



news

Greek recruitment begins



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The women of Alpha Phi celebrate the return of their sisters who were recruitment guides on bid day 2016.

HANNAH PREDOJEV
@AUCollegian

During Greek recruitment, individuals have the opportunity to gain new brothers and sisters, form bonds through social activities and find a second place to call home. Recruitment lasts for the duration of a two-week period. For men, recruitment began on Sept. 9 and lasts until Sept. 23, while for women, recruitment begins Sept. 21 and lasts until Sept. 23. Recruitment week also includes “bid day,” where a fraternity or a sorority extends a bid to non-members, which means they want that specific person to be a permanent part of their chapter. For AU students, they have a vast selection of fraternities and sororities

ties to choose from, and the chance to find their forever home. Carly Sandridg, the president of Alpha Delta Pi, has been involved as president of the chapter since the spring of 2017. She acknowledged how sororities also celebrate “pre-recruitment” events, which began on Aug. 26, and are complete with an interest night, a dinner party and a fashion show. “All of the people who go through recruitment think they are nervous, but they have to know that all of the fraternities and sororities are super nervous, too,” Sandridg said. During recruitment week, one learns about a chapter’s values, their philanthropy and attends a preference ceremony. Regarding the dress code, Sandridg noted that the first night is

casual wear, the second night is business casual and the final night is formal. Frederick Platt, the president of Kappa Sigma, has been president of the chapter since the fall of 2016. He discussed some of the social activities that occur during rush week. “Some of the events we have for example, are a bonfire or dodgeball; it is a very relaxed and fun environment,” Platt said. Freshman Garrett Grandis, is an actuarial science and accounting double major who is interested in Phi Delta Theta, but is keeping his options open. He described that he is looking forward to being a part of a fraternity, specifically the philanthropy aspect. “I am most excited about phi-

lanthropy; I know that Phi-Delta Theta [does] a lot with ALS,” Grandis said. “I thought that was really cool.” While he has not received any bids yet from any of the fraternities, he is optimistic about the future. “Meeting different people can help you grow as a person; I am looking to finding some new things out about myself,” Grandis said. Nathaniel Urban, the president of Phi Kappa Psi, has been involved as president of the chapter since the fall of 2016. He said his favorite part about recruitment is talking with his brothers and receiving positive feedback about the potential new members. “What we look for is guys who take their scholarship seriously and take their character seriously,”

Urban said. “A big thing that [occurs] when you come into Phi Psi, is that we look to you because we like you, and respect the person that you are.” Urban explained how Greek life positively changed his life for the better, and he encourages all students to become involved. “It is a big step outside of your comfort zone, but it is encouraging because once guys are in this environment; they realize that it is a lot less scary and it is more about fun, family and community,” Urban said. Recruitment week does not have a specific time frame, as all of the social events held are at various times over the span of September. To get involved, call 419-289-5723 or greek-life@ashland.edu for more information.



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The AU fraternity leadership meet with potential new members in preparation for bid day 2016.



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The women of Alpha Delta Pi prepare to welcome home their new sisters on bid day 2016.

New room opens in Patterson

CITE Room provides an alternative learning environment

RACHEL RAMSEY
@AUCollegian

With the variety of classrooms on campus, a new one has recently opened up to students and faculty. The Center for Innovation and Teaching Excellence Room is located in Patterson Hall and is a different environment for students to go to for class. The room has a contemporary feel to it and has technology that other classrooms do not have. The CITE Room is a bigger space for professors and faculty to roam and teach students and has various types of seating like couches and chairs, instead of desks. AU student, Natasha Arnold, talks about how she is impressed with the room and enjoys how different it is from others rooms. “I like the layout of the room,” Arnold said. “It would be great for class discussions because the stu-

dents are able to look at the persons speaking and really engage in the conversation.” Along with the layout, Arnold appreciates the technology in the classroom and how it makes a difference with her learning experience. “The technology is interesting since the professor is able to stand in front and not be stuck behind a computer in order to work the screen,” Arnold said. “It gives a more open feeling with the professor being allowed to engage with the technology and therefore the students.” Along with the unique environment it provides, the CITE Room provides growth for students and faculty to learn in a non-traditional classroom. Director of the Center of Innovation and Teaching Excellence, Shawn Orr, discusses why the new CITE Room in Patterson Hall is “a key to the continued success of

the University.” “Active learning spaces require a different kind of physical space than a traditional meeting room or classroom,” Orr said. “One that allows for movement and collaboration with abundant opportunities for training on the latest innovation technology to engage students. Orr goes on to say that the room can change the way students learn and why it’s important to have a room on campus like the CITE Room. “The goal in creating this space was to cultivate the growth and leaning of faculty,” Orr said. “Advancing their development as teacher-scholars by providing and coordinating support, resources and collaborative programs.” The Center for Innovation and Teaching Excellence is open to faculty and students and can be requested for any day and time.

ALERT SYSTEM CONT. from A1 While the Wireless Emergency Notification System is the newest update to the Ashland County safety equipment, it is not the only safety equipment the county uses, Rafeld said. Ashland County is prepared with 20 sirens distributed throughout the county. The sirens are tested the first Wednesday of each month to make sure that all of them are working perfectly when it’s needed. Ashland University joins the county each month by testing their campus siren warning system. “Ashland University sirens are different than what you’ll see downtown,” Dave McLaughlin, director of safety services, said. “We can’t get on there with a microphone and talk over the [sirens speakers], so it’s enhanced public notification system.” AU has its own alert system called Emergency Notification System. The system is open to all faculty, students, staff and even parents to sign up and get notified whenever an emergency happens on campus. People will get messages for weather emergency and any situation

that can disturb the campus safety. “When people get our alerts we want them to understand that it is something that they really need to know,” McLaughlin said. All messages sent from The Emergency Notification System are sent manually from the Safety Services staff, whether it is a weather emergency or suspicious activities around the campus in a centralized control, unlike the Wireless Emergency Notification System service where it distributes tasks to different departments. Both Rafeld and McLaughlin are recommending students join both services to make sure they are aware of any emergency could happen in the Ashland area and the campus. They recommend taking advantage of the services since they are free for all. To join The Emergency Notification System, visit: <http://www.ashland-ohio.com/residents/emergency-alert-system> To join the AU Emergency Notification System, visit: <https://www.ashland.edu/student-affairs/health-safety-safety-services/emergency-notification-system-0>