Student Affairs fosters involvement, growth, and development in safe, healthy, and inclusive learning environments. All of the programs and services within the division are intentionally designed to support the academic mission of the University, create and sustain optimal learning environments both in and outside of the classroom, and provide appropriate challenge and support for students. A vital component of WMU, Student Affairs helps to guide the development of students into responsible citizens and future leaders.

Residence Life

Residence Life strives to create living-learning environments where students learn, grow, and develop into successful members of the University community. Learning is woven into all aspects of the residential experience through programs, academic resources and services, and opportunities for involvement. Academics is supported with in-hall tutoring centers, and residential learning communities.

Approximately 5,100 students live in 13 residence halls and four apartment complexes distributed among four residential neighborhoods. Each residence hall offers a different living option, whether it is suite-style or traditional community, an upper-level only hall, or special amenities like a fitness room or tutoring center. In August 2015, Residence Life opened two new residence halls, the Western Heights. The new halls were designed with a house structure, each with a commons area, for the purpose of creating strong communities. Twenty-six percent of first-year students living on campus live in Western Heights, and just over 50 percent live in the Valley Neighborhood.

Most halls also have a residential learning community, which is one to five floors in the building where students on that floor have an academic connection or shared interest. There is a learning community affiliated with each academic college, as well as communities tailored to transfer students and students interested in sustainability.

On-campus apartments are a popular option for upper-level students, graduate students and students with families. Students enjoy the convenience of being on campus while having a more independent living experience. Western View is campus’s most recent complex, and Stadium Drive Apartments were remodeled for fall 2016 and now has a building reserved for graduate students.

For more information about Residence Life, please visit www.wmich.edu/housing or call (269) 387-4735.

The Student Media Group

The Student Media Group at Western Michigan University is comprised of the Western Herald, WIDR FM, and the Young Broadcasters of Tomorrow (YBOT). These student-run organizations offer unique and valuable opportunities for students to involve themselves in all areas of the local multi-media environment.

Western Herald

Since 1916, the Western Herald has been WMU’s primary media source for students. The Western Herald serves to inform students about sports, local and national events, and arts and entertainment. The Western Herald is available in print and online (www.westernherald.com). The student staff at the Western Herald is primarily responsible for conducting journalistic research, writing, editing, photographing, and reporting on campus and local news. Employment and volunteer opportunities are available.

89.1 FM WIDR

WIDR FM is WMU’s student-run, noncommercial radio station. Established in 1953, WIDR FM provides a distinctly alternative music and programming experience 24/7/365 at 89.1 FM and online at www.widrfm.org.

The student staff at WIDR FM is primarily responsible for overseeing on-air DJ shifts, producing promotional recordings for airplay (grants, liners, PSAs), reviewing and acquiring new music, and organizing events. Employment and volunteer opportunities are available.

Young Broadcasters of Tomorrow (YBOT)

The Young Broadcasters of Tomorrow (YBOT) is a student-run media group dedicated to involving students interested in video production, editing, reporting, and more. Created in 2012, YBOT produces video designed to keep WMU students informed on current events, local and national news, and other areas of interest. Content by YBOT is distributed on its website, www.ybotconnects.com.