INTRODUCTION

Room Draw is the method used at Carleton to determine the housing assignments for rising sophomore, junior and senior students. Students are assigned random lottery numbers that determine the order in which they select their room for next year. Lottery Numbers have been posted on The Hub.

Although the Draw isn’t until May, you have probably already heard lots of discussion and planning for next year. You may have also heard a number of rumors regarding Room Draw. This mailing is designed to help familiarize you with the Room Draw procedure so that you can make an informed decision about your housing next year.

How Does Room Draw Work?

Things to do at this point:

⇒ Decide with whom you want to live.
⇒ Look at Floor Plans on the Web (www.carleton.edu/student/housing/roomdraw/rooms.html).
⇒ Contact the current residents and arrange a visit if you want to see what a room looks like.
⇒ Attend study breaks on April 27 and May 4 to get more information

Room Draw for the rising sophomore class (that’s you!) will be Thursday, May 15, at 6:30.

A) The Draw takes place in Great Hall, and you will enter the room from the Burton-side entrance.

B) An up-to-date listing of available rooms will be posted online daily and paper copies of the list of rooms remaining for men and women will be available at Room Draw for your reference and planning.

C) When you enter Great Hall, you will be given a Housing Selection Card. Once you’re inside the hall, there will be chairs set up for you to sit in while waiting to draw. As each room is drawn that evening, someone announces the room drawn, and the room is removed from the list of available rooms.

D) As you are waiting to draw, you will need to fill out your Housing Selection Card. If you are drawing into a room with other people, only the person drawing the room (the person with the lowest lottery number) needs to fill out a card. 3001 is the lowest draw number for your class. You will put your name, lottery number, and names of all roommates you are drawing with on the card. On the front of the card you need to list five possible rooms because sometimes someone right before you will draw your first choice of rooms.

E) Throughout the evening, a Room Draw worker will be organizing you into a line by draw number. You will be called up in groups of about twenty (draw numbers 3001-3020, 3021-3040, etc.). Roommates, or their designated proxy, must all go through draw together when the draw number of the first roommate is called.

F) Please remain in the waiting area until it is your turn to draw, this will keep the draw moving smoothly. Once you get to the front of the line, you will register with a Room Draw worker who will check the information on your card. Then you will proceed to draw a room. You will then hand your card to the announcer, who will announce the room as drawn. That’s it! Once you have drawn, please exit through the Sayles Hill side door to keep things moving smoothly.

G) If you aren’t able to attend Room Draw, we have a process in place for you. More information to come as Room Draw approaches or read the Room Draw Policy available on our website.
**What Can I Get With My Number?**

There really is no telling how Room Draw will go from year to year. Although you can probably find plenty of upper class students ready to share their previous Room Draw experiences, the draw varies greatly from year to year. To give you an historical background, the Order of the Draw (a listing of the order in which rooms were drawn last year) is available on The Hub. The best plan is to enter Room Draw with several options in mind and to be ready to adjust as it gets closer to your turn to draw.

**What if I Can’t/don’t Draw?**

Some years we run out of rooms before everyone has drawn. However, spaces open during the summer as students transfer or decide to take leave of absence. Don’t worry, you are guaranteed housing. If you aren’t able to draw a room, you will be housed in early August. While there are stories of students not selecting a room and getting placed in better rooms than those still available at Room Draw, this is definitely the exception rather than the rule. It is the philosophy of the Office of Residential Life that students seek a good roommate over a good room. If you and a friend choose not to draw in hopes of getting a better double, chances are that you will be placed in separate vacancies that appear over the course of the summer and not together in a double.

**I’ve Got Other Questions, What Should I Do?**

There are several sources of information if you have more questions. The Office of Residential Life website has lots of helpful information, including the full Room Draw policy from the past year. You can find it at go.carleton.edu/roomdraw. Last year’s policy is currently posted. It will be updated in mid-April. As students choose to go off-campus, accept Northfield Option, live in an institutional or interest house, their lottery number will be removed from the listings and they will not be allowed to draw. This will allow you to see where your draw number is relative to everyone else who is still drawing. Rising sophomores are not eligible for Northfield Option.

If you have questions about Room Draw, please feel free to contact Residential Life, or talk with your Area Director. Any Residential Life staff member can answer your questions about Room Draw.

Members of the Housing Selection Advisory Committee will be attending study breaks during the first half of Spring Term.

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