More Than Just Greek Letters

By: Lily Van Driessche
Peer Advisor

Have you ever seen students walking around in Greek letters on campus and asked yourself: “What do those letters mean?” You may recognize them as Greek letters and think of fraternities and sororities. Words such as sisterhood and brotherhood usually come to mind when you think of these organizations; however, the Fraternity/Sorority Community (FSC) at UW-L has much more to offer than cool Greek letters and lifelong friendships.

According to Alex Brown, the UW-L Fraternity and Sorority Adviser, “fraternities and sororities are designed to help our members become better scholars, to teach them leadership skills, to provide the opportunity to give back through service and philanthropy, and to create relationships and a network like no other.”

While each fraternity or sorority has its own unique set of values, the FSC has four pillars: scholarship, leadership, service, and friendship. Each organization has a GPA requirement and each fraternity and sorority consistently ranks higher than UW-L’s men’s average and women’s average GPA. However, being a part of the FSC goes beyond the college years. According to Whitney Hedge, the Fraternity and Sorority Graduate Assistant at UW-L, “Involvement in the FSC provides UW-L students an opportunity to gain a variety of experiences in leadership, service, friendship, and academics - all of which are very applicable skills for future professions.”

The FSC at UW-L is comprised of two sororities: Alpha Phi and Alpha Xi Delta, and five fraternities: Delta Sigma Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Chi Phi, Alpha Sigma Phi, and Sigma Tau Gamma.

To learn more about the FSC at UW-L visit: http://www2.uwlax.edu/University-Centers/Welcome/

Write It Down...Important Dates at UW-L!

- Summer Registration
  Monday, April 7th
- Fall Registration
  Monday, April 14th
- Last Day of Classes
  Friday, May 9th
- Finals Begin
  Monday, May 12th
- Finals End
  Friday, May 16th
- Commencement Ceremony
  Sunday, May 11th
- First Summer Session Begins
  Tuesday, May 27th
- First Summer Session Ends
  Friday, June 20th
Taking PRIDE in Our Campus Resources

By: Samantha Gregory
Peer Advisor

The importance of diversity resources is not news to college students, but making use of these resources is often another story. Our campus excels at providing diversity resources for students, as can be seen by the presence of multiple offices devoted to this cause. This article seeks to bring light to a “hidden gem” in the lower level of Cartwright, the Pride Center.

The purpose of the Pride Center is to “foster a safe environment for LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff, educate the campus and community on issues, and advocate for student success and inclusivity.” This mission is carried out by the staff of the Pride Center, which include a director, three peer educators, a graduate student, and, occasionally, interns. The collaborative efforts of these individuals and other campus members who are involved with the Pride Center bring us events, which are open to the public, including informational speakers, movies, and panels, as well as ally training for individuals who seek to support the LGBTQ community.

The Pride Center is also a safe space where all students are welcome to check out books, videos, or magazines, hang out in comfy chairs, and find support. Director Willem Van Roosenbeek, expresses that his hope is “that the pride center is a safe space for people from all identities, that they feel welcome, and if they need anything, that we will respond.” The Pride Center is well on its way to accomplishing this goal, as Will shared with me that as of Monday, February 17th, 2014, the Pride Center had served a total of 4,509 people. Encouraging as this number is, the Pride Center is determined to reach out to more individuals, provide education, encourage allies and those in the LGBTQ community, and provide a space for all students to feel safe and supported. So if you are in the lower level of Cartwright, stop in and see what this “hidden gem” has for you.

Easy to Make: Cake in a Cup

By: Abby Kirchman
Peer Advisor

What you’ll need:
- 1 box angel food cake mix
- 1 box any flavor cake mix
- 3 Tbsp. water
- Coffee Mug

Directions:
- Mix the angel food mix with the other cake mix
- Place 1/3 cup of the cake mix mixture into a coffee mug (you can save the remaining mix for another time!)
- Add 3 Tbsp. water
- Stir mixture together
- Microwave for 1 minute
- ENJOY!

*Add any extra items you would like. I like chocolate chips!

See more at: http://heartworkbylaura.blogspot.com/2012/02/cake-in-cup-recipe.html#sthash.aFlfAW0.dpuf
“Creative Imperatives”

By: Victoria Preuss
Peer Advisor

This spring UW-L is hosting a fabulous opportunity to explore the arts! The School of Arts and Communication is organizing a four-day event celebrating the arts and communication at UW-L. This event will have a variety of events ranging from musical performances, theater performances, visiting artist lectures, visiting artist performances, a student scholarship showcase, sessions where you can “Watch them Work”, all the way to a faculty debate and art exhibitions.

Creative Imperatives will be happening on campus from Sunday April 13th through Wednesday April 16th. Faculty and students from the School of Arts and Communication are collaborating to make this event possible. One faculty member from each department, as well as students from each department have worked together to organize the event. Kate Hawkes (photography professor) said that some of the benefits of attending this free event is that, “people can be exposed to some good art works, good music, good performances, and good ideas”. Some of the visiting artists include: Susan Botti (composer and singer), Myra Greene (photographer), Kimberlee Pérez (performer), Roland Vazquez (musician), and the keynote speaker is Harvey White (arts philanthropist).

This is a great opportunity to hear from outside artists and to see the works that UW-L students have accomplished. If you need something to bring you out of your winter gloom, plan on attending Creative Imperatives April 13th through April 16th for free!

Student Athletic Success Coordinator: Sara Burton

By: Abby Kirchman
Peer Advisor

There is an amazing new resource available for student athletes to utilize regarding academic advising, and she goes by the name of Sara Burton. Her position is to be a liaison between academically at-risk athletes and the resources that can help them have a smoother semester.

As an Academic Counselor, Sara takes a personalized inclusive approach to help provide extra support for coaches by helping student athletes who are struggling with high stress levels, the transition into college level classes (for freshman), and meeting their required volunteer hours.

After being a soccer coach for 20 years Sara is most passionate about “helping students flourish as people by providing a framework of support to help them become successful, inspiring champions in sports, school, and life.”

Her words of encouragement for student athletes who may be struggling is to know that, “you may feel overwhelmed with responsibility, but responsibility means seeking help and contacting me and/or other resources to find a resolution.”

A special thanks goes out to Sara for participating in an interview and allowing this article to be published.

“You may feel overwhelmed with responsibility, but responsibility means seeking help and contacting me and/or other resources to find a resolution.” - Sara Burton
Senior Spotlights

Victoria Preuss

“After graduation I plan to attend graduate school at some point to get my masters in Higher Education. Some day I would like to become an Academic Advisor. Of all the memories I have at UW-L, it’s hard to pick a favorite. I think the general idea of finding all the best people to have in my life is my favorite memory. The thing I will miss most about the Academic Advising Center (AAC) is the people I have gotten the opportunity to spend so much time with through being a Peer Advisor. Everything has been so exciting and wonderful, that the entire experience of the AAC is something I will miss.”

Samantha Gregory

“After graduation I plan to attend graduate school to obtain my Master of Social Work. After that I hope to work with at-risk youth in treatment foster care or out-of-home placements. One of my favorite UW-L memories was learning how to use chopsticks in Dr. McKelley’s Behavior Modification class. The things that I will miss the most about the AAC are the wonderful advisors and coworkers I got to spend three years with. It was great to have smiling faces to greet each day. I will also miss getting to work one-on-one with students and seeing future plans unfold before their eyes.”

Lily Van Driessche

“Leaving college and my home for the past four years will be a little scary but I look forward to all that the future has to offer! One of my favorite memories from UW-L was being a part of the Vanguard and Alpha Phi organizations. They gave me the ability to contribute to the campus community while bettering myself. The things I will miss the most about the AAC are the one-on-one experiences of working with my peers and being so close to the Starbucks! But mostly, the staff. I was able to work with some very amazing individuals. Each experience I had everyday was different and made my job extremely rewarding and exciting. “