House Corporation Boards play a vital role for chapters with, and even some without, chapter facilities. Student Involvement enjoys meeting with the House Corporation Board members on at least an annual basis. The next House Corporation Board meeting will be on July 29 at 5:30 pm in the Rhatigan Student Center room 301.

Student Involvement recently created a list serve of contacts of each House Corporation Board for primary communication. This group of contacts, all House Corporation Board presidents, will be utilized to share information about housing, fire department codes, future opportunities for growth and development and other important pieces of information. This group is asked to share information with their boards and students in a timely manner to help us create an effective tree of communication.

Organizations who do not have facilities, but are interested in staying involved on the housing discussions, are encouraged to send contact information for a House Corporation representative to Nancy.Loosle@wichita.edu.

When Student Involvement was formed in 2012, a Strategic Plan was developed for the entire department as well as each functional area for 2012-2015. Two years into the plan, it is time to evaluate it to prepare for the development of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan which will continue to guide the Greek community.

This issue contains a review on each of the four components of the Strategic Plan for the past two years as well as some projections for this coming year to ensure all areas of the plan are addressed and completed.

Strategic Plans not only provide guidance for a department, they also provide accountability measures for the organizations who make up the department, allowing a larger end goal to be achieved. Each chapter and council play a large role in helping to achieve the Strategic Plan for Fraternity and Sorority life.

As this was the first time in many years that a Strategic Plan had been created and executed for the Greek community, there were many lessons to be learned and challenges to be overcome. As part of the learning process, it was realized how vital these plans are to an organization’s existence and therefore it was determined a Strategic Plan would be developed for each council as well. The planning process for each council’s Strategic Plan is already underway and community members should expect to see a final document for their council before the start of the Fall semester.

As always, Student Involvement is more than open to ideas and considerations for any part of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Strategic Plan and look forward to continuing to set high expectations in order to better the entire Greek community.
#1: Evaluate and improve upon programs which provide community building among the Greek community

To help achieve this goal, many programs which already existed within the Greek programming calendar were evaluated to ensure they were meeting the need of providing unity to the Greek community.

The New Member Academy has grown extremely large and needed to be reformatted to better facilitate the number of students and allow attendees to meet members of other chapters and councils. Duties of the Academy have been shifted to council presidents to provide peer facilitation and a student’s perspective in the planning process. Attendees will now be broken into small groups and given more specific training on University Policies and Procedures as well as Greek Life expectations while getting more time to interact with each other. Greeks Gettin’ Twisted, a bbq and messy twister event, was successfully added to the program in 2013 as an after event social and will be brought back again in 2014. A New Member Academy was held in the Spring semester to reach those students who joined later in the Fall. The Spring 2013 semester saw the first Spring session which will be continued for future years.

The Greek Retreat curriculum has always focused on unity and leadership. In 2013 a service element was added to the retreat to launch the Greeks Give brand. Attendees were broken up into small groups and volunteered at three different locations in the Hesston community. After the volunteer experience, attendees were immersed in reflection opportunities to help them apply the lessons of the service opportunities to their chapters and their Greek experience. Assessment showed the addition of the service component was well received and is a change which will be seen at the 2014 Greek Retreat as well.

An important component of community building is providing leadership training for those guiding the communities. Funds were secured to send a minimum of nine individuals to the annual Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Annual Central Fraternal Leadership and National Black Greek Leadership Council. The Panhellenic Council also elected to pay for an additional officer to attend.

MGC renewed an emphasis in community building by improving upon their annual Midwest Step Show, Shock the Yard. The council was determined to improve the quality of the overall production as well as increase the number of teams who participate. The hard work paid off with a sold out Orpheum Theater and 14 teams competing.

In order to help decrease the over programming on certain dates for the Greek community, Student Involvement committed to set a schedule of specific events for the next three years. Panhellenic Formal Recruitment was voted to remain on the weekend following Labor Day weekend for 2013-2015. The Greek Retreat was originally planned for the first weekend in November, but given the conflict with Shockerthon, an event widely supported by Greeks, it has been moved to the first weekend in October for 2014 and 2015. MGC moved their Step Show to the final Saturday in April in 2014 and is already working on a contract with the Orpheum Theater to keep this date consistent for 2015. Officer transition retreats for the councils will remain on the “study day” in December. Deadlines for rosters for council dues and chapter grade reports will also continue to be consistent for each council according to their bylaws and constitution. Chapters are required to submit any dates to the All Greek Calendar no later than the first date of classes each semester, with a first come first serve basis on the scheduling of Philanthropy or other events, throughout the semester.
Chapter Presidents and Council Officers will be held accountable to the expectations of their organizations, councils, Student Involvement and Wichita State University

Chapter presidents did a great job at attendance during the All Presidents Meetings with almost 100% attendance at each meeting held in the Spring 2014 semester. The addition of council presidents leading the meetings has led to great discussion and efficiency for these monthly gatherings. The council presidents are transitioning to being provided with an agenda to run to the meeting, to creating the agenda, selecting leadership development components and being fully in charge of the meetings.

Chapter presidents were also required to have a monthly meeting with the Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life in 2013. With the change to monthly All Presidents Meetings, this requirement changed to once a semester in Spring 2014 which will continue to be the expectation in Fall 2014. While most presidents met the requirement, there were some who choose to continue meeting monthly or schedule additional meetings to ensure they were utilizing resources available to them. Many chapters have also invited members of the Student Involvement staff to present at a chapter meeting, with topics including leadership development, team work and communication, goal setting, scholarship and quantifying brotherhood.

For awhile, it seemed that the Student Conduct office had a revolving door of Greek organizations violating WSU Policies and Procedures. It was determined to provide more education and accountability in this area to ensure at least 80% of chapters are not on some form of probation due to a violation of a WSU Policies and Procedures. At this time, only 15% of Greek organizations are on a form of probation with the University. In July, a new Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards will be starting and the Greek community is looking forward to forming as fluid of a partnership with this position as possible. The goal is to also hire an Coordinator for this area in order to provide more support and resources to student organizations.

The final measure of accountability for the Greek organizations are the Rhatigan Standards of Fraternal Excellence. The standards were developed to highlight organizations meeting the minimum expectations of a Greek organization within Student Involvement. Unfortunately, there was not a perceived value to obtaining this award from many organizations and we have not come close to the goal of 100% chapter completion of the application. The award is currently under review with the goal of making an easier, online application, which provides value for each specific council while still having a common baseline by which to outline the minimum expectations of Fraternities and Sororities.
**Strategic Plan Review**

#3: **Provide developmental opportunities for growth to those in leadership positions**

With the development of new Leadership programs as a functional area in Student Involvement, there have been many leadership development opportunities for Greek members. Many Greek students have participated in the Summer Leadership Institute, were enrolled in the Emerging Leaders Program or attended a Recognized Student Organization training session.

Leadership development was provided at more than 50% of the All President’s Meetings in 2013. Presidents were given a copy of Motivating the Middle by TJ Sullivan and Student Involvement’s Coordinator of Leadership and Service Learning, Nick Messing, provided some leadership exercises for this group. The 2014 President’s voted to hold monthly meetings instead of every other month. Meetings are now being facilitated by the council presidents who will begin to provide some leadership development during the Fall semester.

Funding was provided to send three officers from each council to the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Annual Central Fraternal Leadership and National Black Greek Leadership Conference. Each year IFC and Panhellenic sent a minimum of three officers while MGC sent two. For the 2014 conference, Panhellenic voted to pay the additional expense and send a fourth officer. It is the goal that all three councils will utilize this opportunity and send the full allotment of officers for the 2015 conference.

Greek Retreat attendees were also treated to leadership development, with sessions specifically related to communication within an organization. 26 students, representing 13 Greek organizations, took advantage of this retreat which is completely free to attendees.

A group Student Involvement works closely with is the Rho Gamma team for Panhellenic. Over the years this group has grown in elitism and responsibilities, therefore much time has been devoted to providing consistent training and development of these women. The Rho Gamma meeting structure has been reformatted to better utilize the time given by the Rho Gamma team and not only provide them with recruitment training, but also empower them with public speaking, counseling and team dynamic skills. From being a member of a team of peers to being a leader of a group of potential new member’s, this is a vital group of women to the Panhellenic community.

A priority for Fraternity and Sorority Life was to develop a wellness retreat for men and women due to the increasing needs of mental and physical health support needed by the members of the Greek community. Kallistei, a sorority wellness retreat, was held in 2014 and a men’s wellness retreat will be added in 2015. This retreat saw partnerships from Counseling and Testing, Student Health Services and the Office of Multicultural Affairs to provide women with a holistic experience of development sessions, journaling, yoga, a ropes course, team building, meditation and community. The retreat received high praises and Student Involvement is greatly looking forward to continuing to offer it in the future as well as adding a men’s wellness retreat.

A new component for the upcoming academic year will be a speaker series with Greek Alumni who also work at WSU. On the final Monday of each month, from 5:30—6:30 pm, a presentation will be available for Greeks to attend. Topics will range from event planning, to recruitment, to team management, all while identifying outstanding Greek Alumni who are resources to our students and available right on campus.
#4: Grow the Greek community by 2% over three years

Goal number four starts off strong by well over exceeding the 2% desired growth. According to the Fall 2012 grade report, there were 600 members of the Greek community. According to the Fall 2013 grade report, there was a 23% increase with 740 members of the Greek community. Greeks should expect to see another increase in membership this Fall. Panhellenic is already seeing an increase for the Fall 2014 semester with more than triple the number of potential new members signed up for Formal Recruitment at this time compared to the registration rates for the past 6 years.

Part of the growth can be attributed to the addition of new Greek organizations and the success they are finding in recruitment. Kappa Kappa Gamma joined Panhellenic in Fall 2013 with 40 members. Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority, Inc. brought 10 members to MGC in Fall 2013 as well. Lambda Chi Alpha colonized in Fall 2012 and Pi Kappa Phi in Fall 2013 for IFC. Both IFC organizations are currently working hard to achieve the requirements to achieve their charter from their International Offices.

If Formal Recruitment for Panhellenic is as successful as last year, Panhellenic will begin the processes identified by the National Panhellenic Conference to consider another expansion for the community in order to keep our chapters at a manageable size which can fit in their current facilities. IFC is well into the expansion process with a new Fraternity and is looking forward to adding this organization as the 8th member of their council. MGC has been working hard on getting any chapter below five members to the five member minimum standard. Many organizations completed intake in 2013 or 2014 and many have plans to continue to do so in the Fall. MGC is also working diligently to bring back National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations who have been recognized at WSU before but are not currently active. There is also the goal to add some additional organizations to the council such as a Latina based Multicultural Sorority and a Muslim based Fraternity.

Student Involvement has worked hard at creating a strong, consistent brand for the Greek community. Design elements have been created (shown to right) and were placed on many promotional pieces which can be found in the Office of Admissions and Academic Advising offices. Promotional pieces were also created which spoke specifically to the reasons individuals stated they were not joining a Greek organization, which were found through assessment completed in 2012.

The Greeks Give brand was developed for organizations to use to help the public identify which events are raising money or awareness for an organization. Greeks Give events will also be held throughout the year to provide quick, fun service opportunities for members of all councils to partake in while being visible in the community.

While there is still a lot of opportunity in this area, growth is occurring and the hope is that all organizations will feel a benefit from it while also maintaining the chapter size they are most comfortable with.
Finding An Agent That’s Right For You

MGC Exec Meeting: July 14, 3:30—4:30 pm. Members of the MGC exec board will be continuing to work on plans for the Fall semester

Rho Gamma Meetings: If you are a Rho Gamma and need more information on these important meetings, please contact Assistant Recruitment Coordinator Lydia Korte at lydia.kortewpa@gmail.com

July 29: House Corporation Board Meeting 5:30 pm RSC 301

July 31: All Greek President’s Meeting 6:00 pm RSC 142. Yes, we are meeting this month and yes, it is important that you attend!

Reminder: Don’t forget to submit dates now for the Fall Greek calendar to help avoid conflicts. Communication is key to helping avoid over-programming! Submit dates to: nancy.loosle@wichita.edu

Greek Retreat: Save the date now for the 2014 Fall Greek Retreat, October 3-5 in Hesston, KS. Each chapter will be required to send two members to participate in the retreat. Registration for the Greek Retreat will be available online on September 2.

We’re Moving!

Student Involvement will be moving to their final home in July! Any help would be greatly appreciated with the moving process and we would love for you to swing by and check out the new Greek Life room! Contact 316.978.3022 to volunteer or get more details.

Do More. Be More. Go Greek!

Did you know the Omega Gazette has a reader distribution of almost 100 Faculty and Staff on campus? Make sure your organization is represented with a Chapter Brief by submitting a quick update online at www.wichita.edu/omegagazette

Council Updates >>>

Interfraternity Council

IFC has almost completed their expansion process and are looking forward to welcoming a new organization to WSU.

Each IFC officer has been tasked with specific goals to be completing over the summer including working on an awards packet for the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Annual Central Fraternal Leadership conference. IFC President, Brandon Baltzell, will also be meeting with each IFC chapter president to discuss the Rhatigan Standards for Fraternal Excellence and create an application packet which provides the values the chapters are looking for.

Multicultural Greek Council

MGC is pleased to welcome Shamiece Banks, member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., to their executive council as the new Public Relations chair. They have many plans for publicizing their brand across campus and are looking forward to having Shamiece on board.

The council is still meeting throughout the summer and is looking forward to creating action steps to achieve the items outlined in their newly created strategic plan.

MGC is also working diligently to add additional organizations to the council. If you know of an organization interested in joining, please have them contact MGC president Joseph Shepard at jwshepard1906@gmail.com

Panhellenic Council

Formal Recruitment registration is breaking records left and right with more than triple the average number of Potential New Members signed up at this time. PC is now tasked with not just planning for recruitment, but also thinking about how they can assist chapters with retention of what could potentially be a large new member class. If registration continues as it has been, PC will begin to follow the procedures outlined by the National Panhellenic Conference to consider another expansion within the council.

Along with recruitment, PC has been working to get all the plans laid out for their newly adopted service project, the Women’s Build with Habitat for Humanity. The council will be donating money and setting up times for the sororities to volunteer with other women in the Wichita community.