

Dean of Students: Charlotte F. Degen, M.Ed., CAGS

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# STUDENT AFFAIRS INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

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Student Affairs, working with Academic Affairs, creates a living-learning community which provides a sense of affiliation; respects and values the worth of all members; supports academic success; and encourages the personal development, wellness, and safety of students. Students in this community participate in meaningful leadership and service opportunities which build a foundation for lifelong learning and the attainment of career goals.

**Bookstore** - The College Bookstore provides new and used textbooks, reference books, and fiction and nonfiction books in hardcover and paperback, school supplies, a selection of insignia clothing, newspapers, magazines, snacks, software, holiday specials, greeting cards, and assorted Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts glassware and ceramics. Book buy-back, special book orders, and check-cashing are also available.

**Campus Center** - One of the main focal points of student and college-wide activities is the Amsler Campus Center. The west wing (or Athletic wing) houses the Athletic Department and Physical Education offices, locker rooms, swimming pool, gymnasium, handball/racquetball and squash courts, athletic equipment room, training room, and a dance complex that is used for several activities including dance, boxing, karate, and aerobic classes.

The east wing (or Student Affairs Wing) houses the College dining area - the Centennial Room, Sharky's (a late night social space), the college bookstore, Fitness Center, the campus convenience store (known as the C-Store), lounges, and meeting rooms. The following Student Affairs and student organization offices are also a part of the east wing: Public Safety, Non-Traditional Student Organization, Dean of Students, Assistant Dean of Students/Judicial Affairs, Student Development Office, Student Activities Council, ALANA/International Student Services & Programs, Multicultural Education Center, Student Government Association, WJJW/ the College radio station, B-GLAD, Stop the Hate, Center for Service and Citizenship, Orientation, Student Activities, Susan B. Anthony Women's Center, Inter-Greek Council, and the Commuter Student Lounge.

An annex to the Campus Center is Hoosac Harbor, located in the lower level of Hoosac Hall. Activities such as dances, comedy shows, and movies take place there. Hoosac Harbor also provides open recreational time for students where they can play pool, ping-pong, foosball, air hockey, board games, and have access to a large screen television at no cost. E-mail stations are located in Sharky's.

**Center for Service and Citizenship** - The relationship between Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Northern Berkshire Community is enhanced by the large number of students who give their time and effort to the community. Students participate in a variety of experiential learning and community service opportunities, such as one-time events, like the Alternative Spring Break program or in on-going programs such as providing literacy support to local elementary school children in the community. Students can also engage in service-learning activities within course curriculum, receiving academic credit for fulfilling the service requirements of the course. The summer program, LEAD Academy, a college-success, service and leadership program for first-year students, and other new students, is also managed through the Center for Service and Citizenship. By providing service to the community, students make positive differences, learn from the experience, and are better prepared to be contributing citizens in the future. The Center is located on the 3rd floor of the Campus Center.

**Fitness Center** - Located on the second floor of the Campus Center, the Fitness Center includes a variety of strength conditioning equipment for each of the main muscle groups, as well as cardiovascular equipment. The fitness equipment, with treadmills, rowing machines, stair steppers, computerized cycles, upper body ergometers and free weights assists students to develop endurance and maintain overall physical fitness. Workshops are offered for the novice, and both group and individual programs challenge students to achieve their personal best.

## **Housing**

**On-Campus Housing** - The College provides on-campus accommodations conducive to intellectual development, personal growth and the building of friendships. The residential experience is an integral part of the educational process at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Students in good standing are guaranteed on-campus housing throughout their college career.

The three on-campus residence areas (Berkshire Towers, Hoosac Hall, and the Flagg Townhouse Apartment Complex) house approximately 900 students. The staffing in each residence area includes a full-time, live-in Residence Director and a team of para-professional Resident Advisors. On-campus housing is managed by Residential Programs & Services (RPS) which is located in Townhouse 89 of the Flagg Townhouse Apartment Complex.

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**Off-Campus Housing** - Residential Programs & Services (RPS) provides off-campus students with listings of available housing in the North Adams area.

**Residency Requirement** - All students, other than those classified by the College as commuters and/or non-traditional students, are required to live on campus and participate in a College-designated meal plan for their first three years. Questions regarding the residency requirement should be directed to Admissions (new students) or Residential Programs & Services (returning students).

**Literary Magazine - Spires** - The College's student-produced arts and literary magazine is published in the spring under the auspices of the English/Communications Department. It features original poetry, fiction, artwork, and photographs. The emphasis is on student work. It is also open to submissions from the wider campus community and from the surrounding area.

**Newspaper - The Beacon** - The weekly campus newspaper and its on-line version, published by students, is open to all. Students enrolled in the practica courses and internships assume editorial positions. Noneditorial positions include photography, advertising sales and design, distribution, and business management. Applications are accepted near the end of each semester.

The Beacon is a founding member of The New England Collegiate Newspaper Association (NECNA) and a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). The newspaper has won numerous awards, including NECNA Newspaper of the Year Award, and the Merit Award.

**Public Safety** - The Department of Public Safety has a Director, and a complement of officers, dispatchers and clerical staff who provide service around the clock every day. An on-campus escort service by a campus police officer is provided upon request. Portable engravers are available for students wishing to engrave identifying numbers on items of value. The office is located on the first floor of the Campus Center.

Resident freshmen are not allowed vehicles on campus. Out-of-state students are required by state law to register their vehicles with the North Adams Police Department. Parking on campus is limited and by permit only. Resident student parking permits become available through a lottery conducted by Residential Programs & Services. Parking permits for commuter spaces may be purchased for \$30 per semester at the Department of Public Safety during specified times at the beginning of each semester. These are issued on a first come, first served basis upon application and presentation of car registration, valid college ID, and driver's license. The resident student parking permit distribution process is coordinated by Residential Programs & Services. Resident students should contact Residential Programs & Services for information about this process (a limited number of permits are available for \$100 per semester). All student vehicles must be registered with the campus Department of Public Safety.

**Radio Station - WJJW-FM** - WJJW is the radio station of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. At 91.1 on the FM dial, WJJW broadcasts live and recorded programming in stereo which are designed to serve the campus and surrounding communities with music, news, variety, sports, and public affairs programming.

WJJW is staffed by student volunteers who have a sincere interest in obtaining valuable broadcasting experience and serving the College and region. WJJW offers practical experience in most aspects of radio broadcasting and is part of the Broadcast Media Concentration of the English/Communications Department. Visitors are welcome.

**Religious Life** - The College recognizes student-lead organizations which conduct religious programs. Local clergy have the opportunity to maintain weekly office hours at the Hoosac Bank Student Wellness Center. Several community churches are within close walking distance as well as the synagogue which is a short drive, located on the regional bus route of the College and welcome students.

## **Sports and Recreation**

**Intercollegiate Athletics** - Athletic programs at Massachusetts College provide a variety of opportunities for students. Sports for men and women receive equal emphasis and the quality of competition is similar in all sports. Indoor and out of doors facilities and competitive opportunities with other institutions support students as they seek high levels of performance.

As members of the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference, teams representing Massachusetts College follow the principles that govern intercollegiate athletics as adopted by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (Division III) and the Eastern College Athletic Conference. The College does not offer athletic scholarships.

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## Sports offered are:

### FALL

Soccer (Men)  
Soccer (Women)  
Tennis (Women)  
Volleyball (Women)  
Golf (Men)  
Cross-Country (Men)  
Cross-Country (Women)

### WINTER

Basketball (Men)  
Basketball (Women)

### SPRING

Softball (Women)  
Baseball (Men)

Approximately two and a half miles from the campus MCLA's Joe Zavattaro Athletic Complex is on West Shaft Road, south off Route 2 or east off Church Street.

**Intramural Program** - Intramural activities support a wide range of interests from quiet recreational games to team sports. Close to seventy percent of the student population typically participates in intramural offerings. Intramurals provides students with many opportunities to gain leadership experience by serving as an Intramural Council member, team captain, timer, scorer, official, statistician, or supervisor. Students may also gain experience in program organization and administration.

**Student Government Association (SGA)** - The SGA appoints students to participate in the College's decision-making and governance process. Through SGA, students can participate in decisions about campus programs, services, and academic issues. The SGA also administers the Student Activities Trust Fund, which is created through Student Activities Fees and supports all SGA recognized clubs and organizations. The Student Government office is located on the 3rd floor of the Campus Center.

**Wellness Center** - The Hoosac Bank Student Wellness Center, located next to the Admissions Building on Blackington Street, opened in April, 2001. Within the newly renovated building, students will find **Health Services**, on the first floor, and **Counseling Services**, on the second floor.

**Counseling Services** - Counseling Services provides personal and psychological counseling to help students achieve their academic and individual goals. Licensed mental health counselors offer individual and group counseling, addressing emotional and social concerns and/or personal growth and development. The office is open Monday-Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:45 p.m.

Also provided are educational workshops and mental health programs (i.e., assertiveness, positive attitude, interpersonal communication, making intelligent choices about the use of alcohol and other drugs) and provide screenings for (depression, eating disorders and alcohol abuse).

**Health Services** - The Office of Health Services provides students with acute health care at no charge for on-campus visits. A nurse practitioner or registered nurse is on duty from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A physician is available for consultation between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Necessary referrals to off-campus specialists are arranged through Health Services located in the Hoosac Bank Student Wellness Center.

Health Services offers a broad range of services including; out-patient services on a walk-in basis, first aid for injuries, referrals, basic bloodwork, throat culture, urinalysis, pregnancy testing, free condoms, routine gynecological services, birth control counseling, routine medications, resources for health information, health counseling, and education.

Emergency room and in-patient services are available at North Adams Regional Hospital, which is about five minutes from the campus. Students coming to Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts should have a copy of their health insurance card to facilitate off-campus health care or the purchase of prescription medications.

**Required Insurance** - All full-time and three-quarter time graduate and undergraduate students are required by the Commonwealth to enroll in the Student Health Insurance Plan unless proof of other comparable coverage is submitted. Enrollment or waiver may be done at [www.chickering.com-student connection](http://www.chickering.com-student-connection).

**Required Health Information** - All students carrying a course load of 9 credits or more are required to submit a completed health form to the Health Services Office to prevent delay and/or invalidation of registration for classes. This health form includes a completed physical within one year prior to admission. The College Immunization Law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Chapter 76, Section 15C) requires the following immunizations: (1) proof of 2 doses of live measles vaccine given at least one month apart at or after 12 months of age. (2) proof of at least one dose of mumps and rubella vaccine(s) given

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at or after 12 months of age (2 MMRs acceptable), (3) a booster dose of tetanus and diphtheria within the last ten years prior to admission, (4) Hepatitis B immunization series (three vaccinations with dates recorded as month and year for each vaccine signed by a licensed medical professional) (5) All new full and part time students in a degree granting program must provide proof of one dose of meningococcal vaccine received within the last five years prior to admission. A waiver for meningococcal vaccine requirement only is available through the Health Services Office, and (6) exemption from measles, mumps, rubella, and Hepatitis B vaccination is made for students presenting laboratory evidence of immunity (titres) or for students providing written documentation that he or she meets the standards for medical or religious exemption set forth in M.G.L.Ch. 76, Sect. 15C. (The above immunization requirements may be different for international students. Prospective international students should contact the Admission's Office for information.)

The Center for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Public Health Department recommend 2 doses of varicella vaccine (to prevent chickenpox) for students who have never had documented chickenpox.

The College is committed to protecting medical information about our students. We understand that medical information about a student is personal. The College complies with the policies and practices of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). All campus Health Care Providers post our Notice of Privacy Practices, per the HIPAA regulations. If you have any questions regarding our practices, or your rights under HIPAA, please contact the Dean of Students (3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Amsler Campus Center).

For more information about Health Services visit the Office or call extension 5421.