

THE PHOTA



The Phota (the Greek word for lights) is a publication of the Valparaiso University Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils



Fraternity and Sorority Community Honors University Faculty and Staff

The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils recently hosted the annual Faculty and Staff Reception to recognize an incredible group of men and women who support the both the community and individual members in a variety of ways. The Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority community honored 11 faculty and staff members who have impacted the lives of students in a positive and encouraging manner.



Honorees nominated by men's fraternities included: Joseph Hawkins, nominated by the men of Lambda Chi Alpha; Lara Pudwell, nominated by the men of Phi Delta Theta; Drew Turro, nominated by the men of Phi Kappa Psi; Alan Ernstein, nominated by the men of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia; Robert Clark, nominated by the men of Phi Sigma Kappa; Cliff Bryan, nominated by the men of Sigma Chi; John Ruff, nominated by the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon; and Matthew Smith, nominated by the men of Sigma Pi.

Honorees nominated by women's sororities included: Lynette Rayman, nominated by the women of Chi Omega; Natalie Muskin-Press, nominated by the women of Kappa Delta; and Christi Wright, nominated by the women of Pi Beta Phi.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 4: *Spring Service Trip Application and Deposit Deadline*

December 4: *Valparaiso University Tree Lighting*

December 5: *SigEp Christmas at Hilltop House*

December 10: *IFC and Panhellenic Officer Transition Workshop*

December 12: *Last Day of Class*

December 14: *Final Exam Midnight Brunch*

These passionate men and women were nominated for their strong support of fraternity and sorority life, as well as encouragement of individual members in the areas of academics and leadership.

Additionally, the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils presented a series of other academic recognitions during the reception. The councils recognized Ben Hoemenn of Sigma Chi, Kristen Wagner of Chi Omega, and Allyson Hofstede of Gamma Phi Beta for their achievement of a cumulative grade point average of a 4.0. Also, Brooke Lefevre, Karina Calvillo, Stephen Sekoulopoulos, and Luke Bridwell were awarded the 2015 Fraternity & Sorority Community Freshman Scholarships.

Chapter Spotlight:

Lambda Chi Alpha

The men of the Lambda Chi Alpha have had a busy fall hosting two philanthropy events. The inaugural Lambda Chi Alpha Wiffle Ball Tournament was held in September followed by the Lambda Chi Alpha Pumpkin Palooza in October with over \$300 dollars raised in philanthropic efforts towards Feeding America. Along with these events, the brotherhood has volunteered with the annual Valparaiso University Day of Caring, as well as taking two separate trips to South Bend in order to help repair a brother's parish.

The men of Lambda Chi Alpha celebrated their 60th anniversary this past Homecoming and had the opportunity to reconnect with brothers before our recolonization as well as some Rho Lambda Tau's (the local fraternity that became Lambda Chi Alpha)! The men also had the opportunity to participate in the International Food Bazaar hosted by VISA (Valparaiso International Student Association) out of the Office of Multicultural Programs.

Excellence comes in all forms for the men of Lambda Chi Alpha. Brother Kevin Goldner recently received the INDOT Engineering Scholarship which includes a summer internship, and Brother Jacob Pritchard was elected the National Residence Hall Honorary President. Brothers Louis Christensen and Michael Burns have been very successful winning a plethora of placement ribbons in their competitive ballroom team, and finally the election of our new executive board will only facilitate more growth within our brotherhood in the coming semester.



Sharing the Good News



At the recent Province 28 workshop for Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, two members of the Valpo Phi Mu Alpha chapter were elected to Province Officer positions. Patrick Burke was elected to serve as the Assistant Collegiate Representative and Eli Argueta was elected to serve as the Province Expansion Officer.



Have a story to share in the next issue of *The Phota*?

Contact:

Lauren Skiniotis or Kyle Crawford

Panhellenic and IFC Vice Presidents of Public Relations

panhellenic.publicrelations@valpo.edu or ifc.publicrelations@valpo.edu

