

GREEK COLUMNS

Office for Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development

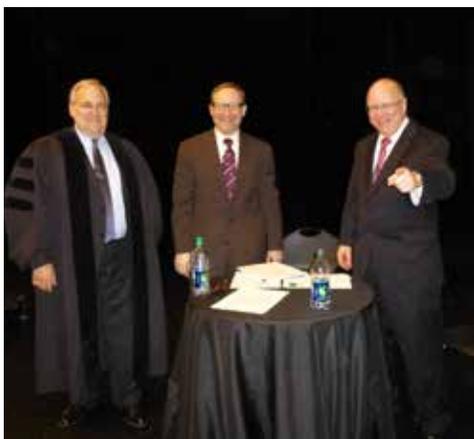


Spring 2014 Volume 26 Issue 2

“Hazing on Trial” Presented at Bovard



On Monday, February 24, 2014, over 2,100 greek community members experienced two mock trials in Bovard Auditorum. Two prominent attorneys cross-examined greek members in two different cases involving hazing. Both sorority and fraternity members acted as witnesses. The first case involved serving alcohol to minors which resulted in a death. The second case involved stealing a traffic sign in the area of the 405 freeway as well as other activities that the new members performed during a scavenger hunt.



Judge Don La Plante with attorneys Greg Hauser and David Westol

“The trial started a conversation amongst the greek community about hazing, especially the consequences and liability. I hope this program was enough to start making change within the community.”

- Katherine Grabar, PHC President

David Westol, Theta Chi, of Limberlost Consulting and Greg Hauser, Delta Chi, a litigation partner in the New York City law firm of Wuersch & Gering LLP questioned witnesses to confirm their role in the hazing incidents and reinforce the role of bystander behavior as well as being an actual participant in the activities. Both men and women served as witnesses, mirroring the current legal climate that there is more widespread responsibility in the adjudication of hazing incidents. Both of these attorneys have visited many campuses and sorority and fraternity conventions to re-create the courtroom and educate students on their personal and leadership responsibilities as stewards of their respective chapters.

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Hazing on Trial

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Hazing on Trial Continued

Back Cover

“Hazing on Trial was an eye-opening experience that very clearly articulated the often-overlooked but very real world consequences of hazing within fraternities. Both Dave and Greg did a great job creating a realistic courtroom environment and I think I speak for the entire greek community in saying that the message they conveyed will undoubtedly resonate with all our greeks as we continue to more safely and responsibly develop new member programming.”

- Tanner Sandoval, IFC President

Meet Mr. USC, Brenton Caldwell

Sheridan Watson:
Daily Trojan
Editor-In-Chief



Growing up in New Jersey, Sheridan Watson's dream of coming to USC to study film seemed far-fetched. But four years later, she's a graduating senior involved in many organizations, most notably greek life and the Daily Trojan, USC's student-run newspaper. Sheridan didn't initially plan to go through sorority recruitment, but she decided to expand her horizons. She immediately fell in love with Gamma Phi Beta, and considers it a home away from home.

Sheridan grew up with a diverse background, and misconceptions may have prevented her from joining a Panhellenic sorority due to the perceived reception of African Americans in the greek community. However, she has found

I am originally from a small town in Massachusetts so when I came to USC I knew that I wanted to make a lot of friends and find a home base. For me, this became centered in the USC greek community. My fraternity became a sandbox for leadership as I took on the roles of Scholarship Chair and Vice President. These roles helped to give me confidence and prepared me for leadership positions outside of the fraternity such as President of Order of Omega, 2013 IFC Executive Vice President of Administrative Affairs, Viterbi Student Ambassador, and many others. The greek community helped to enhance my social skills, showed me how to network, and most importantly, established a support system to help me learn from my failures and celebrate my successes. Without the friends I have gained and the lessons I have learned from the greek community, I have doubts about whether or not I would have even applied to Order of the Torch, let alone receive the title of Mr. USC. I have met so many great people, including my girlfriend, in USC's greek community and can not picture my life here at USC without it. It has definitely helped me change for the better during my time here, and will continue to be a substantial part of my life after graduation.

- Brenton Caldwell



Morgan and Brenton celebrating at the Homecoming rally

Editors note: 2013-2014 is the first time both Mr. and Ms. USC are greek-affiliated.



Order of the Torch displays their Homecoming float

Meet Ms. USC, Morgan Furlong

I am so thankful for the opportunities USC's greek community has given me. I wanted to join a sorority because it was a way for me to meet a group of incredible young women, have opportunities for leadership while only being an underclassman, and have regularly scheduled philanthropy events so that I could continue to be involved in community service. I joined Kappa Alpha Theta during the fall of my freshman year, and I quickly discovered that being in a sorority was even better than I had imagined.

Older members in Theta advised me on the best classes to take and how to make the most of my time at USC. And every year thereafter, I was able to assume the role of mentor for younger members. As a freshman, I served on Theta's Membership Development Committee.

The fall of my sophomore year, I became the Director of Service and Philanthropy for my sorority. Every week, I led a group of Thetas to the Hoover Intergenerational School, where we would join with the men of Pike to read and play games with the preschoolers. One of my favorite memories from college will always be planning Kat at Bat, our fundraising whiffle-ball tournament. Organizing the event with the university, external vendors,

sponsors, and around 500 members of the greek community enabled me to learn about my strengths as a leader, and pointed out areas of weakness that I needed to improve for future tasks. I am lucky to have had the support of the greek community at USC and the friends and families of members of our sorority to help us reach our record-breaking goal of \$25,000 for the Theta Foundation and for our national philanthropy, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

The following year, I served as a Recruitment Counselor, where during recruitment, I disaffiliated from my sorority and helped guide potential new members through the recruitment process. This experience allowed me to learn about the amazing accomplishments of every sorority at USC, and reflect on all of the reasons I joined greek life in the first place. I would not have had the leadership skills I have today if it were not for the guidance of the greek community at USC. Being far away from my home in Miami, the members of Kappa Alpha Theta and the entire greek community have given me a home away from home, a family within the Trojan family. Fight on!

- Morgan Furlong

a welcoming community, and subsequently went on to serve as a Recruitment Counselor to help other women eliminate stereotypes they may have about the greek community. She has found a support system within her sorority and encourages women to find a meaningful connection with the other sisters in their house, whichever that may be.

Sheridan is also the first African American *Daily Trojan* Editor-In-Chief, and takes great pride in the many positions she has fulfilled for the *Daily Trojan*. She believes the best journalists are just ordinary people that are inspired, and her passion has kept her motivated through many challenges of adjusting to a new team each semester and managing everyone as a cohesive group.

Sheridan loves to feature personal stories of people within the greek community, to showcase the diversity and pride. She welcomes suggestions from the greek community about upcoming events.

After graduating, Sheridan wants to stay in LA and work in film or as a writer. During her last semester she hopes to improve the *Daily Trojan* website, as well as enjoy all the excitement of her senior year.

Order of the Torch at initiation with graduation stoles



Other 2013 Order of the Torch greek-affiliated members:

Sarah Aguilar - Delta Gamma
Orion De Nevers - Phi Kappa Psi
Connor Jackson - Tau Kappa Epsilon
Lauren Mationg - Alpha Delta Pi
Jackie Rosen - Sigma Delta Tau

Panhellenic Council

Alpha Delta Pi Presents SpaceX Networking Event

On February 4, 2014, over 150 engineering, accounting and business students came out to the first ever “Evening with SpaceX” to learn about employment opportunities. The event was hosted by the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and showcased the aerospace giant, alongside the PWC and KPMG accounting firms. This event was made possible thanks to the support of Leventhal School of Accounting Dean, Dr. William Holder, SpaceX CFO Bret Johnson, the Panhellenic Council and IFC. A special note of appreciation goes to Meagan Karagais and her team of recruiters who stayed until the last student question was answered. The purpose was to provide each firm an opportunity to access the highly engaged student body found in USC’s greek community, with the major focus on engineering students.

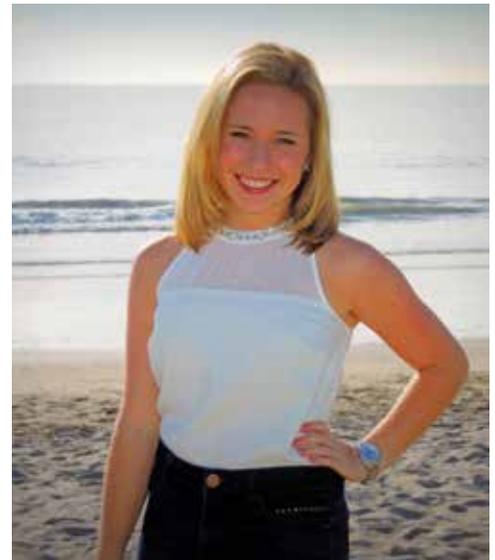
The format of the event began with a panel style discussion, hosted by Scholarship Chair Candace Dechant and Alpha Delta Pi host, Caitlin Sims. The

The 2014 Panhellenic Executive Board was elected in December 2013 and has hit the ground running! The board is looking to maintain the excellence of the Panhellenic Council with a few key plans: holding more academic workshops, bringing more athletic opportunities to Panhellenic women, increasing social media exposure, creating a safer 28th Street, and even planning an all-Row philanthropy for Fall 2014. The board is also excited to announce that Alpha Gamma Delta was officially reinstated and initiated over 100 women on January 25th! We are anxious to continue growing the community this spring and fall, and four of the Panhellenic chapters are participating in spring recruitment.

The PHC spring calendar is also packed with twenty philanthropy events, hosted by both Panhellenic and individual chapters. This year, we will be cosponsoring the “World is Just a Book Away” 5K with IFC again. In addition, the board and five community members will attend the Association for Fraternal Leadership and Values Conference in April. The council will also strengthen the bonds and leadership skills of the community through sister sorority events this spring hosted by the Panhellenic Delegates of each chapter in areas like health, philanthropy, di-

versity, and scholarship. The board has also already begun to plan formal recruitment this fall and is brainstorming ways to improve upon the process with the chapter recruitment chairs. Our community has elected great leadership to the Panhellenic Executive Board and its individual chapters. The year is already looking promising!

- Katherine Grabar
2014 Panhellenic President



President Katherine Grabar



Panhellenic
Executive Board

Panhellenic Council

This year, the Panhellenic Council wanted to do something completely different for our spring new member event. Typically, the new members get together on the Row for some food, games, and education. However, I really wanted to welcome the new members to our Panhellenic community in a bigger way. We all met beforehand at Alpha Chi Omega for USC-themed Sprinkles cupcakes and a few icebreakers. After some mingling, we boarded a bus and headed to Sky High Sports in Woodland Hills. What better way could there be to blow off some steam with your sisters on a Sunday evening during mid-term season?

Sky High Sports is, for lack of a better word, a trampoline heaven. The warehouse is covered with trampolines on the floor and up the walls. It truly is the perfect place to have

carefree fun and act like a kid again. After snapping a few photos and jumping for an hour, we returned home to USC. As all the new members hopped off the bus, we handed each of them a little “party favor” –a folder filled with pamphlets from several on-campus student resources as well as special Panhellenic study tips, alcohol safety tips, and advice from each Panhellenic board member.

This event was such a great way to welcome our new members to the greek community and we are all so happy with the decision to take the spring new member event in a different direction this year. Now Panhellenic is in the early stages of planning our even larger-scale fall new member retreat. Stay tuned!

- Casey McCloskey

Panhellenic VP New Member Education



Spring 2014 New Member Retreat at Sky High



Panhellenic Executive Board enjoys a day at the beach

companies were offered the chance to answer frequently asked questions and stylistically depict their corporate culture. After the panel discussion ended, students were able to visit the three companies at their recruiting tables positioned in locations throughout the house. This proved an intimate setting for interaction between students and recruiters.

This event was a supplement to the “Greeks Meet the Firms” networking event held last fall semester with recruiters from each of the Big Four accounting firms that drew over 250 students. The change in industry and networking style was received with enthusiasm by the attendees. A strong relationship between SpaceX and the USC greek community has been forged that will be nurtured and maintained for many years to come.



Interfraternity Council

Sigma Alpha Mu Young Scholars

Sigma Alpha Mu is proud to announce the recipients of the Guller Young Scholars honor roll for Spring 2014. This program awards \$400 to each Sigma Alpha Mu member who earns a 3.75 or higher the semester they pledge and are initiated. The fraternity values members who place as high a value on academics as the fraternity does.

Sigma Alpha Mu at USC has the most new members out of all Sigma Alpha Mu chapters nationwide to receive the Guller Young Scholar award:

Dan Amchin
David Dobrynin
Andrew Feinstein
Connor Fitzgerald
Jacob Goldstein
Spencer Lepow
Jordan Lieberman
Ariel Marks
T. Edward Naylor

In the 2014 spring semester, the Interfraternity Council will be actively working to improve the greek community in three areas. Our vision for these coming months centers around these concepts: Advocacy, Security, and Service.

Advocacy: The purpose of IFC is to promote the core values shared by all fraternities; among these are brotherhood, communication, and sustainability. In the coming months, we will be promoting and further developing all these principles with several initiatives including the creation of an alumni advisory board, LGBT Ally programming, a culture week, and a new recycling initiative. Additionally, we have substantially improved the IFC directors program to make it more robust and add more clout.

Security: It is IFC's mission to increase the safety and responsibility of students, particularly as it pertains to alcohol consumption. One of the largest projects for this semester is to introduce a student-run EMT program to weekend night events on the Row, facilitating skilled and talented USC students working to keep their peers safe. IFC will also be promoting strong risk management practices and providing CPR certification to all of our risk managers to make sure they are prepared to handle potentially dangerous situations and keep their chapters danger-free. In addition, we've substantially improved our relationship with the Department of Public Safety so each chapter is seamlessly connected with fast-responding officers at all times. The deputy chief of DPS has been invaluable to the greek community in improving the overall safety and security of the Row.

Service: The greek community is an incredible advocate and supporter of the surrounding USC community that we share. Last year fraternities donated tens of thousands of dollars to charity and made a hands-on difference in the neighborhood with service projects that included sandwich making on Skid Row and greek-led beach cleanups. This semester, IFC is planning to expand the already generous philanthropic practices of the Row. This year's plans include hosting a community service week and heading a Habitat for Humanity project, exciting opportunities we are confident will have a positive, practical impact on our community. Additionally, IFC will be spending this semester planning an all-greek philanthropy with PHC for next fall that will represent every greek council at USC.

Finally, let's talk recruitment. This spring stayed steady with recruitment numbers of last spring. We will spend the coming months preparing for fall rush, where over 1,000 new students will enter into the fraternity recruitment process. To facilitate this transition IFC will be sending literature out over the summer and reaching out via email to help new college men find the fraternity that's right for them. As an incoming freshman it can be difficult to figure out which fraternity is right because after all, it's all greek to you.

If you have questions or are interested in getting involved, please do not hesitate to contact the IFC President at tanner.sandoval@gmail.com. Best wishes and Fight On!

- Tanner Sandoval
2014 Interfraternity Council President

Sigma Alpha Mu Young Scholars left to right: Spencer Lepow, David Dobrynin, Dan Amchin, Edward Naylor, Jordan Lieberman, Andrew Feinstein, Ari Marks



Multicultural/Asian Greek Council

The Multicultural Greek Council consists of six sororities and six fraternities with very diverse backgrounds. For the Spring 2014 semester, we are very excited to focus on increasing membership, improving leadership skills and developing a greater sense of community. We hope to be able to host recruitment strategy workshops in order to help our member organizations try a different approach to recruitment. Additionally we hope to develop member leadership skills by providing our members with the opportunity to lead events throughout the semester. Lastly, we want to increase the sense of community within our council by taking day trips together and participating in team building activities. We hope that by the end of the semester we will have a stronger executive board who will be able to successfully lead Fall 2014 with the potential addition of new member organizations.

- Maria Cuevas

2014 Multicultural Greek Council President



Members of the
Multicultural Greek Council



Asian Greek Council Executive Board at the Google workshop

After a successful spring recruitment for the fraternities, Asian Greek Council continues to plan various events for our members. We have many events planned for the semester, including a Google workshop, social potluck, alumni panel, and our annual philanthropy week! We hope to build stronger relationships among the different organizations and members, as well as establish alumni connections and career skills for the future. We are excited to initiate all the new members into their respective houses and celebrate the end of another successful academic year!

- Amy Yee

2014 Asian Greek Council President



AGC members showing off their new Google products



Asian Greek Council Hosts Google Workshop

On Thursday, February 20, Asian Greek Council hosted a Google Workshop for all its members. It was led by one of the USC Google Student Ambassadors, Jennie Lok, who is a member of Delta Phi Kappa. AGC President, Amy Yee, also assisted with the workshop. Jennie explained how to use all that Google has to offer. Many of the members found the workshop very useful and learned a lot of new things. It was a great way to learn useful tools and skills to send professional emails, personalize various Google accounts, and utilize the different applications for academic and teamwork purposes. Members also received cool Google items at the end! It was overall a successful event with a great turnout!

Congratulations!

The all greek average of 3.31 is 0.09 higher than the all undergraduate average at the University of Southern California.

The Panhellenic Council average of 3.42 is 0.14 higher than the all women's average.

The Interfraternity Council average of 3.21 is 0.06 higher than that of the all men's average.

Panhellenic Council

Kappa Alpha Theta	3.50
Alpha Delta Pi	3.49
Alpha Delta Chi	3.48
Delta Delta Delta	3.47
Delta Gamma	3.42
Gamma Phi Beta	3.42
Sigma Delta Tau	3.42
Pi Beta Phi	3.40
Kappa Kappa Gamma	3.36
Alpha Chi Omega	3.32
Alpha Phi	3.31
Alpha Gamma Delta	3.26
All Panhellenic Council Average	3.42
All Women's Average	3.28

Interfraternity Council

Sigma Alpha Mu	3.48
Theta Chi	3.45
Beta Theta Pi	3.43
Alpha Gamma Omega	3.34
Tau Kappa Epsilon	3.33
Alpha Epsilon Pi	3.31
Zeta Beta Tau	3.29
Phi Delta Theta	3.28
Alpha Tau Omega	3.24
Sigma Nu	3.24
Delta Chi	3.21
Theta Xi	3.21
Delta Tau Delta	3.18
Pi Kappa Phi	3.18
Lambda Chi Alpha	3.15
Phi Gamma Delta	3.15
Phi Sigma Kappa	3.09
Sigma Chi	3.07
Kappa Sigma	3.06
Phi Kappa Psi	3.03
Pi Kappa Alpha	3.03
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	3.01
Kappa Alpha Order	2.62
All Interfraternity Council Average	3.21
All Men's Average	3.15

Academic Report

Asian Greek Council

Alpha Delta Kappa	3.46
Sigma Phi Omega	3.35
Delta Phi Kappa	3.25
Beta Omega Phi	3.14
Gamma Epsilon Omega	3.12
Asian Greek Council average	3.23

National Pan-Hellenic Council

Alpha Phi Alpha	3.24
Zeta Phi Beta	3.04
Omega Psi Phi	2.78
Kappa Alpha Psi	2.76
National Pan-Hellenic Council Average	3.02

Multicultural Greek Council

Sigma Delta Sigma	3.61
Lambda Theta Nu	3.59
Lambda Upsilon Lambda	3.41
Zeta Phi Rho	3.36
Lambda Theta Alpha	3.29
Lambda Theta Phi	3.27
Alpha Gamma Alpha	3.19
Sigma Lambda Beta	3.17
Sigma Lambda Gamma	3.08
Sigma Delta Alpha	2.90
Gamma Zeta Alpha	2.78
Omega Phi Beta	2.78
Multicultural Greek Council Average	3.11

Professional Fraternity Council

Phi Alpha Delta	3.57
Delta Kappa Alpha	3.49
Sigma Phi Delta	2.98
Professional Fraternity Council Average	3.43

All Greek Average	3.31
All Undergraduate Average	3.22

The Office for Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development applauds the greek community in continuing to strive towards an increasingly positive gap over the all undergraduate average!

Hazing on Trial

Financial support for this program came from the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils and the Interfraternity and Intersorority Parent Councils as well as budget from the Office for Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development.

Greek students serving as witnesses were briefed just before the first trial began. They were provided with a description of their role but did not know any of the questions that would be asked during the “trial” by the attorneys. USC greeks took their roles to heart and we are grateful for the performances given by the witnesses: Katie Baker, Caroline Cannon, Ehren Elder, Katherine Grabar, Briana Humphery, John Humphries, Justin Jiong, Marlee Learner, Zack Mank, Sarah Mc Mullen, Darian Nourian, Braden Pennington, Brantley Pepperman, Anthony Provenzano, Tanner Sandoval, Max Wooton, and DPS Officer Whittaker.

Many thanks to all of the people who were willing to come forward to help greeks make decisions that foster the timeless ideals of greek rituals.



Trial 2 witnesses before the proceedings



Bovard Auditorium was filled with greek members at both trials



Attorneys brief the witnesses on their roles

“It was enlightening to see the criminal justice proceedings associated with hazing. The lawyers performing were true professionals and it sent a chill down my spine to think of the poor souls who have to face them in the courtroom.”
- Ehren Elder

“As a witness, it was a bit different sitting on the other side of the re-enactment compared to sitting with my peers in the audience. Although I was an actor, I still think the Hazing on Trial session shed light on the laws and procedure that go along with hazing.”

- Briana Humphery



Witnesses for Trial 1 get together