

# The Scoop

Updates, Announcements & Important Information

## Letter from our Office

As the Fall 2018 semester comes to a close, I wanted to write to the advisors who give of their time and energy to the Lehigh University Fraternity and Sorority community. First and foremost -thank you! Thank for working with your chapters and guiding our students in developing a values based experience and creating a strong fraternity and sorority community.

The semester started with some new staff members coming to our team (p.3). The exciting news about new staff members, leads into some bittersweet news about staffing departures. Early in the semester, Ms. Brigette Gardner left her position at Lehigh University to pursue new opportunities at York College. Brigette's dedication and commitment to students will be missed. Later in the semester, Ms. Ashley Baudoin, the Assistant Dean / Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs left to pursue other opportunities at Clemson University. Ashley had been at Lehigh since 2012 when she started as an assistant director in OFSA. She was promoted to the Director position in 2015. Ashley was instrumental in leading the office through changes in Accreditation, developing the Advisor Academy and bringing cutting edge educational programs to the community. We wish Ashley and Brigette good luck in the future. The search process for these positions will begin during the Spring 2019 semester.

In November we hosted the second annual advisor academy. With 24 attendees representing 16 chapters it was again a successful program. Highlights of the event included an update from the IFC Leadership, a program about the intersection of mental health and substance use by community members, and conversations with student conduct and housing services. Thank you to those who attended and we hope that those of you who missed out can attend in Fall 2019.

In the fall, Governor Tom Wolf signed the Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Law. This law represents changes to Pennsylvania's hazing laws. More specific information regarding this law can be found online [here](#). Advisors should take the time to review this material and speak to their chapters about activities that could be in violation of the law and Lehigh University Policy.

In closing I want to thank all of you for your dedication to Lehigh University and our campus Greek community. As the landscape around Fraternity and Sorority Life continues to change, stable advisor relationships are the key to maintaining strong values based experiences for our undergraduate members.

Sincerely,  
Chris Mulvihill, Associate Dean of Students

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## Recap & Looking Ahead

PREGAME and Intervene continued to be successful prevention efforts in the Fall 2018 semester reaching over 800 students. Be sure to check out the assessment insights for each program by visiting the [Reports](#) section of our website.

[Parent & Family webinars](#) continue to be an asset in connecting with these important stakeholders in the Greek experience. OFSA will be hosting 3 opportunities to discuss recruitment, new member education, hazing and reporting information.

Hazing Prevention Week will be held February 4-8. Throughout the week our office will host a number of different activities to raise awareness on what constitutes as hazing, how to report hazing allegations, along with discussions on activities/events chapters can offer that build a sense of community without crossing any hazing lines.

However, to help kick off our Hazing Prevention Week, [Jim and Evelyn Piazza, who lost their son Tim due to hazing at Penn State just over a year ago, will be on campus sharing their story on Thursday, January 31](#). Additional details regarding their presentation can be found on our website

New Member Education plans will be posted on our [website](#) as in previous years. In addition to the orientation session co-facilitated by the chapter's new member educator and a member of our staff, OFSA is introducing a new community wide program for Panhellenic and IFC new members. The goal of this program is to help students understand that they have joined a community, not just a chapter, meet and interact with campus partners who can serve as resources to them, as well as address social norms and expectations. Professional staff and student leaders will co-lead these sessions.



## Mark your Calendars

### Houses Open

JANUARY 20

### First Day of Classes

JANUARY 21

### Panhellenic Recruitment

JANUARY 16-19

### Panhellenic Bid Day

JANUARY 20

### Panhellenic Initiation

### Deadline

MARCH 2

### IFC Recruitment

JANUARY 20-31

### IFC Bid Day

FEBRUARY 1

### IFC Initiation Deadline

MARCH 23

### Spring Break

MARCH 11-15

### Accreditation

APRIL 11-14 & 25-28

## Base Camp

OFSA's premier leadership weekend was held September 7-9, 2018. Base Camp is a 3 day overnight retreat with Greek leaders fostering authentic dialogue and placing emphasis on Collaborative Connections and Inclusive Leadership. Participants develop meaningful relationships and support networks to aid them in creating positive change to move the fraternity and sorority community forward.

At Base Camp, participants with different experiences and backgrounds engage in a variety of exercises and activities, called to play the role of both the teacher and the learner at different times throughout the weekend. Authentic conversation about the reality for our students and our fraternity and sorority community is necessary for creating positive change, and requires participants to move from their comfort zone to their learning edge throughout the experience. Base Camp is a setting which fosters such conversations, while allowing participants to develop relationships and meaningful support networks to aid them through their present and future challenges.

45 council and chapter leaders attended this year in Pocono Springs, PA. To read more about students' experiences, check out this [blog entry](#).





## Staff Updates



Welcome to Erin Andersen, Assistant Director, that joined our team in September! Erin joined us from Chi Phi Fraternity's National Headquarters, where she served as Director of Member Education for the past 4 years. In this role, Erin worked with Chi Phi chapters located across the country to ensure they performed at optimal levels, and she possesses a strong background in curriculum development, positive risk management practices, and chapter operations. Erin brings 14 years total experience as an educator to our team, and she completed her Bachelor of Arts

(May 2004) and Masters in English Education (December 2006) degrees from North George College and State University. Erin has been working with IFC as the primary advisor in addition to coordinating community New Member Education efforts and advising chapters.

Searches to fill both vacant positions of Assistant Dean/Director and Assistant Director will be completed in the spring.

Welcome to Ashley Strause, the new Administrative Coordinator in OFSA! Ashley joined our team on December 3rd. Ashley will be providing critical support to all of our fraternities and sororities as well as our staff. She comes to Lehigh after serving in the Parkland School District for several years in a variety of teaching roles.

Next time you call or stop by campus, be sure to introduce yourself or reach out and welcome her via email at [ams718@lehigh.edu](mailto:ams718@lehigh.edu).





# Advisor Spotlight: Catherine Keenan

Alumni Advisor, Alpha Omicron Pi

***Why do you volunteer with Alpha Omicron Pi and the Greek community at Lehigh?***

To give back, and to keep the Greek system alive and strong at Lehigh. Being in a sorority was an important experience in my life, helping to shape my leadership skills, my personality and my values. In these times with so many negative headlines, some people are calling into question the value and relevance of the Greek system, and I believe that those of us who benefited from the sorority and fraternity experience have an opportunity to help guide, mentor and coach the young people who are leading these chapters today. I love seeing how these promising young women are learning and growing every day, facing challenges and problem solving, setting goals and motivating the sisters to achieve them.

***What are some of the highlights of your time as an advisor?***

AOII's tagline is "Inspire Ambition" and I think that's so relevant to young women at Lehigh. The students are so bright and ambitious, and they are craving inspiration and opportunities to develop their leadership skills.

My favorite part of advising is seeing how they change so much from the time the new members arrive on bid day through the time they graduate; it's just two years but they grow up so much, and it's fun to be part of that.

***What are your hopes for the Greek community in the future?***

I hope that the focus of Greek life can shift away from drinking, and toward the more positive aspects of Greek life.



***Tenure:*** 5 years  
***Undergrad Institution:*** Lehigh University, 1986  
***Day Job:*** Vice President, Public Affairs, Sustainability and EH&S for Trinseo S. A.  
***Current City:*** Philadelphia, PA

**Looking for answers?**

**Check out the Advisor Resources section of the OFSA website!**

