

Fall 2004 BGSU Greek Alumni E-Newsletter

October 13, 2004

Director's Message

I am delighted to be sending our BGSU Greek Alumni our second Greek Update!

We are excited to be communicating with our 22,000 BGSU Greek Alumni to keep you informed of the latest happenings in the fraternity and sorority community.

Below are many updates that we hope you will find interesting. With many of these updates there is a link to sections of our web site that will provide you with even more information.

Greek Alumni are vital constituents of Greek Affairs and BGSU. We hope through the newsletters we are able to keep everyone up to date with fraternities and sororities at BGSU.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ron Binder '86
Associate Director of Residence Life & Director of Greek Affairs

Homecoming October 16, 2004!

Homecoming is just around the corner! We hope that we will see you back here at BGSU wearing your orange and brown and ready to support our Falcons! If you are able to return for Homecoming, please visit: <http://homecoming.bgsu.edu> and see what events your chapter has planned!

Latest Stats on BGSU Greeks

Each semester Greek Affairs compiles a Greek Report, which includes such statistics as the number of chapter members, GPA's, service hours, philanthropy dollars raised, percentage of involvement of Greeks at BGSU, chapter attendance at leadership schools, etc. This report is a great measuring instrument to gauge how well fraternities and sororities fulfill their founding values of Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Brotherhood/Sisterhood.

The Greek Report is widely publicized in the BG News, the Parents Newsletter (mailed to all parents of Greeks at BGSU), at recruitment functions, etc. This report is also used for the Greek Awards in the spring.

On the Greek Affairs web site is a copy of the latest report, along with previous reports (www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/greekaffairs/reports.html). These reports are a great way for alumni to track the progress of their groups from afar.

Alcohol-free Housing

As chapters prepare to welcome their alumni back to campus, we would like to take a moment to remind everyone that all of our Greek houses are now substance-free in common areas. We hope that everyone respects this policy as we prepare for an amazing year!

Sigma Chi fraternity closes

It is always difficult for the Greek community when a chapter leaves our campus. This fall, the brothers of Sigma Chi decided to leave BGSU's campus after 56 years. Greek Affairs is currently working Sigma Chi alumni and national headquarters to bring back the fraternity in a timely manner. The chapter is leaving on good terms in all aspects of the Greek community and we look forward to welcoming them back in the future.

Expansion Update

BGSU has embarked on an aggressive expansion program to bring more Greek groups to BGSU. Over the next four years, five national fraternities will begin new chapters at BGSU. All of these chapters were here originally at some time or another. Preference is given to groups that have previously been at BGSU because they generally have a good alumni base to draw upon for advisors, which is critical if a chapter is to be successful.

Below is the expansion schedule for BGSU:

Fall 2003

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity (left campus in 1994). Status: 45 new members
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (left campus in 2000). Status: 5 new members

Spring 2004

Theta Chi fraternity (left campus in 1997). Status: 20 new members

Fall 2004

Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity (left campus in 2000): just beginning

Spring 2005

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. (the ninth of nine NPHC groups nationally)

Fall 2005

Alpha Tau Omega fraternity (left campus in 1994)

Fall 2006

Phi Kappa Psi fraternity (left campus in 1996)

As with any expansion effort, the key is finding good alumni who are willing to serve as advisors. If you wish to find out more about serving as a volunteer advisor, call us at 419-372-8890.

Upcoming Events

For a complete calendar of upcoming events for the Greek community at BGSU, please visit:
<http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/greekaffairs/calendar.html>

Chapters Receiving National Awards

Each summer at national conventions many BGSU fraternities and sororities receive national awards. This is a point of pride for the BGSU Greek Community as our chapters compete to be the best, not only at BGSU, but across the country. On our web site is a list of chapters that recently won awards (<http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/greekaffairs/nationalawards.html>)

Look for the 2004 listing October 19, in the BG News.

Greek Council Updates

Panhellenic Council

Kimberlee Gilchrist
Panhellenic President

The Panhellenic Council is a student-run governing board for fourteen National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) sororities and one National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) sorority. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our Greek Community and update you on our upcoming programming. First and foremost, I would like to report that we had a very successful formal recruitment and placed well over 200 women in fourteen chapters. Many chapters are extending the recruitment process through continuous open bidding as well. Of extreme importance this semester is our Month of the Scholar held throughout October in which our chapters partake in various activities designed at improving scholarship. Such activities will include Library Week, Internship and Resume Workshops, and Mock Interviews. In addition, the Panhellenic Council will be hosting a Greek Women's Week including events such as self defense and yoga classes, workshops, and a major speaker. The program is entitled "Kristin's Story", and the presenter is Andrea Cooper talking about her daughter's rape which ultimately led to depression and suicide.

Lastly, I would like to announce that in November, Panhellenic will be having elections for our new executive board. Serving as Panhellenic President has been a remarkable experience for me and it has been an honor serving our Greek Community.

IFC

Chrysallis Buller
IFC Graduate Advisor

The countless hours of preparation for developing the Go Greek Recruitment Team, organizing the All-Greek Recruitment Workshop, and hosting the New Student Welcome Picnic paid off for the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) this fall. Recruitment for IFC was outstanding with over 210 men joining fraternal organizations, and the numbers continue to rise each week.

This fall approximately 700 Greek students moved into their chapter houses four days early to help prepare for the arrival of the largest freshmen class in BGSU history (3,929 students). Not only did the Greek students help with the regular Saturday freshmen move-in, but on Thursday, August 19, they bravely endured the pouring rain to help 1700 first-year students, participating in the BGeXperience program, move into their fall housing assignments.

The success of IFC Recruitment is largely due to IFC, the Panhellenic Council, the entire Greek Community, and the greater BGSU community that support the Greek BGSU core values of scholarship, service, leadership, and brotherhood/sisterhood. The exceptional collaboration of Greeks made fall recruitment a big success.

NPHC

Bethany Winston
NPHC President

This year, the Divine Nine are motivated exclusively by our founding principle of community service. The National Pan-Hellenic Council serves as the governing body for the nine Historically Black Greek Letter organizations at BGSU. Our two biggest service projects are the Alzheimer's Walk in September and the Annual Black Graduation Banquet in May, featuring book scholarships. Along with other goals we aspire to reach more into the campus community as a

Greek community built on the basic bonds of fraternalism, and the responsibilities of leadership. In addition we all plan to endorse quality programming geared towards educating first year students. We proudly boast this year that we are the largest council in the state of Ohio, with 8 out of the 9 organizations on this campus and over 80 members. We hope to add the final member (Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.) in the spring of 2005. We plan to promote all of these plans as individual chapters and as a collective whole as the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

GIB

Johanne Jensen
GIB Graduate Advisor

The Bowling Green State University Greek Independent Board (GIB) is the governing council for three Greek chapters at Bowling Green: Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority Inc., Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc., and Delta Chi Phi Multicultural Service Sorority. Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Inc. is the largest Latino based fraternity in the nation with the local chapter, Nu Beta, being founded in 1996. Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority Inc. was founded in 2000 and is the only chapter to have a house in the nation. Delta Chi Phi is the newest addition, becoming part of the GIB family last spring. Together these three groups support the mission of their individual groups in conjunction with Greek Affairs.

The GIB is the smallest of the four councils housed within Greek Affairs, but has a vision of growing in the future. Last year the Greek Independent Board started an annual tradition of a spring banquet that recognizes outstanding members of the GIB community. Planning for the banquet is underway and is sure to be a success. The GIB is committed to creating educational programs and experiences for their members such as planning an etiquette dinner. The year has started off well and we are looking forward to an exciting fall and spring.

Scholarship Task Force

Andrea Obrochta
Graduate Assistant for Assessment and Scholarship

In an effort to improve academic achievement in the Greek community Scholarship Task Force was formed. The task force consists of representatives from the faculty, and students from the four Greek councils (Inter-Fraternity Council, Pan-Hellenic Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Greek Independent Board). The goal is to develop a set of recommendations to improve and further support high levels of scholarship in the Greek Community through policy, educational programming and resources, and recognition and incentives. Meetings began September 20th and will continue for several weeks. For more information about Greek Affairs or to view the 2004 Greek Report, please visit www.greekBGSU.com.

Greek Housing Task Force

Kevin Thompson
Graduate Assistant for Housing Operations, Facilities, and Finance

In an effort to further explore the needs surrounding university housing in the Greek community, Greek Affairs has formed a Greek Housing Task Force, comprised of representatives from the administration and students from each of the four Greek councils. This group has been charged with reviewing the current Greek housing sign-up procedures to formulate recommendations that minimize the vacancies in Greek houses, and allow better management of the sign up process. Meetings began on September 23rd and will run through mid-October.

Greek Leadership Programs

Bryan Figura

Graduate Assistant for Greek Leadership Programs

BGSU Greek Affairs provides a comprehensive array of leadership programs for fraternity and sorority members, from new members to experienced ones. All have the goal of elevating the level of leadership in the Greek Community by giving our students the tools necessary to continuously improve the undergraduate fraternity and sorority experience.

The first program this fall was the annual Leadership Academy; leadership conferences open to all students, faculty, and staff of the BGSU community. The program began with a pre-conference of team-building activities facilitated by BGSU's Outdoor Programs Office. For the general program, participants chose from over forty breakout sessions that were facilitated by BGSU students, faculty, and staff. The sessions focused on communication, budgeting, meeting effectiveness, collaboration, group motivation, leadership styles, and many other issues related to leadership development. Between breakout sessions participants met in small groups facilitated by graduate students to reflect on what they learned. Andrew Rivers, the Director of the President's Leadership Council, was the keynote speaker. Over 150 students participated in Leadership Academy - a significant increase from last year!

Greek Odyssey, a new member orientation program for new members of the Greek community, took place on Saturday, October 2. Greek Odyssey kicked-off with the keynote speaker, Dr. Ron Binder, the Director of Greek Affairs, talking about the values of the Greek Community. Thereafter, participants attended three breakout sessions, each of which focused on the founding values of leadership, brotherhood/sisterhood, and scholarship, facilitated by undergraduate and graduate students. Participants then went on a "Greek Odyssey," where they viewed chapter displays and spoke with chapter representatives from each of BGSU's 42 fraternities and sororities. Lastly, the participants listened to a member of each of the four Greek councils speak about their history, culture, and responsibilities.

We hope you have enjoyed reading about BGSU Greeks.

Please tell us how we can improve communication with our alumni by emailing us at rbinder@bgnet.bgsu.edu

Office of Greek Affairs
Bowling Green State University
Phone: 419-372-2581
Email: rbinder@bgnet.bgsu.edu
Web: www.greekbgsu.com

BGSU Residence Life - Greek Affairs Mission

Building the premiere Fraternity and Sorority Community in North America utilizing continuous improvement that provides the following:

- 1. A quality undergraduate residential experience for the housed fraternities & sororities**
- 2. A complete quality undergraduate fraternity and sorority experience that builds community among all Greeks and that emphasizes our founding principles of:**
 - Scholarship**

- Service
- Leadership
- Brotherhood/Sisterhood

3. A commitment to furthering the Greek Advising profession through a quality graduate preparatory experience, research, conference attendance & presentation and national leadership