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Residential Life

In accordance with Boston College's role as a Jesuit, Catholic university, the Office of Residential Life at Boston College seeks to foster an inclusive residential community that complements the academic mission of the University by:

- Providing safe, secure and well-maintained residence halls
- Offering programs and leadership opportunities designed to promote responsible decision making and personal accountability
- Providing educational, developmental, social, and spiritual support to our students
- Recruiting and selecting a competent staff that reflects the cultural and personal diversity of the resident student body
- Managing responsible and accountable fiscal and administrative policies and services

Through its ten-year IMP, Boston College will support the mission of the Office of Residential Life by increasing student housing to provide as many students as possible with the quality residential life experience of living on campus during their years at Boston College. Because Boston College is committed to maintaining its undergraduate enrollment at a steady level of about 9,000 students, additional on-campus housing will increase the proportion of undergraduates living on-campus. This new housing will decrease the number of students living off-campus by 50 percent, thereby reducing the impact of Boston College students on the rental housing stock in the Brighton and Allston neighborhoods.

Increasing the proportion of undergraduate students living on campus is consistent with one of the City of Boston's primary planning goals for the Allston-Brighton neighborhood. Over recent years, community organizations and the Mayor's Housing Task Force have recommended that colleges and universities build additional student housing to alleviate pressure on housing in City neighborhoods. Currently, Boston College provides the highest percentage of undergraduate student

housing in the City at 85 percent¹. Providing additional on-campus housing for Boston College students is a high priority for both the University and the neighborhood.

Boston College also is committed to maintaining the highest standards regarding student behavior both on and off campus. The University regards uncivil or disrespectful behavior to anyone, whether in the University community or in the neighboring communities, as unacceptable. Boston College has established extensive programs and measures to monitor student behavior.

This chapter documents existing on-campus student housing, presents the general goals and principles related to providing student housing on campus, and describes how the University will provide a net increase in the supply of student housing. Chapter 3, _____, describes the specific residence hall projects planned over the next ten years to meet the University's goals.

Student Housing

Until the mid-1950's, Boston College was a commuter school. From the 1960's-1990's there was continuous housing growth that helped solidify Boston College as a national university with students from all 50 states. This trend was reinforced when Boston College committed to adding 800 beds to its on-campus undergraduate housing supply in the 2000 Master Plan. Over the past five years, the University exceeded that commitment by adding approximately 860 undergraduate student beds.

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Existing Residential Program

The Office of Residential Life, which manages on-campus residence halls, is committed to the Jesuit ideal of educating the whole person through creating a living environment that will foster personal development and leadership. Through interaction with other students and residence hall staff, students will build relationships with others from a variety of backgrounds and interests. These friendships and experiences will create memories and relationships for students that can last a lifetime.

Residential living at Boston College is viewed as an integral part of the holistic development of students. Residence hall communities are nurturing environments

tremendous opportunity to participate in campus life, thereby fostering growth and personal development outside of the classroom.

Accordingly, Boston College has embraced “best practices” and current research regarding university residential life, which suggest that student formation is best achieved in smaller residential villages.

graduate and faculty housing. The arrangement provides that the University may lease the properties listed below for graduate and professional student housing, as well as for junior faculty, for a period of six years as long as the University proceeds with a graduate student housing project in its IMP. Prior to entering into the Agreement, the University discussed this matter with officials at the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) and the Inspectional Services Department (ISD).

The University currently has master leases on several apartment buildings within approximately one mile of the campus to allow graduate students to walk, bike, or take the MBTA or BC shuttle bus to campus. The apartment buildings contain approximately 186 leased units and are located in Brighton at:

1848 and 1850 Commonwealth Avenue
42 Strathmore Road / 6, 8, 12 Orkney Road
11 Embassy Road

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more attractive than off-campus housing. The design of future residence halls must be competitive with other institutions and private owners in the community. Additionally, the design of these residence halls must support and enhance student's academic and social development. To facilitate student development, the University proposes building programs that include personal space as well as large multi-functional community space.

The Office of Residential Life seeks to develop buildings that foster the personal growth of students and encourage a strong sense of community. This sense of community contributes to more responsible behavior in the residence hall. On-campus living also provides a greater opportunity to control off-campus student behavior.

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Demand for Additional On-Campus Housing

Boston College currently provides on-campus housing for approximately 7,330 students. This represents approximately 85 percent of the undergraduates enrolled in on-campus programs (an average of about 440 students studies abroad each semester). The University regularly admits students with only three years of on-campus housing guaranteed because there is not enough housing for all students to live on campus for four years. This reality can place the University at a competitive disadvantage with peer institutions. Not including the approximately 440 students studying abroad each semester and the students who opt to commute or live off-campus, a substantial demand for more on-campus undergraduate housing remains.

To address this demand for housing, Boston College plans a net increase of approximately 610 undergraduate student beds over the next ten years. Table 5-2 outlines the planned growth of undergraduate housing during the IMP.

The creation of 610 new undergraduate beds would bring the total number of beds on campus to approximately 7,940. Based on an enrollment of approximately 9,000 undergraduate students, this would increase the College's on-campus undergraduate

in a multi-faceted Student Behavior Plan to insure that Boston College students understand that they are held to the highest standards.

In 2004, Mayor Menino initiated awards to recognize partnerships between higher education and the City of Boston. Boston College won the 2004 Achievement Award for the Boston College-Boston Police Department Community Partnership Program formed eight years earlier that successfully addressed and managed off-campus student behavior. The program stressed

Program (described below) and serves as the liaison between Boston Police and the University.

Community Assistance Program (CAP)

One of the most effective preventative steps that Boston College has taken to assist the community and the Boston Police Department is the Community Assistance Program (CAP). Under the direction of the Office of Governmental & Community Affairs, a Boston College administrator patrols and responds to disturbance calls from the Boston College police, BPD, and neighbors on weekends. CAP is on duty from 9:00 PM to 3:00 AM every night of the week for the first three weeks of the semester, and on weekends (including Thursdays which were recently added) and holidays thereafter. Patrolling in Boston College vans, CAP is directed to problem locations by the Boston College Police and the Boston Police. CAP's function is to prevent problems from occurring, as well as to address disturbances. In many instances, these proactive visits to student residences quell problems and eliminate the need for future BPD response. During interaction with students, the administrator int5f.939972 667.260071 cm/Im10 DoQq1.44 0 0 Tjm.10-4a

Mid-September Meetings with Off-Campus Students – Meetings are held after students arrive on-campus to reinforce expectations of student behavior.

Meetings with Student Organizations

Boston College Safe Program – Mandatory program for first-year students to discuss safety and wellness issues.

Student Code of Conduct – The Office enforces the Student Code of Conduct.

Parental Notification of Disciplinary and Judicial Matters – Boston College notifies parents of disciplinary actions for all alcohol violations, when sanctions may affect the students' housing status or continued enrollment, when the incident occurs off-campus, or when the student's health or welfare is jeopardized.

Disciplinary Sanctions – Sanctions imposed on students include:

- Ø Attendance in alcohol education programs
- Ø Participation in community service -- The Office identifies suitable neighborhood projects or agency placements and supervises the completion of each student's assignment.
- Ø Community restitution
- Ø Probation, suspension or dismissal from the University

Off-Campus Student Living Guide – The Guide is distributed door-to-door to off-campus students. It explains off-campus students' rights and responsibilities and details disciplinary actions for potential misconduct.

Nights on the Heights – Provides fun on-campus alternatives to off-campus parties. All Events are held on Friday or Saturday nights between 9:00 PM and 2:00 AM and are free of charge and substance free. Free snacks are provided.

Boston College Campus Community Partnership Initiative (BC CCPI)

The Boston College Campus Community Partnership Initiative (BC CCPI) is a newly formed coalition comprised of members of the Boston College community as well as the local community aimed at addressing alcohol-related student behavior off-campus, in the neighborhoods surrounding Boston College. The coalition holds monthly meetings to discuss problems and strategize about possible solutions.

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Boston Police Department

In addition to the Boston College departments that have active responsibility for student behavior, the Boston Police Department (BPD) also participates in fostering appropriate student behavior off campus. Over the years, Boston College and the Boston Police Department District 14 have developed a strong working partnership and continue to collaborate on a number of initiatives and programs to address student behavior and underage drinking both on and off campus.

The District 14 Captain and community service officers participate in the annual Student Behavior Planning Meeting with BC administrators
Community Service Officers address students at the BC Safe Student Meetings that are held in September to discuss expectations regarding behavior and student safety

Increased BPD presence and enforcement of zero tolerance policy for fall move-in and for special celebratory events such as Super Bowl, World Series or national collegiate championships

Team Policing (new for 2007) -- Implementing a new walking patrol comprised of Boston Police, Boston College Police and BC Student Community Liaison in targeted areas: Gerald Road, Foster Street, Lane Park, Radnor Road, Lake Street, Kirkwood, Greycliff Road and Cleveland Circle

Cops in Shops Program -- In cooperation with local alcohol retailers, BPD places undercover officers in establishments to monitor and arrest underage students who present false identification when purchasing alcohol. The program requires that employees of the stores be vigilant about checking identification and acts as a deterrent to underage students in purchasing alcohol.

**Table 5-2
Undergraduate Housing Program**

Change in Housing	Location	Number of Beds	Net Change in Number of Beds
New	Interior of the Brighton Campus	+300	+300
New	Commonwealth Avenue, Brighton Campus	+200	+500
New	More Hall Site	+420	+920
Demolish	Edmonds Hall	-790	+130
New	Commander Shea Field	+490	+620
Demolish	Modular Apartments	-185	+435
New	Modular Apartments Site	+175	+610
Total		+610	