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Director's Message, Spring 2008

"Leave your campsite better than you found it."

For those who were Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, you will likely remember this saying. This simple yet profound statement is the basis of the leadership model *Continuous Improvement*. This model states that there is no such thing as a perfect Greek Community, chapter, program or policy, and that we need to continually strive to make things better.

We use this phrase and philosophy often in the Greek Community to guide our leadership. At the recent Greek Leadership Retreat where we gathered our 43 chapter presidents and their four student-led governing councils, we called upon our leadership to continually improve their chapters and the overall Greek Community. At the end of a leader's term, they should be able to look themselves in the mirror and answer the basic question, "Did I leave my group better than I found it?"

Our role at BGSU is to provide the guidance, services and parameters that allow our chapters and overall Greek Community to improve. We provide an extensive array of leadership opportunities for our student leaders to give them the tools they need to bring about this improvement, as well as extensive support through our myriad of services, all with a heavy dose of values and ethics.

A major gauge of how we measure improvement is the Greek Report (posted on www.greekbgsu.com). This extensive report measures our basic founding principles so that chapters and councils can see if they are getting better. There are very few universities that can produce this amount of data on a regular basis (see the web site for past Greek Reports to gauge trends). Our students find this report very helpful when evaluating their chapter and setting goals. We hope you find this report helpful to gauge how well our community is performing with regard to our core values.

Since I am leaving BGSU this will be my last column for this newsletter. I hope that over the last five years as the Director of Greek Affairs I have been able to leave BGSU, Greek Affairs, Greek councils and our 43 chapters better than I found them. Some notable improvements over the past five years have been higher GPA's, higher standards, increased number of members, more student self-governance, more diversity of chapters, and an overall sense of Greek Community in a more diverse environment. I believe in continuous improvement and have infused this in all that I have done. The ultimate end of all of

this work is the improvement of the undergraduate experience for our 1,800 members. If we do our job well, our members will have an experience that makes them better students, better leaders, better people, and prepares them for their exciting future.

I hope that through all of my work over the past five years I have accomplished my goals, and left my "campsite" better than I found it.

Dr. Ron Binder '86
Director of Greek Affairs
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Director's Message

Dr. Ron Binder '86
Director of Greek Affairs
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Check out the Fall 2007 Greek Report

Each semester Greek Affairs publishes a Greek Report that captures many of the activities that the undergraduate fraternity and sorority members engaged in during the previous semester. This report is widely circulated to parents, faculty/staff, advisors, national headquarters, and others. It is an excellent gauge for how well our groups adhere to our founding values. To access this report on our web site go to: <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/greekaffairs/page15839.html>

We hope you enjoy reading about the latest stats on BGSU Greeks!

Greek Membership Stats

Greek Membership for Fall 2007
(Spring 2007 #'s are in parenthesis)

Greek Independent Board = 146 (157)

NPHC = 60 (78)

Panhellenic = 904 (909)

IFC = 641 (602)

Total = 1,757 (1,749) or 12% of the undergraduate population

For information on chapter membership, check out the Greek Report on the Greek BGSU website.

IFC Expansion 2008-2010

Over the next four years BGSU is committed to bringing back to campus some of the IFC fraternities that have left over the years. An IFC Expansion Task Force met last semester and mapped out a four-year plan to bring back some of BGSU's oldest chapters. The full report is available on our web site, but the overall schedule is as follows:

Fall 2008: Tau Kappa Epsilon returns

Fall 2009: Sigma Chi returns
Fall 2010: Beta Theta Pi returns

During Fall 2008 a similar task force will convene to evaluate the current plan and to map out the years beyond 2010. BGSU is committed to bringing back chapters that have left the campus in our effort to honor our Greek alumni.

2007-2008 GREEK HOUSE DIRECTORS

BGSU is fortunate to attract many masters and doctoral students who we employ as Greek House Directors for the academic year. Most of these students are studying to be staff members in Student Affairs so they are able to meld the classroom knowledge with practical experience in working with a wide range of students. Below is a list of our current house staff, many of whom will be graduating in spring 2008.

ΑΧΩ - Cynthia Payne, Master's '09	cpayne@bgsu.edu	419-372-2212
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ΚΔ - Emily Gamble, Master's '09	egamble@bgsu.edu	419-372-2971
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ΦΙΤ - Jeff Kegolis, Doctoral '09	jkegoli@bgsu.edu	419-372-2675
ΠΚΦ - Ryan Harrington, Master's '09	harrinr@bgsu.edu	419-372-2373
ΣΦΕ - Danny Miller, Master's '08	danmil@bgsu.edu	419-372-2061
ΑΚΑ/ΦΒΣ - Nicole Hoefle, Doctoral '09	shoefle@bgsu.edu	
ΣΛΓ/ΖΦΒ - Michelle Buggs, Master's '08	mbuggs@bgsu.edu	419-372-2158
ΔΣΘ - Greg Chick, Master's '09	gchick@bgsu.edu	419-372-2661

GAMMA HELPS HOST "PARTY SMART"

By Tabatha Sarco, Greek Affairs Graduate Advisor for GAMMA

On October 29, 2007, over 400 students came to the BTSU ballroom to learn how to "party smart". Party Smart, an annual student-run program that occurs in conjunction with National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, educates students on the consequences of alcohol abuse while providing fun activities for them to participate in. This year, students participated in punch pong competitions, relay races with fatal vision goggles, and signed pledges vowing not to partake in drinking and driving or reckless alcohol consumption. In addition, both Greek and non-Greek students enjoyed food catered through Bowling Green State University, and won over \$250 in door prizes. Party Smart is sponsored by the Inter-Fraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, Bacchus Gamma, Coalition for B!G Choices, GAMMA (Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol), and Greek Affairs.

2008 LEADERSHIP RETREAT ENERGIZES GREEK LEADERS

By Leslie Shafer, Greek Leadership Team, Sigma Kappa

The 2008 January Leadership Retreat was a great success! This year's retreat took place at the Toledo Hilton on the 12th and 13th of January and was organized by Kevin Lipine, Greek Graduate Assistant for Leadership, and members of the Greek Leadership Team (GLT). The weekend served as an excellent way for chapter presidents, Greek council leaders, and the GLT to get together to share ideas with each other and gain motivation from the Greek grad staff and other inspiring speakers. Throughout each of the sessions and activities the idea of collaboration across the four councils was definitely outlined. Breaking down barriers between the different groups is something that myself and the rest of the Greek Leadership Team have worked towards throughout the year and it was rewarding to see that we are now making stronger connections between the councils. In addition, it was apparent that our current leadership on the Bowling Green State University campus is extremely strong because of the integrity and enthusiasm demonstrated by each and every leader present at the retreat! We are all looking forward to a prosperous 2008 for the BGSU Greek community after this invigorating retreat.

Greek Independent Board Report

GREEK INDEPENDENT BOARD CELEBRATES ACHIEVEMENT

By Aysen Ulupinar, President of GIB

Greek Independent Board has made some important strides this year! We are very proud of all our chapters for having grade point averages over 2.77! Four of our six chapters earned a GPA over the all Greek GPA and the Undergraduate Semester GPA! We are also proud to know that, academically, the number one chapter on the Greek report is a chapter from our council. This year we are working to have more collaboration between all Greek councils and more programs within our council as well. During Spring of 2008, we held our first council retreat with all GIB chapters to enhance the relationships, foster collaboration, and provide an opportunity of Greek knowledge to all the members. It was an overall success! We are very excited to start off the year on such a positive note and really work hard to continue our success as the newest Greek council at BGSU!

National Pan-Hellenic Report

2007 PROJECT S.L.E.E.P. - PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY, INC.

By Carlos Evans, President of Phi Beta Sigma

The Epsilon Phi chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. participates in much philanthropic activity annually. In fall of 2007, the brothers joined in the efforts for Project S.L.E.E.P. Project S.L.E.E.P. is a National philanthropy the chapter engages in aimed at raising collegiate student awareness of the homelessness and domestic violence epidemics that plague many inner city communities. Homelessness and domestic violence often goes unnoticed and is sometimes overlooked. To decrease the occurrence and increase the awareness of these acts, the BGSU Phi Beta Sigma chapter sleeps outside in front of the Student Union during the bitter cold of the fall semester to represent what it means and looks like to be homeless. The chapter put together cardboard box "houses" to signify the means of which legitimate homeless people use to shelter themselves from the harsh winds and bitter cold. The Betas also collect lightly worn clothes and canned goods to donate to Cocoon, a women's shelter in Toledo, and the Bowling Green Food Pantry. The brothers of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, Inc. pride themselves in completing this Philanthropy annually and receive amazing support from the Bowling Green student community. In the future, the chapter is hoping for more exposure and support from diverse BGSU student groups.

Panhellenic Report

GREEK SCHOLARSHIP BOARD SUCCESSES

By Emily Porter, 2007 VP of Scholarship, Panhellenic Council, Gamma Phi Beta

The Greek Scholarship Board closed out a successful first year at the end of 2007. Five of the seven chapters who met with the board in fall of 2007 showed dramatic improvements in their semester cumulative GPA. The Scholarship Board consists of six undergraduate Greek students from the four governing councils and is advised by the Greek Affairs Graduate Assistant for Scholarship. The purpose of the Scholarship Board is to give constructive feedback to chapters who are struggling academically and who do not meet the Greek Affairs grade requirement of 2.5 average GPA. The board meets with each chapter on an individual basis twice a semester and offers creative and useful options to improve the chapter and implement effective scholarship programming. In addition to attending both hearings, each chapter is required to attend or plan an event that incorporates academic skills and suggestions. The board is in charge of deciding what academic improvements may be made to the chapter and asks questions regarding a chapter's scholarship programming. Collectively, the board and the chapters take an active stand to raise GPAs and hold their chapter members accountable for their academics. At the start of the fall 2007 semester there were seven chapters below a 2.5 GPA that met with the Greek Scholarship Board. We are very proud to report that five out of the seven chapters who were below the GPA requirement are now above, with a number of chapters ranking in the top half of the spring grade report! The 2007 Scholarship Board is proud of their academic success. We are all looking forward to a time when all Greek chapter GPA averages will consistently be above the 2.5 minimum.

NPHC Plots Installed

This year a project that was proposed in 2000 is finally coming to fruition. In the Alumni Mall area (between Kreisler and Harshman) NPHC Plots have been installed. NPHC Plots are a commemoration of African-American fraternities and sororities that symbolize the presence of these groups on the campus, and that provide a gathering place for graduates when they return to campus. These plots consist of a large Unity Boulder in the center with a bronze plaque signifying the local and national founding of NPHC at BGSU, along with boulders for each of the nine NPHC groups on the campus. The project is in the final stages and NPHC alumni are being asked to assist their chapter in the purchase of the bronze plaque for their group. Tax deductible gifts can be made to the NPHC Plots Fund at the BGSU Foundation. For more information contact Dr. Ron Binder at 419-372-8890.

Interfraternity Council Report

THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL WELCOMES CHANGE IN 2008

By Josh Benner, President of IFC

The Interfraternity Council is active this year in creating a model scholarship plan which chapters will have the opportunity to adopt. The council is also focusing on a values-based recruitment this semester, and making a major push for successful fall recruitment. In intramurals, the fraternities have also been competing this year for the annual All-Sports Championship. IFC is also working with the athletic department this year to increase fraternity attendance at BG sporting events. The fraternities are competing for points, and at the end of the year, the fraternity that had the highest volume of members attending sporting events will win a trophy. For this, the student athletes have agreed to take a more active role in helping out with Greek Week this semester. Among other endeavors, the council is taking a more proactive approach this year in projects with the other Greek councils and with other student organizations. IFC is working on more service, continuing strength in scholarship, and increasing its average chapter size of 43 members. IFC is also hoping to participate in a council philanthropic project during Greek Week later this spring.

IFC took a step toward new President Josh Benner's goal of becoming more multimedia oriented on January 15, 2008 when they launched their new website, www.bgifc.com. The purpose of the website is to keep people both inside and outside of IFC fraternities aware of all of the latest council news. The site also has commentaries and features focusing on different aspects of fraternal life. What's more, www.bgifc.com has up-to-date calendars, with the purpose of keeping people informed of philanthropic projects, recruitment dates, and other council events.

2008 Greek Awards

Each Spring the Greek Community honors chapters and individuals for fulfilling our founding principles of Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Brotherhood/Sisterhood. This year's program was held in the BTSU Ballroom on Tuesday, February 12th.

Below is a list of our 2008 award recipients.

Greek Award winners

Outstanding IFC Advisor - Dave Crooks, Alpha Tau Omega

Diane Kemmer Outstanding Panhellenic Advisor - Nicole Hoefle, Alpha Omicron Pi

Outstanding NPHC Advisor - Robin Stone, Delta Sigma Theta

Outstanding GIB Advisor - Jolene Esterline, Alpha Phi Omega

Florence Currier Award - Sarah Porter, Phi Mu

Werner Book Scholarship - Jaimie Cramer, Kappa Kappa Gamma

Mitch Weitzman Memorial Award - Shane Lewis, Delta Chi

Steven R. Hanna and Kevin L. Ross Memorial Award - Gary Washington, Sigma Lambda Beta

Order of Omega Outstanding Student Award

- Glenn McBride, Alpha Sigma Phi & Carli Urcheck, Kappa Kappa Gamma

Joseph M. Firment Outstanding IFC New Member Award - Jake Hostetler, Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Outstanding Panhellenic New Member Award - Jaimie Cramer, Kappa Kappa Gamma

Outstanding NPHC New Member Award - Ashley Douglas, Alpha Kappa Alpha
Outstanding GIB New Member Award - Samantha Wilcox, Alpha Phi Omega

Thomas D. Hayn Outstanding IFC Chapter President - Frank Mancuso, Sigma Nu
Outstanding Panhellenic Chapter President - Emily Santoni, Alpha Phi
Outstanding NPHC Chapter President - Ashley Taylor, Delta Sigma Theta
Outstanding GIB Chapter President - Laura Saldana, Sigma Lambda Gamma

Outstanding IFC Greek - Travis Rose, Alpha Sigma Phi
Outstanding Panhellenic Greek - Erica Kisseberth, Alpha Omicron Pi
Outstanding NPHC Greek - Akeela Welch, Delta Sigma Theta sorority Inc.
Outstanding GIB Greek - Della Emerick, Alpha Phi Omega

Timothy F. Smith Award

- Emily Porter, Gamma Phi Beta & Anthony Antoine, Phi Beta Sigma

GAMMA Award for Wellness and Risk Management- Alpha Omicron Pi sorority

Academic Achievement Award- (chapters achieved a GPA above the non-Greek GPA in 2007)

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity

Alpha Chi Omega sorority

Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority

Kappa Delta sorority

Delta Gamma sorority

Alpha Xi Delta sorority

Pi Kappa Phi fraternity

Sigma Kappa sorority

Omega Phi Alpha service sorority

Phi Delta Theta fraternity

Pi Beta Phi sorority

Phi Mu sorority

Chi Omega sorority

Alpha Phi sorority

Hollis A. Moore Community Service Award- (20+ hours of community service completed per member)

Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Alpha Phi sorority

Alpha Xi Delta sorority

Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority

Pi Kappa Phi fraternity

Delta Zeta sorority

Sigma Kappa sorority

Omega Phi Alpha service sorority

Delta Chi fraternity

Phi Delta Theta fraternity

Phi Mu sorority

Kappa Delta sorority

Chi Omega sorority

Alpha Omicron Pi sorority

Hollis A. Moore Philanthropy Award- (\$100+ per member raised for philanthropy in 2007)

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity

Alpha Xi Delta sorority

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Inc.

Phi Mu sorority

Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Inc.

Omega Psi Phi fraternity, Inc.

Pi Kappa Phi fraternity

Achievement in Campus Involvement Award- (50%+ members involved at BGSU in 2007)

Sigma Lambda Gamma sorority, Inc.

Alpha Gamma Delta sorority

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity

Alpha Tau Omega fraternity

Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Inc.

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity

Delta Chi fraternity

Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity, Inc.

Delta Lambda Phi fraternity

Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Inc.

Kappa Delta sorority

Omega Psi Phi fraternity, Inc.

Pi Kappa Phi fraternity

Alpha Xi Delta sorority

Sigma Kappa sorority

Omega Phi Alpha service sorority

Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority

Phi Delta Theta fraternity

Alpha Chi Omega sorority

Gamma Phi Beta sorority

Alpha Omicron Pi sorority

Delta Zeta sorority

Pi Beta Phi sorority

Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity

Phi Mu sorority

Alpha Phi sorority

Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity

Sigma Nu fraternity
