

Student Services and Activities

This section of the *Bulletin* describes student services and activities.

Advising

The College, recognizing the value of the faculty-student relationship, considers the academic advising of students to be an important element of education. Each student is assigned a faculty advisor by name. Students must meet with their faculty advisor on a regular basis.

Athletics

Physical activity is an essential aspect of a well-rounded college education.

Saint Vincent College has intercollegiate teams in men's football, men's track and field, men's baseball, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's cross country, women's volleyball, men's and women's golf, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's basketball, women's softball, women's field hockey, men's and women's tennis and men's and women's swimming. The college is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and follows the rules of NCAA.

The intramural program provides a wide variety of sports to meet the needs, demands, and interests of Saint Vincent College students. An invitation is extended to all students, faculty and staff to take part in the program. Leagues and/or tournaments are operated in basketball, flag football, volleyball, softball, deck hockey and tennis. Some popular nontraditional sports are also offered such as Ultimate Frisbee, kick ball and dodge ball. Aerobics is a very popular part of the intramural program. Saint Vincent College is a member of the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) and has participated in regional flag football championships.

Facilities on campus are available for those interested in weight lifting, basketball, swimming, and physical conditioning. A soccer field, lacrosse field, tennis courts, baseball field, softball field and football field are utilized by the students for outdoor sports.

Career Planning and Placement

Whether a graduate, senior or just beginning your college career, the Office of Career Services will guide you throughout your entire four-year experience. The Office of Career Services offers assistance in resume and cover letter writing, career planning, job searching, cooperative education and internship programs, graduate school preparation, and interviewing techniques. A professional will also assist in the career exploration process by administering inventories that allow students to focus on their personality and interests and how they can use the information to focus on a major, job or career.

In addition to meeting one-on-one with a Career Services Counselor, students are encouraged to attend the Office of Career Services workshops. These workshops offer advice on various career-related topics presented by a career service professional, Saint Vincent College Alumni and local employers. We also suggest that students attend the Saint Vincent College Career Expo each fall to get an early start on the internship and job search.

The Office of Career Services maintains relationships with hundreds of employers and alumni. We offer College Central, a large database of employers used to post internship and full-time positions for students and alumni. Students can interview on campus with employers, by registering with the system. We also have a Career Resource Center with nearly 200 publications located in the Office of Career Services and have recently added the Vault Guides to our online library where students can access employer information, internship postings, and information on their industry or field of interest.

Clubs and Organizations

The College affords the opportunity for students to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities. Over 40 clubs and organizations are available encompassing students' broad curricular and co-curricular interests. In addition to clubs affiliated with each academic major, the Student Affairs Division supports clubs that complement a variety of student interests. A sampling of these clubs cover interests such as politics, fencing, theatre, health and fitness, skiing, and the outdoors. The College recognizes the diverse, changing interests of the students and provides support and assistance to students who choose to develop a club not currently organized on campus. Information about clubs and organizations may be obtained from the Director of Campus Life.

Disability Support Services

Students with physical, learning or psychological disabilities who submit formal documentation from a professional evaluator may be eligible to receive reasonable academic accommodations. Disability support services within the office of Academic Affairs works closely with each student to assess individual needs and implement the appropriate accommodations. Qualified students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in all aspects of the educational environment at Saint Vincent College. Confidentiality of student records is strictly maintained. Reasonable academic accommodations do not alter course requirements. Grievances against academic accommodations and disability support services should be made in writing within two weeks of the incident and submitted to the Dean of Studies. Saint Vincent College acts in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Opportunity SVC/Act 101

The Opportunity SVC/Act 101 program is a statewide academic support system funded, in part, by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through Act 101. The professional staff provides individual academic advising, helps students identify personal goals, and encourages them to achieve their highest potential. In addition, the staff is available to assist students with study skills, such as reading, time management, and test taking.

• ND 178 Principles of Academic Success

Principles of Academic Success is designed to assist students in developing the reading and study skills necessary for success in college. Topics will include note taking, test preparation, and time management. The instructor, occasional guest lecturers and other support service personnel on campus will present information to the students. One credit.

• Study Center

The Study Center is a convenient, quiet facility supervised by the Opportunity Program and reserved for student study and computer use. It is located on the 2nd Floor of Alfred Hall. The Study Center is open in the evenings before class days and on an extended schedule during finals. Peer tutors work in the Study Center on a limited basis.

• **Tutoring** Tutoring is provided by academic departments and the Opportunity Program. Information about tutoring availability can be obtained from Departmental Chairpersons, the Dean of Studies, the Opportunity Program staff, and the *Tutorial Bulletin*.

Religion

In founding Saint Vincent College, Catholic Benedictine monks established an academic tradition in which religion plays a vital role. Students are encouraged to search for personal religious faith in the context of community life. The College attempts to guide and help students of all faiths in their search for authentic religious values.

The staff of Campus Ministry is charged with the service of the Saint Vincent College community in promoting and encouraging religious life and values. The staff members are available for conversation and/or counsel at appointed hours and upon request. Faculty members of various religious traditions in the Religious Studies Department are also available for consultation and guidance. A variety of events such as lectures, discussions, fundraisers, retreats, and Gospel-oriented services to the needy through interaction with community agencies are sponsored by the campus ministers.

Catholic religious services are conducted on a regular basis on campus. Students may also participate in the liturgical functions of the monastic community and Saint Vincent Parish. These services are held in the Basilica.

Congregations of various faiths in the surrounding communities welcome students to their religious services.

Residence Life

Housing on campus is available in six Residence Halls for approximately 1240 students. All students must sign the Residence Hall Contract that is binding for one academic year. Freshmen under the age of 21 and living more than 50-miles from Saint Vincent College must reside on campus.

Saint Benedict Hall serves as the center for the first year student population. Upperclass students are housed in double occupancy rooms in Bonaventure and Gerard Halls, single and double occupancy rooms in Wimmer Hall, apartments and two room suites housing four persons in Rooney Hall, and two room suites housing two persons in Aurelius Hall. Housing in most residence halls is single sex by floor. Students may be consolidated if they are living alone in a double occupancy room and do not wish to purchase the room as a single.

A student taking fewer than 12 credit hours per semester, a registered student not attending classes, or a non-matriculated student may not reside on campus. Exceptions to the residence rule may be made by the Director of Residence Life. Fifth year, Continuing Education, and part-time students are housed based on availability once all other students are housed. Additional information and housing policies are contained in the ***Student Handbook***.

Within each residence hall, each floor, neighborhood, or living area is led by at least one student para-professional (Prefect). Prefects are selected on the basis of maturity, leadership qualities, and the ability to create community. The Prefect works to maintain order within the residence hall as well as plans, promotes, and fosters programs of interest to the residents. Each residence hall is supervised by a Residence Hall Director (RHD) and Assistant Residence Hall Director(s) (ARHD). These staff members are post-Baccalaureate adults who have experience in student life issues and student life management. The Residence Hall Director sets the tone for the residential building and is the chief operations officer of that area.

The Director of Residence Life is responsible for the overall operations and development of the residence halls and oversees the housing assignment process.

Student Accident and Sickness Insurance

All students are encouraged to participate in a health insurance program that offers major medical insurance coverage. A variety of plans and providers are available for American-born and international students. The Student Affairs Division can provide a student with limited guidance and information relating to health insurance coverage. The College does not endorse any specific insurance policy and encourages students to determine their insurance needs in consultation with their insurance company and health care provider.

The College requires international students (with the exception of BEI and ISEP students) to have insurance coverage which includes repatriation and medical evacuation. Within the first week of the Fall semester, all international students must demonstrate that such coverage exists. If the student does not have insurance coverage or if the terms of the coverage do not include repatriation and medical evacuation, then the student must enroll in an insurance plan that covers such contingencies. Students may contact the Campus Life Office for more information.

Student Associations

Student clubs and committees on campus are coordinated through the Campus Life Office, the Club Advisor, and the Student Government Association. Leadership ability and energy are made evident in the daily operation of these organizations' array of activities. These activities range from the academic to the social, encompassing hobbies, athletics, politics, society at large, as well as the Saint Vincent College community. Membership in College organizations is available to all Saint Vincent College students.

Wellness Center: Health and Counseling Services

The Wellness Center, located on the first floor of the Carey Student Center, is a resource for both health and counseling issues. Counseling Service helps students get the most out of their college experience by providing support in dealing with the choices and challenges that are part of college life. Individual counseling, mental health screening programs, and educational workshops are available to all students. For students who require more comprehensive mental health services, the counseling staff will provide referrals to appropriate resources outside of the college. All counseling services are free and confidential. Office hours are available daily from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

In so far as possible, the College aims to maintain the health of the students. Saint Vincent operates a well-equipped, nurse-directed center, staffed by two registered nurses, under the supervision of three family practice physicians. The physicians offer on-campus visits twice a week. Over the counter and in-stock prescription medications are provided to the student at no additional charge.

The Wellness Center sponsors and promotes many wellness events that are both educational and fun. The Wellness Center espouses a holistic philosophy and attitude which fosters the importance of balance in the college experience.