Muskingum College prides itself on developing an environment on campus that both challenges and supports students to strive for personal success. The philosophy of the Student Affairs division at Muskingum College is to provide services and programs that support and enhance the academic mission of the institution. Student growth occurs in the academic program as well as through educationally purposeful experiences outside the classroom. Students are encouraged to explore and engage in those activities and/or experiences that prepare them for productive careers and responsible citizenship.

The total undergraduate college experience includes growth that occurs outside of the classroom, in the residence halls, club and program houses, on the athletic fields, on the stage, and in the studio. The myriad of organizations, activities and events that constantly shape and reshape students’ lives is critically important in a student’s development.

Within the broad context of the student experience, Muskingum College sees the graduate population as part of the larger College community and encourages graduate students to take advantage of all the services and activities available to them.

First Year Orientation Program

All incoming first-year students and their parents are urged to participate in Muskie Preview during the summer. This program is designed to provide students and their parents with an understanding of the curriculum, housing options and other services available on campus. In addition, all parents are encouraged to participate in first-year orientation in the fall as they move their student onto campus.

Housing

Because Muskingum is a residential college, all undergraduate students are required to live on campus and participate in the college board plan. Seniors and juniors may apply for off-campus housing through the Student Life Office. Exceptions are made for students who commute from their homes or are married. Additionally, no student 25 years of age or over may reside on campus without prior approval from the Student Life Office. First-year and transfer room assignments are mailed in mid-summer and include the student’s hall, room number, phone number and name and address of their assigned roommate.

The Student Life Office will also assist graduate students who are interested in living in or about the New Concord community by providing a list of known community accommodations and advising students on resources to support their search for lodgings.

Dining Services

All students living in college housing are required to have a Residential Dining Membership (college meal plan). First year undergraduate students are required to be on the 21 meals per week dining membership plan throughout their first academic year, but alternative plans exist for upperclass students,
Campus Life

Members of the College community may dine at the college dining halls by using Residential Dining Memberships and Muskie Bucks which can be purchased at the College Business Office. Voluntary Dining Memberships may be purchased at a discount in different blocks at the Campus Services Office. Dining prices are posted at the dining halls.

Dining service hours vary for each facility and are posted in the dining halls and on the Dining Services web site, which is linked to the College website.

The Snack Bar in the BOC (Bottom of the Center – Student Faculty Center) provides a relaxing atmosphere where faculty, students and guests may use cash or Muskie Bucks to purchase a wide variety of beverages, sandwiches, salads and snacks.

PK Late Nite in Patton Hall is open Sundays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and lets students use cash and Muskie Bucks to purchase "grab and go" snack options for the late night munchies.

Health Services

The Wellness Center is open Monday through Friday during the academic year when college is in session. The Center has regular physician hours and a pharmacy. Students with minor illnesses are treated at the Wellness Center. Those who are seriously ill or who require diagnostic examination or treatment are referred to accredited hospitals. The College urges all undergraduate students to subscribe to the health insurance policy available to them.

Counseling Services

The Office of Counseling Services is available to assist undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff. Often, students need to talk about decisions related to both educational and vocational plans, as well as personal problems. Personal and/or career counseling is available to all students; consultation is available to faculty and staff. All walk-in services are free of charge. The staff also present workshops designed to help educate students and to develop skills necessary for success both in college and in the world of work.

Common personal problems that college students face include adjusting to college, family conflicts, a lack of motivation, relationship problems or feelings of depression. All individual and group sessions are confidential and are intended to help students solve their problems.

Career Services

The Office of Career Services assists undergraduate and graduate students, as well as graduates, in their job search. Undergraduate students are encouraged to begin preparing their credentials in their first year and update them regularly through and after graduation. Graduate students are advised to begin preparation of the credentials as early in the course of their graduate studies as possible. Among the office’s services are career counseling, coordination of on-campus recruitment, maintenance of files on employment opportunities and dissemination to graduates of information on job openings. The office also coordinates information for summer employment.
Student Center

The Student Center on the Quadrangle is the hub of campus social activities, a place where students, faculty members and visitors are equally welcome. The Center provides many of the services, conveniences and activities required by members of the college community.

Included in the Student Center’s facilities are a bookstore and college shop, snack bar, mail room, lounge and Student Life Offices which operate primarily during the standard business day, however some program offices provide extended services and students are advised to check individual programs for current operating hours. Additionally, the lounge space in the Top of the Center (TOC) and the gathering area in the Bottom of the Center (BOC) remain open until 11:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Cultural Life

Cultural opportunities are available to students and the entire college community under the sponsorship and direction of a number of organizations and departments and through a spectrum of endowed lectureships.

The College brings outstanding individuals to campus for lectures, colloquia and other activities designed to enrich and educate the campus community. A portion of these events is underwritten annually by the Willard Campbell Endowed Lecture Series on Public Service; the Seward D. and Edith Schooler Endowed Lectureship on Public Policy, and the Miriam G. Schwartz Lecture Series. Lecturers have included Ernest Boyer, Mike Farrell, Linda Chavez, Zev Kedam, Ralph Nader, Clarence Page, Susan Rook, Claudine Schneider, Richard Thornburgh, Kurt Vonnegut, Michael Weiss, Juan Williams, Edward O. Wilson and John Glenn.

A Distinguished Alumni Series features Muskingum alumni who have achieved notable distinction in their careers.

As a part of the Ohio Poetry Circuit, the English department schedules a series of evenings in which noted poets read from their works in programs open to the community.

Musicians, dancers, actors, mimes and other artists perform on campus, often combining performances with lectures, master classes and informal discussions with students. Scheduled choral and instrumental performances by student ensembles as well as recitals by Muskingum faculty fill out the musical calendar.

Creative work by Muskingum art students is regularly exhibited on campus. The art department also arranges trips for students to galleries and museums in nearby cities.

The Muskingum Players Dramatic Society, whose alumni include the late actress Agnes Moorehead, is dedicated to furthering interest in all forms of theatre and maintaining standards of excellence in theatrical production. Together with the speech communication and theatre department, the organization presents a season of major productions and student-directed plays.

Muskingum offers a variety of musical organizations, instrumental and vocal. Private lessons are available for academic credit in a number of applied areas. Students also may audition for the Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra, which is jointly sponsored by the College and a board of trustees from neighboring communities.
Muskingum’s academic clubs and societies promote interest and foster excellence in many disciplines. Local clubs which meet regularly with special programs involve students in the fields of chemistry, elementary education, music education, physical education, physics and psychology. Local honor societies also include Phi Theta Beta (education) and Theta Gamma Epsilon (geology and geography).

In addition there are chapters at Muskingum of the following national honorary and professional fraternities: Alpha Kappa Delta (sociology), Beta Beta Beta (biology), Kappa Pi (art), Kappa Delta Pi (education), Kappa Mu Epsilon (mathematics), Lambda Sigma Society (sophomore honorary), National Collegiate Players (dramatics), Omicron Delta Epsilon (economics), Omicron Delta Kappa (leadership), Phi Alpha Theta (history), Phi Beta Lambda (business), Phi Kappa Delta (forensics), Phi Sigma Iota (languages), Psi Chi (psychology), Sigma Beta Delta (business management and administration), Sigma Delta Psi (physical education), Sigma Tau Delta (English), Sigma Xi (scientific research), The Society for Collegiate Journalists.

Radio and Television

The Philip and Betsey Caldwell Hall houses the electronic media facilities of WMCO and Muskingum College Television (MCTV).  
WMCO, “Orbit” 90.7 FM, an award-winning, student-operated noncommercial radio station, has facilities rivaling many commercial operations. On the air year-round, 24 hours a day, WMCO programs music, news, sports and educational material to the regional community. Students use the state-of-the-art digital audio workstations to produce local programs.

Muskingum College Television (MCTV) produces the programming aired on channel 6 on the New Concord cable system. MCTV provides experience for students interested in television production. Facilities include a fully equipped multi-camera studio and control room, digital field production kits, and five AVID nonlinear editing workstations.

WMCO and MCTV are operated as part of the academic program of the speech communication and theatre department, but membership in the organizations is open to any student with a minimum 2.00 GPA, regardless of major. Responsibility for station policies and practices lies with the director of broadcasting.

Publications

Three student publications are the responsibility of a board composed of students and faculty members under the direction of the Student Senate. The publications are The Black and Magenta, a weekly newspaper; The Muscoljuan, the college yearbook; and The First Circle, a literary magazine.

Religious Programs

At Muskingum a multi-dimensional, unified campus ministry operated through the Office of the College Minister provides opportunities for students to worship and celebrate their faith. Thursday morning common hour is reserved for voluntary community worship in Brown Chapel. Occasional special services are scheduled in the Chapel. The New Concord churches
welcome students, and a weekly on-campus Roman Catholic Mass draws a substantial congregation. Jewish students are encouraged in their faith and are invited to Sabbath and Holy Day worship with the congregation of Beth Abraham in nearby Zanesville.

Every student is given opportunities not only for academic study of the Christian faith and of other world religions, but also for participation in extracurricular programs and groups provided to stimulate intelligent reflection upon, and develop mature understanding of, the Christian faith.

The campus ministry challenges the spiritual and intellectual resources of the college community to address contemporary social, political and ethical issues from a faith perspective. In addition to educational events and programs which address these issues, study and action groups are organized around specific concerns. An extensive volunteer service program allows students to participate in a variety of projects in the immediate and surrounding communities. Pastoral counseling is provided by the College Minister.

**Greek Life (Fraternities, Sororities and Social Clubs)**

Greek Life plays an important role in the lives of many Muskingum undergraduate students. About 40 percent of Muskingum’s students are involved in the Greek community. Through these organizations, students have the opportunity to develop skills which will be useful in later life. Living and working together, learning about others, experiencing diversity, managing a small business, becoming socially aware, getting involved in the community and learning to lead are some of the opportunities which await new members. Organizations have their own living environments which include residence hall floors with private lounges, on-campus houses leased and operated by the group and off-campus houses managed by members and alumni advisors.

Invitations for membership in a Greek organization are extended by the individual club on a selection basis. To be considered for membership a student must have the annually established GPA and have completed one full semester at Muskingum (membership recruitment and requirements are further addressed in the *Student Handbook*).

**Volunteer & Community Services**

The Volunteer and Community Services Office seeks to provide opportunities for students to gain practical experiences as they give back to the communities which, in part, support their education. Operated under the concept of “Service Learning,” students are given hands-on experiences in many different settings. Among the many opportunities available are: Habitat for Humanity, tutoring of area students, Christmas on Campus (supporting families celebrating holidays) and PAWS (for people bringing pets into retirement communities).

Students may choose to extend their involvement in this area by becoming a student site coordinator. In this role, students recruit new students and have on-going contact with professionals in the field as they work to fill the volunteer needs in the community. Educational advancement is also available through Alternative Spring Break programs, Ohio Campus Compact, the Governor’s Community Service Councils and Americorps.
Athletics
Muskingum College has been a member of the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) for more than half a century. As a member of the OAC, Muskingum College fields 17 varsity teams, nine men’s and eight women’s teams. Men’s undergraduate intercollegiate varsity teams participate in baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, tennis, track and wrestling. The women’s undergraduate athletic program at Muskingum offers intercollegiate competition in track, soccer, cross country, volleyball, basketball, softball, golf and tennis. The other nine colleges in the conference, which is the third oldest in the United States, are Baldwin-Wallace College, Capital University, Heidelberg College, Wilmington College, John Carroll University, Marietta College, Mount Union College, Ohio Northern University and Otterbein College. Muskingum College is also a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s (NCAA) Division III.

The Recreation Center has a racquetball court, a free weight room and an aerobics/weight machine room for student use. Undergraduate students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in personal recreational activities or in the organized intramural program on campus (certain activities may be open to graduate students upon consultation with the Athletic Director).

Leadership Development
“Leadership” opportunities abound at Muskingum College. As one of the developmental offerings most sought by students and employers, both academic programs and coursework, as well as co-curricular or out-of-the-classroom experiences focused on leadership are provided for the benefit of students. From internships, featured speakers, and training seminars to roles in leadership posts within organizations or paraprofessional roles with the institution, the College provides opportunities for students to be leaders and provides educational experiences to better understand the dynamics of leadership while enhancing their own leadership skills.

Campus Government
Students play a major role in the various organizations involved in campus government including:

Student Senate includes undergraduate members elected from classes, social clubs, independents, residence areas and commuters. A representative board reflecting campus opinion, the Senate and its committees perform the duties of student government.

Center Board is composed of undergraduate student executive officers, student division chairs and a staff advisor. Center Board’s major function is to plan and coordinate the social programs for the campus and provide a broad range of activities to match the diverse interests of students.

Community Standards Board is composed of students from the undergraduate and graduate studies programs, staff and faculty who are
charged with the objective of examining behaviors and institutional rules in specific cases in ways that carefully protect a student’s rights, both procedural and substantive, while also emphasizing the student’s obligation to abide by the community norms that the rules reflect. The board has jurisdiction in all disciplinary cases presented to the Board by the Student Life Office. The Peer Judicial Board, which has jurisdiction in first-level conduct hearings, is composed of students and advised by a staff advisor. Both bodies make recommendations to the Dean of Students or his/her designee who renders final outcomes. The Student Handbook provides greater detail on the behavior education system and serves as the controlling document on this programmatic area for the College.

Greek Council for the undergraduate men’s and women’s social clubs, fraternities, and sororities, promotes cooperation among the clubs and between the clubs and the College community.

Residence Hall Association functions for all undergraduate resident students. The councils plan social events, discuss and solve problems in the residence halls, clarify existing regulations and, where needed, develop new regulations.

Community Standards

Muskingum College is an intentional undergraduate and graduate community, one that is purposely set somewhat apart from the world around it. Its focus is on education, as well as seeking increased development and integration of the whole person in the intellectual, spiritual, social and physical aspects of life. As an educational community it respects and encourages the development of individual virtues such as integrity, rationality, compassion, self-discipline and personal responsibility.

The College also places special emphasis upon certain community ideals such as tolerance, civility and respect for the person and conscience of others. As a college related to the Presbyterian Church, it holds additional values such as honesty, the value and worth of each individual, the seriousness and inevitability of human shortcomings and the hope for redemptive behavior. Such a community must depend upon the respect for certain principles and patterns of behavior by its members in order to function effectively. Students who join this community are making an implicit commitment to live by its standards, whatever the difference of their backgrounds has been.

A Code of Academic Responsibility provides the definitions, operational structure and policies for the academic programs. A College Code of Student Conduct provides the definitions, operational structure and policies for life together on campus. Adherence to these Codes shall be considered an understood prerequisite for acceptance to and continuance in the College. As an institution within the State of Ohio, Muskingum College is committed to encouraging compliance with all state and local laws.

Muskingum College unequivocally condemns immoderate drinking. The College considers the decision to drink within moderation, or not to drink beverage alcohol at all, to be a value judgment on the part of each individual.
Personal possession of limited amounts of beverage alcohol (beer and/or wine) is permitted in designated areas by residents of legal age. The consumption of beverage alcohol (beer and/or wine) is also permitted at registered social events by students of legal age. All social events must be approved through the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

Muskingum College is unalterably opposed to the possession and/or use of non-prescribed drugs, narcotics or hallucinogens by all members of the college community.

Muskingum modifies the individual’s privilege of smoking by considerations of safety, avoidance of litter and respect for the rights of nonsmokers; smoking is therefore prohibited in certain designated areas (including the traditional residence halls).

Students bringing motor vehicles on the campus must register them with the Public Safety Office and abide by the Parking Regulations if they are to retain this privilege.

The continuing of students in college depends not only on their ability to maintain satisfactory academic standards, but also on their ability to support Muskingum’s ideals and standards. Students are held responsible for their behavior at all times, both on and off campus. If a student is dismissed from the institution, the College has no obligation to return any fees or tuition. Furthermore, by enrolling at this private institution, a student and his agents or guardians, agree to release and indemnify the College, its personnel, officers, agents or directors from any liability. In all cases the student is guaranteed the safeguard of essential procedural fairness. Specific policies and procedures are addressed in the annually-produced Student Handbook and updated through the College’s official communication system.