Dear VSU Parent:

December 10, 2012

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for entrusting your child to our care for the 2012-2013 school year. Since my arrival at VSU seven years ago, our office has made great strides in making sure we provide comfortable accommodations that enhance the academic experience for every student at Valdosta State. One of my goals is to better communicate with parents on what is happening within Housing and Residence Life. With this goal in mind, I want you to be informed about the residence hall choices we are making available to your returning student for the 2013-2014 school year. I know this is the time of year when most students start thinking about moving off-campus, and I wanted you to be informed of all the options we will have available for the fall.

Upperclassmen (those who have achieved a sophomore status or above), will be able to choose from Centennial Hall, Converse Hall, and Hopper Hall. Centennial Hall features individual bedrooms, a kitchen shared by no more than 4 residents, 1-2 bathrooms, and a dining/living room area. Converse Hall offers two varieties of apartments - efficiency units, which house one resident and traditional one-bedroom apartments, which house two residents. Hopper Hall, one of our suite style halls, offers both private and semi-private rooms with a shared bathroom.

In all cases, upperclassmen will be given the ability to have a private or semi-private unit and simply share a kitchen, bathroom, and living room in Centennial/Converse or a bathroom in Hopper. As a reminder, Centennial and Converse are on a 12 month contract and even if the student chooses not to reside there for the summer, charges will apply. Their room fees are due either two or three times a year for Centennial and Converse depending on which payment plan the student selects. Hopper is on a traditional academic year contract with no summer rent requirement.

There is a set process for how upperclassmen will secure a room for the 2013-2014 school year. For students wishing to reclaim rooms they are currently in and eligible for reclaim in Centennial or Converse, they can go to the Centennial classroom February 11-13, 2013. At least 2 of the roommates from the current year need to return to the apartment for 2013-2014 in order to complete reclaim. If your student is in a single unit, they may reclaim as well. Unfortunately, Hopper is not eligible for reclaim this year.

For those students wishing to change their room for next year or only have one person wanting to return to their 2- or 4-person apartment, we will hold our annual room selection in the Student Union March 4 - 6, 2013. Each student will be able to attend room selection according to his or her class standing and GPA. All our upperclassmen choices will be available at this time until all the spaces are exhausted. We will hold the majority of the room selection spaces for rising sophomores, then rising juniors, and finally, rising seniors and graduate students.

As a reminder, the deposit your student originally paid for Housing is a rolling one, so there is no need to pay the $300 again.

All current students should attend a hall meeting to get further details on this process. Centennial and Converse will have meetings February 4-7, 2013, and all the other hall meetings will be held February 25-28, 2013. Our spring newsletter will be sent out in mid-February with more information detailing room reclaim and room selection so you are informed as well. Please remind your student that any holds on his or her account (student conduct violations, parking tickets, library overdue book fines, etc.) must be paid first to participate in room reclaim or room selection.

I hope this helps you have a conversation about your student’s room accommodations next year and please feel free to call my office at (229) 333-5920 or send us an email at housing@valdosta.edu if we can further clarify anything that is unclear. Our website is also constantly updated with the latest information and is available at http://housing.valdosta.edu. Also be sure to add yourself to our parent listserv where we will also keep in touch with you. The signup is linked from our homepage on the right hand side entitled “Parents stay involved with Housing.”

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas W. Hardy
Director, Housing and Residence Life