AIGC Update, October 14, 2006 by Mark Anderson ’79, AIGC President

There are a few keys items to update everyone on.

1. The three “initiatives”. After the school’s April 12, 2006 announcements the AIGC kicked into high gear. With much help from Bob Forman and many others, we eventually got the school to retract their proposals so that we could work together on alternatives. We formed four teams – one for each of the three initiatives and a fourth team to help coordinate the other three. The highest priority item was the work of the alcohol team, followed by the recruiting and house director teams. Google discussion boards are used to provide status updates of this work on a real time basis and all are invited to join those. We have also tapped Rick Hartt to help provide additional program management and to help liaison between the various groups.

   The alcohol team has drafted its initial proposal and verbally presented that to Dr. Jackson and Dr. Knowles. They need to take the feedback they received and draft a written proposal to turn in.

   The house director team has completed an initial draft set of slides. These now need to be reduced to a smaller summary set that can ultimately also be presented. The recruiting team is in the process of condensing their materials down for presentation as well. Both teams will wait for closure on the alcohol initiative to be completed first.

   The IFC also instituted a number of additional monitoring policies which appear to have been effective in keeping things somewhat under control. There are issues with their approach & enforcement, however, which are to be discussed at today’s AIGC meeting elsewhere on campus.

2. Judicial status – there are two chapters out on long term suspensions as reported in the spring. An additional chapter (Castle) is currently on emergency suspension stemming from alleged hazing/alcohol issues that are apparently two years old that only recently came to light.

3. Rush appears to have gone well with increased numbers reported across the board. Hopefully the chapters’ retention rates will allow the majority of these to ultimately be initiated.

4. The AIGC again provided support across multiple Student Orientation sessions over the summer. These were relatively well attended.

5. From the Greek side, the general need continues to be increased and sustained involvement from chapter alumni – both those in leadership roles as well as those in mentor and role model positions. The common challenge remains accessing the needed individuals across all our chapters and retaining that involvement over a multi-year period. From the school’s side, they were extremely under-resourced BEFORE the recent budget cuts. The cuts have only made things worse, as it has for all or most of the departments at RPI.

Respectfully submitted,
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