A letter from the President

I would like to start by saying thank you to everyone that served on the fall 2013 executive council for APO-Mu. I had a really great experience serving our chapter as president this fall. I look forward to the future of Mu as I pass this role onto Ellen Hallberg, our Spring 2014 chapter president. Our chapter took great strides this semester to increase brotherhood and planned some really great events!

Fall project turned out amazingly well and we collected 181 cans of food for a local food pantry, Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard. This semester, we also decided to throw a winter formal to celebrate the end of a great semester. We initiated 16 pledges into our chapter and I would like to officially welcome all of our new initiates!

Mu chapter continues to strive for excellence in the three cardinal principles: leadership, friendship, and service. As we near Mu’s 85th anniversary, we look forward to furthering our chapter’s work and expanding our reach of service.

It is my hope that the future of Mu includes more involvement and recognition on campus as well as an even greater increase in the feeling of brotherhood.

In Leadership, Friendship, and Service,
Katie Schuler

“APO has allowed me to connect with both students on campus and the greater Bloomington community. This fall I had the opportunity to be a service chair for the Interfaith Winter Shelter. The experience has been truly indescribable!”

- Amanda Hornbach, active member
Serving Bloomington & Beyond
Kacie Cornelius, VP of Service

I was incredibly proud of all of the service chairs this past semester. There were several events that went well due to all of their hard work and dedication.

**Fall Project:**
Our fall project this past semester was a Scooby-Doo-themed scavenger hunt, for which all participating teams of 3-5 people had to donate at least 5 cans. The event was planned and carried out by Audrey Elliott and Ramia Ahmed, who did a spectacular job despite some quick change in plans. We ended up with 10 teams and 181 cans which will be donated to Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard. This event was a success and all teams got very into it!

**Service Projects:**
Other projects that Mu participated in this past semester included the Boys and Girls Club Halloween Festival, Wildcare Haunted Walk, Habitat Rake-A-Thon, and Wonderlab Pumpkin Launch, just to name a few. For IU Dance Marathon this semester we had 15 members participate, all of whom individually raised more than 500 dollars for Riley Children’s Hospital. A potential goal for next fall is a larger participation in IU Dance Marathon to both assist IUDM in raising money for the Riley kids and promote brotherhood bonding.

**Rubber Duck Planning:**
For the first time we started to do Rubber Duck planning in the fall semester, with very much thanks to Dylan Richardson for the time he put into it. This has gone very well and has put Rubber Duck in the minds of all APO members and influenced people to get involved with the event next semester. I am very much looking forward to seeing how the event plays out!

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Leading the Way
This semester has brought leadership to a whole new level. We continued the event of Big/Little speed dating. We let the potential bigs and the pledges mingle and get to know each other to allow everyone the chance to meet. Also, this semester we put together the first Big/Little Week! The week following the pledge retreat, we provided different service and social opportunities for big and littles to bond, and meet other pledges and their big. The week concluded with a promoted social at the drive in for pledges and their bigs that was well attended.

To make being a service chair more of a leadership position, we gave each chair the opportunity to talk at chapter meetings and explain their service project. This allowed for brothers to learn more about the various projects and for service chairs to be more of a leader.

-Sarah Bloomrosen,
VP of Leadership
Mu’s Money

This semester in Mu, times were good. Dues were paid and we stayed within the budget! We had to be a little flexible with the mid-semester addition of the formal banquet fusion, but at the end of the day, Mu definitely benefitted from the event!

Staying within our budget is always positive. We made every dollar count, both from dues money as well as from donations from the community. We were able to fund various events, have prizes for the fall project and still have some left over to spend next semester!

I’m confident that moving forward Mu will be in a position to succeed. With an increased budget, Mu will be able to provide more service opportunities and bigger events for the brothers.

This semester was very positive overall. The new initiates have a lot of skill to bring to chapter and I’m really enthusiastic for what we can do in the spring!

In LFS,

Peter Bernardi
VP of Finance

Membership & More

By: Maddy Vogg, VP of Membership

This semester was definitely one of experimenting and testing new ways to embrace the brotherhood in our fraternity.

Socials

To bring us together outside of service we added some events that allowed us to bond by doing activities we might not do alone, such as a trip to the drive-in, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, and a special “Friendsgiving” potluck before we all headed our separate ways home for break. We also hosted a variety of events during Big-Little week, my personal favorite being the heated game of Family Feud, which not only allowed many Littles to meet new Bigs, but other actives as well. We will continue to find new ways to embrace our brotherhood and have great plans for next semester to do so, including activities with our chapters to embrace the bond within the fraternity as a whole.

Winter Formal

We did make a large change this semester though, hosting a winter formal in place of our usual banquet. Brothers came together to convert a room in the Union into a decorated-candle-lit-masquerade ball, filled with dancing, fun, and tradition: it truly was a spectacular night. It took a lot of hard work by many individuals but it truly paid off leading to what will hopefully become a new (or perhaps “reborn”) tradition that our chapter will continue to do for many years to come.

Pledge Class

This semester Mu initiated 16 pledges into chapter. Our new initiates have shown commitment for service through completing their pledge requirements, and we look forward to discovering their full potential as they become more involved in chapter activities!

This semester, pledges became involved in several chapter service activities, as well as raising money for Templeton Elementary School. The Pledge Class of Fall 2013 is already showing promise, as many new initiates have already stated interest in important leadership positions for next semester!
Advisors:

Mu could not keep running without the help of outstanding advisors. Paul Irwin has been a dedicated advisor for many semesters, and this semester Mu welcomed three new advisors; Teresa Gotthardt, Ryan Jochim, and Zach Sanderson. We would like to thank our advisors for taking time and energy to meet with us and help Mu chapter!

In Leadership, Friendship, and Service,
The Fall 2013 Executive Board
Katie Schuler, President
Kacie Cornelius, VP of Service
Maddy Vogg, VP of Membership
Peter Bernardi, VP of Finance
Sarah Bloomrosen, VP of Leadership
Ellen Hallberg, VP of Communications
Jessica Joseph & Derek Giemont, Pledge Trainers

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