

RACs disappear

Advisers will now clear students to register instead of giving students RAC codes

BY STEPHANIE HALL
News Editor

Students will no longer need an Registration Access Code to register, but rather their adviser's clearance.

A new registration system created by the Registrar's Office and endorsed by Student Senate requires a students' advisers to clear them through TruView, rather than a student entering an RAC to register.

Assistant Registrar Rebecca Charles said the Registrar's Office started brainstorming this summer to streamline the registration process. She said one of the main reasons they did away with the RAC was that students often lost or mistyped the code.

"Some people got confused by the upper and lower case, that sort of thing," Charles said. "So, because of the problems associated with the paper RAC codes, it was a collaborative effort to figure out ways to fix that problem."

Another reason for the change was the amount of paper the school would save. Charles said it will save about 14 reams of paper for the year.

Charles sent an e-mail to students on Monday describing the new process that will begin with registration. A similar e-mail was sent to staff describing the new process of clearing students.

"There is a list [on TruView] where they get a list of all their advisees, and all they have to do is check a box next to their advisee's name and submit that," Charles said. "Then the advisee is ready to register."

She said that the Registrar's Office and

department offices will be able to clear students as backups if an adviser is unable.

"For students, I would be sure to check before registration time to check if you're cleared so you don't get a surprise, but other than that it should work," Charles said.

She said the Registrar's Office consulted with other department heads and administrations before the change. They also brought the change before Student Senate, which passed it as a resolution.

Senior Charles Tomlinson, Student Senate academic affairs chairman, said the resolution was unanimously supported.

"It falls very much in line with our desire to promote environmental stewardship on campus," Tomlinson said. "We want to promote green endeavors and a reduction of paper usage."

He said the process in the past involved the Registrar's Office printing off a full sheet of paper for each student registering for classes. Then it went through campus mail to be delivered to different departments, then to professors who gave them to students at their meetings. He said the new process would save paper and labor.

"We didn't see it impacting students in a negative way, and so anything the school would do to save over 10,000 sheets of paper less a year is something we support," Tomlinson said.

Economics professor Jane Sung said she received an e-mail Oct. 20 about the change.

"I haven't tried yet, but I think it should be much easier and clear[er] than it used to be," Sung said.

She said she can't see the clearance form on her page yet but anticipates it will be easy to do.

"I did have one or two students say they forgot, but normally [the] RAC code is pretty convenient," Sung said.

Residence halls open for Thanksgiving

BY DANA BRUXVOORT
Staff Reporter

Students living on campus will have the option of eating their Thanksgiving turkey in Kirksville this year.

A new Residence Life policy will grant students living in residence halls the option of staying at Truman during week long breaks, including Thanksgiving break and midterm break in the spring.

"We've always sort of had an unofficial-type policy, where if an international student or someone had extenuating circumstances, and they wanted to stay over break, that we'd let them," said John Gardner, interim director of Residence Life. "We ... have officialized that policy, essentially."

Gardner said that last year Student Senate passed a resolution that supported keeping the residence halls open to students during the longer breaks each semester. Residence Life responded to that resolution with the new policy.

Gardner said students who want to stay over Thanksgiving break must fill out an online form or submit it to their hall director. The form is available on the Residence Life Web site and must be turned in before Nov. 13.

Each residence hall with students staying in it during break will have a student adviser staying in the building as well as a Residence Life staff member on duty at all times.

Students who choose to stay will be given a key to an exterior door of their residence hall. The dining halls will not be open during Thanksgiving break.

Gardner said he is unsure how many students will stay during break, especially because students who stay will be required to pay a fee to cover additional costs. The fee

is \$25 per day or \$150 for the entire break.

"We're not sure how many more people will stay," Gardner said. "We did some surveys last year, and it was unclear — because it was going to cost people some money — whether students were really interested in staying."

"I think we'll have a few. I'm not sure, really, how many. And so we're just going to try it out and see what it's like."

Junior Yabrell Newman said he has stayed on campus during Thanksgiving break for the past two years when the break was shorter. He is planning to take advantage of the new policy and stay at Truman this year as well.

He said he used to stay because he didn't have a ride home, but now he has become accustomed to staying at Truman during breaks and enjoys it.

"I think it's cool because a lot of the international students don't have anywhere to go, and they stay," Newman said. "And then there's a bed-and-breakfast that does a Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day, so a lot of the international students go there."

He said he doesn't have many plans for the break but plans on cooking a lot, because the dining halls will be closed.

Other universities have similar policies during breaks. Shannon Heitman, residential life specialist at Northwest Missouri State University, said students who want to stay on campus during Thanksgiving, winter or spring break are required to sign up in advance and are charged a nightly rate of approximately \$20.

Frankie Minor, director of residential life at the University of Missouri, said in an e-mail that five of the 24 residence halls on Missouri's campus are "nine-month halls," which students can stay in during breaks. These residence halls have slightly higher fees.

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Yabrell Newman
Junior

Bolivian Trade Sale



Mayank Dhungana/Index
Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority is hosting "Chiasqui Manos de Bolivia," a nonprofit organization that sells products at fair-trade prices. They will be selling blankets, sweaters, hats, mittens, socks and scarves made from alpaca wool.



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The Kirksville Primary School Parent Teacher Club would like to thank members of the following campus organizations for volunteering at our 2009 Family Fun Night held Oct. 3, 2009:

Alpha Sigma Gamma	Catholic Newman Center
Cardinal Key	Circle K
Tau Lambda Sigma	Serve Center
Alpha Phi Omega	Dr. Young's Health 290 class
Alpha Gamma Delta	

Your time and effort were greatly appreciated.

Thank You!

