# HOW DOES MY HEAT & AC WORK?

# THE QUAD

Each bedroom in the Quad has an individual HVAC unit in one corner of the room. The unit has a thermostat behind a small panel to control fan speed (OFF/ON; LOW/MED/HI) and temperature setting. The temperature dial is labeled from 50 – 90 degrees, however the temperature control is governed/limited and depends on the time of year (heating or cooling season). The actual comfort range is set by Facilities Management.







## **WINDHAM**

In Windham, heat and AC in student rooms are controlled centrally from Facilities Management.

There are no individual controls. A few bedrooms on each floor have thermostats which control the temperature for a small group of rooms on that floor.

Residents must be particularly mindful that opening windows may have a negative impact on the comfort of other rooms around them. Heat comes from floor level radiators. AC flows through vents typically located on the wall above the room door. Whether radiators are heating or rooms are receiving cool air depends on the season to which the building has been set at Facilities Management.

#### COMMONWEALTH

Each bedroom in Commonwealth is controlled by individual

HVAC units under the window. The unit has a thermostat with a temperature setting of "WARMER -- COOLER" and a fan speed setting of "OFF/HIGH/MEDIUM/LOW".

Whether units are blowing heat or cool air depends on the season to which the building has been set by Facilities Management.



#### SOUTHWOOD

Heat and AC in Southwood is controlled by individual apartment thermostats located on the wall near the apartment door. The one thermostat controls the temperature for the entire apartment. Warm or cool air flows through vents typically located on the wall or ceiling. Whether rooms are receiving warm or cool air depends on the season to which the building has been set by Facilities Management.

#### **EVERGREEN**

Heating and air conditioning for each Evergreen apartment is individually set and controlled from the mechanical room by Facilities Management. There is a separate zone/system for downstairs and for upstairs (where applicable). Temperatures are typically maintained between 70-72 degrees year round.

A work order should be submitted if inside temperatures feel unusually high or low.

### **LARIVIERE**

In LaRiviere, heat in student bedrooms and suites comes from floor level radiators (convection heat, no fan) set by a manual control knob on the radiator. The range is from ZERO (heat off, snowflake symbol) to 8, with 8 being the warmest setting. Air conditioning is controlled centrally for the building by Facilities Management and flows though vents typically located in the wall above room doors and in common area ceilings. Whether radiators are heating or rooms are receiving cool air depends on the season to which the building has been set by Facilities Management.







#### **PLYMOUTH**

In Plymouth, heat in student rooms is controlled by individual thermostat and electric baseboard radiators (convection heat, no fan). Furniture should not block radiators to ensure proper air flow. There is also a wall mounted heater in the foyer entrance between the bathroom and mechanical room. Plymouth is not air conditioned.

## **GATEWAY**

In Gateway, heat in student apartments is controlled by an individual thermostat and baseboard radiators. Care should be taken not to block or damage the radiators. The thermostat is typically located on the wall in the living room and should be set no less than 65 degrees during the heating season to protect water pipes from freezing. Window air conditioning units with automatic/efficiency settings are located in living rooms and/or kitchens. Residents are reminded not to block the units when they are in use and to ensure they are turned "OFF" during heating season/winter.





#### **GENERAL REMINDERS**

**Heating and cooling seasons:** Depending on the time of year, the University is either in a heating season or a cooling season. Except for where window AC units are installed, we cannot instantaneously convert from heating to cooling (or vice-versa). It takes some time to transition the residence hall HVAC systems.

Temperatures rise and fall: The residence halls are well insulated and retain temperatures. Unexpected heat waves or cold spells may take a little while for inside temperatures to respond and adjust. In general, when outside temperatures drop and consistently remain below 60 degree during heating season, heat will be on. When outside temperatures rise above 60 degrees during cooling season, AC will be working. Remember, lighting, electronic equipment, open or closed windows and doors, and body heat all have an impact on inside temperatures.

Close that window: Leaving windows open during heating season as an attempt to moderate room temperatures may be counter-productive and actually call for more unwanted heat in the room or elsewhere in the building. Likewise, opening windows during cooling season to get fresh air causes HVAC systems to work harder and contributes to humidity issues.

Let it flow: Do not block HVAC units and radiators. Heating and cooling systems require good air flow and circulation to work effectively. If possible, avoid placing anything over or against HVAC units or radiators. Leave space for Facilities Management staff to access the units as necessary for ongoing maintenance and filter replacement.

**Submit work orders:** A work order should be submitted anytime there is a concern that heating/cooling systems are not working properly. Instances of NO HEAT during heating season should be reported to staff and called in to Facilities Management (413-782-1737) or to Public Safety after hours (413-782-1207).