



New Job, New School, and New Opportunities

As the school year comes to an end many graduating seniors move onto to the next phase in their lives. For many this means a new job, graduate school along with a new city, a new home to transition into as apart of their daily life. This transition can be tricky and overwhelming, but it will not be the last time these alum deal with drastic change for their career. Case Alums have moved across the country to pursue academic and career endeavors. These transition periods can be easier with a few helpful tips.

For a new job there is no time to lose:

- Start by determining what you need to learn and from whom during the first week on the job.
- Identify your stakeholders and schedule meetings with them within your first few weeks. These meetings serve three purposes: to establish a rapport with stakeholders, to understand what they care about and what you can do to build credibility, and to signal a sense of your values and working style.
- Establishing a rapport requires one-on-one, in-person meetings in venues where both parties will be relaxed.
- Understanding what stakeholders care about is the next step. This includes the stakeholder's key objectives and initiatives, major concerns, how to support their interests and who they should get to know.
- Let the stakeholder do most of the talking, but be ready to share your views.

For Graduate School:

- Take advantage of opportunities to learn about your new program. Be sure to attend all the new student orientation sessions offered to you.
- Feel free to seek out faculty to discuss questions and request help with any concerns that arise. More advanced students also can be a good source of information, particularly if you would like a personal view of the program from a student perspective.
- Recognize that the graduate and undergraduate school experiences are qualitatively different. Graduate study involves not just more work than undergraduate study, but, in addition, the training objectives and competencies expected for graduate students differ substantially from those for undergraduates.
- Make good use of available social support resources and build additional support networks. Above all, be sure to ask for help if you are experiencing difficulties adjusting to your first few months on campus.

No matter if you are starting a new job or starting at a new school any of the tips mentioned above are great ways to make a successful transition. Most importantly do not forget that this is a chance for new opportunities, so make the best of it.

SAGES—Faculty Forum Spring 2009

By Laura Ansley, Sigma Psi

The Faculty Forum, cosponsored by the Office of Greek Life and UCITE, occurred on February 27. Over 100 students and many faculty showed up to discuss the SAGES (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship) program that is nearing its first cycle of completion with the graduating class of 2009. The panel was moderated by Provost William “Bud” Baeslack III and included John Orlock of the English Department, Christine Hudak of FPB School of Nursing, Narcisz Fejes of the English Department, and students Ari Kanters and Dan Bloomberg.

Students participated in a rousing discussion of the several facets of SAGES, including first year advising, selection of seminar classes, and the effectiveness of the program. Though students were mostly positive in their response, many students have had less than positive experiences because of the inconsistency of writing instruction, advising, and the leading of discussion in class. Faculty in attendance also pointed out that many of these issues, especially in-class discussion, depend upon student participation and agency. Without students seeking out help for themselves, instructors often do not know if a student is struggling with writing or having advising issues.

In all, both faculty and students agreed that though fully implemented for four years, SAGES still needs some adjustment to properly fulfill students’ needs and the goals of the program. In future semesters, it can only be hoped that open forums like this one will result in improvement and a better execution of the SAGES ideals

Congratulations!

Gamma Sigma Alpha New Members

Alicia Beckett	Delta Gamma
Piyali Bhattacharya	Kappa Alpha Theta
Laura Bonhard	Kappa Alpha Theta
Catherine Caponero	Phi Mu
Michael Chang	Zeta Psi
Jonathan Evans	Theta Chi
William Fox	Phi Delta Theta
Alex Galante	Sigma Phi Epsilon
Laura Germann	Delta Gamma
Emily Hoffman	Delta Gamma
Kayla Imbrogno	Kappa Alpha Theta
Michele Javier	Alpha Chi Omega
Anne Murphy	Delta Gamma
Sarah Park	Delta Gamma
Parita Patel	Alpha Phi
Michael Pavlik	Theta Chi
Caitlin Powell	Delta Gamma
Yelena Roshchupkina	Sigma Psi
Layla Sankari	Kappa Alpha Theta
Katherine Seymour	Delta Gamma
Avneet Singh	Alpha Chi Omega
Diane Wisinski	Phi Mu

Order of Omega New Members

Rebecca Ciciretti	Kappa Alpha Theta
Laura Dickerson	Alpha Chi Omega
Alex Johnston	Alpha Phi
Philip Keefe	Sigma Chi
Raman Nohria	Sigma Chi
Jessica Schreiber	Delta Gamma
Rachel Taylor	Phi Mu

