Letter From The Editor

On behalf of the Greek Community, I’d like to welcome you to the University of Michigan. Beginning college is a time of great change and transition, one that can undoubtedly be stressful for many students. Now that you’ve found the right college for you, found your residence hall, and (hopefully!) found your way to classes, the next step is to find your place on campus. With such a large student population and a record number of incoming freshmen in the Class of 2014 – Ann Arbor can be a pretty daunting place. You’d think it would be impossible to be lonely on such a big campus, but without the old friendships, the comforts of home, or familiar faces to say “Hi” to on your walk to class, it certainly can feel like nobody knows your name. However, joining student organizations and making new friendships can make college life much more enjoyable.

With that in mind, I invite you to take a look at Greek Life. With almost 18% of undergraduates belonging to fraternities or sororities and nearly 70 chapters on campus, many students have found their perfect place in the Greek Community. Membership in a Greek organization can introduce students to a new group of friends, a new sense of belonging, and a new place to call home on campus. But beyond the benefits of affiliating with a particular chapter, the advantages of being Greek are endless. It can provide you with a new network of people to meet, academic resources and support, a way to give back to the community, fun social events on the weekends, and a plethora of leadership opportunities, just to name a few. Many Greeks, including myself, would say that joining a fraternity or sorority was the most important decision they’ve made in college, since it has provided them with a sense of community that they may not have experienced otherwise. Furthermore, involvement with a Greek organization will stay with members even after college, as the bonds they have made with their brothers or sisters will extend far beyond graduation.

I hope that you enjoy this issue of The Forum. As our masthead states, The Forum is a “publication of, by, and for the Greek Community,” and we’ve been documenting the news, accomplishments, and struggles of Michigan Greek Life for over 50 years. Whether you’ve been a “future legacy” since birth, have never considered going Greek, or find yourself somewhere in between, I believe that this issue has something for everyone. Inside, you’ll find notes from executive board members of every council, information about our philanthropy and scholarship, and old articles from the previous school year that I think have relevance to someone in your position. But more importantly, this issue will show you why people love being Greek, why our members wear their letters with such pride, and why students care so much about our community. I hope that you will consider joining us, and I wish you the best of luck at the University.

Sarah Smith
Editor-in-Chief

Feel free to email Sarah Smith at smisarah@umich.edu.

Who’s On Campus?

Panhellenic Association

AΔΩ - Alpha Chi Omega
AΔΠ - Alpha Delta Pi
AΦ - Alpha Epsilon Phi
AΓΑ - Alpha Gamma Delta
AΦ - Alpha Phi
XI - Chi Omega
AΔΔ - Delta Delta Delta
AΓ - Delta Gamma
AΦΔ - Delta Phi Epsilon
KAΦ - Kappa Alpha Theta
KKI - Kappa Kappa Gamma
ΦΣΠ - Phi Sigma Rho Engineering Sorority
ΠΦΘ - Phi Beta Phi
ΣΙΑ - Sigma Delta Tau
ΖΚ - Sigma Kappa
ΖΤΑ - Zeta Tau Alpha

Interfraternity Council

ΑΦ - Alpha Delta Phi
ΑΕΠ - Alpha Epsilon Pi
AΦΠ - Alpha Sigma Phi
ΑΠΩ - Alpha Tau Omega
BΘΠ - Beta Theta Pi (Coming October 2010)
ΧΘ - Chi Phi
XΦ - Chi Psi
AX - Delta Chi
ΔΚΕ - Delta Kappa Epsilon
ΔΤΑ - Delta Tau Delta
ΔΥ - Delta Upsilon
ΚΣ - Kappa Sigma
AXA - Lambda Chi Alpha
ΦΘ - Phi Delta Theta
ΦΙΘ - Phi Gamma Delta
ΦΚΡ - Phi Kappa Psi
ΠΚΑ - Pi Kappa Alpha
ΠΚΦ - Pi Kappa Phi
ΠΛΦ - Pi Lambda Phi
ΨΥ - Psi Upsilon
ΣΑΕ - Sigma Alpha Epsilon
ΣΑΜ - Sigma Alpha Mu
ΣΧ - Sigma Chi
ΣΦΘ - Sigma Phi Epsilon
ΣΠ - Sigma Pi
ΤΚΕ - Tau Kappa Epsilon
ΘΣ - Theta Chi
ΘΞ - Theta Delta Chi
ΘΞΘ - Theta Xi Triangle
ΖΨ - Zeta Psi

Multicultural Greek Council

κΚΓ - alpha Kappa Delta Phi
ΔΤΑ - Delta Tau Lambda
ΔΕΦ - Delta Theta Psi
ΚΦΑ - Kappa Phi Lambda
ΛΦΕ - Lambda Phi Epsilon
ΛΔΘ - Lambda Theta Alpha
ΛΦΘ - Lambda Theta Phi
ΩΜΓ - Omega Gamma Phi
ΠΦΠ - Pi Alpha Phi
ΣΑΒ - Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc.
ΣΛΓ - Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc.
ΘΝΕ - Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.
ΣΕΧ - Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.

National Pan-Hellenic Council

ΑΚΑ - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
ΑΦΑ - Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
ΑΔΘ - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
ΑΦΘ - Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.
ΚΑΦ - Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
ΦΔΣ - Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
ΣΘΦ - Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
ΖΦΘ - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Greek Week 2010: Battle of the Bands
of officially kicked off on January 10th with the Pairings Party that introduced Greek Life to this year’s LA rocking teams. Chapters spent the next few months of the semester designing t-shirts, hosting tryouts to determine their best singers and dancers, and practicing cheers that were sure to give even AC/DC a run for their money. By the time March rolled around, Eagles, Beavers, and Stones alike were ready to compete in another unforgettable Greek Week.

Headed by co-directors Roc Mitteer and David Scharbone, the 26-person Steering Committee was in charge of overseeing the entire competition. Chosen in November, the committee immediately began planning for Greek Week. They bonded over a retreat, where they spent an entire weekend brainstorming ideas for exciting new activities and competitions.

First on the agenda: choosing a theme. “We wanted to pick a theme that everyone could relate to in some way or another. Everyone had never heard a Rolling Stones song, everyone recognizes that album cover with the tongue,” Mitteer said of their decision. “Plus, we knew the teams would get really creative with t-shirt designs,” said Meghan Glynn, senior member of the Daily Events Team.

The competition aspect of Greek Week began on March 3rd with opening night of the hit television show, “Dancing with the Stars.” In our version, aptly titled Dancing with the Greeks, two participants from each of the teams took Rick’s dance floor and wowed the crowd with their ballroom dancing skills. Team Guns ‘n’ Roses took the title, but the week had only just begun! The following evening, Greeks headed to Rackham Assembly Hall for Journey of Dreams. The competitive sports were put to rest for the night, and all teams united to listen to the inspiring stories from each charity that Greek Week would benefit. Greeks heard speakers from foundations such as Ele’s Place, The Generation Project, and Camp Heartland and were motivated by these honorable organizations to continue to raise money for their cause.

On March 19th, Diag Day gave all the teams a chance to keep fighting for points and show their spirit. Decked out with posters, noisemakers, and other spirited paraphernalia, Greeks showed up in force to cheer on their fellow teammates. The day started off with a spelling bee, followed by the limb-winding game of Twister and everyone’s childhood favorite, Skip-It. Just as the competition was getting heated, everyone took a quick intermission to enjoy the Mascot Contest, in which the entire Diag watched Steven Tyler, a queen, and an eagle being judged on both their outfits and their ability to rally support from their teams. The games quickly resumed, with a Quiz Bowl, jousting competition, basesball pitch, and the spectators’ favorite, the limbo. Diag Day concluded with the ever-popular Can Castle Contest. Each team was required to supply their own cans and use them to build a castle.排水, required at least six teammates, eleven-legged race, kickball, and human spelling, required at least six team members, foraging members to work together for the benefit of gaining invaluable Greek Week points. While individual strengths certainly helped, only weeks of building team dynamics through Greek Week provided bonding events could have prepared the teams to excel in these challenges.

The next afternoon, Delta Gamma put on their annual Anchor Splash to benefit their national philanthropy, the Delta Gamma Foundation, which aids in the fight against blindness. Members from each team were willing to get a little wet to raise money for this great cause, swimming in a rubber ducky relay, ping pong relay, 50-yard freestyle, and 200- yard IM.

Finally, the teams came out in full force for the last event: Sing and Variety. All of Greek Life piled into Hill Auditorium and cheered for their teams’ routines until their voices were gone. When the smoke cleared, Team Beatles won Sing with their impressive cover of “Let It Be,” and Teams Queen and Rolling Stones tied for first place in Variety. Team Queen was also announced as the winner for Greek Week due to their impressive musical performance.

All in all, Greek Week 2010: Battle of the Bands turned out to be a huge success. While numbers are still being counted, Steering Committee estimates that we raised even more this year than in years past. Way to go, Greeks! The Steering Committee would like to thank all those that participated throughout the week. For now, we will all have to store our noisemakers and wait in anticipation until Greek Week 2011 rolls around with new teams and new competition!
Greek Speak

We asked 8 fraternity and sorority members: What is your favorite thing about Greek Life?

“It makes the school so much smaller – it’s nice to walk to class and see the familiar faces of your sisters!” – Allie Cossman

“It forced me to meet people outside of my classes and my dorm that I may not have met if I hadn’t rushed.” – Corey Schiffman, FIJI

“I like the tradition of it all. It’s exciting to be part of an organization that’s been around since 1851, to know that hundreds of thousands of women across the country have worn your letters and participated in your ritual.” – Kaydee Fry

“The brotherhood is the most important thing – that’s the main reason people should rush.” – Dave Sabbaghi, Pi Kappa Alpha

“Greek Life provides countless opportunities to enrich your experience on campus through athletics, academics, and in the social world, while also giving you lifelong friendships and an extensive networking system across the nation.” – Alexandra Simmerson

“Between mixers, date parties, and just being able to hang out with your brothers all the time, Greek Life is really a lot of fun.” – Nick Manningham, Alpha Delta Phi

“Being Scholarship Chair and Social Chair of my fraternity has taught me a lot about how to be a good leader and make decisions on the behalf of others.” – Chris Yen, Chi Psi

“It gives you a place to belong – coming to such a big school can be really intimidating, but Greek Life eases that transition and makes you feel like you’re really a part of something.” – Allie Cossman

Divine Nine Host NPHC Week

By Anesha Turnipseed
Originally Published: December 9th, 2009

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is an organization of nine historically African-American, international Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities. The nine NPHC organizations are sometimes collectively referred to as the “Divine Nine”. The council promotes interaction through forums, meetings and other mediums for the exchange of information and engages in cooperative programming and initiatives through various activities and functions.

When preparing for this year’s NPHC Week, we wanted to revamp our ideas to increase our turnout and effectively impact the campus. To do so, we had a collaborative program between the eight active NPHC organizations on our campus and we focused the program on media misconceptions of Greeks and African American Greek Life in general. We discussed the community service and activism that our founders stood upon as well as addressing how Greeks have gotten away from that dream. Also, we opened the floor for those in attendance to help us achieve the goals that our founders set out for us. There were over 100 people in attendance.

The next night was our annual Midnight Madness, which is a showcase of all the organizations doing signature steps, calls, and chants. The Diag was unusually packed with interested parties as well as students protecting the Diag from Michigan State. The Icebreaker was that Friday. This event was a safe venue for students to engage in fun with our Greeks as well as Greeks from neighboring schools. We created a fun atmosphere. Our final event was our Open House, This is an opportunity for each organization to formally introduce themselves to the campus and it allows interested parties to gather information about the different fraternities and sororities within our council. Overall, NPHC Week 2009 week was a great success - thanks to everyone who attended the events!

See Through The Haze

Michigan Greeks Take Firm Stance Against Hazing

By Sarah Smith

In recent years, there has been a lot of media attention devoted to hazing in fraternities or sororities. Hazing, defined loosely as abusive or humiliating ways of initiating a person into a group, is indeed one of Greek Life’s most serious problems. However, the Michigan Greek Community is working together to eliminate hazing from all of its chapters.

In recent years, Michigan Greeks adopted the Policy Regarding Hazing For The Greek Community, the purpose of which was to “promote a safe environment in which students can feel comfortable with the knowledge that they will not be subject to hazing when joining or affiliating with any Greek organization under the auspices of the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Association, National Pan-Hellenic Council, or the Multicultural Greek Council at the University of Michigan.”

The policy then provides a thorough definition of hazing, saying that it includes situations that create a risk of injury, cause discomfort or embarrassment, or involve harassment, degradation, humiliation, ridicule, or the destruction or removal of property of any individual or group. Some examples of hazing under these definitions include physical brutality, sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, or forced consumption of any food, liquid, or drug.

With this comprehensive definition in mind, the policy then created the Hazing Task Force, which is a group of 12-16 members from all of the different councils that investigates allegations of hazing and works to promote anti-hazing education and programs throughout the chapters. Additionally, the policy provides for yearly educational sessions about hazing and requires that each new member will read and sign the policy within one month of affiliating with an organization.

Thus, while hazing continues to plague Greek Life everywhere, the University of Michigan has taken proactive steps to eliminate the practice from our chapters. Members of fraternities and sororities should receive the best possible experience from their Greek involvement, and hazing has no place in our community.

To read the full Policy Regarding Hazing, please visit our website, www.greeklife.umich.edu. If you ever feel that you are being hazed, please email the Hazing Task Force at hazinghotline@umich.edu.
Tip For Fraternity Recruitment
By Zac Schwarz
Vice President of Recruitment, IFC
On behalf of the Interfraternity Council, allow me to welcome you (or welcome you back) to the University of Michigan. As fall settles in, the football season kicks off, and classes resume, I’d like to remind you that IFC Recruitment is right around the corner. As you decide whether or not to join the Greek Community, here are some tips to help you get the most out of the recruitment process.

Attend all IFC-Sponsored Recruitment Events
The Interfraternity Council sponsors many events which will enable you to find out all about you can about the recruitment process. Events such as Taste of Michigan, the IFC Mass Meeting (September 14th), and IFC DiaG Day (September 16th) will provide you with the opportunity to meet the members of the IFC executive board and of IFC chapters. Here, you can have your questions answered about Recruitment and begin to explore the various IFC chapters.

Visit Multiple Chapters
Many potential new members often make the mistake of only going to one chapter throughout out all of Recruitment. While you may feel comfortable with the members of a certain chapter, it is important to visit as many chapters as possible to get a feel for the entire Greek Community. Once you have visited multiple chapters, it will be easier to decide which chapters you like best.

Using these tips should be helpful in your recruitment experience. Remember, Recruitment is a fun and enjoyable process, so make sure you are getting out to different chapters and meeting multiple members from each chapter. If you are having trouble contacting a chapter, look up the information for their president, which can be found online at the Greek Life website (www.greeklife.umich.edu). Remember to register online before the end of Formal Recruitment so that you may receive a bid. If you have any questions during the recruitment process, don’t hesitate to contact myself, Brent Vasicek (also a VP Recruitment), or any member of the IFC executive board and of IFC chapters.

Meet As Many People As Possible
While attending events, make sure that you are meeting new brothers. When it comes time for Formal Recruitment, it will help you to know as many people in the chapter as possible. Get phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc., and make sure you are keeping in contact with members of each chapter, including the recruitment chairman.

So You Want To Be Greek?
A Guide to the NPHC
By Shakira Smiler
Originally Published: June 15th, 2009
The National Pan-Hellenic Council, or NPHC, is composed of the “Divine Nine” black Greek fraternities and sororities. For some students, joining a black Greek organization has been their destiny since birth, when their dad dressed them in purple and gold baby booties. For others, college will be their first introduction to Greek Life. Whether you have been dreaming of wearing the combination of crimson and cream since high school or were only recently impressed by the professionalism of our members, there are a few key things you should remember.

Do you research. Every sorority and fraternity has a national website that can give you basic information on their chapter’s ideas, programs, and objectives. Do they coincide with your own personal goals and agenda?

Do you see yourself committing your life to the work of that organization?
Every chapter is different. Simply because you have a place on a black Greek chapter at Howard University doesn’t mean that the chapter on Michigan’s campus will operate the same way. Of course, each chapter will have the same basic structure, but each also has a personality unique to Michigan’s campus. Do you see yourself fitting in with the members on this campus? Can you see your self working passionately to do the work of this chapter? To answer these questions, get to know the members of each organization on campus.

Each member of the “Divine Nine” Greek organization is important, whether it be a fraternity, a sorority, or a campus. They are influential throughout the entire campus, and they look for appropriately educated active and active future leaders. Moreover, Greek organizations can be their number one objective should be to maintain a superior level of scholastic achievement. Community service is one of the most integral components of black Greek life. Each chapter in the NPHC rack in hundreds of service hours. That being said, doing community service should be one of your passions, not something you do just to be eligible for membership.

Most importantly, membership in any black Greek organization is a lifetime commitment. If you only want to join so that you can step, party, and wear a linen jacket, you will soon be disappoint ed. Being in a Greek organization is a time-consuming, but fulfilling endeavor, and your undergraduate years are only the beginning.

For more information about black Greek organizations read The Divine Nine by Lawrence Ross. Or visit the website for the NPHC, www.umgreeks.com, or contact NPHC Vice-President Myles Morgan at godsonm@umich.edu.

Welcome to Sorority Recruitment!
By Leah Hsiao
Vice President of Recruitment, Panhel lenic Sorority Recruitment at the University of Michigan is an exciting time for any Potential New Members. It can be time-consuming, stressful, and one of the best experiences they will have at Michigan all at the same time!

Recruitment begins with registering on the Office of Greek Life website (www.dendr.org). It will help you through the recruitment process, you will be assigned a Rho Omega, who is a member of a Panhellenic sorority who has volunteered her time to help you through Recruitment. She is there to help you choose the right chapter for you and ensure that you have the best experience possible with Recruitment. She is like your big sister in Recruitment - you can ask her for advice or to answer any questions you have at any time.

There are several Recruitment events that you should attend before the recruitment process actually starts. On September 6th, every Panhellenic sorority on campus will send a few of their members to talk to Potential New Members at the Sorority Forum, which will take place in the Union Ballroom from 5:00-8:00 pm. At the Mass Meetings (held on September 7th in the Union Ballroom at 6:00 or 8:00 pm), Panhellenic Executive Board members will discuss the recruitment process and you will get a chance to ask questions before Recruitment begins.

On the first day of Recruitment, which we call Mixers, you will meet your Rho Omega and the other women in your recruitment group. The attire is casual; jeans, skirts or sundresses are all completely appropriate. You will get to know all of the women in 15 chapters. For most parties, the sorority chapters may sing/yell/cheer/chant to show off their chapter. You will be afraid! This is the way they show you their number one objective has been their destiny as a Panhel lenic organization. For more information about black Greek fraternities and sororities visit www.umfhi.com, or email uofm nphc@umich.edu. Don’t hesitate to contact Leah Hsiao at lhso@umich.edu.
Diversity is Focus of MGC

By Kim Weidl, Former MGC President
Originally Published: June 15th, 2009

“We become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams,” former President Jimmy Carter said.

The Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) is a realization of the quote above. Comprised of thirteen chapters from a wide range of different communities, it is the only organization of its kind that effectively brings different cultures and communities together at the University of Michigan to promote multicultural awareness and bind all University of Michigan campus Greeks.

Through these efforts, MGC hopes to create a larger sense of diversity and acceptance, not only in the Greek Community, but also on the entire Michigan campus. MGC, established in 2002, is the youngest council of the four Greek councils. Although the council may be young, it also has the largest impact on more diverse communities than the older Greek councils. That being said, the youth of MGC gives potential incoming members the unique opportunity to mold and shape the future of the council.

Unlike the recruitment processes for IFC and Panhel, the MGC has no formal council rush process. Yet the chapters themselves create the process. Some houses in the MGC have rush events that are created to garner both potential interests and future members of that Greek-Letter organization.

Other chapters will hold events in which individuals can get to know the brothers and sisters on a more personal level. Overall, there is no formal rush process which a potential interested member must attend. MGC creates opportunities for chapters to showcase themselves while at the same time allowing chapters to recruit.

Lastly, because MGC is the youngest and most diverse of the four governing Greek councils at the University of Michigan, it allows its members the most unique opportunity to engage in cultural exchanges. Through this mixing of cultures, MGC will give members unique opportunities to learn languages, try new foods, create lasting friendships, and seek cultural collaborative events.

Therefore, interested members should know that not only could you potentially join a Greek-Letter organization, you could also have access to many new and exciting endeavors that await.

Hungry? Check Out Taste of Michigan

By Sara Vetens
Originally Published: June 19, 2009

Each September, the University of Michigan does its best to welcome all new students to campus. By providing numerous events early on, the University aims to give new students the opportunity to become acclimated with everything that the campus has to offer.

The Office of Greek Life and LS&A Student Activities has hosted one of the most anticipated events of the Welcome Week festivities: Taste of Michigan. Modeled after events such as the Taste of Chicago, Taste of Michigan takes place on Palmer Field, where Ann Arbor restaurants are each given their own tents to provide samples of food to freshmen.

Four years ago, it started as an event held on the Diag, but now has been known to mass proportions and can no longer be contained by that small a space, and thus it was moved to Palmer Field.

Taste of Michigan allows incoming freshmen to sample the many local restaurants, exposing places unique to Ann Arbor, such as Fix’s Restaurant and Colonial Lanes, while also representing commercial restaurants that are more common elsewhere, such as Jimmy Johns and Buffalo Wild Wings.

In 2010, this mouth-watering event will be held on Sunday, September 5th, from 6-9pm, and it truly serves as a wonderfully welcoming experience for both the attending students and the restaurants involved. Hope to see you there!
Detroit Partnership Teams Up With Greek Life

By Zachary Wainwright

Originally Published: April 9th, 2010

Greek Life is always looking to expand our philanthropic opportunities, and this year, we have found the perfect match. The Detroit Partnership (DP) is a University of Michigan-run student organization. DP Executive Director, Andy Bahena, states, “We strive to build community partnerships with Detroit organizations and establishments.” For the first-time ever, DP and the Greek Community have partnered-up for the cause.

DP holds two large events: DP Day and One-Stop Shop. One-Stop Shop is a food and clothing drive that donates approximately $50,000 worth of items. They also operate weekly tutoring and mentorship programs. On top of that, DP works to break down stereotypes of inner-city Detroit communities through educational seminars and conferences.

DP Day was held on April 3rd, 2010. The Greek Community worked with Motor City Bluster Busters, an organization that aims to help stabilize, revitalize, and rejuvenate the socioeconomic plight of the city of Detroit. Greeks thoroughly enjoyed their project—volunteers got to demolish an old house, with the idea that the land could be put to better use in the future.

Through our alliance with Detroit Partnership, the Greek Community has established a great relationship with a well-run organization and has been given yet another great opportunity to give back. DP has an excellent track record in organizing large-scale service days, and the Greek Community was able to utilize its biggest resource—our members—to help Detroit.

“Knowing that the [Greek] Community does a lot of things really well, one of those areas being philanthropy, we wanted to go out, have a positive impact on those areas being philanthropy, we wanted to go out, have a positive impact on

What is your favorite thing about Greek Life on our campus?

For me, it’s watching a group of students in leadership positions and growing as a group, while seeing great strides in their personal accomplishments as individuals. It’s also great that our students get to experience self-governance. For example, we have a social policy, and while it’s not completely perfect, we have one. We are continuously trying to improve this policy and take on responsibilities to keep our members and their guests safe.

How has Greek Life evolved over the years?

In the early 1970s, Greek Life here at the University of Michigan became viewed as too conservative, and therefore membership declined to the point that it hardly existed. However, we currently have more sorority members in our community than we’ve had the past 20 years.

Greek Week has been around forever. Mr. Greek Week and Sing & Variety have always been a staple. But for several years, Greek Week was not on campus because it involved much more blatant alcohol use, endangering members. Luckily Greek Week is safely back in full force, and it is such positive publicity for Michigan Greeks.

Mary Beth Seiler: A Michigan Tradition

Mary Beth Seiler is currently the Director of Greek Life at the University of Michigan. She has worked with Greeks here since June of 1979. Here is what Mary Beth has to say about her past 30 years on campus, as told to Britton Lemonds. Originally Published: April 9th, 2010.

What was your experience of Greek Life at the University of Michigan?

In 20 years you will be…

Doug Funny—you trying to get me in trouble really, are you trying to get me in trouble other ones:

Mary Beth Seiler was a member of Delta Gamma, I had a great college experience; I never realized how many doors open, from leadership opportunities to community service. There was a great deal of encouragement and support to be active on campus, and this motivated me to get further involved with Delta Gamma, even after graduation. I took a series of alumnae positions, which eventually led me to my current position here at Michigan.

BE: What was your experience of Greek Life at the University of Michigan?

Mary Beth Seiler is currently the Director of Greek Life at the University of Michigan. She has worked with Greeks here since June of 1979. Here is what Mary Beth has to say about her past 30 years on campus, as told to Britton Lemonds. Originally Published: April 9th, 2010.

What was your experience of Greek Life at the University of Michigan?

In 20 years you will be…

Doug Funny—you trying to get me in trouble really, are you trying to get me in trouble other ones:

Mary Beth Seiler was a member of Delta Gamma, I had a great college experience; I never realized how many doors open, from leadership opportunities to community service. There was a great deal of encouragement and support to be active on campus, and this motivated me to get further involved with Delta Gamma, even after graduation. I took a series of alumnae positions, which eventually led me to my current position here at Michigan.

Putting Fun In Philanthropy

Greeks Enjoy Creative Ways of Giving Back

By Lisa DeCanio and Sarah Smith

While most college students know that it’s important to give back to the community, the concept of raising money often seems boring, with words like “philanthropy” conjuring up images of telethons on PBX or people going door-to-door. Philanthropy and community service are cornerstones of Greek Life, but we’ve found plenty of ways to have fun while doing so. The prime example of this is Greek Week, where we often raise upwards of $50,000 for local and national charities while engaging in healthy competition with each other. However, most individual chapters also hold large-scale philanthropy events, which give members of the Greek Community plenty of opportunities to come out and have a good time.

Sports-loving Greeks, rejoice! There is a philanthropy tournament for pretty much every sport imaginable. Every fall, Sigma Alpha Epsilon hosts Mudbowl, a giant fraternity football tournament in their mud-filled yard. This event, going into its 77th year, raises money for C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital. During Winterfest, Psi Upsilon transforms their backyard into an ice rink, and chapters pay an entrance fee benefiting the Ronald McDonald House to participate in a single-round elimination broomball tournament. The many spectators watching the games enjoy music by a local DJ, and food and beverages donated by local businesses. A Phi Beta Phi hosts Arrowspike, a volleyball tournament benefiting First Book that is usually held on the sand volleyball courts.

12 Questions for IFC President Mike Friedman

HOMETOWN:
Rockville, MD

MAJOR:
Industrial and Operations Engineering

FAVORITE MOVIES:
The Shawshank Redemption, The Usual Suspects

FAVORITE TV SHOW:
The West Wing, Entourage

FAVORITE BAND:
1/2

FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING GREEK:
People not achieving their full potential. I like to be with people who do what’s necessary, and then do a whole lot more.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING GREEK:
Without a doubt, the fact that there are so many opportunities at your fingertips, so many different paths you can take to make personal growth or sorority experience whatever you want it to be. In service or athletics, socially or scholastically, personally or professionally, I love that you can tailor your experience to meet your own needs.

DID YOU VISIT THE BEGINNING OF MAY. COULDN’T BE MORE EXCITED TO BE THERE!

WELCOME IFSC:
No other council is cooler than all the others:

Putting Fun In Philanthropy

Greeks Enjoy Creative Ways of Giving Back

By Lisa DeCanio and Sarah Smith

While most college students know that it’s important to give back to the community, the concept of raising money often seems boring, with words like “philanthropy” conjuring up images of telethons on PBX or people going door-to-door. Philanthropy and community service are cornerstones of Greek Life, but we’ve found plenty of ways to have fun while doing so. The prime example of this is Greek Week, where we often raise upwards of $50,000 for local and national charities while engaging in healthy competition with each other. However, most individual chapters also hold large-scale philanthropy events, which give members of the Greek Community plenty of opportunities to come out and have a good time.

Putting Fun In Philanthropy

Greeks Enjoy Creative Ways of Giving Back

By Lisa DeCanio and Sarah Smith

While most college students know that it’s important to give back to the community, the concept of raising money often seems boring, with words like “philanthropy” conjuring up images of telethons on PBX or people going door-to-door. Philanthropy and community service are cornerstones of Greek Life, but we’ve found plenty of ways to have fun while doing so. The prime example of this is Greek Week, where we often raise upwards of $50,000 for local and national charities while engaging in healthy competition with each other. However, most individual chapters also hold large-scale philanthropy events, which give members of the Greek Community plenty of opportunities to come out and have a good time.

Sports-loving Greeks, rejoice! There is a philanthropy tournament for pretty much every sport imaginable. Every fall, Sigma Alpha Epsilon hosts Mudbowl, a giant fraternity football tournament in their mud-filled yard. This event, going into its 77th year, raises money for C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital. During Winterfest, Psi Upsilon transforms their backyard into an ice rink, and chapters pay an entrance fee benefiting the Ronald McDonald House to participate in a single-round elimination broomball tournament. The many spectators watching the games enjoy music by a local DJ, and food and beverages donated by local businesses. A Phi Beta Phi hosts Arrowspike, a volleyball tournament benefiting First Book that is usually held on the sand volleyball courts.

12 Questions for IFC President Mike Friedman

HOMETOWN:
Rockville, MD

MAJOR:
Industrial and Operations Engineering

FAVORITE MOVIES:
The Shawshank Redemption, The Usual Suspects

FAVORITE TV SHOW:
The West Wing, Entourage

FAVORITE BAND:
1/2

FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING GREEK:
People not achieving their full potential. I like to be with people who do what’s necessary, and then do a whole lot more.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING GREEK:
Without a doubt, the fact that there are so many opportunities at your fingertips, so many different paths you can take to make personal growth or sorority experience whatever you want it to be. In service or athletics, socially or scholastically, personally or professionally, I love that you can tailor your experience to meet your own needs.

DID YOU VISIT THE BEGINNING OF MAY. COULDN’T BE MORE EXCITED TO BE THERE!

WELCOME IFSC:
No other council is cooler than all the others:
How Greeks Get Good Grades
The Academic Advantages to Going Greek
By Sarah Smith

Thanks to popular movies made about Greek Life, there is a commonly held societal belief that fraternity and sorority members aren’t very smart. Legally Blonde’s Elle Woods, for instance, astounds her Delta Nu sorority sisters when she tells them how she got into Harvard Law School, and her Harvard admission seems to be based more on her sexy application video than on her LSAT scores. And who can forget the grade report scene in Animal House, where the Delta Tau Chi brothers are informed that Larry Kroger’s 1.2 GPA is the highest in his pledge class?

Contrary to what the movies would make you believe, Greeks do care about their studies. So much so, in fact, that all-Greek GPA is consistently higher than the University GPA. In Winter 2010, IFC members averaged a GPA of 3.23 compared to the Men’s average of 3.20, while Panhellenic members came in at a 3.42, compared to the Women’s average of 3.29. The Office of Greek Life has GPA information for the past 20 semesters on its website (www.greeklife.umich.edu), and in nearly every instance, members have maintained better GPAs than their non-Greek counterparts. Clearly fraternity and sorority membership increases your likelihood of academic success, so the question now becomes: why is this so? Let’s look at several factors that help Greeks to get such good grades.

Minimum GPA Requirements
Most Greek organizations have a minimum GPA that all of its members must maintain, most commonly a 2.0 or 2.5. If members fall short of the minimum, they are given a period of time to bring up their grades or potentially face expulsion from the organization. With their Greek affiliation on the line, fraternity and sorority members are more likely to prioritize their studies in a way that non-Greek students don’t. Although everyone wants to get good grades, minimum GPA requirements give Greeks a serious incentive to succeed.

Scholarship Programs
While the GPA requirements may seem strict, many chapters run scholarship programs to ensure that their members can achieve academic success. Components of a scholarship program can include things like weekly study tables that members are required to attend, quiet hours during midterms and finals, or a study room in the house reserved for silent studying. Some chapters also award little prizes to members who have received academic final and perfect attendance in their classes, and most chapters recognize their members with outstanding GPAs at the end of each semester. Furthermore, Greek chapters can often arrange tutoring or extra study hours for members who are struggling with a particular subject.

Time Management Skills
Between chapter meetings, social events, Recruitment, and community service, Michigan Greeks are busy people! While not all Greeks are involved to the same extent, having those extra obligations compels Michigan Greeks to make the most of their time and makes procrastination or getting behind more dangerous. Thus, Greeks quickly learn time management skills that will be invaluable in their current classes, but will be invaluable in their future endeavors as well.

Career Events and Member Networks
Each chapter puts together workshops or programs that it thinks will be useful for its members, and many of these programs are focused on academic and career success. Events centered on things like resume writing, job searching, and grad school admissions keep Greeks focused on graduation and their ultimate life goals. Also, older members in the chapter are available as mentors for the younger ones. Fraternities and sororities have members in all majors, and older members can advise younger ones on choosing classes, what professors to look for (or avoid), and what to think about for after graduation.

Between all of these factors, it is clear that Greeks enjoy academic advantages that their non-Greek counterparts do not, and these tools for success are evidenced in their higher GPAs. Many fraternities and sororities were founded as academic societies, and this focus on scholarship has definitely carried over into the present.

“Fun In Philanthropy”, Continued from Page 6

Court in Alpha Delta Phi’s front yard. Golf enthusiasts will enjoy Delta Kappa Epsilon’s Fraternity’s annual golf tournament which raises money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Finally, Alpha Delta Pi hosts February Frenzy, a 3-4 basketball tournament at the IM Sports Building which supports the Ronald McDonald House.

Hungry from all of those sports? Greeks love to serve up some great food for a cause. In March, Alpha Phi puts on their Alpha Phiesta, an all-you-can-eat Tex-Mex buffet for the Alpha Phi Foundation. Delta Delta Delta hosts Tri-Hop, a pancake buffet benefiting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. For last year’s Spring Football Game, Chi Phi and Zeta Tau Alpha paired up to host an all-you-can-eat Pig Roast for the Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation. Chi Omega hosts Wing Fling, a bottomless hotwings buffet to sponsor a child in the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Alpha Epsilon Phi holds Phi Grill, a 4-7 late-night grilled cheese sale in their front yard, several times per year to benefit Shriners’ Hospitals, one of their national philanthropies. Kappa Gamma hosts Kappasta in the fall, featuring all-you-can-eat spaghetti and breadsticks for Reading is Fundamental. Sigma Delta Tau also has an All-You-Can-Eat event with hamburgers and hot dogs for Prevent Child Abuse America.

While the Greek Community obviously loves to play sports and eat, we also hold philanthropy events involving other fun ideas. Each November, Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) and Phi Gamma Delta (PJI) join together with the Pike and PJI chapters from Ohio State to host the Rivalry Run Against Cancer. On the night before the big Michigan-Ohio State football game, men from both fraternities run the game ball from the Big House in Ann Arbor to Ohio Stadium in Columbus. In Delta Chi’s Polar Plunge, participants jump into the frozen waters of Whitmore Lake to raise money for Michigan’s Special Olympics. Delta Gamma’s AnchorSplash, now held as a part of Greek Week, includes a wide variety of water competitions from relay races to inner-tube water polo, with the proceeds going towards their national Service for Sight campaign. Kappa Alpha Theta hosts Rock the Casa every fall, featuring performances by great local bands to raise money for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). The brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon shave their heads each spring in Shaving For The Cure, in order to show their support for cancer patients and raise money for St. Baldrick’s.

These are just a few of the many philanthropy events that the Greek Community supports every year. Between our overwhelming dedication to our own charities and our support for other chapters’ events, we’re able to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars per year for worthy foundations and causes. And we always have fun while doing it.

and Panhellenic President Katie Rosenberg

Hometown:
North Caldwell, NJ

Major:
Sociology and Political Science

Favorite movie:
My Best Friend’s Wedding

Favorite TV show:
Entourage

Favorite band:
The All-American Rejects, Hootie and the Blowfish

Pet Peeve:
When people stop to have conversations in the middle of the hallway. Move to the side!

Place in the world that you most want to visit and why:
Naples, Italy, because I still have family there, and I would like to meet them. Plus, the town they live in is beautiful and warm for most of the year, so it would be a great vacation!

One thing on your bucket list:
Visit every NFL stadium.

Character from a movie, book, or TV show you most relate to:
Will Ferrell, from Step Brothers. I was still on, I wanted to be Joey Potter really badly. Her life is nothing like mine, but I’m sticking to that answer because I wore flannel shirts for a year to try to be just like her.

In 20 years you will be...:
41 years old. I honestly don’t know, but hopefully I’ll be happy and still laughing at Will Ferrell movies.

Favorite thing about being Greek:
Being part of a community focused on sisterhood, brotherhood, and philanthropy. Joining the Greek Community was the best decision I could have made in college because I’ve made last-lasting friendships with the most amazing people.

Why your council is cooler than all the rest:
We love our council so much, we’re willing to lose our voices (and our sanity) for nearly two weeks each fall during recruitment. Plus, we’re excellent t-shirt designers and have the ability to create a catchy name with our letters for every philanthropy event we do.
# 2010 Greek Life Recruitment
## September-October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Taste of Michigan 6-8 pm Palmer Field</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Panhellenic Sorority Forum 5-8 pm Michigan Union Ballroom</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Panhellenic Mass Meeting A-L, 6 pm M-Z, 8 pm Michigan Union Ballroom</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>MGC Barbeque 1 pm Trotter House Panhellenic Mixers 1-5:30 pm</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>MGC Diag Day 11 am - 3 pm Diag Panhellenic Mixers 6-9:30 pm</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>IFC Mass Meeting 7 pm Michigan Union Ballroom</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>IFC Open Houses 2-6 pm</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>IFC Open Houses 6-9 pm Panhellenic Third Set 7-11:05 pm</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>IFC Open Houses 6-9 pm Panhellenic Third Set 7-10 pm</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Panhellenic Bid Pick Up 11 am - 1 pm Michigan Union Panhellenic Bid Day 5:30 PM</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>IFC Chapter Events 6-9 pm</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>IFC Chapter Events 6-9 pm</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NPHC Open House 6-9 pm Michigan Union Pendelton Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pink - Panhellenic Events, Orange - MGC Events, Green - NPHC Events, Blue - IFC Events**

## IFC Open House Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Alpha Delta Phi, 556 S. State St.</th>
<th>Alpha Sigma Phi, 920 Baldwin Ave.</th>
<th>Alpha Epsilon Pi, 1912 Geddes Ave.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delta Upsilon, 1331 Hill St.</td>
<td>Lambda Chi Alpha, 1601 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
<td>Delta Tau Delta, 1928 Geddes Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kappa Sigma, 806 Hill St.</td>
<td>Phi Gamma Delta (FJJ), 707 Oxford Rd.</td>
<td>Phi Delta Theta, 1437 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phi Kappa Psi, 700 S. State St.</td>
<td>Pi Kappa Phi, 903 Lincoln Ave.</td>
<td>Pi Kappa Alpha, 915 Oakland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sigma Chi, 548 S. State St.</td>
<td>Pi Lambda Phi, 917 S. State St.</td>
<td>Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1408 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sigma Phi Epsilon, 704 Hill St.</td>
<td>Psi Upsilon, 1000 Hill St.</td>
<td>Theta Chi, 1351 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tau Kappa Epsilon, 808 Packard St.</td>
<td>Sigma Alpha Mu, 800 Oxford Rd.</td>
<td>Theta Xi, 1345 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theta Delta Chi, 401 E. Madison St.</td>
<td>Sigma Pi, 1415 Cambridge Rd.</td>
<td>Triangle, 1501 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Alpha Epsilon Pi, 1912 Geddes Ave.</th>
<th>Delta Chi, 1705 Hill St.</th>
<th>Delta Tau Delta, 1928 Geddes Ave.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delta Kappa Epsilon, 1004 Olivia Ave.</td>
<td>Lambda Chi Alpha, 1601 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
<td>Phi Delta Theta, 1437 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phi Gamma Delta (FJJ), 707 Oxford Rd.</td>
<td>Pi Kappa Phi, 903 Lincoln Ave.</td>
<td>Pi Kappa Alpha, 915 Oakland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pi Lambda Phi, 917 S. State St.</td>
<td>Pi Lambda Phi, 917 S. State St.</td>
<td>Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1408 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Psi Upsilon, 1000 Hill St.</td>
<td>Psi Upsilon, 1000 Hill St.</td>
<td>Theta Chi, 1351 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sigma Alpha Mu, 800 Oxford Rd.</td>
<td>Sigma Alpha Mu, 800 Oxford Rd.</td>
<td>Theta Xi, 1345 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sigma Pi, 1415 Cambridge Rd.</td>
<td>Sigma Pi, 1415 Cambridge Rd.</td>
<td>Triangle, 1501 Washtenaw Ave.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>