



ACUHO-I Talking Points

Submitted October 2009 by Michael Schultz, ACUHO-I President

ITEM 1: The core purpose of ACUHO-I is to be an indispensable resource to our members. With our Big Audacious Goal being that ACUHO-I will be world's foremost authority on college and university housing by providing access to meaningful knowledge and resources.

ITEM 2: As more campuses experience travel freezes or reduce travel funds, ACUHO-I continues to boost services that allow members to network and connect in ways other than face-to-face events. One such way is the ACUHO-I Online Network (www.acuho-i.net). Embracing many social media features, the network — which is open to all ACUHO-I members — allows users to create personalized pages, post messages and files to discussion forums, and creating ad hoc “groups” around different interests or functional areas. These groups are places where members can share messages and information, post documents, and more.

The network also provides a forum divided into several categories (selected to complement the ACUHO-I committee structure). This is the space where members are encouraged to post questions and/or information to the community at large. “What is your student / RA ratio?” “Do you have an H1N1 response plan?” “Did anyone else see this *Chronicle* article about move in day?” We believe that ACUHO-I members like to share information and resources and this network is their chance to share one-to-many rather than just one-to-one.

To sign up for the network is easy. Users simply have to go to www.acuho-i.net where they will be asked to create a new account with their e-mail address and creating a new password as well as small number of questions to create their user profile.

ITEM 3: ACUHO-I also continues to develop the ACUHO-I News Blog (blog.acuho-i.org) to deliver daily news and resources of importance to the college and university housing profession. Volunteers and staff continually scan the environment to find items to report. It may be developing legislation, results of a new study, insight into a new trend, or simply a headline that catches the eye. The blog also includes recurring features such as:

- **Housing 360°:** The Ohio State University staff is documenting a year-in-the-life of a college housing operation through their posts to the ACUHO-I blog, giving everyone a chance to learn from their toils and their triumphs.
- **You Were Asking:** ACUHO-I librarian Emily Glenn collects some of the most asked questions and then posts links to the resources that hold the answers.
- **Read All About It:** Weekly headlines from higher education news outlets.
- **Spotlight:** An extension of the popular *Talking Stick* feature, profiling some of the finest residence halls being constructed.

Keep up to date on the news by subscribing to the ACUHO-I News Blog updates. Users can sign up for an RSS feed or have a daily update e-mailed to your computer.

ITEM 4: Another new resource will be available in March. After two years of development, ACUHO-I and the Credentialing Task Force are excited to be offering our first Certificate Program that is designed to meet the on-going training and development needs of our membership. In an association-wide survey,

the membership had voiced its overwhelming preference for the topic of Assessment for our initial effort.

- Some important things to know about the Certificate in Housing Assessment :
- It will utilize blended learning methods and will consist of three on-line, self-paced courses and an optional, in-person culminating Capstone experience.
- The Capstone experience will offer an opportunity for the participant to demonstrate their understanding of the content offered in the on-line modules with an assessment expert and a Capstone facilitator.
- You will begin to see registration information after the first of the year.

ITEM 5: Plans continue to develop for the 2010 ACUHO-I Annual Conference & Exposition. The conference will be June 26- 29 in Austin, Texas. The call-for-programs will be open in early November and ACUHO-I members are urged to share their expertise by submitting a program.