residential housing community?

- Seven said "no need", that their needs were currently met by either IACRAO or its regional affiliates, or by their own personal network.

- Six said that existing organizations (IACRAO) should be urged to pay more attention to the specific needs of two-year--particularly rural, small, private and/or church-related--systems. It should be noted that the current (1987) ACUHO directory lists only SIX AACJC institutions among its members.

- Thirty-four indicated that a separate organization or clearing house would have some merit.
If there were such an organization, would you be interested in participation?

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<td>11</td>
</tr>
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<td>No response</td>
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</table>

If there were such an organization, what services would you like to see offered?

1. Clearinghouse of information
2. Regional workshops/conferences: current issues, staff orientation, development; legal issues
3. Materials especially directed toward small or church-related programs
4. Innovative, effective, low-cost ideas
5. Policies that worked; things that DIDN'T work (and why)
6. Job announcements/vacancies
7. Directory
Types of Policies

1. Residence Hall Handbook
2. A housing contract
3. Open visitation hours
4. Disciplinary/judicial systems
5. Damage and vandalism
6. Alcohol/drug abuse
7. Room assignments
8. Billing/payment
9. Institutional charge-back for general services
10. Fire and safety
11. Energy conservation
12. Residence hall security
13. Room search by staff
14. Residence grade point average
15. Assessing student satisfaction

Willing To Share Policies

Number of Beds Assigned
Fall 1987

I. Public

Willing to Share (See Legend Above)

99

1. Arkansas State University-Beebe Branch
   Beebe Branch
   Beebe, AK 72012
   Ben Pickard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
   501-882-6452

87

2. Snead State Junior College
   Boaz, AL 35957
   Bill Osborn, President
   205-593-5120

347

3. Yavapai College
   Prescott, AZ 86301
   Paula Grutzmaccher-Simpson, Director of Campus Life
   602-445-7300
Number of Beds Assigned
Fall 1987

Willing to Share
(See Legend Above)

4. Bakersfield Community College
   Bakersfield, CA 93305
   Kathleen M. Rosellini, Director of Student Affairs
   805-395-4355

5. Sierra Community College
   Rocklin, CA 95677
   Melody Trujillo, Housing Supervisor
   916-624-3333 Ext. 2435

6. College of the Siskiyous
   Weed, CA 96094
   Jim Arack, V.P. Student Services
   916-938-4462 Ext. 215

7. Lamar Community College
   Lamar, CO 81052
   Marvin E. Lane, President
   303-336-2248

8. Vincennes University Junior College
   Vincennes, IN 47591
   Patricia Jost, Dir. of Housing
   812-885-4225

9. North Iowa Area Community College
   Mason City, IA 50401
   Director of Housing
   515-423-1264

10. Cloud County Community College
    Concordia, KS 67030
    Jerome LeTourneau, Dean of Student Services
    913-243-1435

11. New Hampshire Technical Institute
    Concord, NH 03301
    Jan Sullivan Curtis, Director of Residence Life
    603-225-1862

Page 11
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1. **Mid-Prairie Technical Community College Area**  
   North F., NB 69101  
   William C. Hasemeyer, President  
   306-534-9265  
   116  
   1 2 3 4 5 6 10 11 12 13 15

2. **North Dakota State College of Science**  
   Wahpeton, ND 58075  
   Michael D. Johnson, Director, Residential Services  
   701-761-2194  
   1,247  
   2 3 4 13

3. **SUNY College of Technology at Farmingdale**  
   Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735  
   Walter A. Schnell, Asst. V.P. Student Affairs  
   516-420-2702  
   927  
   1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

4. **SUNY College of Technology at Canton**  
   Canton, NY 13617  
   Daniel Sweeney, Director of Residential Life  
   315-386-7513  
   1,122  
   1 2 3 5 7

5. **Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College**  
   Miami, OK 74354  
   Bobby J. Hayes, Director of Housing  
   918-542-8441  
   998  
   1 2  Also job descriptions, Calendar of Events, Other administrative documents

6. **Treasure Valley Community College**  
   Ontario, OR 97914  
   Bernie Babcock, Housing Director  
   503-889-6493  
   327  
   1 2 4 5 6 10 12 13

7. **Howard County Junior College District**  
   Big Spring, TX 79720  
   Cheri T. Sparks, V.P. for Student Life  
   915-267-6311  
   165  
   1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 10 12 13 15

8. **Odessa College**  
   Odessa, TX 79764  
   Dr. Roy H. Hart, Dean of Student Services  
   915-335-6430  
   165  
   1 2 4 5

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Number of Beds Assigned
Fall 1987

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II. Private

23. Lees College
   Jackson, KY 41339
   Basil B. Clark, Dean of Students
   606-666-7521

24. Bethany Lutheran College
    Mankato, MN 56001
    Marvin G. Meyer, President
    507-625-2977

25. Chowan College
    Murfreesboro, NC 27855
    Clayton Lewis, Dean of Students
    919-398-4101

26. Peace College
    Raleigh NC 27604
    M. Janice Edwards, Dean of Students
    919-832-2881

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14
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<td>27. Paul Smiths College</td>
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<td>Paul Smiths, NY 12970</td>
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<td>Rob Lutomski, Director of Residence Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>518-327-6222</td>
<td>Also professional staff handbook</td>
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<td>152</td>
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<td>28. Kettering College of Medical Arts</td>
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<td>Kettering, OH 45429</td>
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<td>Ms. Sherry Nelson, Residence Hall Dean</td>
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<td>513-296-7201</td>
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<td>473</td>
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<td>Karen VanNorman,</td>
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page 14
Summary of Responses
Residence Halls Systems at Community and Junior Colleges

Conducted by Vincennes University Junior College
Vincennes, IN 48591
Dr. Jeanne E. Budig, Assistant to the President for Research and Planning

Do you operate a Residence Hall Program? (105) Yes (9) No

1. Scope and Size of Residence Hall program:

Number of beds assigned for fall 1987:

<table>
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<th>1-100</th>
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<th>301-500</th>
<th>501-599</th>
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<td>6</td>
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Maintenance / Custodial

- In-house: 92.2%
- Contracted: 7.8%

Food service

- In-house: 40.8%
- Contracted: 59.2%

Specialized Housing:

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<td>5</td>
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<td>Quiet Floors</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Coed</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Married students</td>
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<td>4</td>
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Conference housing?

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<td>Summer only</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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Scope and Size of Residence Hall Program (Continued)

New residence hall planned? (86) No  (19) Yes  Year: By 1990: 13
1990-2000: 6

Currently unused residence hall(s)?  (91) No  (14) Yes

Plans for utilization: conversion, sale/lease, etc

(Fall 1987)
Room and Board rates
Meal Plans

NOTE: There was too much variation in responses to provide meaningful information regarding room and board plans and rates per week.

II. Programming

What programs/services are available within your housing systems? Do you plan to add, maintain, enlarge, or discontinue these?

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<th>Planned</th>
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<th>Enlarge</th>
<th>Discontinue</th>
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page 16
III. Organization and Management Issues

Have you, or are you preparing, policies regarding:

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IV. What do you consider to be the greatest challenges facing community and junior college residential housing systems for the next five years?

1. Health issues: drugs/alcohol abuse (36); AIDS (7)
2. Finance: cost control (30); energy and/or maintenance (8); renovation (7)
3. Staffing/staff development (18)
4. Programming for more diverse students (14); developing self-discipline (13); damage/vandalism (9)
5. Maintaining occupancy rate (18); retention (6); competition from rental units and other colleges (8)
V. Although about one-fourth of the nation's community and junior colleges operate residential housing systems, there is presently no organization or central clearing house for information. If there were one, would you be interested in participation?

<table>
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What services would you like to see offered?

1. Focus on unique problems of junior colleges and appropriate for small, rural, perhaps church-related colleges.
2. Clearinghouse/sharing of information
3. Periodic newsletter
4. Conferences/seminars/workshops: legal issues, staff development
5. Job announcements