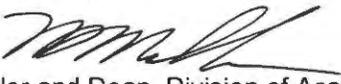




MEMORANDUM

TO: University Community

FROM: Mike Mullen 
Vice Chancellor and Dean, Division of Academic and Student Affairs

SUBJECT: Establishment of a Freshman On-campus Living Requirement, Fall 2017

DATE: August 16, 2016

Enhancing Student Success is Goal One in our Strategic Plan, the Pathway to the Future. Educational research spanning at least three decades has shown that social integration is an important factor in student persistence and graduation. And, living on campus as a freshman is a key in this social integration. Living on campus has also been shown to enhance first year retention rates and graduation rates. This is true nationally, and on our campus. With this in mind, we are moving to a requirement for all incoming freshman students to live on-campus in their first year. This will be effective for fall 2017.

This requirement is common practice nationally. Several of our peer institutions require at least a freshman on-campus experience, and The Ohio State University requires freshman and sophomore students to live on campus. All but four ACC institutions require freshman students to live on-campus, and within the UNC system, 10 institutions, including UNC-Chapel Hill, have this requirement.

Currently, about 78% of our incoming freshman students live on-campus, and about 45% of those participate in one of our Living and Learning Villages. With this move, we would expect to have well over 90% of freshmen on-campus, and we anticipate that this will also increase the demand for a Village experience, which is also associated with increased student success.

DASA and University Housing look forward to bringing more of our incoming freshmen onto campus in 2017. We know it will positively impact student engagement and connectivity with the university.