A Call to Action

I know, a lot has happened in Greek life over the past month. If you follow the news at all, then you have heard about all of the disciplinary issues in the community. All of the Greek Life staff was at a conference in St. Louis until December 4 when the news broke. We had meetings with national consultants, made phone calls, and kept up with the stories on the internet. Some people were disappointed that we were not around when everything took place and we understand, but we were at a conference designed to help professionals build better Greek communities. The timing really could not have been any worse.

We did not look forward to returning to the office on December 5. Even so, we returned and worked diligently for the next two weeks to modify our social events policy, hold a Greek judicial hearing, communicate with media, and conduct investigations. Those two weeks were not easy and I am certain that the first few of the spring 2012 semester will be just as difficult. Amidst everything, I can say the following with confidence: We are not defeated and we are still committed to offering a Greek experience that is unparalleled to anything else in the state of Arkansas. Yes, we have hit some major bumps in the road, but we have not been deterred. Instead, we paused for a brief moment, fixed our vehicle, and continued our journey towards creating the best Greek system in the state.

The question that remains now: Are you willing to help us on this journey? If you are, then the time to act is now. If not, then please take a seat on the sidelines and enjoy the view. Our Greek is great and has so much future potential, but we are consistently buried under negative press. Therefore, it is time to stop watching and conforming to media stereotypes. It is time to start making positive improvements in our organizations, holding each other accountable, and living our values each day. It is time to take that next step and create a better UCA Greek community. Will you help us?

-Scott Isenga
**Greek Village Consultant Visit Recap**

Dr. Mari Ann Callais visited campus on November 9 and 10. During this time, she toured the campus and Greek Village site in addition to meeting with representatives from all Greek organizations, UCA faculty/staff, and Board of Trustee members. The meetings were quite productive and Dr. Callais was able to learn a great deal about the UCA Greek community, administration, and housing needs. Most importantly, Dr. Callais met with Greek alumni stakeholders and UCA administration to determine their specific needs in regards to this project. By the end of the two day period, UCA administration determined that solid numbers for the project are needed in order for the project to move forward. The Greek Village Committee has started calculating these figures so that they will hopefully be available in the early part of the spring 2012 semester. Dr. Callais also suggested that information about the project be posted online, so the Student Life Office created a Greek Village section on the general Greek Life website.

Ronnie Williams, VP for Student Services, planned to speak with the UCA Board of Trustees about funding the initial project site development from the UCA general fund at the December 14 Board Meeting, but decided on December 2 that this was no longer an option given recent behavioral issues. This is an unfortunate development because Dr. Callais submitted her initial report to the Dean of Students Office on December 7. With her report, Mr. Williams would have had a good shot at convincing the Board to approve the initial site development money. Mr. Williams said that he will bring the request back before the Board when the time is appropriate. Until that time, please make sure that your organization discusses their participation in this project, reviews the website, and asks questions. Also, please be aware that Dr. Callais’ final report will be shared with all organizations when available.

For more info about the visit, please check out the December 7 article in The Echo.
Important Council Information

IFC
Spring 2012 Formal Recruitment

Formal recruitment time for men interested in joining an IFC fraternity is quickly approaching. All groups need to submit their Exclusive Night event plans to Scott by December 31, or they will not be included in IFC publications or the IFC website. Groups are also encouraged to register interested individuals as soon as possible. Please remember that paper registration forms are no longer accepted. In order to register, an individual must fill out an online form available on the IFC Recruitment website. If an potential recruit is not registered, then they will not be able to accept a bid. Currently, 85 men have registered for recruitment. Please remember that all events, slideshows, and potential members must be cleared by IFC and Scott. If proper IFC recruitment rules are not followed, then recruitment and/or pledge class privileges for an organization may be revoked. A full listing of the IFC rules is available on the IFC Recruitment website. If you have any questions at all, please consult the IFC Recruitment website or contact Scott.

IGC
New Executive Board

The men of Beta Upsilon Chi (BYX) recently elected a new Executive Board for the 2012 year. The new President of the organization is Jesse Chambliss, who served as the Assistant Pledge Captain during the 2011 year. Jesse is very excited about this new role and all of the positive things that the new Executive Board will do for BYX over the next year. Congratulations to Jesse and the rest of the new Executive Board members! If you would like to contact Jesse, then please email him at jessechambliss@gmail.com.

Kappa Sigma Game Ball Run

Here is a story that we were not able to feature in the last newsletter due to a late submission. Even though it did not make it in the last newsletter, the event and cause are great. The Echo even featured the event in their November 2 issue. Thank you to the men of Kappa Sigma for coordinating and participating in such a great event! Also, thank you to Ryan Duba, current Kappa Sigma President, for submitting the following information about the event:

We raised $1000 in our game ball relay effort. We will be donating the $1000 to the Fisher House which houses military veterans and their families for free.

We had 30 members of the fraternity run on the event. We started from the Capitol Building in Little Rock at 10:30 AM and finished in the end zone of Estes stadium at 3:30 PM. Total mileage was 37 miles. The football was carried in a traditional relay fashion the entire time.

Kappa Sigma Fraternity would like to thank all of the sponsors and donors to the Military Heroes Campaign. Our military and their families go through tough times and we appreciate everyone who chipped in to help our veterans in need.

A list of sponsors are featured below in addition to Ryan Duba’s contact information. If you would like to know anything more about the event or would like to participate with Kappa Sigma next year, then please contact Ryan. Great work gentleman!

Kappa Sigma Thanks Our Sponsors:
Jack's Music -- $50
Hall's Construction Inc. $50
Oscar's Liquor -- $100
U.S. Renal Care --$100
Engines, Inc. -- $400
Las Delicias -- $50

Ryan Duba
Kappa Sigma President
Nu-Kappa Chapter
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479-426-3193
The Panhellenic Council held their annual Recruitment Prep on Monday, November 28. This program is tailored to women preparing for the upcoming Formal Recruitment process in January 2012. The highlight of the event is a Fashion Show that gives PNMs (Potential New Member) examples of what to wear during the 3 rounds of recruitment - which is the most asked question leading up to recruitment. The event also gives PNMs an idea of what to expect during the recruitment process and another opportunity to ask questions before the semester closes. Two free recruitment registrations were drawn and door prizes were donated by Emerge, Sonic of Stuttgart, & Advanced Sun Systems. Thank you to both of these sponsors for supporting this event. Also, Panhellenic would like to thank The Echo for writing a great article about the Fashion Show in the December 7 issue. Recruitment sign up is still open until January 4th! Sign up now at https://uca.mycampusdirector.com/.

-Story submitted by: Lindsey Osborne, Director of Sorority Life

The Pi Chis have officially completed their training for the Fall 2011 semester! There are 14 counselors who represent all 5 NPC sororities (but are disaffiliated until the recruitment process ends) and are trained by Kara Norton, Counselor Director of the Panhellenic Executive Board. The counselors started off the year with a retreat at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center where they participated in the ExCEL (Experience the Challenge. Experience the Leadership.) team building program. The counselors have met every Tuesday night since classes resumed and have grown much closer as a team. Through a ceremony, they were all officially inducted into the Pi Chi role and have continued to get to know each other through weekly team builders and initiatives. They have learned a great amount about the sorority/fraternity community as a whole, as well as more about each individual NPC sorority at UCA. Throughout the semester they have had Sorority Teach Backs and quizzes; gotten the results of their Myers-Briggs personality type indicators and how it relates to their relationship with PNMs; learned about the NPC Judicial Process, conversation starters, recruitment system logistics and many more things that will assist them during recruitment. Panhellenic is excited about the upcoming recruitment and putting to use the training they have received this semester!

-Story submitted by: Lindsey Osborne, Director of Sorority Life

Angel Bear Tree is a UCA Staff Senate program conducted each year just before the holidays. As you may know, UCA employs the working poor (individuals who work a full time job, but are considered to be below the poverty line). Many of our employees are in need of assistance to help make the holiday seasons bright. Faculty, staff, and students from all corners of UCA’s campus participated this year. In the Greek system, IFC, Panhellenic, and NPHC all adopted Angel Bears. IFC adopted a 15 year old boy, Panhellenic adopted a 13 year old girl, and NPHC adopted an entire family. The Student Life staff would like to thank each of these councils for supporting this cause.
Panhellenic Cont.
Recruitment Update

Registrations for Panhellenic recruitment will continue until January 4, 2012. Formal sorority recruitment will take place from January 8-10, 2012. Since the end of the fall 2011 semester, over 230 women have signed up to participate in recruitment. If you or a woman that you know is interested in participating in sorority recruitment, please sign up here. If you have any questions about sorority recruitment, please visit the Panhellenic recruitment website or contact Lindsey Osborne.

NPHC
Interest Sessions

The Student Life Office Formspring page is consistently asked questions about the time, date, and location of upcoming interest sessions for NPHC organizations. The Office encourages interested individuals to check the posting boards in the Student Center, but would like to offer more publicity for these events on the NPHC website. If your organization would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please email event details to ucagreeks@gmail.com.

Highway Clean-Up

Nearly all of the Greek organizations have adopted a section of highway around Conway or Little Rock. In early November, members of Delta Sigma Theta and Omega Psi Phi teamed up to clean their sections of the highway. Both organizations did a great job and had plenty of fun. The Student Life Office would like to thank both groups for taking the time to clean up the local community.

Greeks Helping the Salvation Army

We have all seen the Salvation Army volunteers ringing a bell outside of stores across Conway. These committed individuals stand outside for hours in the hopes of drumming up donations to help the less fortunate. This year, many of our Greek students decided to give back and help the Salvation Army by standing outside local stores for hours. Members of the Panhellenic Council and Delta Sigma Theta stood outside of local stores during the month of November to help the Salvation Army. The Student Life staff is very proud of these young women for supporting such a great cause. We hope that next year we receive even more pictures and reports of Greeks helping out with the Salvation Army.

AFA Annual Meeting

From November 29 through December 4, the UCA Greek Life staff attended the annual meeting of the Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA). This meeting is a chance for staff members from across the nation to connect and learn new information pertaining to Greek affairs. Lindsey, Wendy, and Scott attended a wide variety of sessions each day and networked with other professionals at evening meetings and dinners. All three individuals attended meetings topics including, but not limited to the following: 1) Fraternity Darwinism; 2) Updated NPC standards; 3) Greek community assessment; 4) Advising across cultural boundaries; 5) Men’s values; and 6) Greek judicial systems and structures. By the end of the week, the Greek Life staff learned a great deal of information that will surely benefit the UCA Greek community in the coming year. Each individual also formed new relationships with professional staff members in the Arkansas University system. These connections will undoubtedly prove useful for future statewide event planning. If you would like more information about what each staff member learned at the conference, then please schedule a time to chat in the coming weeks.
Contact and Connect with Us!

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http://www.youtube.com/user/
UCAGreeks

AFLV Central and NBGLC

The Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values (AFLV) is a national organization which exists “to stimulate the growth and development of fraternity/sorority councils and chapters by promoting leadership, educational, and values based experiences and resources for student leaders, their advisors, and the larger fraternal market.” As part of this mission, AFLV hosts multiple undergraduate conferences each year that focus on training individuals to be better fraternity/sorority members. Two of these conferences, AFLV Central and the National Black Greek Leadership Conference (NBGLC), will be taking place from February 9-12, 2012 in St. Louis, MO. SGA approved $1,000 travel requests from IFC, NPHC, and Panhellenic this semester, so the plan is to send a member from each organization to the conference. Given the high cost, each council will be asked to cover hotel costs and each organization will be asked to allocate $100-$150 per member for food. If all goes according to plan, UCA will send at least 18 undergraduates to the conference to learn more about Greek life outside of UCA. With this information, each individual will possess the knowledge to initiate positive change in the UCA Greek community. Given this exciting opportunity, each council is requesting that individual organizations nominate one (1) promising sophomore leader to attend this conference. The hope is to have a group of younger members attend so that their knowledge will be utilized for at least two (2) years. Please submit the contact information for your organization’s representative to your respective council President by 4:30 PM on January 20, 2012. If you have any questions, please contact your respective council advisor via email.