

Upcoming Events

- March 29th, 5 – 7 pm - **ΛΘΑ** Authentic Latin Cuisine Dish Sale – *Campus Manor Apt. #52* (For more information, contact Lta_deltamu@yahoo.com)
- March 29th, 5 pm – President's Roundtable – *Lincoln Room*
- March 31st, 6 pm – IFC Recruitment Meeting – *Fox Room*
- April 7th, 4 pm – GAMMA Meeting – *SOC Conference Room*
- April 10th – **ΣΣΣ**'s Mr. Greek University
- April 11th – 17th – Greek Week
- April 19th – 20th – **ΑΣΤ** ANCHOR BOWL
- April 25th, 7:30 pm – **ΛΘΑ** Educational on Immigration – *Room is TBA*
- April 26th, 6 pm – **ΛΘΑ** Movie Night/Social, Showing "Under the Same Moon" – *Grote Pit*
- April 26th, 7 – 9 pm – Sigma Kappa Open House – *Sigma Kappa Chapter House*
- April 27th, 2:30 – 4 pm – **ΛΘΑ** Community Service Event – *Elm's Nursing Home*
- April 28th, 5 – 7 pm – **ΛΘΑ** Fundraiser Event – *Location is TBA*
- April 29th, 2:30 pm – **ΛΘΑ** Scavenger Hunt – *Campus Manor Apt. #52*
- April 30th – 3rd Annual **ΑΓΡ** Golf Outing (For more information, contact Kyle Schone at 217-883-3093)
- April 30th – Pike Spike

Greeks Out and About!



Left: ΔZ Chapter Members pose at Café Aroma after hosting their very successful philanthropy event, Greek Idol.

Right: ΑΓΡ members pose at their leadership conference held in Indianapolis, IN.



Back row (L→R): Tad Locher, Jake Woods, Chris Neff, Jeremy Wolf, Andy Bulder, John Paul Young. Front row (L→R): Justin Burke, Cole Young, Dan Sahm, Mark Williams.

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Greek Life: A House Director's Experience

By Jenn Sanders, ΣΚ House Director

When I arrived in Macomb last August, Ms. Mary Norvell, the Sigma Kappa Housing Corporation treasurer, welcomed me to Western Illinois University. In the driveway we exchanged introductions and then went inside to tour the house, briefly talk about my role as the House Director and discuss my living arrangements. Right before leaving, she asked me to call if I needed or wanted

anything. I mumbled a hesitant thank you, but declined her

offer. That night, just as the darkness and eerie silence in the house began to magnify every creepy sound outside, Ms. Mary called to check in one more time and to say goodnight.

As a non-Greek student, stories from friends and limited personal experience convinced me that movies such as *Accepted*, *Stomp the Yard* and *House*

Bunny could easily be documentaries. On that basis, I approached the House Director position with caution. For the last six months, however, the women of Sigma Kappa have impressed me with their care for and commitment to one another. Their continual high esteem for sisterhood and friendship garners my respect and admiration. My

"...impressed me with their care for and commitment to one another."

first night, Ms. Mary's call surprised me, both literally and figuratively. Today, I expect to see that level of support and camaraderie within the Greek community, extending outward to the WIU campus as a whole. "*Shine within you, so that it can shine on someone else.*" Oprah Winfrey

March 30th, 2011

The Greek Gazette

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ΣΚ Introduces New Philanthropic Initiatives

By: Amanda Post, ΣΚ VP of Philanthropic Services

Recently, a new position was added to the Executive Board of Sigma Kappa, the Vice President of Philanthropic Services. This position is Philanthropy Chair and Foundation Chair combined together. So far, it has been a lot of work learning all of the new responsibilities of the new position, and because no one had this position before, I am basically just learning everything as I go. I am very pleased to say that things are going great so far! I have already executed a bake sale called Sigma Kappa Sweets, and we ended up raising over \$120 for the Sigma Kappa Foundation. All of the treats that weren't sold were given to the rest of the Greek Chapters on campus during our new member's Week of Giving. I have also been working on trying to get



chapter members signed up for the 1874 Club, and we already have a big bin full of things for the Maine Sea Coast Mission.

One thing that has myself and a lot of other chapter members very excited is the new philanthropy activity we are starting up. With the help of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Kappa recently held their First Annual **Sigma Kappture the Flag: Search and Escape**. It was a capture the flag tournament with all the Greek houses on campus involved, and all the money goes to the Children's Miracle Network (for Sigma Alpha Epsilon) and the Sigma Kappa Foundation (for Sigma Kappa). It took place from 1pm to 4pm on Sunday, March 27th. We really appreciate everyone's participation in our event.

Things this semester have been really exciting, and I am waiting to see how much more this Sigma Kappa chapter can do with this new position.

Order of Omega Helps Project H.O.P.E.

By Steve Nolte, ΣΠ

On Sunday, February 27th the Gamma Lambda Chapter of Order of Omega went to the 1st Presbyterian Church, where they participated in an event called Project H.O.P.E. This event is held every fourth Sunday of the month. The purpose of the event is to provide a meal to the people of the Macomb community who may not have the money to afford a good, healthy meal. Recently, Project H.O.P.E has also added many additions to its event. In addition to supplying Macomb residents with meals, they provide toys for children and other items for adults- such as jewelry or household items. Each family is allowed to choose one

item that can be exchanged for a free ticket that each family receives as they enter the event. Furthermore Project H.O.P.E provides "Pack a Sack" where members of the community who attend the event are able to take groceries home. Order of Omega members helped out with the "Pack a Sack" part of the event by helping the attendees pack their bag and choose great food items- all of which are donations! Order of Omega members plan to participate in this event every month in order to help out the local community.



AΣΤ Announces Upcoming "ANCHOR BOWL"

On April 19th-20th, Alpha Sigma Tau will be holding their first annual ANCHOR BOWL. It will be a flag football tournament between the fraternities.



We are offering other sororities the chance to "sponsor" the fraternities' teams as their coaches. On Tuesday, the 19th, after the first round

of tournaments, there will be a \$4 HOT DOG BAR consisting of hot dogs, condiments, sides, chips and drinks. More publicity and information for this event will be going out to the fraternities and sororities within the next week! If you have any questions, please contact TA-Bomkamp@wiu.edu or AD-Bianchini@wiu.edu.

Greek Week 2011!

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
~GREEEK WEEK 2011~
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY
 OPENING CEREMONIES
 (HERSHEY ONE JAMER)
 (CAN CASTLES) THEME WEAR
 HERITAGE ROOM: 4PM

TUESDAY
 SPECIAL EVENTS
 (VOLLEYBALL) THE 4-PIECE
 (INSTANT) COINCE
 MURRAY STREET: 5PM

WEDNESDAY
 VARIETY SHOW
 (SHAKE YOUR GREEK THAIRS)
 WESTERN HALL: 7PM

THURSDAY
 SPECIAL EVENTS
 HERITAGE ROOM: 10-3PM
 (LEOPARD) CEST-CAPTURE THE FLAG
 (EVERLY PARK): 9PM

FRIDAY
 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
 MEET AT N LOT: 10-3PM
 (RELAY FOR LIFE) TERNAL-CLOTHES DRIVE
 (THE WALL): 6PM-8AM

SUNDAY
 CLOSING CEREMONIES
 AWARDS
 HERITAGE ROOM: 5:30-8PM

DON'T FORGET
 COIN WARS
 CAN DRIVE

Las Vegas
 (IF YOU NEED ACCOMMODATIONS TO FULLY PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT GREEKLIFE@WIU.EDU OR 304.3553)

Rejecting Stereotyped Masculinity to Become a “Real Man”

By Tracy Davis

Type in “fraternity sexual assault” or “fraternity hazing” in *Google* and you receive around 300,000 hits each, enter “fraternity alcohol issues” and the number climbs to just over ½ million, and broaden your search to “fraternity discipline” and one finds around a million references. While this in no way is a scholarly demonstration of the breadth or severity of these issues, it reinforces what many of us who been involved with Greek life already know: men’s fraternities receive a lot of attention regarding behavior. With so much concentrated focus, why are fraternity men on campus in crisis? I believe the answer has less to do with fraternities and more to do with hegemonic masculinities. Research clearly illustrates, for example, that men in general “outnumber women in virtually every category of drinking behavior used in research for comparison—prevalence, consumption, frequency of drinking and intoxication, incidence of heavy and problem drinking, alcohol abuse and dependence, and alcoholism” (Capraro, 2000, p. 308). In addition, men are the victims of violence in every category except sexual assault (Farrell, 1993) and disproportionately cause community disturbances related to “hate crimes” and bigotry (D’Augelli, 1991; Qualls, Cox, & Schehr, 1992). Suicide is also the third leading cause of death among males age 15–24 and boys kill themselves four times the rate of young women (National

Center for Injury Prevention and Control, 1999).

Men are in crisis and fraternities have men. This is not to deny that there are aspects of fraternity culture that influence men. Fear of peer rejection negatively influences bystander behavior, secrecy and loyalty can mediate the transparency necessary for ethical decision-making, and critical mindfulness sometimes takes the back seat to blind adherence to outdated traditions. I have personally witnessed both the tremendous benefits of brotherhood that resulted from a meaningful masculine culture of fraternity and the negative impact of patriarchal privilege unchecked by men performing socially constructed roles. In my mind, however, more fundamental to effectively addressing the needs of fraternity men requires an interrogation of masculinities, of men as men, as opposed to simplistic anti-hazing, alcohol abuse, sexual assault prevention programs. At the very least, these interventions need to be fundamentally informed by the social construction of masculinities. Men have been taught specific gender roles and keeping this invisible leads to a reification of hegemonic masculinities which essentially keeps things “as they are”. According to Kimmel (1998) the “important fact of men’s lives is not that they are biological males, but that they become men. Our sex may be male, but our identity as men is developed through a complex process of interaction with the culture” (p. ix).

Kimmel’s words provide insight into where we need to begin if we want to encourage a move away from externally-constructed hegemonic masculinity and toward more self-authored men who embrace the virtues of humility, courage, justice, patience and kindness that I have seen reflected both in my male mentors and many fraternity creeds. Dr. Kimmel and I have a co-authored chapter in the new book: ***Masculinities in Higher Education: Theoretical and Practical Considerations*** that describes “guyland” and the conflict between what men feel inside and what we perform. In addition, the Center for the Study of Masculinities and Men’s Development (www.wiu.edu/mensdevelopmentcenter) is also a place where fraternity men and others can go in order to access support and resources to begin a journey toward constructing new images of masculinity that are congruent with these virtues. The Center will open on-line very soon and I welcome your involvement. Real men, literally men who are real/authentic, are those who stand up against socially-constructed messages in order to develop self-authored identities.

***Tracy is a Professor in the Educational and Interdisciplinary Studies Department and College Student Personnel Program. He also serves as Director of the Center for the Study of Masculinities and Men’s Development*

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Did you know???

77 percent of Who's Who in America is Greek affiliated.

Students who join fraternities and sororities are 28% more likely to return to school the following year than students who choose not to join.

Nationally, 71% of all Greeks graduate, while only 50% of non-Greeks graduate.

A study by the Center for the Study of College Fraternities found that fraternity and sorority members were significantly more satisfied with their college experience than non-

Greeks of the Month

Claire Jolcover - Phi Sigma Sigma



A junior, Social Work major, Claire always does everything she can to help make her house the best it can be. She was Recruitment Chair Assistant her sophomore year and Recruitment Chair this year. Next year, she will be taking over as President. She has also been the Sisterhood chair and served on the Special Events Committee, the Senior Week Committee and the Family Week Committee for Phi Sigma Sigma. Last year, she served on the Greek Week Committee as Special Events co-chair and she attends Panhellenic Council regularly. Other than holding these positions, Claire stands out because she is always someone who goes the extra mile to help her sisters. She has a very difficult course load but always has time for a sister in need, and also helps out on campus and in the community. Her chapter had a situation this year where someone was elected to President and fell below the requirements and Claire stepped up to take the position for the good of the house. Her sisters are proud to have Claire in their house and she does more and more for them each day!

**Winners of "Greek of the Month" will receive a gift from their respective council to show their appreciation for all of their hard work and contributions to the Greek Life Community.

Trey Dhablt – Sigma Chi



Trey contributes to the Greek Life community in many ways. Trey not only shows his leadership within his chapter, but within the Greek Community and campus, as a whole. He currently serves as the Interfraternity Council President and has made great changes so far during his term. Before becoming President, he served on IFC executive board for two years as Student Government Association. Although IFC keeps him busy, he continues to show his commitment to his own chapter by having served as Pledge Educator, Assistant Pledge Educator, Judicial Board Justice and Intramurals Chair. Even while holding various leadership positions, Trey maintains a high grade point average as a junior Law Enforcement and Justice Administration major and has received numerous academic awards. He is a member of the honor societies, Order of Omega and Gamma Sigma Alpha. He is also a two year winner of the General Assembly Scholarship and four year winner of the Bill Demarco Memorial Scholarship. Trey exemplifies great leadership in whatever organization he occupies and truly contributes positively to Greek Life.

Points of Pride & Chapter Updates

Alpha Gamma Rho

- Some of our chapter members recently attended a leadership conference in Indianapolis, IN. They brought back very valuable skills related to risk management, effective communication and being able to determine if a situation is considered hazing or not.
- We are having our 3rd annual golf outing on April 30th. Contact Kyle Schone at (217) 883-3093 with questions or to sign up a team.

Chi Omega

- We recently held an event, Makeovers for Make A Wish. For this event, we raised \$480 to donate to Make a Wish.
- We are bringing back our annual Easter Egg Hunt this month! For this event, the Easter Bunny lays eggs for the children in the community.
- Our members are looking forward to our family weekend, April 8th through 10th.
- Chi Omega is also busy planning other Philanthropy events and Educationals for our chapter, as well.

Delta Sigma Phi

- The Men of Delta Sigma Phi recently took part in the Polar Plunge Fundraiser for Special Olympics Illinois. As a fraternity, we raised a total of \$2,218.45 to help benefit the kids of Special Olympics. We look forward to making the plunge again next year!

- We recently held our first annual fund raiser called the White Carnation involving 4 out of the 6 sororities. Congratulations to the ladies of Sigma Kappa for winning the first annual White Carnation. We hope to be able to get all 6 of the sororities involved next year and for another successful event. Thanks girls!

Delta Zeta

- The ladies of Delta Zeta are very excited to have twelve, amazing new members. We held a bid day party with our new members at the end of February.
- On March 8, we held our annual Greek Idol at Café Aroma. We would like to thank everyone who attended and participated for their support. We would also like to again congratulate Theta Xi for winning.
- We are all very excited for Greek Week and are working hard to prepare for it!

Lambda Theta Alpha

- We donated \$70 to our National Philanthropy, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Thanks to all that donated.
- We also donated \$35 to our Chapter Philanthropy, Muscular Dystrophy Association. Thanks for the donations at our St. Patty's day bake sale which took place Friday March 11, 2011.
- Our chapter participated in the

UGC showcase on March 8th. We presented a small power point presentation with some organizational facts and also Saluted and Strolled, which are some of our traditions.

Sigma Kappa

- We raised \$123 during our bake sale last month with all the proceeds going to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.
- Sigma Kappa & Sigma Alpha Epsilon co-sponsored Sigma Kappture the Flag: Search And Escape.
- We were very happy and proud to host our National representatives this past weekend. They really enjoyed their stay and are very impressed with the Sigma Kappa officers, as well as the chapter as a whole.

Sigma Sigma Sigma

- We recently held an alcohol awareness educational for our current and new members.
- Our Parent's Weekend was this weekend and our members had a great event!
- The ladies of Sigma Sigma Sigma will be hosting a cook-out next Tuesday (March 29th) for anyone interested in joining our chapter.
- Our large philanthropy event, Mr. Greek will be Sunday, April 10th and we are busy preparing for it.
- We are all very excited for Greek Week!

Council Updates

Interfraternity Council (IFC)

By Trey Dhabalt, IFC President

Welcome back everyone, I hope you all had a great Spring Break and enjoyed the time off. I want to just update everyone on a few things IFC will be working on extensively for the remainder of the semester. IFC is in the process of setting up potentially one of the largest fundraisers to hit WIU for next semester. Dance Marathon is a fundraiser that hundreds of campuses do nationwide in efforts to raise money for Children's Miracle Network and we are excited to potentially bring it to Western. Also, IFC is working to improve recruitment efforts by promoting a unified approach to getting students to Go Greek. At the start of next year IFC and all the chapters will be working together to promote Greek life as a whole in efforts to raise our numbers, as well as quality, of new members. With the semester half way finished, I encourage all to continue to strive towards academic excellence and if you are struggling, do not hesitate to seek help. Greek Week is around the corner and many look forward to this opportunity to compete and show the rest of the campus what Greek Life is all about. Good luck to everyone and enjoy the week long activities.

"Letters today, Leaders tomorrow"



ΣK Chapter Members pose at the recent Greek Basketball Game, a collaborative event between Greek Life and Athletics.

United Greek Council (UGC)

By Allen J Hood II, UGC President

Greetings and Salutations. United Greek Council has been busy with new programs and initiatives this semester. Some highlights from the earlier parts of the semester are the passing of the newly revised constitution and the United Greek Council Showcase. Six chapters participated in the Showcase, including: Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc., Beta Phi Pi Fraternity, Inc., Phi Rho Eta Fraternity, Inc. We appreciate everyone who came out to our Showcase on March 8th as we had a great show and turnout from the entire campus community. In the near future, the two sub-councils will be conducting two programs individually consisting of a collaborative community service event and two individual socials. Please be on the lookout for the advertising of these events. Lastly, Check out our facebook group "United Greek Council at Western Illinois University" and like our page for continual updates from UGC or the sub-councils. We look forward to making the remaining weeks of this semester fun-filled!

Panhellenic Council (PHC)

By Kammiroen Stirbis, PHC President

"Sisterhood is many things. It's a warm smile on a cold and rainy day, a friendly hug, a cheerful hello... It's all that a good and lasting friendship is, only better. It's treasured. It's sacred. It's knowing that there will always be someone there for you. It's dreams shared, and goals achieved. It's counting on others and being counted on. It is real."

-Unknown

March 24th-27th is our "Sorority Celebration," put together by special events chair, Kari Crowell. Our six Panhellenic sororities will be participating in small events on those days such as an ice cream social, a paddle decorating sisterhood and a community service event in celebration of our wonderful sororities. Becky Serra, sorority education chair, put on a very helpful educational for fall 2010 and spring 2011 new members. The educational was an introduction to Greek life and provided many useful tips and hints to help them be successful in the Greek community. We are also planning to attend the softball game on April 19th to show our support to athletics. Also, the chapters are being given the opportunity to create a sandwich board to be displayed at the game! Our recruitment counselors for fall 2011 are off to a great start. They have begun their weekly meetings and are learning useful house information and songs. This year, Rho Gammas have started giving reports during "chapter reports" at PHC to keep the chapters updated on what they are learning about and what exciting recruitment events are coming up! Jessica, our wonderful advisor is hard at work on our recruitment booklet, (which is looking amazing!) and last minute things before she graduates in May (we don't want her to leave ☺, but we know that she will be an amazing Greek advisor in her future!) Greek week is right around the corner, and on behalf of Panhellenic, we are so proud of Bethany, John, Allen, the advisors and the rest of the committee for their hard work and we cannot wait until April 11th! I hope everyone enjoyed their spring break, keep working hard this semester!