

AT CAMPUS LIFE

SPRING 2017, ISSUE 1



24 HOUR ROOM

by Crystal Hernandez '18

SUNY Oswego has a wide range of places for students to feel at home and comfortable. There are places to eat, to relax, to hang out, and even to enjoy a beautiful sunset. Of all these places, my favorite has been the same since I was a freshman: the library.

The library is an experience like no other. Often referred to as “the lib,” it has become my safe haven on campus. The library hosts everyone and everything. If you haven’t been to Penfield Library, it should definitely be your next stop. Of all the places to study or even chit chat with friends, I always find myself in the 24 hour room.

It is both the best and worst place to be. Best if you are ahead on work and just want to get some extra assignments out of the way, worse if you have an hour presentation and an exam the next day and now due to procrastination, you are spending

your night in the 24 hour room. I sound like I know what I’m talking about, right? That’s because I do. As the night progresses and people start to leave, it’s difficult not to fall asleep because your eyes become heavy and dry from staring at the computer screen. I have witnessed and even have participated in taking a half hour nap on one of the tables.

Thankfully, the 24 hour room is a judgment free zone. Anyone who is in there knows the obstacles we are all facing. As you frequent the 24 hour room, you will begin to notice some of the same faces and that’s because habits are often hard to break. I find myself staying up all night to do four or five assignments that I could have accomplished much sooner if I hadn’t procrastinated. I sit in the 24 hour room telling myself, “This will never happen again,” which is a lie.

After a while, a space in the 24 hour room becomes your own. You’ll notice, similar to a classroom, you can always find certain people in certain areas of the 24 hour room. They are sitting in the same seat you have seen them sit at many times before. Something that I must warn you about is the drastic change that takes place during finals week. All of a sudden this space that was yours, is no longer yours.

If you ever have a reason or even get the chance to go to the 24 hour room on a Friday or Saturday night, you will notice few people spend those nights doing work in that room. It’s a great space to clear your head and catch up on work. The 24 hour room has a personality of its own that’s made up of students that give it a unique atmosphere.

GETTING INVOLVED AT COLLEGE

by Noah Blake '19

My name is Noah Blake. I am currently a second semester sophomore here at SUNY Oswego. I am a broadcasting and mass communications major. I am also an out-of-state student from Montclair, New Jersey. Attending a college so far away has been an interesting experience in many ways. The weather is probably incomparable to the weather on other college campuses. One day the weather can be calm and enjoyable, but the next day it can be very windy, so hold on to your hats! Another big difference was the whole environment itself. I come from a very diverse suburban town, and it was a minor culture shock for me when I came to Upstate New York. Despite those two things, I quickly adjusted to campus culture and began my exploration of interests. So far I have had a pleasurable experience getting involved on campus and getting to know new people.

Ever since I began high school I have always expressed interest in participating in community service. When I found out what SUNY Oswego had to offer, I immediately jumped on this opportunity, without regretting it. I received an email from the **Mentor-Scholar program** asking students if they wanted to be a mentor. I was thrilled that I would be able to give back to a community that could really use my support. Mentor-Scholar at SUNY Oswego is a program where college students mentor middle school and high school students in local schools around the area. The benefit of working with the mentees is that you can make a lasting impact on them, receive community service hours, and also receive course credits. I had the joy of working with mentees as well as the other mentors, including the team leader. The team leader's responsibility is to facilitate the activities and to make sure that the mentors and

mentees are positively developing in growth and character. I am proud to say that I am now currently a team leader of Mentor-Scholar at Fulton Junior High School in Fulton, NY. I also found joy in another community service organization known as the Circle K Club. In this club, we do outreach services to underserved communities in the area. Being a member of this club is very rewarding because you are part of a national organization and it is also a great way to connect with people who are a part of this organization. One other club I really enjoy is the bowling club. There is a really laid back atmosphere in the bowling club. It gives you a chance to have fun with friends and it relieves stress. I am so happy with the choices I made because it helped me learn a lot about myself. There are so many great clubs, sports, and other organizations you can join here on campus.

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