



# University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Housing and Residence Life Office • PO Box 5025 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-5025

July 26, 2005

It was brought to my attention at the end of the last academic year that your name was listed as a bible study leader and your room was listed as the location for a bible study on the Impactgroups website. This concerns me because we specifically explained to RAs that we do not want this to occur.

Let me take a moment to explain the rationale for this concern. We have a fair number of students in each of our halls who do not practice Christianity, as well as some Christians who may follow a different doctrine than might be proposed at a bible study. It is very important to us that these students still feel that they can turn to you in a crisis, for information, or for support and hopefully that they would not feel judged or pushed in a direction that does not work for them. Since we provide your room for you and we have a strong desire to make sure RAs are accessible to all residents, we have developed this policy. As a leader of a bible study, it is also in the nature of that role to contact and solicit people for such opportunities. This is a problem since RAs should not be involved in such behaviors in their role either. I would have the same concern if an RA were holding studies of the Koran or Torah as well in their room.

I also want to clarify that I do not have a problem if you attend (not lead or organize) a bible study organized by a resident in your hall in other spaces, nor do I believe I have a right to tell you that you could not lead a bible study outside of your hall. However, when you are in your residence hall, you are always a staff member and as such, need to follow these policies so that all students are more likely to feel that you are approachable. If this activity were to occur again this year, you would force us to institute disciplinary action, so please contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Deborah Newman  
Associate Director of Housing and Residence Life

*Excellence. Our measure, our motto, our goal.*

(715) 836-3674 • fax: (715) 836-4857 • [housingoffice@uwec.edu](mailto:housingoffice@uwec.edu) • [www.uwec.edu/housing](http://www.uwec.edu/housing)