Energy conservation is an issue we all care about. To keep our room rates as low as possible and comply with the state energy guidelines, we are required to maintain room temperatures to 68 degrees during the heating season and 76 degrees during the cooling season.

Steam is piped directly to wall radiators. The radiators have a valve on the upper end that must be opened (rotate to left/counter-clock wise) to obtain heat. Try small adjustments at first so you don’t overheat your room.

If you come back to a cold room, you may have left your window open and have to wait for the building controls to respond in order to receive heat. If opening the damper or valve does not help, check to be sure belongings (furniture, bedding, carpet) are not pushed up against the convector or radiator. A free flow of air must be maintained around the heating unit so air can pass through to heat your room.

It is important to keep your windows closed during unseasonably cool or warm periods to conserve energy and maintain comfort for yourself and other residents.

All of our buildings receive steam from the U.W. Central Heating Plant which is used to heat water for hot water systems or to use directly. The flow of steam is controlled by outside sensors and thermostats located throughout the buildings.

Some helpful hints:

1. Help conserve energy through common sense habits.
2. Close your drapes or blinds at night.
3. Open your drapes or blinds on sunny days.
4. Don’t leave windows open.
5. Dress warmly.

Please share this information with your roommate.

Mark Engbring
Maintenance Supervisor
University Housing/Lakeshore