Student Life at Onondaga

There’s more to Onondaga than just classroom experience. Onondaga Community College is a campus where students can develop academically, personally and socially. Through sports, clubs or other organizations, Onondaga offers numerous opportunities for interaction with fellow students sharing similar interests.

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Many extracurricular activities are offered at Onondaga which add meaning and enjoyment to student life outside the classroom. All students are encouraged to take advantage of the many cultural, social, service, recreational and leadership development activities that are available.

**The OCC Student Association**

The OCC Student Association (SA) provides students with opportunities for governance while developing leadership skills and serving the needs of the student body. Elected student officers and professional staff collaborate with students, faculty, staff and administration to identify and deliver programming and services that reflect the needs and preferences of the student body.

**Student Association General Meetings**

Student Association meetings are held to inform all interested students regarding the ongoing and proposed initiatives and activities of the Student Association. Meetings provide a forum for standing committee reports, club and organization updates, and issues brought forth by students-at-large. All part and full-time students are encouraged to attend. With proper College identification, any Onondaga student may vote on resolutions presented at Student Association meetings.

**Student Association Committee Meetings**

Four standing SA committees meet to identify, plan and implement student activities, events and initiatives:

- **Entertainment and Programming Committee**
  Concerned with planning and delivering diverse social, recreational and cultural events and activities. In addition, an Entertainment and Programming committee member is selected to serve on the Arts Across Campus committee, a group charged with providing a broad spectrum of cultural and educational events throughout the academic year.

- **Clubs and Organizations Committee**
  Concerned with identifying and supporting the needs of clubs and organizations. This committee assists clubs and organizations with officer training, promoting and publicizing events, increasing membership and identifying opportunities for partnering with other groups.

- **Leadership Committee**
  Provides leadership development opportunities and training. This committee oversees volunteer and service events sponsored through the Student Association including the annual Red Cross blood drive, annual AIDS quilt display, Onondaga Children's Learning Center entertainment events and other identified initiatives.

- **Media Committee**
  Concerned with publicizing and promoting Student Association initiatives, activities and events. Members of this committee work to identify and effectively advertise events sponsored by Student Association and its standing committees and clubs and organizations. Onondaga students interested in marketing, communications, graphic design and electronic media communications are encouraged to serve on this committee.

**Student Association Elections**

All registered Onondaga students are eligible to vote in elections for Student Association officers. In addition to officer elections, a student representative is elected to serve on the OCC Board of Trustees and two students are elected to serve on the OCC Association Board of Directors at this time. Student representatives also serve on the Arts Across Campus Committee and College Council.

**OCC Association, Inc.**

The OCC Association, a not-for-profit corporation, has been designated as the legal dispersing agent of the mandatory student activity fees. The OCC Association Board of Directors includes students, faculty, staff, administrators and a member of the OCC Board of Trustees. The Student Association President and two additional elected students serve as Board members of the OCC Association. Representatives attend Board meetings, serve on committees and vote on all Board matters. The OCC Association reviews and votes on final budget approval for expenditures covered by student activity fees.

**Student Representation on the OCC Board of Trustees**

The governing boards or councils of all units of the State University of New York include a student as a voting member. The College has had a student representative on its Board of Trustees since 1973. Elected by the student body, the representative attends Board meetings, serves on Board committees and votes on all Board matters. The student representative serves as a liaison between students and the College's governing body.
Clubs and Organizations
The following clubs, organizations and associations would be glad to welcome you. Find something you enjoy and get involved!

Architecture and Interior Design  Human Services  International Students  International Travel  Art  Comedy  Deaf Hearing Unite  Drama  Emergency Services  Organization  Finding Faith  Future Educators  Gay Straight Alliance  Geology  Hispanic  History  Hospitality and Culinary Arts

Most student clubs and organization activities are coordinated by the OCC Student Association and are funded by student activity fees. Live entertainment, music, lectures and expos are representative of the varied activities planned each year. More information about student activities may be obtained by calling the Student Association office at (315) 498-7210

Campus Communications
Students wishing to publicize events that are not sponsored by academic departments or by a student government club or organization should receive prior permission from the Student Association office. Approved notices will be date stamped and are valid for posting in approved locations until the date of the event. All posted materials must include the name of the sponsoring party and a telephone number. Approved notices may not be posted on walls, windows, doors, bathroom stalls, displays, etc.

College Hour
College Hour is observed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. During this period, campus clubs and organizations hold their meetings and schedule special events, such as concerts, lectures, films, or other extracurricular activities.

Arts Across Campus
Arts Across Campus is a program designed to enhance education through the arts by presenting an inspiring series of concerts, theatrical performances, art exhibits and lectures to Onondaga students, faculty and staff, and to the general public throughout the academic year.

For more information on Arts Across Campus, call (315) 498-ARTS (2787) or visit sunyocc.edu.

Athletics and Recreation
Intramurals and Fitness
Each year various recreational activities are offered to students and the campus community through the Intramural and College Recreation program.

The gymnasium may be open during College Hour for basketball, volleyball, tennis, karate, and other miscellaneous activities. Onondaga has a new state-of-the-art Fitness Center which has various exercise equipment: Olympic weight stations, new state of the art Cybex equipment, stationary bikes, treadmills, and elliptical machines. Intramurals and the Fitness Center are open to all and student participation is strongly encouraged.

We have approximately 200 students participating in our various programs. Other activities are added in response to changing student interests.

Intercollegiate Athletics
Through the Intercollegiate Athletics office, Onondaga Community College sponsors a successful intercollegiate athletic program for men in baseball, basketball, lacrosse, and tennis. Women's teams include basketball, softball, tennis, and volleyball. All of our other teams compete in the NJCAA Division III, Mid State Athletic Conference in Region III. Our teams have successfully competed at the Regional level and in some cases have gone on to compete in the NJCAA National Championships.

Academics remain the focus for Onondaga athletes. Our coaches are committed to helping our athletes continue their academic and athletic careers at four year institutions and receive athletic scholarships whenever possible. In order to be eligible for intercollegiate athletic team a student must be full time (12 hours) and matriculated (be officially accepted into a degree program).

Potential college athletes may obtain more information from:

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www.sunyocc.edu
Outreach and Spiritual Support

Campus Ministries
The College acknowledges the diversity of religious beliefs and faith practices among its students and employees. The Campus Ministries Advisory Committee works with students, faculty, staff, and local religious leaders to co-sponsor periodic forums on social, spiritual, and ethical issues. The Bill W. Group (AA 12-step support group) is set up each semester at requested times. The Van Duyn Outreach Dinner, co-sponsored with the OCCFTA union, occurs in the Gordon Cafeteria in October and April. Scriptural study groups and Interfaith Services are periodically offered. Listings of local churches and contacts are updated each year and can be accessed via the College’s Web site at sunyocc.edu and in the Office of Student Support Services in the Gordon Student Center. Questions regarding outreach and spiritual support services may be directed to the Campus Ministry Committee.

Contacts: John Spencer, Coulter Library, Room 106, (315) 498-2128; Janet Hamly, Gordon Student Center, Room 230, (315) 498-2605; Emmanuel Awuah, Whitney 106 C, (315) 498-2565; Susan Lamanna, Ferrante Hall, Room 115, (315) 498-2366.

Army ROTC
Onondaga County Community College has a partnership agreement with Syracuse University allowing students to enroll and participate in Army ROTC at S.U. Full Tuition Scholarships are available for OCCC students in Army ROTC, as well as for those individuals completing their Associates Degree and planning on transitioning to a 4 year degree producing school. For more information call (315) 443-8233 or e-mail armyrotc@syr.edu.

Student Resident Housing

On-Campus Housing
Onondaga Community College is pleased to offer students the experience of residential living without the traditional high cost and long distances usually associated with going away to college. The Residence Life program supports the academic mission of the College by providing a residential program that will help residents embrace the value of community responsibility, enhance their personal growth and respect for diversity, while providing a safe and comfortable living and learning community.

Residence Life is an important part of a total campus educational experience. Having the opportunity to further the exchange of ideas by participating in spontaneous discussions, study groups, and cross-cultural experiences is a unique advantage for students living on campus. Living on campus will help you establish close friendships and further develop social and leadership abilities that will be valuable while on campus and beyond your community college experience.

Residence halls are operated by the Onondaga Community College Housing Development Corporation (OCCHDC). Accommodating up to 500 students, our state-of-the-art student residence halls offer attractive suites complete with a comfortable living room, a full kitchen, and access to technology. Residence halls are SMOKE-FREE environments. Smoking is not allowed in any part of the residence hall facility, including students’ rooms and suites. Students are expected to show good stewardship of their rooms and furnishings, and to abide by Residence Life policies regarding their housing.

Residence Life professional staff includes a director of Residence Life, three residence hall directors (RD), and support staff who are charged with helping students have positive living and learning experiences. RD’s live and work on campus and ensure that all students have an environment conducive to study. There is an RD available 24 hours/7 days a week in case of an emergency. Along with resident assistants, (RA) who are students themselves, the entire Residence Life staff plans program and social events to meet the housing, health, safety, educational, and developmental needs of students.

Standards of conduct and expectations of resident students are outlined in the OCCHDC Housing License Agreement and in more detail in the student handbook. Students and parents should become familiar with these guidelines and disciplinary and judicial procedures prior to moving into campus housing.

Residence halls are closed on designated campus breaks and holidays including Thanksgiving and spring break. Students may leave their personal belongings in their suite but may not remain on campus during these times. During the winter break between semesters and summer sessions, residence hall students may stay on campus for an additional fee.

Estimated Cost: The estimated 2007-2008 average room rate is expected to be $5190 to $5780 per academic year (September to May) for a double or single room respectively.

For more information about the Onondaga Residence Halls, contact Student Central at (315) 498-2000 or visit online at sunyocc.edu.