All residents moving out of their rooms/apartments at the end of the Fall 2005 Semester must check out by 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 23rd.

**Standard Check-out**

Standard Check-out is available for residents who wish to be present while the check-out inspection is being conducted by a staff member of the Office of Residential Services. Standard Check-out requires that you schedule an appointment two weeks prior to your departure. Sign up sheets are available on the outside of your Area office door. The South Area Office is located in Whittier adjacent to the study lounge. The North Area Office is located in Bancroft 101. During the scheduled appointment time, your room/apartment will be inspected, and the keys will be collected by the CA. You must be ready to vacate your room/apartment once the keys are turned over to the CA. The Room/Apartment Condition Report (RCR/ACR) form will be completed at check-out time, a copy given to you, and the original returned to the Office of Residential Services. Failure to keep your appointment will result in a $50.00 improper check-out fee and/or an additional daily charge assessed to your student account.

**Express Check-out**

Express Check-out was developed to provide you with flexibility and to save you time during the busy end of the semester. This option will allow you to check out at any time of the day or night. You simply drop off your keys to your Area office. At the Area office there will be an Express Check-out envelope for you to fill out with your information and for you to place your room/apartment keys. The completed envelope must then be placed in the Express Check-out drop box (located directly outside your Area office). After you leave, your CA will take the Room/Apartment Condition Report (RCR/ACR) to your room/apartment to inspect the room for damages, and assess it accordingly. Residents who pursue the Express Check-out option waive the right to appeal damage charges. If you have any questions or concerns about damage responsibilities, it is recommended that you use the Standard check-out Option.

**Mail Forwarding Information:** All residents should provide the Registrar with a forwarding address in order to avoid delay in the mailing of their housing security deposit. Whittier and 517 residents should also provide the Residential Mailroom with a forwarding address by submitting a Residential Mail Forwarding Form at OHRL or at the Residential Mailroom. Mail will be forwarded for 1 month after departure. Bancroft, Grant, and Sarasota residents should provide the United States Post Office with a forwarding address for mail to be forwarded (www.usps.gov).

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**Teachers College Residential Services Newsletter**

**DECEMBER 2005**

**Checking out?**

Fall Semester Move-Out is by 11:00 am on December 23rd.

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**Important TC Dates for December**

**Thursday December 1st**

Last day to file, in the Registrar's Office, Master's essays for February 8th degree award.

**Monday December 5th**

Registration for the Spring term for continuing students via web and touch-tone registration begins.

**Friday December 23rd**

Autumn Term 2005 ends. Termination of occupancy in Teachers College residence halls for Autumn Term students not returning for Spring Term 2006.

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**Etcetera**

**The Office of Residential Services Wishes You Success In Your Finals And Happy Holidays!**
ICE-SKATING IN NEW YORK CITY!

One of the fun Winter activities in the Big Apple, ice-skating in the city options include:

WOLLMAN RINK— in Central Park
(212) 439 6900 www.wollmanskatingrink.com

Best Entrance: Central Park South (59th Street) and 6th Avenue. Wollman Rink is a two minute walk into Central Park from this entrance. Follow the footpath directly into the park.

Prices: Skate Rental: $5.00 (tax incl); Lock Rental: $5.00 + *$5.00 refundable deposit
ADULTS: Mon-Thurs: $9.50; Fri-Sun: $12.00 CHILDREN: (Under 12) Mon-Thurs: $4.75; Fri-Sun: $5.00

Hours: Monday: 10:00 AM–2:30 PM; Tuesday: 10:00 AM–2:30 PM; Wednesday: 10:00 AM–10:00 PM; Thursday: 10:00 AM–10:00 PM; Friday: 10:00 AM–11:00 PM; Saturday: 10:00 AM–11:00 PM; Sunday: 10:00 AM–9:00 PM

ROCKEFELLER CENTER ICE-RINK — 5th Avenue between 49th and 50th Streets
Prices and hours of operation vary by week, so check out www.therinkatrockcenter.com or call (212) 332 7654.

DECEMBER TOWN HALL MEETING

We encourage all residents to participate in the community-wide Town Hall Meetings that take place each month. These meetings are a way for residents to provide the Office of Residential Services with immediate feedback regarding community concerns as well as a way for residents across all areas to meet other residents.

Date: Monday, December 12, 2005
Time: 9:15 p.m.
Place: 517 TV Lounge

Topics of conversation will be based on your ideas and suggestions. If you have an idea/suggestion that you would like to share prior to the Town Hall Meeting, please contact the meeting facilitator, Mr. Kenny Nienhusser at Nienhusser@tc.edu.

The Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree - it’s already lit up!!

Why not take a trip to one of New York’s Holiday Season Landmarks?

Every year a seven-ton, 80-foot-high, 40-foot-wide Christmas tree is draped in close to five miles of lights for all to see at Rockefeller Center. Atop the tree is a Swarovski Star, with 25,000 crystals and 1 million facets. While you’re there, you can also take advantage of the Center’s shopping amenities and take a twirl around the ice-skating rink at the Center (see our Ice-skating section for details).

30 Rockefeller Plaza (Between 48th and 51st Street from 5th Avenue to 7th Avenue)

For information: (212) 632-3975 or www.rockefellercenter.com/home
New York City Holiday Traditions

Ringing in the New Year in NYC...

New Year's Eve Times Square Ball Drop

This Times Square celebration stuffs over half a million excited celebrants into just a few blocks surrounding One Times Square. The former home of the New York Times is now better known for its once-a-year role as the site of descent for the illuminated thousand-pound Waterford Crystal ball, which starts dropping promptly at 11:59pm. Begun in 1907, the tradition has become a symbol of welcoming in the New Year—and an excuse to party in the streets amid confetti and pyrotechnics. The ball is visible on Broadway between 34th and 53rd Streets and on Seventh Avenue between 43rd and 59th Streets. Arrive early and dress warmly. Remember that traffic will be closed between Broadway and Seventh Ave as far south as 42nd St and as far north as 59th, by 6 pm on December 31st, or earlier, depending on crowds. So, get there early and be aware that cars and cabs won’t be an option after this time!

Cathedral of St. John the Divine Holiday Events

From Handel's Messiah (Dec. 10th) to the Winter Solstice Concert (Dec. 15-17), there are a number of festive Christmas events throughout the month of December at St. John the Divine. Check out www.stjohndivine.org

Amsterdam Avenue at 112th Street; (212) 316 7540

Lincoln Center Holiday Events

Lincoln Center is host to a variety of holiday events, ranging from a Messiah Sing In to storytellers sharing Christmas & Chanukah stories. You can also catch the New York City Ballet in a performance of The Nutcracker. Ticket prices vary. Check out www.lincolncenter.org

Radio City Christmas Spectacular with the Rockettes

Catch one of the over 200 performances of this Christmas extravaganza featuring breathtaking precision dance routines, elaborate costumes, stunning stage effects, and more.

Visit www.radiocity.com

Holiday Windows

Enjoy these breathtaking displays. Each year designers transform department store windows into miniature holiday worlds:

Macy’s- Herald Square between 34th and 35th streets
Lord & Taylor– 39th Street at 5th Avenue
Saks 5th Avenue– 611 5th Avenue (at 49th Street)

Office of Student Activities and Programs

- Do you want to plan an event and don’t know where or how to advertise?
- Have you wondered what student organizations there are at Teachers College?
- Trying to decide if you qualify for Health Insurance through TC?
- Want information about discounts on Broadway shows?
- Were you thinking of going to the Aquatic Center and didn’t know the hours?
- Wondered how to post an event on the e-board in Main Hall?
- Want to take advantage of the Graduate Writing Center?

The answer to all of these questions is the Office of Student Activities and Programs! The Office of Student Activities and Programs is like a one-stop-shop for being connected and getting involved at TC! Located on the first floor of Thordike Hall we seek to provide students with useful programming. We are always looking for ways to provide fun and useful programs to the TC community. We appreciate any feedback or suggestions that help us serve you. Please feel free to stop by our Office, email us at studentactivities@tc.edu or visit us on the web at http://www.tc.columbia.edu/stlife/detail.asp (you will find links for posting events, meeting the staff, and a new photo album from various TC events).

Hurricane Katrina and Rita Relief Efforts Penny War Update

Thank you to all of our residents and guests who contributed to the Hurricane Katrina and Rita Penny War this semester. Over $500.00 was raised throughout the residence halls. Whittier Hall won the pizza party, raising over $200.00. The pizza party was held on November 6th in the Whittier Café. All the proceeds were donated to the American Red Cross.
December Programs

Union Square Holiday Market
When: December 3rd       11:00am
Where: Depart from New Residence Hall Lobby at 11
Contact: Paul at miklaup@hotmail.com
         Jessica at cjc51@columbia.edu
         LeLaina at lelaina.romero@gmail.com
         Leonda at lcw2104@columbia.edu

Scrapbook Party
When: December 3rd       5:00pm
Where: South TV Lounge, New Residence Hall
Contact: Nani Pease at nanipease@yahoo.com
         Taisha at tle2102@columbia.edu

Power of Praise
Gospel Music and Soul Food!
When: Sunday, December 4th 3:00 pm
Where: Lerner Hall, Depart from Whittier Lobby at 2:45
Contact: Damien at del2109@columbia.edu

Clothing Drive
When: December 5th—December 18th
Where: Whittier, 517, and Bancroft Lobbies
Contact: Damien at del2109@columbia.edu
         Matthew at mrm2113@columbia.edu
         JoEllen at jam2132@columbia.edu

Wine and Cheese (BYOW)
Bring a bottle of wine to share with others! Snacks will be provided.
When: Thursday, December 8th 9:00 pm
Where: Whittier Café
Contact: Matthew at mrm2113@columbia.edu
         Janine at jjr2112@columbia.edu
         Aisha at aeb56@columbia.edu
         Vickie at vnm4@columbia.edu
         Damien at del2109@columbia.edu

Another wonderful Thanksgiving at TC....

The TC Community Thanksgiving dinner was a great success this year with a little over 85 thankful participants. Attendees from the TC community included students, alumni, faculty and staff. The afternoon was cheerfully filled with wonderful Thanksgiving fare provided by Sage Dining, holiday music and a tasty holiday pie raffle. The Office of Residential Services, the Student Senate, the Office of Student Activities and Programs, and the Office of the President Diversity and Community would like to share with you our heart felt thanks for making this a joyous occasion and celebration.

Movie Night
When: Thursday, December 12th 7:00pm
Where: Whittier Café
Contact: Janine at jjr2112@columbia.edu

Study Break
When: Tuesday, December 13th 7:00 pm
Where: Bancroft Lobby
Contact: Greg at gjp2005@columbia.edu

Holiday Party at Radio Perfecto
Complimentary appetizers and giveaways!
When: Thursday, December 15th 10:30 pm
Where: Radio Perfecto, Amsterdam 118th/119th
Contact: Christina at montville@tc.edu

Winter Potluck
When: Sunday, December 25th time TBA
Where: TBA
Contact: Tonio at tev2102@columbia.edu