Moving toward Gender Inclusive On-Campus Housing at Texas A&M University

Abstract: The Department of Residence Life wants every student who chooses to live in our residential communities to feel safe and comfortable. One of the ways we achieve this goal is by offering a wide range of on-campus housing options. Historically, residence halls were designed to separate the sexes into two groups – male and female. Our students advocated for the residence halls to have more diverse living options as it relates to sex/gender room assignments as well as a changing way of doing business by housing operations at other institutions. Based on the diverse needs and preferences of our students, we are taking the opportunity to expand on-campus housing options in ways that address these issues and preferences. As we expand our options, it is important to remember that all current options will continue to exist. Gender-inclusive housing will be a policy that affords Texas A&M University students the option to live on campus with whomever they choose, regardless of biological sex, gender, or gender identity. This poster presentation will review applicable Texas laws related to university housing, outline the new process for students who wish to live in a gender-inclusive room, apartment, or suite.