Housing Options and Rules

PENN flats are available where you would live with other residents and medical students.

Accommodations are located in a fairly safe and beautiful complex. There is a swimming pool and several fruit trees on the property. The location is about a 10-minute walk from PMH and less than a 5-minute walk to the Main Mall and the BUP Research Office. It is also just a short walk to UB, the main stadium, the tennis courts, and the squash courts.

The accommodation has housekeepers. They keep the places clean.

PENN flats:

We try very hard to house all Penn visitors at this location - even if that means overcrowding on occasion. It is less expensive and potentially more fun so be prepared to "go with the flow". You may be asked to change rooms during you stay to better accommodate others based on gender and other considerations. Be prepared for this. The cost of food is usually shared. This is done on an honor system basis so please remember to contribute.

Penn rents the accommodation, so RadOnc rotators are the tenants. There is a small fee (about $25/day) charged to the residents. As such - anything that goes wrong structurally is the landlord's responsibility. If you encounter any maintenance problems please advise Boipelo as soon as possible. They will communicate with the maintenance people. But note that they are not there to buy your toilet paper or light bulbs! Please look after the accommodation - it is nice, but only stays that way if everyone is responsible. If you break something please replace it or let Boipelo know. Penn provides the cleaning materials for the maids to use BUT not personal items for you, such as toilet paper, soap, or toothpaste. Please take care of simple home "repairs" such as buying and replacing light bulbs and if the flats seems like they could benefit from an additional household item (such as a reading lamp or extra power strip) please consider buying one and donating it to the program.

Bon Sela:

When you leave you the flats or Dr. Grover’s house you should show appreciation to the maids by giving them a "tip" (Bon sela) which is P100 per person per week pro rata. For UPENN flats, make sure
there is bread, jam, peanut butter, and tea for the maid in your flat for her to have a daily snack. If you have leftovers she can have, please leave her a note to say so.

Rules:
1. Try to be neat - there are a lot of people living in a fairly small place (UPENN flats).
2. Food is shared.
3. Contribute to the purchase of food without being asked - it is a pain in the butt to keep track of this. Be a good citizen! (especially relevant for UPENN flats).
4. Close and lock your windows when you leave your bedroom and do not leave valuables in sight.
5. The phones are only for LOCAL CALLS or to receive international calls. You cannot make outgoing international calls on them. There is internet in both houses.
6. When you leave the accommodations it is customary to give a "Bon Sela" to the maid who has looked after you. The suggested minimum rate is P100 per week pro-rated, so for four weeks the Bon Sela is P400.