



# CASE

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

## Academic Pursuit of Greeks Pay

### Off for Community

By: Chris Choy

Oct 2006 Edition

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# The Academia

This October, Case Greek Life has been celebrating the Month of the Scholar. Events sponsored by IFC and Panhel included the Scholarship Reception at the Harcourt House, candy in the library during midterms, and an ice cream social.

The Month of the Scholar has been especially important this year, as the All Fraternity Average topped the All-Men's Average, and the All Sorority Average topped the All Women's Average. Greek Life has been striving for this goal for quite some time, and the Month of the Scholar is both a celebration of, and rededication to everything academic.

Major events of the month kicked off with the Scholarship reception at the Harcourt House where both Alpha Epsilon Pi and Phi Mu were recognized for excellent achievement in the past year. Later in the month, during midterm week, Greek Life put a bowl of candy on the Library desk for its "Smarties and Nerds in the Library" day. Students in the library were able to take a break or grab some candy on the go, while they prepared for midterms.

Finally, Greek Life held an Ice Cream Social after the joint Panhel-IFC meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>. This event helped to bring together members from every chapter for the scholarship celebration. The idea that high scholarship achievement is a Greek-wide goal was expressed as everyone devoured the ice-cream. Hopefully, mentioning academics throughout the month of October will increase awareness that Greek Life takes its academics seriously. Increased awareness and publicity of the Month of the Scholar events will help express to all of the Case campus that going Greek does not mean taking on an academic handicap. Furthermore, nothing says Greek Life takes their academics seriously like beating the All-Men's or Women's Average consistently.

## Faculty Forum Was a Success

Faculty forum, which was held on Friday November 10th during community hour, was a huge success. This year's panel consisted of three Case students and three Case Faculty members. The topic of discussion, which was moderated by President Gregory Eastwood, was whether or not Case is adequately preparing its students for the future and providing students with resources and tools to be successful in life.

During this discussion, students from both the panel and the audience expressed their ideas on what they expected from obtaining a degree from Case, and faculty were able to express their ideas on the same. Coincidentally, both students and faculty expressed the idea that they expected students to learn problem solving abilities which they could apply in their future careers, and social and leadership skills which they believed were essential to the development of a well rounded student. Other subtopics that were discussed included whether students were getting a well rounded education, whether Case provides students with adequate leadership opportunities, and whether specific majors at Case allow students enough leeway to interact with students outside of their major. The Greek Life Office would like to thank all those students and faculty members in attendance who made this event a success.

By: Brandon Williams

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# Undergraduate Studies Update: What's New and What's Not

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## WHAT'S NEW?

Remembering all the ins and outs of academic policy at Case can be tough, but starting this semester, Case has made some changes that simplify some of the more challenging procedures. Due in large part to an increase in enrollment in four-credit hour classes, Case has decided to allow students to enroll in up to 19 credit hours in one semester without requiring an overload permit. Don't feel pressured into taking all those credit hours, though. The minimum course requirements have not changed, and this merely adds convenience for those students who are pushing the 18 hour limit for a semester or two. Additionally, you now have the option of turning in the pass/no pass form any time during the semester, instead of only the last three days. This means no more last minute dashes to the Undergraduate Studies Office on the last day of class, and hopefully no D's on your transcript from elective courses. The course repeat option is also simple to take advantage of, in that there is no longer a one year time limit on repeating the course, and the form can be turned in any time during the semester in which you are taking the repeated course. Additionally, your previous grade will appear on your transcript with the statement "Grade not counted, course repeated." This makes your transcript more transparent, and removes the hassle for many pre-professional students who have to report those grades anyway (Pre-Med, for example).

## WHAT'S NOT?

Undergraduate Studies still helps students understand academic policy, and encourages any student with questions to make an appointment with their advisor, and if that fails, with a dean. Also, many scholarships are available above and beyond those Case gives out at the beginning of your four year journey. These include the prestigious Beinecke and Goldwater Scholarships, as well as the more specific Society of Women Engineers Scholarship and the Peter Witt Scholarship, both of which are only open to Case students. For more information, go to the scholarships and fellowships page on the Undergraduate Studies website.

Lastly, Undergraduate Studies continually reminds students of all the resources on campus for academic success, including ESS, the Career Center, SAGES Writing Crew, and many others. Don't forget that your advisor and professors are there for you, and nearly always want to talk with students *before* there are any problems. Make it a point to get to know at least one professor each semester outside of class. As members of the Greek Community, remember you also have your chapter's scholarship chair as well as the GCEC's. Study hard, do well, and leave some time for fun.

By: Jim Adolf