

# Campus Life

Welcome to the Gallaudet experience, unique in its mission to provide full access and open communication to scholars and students who are deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing. The campus's "Main Street" can be found in the Jordan Student Academic Center (JSAC). The light-filled atrium of the Center welcomes the Gallaudet community and visitors to its high tech, state-of-the-art classrooms and labs. Connected to the SAC is the Student Union Building with its multimedia theatre, information desk, meeting rooms, the university bookstore ("Bison Shop"), post office, food court, and the Rathskellar Pub. The physical connection of academic and student life spaces establish this facility as the educational and social center of Gallaudet.

## RESIDENTIAL LIFE

### *Residence Halls*

Students are not required to live on campus; however, living in one of the University's six residence halls offers students a unique opportunity to become an integral part of a campus community. While living in the residence halls, there are opportunities for social, mental, and emotional growth are greatly enhanced. Gallaudet encourages an appreciation of diversity, and residence life offers real-life opportunities to increase understanding and interactions with students from a variety of cultural, geographical, educational, and communication backgrounds.

Residents are also offered the opportunity to participate in theme floors, designed for students who want to develop a community based on similar interests or academic discipline. Theme floor communities establish their own rules, hold meetings, create community bulletin boards, and are responsible for the stability of their community. Students can apply to participate in theme floors at the Office of Campus Life.

Residence halls are staffed by teams of professional staff, graduate student paraprofessionals, and undergraduate student paraprofessionals.

Eligibility criteria for on-campus housing are: Student must have a full-time course load in an academic program [defined as twelve (12) credits for undergraduate students or nine (9) credits for graduate students per academic semester] in order to live on campus. Anyone carrying less than this number of credits must have permission from the Office of Campus Life in order to live on campus.

### *Housing for Students with Children and Married Students without Children*

Housing is available on a limited basis in unfurnished apartments located on the upper level of the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School for those students who have children. To reside in an apartment with a child, a parent must be a full-time student. Also, space permitting, special arrangements may be made in the fall/spring semester to provide residence hall housing for a limited number of married students without dependent children. In order to qualify for such housing, both partners must carry a full academic load. Double occupancy rooms with regular residence hall furniture and a private bath may be assigned. Children may not live with parent(s) who are students residing in the residence halls.

### *Food Service*

The University's food services are provided by Bon Appetit Management Company. All students who live on campus are required to participate in the university Meal Program. Students who live off campus may participate in the Meal Program if they wish. There are eight different meal plans that include options at the student dining hall, and the Food Court and Rathskellar in the Student Union Building. Residents may sign up for a particular meal plan during business registration; students who do not sign up during business registration will be billed for the lowest meal plan. Special dietary plans can usually be arranged for those students who need them by contacting the Food Service Manager.

Commuter students wishing to dine on campus can sign up for “Dining Dollars” to be used at the Market Place, Rathskellar, Cafe Bon Appetit, Starbucks and The Bistro. A minimum deposit of \$150 is required to start (an additional 15% is added on by food services). Dining Dollars carry over from semester to semester.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The mission of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) is to direct all resources toward preserving life, protecting property, maintaining human rights, and promoting individual responsibility, community commitment, and involvement in preventing crime. Officers are on duty 24 hours each day, 365 days a year, and patrol the campus on foot, on bicycles, and in marked and unmarked vehicles. Gallaudet’s public safety officers are considered “special police officers” and are commissioned by the District of Columbia. The Department of Public Safety emphasizes “community policing,” which means that the department works collaboratively with the community to prevent, identify, and resolve problems and causes of crime and disorder.

The Department of Public Safety offers a variety of services to assist the community such as escort service after dark, personal safety checks when students or employees are studying or working late, photos for passports, fingerprinting for job applications, vehicle battery jumps, and a lost and found.

### ***Identification/Access Cards***

Identification cards, which also serve as access cards to many buildings and residence halls, are prepared by the Department of Public Safety.

### ***Vehicle Registration***

The Department of Public Safety is also responsible for issuing parking permits. Full- or part-time employees or students must register their vehicle and display a parking permit. There is a charge for parking on campus. Contact the Department of Public Safety for current parking rates.

## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Transportation Department offers free daily shuttle bus service to both the Union Station and New York Avenue/Florida Avenue/Gallaudet University metro stations. Students, faculty, and staff are entitled to use the shuttle bus upon presentation of a Gallaudet University identification card. Visitors and family members of students are also

invited to use the shuttle service. A temporary pass must be secured from the Transportation Department. Shuttle service schedules, as well as web links to other metro transportation services, can be found on the Transportation Department website.

## CHILD CARE: THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Gallaudet University Child Development Center (CDC) is one of the two early childhood programs at the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center and is an accredited campus child care center. CDC serves children from 19 months through kindergarten, whose families work and study at Gallaudet, alumni parents, the deaf community, and the general metropolitan area community. CDC is a 12-month program which is inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy of education. Each classroom has deaf and hearing teaching team who use American Sign Language and spoken and written English with the children. A special 8-week summer program serves children up to age nine. CDC is accredited by the National Academy of Accredited Programs, a division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. For more information, contact (202) 651-5130 (tty/v).

## STUDENT SERVICES

### ***Student Health Services***

The Gallaudet University Student Health Services (SHS) is committed to providing students with high quality and efficient primary health care. In addition to treatment, the medical staff help students to understand the causes of medical conditions or injuries and how these might be avoided in the future. SHS also works closely with the Health and Wellness Program in Student Affairs to help students learn about reducing the risks for illnesses and injuries.

Services are provided Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Student Health Services is closed weekends, University holidays, and Wednesdays from noon to 2 p.m. The student health fee entitles students to a number of basic health services without charge, including: 1) primary medical care visits; 2) tests conducted by SHS; 3) immunizations; 4) allergy injections (medication must be provided by the student with instructions from his/her physician); 5) HIV counseling and referral; 6) referral to medical specialists; 7) health education materials; and 8) screening and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases.

Health insurance is required for all full-time students. Students covered under a plan with their parents or employer do not have to purchase the student health insurance available through the University. Students who do not need the University's health insurance must complete a waiver form. If a waiver form is not completed, enrollment in the University's health insurance plan will be automatic.

### ***Mental Health Center***

The Mental Health Center (MHC) offers students comprehensive mental health services, including counseling, psychotherapy, assessment, psychiatric services, and prevention education. Through its training programs, it also provides mental health services to deaf and hard of hearing individuals and their family members in the Washington Metro area. Diagnostic and therapeutic services are provided by supervised trainees and licensed staff who communicate effectively in American Sign Language and other modes of communication used by deaf and hard of hearing people. Trainees are graduate students from the departments of Counseling, Psychology, and Social work at Gallaudet University, as well as from other health care providers and programs outside of Gallaudet.

### ***Hearing and Speech Center (HSC)***

Students, faculty, and staff are provided a full range of audiological services, communication therapy services, and speech-language services at no cost.

Audiological services include hearing assessment, hearing aid evaluations and checks, central auditory tests, counseling and assistive devices consultations/ demonstrations/ evaluations as well as cochlear implant services. Hearing aids and molds may also be purchased through the HSC. The HSC conducts walk-in service for hearing aid troubleshooting, ear mold fitting/adjustment, hearing aid repairs, and loaner hearing aids.

In addition, aural rehabilitation/communication therapy services are offered to students who want to improve their communication skills in one or more of the following areas: speech, voice, understanding English idioms/vocabulary, writing for communication, auditory training for cochlear implants/hearing aids, speech reading and communication strategies training. Services are offered in individual sessions (small group services are available on a limited basis). The HSC also provides a full range of speech-language pathology services to hearing adults and children including assessment and treatment in the areas of articulation, stuttering, language delay/disorders, adult neurologic, voice, spoken language development of children with hearing loss, spoken language of bilingual children.

### ***International Student Services***

(See International Internship Program under the heading "Academic Programs and Services" in the Academics section.)

### ***Student Accounts Office***

The Student Accounts Office is the main point of contact for all inquiries concerning students' accounts. There, students may check their current account balance, the status of third-party payments, pick up Tuition & Fees schedules, and obtain information about their accounts. Account balances can also be checked electronically using Gallaudet's Bison system. The Office coordinates paperwork related to Vocational Rehabilitation authorizations, tuition and fees calculations, and student billings.

### ***Office of Student Conduct***

The Office of Student Conduct provides an instructional approach to student behavioral resolution. The judicial process allows for the determination of the critical facts of an alleged violation of the established standards of behavior set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and other University policies, and appropriate disciplinary processes for the resolution of complaints made against students. Underlying this unit is a deep regard for discipline as a constructive element of education, and the process is handled to maximize the educational experience of the student(s) involved. The unit also offers mediation meetings between students and/or student organizations as an alternative means of resolving disputes.

## **STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

### ***Multicultural Student Programs***

Multicultural Student Programs (MSP) is a cultural advocacy and resource unit within the department of Student Affairs. It provides support and services primarily to racial and ethnic minority students and their organizations. MSP assists Gallaudet in its mission to value and nurture the wealth of cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity that enrich the University community. Programs and activities include: Cultural celebrations, leadership development, and the Multicultural Mentoring Project (MMP).

### ***Health and Wellness Programs***

The Health and Wellness Programs (HWP) office is a unit of Student Affairs that seeks to empower students to make

informed health and lifestyle choices in accordance with their own values and belief systems. By supporting students in behavior and lifestyle change, the HWP office helps students become more productive members of the academic community. Outreach to the campus community is achieved through several different programs:

***New Directions***

New Directions is an innovative alcohol and other drug prevention program.

***Peer Health Advocacy***

The Peer Health Advocate (PHA) Program trains students to educate their peers about current health issues.

***E-MAIL Health***

E-MAIL Health is a service available to students who need answers to health and wellness-related questions.

***Don't Cancel That Class***

This program encourages faculty who would otherwise cancel a class session due to an illness or other obligation to keep their students in class. HWP sends either Peer Health Advocates or professional staff to conduct a workshop during the class time, instead of cancelling it.

***Sexual Misconduct Response***

The coordinator of HWP serves as the central source of information and referral for students who may have experienced sexual misconduct on campus and for faculty and staff who desire assistance in helping a student who has come to them.

***Health Promotion Resources***

Health Promotion Resources includes a variety of educational pamphlets, publications, articles, and posters that are available free to the campus community.

***Judicial Affairs***

The Judicial Affairs program provides an instructional approach to student behavioral resolution. The Judicial Affairs process allow for the determination of the critical facts of an alleged violation of the established standards of behavior set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and other University policies, and appropriate disciplinary processes for the resolution of complaints made against students. Underlying this unit is a deep regard for discipline as a constructive element of education, and the process is handled to maximize the educational experience of the student(s) involved. Judicial Affairs also offers mediation

meetings between students and/or student organizations as an alternative means of resolving disputes.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

***Athletics and Intramural Sports***

Gallaudet students have participated in intercollegiate sports since 1883. The University is a member of the Capital Athletic Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III. Varsity sports at Gallaudet include men's and women's basketball, indoor and outdoor track and field, cross country, swimming, soccer, and cheer-leading. Exclusive women's sports are volleyball, softball, and tennis. Exclusive men's sports are football, baseball, and wrestling.

The Athletics department also offers an intramural sports program including: women/men flag football, women/men volleyball, coed Wallyball, coed racquetball, men/women basketball, women/men softball, women/men indoor soccer, and women/men Ultimate frisbee.

***Campus Ministries***

The Office of Campus Ministries, staffed by volunteer and part-time religious workers (Assemblies of God, Baptist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Jewish, Latter Day Saints, Methodist, Roman Catholic, and Seventh Day Adventist) offers regular religious services as well as these activities: counseling on religious matters; special discussion groups dealing with moral issues, world problems, and premarital concerns; special community service projects with student involvement; vocational counseling for students interested in work as clergy, lay workers, or workers in religious schools for deaf students; social activities; and student religious fellowship groups for the various denominations and faiths.

***Graduate Student Association***

The Graduate Student Association (GSA), a division of the Student Body government, is the organization through which graduate students govern themselves, plan activities for the campus, and work with the faculty, staff, and administrators on matters of general interest to the graduate school. Students automatically become members of the GSA. The GSA has representatives from each department and presents many academic and cultural activities during the year. Through the GSA, graduate students sit on many faculty and university committees.

***Student Organizations***

The Campus Activities unit supports a variety of student organizations including student government, student newspaper and year book, fraternities and sororities, and other organizations of students with similar interests or backgrounds.

### **Student Publications**

*The Buff and Blue* is an independent campus newspaper published weekly by University students from September to May. Students interested in reporting, writing, or editing can become members of the *Buff and Blue* staff. *The Tower Clock* is the University year book and offers opportunities for students who are interested in layout, photography, or editing.

## **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

### **Visual Arts**

The Washburn Arts Center houses the Art Department and boasts a beautifully designed, 2,500 square-foot gallery with hardwood floors, temperature and humidity controlled environment, and multi-directional lighting capability. The first floor also includes a large lobby area, 13 offices for faculty and staff members, an office work area, and an enlarged ceramics/sculpture studio. On the second floor are three technology-equipped classrooms, two large computer graphics labs, a full photography suite, painting and drawing studios, and a design studio.

Visiting artists offer master classes and lectures, and student art exhibitions are often on view. The Deaf Way II Arts Festival held during Deaf Way II in 2002 brought deaf artists from all over the world, who exhibited in Washburn as well as other galleries in the Washington, D.C. area. Deaf Way II art works can now be seen in many campus buildings.

The old Gate House, used as a residence for the school watchman until 1927, was also recently refurbished, and has become a studio where artists can work regardless of medium. It is also used for both student and visiting artist exhibits.

### **Performing Arts**

Gallaudet's Theatre Arts department produces numerous plays and musicals each year that are accessible to both hearing and deaf audiences. Many of the plays are staged for the first time in American Sign Language.

Productions for the 2006-07 school year by Gallaudet's Theatre Arts Department included: Tennessee Williams', *A Streetcar Named Desire*, directed by Theatre Arts Department faculty member Ethan Sinnott and Gilbert

C. Eastman's, *Sign Me Alice*, directed by Theatre Arts Department faculty member Angela V. Farrand.

Productions for the 2007-08 school year will be: GOYA: *En la quinta del sordo* (in the house of the deaf man) written and directed by Willy Conley and Iosif Schneiderman; *Deaf World Odyssey* written and directed by Angela V. Farrand; and Aeschylus', *Agamemnon*, adapted and directed by Ethan Sinnott.

### **Gallaudet Dance Company**

The Gallaudet Dance Company is a performing group of approximately 15 dancers, all undergraduate or graduate students at Gallaudet. Each dancer's background is different—in terms of hearing loss, preferred communication mode, secondary school education, and current major field of study as a University student. Regardless of background and experience, all the dancers are excellent communicators. They rely on their vision as their primary mode of communication and communicate through their dancing in a range of styles, including dance that uses American Sign Language as its foundation.