

Boys, Girls, DuBois, Oh My!

Contributed by Charon Spruce - Black - College Wire
Thursday, 10 April 2008

Hampton dorm will become coed

Hampton University students for the past several years have been given only one housing option: same-sex dorm mates. However, for the 2008-2009 school year upperclass students will once again be able to live in a coed environment.

W.E.B. DuBois Hall is currently accepting housing applications from male and female students. According to Denise Griffin, the dorm director of DuBois, the change is occurring because of housing shifts on campus. The first and second floors of DuBois are being offered to men as a result of Stone Hall going exclusively female for the 2008-2009 school year.

DuBois will be raising the current 2.8 GPA requirement to a 3.0 GPA with first priority given to Honors College students.

"I don't understand what the big deal is," said Kimberly Lowe, a current resident assistant in DuBois. "Guys are not going to be running all through [the dorm]."

Lowe explained that there will be rules for the new and old residents of DuBois. A procedure will also be followed in the beginning so that the staff will be able to recognize the faces of its residents. Students around campus have mixed feelings when it comes to the new arrangements at DuBois.

Kristan McCann, a sophomore public relations major and a current resident of DuBois, does not mind that she will now share her dorm with males. "It's not a problem for me because they won't be living next door to me."

Brittani Gordon, a sophomore finance major from Silver Spring, Md., does not plan to continue her stay in DuBois next year.

"I'd just rather not," she said, "because it's going to be too much in the beginning."

While some may be leaving, others are excited at the possibility of living in DuBois.

Kevin Stimpson, a freshman computer science major from Virginia Beach, Va., is looking forward to the possibilities of his new living arrangements.

"I'm hoping for a cleaner dorm, because male dorms are trifling," he said.

Stimpson does however predict some complications from living with females.

He does not want ladies to get the wrong idea if their other is hanging out with another girl in the lobby or in their room. He hopes that females will not jump to conclusions.

"I just hope it's not that much drama," he said.

When you decide to live with people of the opposite sex some precautions should be taken.

Ecampustours.com offers the following advice to coed residents:

Respect the opposite sex. Try not to make angry or snide remarks about the opposite sex. Treat others as you'd like to be treated.

Avoid dating people who live in your dorm. Although this could be great, problems can occur if the relationship ends badly.

Get over any embarrassment. If you don't want to be talked about for walking around in your newest Victoria Secret lingerie don't wear it.

Don't forget about your studies. It may not be the best idea to study for your accounting test while watching the cute guy who's always in the lobby.

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Charon Spruce writes for The Script, Hampton University's student newspaper, which originally published a version of this article.