

THE STANDARD

A Publication of the North-American Interfraternity Conference

Fall 2008

Founded in 1909, the North-American Interfraternity Conference is the trade association representing 72 International and National Men's Fraternities. Through advocacy, collaboration, and education, the NIC works to ensure that fraternities can operate in an environment conducive to their success.

Focus on the NIC Standards

The Standards of the NIC are an integrated part of inter/national policy for each of the 72 member organizations. The NIC believes firmly that full implementation of Standards will lead to high functioning chapters, councils, and fraternity communities.

Over the next year the NIC will reintroduce the NIC Standards. There are many institutions that have full implementation and are already seeing the benefits. It is our hope that by re-educating we will support environments where fraternities can continue to succeed. We will devote each issue of THE STANDARD to several of the NIC Standards.

“No NIC member organization is prohibited from selecting undergraduates for the purpose of establishing a chapter on the campus”

NIC members support the right of students to freely associate, and to exercise freedom of speech. The position statement of the NIC related to expansion is one of the guiding principles of the Conference.

Chapters, councils, and communities are expected to support those groups seeking to form a fraternity on a given campus. This support is one of the most important responsibilities for an IFC, whose priority should be to ensure the success of all fraternities on campus

“The host institution IFC may not deter expansion by withholding membership in the IFC of any NIC member organization”

The primary responsibility of an IFC is to be the chief advocate for the fraternity movement on a given campus. This includes supporting students who are trying to start a new fraternity.

Any group which calls itself a fraternity should be welcomed. Organizational compliance with the Standards of the NIC and the community (not in conflict with the NIC) are the only measures by which groups should be judged.

“Host institutions / IFC will not prohibit NIC

member fraternities from recruiting on campus”

Recruitment is the life blood of the chapter. To prohibit a group from recruiting is communicating to the organization that there is no support for the group to improve, grow, or continue to survive as the prohibition from recruitment is a death sentence to the chapter. The NIC is opposed to this prohibition in ANY and ALL situations.

The NIC is always happy to engage in dialogue regarding Standards implementation. The IFC Academy is open to any council officer or advisor who wishes to attend. The Academy exists to advance NIC Standards implementation and support both fledgling and veteran councils. The NIC also offers Strategic Consultations on campus. For more information please contact NIC headquarters.

NIC Request for 2007 & 2008 Grades

Wouldn't it be great to only submit a grade report to all national organizations once? To have a forum to create a working dialogue and report about each chapter with its correlating national organization? We think so, too. Welcome the NIC Online Directory.

The Online Directory will serve as the academic data collection vehicle, as well as a way to collect and distribute

contact information within the industry.

The NIC calls on you to help advocate for our fraternal communities through your input to the NIC's Online Directory.

By providing the NIC with valuable statistics and accurate data we will be able to better base our arguments in accurate statistical data.

It's important to note that the academic data you input about

each chapter is shared only between you and the correlating national organization. So, if you report academic information about your chapter of Delta Tau Delta, only Delta Tau Delta headquarters staff will be able to view that information.

We are in the process of sending login information via email to fraternity and sorority professionals. This process should be completed by September 15th, if you have not received your login information by that time please email meghan@nicindy.org.

Printed Directory Sale

Don't think you can live without a printed NIC Interfraternity Directory? We are selling the last remaining copies of the 2008 Interfraternity Directory for \$25 to our INTERCHANGE campuses. Visit www.nicindy.org to download the Resource Order Form.

advocate | collaborate | educate

IMPACT Making Strides On Campuses

Fourteen schools hosted an NIC-sponsored IMPACT campus leadership institute in 2007-08, and the 2008-09 schedule is building.

Designed to help fraternity and sorority communities establish an agenda for their future and attain greater success, IMPACT fosters improved relationships among campus leaders through an intensive, interactive curriculum emphasizing problem-solving, leadership development, values-based decision

making, effective communication, and community development.

Through large group sessions, complemented by small group discussions focused on unique issues facing the host campus, change, improvement and growth are the results of an IMPACT weekend.

IMPACT can be scheduled at any time of year with great success, and is particularly effective around times of officer transition. Campuses with IMPACT programs

scheduled for this year include the University of Wyoming, Marshall University, Washburn University, Michigan Tech, Eastern Michigan University, Villanova University, Indiana University, University of Maryland, California University at Irvine, and UNC-Pembroke.

As you begin your school year and identify issues that are not chapter-specific, but can best be addressed through communitywide programming, look to IMPACT.



Any of the NIC staff members are happy to help schedule a program. Contact the office with questions.

New Staff Member at the NIC

William T. Foran III has been named Director of Education and Leadership Development for the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC).

“Will’s enthusiasm and passion for advancing fraternities is exceptional, and it highlighted his candidacy among the many professionals who sought this opportunity,” said Smithhisler.

As director, Foran will develop curriculum and coordinate all of the NIC’s leadership programming, including UIFI, the campus-based program IMPACT, FuturesQuest, and the Alumni Values Institute. He will work closely with fraternal organizations in the development of their leadership programs, and he will be the primary creator of resources and programs to be used by member fraternities and the NIC’s Interchange Program

members. He also will continue to incorporate the NIC Standards into all educational programs and will develop programs to assist member organizations and campuses in achieving success as they implement NIC Standards.

A native of Pottsville, Penn., Foran will join the NIC Oct. 1 after serving three years as assistant director of student activities for Greek life and leadership programs at Western Illinois University, in Macomb, Ill. There he advised and administered all programs and procedures related to the fraternity and sorority community, encompassing 28 NIC, National Panhellenic Conference, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations chapters and three governing councils. In addition, he taught a three-credit-hour course in Greek Leadership each semester.

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Foran has served as the assistant director of student involvement and leadership at Mount Union College, in Alliance, Ohio. He was a graduate assistant for Greek affairs at Carnegie Mellon University, in Pittsburgh, where he also served as assistant director of the Pre-College Program.

A member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity, Foran most recently served as the national vice president of the fraternity’s National Council. In that role

he served on the National Executive Committee, chaired the Standards Committee for the National Conclave, and coordinated and led the Standards and Ethics Board for the National Fraternity.

Foran also served two years as national secretary for Phi Mu Delta fraternity, chairing the Nomination and Slating Committee and handling record-keeping and communications for the National Fraternity, the National Council and National Executive Committee. As director of member education and development for three years, he reviewed, revised and published Phi Mu Delta’s national member education and development materials.

Foran has considerable experience with NIC programs, having served as an IMPACT coordinator, a UIFI facilitator, and an NIC Alcohol Summit facilitator.

Nine Campuses Confirmed for Fall Assessments

A project designed to advance the fraternity and sorority movement within colleges and universities across North America, the Coalition Assessment Project continues to have success.

The Project is sponsored by the NIC, the National Panhellenic Conference, Inc., the Association of Fraternity Advisors, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc., and the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations, Inc. Teams of volunteers from each of those organizations review pre-visit material prior to an on-campus assessment that is a thorough review of the overall health of the fraternity and sorority community. The effort results in a final report presenting findings, as well as

recommendations for strengthening the Greek community with a goal of advancing the overall student community.

The assessment is a collaborative effort with the campus and includes input from sources involved with, and from those who can impact, the health and viability of the local Greek community. The assessment focuses on five target areas within a fraternity and sorority community:

Developing positive interpersonal relationships, advancing current leadership development, strengthening social IQ, citizenship and service learning, advancing academic interests/assessing

graduation rates of members, and determining effectiveness of campus interface with, and support of, the fraternity and sorority community

Teams are being formed for assessments at North Dakota State University, the Metropolitan State College of Denver, University of Wyoming, Southern Methodist University, St. Joseph's University, Fort Hays State University, Georgia Southern University, the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, and San Jose State University.

If you're interested in participating on an assessment team, contact Eric Freeman at (317) 876-4691 or assessment@nicindy.org.

NIC & Phired Up Partnership

A new partnership with Phired Up Productions will expand the reach and advance the Standards of the North-American Interfraternity Conference through values-based recruitment education.

With a common commitment to values-based, year-round recruitment, both the NIC and Phired Up define the long-term partnership goals as the advancement of campus-based Interfraternity Councils, as well as the advancement of the Standards set forth by the North-American Interfraternity Conference.

Through the partnership, campuses can expect a significant expansion in the education of undergraduates regarding the importance of, and benefits derived from, NIC Standards. Phired Up will incorporate and teach the NIC Standards through its programming, including its campus programs, field staff training, national fraternity-specific programs, and regional conferences.

Phired Up programming will be recommended by the NIC to advance the recruitment education needs of campus IFCs. The two organizations also will pair IMPACT and Phired Up programming and will combine the promotion of the expanded offerings on the NIC Web site and NIC Resources List.

Congresswoman Tubbs Jones Leaves Greek Legacy



(from left to right) Chairman of NPC, Julie Burkhard, and NIC Chairman, Bob Marchesani, presented Awards of Distinction with Congresswoman Tubbs Jones at the 2008 Congressional Reception.

The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act (CHIA), and the entire Greek world, lost perhaps its staunchest advocate when Congresswoman

Stephanie Tubbs Jones died last month. The goal of 40 Senate sponsors for CHIA has been reached, and the effort is close to reaching the goal of 218 House

co-sponsors. Progress as we approach the Presidential election will be challenging, and the focus has shifted to key Representatives and Senators with deciding votes in conference committees. NIC staff continue to work with Government Relations Committee Chairman Kevin O'Neill, and your help is essential. Encourage your members to get involved with the Capital Fraternal Caucus, and ask them to contact their Representatives directly through the program's Facebook application at www.cfcfacebook.com or by visiting www.fraternalcaucus.com

UIFI Reaches Record Number of Student Leaders

Nearly 72 percent of student respondents to the 2008 Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute follow-up survey believe they are a better leader because of UIFI. Nearly 84 percent agreed that UIFI deepened their commitment to fraternity life, and nearly 89 percent would recommend UIFI to a peer.

That strong response reinforces the benefits of UIFI, which offers student leaders the opportunity to explore, define, and enhance their leadership skills, personal awareness, commitment to their fraternity or sorority, and to grow to expect values-based action from themselves and those they lead. A five-day journey, with each day building upon the last, UIFI is



Students participating in UIFI's community service day, Into The Streets, at the Bloomington, Indiana Boys & Girls Club.

interactive, fun, challenging, and intentional. Greek student leaders experience hands-on interaction, experiential activities, discussion time, and personal reflection time through programming focused on positive aspects of the fraternity and sorority experience.

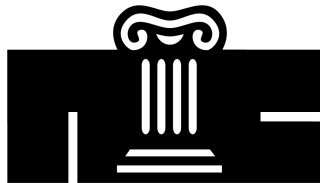
Student leaders discuss how to develop a vision of positive change, how to lead their chapters in living their ritual, and how to instill courage in others through character and commitment to do what is right. More specifically, each participant devises a plan to improve current chapter direction, and each is

challenged to develop a personal plan of action and to make a commitment to leading their organizations through the change process.

The student demand for this challenging leadership programming continues to increase. This year two additional sessions were added to accommodate the 792 students who participated, up from 627 students participating in nine sessions in 2007. Additional student interest means additional adult facilitation, and 149 fraternity/sorority headquarters staff members, Greek advisors, non-profit leaders and volunteers supported the 311 NIC members, 314 NPC members, 18 NPHC, five NALFO, and 65 other student leaders who participated.

The 2009 UIFI dates are being determined now. Strong facilitators always are needed.

Looking For Something More Than UIFI or IMPACT?



North-American Interfraternity Conference

In three short words, the mission of the NIC can be defined. Everything the NIC does focuses on *advocacy* for the fraternal movement, *collaboration* with our partners and with all stakeholders in advancing the fraternal movement, and *educating* both our internal and external audiences about trends, norms, best practices, and the value of

today's Greek experience.

Programming is one way the NIC pursues its mission to advocate, collaborate and educate. We see value in both the individual, chapter and council education.

In focusing on the education and advancement of Standards via the councils, IFC Academy puts fraternity executives, NIC professional staff, attorneys, and other industry leaders with student leaders to discuss the importance of being a values-based organization that is truly advocating for the needs of fraternity life on their campus. The 2009 IFC Academy will take place January 24 in Indianapolis. Registration is

available online now at www.nicindy.org.

Futures Quest provides leadership training to men who have joined a fraternity in the last year. The focus of the weekend, spent outdoors at a beautiful retreat site in Indianapolis, is identifying personal strengths and limitations, developing leadership and communication skills, exploring personal values and strength of conviction, and making a commitment to fraternal ideals.

Three sessions will be offered in December and January, and the deadline for registration is December 1. Direct your new members to www.nicindy.org.

Save the Dates:

FuturesQuest:
December 20-22,
January 4-6; 9-11

IFC Academy:
January 24, 2009
in Indianapolis

**Award of Distinction
Applications:**
Due March 2

UIFI 2009 TBD

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