DCC 318
February 23rd 2011
Presented by:
Matthew Hunt
Associate Dean of the Greek Life Commons
• Sign in sheets being distributed throughout the room
• Acknowledgement of Council Leaders
• Acknowledgement of Alumni
• Acknowledgement of Greek Partners (Faculty and/or Staff)
• 1824: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Founded

• 1853: Theta Delta Chi colonized, birth of RPI Greek Life

• 1976: Phi Sigma Sigma colonized, first sorority at RPI

• 1991: 1st Greek Life Relationship adopted between RPI & Greeks

• 1999: Dr. Jackson becomes RPI President, introduces *The Rensselaer Plan*, would later include the CLASS Initiative.

• 2009 (Nov/Dec): Dr. Knowles, VP of Student Life meets separately with Greek Leadership and then councils and Greek Alumni to unveil “The Greek Life Commons”
• 2010:
  
  • February: Dr. Knowles presents the Greek Life Commons Agreement to the Greek Leadership Summit with Q & A.
  
  • March: Dr. Knowles presents “Next Steps: The Greek Life Commons Agreement”.
  
  • August: Associate Dean of the Greek Life Commons is hired.
  
  • November: The Associate Dean of the Greek Life Commons and Archer Center 1st Greek Life Commons planning Meeting

• 2011:

  • February (today): 2nd Greek Life Commons Planning meeting hosted. Vision Statement presented

  • April 6th: Final Greek Life Commons Planning Meeting
What is the Greek Life Commons to date?

• A Blank Page?

• A 30 page housing & Fire safety agreement?

• 34 chapters, 3 councils, an Honorary society?

• Over 1,400 undergraduates & thousands of alumni?
The Greek Life Commons is a commitment to sustaining the legacy of leadership, service, education and personal excellence within the RPI Greek Community. As a community of leaders, the Greek Life Commons will align all students, alumni, and Troy citizens through selfless service, cooperative programming, and individual acts of character befitting the values and purpose of each organization and that of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.
Alignment of the Greek Life Commons

• Using the Vision statement and the tenants of CLASS to recognize and celebrate Greek Life at RPI:
  
  • CLASS: Clustered Learning, Advocacy, and Support for Students:
    • Personal Development
    • Professional Development
    • Leadership Development
    • Media and the Arts
    • Communiversity
Personal Development

• Ongoing Efforts and future potential:
  • Mentor Relationships with Alumni and younger members.
  • Learning home repair & cooking skills at chapter houses
  • Increased interaction and relationship building with RPI faculty & Staff
  • Training on Money management after college
  • Utilizing offices such as ALAC (Advising and Learning Assistance Center), having a GAPS representative
  • Developing public speaking skills, cooperative group experiences, and task management skills.
Professional Development
• Ongoing Efforts and future potential:
  
  • Using the CCPD (Center for Personal and Professional Development) and Alumni mentors for building resume, interviewing, and other job search skills
  
  • Utilizing peer and alumni networking: Facebook, LinkedIn, Heffner Alumni House.
  
  • Learning Risk Management Principles:
    
    • Alcohol, Fire Safety, event planning, fiscal planning etc...
  
  • Using Alumni network for co-ops, internships, and potential job offers
  
  • Chapter programs on business and interviewing etiquette
Leadership Development

• Ongoing Efforts and future potential:

  • Chapter Governance Structures: Executive Board officers, committee chairs, committee system

  • Officer Transitions: learning to shadow future leaders/mentors as well as develop new talented leaders (staff).

  • Utilizing the Archer Leadership Center to develop members

  • Greek members pursue leadership positions in other organizations: (GM, PU, Senators, Student Orientation etc...)

  • Attend local and regional leadership conventions/conclaves hosted by own organization, UIFI, & Others.
Media and the Arts
• Ongoing Efforts and future potential:
  • Greek Lypsync
  • Troy Night out: visit local galleries, live music etc...
  • Attending EMPAC, Proctors, & other local theaters/venues.
  • Attending “Greek Night” at RPI Players’ performances
    • Becoming an RPI Player
  • Joining the Rusty Pipes, Rensselaer Music Association & others.
Communiversity
Communiversity

• Ongoing Efforts and future potential:
  • Working with local and national philanthropies to raise funds and awareness.
  • Volunteering locally and nationally to benefit Troy as well as other states/countries through efforts like Habitat for Humanity etc...
  • Building community relationships through neighborhood newsletters, dinners, volunteer efforts, and meetings.
  • Growing “Greek Weekend”, Greek Hockey Nights, and other all Greek events
  • Regular Faculty & Staff interaction through events, recruitment of advisors, office, hours and invitation to meals.
Alignment of the Greek Life Commons

• Areas that will be reviewed and updated in an effort to align the entire Greek Life Commons:

  • Greek Life Commons Agreement document, amended to include Vision statement

  • 5-Star review/overhaul (scheduled summer 2011)

  • Greek Relationship Statement review (scheduled 2011/2012 academic year)

  • IFC, Panhellenic, AIGC, Green Greeks, Order of Omega etc... Constitution review (ongoing)
Next Steps:

• Presentation will be emailed to all chapter Presidents, Council Leaders, Advisors, and Housing Corporations.

  • Open ended feedback requested in regards to the meeting/content via return email.

  • Associate Dean, IFC, PAN, & AIGC Leaders will process feedback and review the Vision Draft.

  • Proposed language will be submitted to RPI Administration for feedback/approval.

  • Final presentation on April 6th (DCC 308, 6:30pm-8:30PM)

    • Desire to have chapters finalize the Greek Life Commons agreement
Questions, Comments, Concerns

• This is your Greek Life Commons
  • What questions do you have?

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