

EZRA STILES (RISING) SENIOR HOUSING

SPRING 2019

Congrats Meese of **2020!** You are almost 2/3 of the way through junior year! This means that you can now begin the exciting process of deciding on your housing configuration for next year. Please read this info sheet in its entirety because the housing process is different this year than the one you followed last year.

In Ezra Stiles, the dean is responsible for all housing assignments. Room allocation is implemented by the Housing Committee, which is composed of the dean and two permanent representatives from each class. Any housing concerns should be addressed to the committee and they will respect confidential communications. Your HoCos are **Omid Roohfada** and **Gina Zhu**.

Housing is determined by a lottery system that acknowledges seniority. Rising sophomores choose housing first, as they are guaranteed housing for the sophomore year, then rising seniors, and then rising juniors. Seniors can choose to live in stand-alone singles (SASs) or in “suites of singles.” As of now, the following suites are available for **Juniors and Seniors:**¹

- **64** stand-alone singles
- **3** 3-single suites
- **9** 3-person suites (1 single, 1 double)
- **3** 4-single suites
- **1** 5-person suite (3 singles, 1 double)
- **4** 5-single suites

I. WHAT TO DO BEFORE SPRING BREAK

- Wednesday, February 20 until noon on Friday, March 8:**
All students log into Vesta, the online system and register intent to live on-campus or off-campus. You must do this even if you are living off campus.
- Have questions? Consider attending a housing information session for your class with Dean P on **Tuesday 3/5 at 9:30 p.m.** in the Crescent Theater
- Think and Plan Ahead:** Decide if you want to live in a suite or a stand-alone single. Talk to potential suitemates and pin-mates. Have a plan B ready.
- View the Stiles Floorplans:** Hard-copy printouts are available for your viewing in the office (they need to remain in the office).

¹ *These numbers may vary slightly between now and the housing draw*

- e. **Special Accommodations:** If you are requesting special housing accommodations for legitimate health or religious reasons, meet with the Resource Office on Disabilities (medical) or Chaplain’s Office (religious) to register your need for accommodation, be prepared to provide documentation, then email Dean P. by **Friday, March 8** to inform her about your authorized request.
 - i. Note that if you were eligible for accommodations from previous years eligibility does not “roll-over” to future years, but must be documented each year with either the Resource Office on Disabilities or the Chaplain’s Office.

II. WHAT TO DO DURING SPRING BREAK

- a. Take a break, relax, have fun.
- b. Get your group ready to go. If your housing situation is still up in the air, alert your HoCo reps or the dean so they can try to help you out or offer some guidance.

III. RIGHT AFTER SPRING BREAK: FINALIZE LOTTERY-GROUP ONLINE

- a. Appoint a “Group Leader” for your lottery-group (the groups of students who will constitute your suite). If you are choosing to live in a stand-alone single, you will act as your own “Group Leader.” The Group Leader will be primarily responsible for logging information into Vesta.

b. **Group Formation: March 25 - March 27**

- i. **Group Leaders** create a lottery-group on Vesta and invite others in your suite group to join. Group Leaders can select a group “size” which can be changed until the group is finalized.
 - 1. Students can ask to join a given group that is not yet full and can withdraw if they so choose before the group is finalized. When a group is full and all members confirm their participation in the group, the leader can “finalize” it, which means that it can no longer be modified. Students can view a page with information about the housing stock available, other students without groups, and all existing groups.
- ii. Use the time between March 25 and March 27 wisely. View the system for information that will be useful for you – are the “suites of singles” that you want oversubscribed? Should you disband and reconfigure into a suite-type that has less demand? If a certain group doesn’t seem to have enough students, should you join them to create a suite?

IV. PRE-DRAW (*Only for Oversubscribed Groups*)

- a. **Thursday March 28**, 9:30 p.m. or other arrangement by HoCos.
 - i. You will only need to participate in a pre-draw if you are trying to get a suite-type that is oversubscribed. For instance, if there are four groups of 3 vying for the 3 available suites-of-3-singles, the pre-draw will decide which group will not get that suite type. This way, the group that is eliminated will have time to look at the system online, see which suite types are not oversubscribed, and reconfigure themselves.
 - ii. At the end of the pre-draw, everyone in your class will know what *type* of suite they will live in next year.

Pro-tip: Stay away from oversubscribed groups if you do not want the uncertainty of disbanding and reconfiguring yourselves last minute to fit available housing stock and/or matching with classmates who find themselves in a similar situation.

V. CLIPPING

- a. **Clipping** (a.k.a. Pinning): Clipping is optional; if you are not clipping you can skip this step.
- b. Clips (or pin groups) allow different suites/SAS an opportunity to be close to each other. All members of a clip receive the same lottery number ensuring that your entire clip can select rooms at the same time on Draw night. After the pre-draw (if one is needed) and before the final Draw, those of you who wish to clip must indicate your clip group in Vesta. These groups can vary in size between 1 to 8 members of varying suite/SAS configurations. Group leaders can initiate clips, but prior to the lottery all members of your clip group must confirm in Vesta to ensure all agree. Clips must be finalized before 9:30 pm on 3/29 (hopefully sooner). This is a very hard deadline. Those who do not adhere to this deadline will be placed at the bottom of the lottery [not a fun place].

VI. LOTTERY AND DRAW

- a. **Saturday, March 30 at 10:30 AM** Common Room
 - i. During this event, the Dean “hits the button” and Vesta will magically assign lottery numbers to each group/clip group. The lottery numbers will define the order in which you choose specific suites within your suite-type. All numbers drawn during this lottery are final.
 1. Every member of each clip group will be assigned the same lottery number on the Vesta system, regardless of whether the group is

going for one suite or a combination of suites and/or stand-alones. For instance, if a clip of 5 people comprised of 3 people who wish to go for a triple and 2 people who wish to go for stand-alones get lottery number 9, each of the five people will be assigned the number 9.

- ii. Immediately following the lottery, each suite/clip group, based on their lottery number, picks the suites they want by placing stickers on the extra-large floor plan that will be on display. If a particular student cannot attend the room draw, he/she will need to designate a proxy ahead of time who will then participate in the event. Please alert your class reps if you are appointing a proxy.
- i. **Housing Contracts:** As soon as the group does this, each member of the group is required to walk up to the HoCo table to sign the Housing Contract for the 2019/2020 Academic Year. This is a legally binding contract. Those who later back out of contracted on-campus housing will have to pay a not-insignificant housing penalty. No exceptions.
 1. When students sign their housing contract, they will be asked to indicate their room # as well.
 2. Once the senior draw closes, room changes will need to be made in writing to the Dean's office (see "Room Switching" below).

HOUSING RULES

Before the Housing Draw

1. **Spring Term Housing Only.** Requests for second-semester housing for students who will be abroad or on leave in the fall must be submitted by November 30. Every attempt will be made to accommodate returning students seeking second-semester housing but cannot be guaranteed.
2. **Class Definitions: Sophomore/Junior/Senior.** For purposes of the housing rules, a student is a member of the class he or she will enter in the upcoming fall. A current first-year student will be defined as a sophomore in these rules, a current sophomore as a junior, and a current junior as a senior. (See Rule 3 on acceleration.)
3. **Acceleration, Leaves, and Withdrawals.** Acceleration does not affect class status for purposes of housing. Students participate in the lottery of their original entering class. First-year students enter the sophomore lottery; second-year students, the junior; third-year students, the senior. A student who takes off one term is for housing purposes a member of his or her original class. A student who takes off two or more terms and returns to a different class will be considered for housing purposes a member of the new class. No student who is currently withdrawn from Yale may participate in a lottery even though he or she anticipates reinstatement in the upcoming fall term.

4. **Students Currently Abroad or on Leave.** Students who are currently taking a term abroad or a semester off may be included in the lottery only if they intend to be enrolled in Yale this coming fall. To be counted in the lottery, such students must notify the Dean's Office in writing of their intention to live in Stiles next fall and designate someone (a housing proxy) to act on their behalf in the lottery. If the student cannot find another student to be their proxy, they may ask for their class' Housing Committee representatives to serve as their proxy.
5. **Mixed-Year Housing.** Any requests to live with members of another year will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed. We will do our best to accommodate people who legitimately want these arrangements. For mixed-year housing, class is determined by the lowest year. This means that the upper-level students in the group will enter the lower-level student's draw. **Please talk to the Housing Committee no later than March 25th if you plan to live in a group that has students from different classes.**
6. **Co-ed Housing.** Rising seniors, juniors and sophomores are allowed to live in mixed gender rooms and mixed gender suites. In fact, unless specifically designated by the dean, all floors will also be mixed gender.
7. **Special Needs or Housing Concerns.** Any student with a special need or a housing concern should meet with the dean well before March 8. The dean will try to accommodate these students but does not guarantee any special arrangements. The dean will consult with the Resource Office on Disabilities and the Chaplain's Office about special accommodations, when applicable, and require students requesting accommodations to also register with those offices. *If you received an extraordinary waiver last year, that waiver will not apply/carry over to future years. You will need to reapply or re-register with the above-mentioned offices and notify the dean of your plan as soon as possible.

The Housing Draw

1. **Lottery Groups.** If any of the people in your lottery group (i.e., group of students who will form your suite) change or drop out after the March 27 deadline, the Housing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action (e.g., assigning students to the room or giving the suite last pick in the draw.). **Late applicants automatically get last pick in their respective lotteries.**
2. **Lotteries.** Lotteries determine the order in which students pick their rooms. Everyone is welcome to observe this process in the name of transparency. There are separate lotteries for the sophomore, junior, and senior classes.
3. **Decisions are Final.** Any and all decisions made at the draw are final, and it is your responsibility to attend the draw. If there are extenuating circumstances that require you to miss the draw, you must designate a proxy and have this person sign the form and attend the room draw for you. Please alert the Housing Committee of any such arrangements and see McKenzie for the proxy form.

4. **Best Behavior.** The Committee reserves the right to expel from the room draw proceedings anyone who causes a disturbance or who otherwise disrupts the room draw. The Committee will represent those expelled for the remainder of the draw.
5. **Housing Contracts.** At the time students choose a room, they will sign a contract for that room.
6. **Anyone who participates in room draw and then decides to relinquish his/her housing in order to live off-campus or to take a leave of absence is also subject to a fine of 1/4 of the fall term room rate, as stated in the Yale College Undergraduate Regulations.**

After the Housing Draw

1. **Room Switching.** If two suites or individuals wish to exchange rooms, they must do so by contacting the Dean's Office. All members of both suites must agree to any and all switches in writing (see McKenzie for the form). **A student who has signed a contract may not switch rooms without permission from the dean. If it is discovered that a student has done so without permission, he/she will have to move to their assigned room and will automatically be placed at the bottom of the following year's housing draw.**
2. **Ghosting.** Ghosting occurs when a student submits his or her name into the online system indicating intent to live on-campus, knowing that he or she does not plan to live in the residential college. A student who does this and withdraws before the draw is also considered to be ghosting. The dean and the housing committee regard ghosting as disrespectful and inconsiderate behavior. Should this occur, one of two things may happen: (1) the group will be allowed to keep the room, but the Dean and Housing Committee may place someone to fill the vacated spot without consulting the other group members, or (2) the group will forfeit their right to the room and may be forced to disperse.
3. **Smoking.** Smoking is forbidden in the college (and indeed everywhere on campus). If a student is discovered to have smoked in the college, the student will be placed at the bottom of the housing draw for the following year.
4. **Pets.** Pets are not allowed to reside within the college, with the notable exception of Machang the Disgruntled, Aqua, and Eero.

General Rules

1. **All questions in writing.** If you have any questions or concerns about housing in Stiles that are not explained in this document, you must submit them in writing (this includes e-mail) to your class's housing reps, who will bring them before the committee.
2. **Doubles are Doubles.** Should your roommate leave to study abroad or for any other reason, the Dean may fill that empty bed without prior notice according to the needs of the college.

3. **New Stilesians.** Stiles will house 4 unknown suitemates: 2 transfer students from other universities, and 2 visiting rising juniors from international universities. Groups may agree to take one or more of these students as a member of their suite. Groups that wish to exercise this option must inform the Housing Committee in writing before they submit their Housing Card. In all cases, seniority rules.

Elastic Clause. The Housing Committee reserves the right to modify the rules at any time if the situation warrants. In addition, suite assignments can be changed to ensure fairness and to make sure that everyone has a place to live. All decisions will be made at the discretion of the Housing Committee, the Dean, and the Head. All decisions are final.

STILES 2019 HOUSING COMMITTEE

Dean Nilakshi Parndigamage

Class of 2019

Jared Weinstein

Class of 2020

Omid Rooholfada

Gina Zhu

Class of 2021

Jaeger Johnson

Bleu Wells

Class of 2022

Reta Behnam

Tony Leche