Residential Life

Building a Community in Student Housing

Dr Paula Dalziel
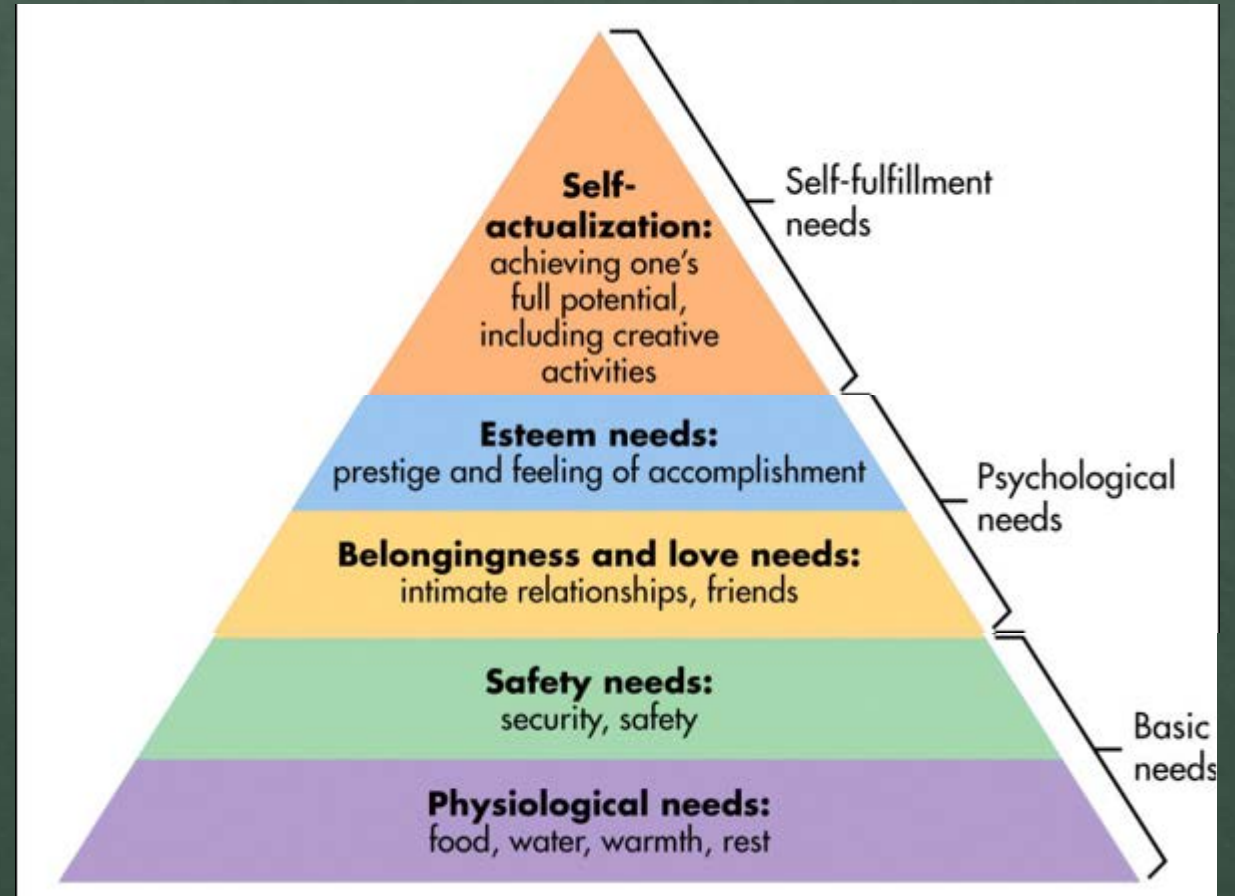
Building a Community

- Why
  - Research
  - University Mission
  - Commercial Viability
- What Shapes Community Influence
  - The student community
  - University Mission
  - Local community
- Challenges
- Ambitions

Why build a community
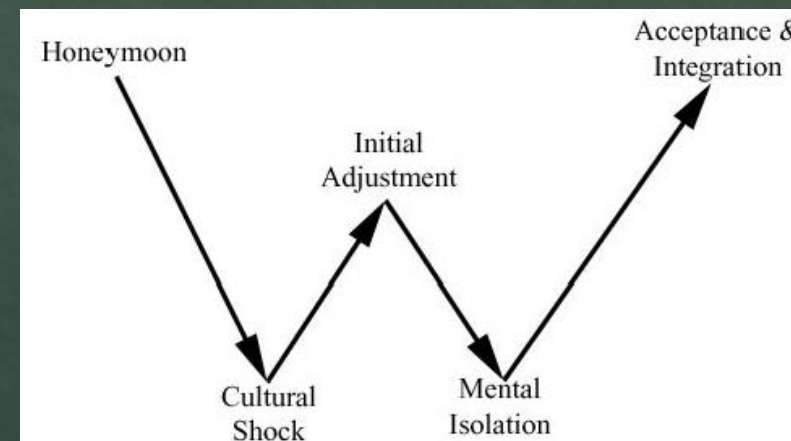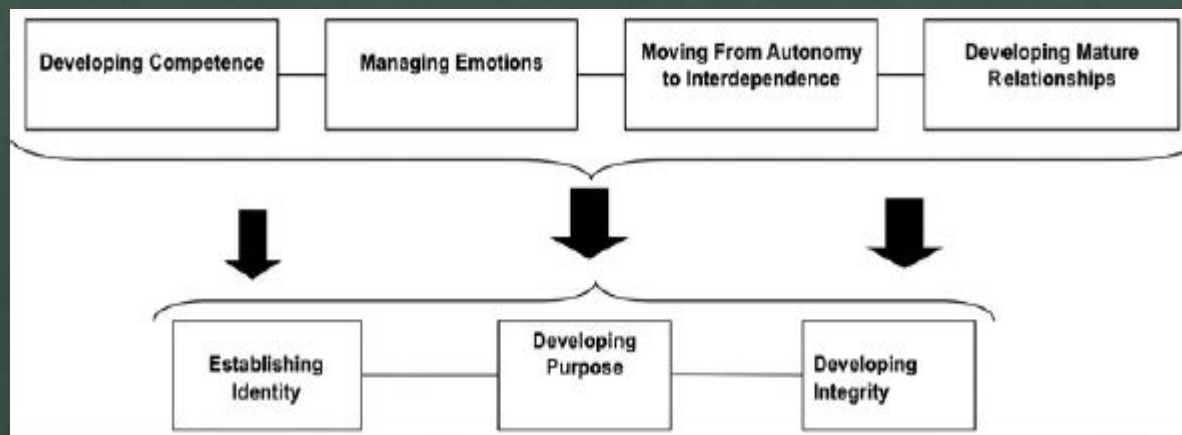
Maslov's Hierarchy of Need

Student Community Research

- Identity Development (Chickering and Reisser, 1993)
- W Curve and Transition to University (Zeller and Mosier, 1993)
- What Works – Facilitating Transition in Higher Education (Thomas, 2014)

Nurturing a sense of Belonging
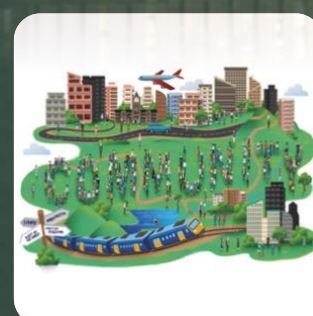
Student Community Design

- ❖ Institutional culture
- ❖ Campus culture
- ❖ Leadership opportunities
- ❖ Facilities
  - ❖ Sense of safety and comfort
  - ❖ Available common spaces
  - ❖ Accommodation locations
- ❖ Access to Living Learning
- ❖ Social opportunities
- ❖ Integration into the larger campus
- ❖ Sense of identity
- ❖ Discipline process
- ❖ Clear and shared expectations

Shaping Student Community

- Student Community
- University Mission
- Local Community

I'm a reflection of the community

Challenges building community

- Marketing Residential Life

- Partnerships:

  - Academic Faculties

  - MMU Sport

  - Wellbeing

  - Student Support Services

  - Food & Drink

  - The Students Union

Impact of Community

◈ Why do we do this?

◈ Working with:

    ◈ Local businesses (Grano)

    ◈ Greater Manchester Police

    ◈ Manchester Mind

    ◈ Foodbanks

    ◈ Give It Don't Bin It (British Heart Foundation)

◈ Results ?

Self-Actualization

Psychological Needs

Basic Needs

Ambitions for Community

*The flower that blooms
in adversity is the rarest
and most beautiful of all.*

Walt Disney Company, Mulan

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