

# Student Life

## Residence Halls

Ripon College offers its instructional facilities within a total social and residential environment. Attending this institution is a complete living situation in which all may participate. For this reason, all students, except those who are married, have children, or who are living with their immediate families, are required to live in the College residence halls. In this way, Ripon College strives to be a true “community of scholars” in the best sense of those words.

There are nine residence halls on campus offering a variety of living options. Typically first-year students are housed together within groups. First-year students who pledge fraternities and sororities continue to live in their halls until their sophomore year when they move into upper-class living areas.

## Food Service

Sodexo Food Service is the contracted campus food provider. The General Manager, Executive Chef, Catering Director, Dining Room Supervisor, and Administrative offices are located in the Pickard Commons upper level at the end of the dining room behind the kitchen. Office hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., giving students access to meet with staff during that time.

The dining room is on the upper level of the Pickard Commons. Meals served in the Common Dining Room emulate a food court style, having several food type choices at lunch and dinner; breakfast is ordered off the grill. Meals are served “all you care to eat” with a variety of healthy choices and vegetarian options, and we offer several meal plans to accommodate different life style and eating habits.

Meal Plans are split between Board Meals and Points which are flexible

spending dollars that can be used for retail items or meals. Special arrangements can be made with the chef for special dietary needs, take-out meals (i.e., student teachers), or any other special situation that curtails using standard meals or the standard meal plan.

Hours of operation in the Commons:  
 Monday through Friday: Breakfast from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., “Smart Market Grab & Go” from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Dinner from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Saturday hours: Breakfast from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and dinner from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Sunday hours: Brunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The “We Proudly Brew Starbucks” Coffee Shop is located on the first level of the Pickard Commons, next to the Ripon College Bookstore. A variety of coffee drink choices, as well as bottled beverages, candy, and in-house bakery items are served. Hours of operation are: Monday and Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Pub, located in Harwood Memorial Union, provides a wide variety of beverages, snacks, special meal options, and made-to-order hot and cold sandwiches. Hours of operation in the Pub are: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The Pub also delivers Friday evening from 8:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. It is closed on Saturday and Sunday.

Welcome to our C-Store, The Bovay Terrace, located in the lower level of Bovay Hall. The Terrace features a large variety of snack items, beverages, freshly made hot or cold sandwiches, pizza,

and salads. Hours of operation are: Saturday through Thursday 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. There is even delivery during specified hours! The Terrace is closed on Friday.

### **Social Fraternities and Sororities**

Four fraternities, three sororities, and one coed fraternity are active at Ripon College; six are chapters of national organizations. Each group is housed in a facility owned and operated by Ripon College, and members take their meals in Pickard Commons.

The fraternities and sororities are as follows:

#### Fraternities

- Phi Delta Theta
- Phi Kappa Pi (local)
- Sigma Chi
- Theta Chi

#### Sororities

- Alpha Chi Omega
- Alpha Delta Pi
- Kappa Delta
- Coed Fraternity
- Theta Sigma Tau (local)

### **Athletics for Men and Women**

The Ripon College athletic program seeks to establish and maintain an environment in which athletic activities are conducted as an integral part of the student athletes' educational experience. The program establishes and maintains the values of cultural diversity and gender equity. Student athletes exhibit fairness, openness, honesty and sportsmanship in their relationship with officials, spectators and other student athletes.

In both men's and women's athletics, Ripon is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III, and a member of the Midwest Conference, an association of 10 colleges in Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin. The other colleges in the conference are Beloit,

Carroll, Grinnell, Illinois College, Knox, Lake Forest, Lawrence, Monmouth, and St. Norbert.

Conference competition for men includes cross-country, cycling, football, and soccer in the fall; basketball and swimming in the winter; and indoor and outdoor track, baseball, golf, and tennis in the spring.

Conference competition for women includes cross country, cycling, golf, soccer, tennis, and volleyball in the fall; basketball and swimming in the winter; and indoor and outdoor track and softball in the spring.

First-year students are eligible for participation in all varsity sports.

Organized intramural sports for both men and women are scheduled regularly. These include flag football, basketball, innertube water polo, indoor soccer, badminton, fall tennis, bowling, volleyball, kickball, floor hockey, and softball.

### **Community Engagement**

The Office of Community Engagement is home to a wide variety of community service efforts, academic community engagement opportunities, and the Bonner program. The office offers students community outreach options to fit every interest and schedule, whether they wish to volunteer occasionally or dedicate themselves fully to service. Students can perform direct service at local non-profits or help organize service events on campus or in the local community. The office maintains more than 40 different partnerships with projects that include teaching and mentoring local youth, creating affordable housing, and enriching the lives of the elderly - plus much more! For more detailed information about the Office of Community Engagement and the programs it offers, please visit our website at <http://www.ripon.edu/OCE> or stop by the office.

## Counseling Services

Counseling, consulting, educational programming, and referring are services provided by the College counselor. Confidential individual and group counseling are available to all students. Concerns for which students seek counseling include uncertainty about one's identity or values, anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, stress and time management, relationships, or substance abuse. Consultation is also provided when a member of the College community is concerned about a student and is unsure about how to handle the situation.

Another service provided by the counselor is educational programming for campus organizations and residence hall groups. Programs on topics such as adjusting to college, relationships, stress management, eating disorders, sexual assault prevention or self-esteem may be arranged.

Sometimes personal and academic concerns interact with one another. In this case, on-campus referrals may be made to the Student Support Services, the career development office, the registrar's office, or a student's faculty advisor. Off-campus referrals may be made for specialized counseling services. Fees for off-campus services will be the responsibility of the student.

The Campus Assistance Program, coordinated by the College counselor, is designed to offer consultation services to all members of the College community with regard to a broad range of human relations concerns — family and marital discord, financial difficulties, alcohol and other drug abuse, emotional and behavioral discord, and a wide range of personal problems. In this endeavor, the services of other area providers are also utilized.

## Student Support Services

The Student Support Services (SSS) program is a United States Department of Education funded TRIO program and provides a network of academic, personal and career support for many students on the Ripon College campus. Students use the program's services on an appointment or drop-in basis and receive guidance and information about transitions to college, study skills and direction through college. Students meet and interact with the full-time professional Student Support Services staff, student tutors and peer contacts and also participate in a variety of off-campus cultural and educational programs including trips to Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison and Green Bay.

Students qualify for the program if neither parent graduated from a four-year college or university (first generation), are considered lower income according to federal guidelines or hold documentation of a physical or learning disability. The program's goal is to increase the retention and graduation rates of our students by providing a supportive, welcoming, informational and challenging service environment on the campus.

## Tutoring

Tutoring in college is oftentimes a new and unique service for students and is a valuable supplement to a student's classroom experience and interaction with the professor. All students on the Ripon campus have the opportunity to request a tutor and many students utilize the service every semester. Students seek tutoring assistance in order to review material with another student who has previously done well in the course. Tutoring should be perceived as an opportunity to carry learning outside of the classroom.

The ideal situation for many students is to work with a tutor on a regularly scheduled weekly basis, beginning early in the semester. Tutors are recommended by the faculty, and tutors attend training sessions on how to assist students to improve their performance. Students can receive tutoring information from the Student Support Services office on the Ripon College campus.

### **McNair Scholars Program**

In 2008, the United States Department of Education TRIO division awarded Ripon College with a five-year grant to prepare qualified sophomore and junior students for graduate school and achievement of a Ph.D. degree.

Students potentially qualify for the McNair Scholars Program if they are motivated and achieving students, first generation (neither parent graduated from a four-year college) and low income, or are members of a group (African American, Hispanic American, Native American) that is traditionally underrepresented in graduate school.

The program will serve selected students from Ripon College, St. Norbert College in De Pere, WI and Lawrence University in Appleton, WI. Students will participate in a variety of activities including research projects, mentoring from faculty, visits to graduate schools, presentation of papers at conferences, teaching opportunities, GRE preparation and assistance with applications to graduate programs.

### **Fine and Performing Arts**

The Rodman Center for the Arts and other campus buildings provide excellent facilities for musical, dramatic, and forensic productions.

Concerts include performances by the music faculty and a Chamber Music Series which brings to campus distin-

guished soloists and small groups of musicians. College music groups include Choral Union, Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and Collegium Musicum. Students also perform in departmental and senior recitals.

The theatre department features one main stage production each semester and a student directed one-act play festival in the late spring; The department is active in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and has won several Certificates of Merit. Several students attend the Regional Festival each year.

The Student Media and Activities Committee (SMAC) presents several musicians each semester.

The art department presents art exhibitions every semester featuring works by professional artists and by students-both majors and non-majors. Artists of international, national, and local reputation regularly exhibit their work and conduct workshops for students. Students have access to the college's growing permanent collection.

The College also sponsors a Division I National Forensics Association team which has compiled an outstanding record in intercollegiate competition over the years. The National Forensics League (NFL) and Pi Kappa Delta, national honor societies in debate and forensics, were both founded at Ripon College. Both are headquartered in downtown Ripon.

### **Caestecker Fine Arts Series**

The Ripon College Caestecker Fine Arts Series brings well-known theatre, art, dance and music to the campus. Events are offered at no charge to Ripon College students.

### **Forensics**

(See Fine Arts Activities in this section.)

## Student Government

Within the framework of general College policy, student groups and officers are responsible for various areas of student life.

The Student Senate is the formal body for the consideration of issues relating to the governance of student life. Three students, chosen by the Senate, are authorized to attend and to vote at faculty meetings, and students chosen by the Senate are members of many trustee, faculty, and student committees. Other important student government bodies include the Judiciary Board, the Interfraternity Council, and the Panhellenic Council.

Each fraternity and sorority has its own officers who, among their other responsibilities, are responsible for adherence to College policies and act as liaison between the fraternity or sorority and the College administration.

## Honorary Societies

In several fields of study, Ripon students and faculty have formed local societies or chapters of national honor societies. Ripon has had a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (general liberal arts) since 1952. Others include: Alpha Psi Omega (theatre), Phi Sigma Iota (foreign languages), Psi Chi (psychology), Sigma Pi Sigma (physics), Theta Alpha Kappa (religion), Pi Kappa Delta (forensics), Delta Phi Alpha (German), Beta Beta Beta (biology), Omicron Delta Epsilon (economics), Eka Francian (chemistry), Lambda Pi Eta (communication), Pi Lambda Theta (education), Sigma Tau Delta (English), and Laurel (local honorary society).

## Lectures and Symposia

Each semester, special lectures and symposia are conducted by academic departments, student organizations, and other groups. Eminent authorities on contemporary and perennial issues speak

on campus as guest professors, as part of programs sponsored by student organizations, as part of the Phi Beta Kappa program, and at commencement. Faculty members, students, administrators, and local citizens exchange information and opinions through such forums as the Ripon College Liberal Arts Symposium.

## Music

(See Fine Arts Activities in this section.)

## Student Media

The College Days (the campus newspaper) appears bi-weekly; WRPN-FM (the campus radio station) broadcasts daily; Parallax (a literary magazine) and Crimson (the yearbook) are published every spring; and Cinemaniacs organizes the College's annual film festival and produces their own independent films. Students have the opportunity to select and plan entertainment on campus by becoming involved in the College's programming board, the Student Media and Activities Committee (SMAC).

## Religion

Ripon is historically rooted in the Judeo-Christian tradition, although it has been nonsectarian since 1868. The numerous local churches welcome students. Campus Christian Fellowship and the Spirituality Association are student organizations open to all interested individuals. There is a synagogue in Oshkosh (20 miles from Ripon) and a mosque in Neenah (40 miles from Ripon).

## Special Interests

Students who share special interests are encouraged to organize, to voice opinion, to espouse particular courses of action, or simply to share their interests. Examples of such groups are the Black Student Union, Campus Christian Fellowship, Equestrian Club, International Relations

Club, The Network (gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender student organization), Ripon College Rugby Club, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), and the Women's Boxing Club.

## Theatre

(See Fine and Performing Arts in this section.)

## Student Personnel Services and Advising

The very nature of an institution such as Ripon College makes possible a variety of informal and unstructured opportunities for obtaining advice and counsel. In addition, more formal channels exist through the office of the dean of students, the College counselor, and the system of faculty academic advisors.

## Faculty Advisors

(See Academic Advising on page 35 of this Catalog.)

## Health Services

Primary medical care is provided Monday through Friday when classes are in session. Students may see the nurse for evaluation and treatment or the student may seek care with a physician of their own choice. Assistance is provided in making appointments with area physicians and the local hospital is utilized in an emergency situation. Referrals are coordinated with other community resources as well.

Health Services is a confidential environment dedicated to assisting students in their acquisition of knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary to recover, build and maintain health. Medical care provided includes nursing evaluation, available medications, available laboratory tests, and health education and information. Health Services is active in assessing

and responding to public health needs of the campus community and promoting healthy life choices.

## Orientation Committee

Each summer and fall, new Ripon College students are welcomed by the Orientation Committee. The Committee is comprised of upperclass students who facilitate activities designed to ease the transition of new students into the Ripon College community and provide them with the tools to be successful.

## Foreign Student Advisor

The foreign student advisor is available to assist international students with the many problems unique to their situation, including academic programs, personal counseling on questions of visas and government relations, campus social life, and similar concerns. Consult Professor David Scott.

## Office of Career Development

In the Office of Career Development, services are available that provide students the opportunity to explore themselves and the world of work within the context of their educational experience.

We encourage and assist students to think about their interests, values, skills and life goals as a basis for choosing and preparing for careers. We provide guidance to students to secure summer jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities. In addition, we also help students to learn to better understand the world of work and to realistically relate their own interests to available possibilities. In the end, whether students are seeking full-time employment or post-graduate education, our office has programs designed to assist individuals in preparing for and initiating plans for a successful transition from Ripon College.

Some of the services we provide include: choosing a major/interest inventories; resume writing; job search strategies and correspondence; practice or “mock” interviews; etiquette dinner; senior survival guide; employment listings; on-campus recruiters; off-campus job fairs; alumni network referrals; Peace Corps, Vista, Teach for America and other non-profit opportunities; and complete job search resources for teachers.

To view our handouts and a complete list of resources, please visit our website at: <http://ripon.edu/academics/careerdev/index.html>

### **Designated Smoking Area Policy**

Smoking is prohibited in any Ripon College building.