Happy February! Another spring semester has begun here at UW-L, and we are starting off with a bang. On January 31st, our community hosted the inaugural WiGreek Conference, bringing together over 130 FSL leaders from across the state of Wisconsin. I am very proud of this program for a variety of reasons, but one stands out to me most of all.

This program started as a conversation on a bus this summer, with just a few colleagues. In just a matter of months, a new initiative was created. I hope that when our students think about their experiences at WiGreek, they realize that they too can turn ideas into action.

Our students, organizations, and community are filled with ideas, yet most cling to the status quo (even when it isn’t working). As John Emmerling said, “Innovation is creativity with a job to do.” We can look at new ideas and initiatives, but we also need to remember the importance of the impact and purpose of those ideas. There have been great examples of innovative new programs, including the Order of Omega’s Leadership Program (stay tuned for details!).

Our organizations each have a unique story. But one thing that unites them all is that a group of young leaders came together with a vision and purpose to create organizations that would leave a positive legacy for all those involved. We must ask ourselves if we are truly living up to the legacy of our Founders, or if we’re simply going through the motions. We owe it to our Founders, our current members, and our future members, to do everything that we can to ensure that legacy lives on for years to come.

If there is anything I can do to support your organization, or if you have any questions, please be sure to let me know! I’m always happy to help!

Best Regards,
Alex Brown
Fraternity and Sorority Life and Student Association Adviser
Inaugural WiGreek Conference A Success

With budgets under increasing pressure and limited resources available, the UW-L FSL Office worked to develop the first WiGreek Conference. This program was designed to allow for FSL student leaders to come together from across the state to network and connect with others, share resources and ideas, participate in a variety of different education sessions, and refocus on the values and purpose of our organizations.

With over 130 students registering, representing 25 different fraternal groups and 9 different campuses, the turnout for the program was greater than anticipated.

Former UW-L FSL Adviser and Sigma Sigma Sigma National President Kaye Schendel kicked our event off, followed by roundtable discussions over lunch. Three rounds of breakout sessions were held, with topics ranging from Ritual, leadership development, international experiences, values, branding, and much more.

The feedback has been extremely positive, with 90% of participants stating they would attend the program again. Students shared a variety of great thoughts, with one remarking “that you are a Greek for life, and that there is always a way to help and to lead your chapter.”

Plans for next year’s program are already underway, and the future is bright for this new program. We are eager to continue to find new and engaging ways to support our students!

Perceptions from a Presenter

WiGreek Gave Gift of Distance for Greek Leaders

In Disney’s Frozen Elsa sings – “Funny how some distance makes everything seem small.” WiGreek ‘15 Conference gave Wisconsin Greeks the gift of some distance away from their chapters to feel the magnitude of Greek life and lifelong membership. WiGreek ‘15 brought leaders from nine institutions and 25 organizations together to celebrate the rich values and purpose of the organizations. How exciting to be with Greek leaders from all corners of Wisconsin who want to make their collegiate Greek experience terrific.

Sessions were loaded with rich content and interaction. The opening and closing keynote featured Kaye Schendel, Sigma Sigma Sigma National President. Her subtle yet purposeful message included the phrase “We are on the precipice of an apocalyptic moment in Greek life.” Yowza – She made us laugh, made us proud and made us feel a need to examine why we do what we do.

As a chapter advisor for 20+ years I am so thankful for this conference and the opportunity it provides chapter leaders, both elected and unelected leaders. Sometimes it is challenging, time-consuming and overwhelming to serve as a chapter leader and role model. WiGreek ’15 created an excellent event for leaders to come together, share their pride and feel empowered to be the leaders of values based organizations. What a day! Can’t wait for WiGreek ’16!

Patty Hendrickson shared her “Ritual in Real Life—Live Like a Leader—Live Your Ritual” at the WiGreek conference to a packed house.

Patty Hendrickson of La Crosse is a professional speaker and proud lifelong member of Alpha Phi member initiated at Eastern Illinois University and UW-L Alpha Phi Chapter Advisor for 20+ years. Patty@pattyhendrickson.com
Delta Sigma Phi Advisor To Retire

This spring, our FSL community and the UW-L community will be losing someone who has a tremendous impact. Don Sloan, Assistant Professor in the Art Department, will be retiring after 11 years of service. During that time, Don has served on multiple university committees, and spent years as the Chair of the Art Department. While he has earned a variety of awards and recognitions, he is most proud of being recognized as the Professor of the Year by the Residence Hall Association Council.

“Don has been something special. It is not often that you find a professor, with no Greek experience, that is willing to take on the extra chore of advising any group on campus, much less a fraternity” shared Pat Stephens, Delta Sigma Phi ACB President. “Right from the start he made it a point to be involved and active. He has attended almost every weekly chapter meeting, rituals, fundraisers, socials, and alumni events. Beyond that he has served as a mentor and academic adviser to the entire chapter.”

Don has served as an advisor to Delta Sigma Phi since 2011, and it has impacted him personally and professionally: “I have had more than 3,000 students in my classes during my time at UW-L, and the fraternity and sorority members have been among the best. They are bright, energetic and committed to their many roles in the classroom and beyond. I feel that almost any male undergraduate would benefit by the strong brotherhood that the young men in the fraternities provide to each other, and by a continuing association with the fraternities beyond graduation.”

Thank you Don, for your years of service to UW-L, our FSL community, and to Delta Sigma Phi!

Upcoming Semester Philanthropy Events

The spring semester is always a busy one, and this semester is no different. Our organizations are hosting a series of philanthropic events. Last year, our organizations raised over $13,500 dollars for various charities and causes. We hope to beat that number again this year!

FSL G.P.A. Above All Campus Averages...Again

The Fall 2014 G.P.A. report is in, and our FSL community once again earned higher marks than the average UW-L student. This is the 5th straight semester where the Fraternity Average, Sorority Average, and All FSL averages were above their respective campus categories. We are excited about this achievement, and hope to keep supporting the academic growth of our members!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>G.P.A.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Phi</td>
<td>3.292</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alpha Xi Delta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chi Phi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Alpha Epsilon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Tau Gamma</td>
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| All Fraternity Avg | 2.834 |
| All Sorority Avg  | 3.148 |
| All FSL Avg       | 2.991 |
| All Men’s Avg     | 2.601 |
| All Women’s Avg   | 2.855 |
| All Campus Avg    | 2.743 |

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” - Aesop
The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Fraternity and Sorority Community is rooted in the values that unite all of our organizations. We will foster and develop friendships between members and organizations, support leadership development and involvement opportunities for all members of our community, commit to meaningful service to others, and to promote and achieve academic excellence. The Fraternity and Sorority Community will work to create an environment that encourages each student to reach their fullest potential, while living their values every day. Membership in our fraternal community will provide students with the opportunity to develop skills that will benefit individuals, their organizations, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and the local and global community.

The office of Fraternity & Sorority Life has created a “UW-L Fraternity & Sorority Community” group on LinkedIn. LinkedIn.com is the world’s largest professional network where users can create and maintain personal profiles that highlight your education, professional experiences, achievements, and more. The site also provides an opportunity to connect with professionals in your field, different businesses, and professional associations or groups.

The “UW-L Fraternity & Sorority Community” group is a space for past, current, and future community members to connect with one another. Our hope is that members will share job openings, internships, and/or promotions with fellow UW-L Greeks. The group will also serve as a space for you to reconnect with your fellow peers from when you attended UW-La Crosse.

Please join the group by searching “UW-L Fraternity & Sorority Community” in the search bar at the top of the page (or click the hyperlink below). Open the group and click “join” to request membership to the group. We look forward to seeing you all on LinkedIn!

Keep up on all the latest with our community on social media!
Facebook: www.facebook.com/UWLGreek/
Twitter: @UWL_FSL
LinkedIn: UW-L Fraternity & Sorority Community