

Men's Rush begins with large numbers, variety of activities

By Jenny Hutchison
Contributing Reporter

Three hundred twenty-nine men began the process of formal Rush Jan. 17 by attending formal smokers. Most of the Rush candidates were freshmen except for 41 sophomores and a handful of juniors.

Chi Psi, Delta Sigma Phi, Alpha Sigma Phi, Lambda Chi Alpha, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Sigma Nu, Kappa Sigma, Sigma Pi, Pi Kappa Alpha, and Sigma Chi fraternities each hosted a preliminary smoker over the first four days of men's Rush this spring. During these smokers, Rushees got the opportunity to become acquainted with many different brothers of various fraternities.

After Rushees attended at least four smokers, serious Rush candidates were eligible to register again for open Rush which began on Jan. 20. This part of Rush consists of activities planned by fraternity brothers aimed at providing a setting conducive to getting to know the Rush candidates better. This week Rushees had the option of participating in various activities, such as attending "Casino Night" at Sig Ep, bowling with Pika brothers, paint balling with Theta Chi or to the gun range with Chi Psi. These activities are all free of charge to potential new members.

Junior Mike Perry, a Rush chairman for Sigma Nu saw an increase in the number of men participating in Rush. "There were a lot more people at the smokers than in other years," he said. "Some of the other

events are pretty much on par with other years."

Many rushees attend events sponsored by a number of fraternities. "I partied at Sig Pi and went clubbing with Sig Ep last night," freshman Alan Bacon said. Fraternities' open Rush activities also include dinners, game nights at the fraternity lounges and finally a Rush dance at the end of the week. "I think Rush is definitely a good experience," freshman Jeff Conklin said. "It's a great way to meet people and to become involved."

Bids go out Jan. 30 and 31 and are followed by a silent day where fraternity brothers are not allowed to associate with potential new members. "Brothers are not permitted to talk with Rushees to allow them opportunity to make their decisions without influence," Mike Ford, the director of student development, said. Bid acceptance, followed by pledge night, occurs on Feb. 2.

"The (Interfraternity Council) did a particularly good job this year getting information out to prospective Rushees about the positive aspects of fraternity life," Ford said. The IFC spread the word about Greek life with an assembly on "Greek Coming Attractions" and a Greek Deac brochure that was sent out to all freshmen. The event is included in Rush each year. Kappa Alpha fraternity was not allowed to participate in formal Rush recruitment this year due to an alcohol violation they received during Rush last spring. However, next fall the KAs will be allowed back on campus.



Photo courtesy of Jeff Feintech

Over 300 men participated in the beginning of spring Rush, which began with formal smokers at different fraternities. Rushees are required to attend four different fraternity smokers as part of the rules for formal Rush. After the smokers, fraternities will take Rushees out to dinners, hockey games, billiards and other activities. The Rush process lasts until Jan. 30 and 31, when bids are given and Rushees decide which group they want to join.



Will Wingfield/Old Gold and Black

Making connections

Junior Sarah Dixon talks with Amy Williams '00, a representative for American Airlines, about career options. The career fair, held in Benson University Center, was an opportunity for students to network and learn about possible career options.

Students return from travels enriched

By Alannah DiBona
Old Gold and Black Reporter

During the fall semester, 61 university students studied abroad, providing them with what they characterized as a unique and enriching academic experience.

Many of the students chose to travel to earn language credits, attend classes in another country or further their studies in an international language major or minor.

The university hosts several programs abroad, including Berlin, Beijing, Dijon, France; London, Tokai, Japan; Venice, Italy and Vienna, Austria.

The students attended classes taught at branches of the university, or in some cases attended a local university, such as the Free University of Berlin.

Several hundred other students studied in programs sponsored by other colleges and universities across the United States to become part of accredited programs in locations like Florence, Italy; Paris, Valencia, Spain and Geneva, Switzerland.

Classroom experiences for the students varied. Many were immersed in a foreign language immediately, and others studied primarily in English. Junior Jona-

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Chey Collura
Junior

than Scarff, who spent the fall semester in Dijon, said that the academics were "easier, yet I was challenged to budget my time since I was travelling virtually every weekend."

Students that studied abroad generally noticed a change in their academic schedule.

"We had a lot more academic freedom," junior Chey Collura, who traveled to Venice, said. "We also had three day travel weekends." Collura said that students in his program travelled to locations such as Austria, France and Greece on their own time.

The students also learned a long list of cultural lessons.

For example, returning students said that in several countries, it is considered impolite for the diner to place his or her hands under the table and the knife and

fork must be kept in hand at all times. In other countries, it is unacceptable to make eye contact with strangers on the street, and in many, talking loudly in public is seen as rude.

Many of the abroad students, who traveled with schools such as Boston University, Vanderbilt University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, agreed that they would recommend their programs to other students.

However, when asked, most admitted that they did often struggle with the language barrier.

"When you can't speak a language fluently, there are two big things that happen that are hard to deal with," junior Margot Lombardo, who attended the Dijon program, said.

"First of all, you realize that if something terrible was to happen, you might not be able to explain it. You are totally vulnerable and helpless."

"Secondly, when you have only limited use of a language, you speak like a textbook, which is hard, because many natives look at you like a static entity," she said.

Lombardo said the experience was "so fantastic that it negates all of the struggles in the end."

BRIEFLY

Campus organizations may have their announcements listed by sending e-mail to news@ogb.wfu.edu, faxing to Ext. 4561 or writing to P.O. Box 7569. The deadline for inclusion in each week's paper is 5 p.m. Monday.

Volunteers wanted in health care fields

Students are invited to volunteer at the Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in over 60 different areas, including patient care, emergency department, operating room, ICU, pediatric/adolescent bedside, physical therapy and more. A minimum commitment of one semester totaling 40 hours of service during that semester will be required.

Students will volunteer one three and a half-hour shift at the same time on the same day each week. The volunteer program works well for those students interested simply in volunteering, or for those interested in gaining experience in the health care field. The final mandatory volunteer orientation session will be held at 6 p.m. Jan. 31 in Babcock Auditorium at the Medical Center. For more information, contact Ashley Phelps, the manager of student development and Brenner volunteers at 713-3519.

Students invited to overseas meeting

Students interested in Overseas Research Center's Field School on Roatan Island are invited to a meeting 5:30 p.m. Jan. 30 in the anthropology office.

Lecturer to focus on character development

Arthur Schwartz of the John Templeton Foundation will speak on character education in public schools in his presentation, "The Competitive Advantage of

Virtue," at 7 p.m. Feb. 1 in Pugh Auditorium as part of the university's Year of Ethics and Honor. Schwartz will answer questions from the audience following his lecture. Schwartz is a former professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and currently directs the character development program at the Templeton Foundation in Pennsylvania.

Applications available for program in Africa

The deadline for students to turn in their application for the university's summer program in Benin, West Africa is Jan. 26. Application materials are available from Sylvain Boko, an assistant professor of economics, in Carswell 117. For more information, contact Boko at Ext. 4461 or by e-mail at bokosh@wfu.edu.

Museum to present Choctaw exhibit

The Museum of Anthropology is hosting "Mississippi Choctaws: Traditional Life in a Modern World" exhibit through Jan. 26. The museum will also host Leanne Howe, a Native American playwright and fiction writer, at 7 p.m. today. The events are free and open to the public.

Receptions will follow both presentations. For more information, call Ext. 5282 or e-mail moo@wfu.edu.

University celebrating Chinese New Year

The university will offer a program to celebrate the Chinese

New Year 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 3 in the theater lobby of Scales Fine Art Center. The program will feature demonstrations and hands-on activities highlighting various aspects of Chinese culture, including calligraphy, face painting, paper folding, tea tasting and acupuncture. Participants will also be able to find their Chinese zodiac signs. The traditional celebratory lion dance and martial arts demonstration are scheduled throughout the afternoon. Experts will lecture on Feng Shui, the ancient Chinese art of design and placement and Tai Chi, a Chinese martial art. Several activities are also planned for children.

The program, which is funded by an Ethics and Leadership grant from the university, is free and open to the public. Traditional Chinese food will be provided. For more information, call Ext. 5675.

In-state government internships available

A total of 100 North Carolina State Government Internships are available in locations across the state in almost any recognized field of study, from accounting to zoology.

A stipend of \$6.75 per hour will be paid for 10 weeks of service, 40 hours per week from May 29 - Aug. 3. To be eligible, a student must be a North Carolina resident attending a college, university, technical institute or community college in North Carolina or an equivalent institution in another state. Students should have an overall grade point average of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale, and must have completed one year of study.

To qualify for a position designated as "Law", a student must

have completed one year of law school. Interns are selected through a competitive process overseen by the North Carolina Internship Council. Selection will be based on a review of applications by the council, student interviews with prospective supervisors, academic records, participation in extracurricular activities and interest in state government. The deadline for application is Feb. 2. Students will be notified of acceptance in late March. More information is available at www.doa.state.nc.us/doi/yaio/intern.htm or by contacting the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office in the North Carolina Department of Administration at (919) 733-9296.

Student government fills BIA vacancies

Student government is seeking three new members for the Board of Investigators and Advisers. The BIA is a 12-member board that advises accused students through the university judicial process. The interviews will be held from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Jan 25 in Benson 349. A sign-up sheet is available on the door of Benson 349 for all interested students.

Reynolds Foundation offers fellowship

The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation has a fellowship available for a North Carolinian who demonstrates an interest in philanthropy, public policy, the non-profit sector and/or community service. The fellowship is a one-year position, with the possibility of renewal for a second year.

The fellowship begins in August

and applications must be post-marked by Feb 15. The fellow acts as a junior program officer and works with the foundation staff in evaluating grant proposals and making site visits. The position is salaried and includes benefits such as a medical plan. Eligible applicants include residents or natives of North Carolina and/or recent graduates of institutions of higher education in the state. Applications can be obtained from college placement offices in North Carolina or by writing the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation at 101 Reynolda Village, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106.

Need based financial aid open to students

Any student who is not currently receiving need-based financial aid but is interested in becoming a recipient for the 2001 - 2002 school year should stop by the Office of Student Financial Aid in Reynolda 4 to obtain information regarding required forms and filing deadlines.

News service set for updates on weather

In the event of inclement weather, university students, faculty and staff will have a variety of options for obtaining information about Reynolda Campus weather related changes.

The News Service will provide local radio stations WFDD 88.5 FM and WSJS 600 AM with updates on any campus closings or schedule changes due to weather conditions.

Students, faculty and staff may call their campus voice mailboxes for announcements by the News Service. In most cases, e-mail announcements will also be distributed to the campus community.

The News Service also maintains a special phone line for weather

related announcements that can be reached at Ext. 5935. Recorded messages are updated often on the line.

Frequently updated information can also be obtained at the Benson University Center information desk.

Scholarship winners announced

Six students have been awarded university scholarships for study at institutions in Germany and Austria for the coming year. Junior Nick Bauer has received the Wake Forest University/Free University of Berlin Exchange Scholarship for two semesters' study at the Free University of Berlin.

Sophomores Jessica Tretler, Mark Maffett, and Jennifer Schneider, junior Kevin Lerch and senior Megan Horton were awarded W. D. Sanders Scholarships for study at the Goethe Institute in Germany during the summer.

The W. D. Sanders Scholarship, which makes awards up to \$2,000 each to students studying abroad, was established in 1989 by Wilmer D. Sanders, professor emeritus of German.

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