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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Greek Scholarship Standards for Chapter Officers

By Lisa Hudy and Chris Painter

May 2004 Edition

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The Academia

Throughout the course of the semester, Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Congress have sought to implement changes to increase academic standards within the Greek community. Recently, both councils have proposed increasing the GPA necessary to hold office within a chapter, proposing an increase from a 2.2 to 2.5 GPA. This change will affect about 2% of current officers, as the sororities do not have any officers under a 2.5 while the fraternities have nine officers in eight chapters who would have a GPA below the new standard.

Ultimately, Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Congress believe this change will assist in raising the overall academic standard for chapters. As of Fall 2003, there are eight fraternities above the all men's/all Greek average and five fraternities above the all undergraduate average, the fraternity average GPA is below the all men's and all undergraduate averages. In addition, the average pledge GPA is lower than the active GPA average. The sorority average

GPA is above the all Greek and all undergraduate averages and is the same as the all women's average. Two chapters are above the all women's average and five chapters are above the all-undergraduate average while all sororities are above the all-Greek average. As with the fraternities, the average sorority pledge GPA is lower than active GPA.

These averages affect the ways in which the university and potential new members perceive the Greek Community. Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Congress feel that changing the required officer GPA is a small step in improving overall Greek academics, as the chapter officers should be setting the example for their members. The councils are hopeful that this change will encourage chapter members to place academics at a higher priority. Dialogue concerning the proposed GPA change continues within the Alumni Greek Council and between the active chapters and their advisors.

GCEC year-end Wrap Up

By Sapna Shah and Chris Painter

In spite of a challenging start to the semester, the Greek community has made progress in its drive toward attaining a high standard of academics. Throughout the spring, we have hosted many meetings, programs, and workshops in order to promote academics within the community. And, as the year ends, we would like to thank the chapter scholarship chairs, the Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Congress, and the Greek Life Staff who helped us make these events worthwhile. In addition, we would like to express our appreciation to the faculty and students who supported us throughout the year. These individuals, along with various departments such as

UCITE and the Career Center, were integral in the success of programming such as the Faculty Forum, the Faculty Luncheon, and the Graduate Pathways Program.

We are also proud to announce next year's Greek Community Educational Consultants: Chris Painter and Loren Spickler. Loren, a member of Phi Mu, will replace the current GCEC Sapna Shah, who is attending medical school in the fall. Chris, a member of Zeta Beta Tau and current GCEC, will be returning to assist Loren during the 2004-2005 academic year. They are hopeful that next year will be as productive as this past year.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Greek Life's Outstanding Faculty Members

DAVID COOPER, Economics is hailed by students as extremely personable and always available. His in-class experiments are renowned for their effectiveness of demonstrating classroom theory, and appropriate use of humor always makes his class enjoyable.

JOHN BLACKWELL, Macromolecular Science, is well known around campus for his fluent lectures, approachability, and high level of understanding of individual student situations. He is also honored as the Phi Sigma Rho advisor, who recently achieved full chapter recognition from the Panhellenic Council.

MICHAEL JUSTIK, Chemistry, has been recognized by students for his constant efforts to be active in his laboratory. Prof. Justik is known for his real-world application approach to learning, and his desire for each individual student to succeed.

GCECs

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Contributing Writers

(2003-2004 Academic Year)

Courtney Schou, Alpha Chi Omega

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Outstanding Scholarship Chairs

Fall 2003:

Courtney Schou, Alpha Chi Omega

Spring 2004:

Jonathan Glicoes, Delta Tau Delta