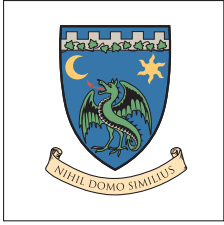


# STOUFFER COLLEGE HOUSE



The House coat of arms was designed in 1999 by Nicole Joseph. The House motto, *Nihil Domo Similius*, which translates as "Nothing Comes Closer to Home," honors the Stouffer family and expresses the residents' loyalty.

Many people find a close and supportive community in **Stouffer College House**. People who live in Stouffer do all of the typical Penn student activities, of course, but this close community provides a very strong base from which to explore everything on campus. It's just a nice place to come home to at the end of the day. Stouffer's motto, *Nihil Domo Similius*, (which translates as "Nothing Comes Closer to Home," in honor of namesake Vernon J. Stouffer, a 1923 Wharton graduate and son of the food company founders) is a statement that most of the people who live in Stouffer would agree with.

Three things make Stouffer the great House that it is. First, a lot of people choose to live in Stouffer for three or four years, demonstrated by the fact that it often has the highest percentage of returning residents of any College House. Freshmen and upperclass students in Stouffer form one united community. Many residents talk about how much they learned from upperclass students when they themselves were freshmen, and they are eager to make friends with the incoming students. Upperclass students pass on what they have learned about formal and informal life at Penn, especially traditions at Penn and at Stouffer. At the same time, because there are nearly 90 first-year students in Stouffer, freshmen are able to form a great number of close friendships within their class and are well connected to the freshman class at Penn as a whole.

Second, Stouffer's architecture supports strong multi-year connections. Stouffer Hall is divided into six adjoining sections of approximately 22 rooms each. Most rooms are singles, and all are carpeted and seasonally air conditioned. In fact, Stouffer is the only low-rise College House with air conditioned student rooms. The rooms are arranged in pods connected by hallways, making it almost impossible not to interact with Housemates and people down the hall. Mayer Hall has roomy apartments, each with its own bathroom and kitchenette. Freshmen live in one bedroom units; there are some two bedroom and efficiency units available to upperclass residents. The variety of room types within Stouffer allow residents to experience different types of living arrangements during the years they live in the House. Stouffer also has common rooms with foosball tables, a pool table, air hockey, ping pong, a gym, a dark room, and a patio with a basketball hoop, hammock, and volleyball net.

Third, Stouffer functions as a community. The House governance body, Stouffer Steering, is comprised of residents working with the Faculty Master and House Dean. This group controls most of the programming funds of the House. Staff and residents offer hundreds of House-wide programs; a social event occurs in Stouffer College House almost every night of the school year. Annual events start with *Stouffer Outdoors* (an annual trip into the woods for canoeing and camping just before classes start in the fall) and ends with a semi-formal at the end of the school year.

Activities extend beyond the House — Stouffer has won the College House Cup each of the last four years — while also bringing the academic life of Penn into the House. Faculty from across the University visit the House for bi-weekly Fellows Nights or other events, and residential staff and faculty share their own academic interests and specialties with the community. The *Healthy Living* program sponsors events for residents on topics such as fitness, men's and women's health, sleep, and nutrition. Residents throughout Stouffer are invited to sign up for the *Healthy Living* program in the fall semester, but members are not required to apply by submitting a special essay or to live on the same floor.

*Living in Stouffer makes me feel like I'm never far from family.* — ALEX FEINSON, COLLEGE '11



Left: Alison LaLond Wyant  
Right: Prof. Philip Nichols

- Four-time defending College House Cup intramural champions
- Only College House with a hammock; only low-rise House with air conditioned student rooms
- Mixed-class House: first year students live together and learn from upperclassmen
- Highest year-to-year retention rate of any College House
- One fall, residents launched an all-out water balloon attack on the Quad to the tune of Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries*



**Stouffer Hall**  
3702 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6026

**Mayer Hall**  
3817 Spruce Street/19104-6101

**House Office**  
215.573.8473

<http://stouffer.house.upenn.edu>

**2008-09 Faculty/Staff:**

**Faculty Master**

Prof. Philip Nichols  
*Associate Professor of Legal Studies,  
The Wharton School*

**Associate Master**

Amy Nichols

**House Dean**

Alison LaLond Wyant

**College House Fellows**

Dr. Juan Jimenez  
*NRSA Postdoctoral Fellow  
Institute for Medicine and Engineering,  
School of Engineering and Applied  
Science and School of Medicine*

Dr. Felicity Paxton

*Director, Penn Women's Center*

**Associate Fellow**

Melissa Sanchez

**Undergraduate Residents: 293**  
(excluding GAs)

**Number of Freshmen: 87**

**Number of GAs: 10**

**Room Types**

*Mayer Hall:* efficiencies; 1- and 2-bed-room apartments, carpeting, seasonal air conditioning; some kitchenettes

*Stouffer Hall:* singles, doubles (limited number); seasonal air conditioning; carpeting

**House Amenities**

*Mayer Hall:* 7 floors, seminar room, computer lab, 2 TV lounges with VCR and/or DVD players, exercise room, pool table, ping-pong table, foosball table

*Stouffer Hall:* 2 floors, study rooms, computer lab, darkroom, 2 televisions with VCRs, piano, 6 lounges, shared kitchenettes with microwaves, pool table, foosball table, air hockey, basketball court

**Dining Location**

1920 Commons, northwest corner