

ALPHA to OMEGA

A Newsletter Published by the IFC & Panhellenic Council of Bucknell University

SPRING 2009

From the IFC President

KARAN SHAH '10, PRESIDENT, INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL



In 2008, Bucknell Greeks positively impacted the University and the Lewisburg community. The success of Bucknell's Greek community can be measured by the number of community service hours, which was well over 27,000 hours, and philanthropy dollars, which was well over \$170,000, raised. The Greeks also did well academically.

The all Greek GPA average was well above the all campus average. Despite the positive effects of the Greek community on this campus, there are some people that do not see the Greeks in a positive spotlight. Kristen Willwerth, the 2009 Panhellenic President, and I are striving hard to reach out to these individuals to win their support for this great organization.

Through our experiences with other Greek organizations at other universities, it is very apparent that Bucknell's Greek system is very successful. The success of our system can be seen by the number of "Silver Star Chapters." Recently, two fraternities and three sororities were awarded the silver star for their overall excellence and commitment. At this award ceremony, there were many individual winners that won an award for their involvement in the both the Greek and non-Greek community on campus.

The Interfraternity Council, the governing body of Bucknell's eleven fraternities, is constantly striving to increase communication and unity. We would like to improve communication and involvement with Public Safety, Bucknell Greek alumni, multicultural organizations and administrators on campus. One important relationship that we are working on building is with all the faculty members. In order to better facilitate dialogue between the Greeks and faculty members, the IFC has decided to organize a faculty luncheon on February 25th. Kristen and I believe that a united Greek front will provide the best means of establishing meaningful connections, promoting our accomplishments and assisting with positive press and publicity.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Kappa Sigma for successfully re-colonizing this year and becoming a chapter. Also, Phi Gamma Delta is planning to return back this fall semester, so I wish them all the best for formal recruitment. Kristen and I look forward to working with all the Greek members for a strong united Greek system.

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From the Panhellenic President

KRISTEN WILLWERTH '10, PRESIDENT, PANHELLENIC COUNCIL



This spring semester started off great! Before classes began, many of Bucknell's Greek leaders attended the first Alumni Greek Council Meeting of the year and participated in the Officer Transition Workshop, which helped orient these new leaders to the ins and outs of the Greek system. The Greek organizations on our campus continue to set high standards for themselves and both IFC and Panhellenic were very

pleased to present a \$10,000 check to last year's Million Penny Project recipient, the HandUp Foundation. We should be very proud of this tradition of giving back to our local community in addition to our above average GPA, the many hours of community service, the enormous amount of money donated towards philanthropy and the diverse educational programming that chapters provide for their members. These are only a few of the many successful accomplishments that we, as a part of the Bucknell Greek system, have a reason to be proud.

This year is especially exciting from a Panhellenic standpoint as we welcome a seventh sorority, Alpha Delta Pi, to campus. Alpha Delta Pi will join us in our recruitment events this spring beginning with Meet the Greeks. Much planning and advertisement has already gone into our three big recruitment events scheduled for this spring, including Meet the Greeks, Night of Service and Open Suites.

The Panhellenic Council, governing Bucknell's six sororities and soon to

be seven, in collaboration with the Interfraternity Council have already held two joint meetings and plan to continue working closely with one another to promote open communication and unite the Greek community. The sorority chapter presidents this semester have already come together to discuss important issues by both holding president dinners as well as attending an IFC Meeting. I hope that this collaboration continues and flourishes throughout the semester.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate all the Greek Award recipients and thank all the chapters for their hard work this past year. We have a tremendous opportunity to build on the efforts of past leaders, and I hope by doing so that we can take the Bucknell Greek system to the next level.

Letter from the Editor

As the new Vice President External, I would like to take this opportunity to express how excited I am for the upcoming calendar year. Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils have decided to move Greek Week to the Fall semester, which we feel will help make the event even more successful. We are trying to increase involvement and improve upon the changes that have been made to the event over the past few years, and with preliminary planning already underway, we can anticipate a new and exciting perspective on a Bucknell Greek life tradition!

A smaller scale event will be planned to replace Greek Week this semester, and as always WingFest will be in early April with proceeds going towards the Million Penny Project recipient.

Finally, please take note of all the amazing accomplishments outlined in this issue of Alpha to Omega. I am so proud to be a part of such a flourishing and energetic Greek system that pledges itself to values of excellence inside and outside of the classroom.

ERICA MANION

PANHELLENIC VICE PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Community Service and Philanthropy Update

JON POWANDA AND KELLY CARLIN, COMMUNITY SERVICE/PHILANTHROPY CHAIRS

Over the past year, the Bucknell Greek community made a substantial impact upon a variety of local and national organizations. During the 2008 calendar year, Bucknell Greeks contributed a total of 28,774 service hours as well as raising \$173,973 in philanthropy money. This is an increase of 2,415 service hours and \$12,473 in philanthropy dollars from last year. As part of the Million Penny Project (MPP), the Bucknell Greek system raised \$10,000 for the HandUp Foundation. The HandUp Foundation is a non-profit and social entrepreneurial organization dedicated to helping people in crisis in the Susquehanna Valley. This organization provides a free licensing program for truck drivers, rebuilds homes in the local area, runs its own recycling center and is currently looking to establish a homeless shelter that will not only provide a place to live, but an opportunity for a fresh start. The annual WingFest in the spring and the Greek Iron Chef competition in the fall raised money for the cause. Many sororities and fraternities, as well as the Alumni Greek Council, made significant contributions to the MPP recipient.

On February 10th, the Greek community recognized several fraternities and sororities for their outstanding efforts in regards to community service and philanthropy. The Community Service Program Awards for 2008 were given to Chi Phi and Pi Beta Phi, with astonishing averages of more than 37 and 26 hours of service per member, respectively. Furthermore, Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Chi Omega earned the Philanthropy Award for most dollars donated, raising over \$310 and \$112 per member. Ashley Hamill and Scott Shapiro, last year's Panhellenic and IFC

Community Service and Philanthropy Chairs, also won the Community Relations Award for their dedication to connecting the Greek community to the HandUp Foundation.

In this 2009 spring semester, Bucknell Greeks have already taken part in countless community service and philanthropic projects. Multiple fraternity men and women took part in the Polar Bear Plunge, a popular event during the Lewisburg Ice Festival which benefits the Lewisburg Downtown Partnership and Martin Luther King service week during which many Greek organizations completed service projects to support the local community. Greeks on campus also plan on participating in Relay for Life and Locks of Love which raise money for the American Cancer Society and help support area cancer patients. The Interfraternity and Panhellenic Executive Councils are also excited for the annual WingFest, which will take place on Wednesday, April 1. This year, all the money raised from WingFest will benefit the new MPP recipient for 2009. As of now, IFC and Panhellenic are working extremely hard to select this year's beneficiary. The local charity selected will be announced in the very near future.



Sigma Alpha Epsilon brothers prepare to participate in the annual Polar Bear Plunge.

IFC Recruitment

BLAIRE WARD

The main focus of the Interfraternity Council recruitment staff throughout the spring semester has been preparation for the Meet the Greeks presentation. Working closely with my Panhellenic Council counterpart, Mollie Freedman-Weiss, a lot of effort has been put in to make this year's Meet the Greeks the best yet. Instead of incorporating a guest speaker, as has been done in years past, the 2009 presentation is going to include an interview montage of Greeks from around campus sharing tidbits of their experiences as well as an elaborately animated slideshow of pictures submitted by fraternity and sorority presidents and recruitment chairs.

Another new addition to the Meet the Greeks program is a post-presentation, face-to-face meet and greet between the first years and members of each chapter. After the presentation, each fraternity and sorority on campus is going to have a table in the lobby of the Weis Center with information about their chapter and a few members to shake hands and talk to anyone interested.

I am personally looking forward to the months to come in the IFC recruitment process. The rest of the semester has a lot in store for potential new members. On April 6th, fraternities will be opening their doors for a pre-recruitment event during the NCAA championship game. Those planning on going through formal recruitment in the fall have events hosted by individual chapters as well as further informational sessions to look forward to in the remainder of the spring semester.

Bucknell's 2009 formal recruitment process is shaping up to be one of the most impressive in recent history. I am looking forward to serving the endeavors of the Interfraternity Council in facilitating the organization and execution of formal recruitment in the months to come.

Fraternity & Sorority Updates

Alpha Chi Omega

Alpha Chi Omega is excited for the Spring 2009 semester! There are already numerous events and opportunities planned for sisters, as well as the campus community. Reflecting on last semester, we are also very proud of our accomplishments. Our chapter earned a 3.52 cumulative GPA, with 17 girls receiving a 4.0. We also completed 1,645 hours of community service and raised \$1,969 in philanthropy. This semester, we will be working hard to maintain and improve these numbers.

Many girls have already begun accumulating community service hours by taking part in a variety of opportunities. Our community service chairs have set up programs for the Ronald McDonald House, Eastern Union County Supplemental Food Program, Donald Heiter Community Center, Haven and downtown Lewisburg clean up crews. Alpha Chi also participated in the Martin Luther King Community Service Challenge. Our challenge was to make hundreds of paper flowers within one week for a Cinco de Mayo celebration. Our suite looked very festive! New for this semester is the opportunity to play with children at the Janet Weis Children's Hospital. The girls have all responded positively to the community service in which they participated so far.

Later this semester, Alpha Chi will be holding its annual volleyball tournament with Sigma Phi Epsilon. A new addition to this tradition will be a self defense class for women. All proceeds from these activities will go toward SVWIT (Susquehanna Valley Women in Transition). Philanthropy is also working on raising money for Relay for Life and organizing teams for the event. Currently, there are

three Alpha Chi teams that will be participating in the relay.

The campus community can look forward to joining Alpha Chi at our upcoming events this semester. An ice cream social and Latin dance lesson are both currently in planning. These events will be open to the entire campus, and are a great opportunity for first-year girls to get to know Alpha Chi before recruitment next year. The most anxiously awaited sisterhood event is the upcoming Open Suites. Our recruitment staff has had preliminary meetings to discuss song choices, as well as how we can amp up our presentation with another sorority on campus. This is certainly uniting and energizing our chapter as we begin to look forward to new members!

Chi Omega

The sisters of the Chi Mu chapter of Chi Omega have started what appears to be another exciting semester! We are thrilled to welcome five amazing new girls into our sisterhood so far this spring through Spring Open Bidding! We are excited to teach them our values and ideals throughout this semester during our new member education program.

We now turn our attention towards giving back as we prepare for our big philanthropy project this semester. From March 16-25 we will be conducting a clothing drive which will benefit Haven Ministries. We hope to be as successful this year as we have been in years past with this project.

Our sisters have also been busy giving back to the local community as well. We were excited to host the Girl Scout connection again this year and help local troops earn a science badge. We also participated at the Lewisburg

Ice Festival where we had a table and played winter games with the local children. The sisters look forward to giving back throughout the spring semester.

We also have great events planned throughout the semester for our chapter to participate in. On Saturday, February 28, we will be hosting a Fun Fest for Bucknell faculty and their children. We also will be hosting a Powderpuff football game this spring with Tau Kappa Epsilon in which sorority sisters will compete against each other in a game of flag football while being coached by fraternity brothers.

The Chi Mu chapter is excited for a fantastic spring semester in which we hope to strengthen the bonds of sisterhood and uphold the ideals of Chi Omega.

Chi Phi

The brothers of Chi Phi are looking forward to a productive and enjoyable spring. The semester started off with successful officer and committee workshops that generated valuable discussion and ideas. We are especially pleased with our sophomore class, which represents a great deal of involvement in the fraternity's officers and committees. Furthermore, we feel confident that their enthusiasm will



carry over to what will hopefully be another successful semester.

As the semester goes on, we will be participating in Relay for Life, as well as hosting Special Olympics with the sisters of Kappa Alpha Theta. A number of our brothers will also be going to Georgetown, South Carolina to participate in an alternative spring break experience and build houses for Habitat for Humanity. In terms of recruitment, we will be considering potential rolling rush candidates and hosting dinners with freshmen at the house. Once the weather becomes warm, we will also be hosting Friday Barbues. Lastly, we will be having an open house on admitted student day so that students considering Bucknell can come and see a fraternity house in a non-threatening environment.

All in all, the past year was very successful for Chi Phi. We were triumphant in obtaining Silver Star status with the University, in addition to awards for Community Service, Educational Programming and Outstanding Senior. Altogether, we look forward to another successful year for our fraternity and, more importantly, for the Greek system as a whole.

Delta Gamma

The girls of the Epsilon Beta chapter of Delta Gamma are excited for the spring semester and surely the warm weather to come! After completing a successful fall semester we welcome back our sisters who were abroad but also say goodbye to an astounding 30 sisters who travel to study abroad this semester in many different countries, including Italy, England, Denmark, Australia, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, South Africa, Ghana and Semester at Sea. We are sure they will return to campus with amazing stories and life experiences that they will remember forever.

Our emphasis on community service and philanthropy continues to be strong.



The sisters of Delta Gamma, December 2008

The girls helped plan a Wing Eating Contest with the brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon in which we raised over \$1,000 to donate to the Pennsylvania Associate for the Blind and the Ronald Reagan Fund. In addition, the sisters performed over 1,100 hours of community service in the fall and raised over \$2,300 for various charities. DGs have also donated money to sisters who are running marathons, like Mary Wilson and supporting others like Em Terrell, who volunteer at local animal shelters. The chapter went on a retreat to the local Bounce Funplex in Shamokin Dam where the girls were able to bond as sisters and have a great time jumping on 92 trampolines!

Our Chapter Management Team is hard at work planning programs, formals, community service opportunities and much more. We are specifically looking forward to Anchor Splash, our annual philanthropic campus-wide swim meet, hoping that the event will be even bigger and better this year. We are also excited for our Founders Day Brunch on March 21st and hope that many alumni will be able to attend. All in all, the semester holds infinite possibilities for our chapter as we strive to uphold our tradition of excellence on and off campus.

Delta Upsilon

The spring semester has been one of much internal progress for Delta

Upsilon. With a new group of officers at the wheel come many new ideas and many new projects. As anyone who has visited the house last semester will know, the Demie house still looked a little too much like a dorm and not enough like a house. Through December and January, an almost constant wave of painting, wiring, moving and building occupied the first floor of the house. The dorm room white gave way to blue and tan, a storage room became a weight room and a cluttered pool room turned into the most used room in the house. For those who remember the bare white walls and plain Bucknell lounge furniture that the chapter inherited when it returned to campus, this new look is a clear message that the DU boys are really back and here to stay, and for those new to campus one would never guess that just a few years ago our house sat empty.

Of course, there's still much to do with the house, not to mention an already booked semester for our brotherhood. We hope that everyone can get a chance to see the chapter house's new look and, more importantly, meet the brothers that made it all happen. We'd like to say 'the door's always open, come in and take a look around,' but you'd have to talk to Card Services about that. So take your chances and stop by, if no one's watching the big screen in the common

room than you can always find a brother playing pool in the green room or testing out the new weight room. Hope we see you soon.

Kappa Alpha Theta

With the spring semester well underway, members of Kappa Alpha Theta are busy doing well in the classroom and serving the Lewisburg and surrounding community.

Last semester, Theta had the highest average GPA of Bucknell's sororities. We are quite proud of this accomplishment and are committed to this tradition of academic excellence within the chapter. This spring, we are initiating study hours for chapter members, as well as a program of intra-chapter networking between members of the same majors so sisters can help each other with homework and choosing classes and professors.

As Thetas continue to excel academically, they are also continuing their extensive community involvement. Later this spring, Theta is co-hosting a Special Olympics swimming competition with Chi Phi in the Kinney Natatorium. We are very excited to continue hosting this great event, as it's a fantastic opportunity for us to be involved in an event that truly makes a difference in people's lives. In addition to the Special Olympics, members are participating



in a broad range of service activities, including volunteering at Community Harvest, the Eastern Union County Supplemental Food Bank, Far Point Animal Rescue and Meadowview, among numerous other projects.

Theta is also continuing its fundraising efforts for its national philanthropy, Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). To do so, we are introducing a brand-new philanthropy event this semester, called "Rock the CASA." Rock the CASA will be an event featuring bands and other live performers, open to all members of the campus community. Philanthropy dollars raised will be given directly to the local chapter of CASA.

We are looking forward to a fantastic spring semester, full of continued academic excellence, great sisterhood activities, community service opportunities and a commitment to Epsilon Pi's tradition of excellence.

Kappa Kappa Gamma

The Delta Phi chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma is doing an excellent job of facing challenges posed by the spring semester transition. Our new council members are bringing fresh insight into the chapter under the capable leadership of Nicole Samuel, our newly elected president. But we would not have been able to fulfill these positions without the great examples set by our older members. Many of these Kappas are studying abroad and are dearly missed, but they are not out of touch! Junior Peggy Shum is blogging about her experiences in Hong Kong for Bucknell. Anyone can check out her feedback and pictures on the "Study Abroad Bloggers" section of the Bucknell website. The recent Greek Awards also recognized the achievements of our outgoing council. Lauren Gram, Kappa's former president, was awarded the Outstanding Chapter Officer Award. Our chapter advisor, Professor Chris Boyatzis, was also honored with the

award for Outstanding University Advisor.

Despite Professor Boytzis's fantastic guidance, Kappa Kappa Gamma has had to nominate a new advisor while he enjoys a temporary sabbatical. We are proud to announce that Alia Stanciu, Professor of Management, will be aiding Kappa this semester. We look forward to working with her and building new bonds with the University faculty.

The spring semester is prime time for Kappa philanthropy. February again proved successful for our annual Kappa Kisses sale. This year, the money raised by selling Valentine's Day treats was donated to the Red Cross to put their Senior Citizens Safe at Home Project into action. This newly launched program provides winter survival kits to local and safety demonstrations to seniors, and Kappa is proud to have been a part of it. Thanks to Claire Munley, our philanthropy chair, for organizing Kappa Kisses and developing this meaningful relationship with the Red Cross! We will again be involved with Locks of Love in March, and April means it's time for the Kappa Klassic! This Delta Phi tradition will offer the same soccer tournament fun, but will include an exciting new opportunity as well. Youth soccer clinics will be organized before the games on the day of the Klassic. We hope to continue Kappa Klassic's popularity within Bucknell, and also to extend the experience to local children. Needless to say, Kappas will be keeping busy this spring!

Kappa Sigma

Kappa Sigma is proud to announce that it is making the final step in returning a historic fraternity to its place among Bucknell's Greek Community with the re-chartering of the Alpha Phi Chapter on February 28th. This date will coincide with the initiation of its 40 members and a banquet featuring a

keynote speech delivered by the Worthy Grand Master of Ceremonies of Kappa Sigma, a member of the Supreme Executive Committee. The brotherhood is overjoyed to have their hard work come to fruition.

Throughout the fall semester, the Alpha Phi colony participated in many community service, philanthropic and University events. Our chapter raised money for the local AIDS Resource Center with strong support shown during the Bucknell AIDS Walk and hosting Late Night Breakfast with proceeds going to support those in need of prescription assistance. We look forward to continuing our involvement in the local community through strengthening our relationships with such organizations as the AIDS Resource Center of Union and Lycoming Counties, Haven Ministries and Habitat for Humanity.

With the reinstatement of the chapter, the brothers are looking to strengthen the brotherhood and greatly expand their connections to Alpha Phi Alumni through knowledge of the ritual. With our renowned sense of Leadership, Fellowship, Scholarship and Service, Kappa Sigma hopes to become an integral part of the Bucknell community.

Lambda Chi Alpha

The brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha have had an exceptional fall semester, and are excited to continue furthering the ideals of the Lambda vision and serving the community. During the fall semester, our recruitment efforts were very successful, initiating 25 new Delta Zeta members. Also, our new Recruitment Chair recruited an additional four new members who are eager to become Lambdas later in the spring semester. Lambda Chi Alpha was also a host of the Greek Iron Chef for the umpteenth time, raising untold amounts of money for the Million Penny Project, which benefited the

HandUp Project. The brothers also participated in the Downtown Cleanup Project and assisted staff members at the local Donald Heiter Community Center — activities that we hope to continue in the future.

In addition to these ongoing philanthropy events, we look forward to the 21st annual 5K Charity Race, which was moved to the spring semester in hopes of procuring better weather. The brothers will also be contributing to the Lambda Chi Alpha North American Food Drive, attending various philanthropic events on and around campus in an effort to better the Lewisburg community and continuing the success Lambda has been experiencing on the intramural sports front. In addition, Lambda Chi is proud to be sending two brothers to the Dominican Republic over Spring Break to complete work on a school and perform medical outreach in poor communities. We also look forward to completing the class project of the fall 2008 associate member class and renovating many areas of our house.

Phi Kappa Psi

Coming back to school, the brothers here at the Pennsylvania Gamma Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi haven't missed a step and this semester looks as promising as the last. The chapter continued to help the Lion's Club with the selling of concessions at the Bucknell University football games. This past semester Phi Kappa Psi held the first annual formal dinner during Parents' Weekend. Initially we also had scheduled a golf outing for the parents and the brothers, but the weather was not cooperative. A number of brothers recently participated in the annual Polar Bear Plunge at the Susquehanna River, which was a great philanthropic success. The chapter is also scheduled to host the Battle of the Bands, a competition between local bands on campus, from which all the proceeds



go to charity. Even though we are in the middle of winter, the brotherhood still proves its unity by going to events like club hockey games to cheer on our fellow brothers. Along with these activities, the chapter remains very determined in intramural athletic events that the University offers including soccer, ultimate frisbee, basketball and dodgeball. Every one of the brothers continues to devote many hours to their studies even though we participate in so many activities. The chapter is happy to be back and ready to build on the success of the first semester.

Pi Beta Phi

The Pennsylvania Beta chapter of Pi Beta Phi is looking forward to an event-filled and exciting spring semester. With Meet the Greeks and Open Suites on the horizon, we are busy preparing for what promises to be yet another successful recruitment period. The sisters of Pi Phi are excitedly anticipating the numerous community service events our campus will welcome this spring, particularly Relay for Life. With several teams already organized to walk and raise money, our chapter is looking forward to showing our support in the fight against cancer. We are currently in the planning stages of our annual philanthropy event, the celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. With hopes of



raising literacy awareness, the sisters of Pi Phi will participate in a two-day event held at both the Geisinger Health Center and the Lewisburg Public Library. Our chapter will host fun-filled children's activities such as face painting, reading sessions and reading workshops. To further our commitment to the local community, our spring plans also include a picnic to be held with downtown Lewisburg residents to thank them for their generosity in sharing their beautiful community with us.

Our chapter has recently been recognized at the Greek Awards, receiving awards including Most Improved Chapter, Outstanding Community Service, Recruitment and New Member Education, Outstanding Greek Athlete in honor of Alex Lovallo, and Outstanding Senior Award in honor of Jillian Harvey. We hope to continue to excel in all of these categories in 2009 and will work hard to improve all other aspects of our chapter, as well.

The sisters of Pi Beta Phi have a myriad of events planned this spring that promise to further our goal of sisterhood bonding. Our chapter looks forward to the spring in great anticipation of building on our accomplishments from 2008.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Sigma Alpha Epsilon has been focusing on carrying out a smooth transition process for the new Executive Board in the early stages of the semester. So far it has gone very well and has been an enjoyable process. As the semester progresses we plan to participate in a number of community service and philanthropic events. Recently, Sigma Alpha Epsilon helped run the Chocolate Festival at the Donald Heiter Community Center. On Saturday, February 7, the fraternity helped to raise over \$2,600. Also, a number of SAE brothers participated in the Polar Bear Plunge. By braving the cold waters of the Susquehanna, our members showed their dedication to participating in local community events.

Getting involved in campus and community efforts is one of the top priorities of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and as the semester progresses we look forward to participating in a number of both new and old events. Currently, our chapter is working on setting up a philanthropic event to help raise awareness of Multiple Sclerosis as well as donations to help individuals currently battling it. We are also looking forward to House Party Weekend this year, and hope that we can continue to be a critical part of what is one of the largest Bucknell community events of the spring.

Sigma Chi

The Kappa Chapter of Sigma Chi has been active this semester in becoming a more involved fraternity than years past. We have committed ourselves to being a larger part of the Bucknell and surrounding communities and making a bigger impact in the lives of people outside our fraternity. We have jump-started this semester with participation in local community service at an all-time high. On a weekly basis, former wrestlers that are members of Sigma Chi have been devoting their time to

practicing with the Lewisburg High School wrestling team. They have assisted their program by bringing their experience and knowledge to the mat to help instruct the high school team. Every weekend we have brothers serving as refs for a local youth basketball league. Our fraternity has facilitated a local adult volleyball league at the local middle school by providing the equipment and recording the scores of the matches. As well, we have an upcoming trip for about 20 brothers to Haven Ministry in Sunbury to provide meals and assistance to the local homeless and those in need.

On February 14th, we were proud and excited to hold a benefit Valentine's Day Party at Big Andy's Bar & Grill. The crowd enjoyed a night of dancing and fun while supporting Unite for Sight, a non-profit agency that provides free cataract surgery to people in underdeveloped countries. Unite for Sight is a cause that we are enthusiastic in supporting. We have started this semester off with a bang and will continue our involvement in the greater community. While this work fulfills our needs to pass Plan 4 Prominence, we have set higher goals for ourselves to become leaders among the fraternities and in the community.

Tau Kappa Epsilon

The Beta Mu chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon at Bucknell University is looking forward to another very successful year. At the Bucknell Greek Awards, TKE was recognized with the Recruitment and New Member Education Award. Two brothers were recognized with individual awards as well. Current Vice President Alex Rivera received the Top Greek Junior Award, and former president Ed Bauer received the top Greek Officer Award. We were also recognized in our national magazine this semester for having the largest fall rush class of any TKE in the nation. We plan to continue this

excellence and will hopefully receive several national awards later in the semester.

The chapter is proud to announce that we have three new candidates who are on their way to becoming brothers as a spring class. With a fraternity of over 75 men, we look forward to increasing our involvement on Bucknell's campus and in the local community.

The sixth annual TKE Beta Mu Reagan Run will take place this October and we are already starting to plan as we hope to make this year's event better than ever. Last year we raised over \$36,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. We will also be holding our second annual football tournament in the spring and our third annual Wing Eating Competition in the fall to help raise money for Reagan Run. In addition to philanthropy, last semester the chapter contributed to the local community by helping reorganize a local library and performing many hours of highway cleanup.

The Beta Mu chapter would like to thank all of our alumni for their continued support. We look forward to setting the bar even higher this semester and continuing a tradition of success and excellence.

Theta Chi

The Gamma Eta colony of Theta Chi is off to a strong start this semester. Over the past year, we have continued to excel with our academics and service.

Last semester, our members had an average GPA of 3.56 which was the highest GPA of all Greek organizations on campus. At the 15th Annual B. Nelson Deranian Conference held in Indianapolis in January, our colony was recognized by all of the Theta Chi chapters for our academic accomplishments on this campus.

Our fraternity has also lived up to our motto of "The Helping Hand" by remaining actively involved in community service and philanthropic

opportunities. Last semester, we participated in a number of service opportunities including a variety of cleanup activities in the town of Lewisburg, helping at a local museum, donating blood to the Red Cross, assisting with renovations in a local public library and helping at a local apple butter boil. In November and December, we organized a collection of toys and monetary donations toward the local Toys for Tots, raising \$2,500 for the cause, which is \$1,000 more than we raised in 2007. This is a tradition that we plan to continue and improve upon each year.

Recruitment is at an all-time high for the fraternity, as we are currently at our largest membership size since our colonization and this semester we have recruited, and are continuing to recruit, our largest pledge class yet.

As a result of our positive progress, it is expected that Gamma Eta colony will be re-installed as a chapter in the fall semester. The hard work, motivation and success of our members have led us to achieve great things, and we will strive to continue our success.

Campus Master Plan – Strategic Housing Task Force

CHIP MARRARA, ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS

In 2008, the Board of Trustees voted in favor of a new Campus Master Plan. A large part of this plan is creating new on-campus undergraduate housing which includes the construction of new chapter houses for many of the fraternities here at Bucknell.

Since the campus master plan was passed, a Strategic Housing Task Force made up of campus administrators, faculty, students as well as the hired campus master planners was created. The task force continues to meet regularly to discuss what the future will hold in regards to undergraduate student and fraternity chapter housing. As part of this plan there will be a series of focus groups this semester conducted by the campus master planners for undergraduate campus leaders where they will be asked a series of open-ended questions about their housing needs and desires. This is an opportunity to discuss with the campus master planners what students want in their individual housing units and chapter houses. These could include but are not limited to: site locations, parking, kitchen, dining and residential room size, programming, meeting, storage and social space, laundry facilities, outside appearance of chapter houses, decks and porches, etc.

As a student leader, if you are contacted to participate in one of these focus groups, it is to the benefit of all current and future Bucknellians that you do so to the best of your ability.



Panhellenic Recruitment

MOLLIE FREEDMAN-WEISS

In an exciting introduction to the Greek system, the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils hosted a Meet the Greeks program in the Weis Center which included a fun slideshow and video of Greeks on campus. At this event, first-year students and potential new members were greeted by each chapter on campus. Each chapter had around 30 representatives, dressed in letters, attend the event. This was a great opportunity to learn about the wonderful and amazingly popular Greek system at Bucknell. We had more first-year students in attendance than ever! Information about House Party, discretionary periods, formal recruitment, pre-recruitment events and the addition of a seventh NPC sorority was also provided. After Blair Ward and I finished presenting, the potential new members were given the opportunity to talk to and meet some of the sorority and fraternity men and women from each chapter and were entered into a raffle for a free House Party wristband.

The next pre-recruitment event for any potential new member is Tuesday, March 3rd. This night of service is another opportunity for first-year students to learn about the Greek system and see the service aspect of being in a sorority. This year we will be designing activity notebooks for the kindergarteners and first-graders of Kelly Elementary School in Lewisburg. Taking place in the Terrace Room, each sorority will be in attendance. Rather than advocating for their own chapter, the sisters will non-specifically be promoting sorority life in general. Following this, on April 21st, is Open Suites in Hunt Hall. Alpha Delta Pi, who we are so enthusiastically welcoming to campus this fall, will also be present at each pre-recruitment event to relay information to potential new members and promote their organization.

Bucknell UNIVERSITY

Office of the Deans of Students
218 Langone Center

Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA 17837

