

Greek Life 411

IFC Introduces Risk Management Program

On Wednesday, February 22nd, IFC chapter presidents, social chairs, and risk managers met at Sigma Chi to attend the first Mock Party social education event. Upon arrival, each student went through the process of checking in to a typical chapter party. "Our goal was to give the chapter leadership an accurate experience of how to best implement IFC standards when programming a social event", said IFC Executive Vice President Chris Ferrante. The common area was set up with 17 stations that each proposed a situation that could occur at a social event. The

situations varied from spilt beverages to underage drinking and each of the officers wrote their response to prevent each violation. By doing this, chapter officers demonstrated how an event with alcohol should be best executed. Non-salty foods and non alcoholic beverages were served to further mock a real registered house party. After participants completed each station with their reactive and proactive responses, the group came together for a conversation about the correct protocol for each scenario. To further help the UF fra-

ternity system, a mock judicial hearing was held after the mock party. This was intended to help participants know what to expect if they were sent to judicial. "I think both of the events held at Sigma Chi benefited each officer greatly by showing them how to run a party and what to expect if sent to a judicial trial", said IFC Educational Programming Director Nick Baragona. IFC plans on holding both a mock party and mock judicial trial each semester to educate every officer on how to effectively hold a registered house party and the judicial process.

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Upcoming Dates

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|---------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Friday, February 24 | Order of Omega Applications Distributed | | Available on council websites and in OSFA |
| Monday, February 27 | NPHC Bylaws Meeting | 7:30pm | JWRU 318 |
| Wednesday, March 1 | Scholarship Training | 6:00pm | Zeta Tau Alpha |
| Thursday, March 2 | House Director Mtg. | 7:00pm | Sigma Chi |



Check the website for a full list of events updated daily!

Tip of the Week...Scholarship:

It's that time again...midterms!

Be aware that the midpoint of the Spring semester is here and students are likely busy with midterm exams and assignments. Keep in mind that members may not be as involved in chapter meetings and activities and they may be tired from those late-night cram sessions. Support your members. Encourage them to focus on academics first and to stay healthy during this stressful time in the semester. After all, spring break will be here in just 15 days...

Campus Chatter:

Word (and a giant ball) on the street is out!

Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity introduced an innovative fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network at Shands Hospital this week—an event called "Get on the Ball."

Chapter members rolled a 6 foot diameter ball around campus and encouraged people to sign the ball. Signatures were gathered from students, faculty, staff, and even some "famous" signatures from the likes of President Machen and Athletic Director Jeremy Foley.

Chapter members estimate the number of signatures between 9,000 and 10,000 as of mid-day Friday.

For every signature on the ball, sponsors have pledged to give a certain amount of money to Children's Miracle Network.

Congratulations to the men of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity for their creativity and dedication. Be sure to stay tuned for the final signature count and a total dollar amount raised for the Children's Miracle Network through the "Get on the Ball" project!

Spring House Corporation Meeting

Thanks to the 33 chapters for whom representatives attended the Spring 2006 House Corporation meeting on February 18.

Discussion topics included Cox Cable contracts and UF internet service, updates from UF Physical Plant, fire safety inspections and sprinkler installations, summer occupancy plans, and facilities minimum standards.

Please direct any further questions or discussion to Chris Bullins.

Also, please remember that there will be a House Director meeting on Thursday, February 2 at 7:00pm at the Sigma Chi Fraternity house (8 Fraternity Row)

Check out the February issue

Of the Greek Connection!

Available online at:

<http://www.greeks.ufl.edu/greek-Connection/GCFebPDF.pdf>

Chicago...My Kind of Town

Nine members of the Florida Greek community traveled to Chicago last week for the annual conference of the Mid-American Greek Council Association. Six members of the Panhellenic Council executive board and two members of IFC executive board had the opportunity to learn from educational sessions presented by some of the top professionals in the field of Greek Affairs, to network with peers, and to preview programming intended to inform Greek students.

After many good discussions

about Greek values and the issues facing Greek councils and chapters today, the participants left Chicago with a renewed energy and an excitement for the future of the Florida Greek community.

Florida Greek conference participants in chilly Chicago:

Betsy Dunn, Laura Vance, Francesca Chiappo, Chris Ferrante, Chris Bucciarelli, Kitty Riggs, Gabby Leon, and Lynda Figueredo



Reminder to Chapter Advisors

If you have not already done so, please contact the council advisor in the OSFA for your chapter's respective council to schedule an individual meeting. One on one meetings are an opportunity for council advisors to share information regarding OSFA policies, chapter and council progress, and general updates, in addition to being a great opportunity for chapter advisors to check in and ask questions.

Council advisors are: IFC—Chris Bullins; NPHC & Panhellenic—Anthony Crenshaw; MGC—Lisa Kendall

Around the Nation

Adapted from The Hilltop
www.thehilltoponline.com
Friday, Feb. 17, 2006

Fraternity With Racist Past Comes to
Howard

By Lawrence Goodwin

Today, Howard University will become the first predominantly black college to start a Pi Kappa Alpha colony since the fraternity's "whites only" racial clause was lifted in 1964.

According to their official website, Pi Kappa Alpha International Fraternity is a Greek letter, social fraternity. It is composed of men who share the similar ideals of friendship, truth, honor and loyalty. Founded in 1868 on the campus of the University of Virginia, the men of S.L.A.G, as they are also known, believe in the virtues of scholarship, leadership, athleticism and gentlemen-like qualities.

Despite these characteristics, some students have questioned why the organization is coming to Howard's campus given the fraternity's history of blatant racism within some of its more prominent chapters.

"Howard has enough Greek organizations on campus that students have no need to establish new ones, especially ones that weren't designed with us in mind", said Dalontee Edgerton, a senior

physical therapy major. He added, "as a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. I feel that it is an embarrassment to add a historically white and racist fraternity to Howard's historically rich Greek legacy."



Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity came under heat on several occasions in the late 90s when members of Auburn University's chapter dressed as Ku Klux Klan members for their Halloween party, and once again at Georgia Tech when the chapter's "Straight Outta Compton" party, where members were encouraged to wear their most "Ghetto Fabulous" attire, prompted several members to paint their faces black to compliment their "baggy" jeans, afro wigs, and T-shirts sporting the coveted "black power" fist.

Despite these incidents, the members insist that their decision to charter this particular organization here on campus is with good intent.

"We felt like there was a void as far as male students doing positive things on campus," said Jason Johnson, a senior legal communications major and charter member. "We want the campus to be open-minded about what we are

doing."

Some students, such as senior physical therapy major Trinity LeFlore, have expressed their anticipation to see exactly what this new brotherhood will bring to the campus.

"I hope they have a genuine love for their fraternity, and it will be interesting to see what they're about" LeFlore said.

According to www.pikeloyalorder.com, "when you choose to wear the Pi Kappa Alpha badge you make a strong statement about who you are and what you believe in."

The winter 2005 edition of the Diamond Shield, Pi Kappa Alpha's quarterly publication, as well as the fraternity's emblem of excellence, encouraged all "brothers" to "demonstrate their commitment to those same sacred ideals that inspired our founding fathers in 1868."

Ironically, it is the encouragement of those same ideals that has some students questioning the intent and purpose of this organization on Howard's campus. "As a member of the Divine Nine I am disappointed to see the fabric of the Howard Greek legacy and traditions be torn by this new addition," said senior marketing major A.C. Onyia, member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

FLORIDA GREEK

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