

THE STANDARD

A Publication of the North-American Interfraternity Conference

Fall 2009

FOUNDED IN 1909, THE NORTH-AMERICAN INTERFRATERNITY CONFERENCE IS THE TRADE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING 73 INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL MEN'S FRATERNITIES. THROUGH ADVOCACY, COLLABORATION, AND EDUCATION, THE NIC WORKS TO ENSURE THAT FRATERNITIES CAN OPERATE IN AN

NIC CEO to Receive AFA Top Honor

afa Pete Smithhisler, NIC president and CEO, will receive the Jack L. Anson Award, an honor the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors (AFA) presents annually "to a well-respected individual not in the field of higher education, who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the fraternity/sorority community." The criteria for the award recipient is that s/he "assists in developing partnerships with higher education and the interfraternal community, fosters positive change to advance the fraternal movement, and has served as a role model for students."

"During his many years of service to the NIC, Pete has continued to be an advocate for campus-based fraternity and sorority advisors and for the NIC's partnership with AFA. At his core, Pete values and believes in 'fraternity' in its purest form and works everyday to move other invested people and organizations in that direction." said Carolyn Whittier, president of the AFA Board of Directors and associate director of programs and educational services at Virginia Commonwealth University.



The Jack L. Anson Award was established in 1982 in honor of the retiring executive director of the National Interfraternity Conference. Among the more than 25 recipients who have contributed greatly to the fraternity and sorority movement over the last quarter-century are industry luminaries Jonathan Brant, Hon. Edward Pease and George Spaysk, among many others.

The award will be presented December 9 in Jacksonville, Fla., at the awards banquet that concludes the four-day AFA Annual Meeting.

NIC Increases Value to Members Through Innovative New Website

The NIC has refocused the design and content of its website, www.nicindy.org, to increase its value as an educational and consulting tool. The new platform will allow the NIC's 73 member fraternities to more quickly and effectively access materials for leadership training, online conferences, NIC programs, and industry news using blogs, forums and members-only features.

"One goal of the redesigned site is to engage and inform our members in ways that are purposeful and relevant to them," said NIC President and CEO Pete Smithhisler. "The online world is always changing, as is content, the distribution methods of content, and the needs and wants of today's college students. To continue to effectively engage our members, and to aid them in engaging their members, our content, and especially the vehicles we use to drive it, must be current and relevant."

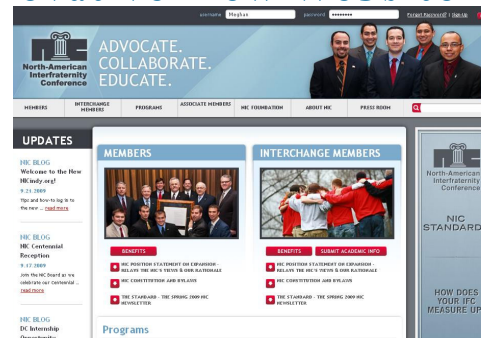
Designed by Indianapolis-based Mediasauce, the new site reaches out primarily to the headquarters staff of the NIC-member fraternities and to Greek advisors at the

more than 850 colleges and universities with fraternity chapters.

The site's functionality for fraternity men includes forums, news feeds, resource files and links sharing, materials traditionally provided by the NIC, and RSS Greek news. For headquarter and university professionals, the functionality includes a directory of contact information, special resources file and links sharing, as well as RSS Greek news.

The www.nicindy.org went live in September and is serving as the gateway to the NIC's two microsities:

www.fraternityinfo.com, designed to reach the high school senior who is bound for college and interested in learning why joining a fraternity could be one of the best choices he makes at school. The website also provides information for parents, student leaders of fraternity chapters, with the goal of dispelling stereotypes and being a source of credible information to help develop the next generation of fraternity members and leaders; and



www.nicstandards.com: This microsite will educate student members, staff, and volunteer leadership of NIC-member fraternities about the Standards through a vehicle more relevant, entertaining and effective in reaching today's college men.

More about microsities, and their direct benefit to member fraternities can be found at www.nicindy.org. With your log-in to www.nicindy.org, you can view the directory, post on and review the forum, access resource information, and more. If you haven't logged on, visit this link for instructions: <http://www.nicindy.org/blog/welcome-to-the-new-nicindy.org/>. If you have questions or need help contact Meghan@nicindy.org.

Nearly 1,000 Students Participate in Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute

One of the most powerful aspects of UIFI is the sense of community created in five short days and the personal empowerment that occurs among the participants as they build skills and create plans that will elevate their chapters and communities.

This year, 920 graduates, representing 114 fraternal affiliations and 253 colleges and universities across North-

America had this to say about the nine national sessions held over the summer at Indiana University:

- 97% agreed or strongly agreed that they are a better leader because of UIFI
- 98% agreed that UIFI deepened their commitment to Greek life
- 98% agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend UIFI to a peer

Surveys also saw students consistently rating significant

growth in the areas of leadership development, importance of linking values to decision making, personal commitment to integrity as a leader, commitment to leaving a legacy, and commitment to living their Ritual. UIFI graduates consistently rate UIFI as one of the best and most impactful leadership experiences they have participated in.

The NIC is planning for the twentieth year of UIFI in 2010 and looking forward to con-

tinuing the success and partnerships forged over the history of the program. In addition to nine national sessions in 2009, Purdue University, the University of Minnesota and The Ohio State University hosted campus-based UIFI sessions, and all was made possible by the 25 student interns who volunteered throughout the summer as well as the 189 facilitators who donated time and talent in order to contribute to student and UIFI success.



Tenth Year of the Jon Williamson Futures Quest to Continue New Member Benefits

This winter, for the tenth year, the NIC will again sponsor the Jon Williamson Futures Quest Institute, providing training to men who have joined a fraternity in the past year. The focus of the weekend-long program is helping men new to their chapters identify personal strengths and limitations, develop leadership and communication skills, explore personal values and strength of conviction, and make

a commitment to fraternal ideals. Futures Quest is a unique and proactive program that includes a high adventure outdoor challenge course as well as opportunities to learn from peers across the country. Small group facilitators are selected from a pool of student leaders and each session is led by two NIC staff members.

When asked, 92 percent of attendees report being prepared

to be a better leader in their fraternity because of Futures Quest. Ninety-one percent of attendees report having a better understanding of the relationship of ritual and values to fraternity life because of the experience, and 89 percent of attendees say they will make positive changes to their chapter as a result of the program.



Futures Quest will benefit new members and future leaders

from any organization or chapter. Consider providing funding for men who will go on to benefit and lead your organization. Two sessions of Futures Quest are scheduled to be held at Camp Tecumseh, in Central Indiana, December 19-21, 2009 and January 7-9, 2010. The registration fee for Futures Quest 2010 will remain \$395, and you can learn more at <http://www.nicindy.org/programs/futures-quest/> or by emailing Will at foran@nicindy.org.

Coalition Assessment Project: Nearly Three Years and 40 Schools Later

By the end of School Year 2008-09, 35 schools had been assessed since the Coalition Assessment Project began in March, 2007. This fall, assessments at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, University of Washington, James Madison University, and the College of William & Mary will bring the total to 39.

There continues to be a need for key staff and volunteers to be part of teams from both fraternities and sororities. The skill set required of team members is a

depth of knowledge, an appreciation of the fraternity/sorority life, understanding of assessor vs. consultant role. To facilitate the need, a team leader training session will be held during the AFA Annual Meeting for those who have been on, or led, teams since the project began.

Over the course of the Project's launch, several trends in terms of schools' strengths and challenges have been identified, and chief among them is the need for adequate budgets and staff; the need for additional adult involvement

to add value to chapter life and to help reduce risky behavior; and issues with housing.

Common student themes are the lack of leadership program participation on and off campus; the lack of coordination between Greek councils; the lack of understanding of public and campus relations; and recurring negative themes of hazing, underage drinking, unrecognized chapters, and poor neighbor relations. On the positive side, fraternity and sorority members continue to have high GPAs in

comparison to the student body. The events they create, promote and host raise extraordinary philanthropy dollars, and the community service hours performed have tangible impact on the members and those for whom the service is performed.

ATO CEO Wynn Smiley chairs the nine-person Coalition Assessment Project group of partners that involves members of the NIC, NPC, NPHC, NALFO, and the AFA. Eric Freeman is the project manager. To volunteer for an assessment team, contact Eric at assessment@nicindy.org.

The City May Be Windy, but the Board Meeting Wasn't

At Sigma Alpha Epsilon headquarters in Evanston, Ill., the NIC Board met in August to discuss many topics within the three pillars of this organization – Advocate, Collaborate and Educate – the highlights of discussion are:

- We are acting on new strategies and approaches in getting the College Housing and Infrastructure Act (CHIA) passed by Congress.
- The NIC has focused on successfully deepening relationships with the higher education community and with umbrella organizations (NPHC, NPC, NALFO, AFA, FEA), and stakeholder partner relationships are strong.
- The NIC has made significant advancements in digital media and marketing (reported below).
- The NIC is continuing its advancement of the Standards, particularly open expansion.
- The board discussed recreating a “Board Liaison” concept, where each board member would have a relationship with each of several fraternities.
- The board also discussed the value of the caucus teleconferences calls.
- The NIC’s relationship with the NICF is continuing to deepen.
- The board discussed its role in visioning for the industry, particularly
 - helping define the college student of 2020
- education questions and the things that will change on campuses
- trend analysis with other trade associations
- how nontraditional education might impact the fraternity community
- The board confirmed its ongoing affirmation of the Awards of Distinction program:
 - The Award of Distinction is presented in four categories; Undergraduate, Chapter, Alumni, and Council. Additional information about the awards can be found at <http://www.nicindy.org/programs/nic-awards-of-distinction/>.
 - You may submit the same packet that your chapter award winners turned in. The NIC only asks that it be accompanied by a letter of nomination from the Chief Staff Officer or Chief Volunteer specific to the Award of Distinction.
 - There is no limit to how many chapters or men you may nominate.
 - Nominations can be submitted now.
- The board discussed the impact of campus IFC’s and the data needed in order to understand whether they are supportive of NIC Standards, whether they have a beneficial role in greater involvement with the NIC, etc.
- The board spent considerable time reviewing policy governance and hosted Miriam Carver to review monitoring and visioning and job responsibilities.

NYC Centennial Reception

Saturday, November 7, 2009

at 6 p.m.

University Club

1 W 54th St

New York, NY

Cocktails & Hors d’oeuvres

Coat & Tie Required

Cocktail Attire Appropriate

Cost for reception: \$60

R.S.V.P. to admin@nicindy.org

Accommodations:

Grand Hyatt New York

109 East 42nd Street

New York, NY 10017

1-800-233-1234

Schedule:

Saturday

8-5pm NIC Board Meeting

6-8pm Centennial Reception

Sunday

9am Walking tour with Greg Hauser

For more information, contact

Meghan Ward-Bopp at

meghan@nicindy.org

Add International Distinction to Your Organization’s Award Recipients

The deadline isn’t until March, but the conclusion of convention season presents an opportunity to recognize outstanding fraternity men and chapters while their achievements on behalf of your organization are still fresh. Throughout NIC summer and fall travels, the staff and volunteers have witnessed the recognition of amazing fraternity men and chapters from across North America. To further the recognition of good work, good men and good outcomes, consider submit-

ting your fraternity award recipients as nominees for the NIC Award of Distinction.

Award of Distinction winners are featured on the NIC web sites nicstandards.com, fraternityinfo.com, and nicindy.org as role models and spokespersons for the positive impact the fraternity movement has had on society and college campuses. The NIC highlights



these men and chapters to not only identify best practices for high performance, but also as models to help other fraternity communities prosper.

The Award of Distinction is presented in four categories; Undergraduate, Chapter, Alumni, and Council, and additional information about the awards can be found at www.nicindy.org/programs/nic-awards-of-distinction/. The nomi-

nation process is simple in that it permits member fraternities to submit the same packet your inter/national award winners submitted as long as it is accompanied by a letter of nomination from the Chief Staff Officer or Chief Volunteer specific to the Award of Distinction. There is no limit to how many chapters or men you may nominate.

Send nomination packets to:
NIC Award Nominating Committee
3901 West 86th Street, Suite 390

A Moment With the NIC Standards

To provide understanding to member fraternities and constituent groups we provide the second installment of "A Moment with the NIC Standards," a column exploring elements of the NIC Standards for Member Fraternities.

"What should my IFC be doing with the NIC Standards?"

The purpose behind the NIC Standards was to unify men's general college fraternities under a banner of common practices and minimum expectations. These expectations were debated and passed in 2004. From that point forward the NIC and member fraternities have worked to implement these at national, regional, and local levels.

Many campuses have been supportive from the very beginning and others are still undergoing the implementation process for the Standards. Your campus IFC plays a central role in advocating for and educating about the importance of full

implementation of the NIC Standards. Consider this:

A campus IFC has, as its central mission, the creation and support of environments where fraternities can succeed. NIC member organizations rely on the IFC to assist in campus and fraternity community compliance with each of the Standards.

The NIC believes in a healthy and mutually beneficial relationship between the host institution and the inter/national fraternities that make up its community. The IFC, while not an NIC member itself, is made up of organizations that are members of the NIC. This unique relationship allows for mutual policies under which all organizations must operate. The standards provide a baseline of expectations that each IFC should become familiar with and should place in their own governing documents.

Chapters that are operating in compliance with the NIC Standards will be high functioning

student organizations. A campus IFC can use the standards as educational tools, topics for discussion, and an instrument for measurement and yearly goal-setting. In addition the standards provide direction for some of the most important issues that an IFC will face, those dealing with recruitment and expansion.

Every day at NIC Headquarters we receive inquiries as to the role and expected function of an IFC. Our answer is simple; "ensure that fraternities can succeed through full implementation of the Standards". This answer is met with a myriad of reactions. From, "What exactly are the standards?", to "we're trying our best to implement but we're being met with roadblocks from a couple of chapters or the institution." In response to these reactions the NIC has created several tools that your community can use to assist in standards education and implementation.

In addition to the revised

nicindy.org we have created an educational tool at www.nicstandards.com. Your campus community can use this site to evaluate your council and locate areas that are in most need of further education. You can also find additional resources that your IFC can use for programming, marketing, and advocacy efforts.

IFC Academy.

As your council continues to evolve into the representative body of all the fraternities on your campus the NIC provides a national workshop setting which brings together councils, advisors, NIC professional staff, and international fraternity executives to share best practices, network with peers, and find answers to some of the most commonly asked questions. Information about IFC Academy can be found at www.nicindy.org/programs/ifc-academy or by contacting NIC HQ.

The tools provided by the NIC are exhaustive in their nature and can help your IFC become a high functioning organization.

Expansion Opportunities? 17 Colleges Set to Launch Football Teams to Fill Voids for Student Activity

As expansion directors map the next year and as fraternity executives map the even longer-term vision of their operations, remember that NIC organizations have a product that can help schools achieve their goals – in leadership development, student engagement, in attracting more male students, and in bolstering student life.

In September, the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) highlighted that five new college football teams are set to take the field for the first time this season with a dozen more programs set to launch between 2010 and 2013. Read this excerpt from the NFF news release, comparing fraternity benefits to a

campus community with what the NFF believes to be the benefits of a football team. "With more than one million high school football participants and only 66,000 playing college football, it makes sense that colleges would want to give high school players more options for playing at the next level," said NFF Chairman Archie Manning.

The 17 colleges set launch football programs will boost the overall ranks of four-year institutions carrying the sport to 742 schools. Nearly 30 schools have added football during the last decade. In addition to football's ability to bring in male applicants, the sport also plays a role in attracting students interested in

band, cheerleading, sports journalism, sports business, exercise science and other related areas of study.

"We're in a city where we really need to enhance the idea of going to college and finishing high school. If we can put a product in the Alamodome that kids in this community can come and watch and be a part of, that may give them the idea that it's cool to go to college," said UTSA Athletics Director Lynn Hickey at a press conference announcing the launch.

Programs Launching in 2009

Old Dominion University (Norfolk, Va.)
University of the Incarnate Word (San Antonio, Texas)

University of New Haven (West Haven, Conn.)

Anna Maria College (Paxton, Mass.)

Castleton State College (Castleton, Vt.)

Programs Launching in '10-'13

University of South Alabama (Mobile, Ala.)

Georgia State University (Atlanta, Ga.)

Lamar University (Beaumont, Texas)

University of Texas at San Antonio (San Antonio, Texas)

University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, N.C.)

LeMoyné-Owen College (Memphis, Tenn.)

Pacific University (Forest Grove, Ore.)

Presentation College (Aberdeen, S.D.)

Stevenson University (Owings Mills, Md.)

Hendrix College (Conway, Ark.)

Lindsey Wilson College (Columbia, Ky.)

Notre Dame College (South Euclid, Ohio)

NIC Board Gains New Leadership: Delta Chi's Chuck Mancuso and Sigma Alpha Mu's Larry Leib elected directors

Charles A. “Chuck” Mancuso and Lawrence J. “Larry” Leib have joined the NIC Board of Directors after being elected by the membership. As members of the nine-man board, both men will work with NIC member fraternities, other fraternal trade organizations and the higher education community throughout their two-year terms. They will provide direction and leadership for the conference and guidance related to products, impact, benefits, and outcomes of the organization.



Mancuso is a graduate of The Florida State University. He also holds a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Florida College of

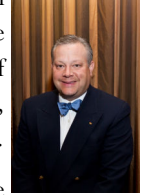
Law and a Mediation Certification from Nova University. A civil trial attorney and mediator with Charles A. Mancuso, P.A., his firm in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., he has been active with Delta Chi for the more than two decades. Immediately after graduating, he became his chapter's alumni advisor, and in the intervening years has served on the international fraternity's law committee and its Board of Regents. He has served as international treasurer, two years as international president, and he currently serves as legal advisor to the Delta Chi Educational Foundation.

A certified divemaster who calls himself “a continual student of the sport with a passion

for the beauty and challenges of the ocean,” Mancuso also is a member of the Professional Association of Diving Instructors and is a certified open water diver, advanced diver, rescue diver, and a Nitrox and Deep Air diver. He and his wife, Jo Lynn, have two children, Brittany and Christopher.

Mancuso joins the board with Larry Leib, a graduate of Michigan State University, where as a Heritage Foundation National Scholar he earned a bachelor's degree in American public affairs—urban economics. While attending Michigan State he became a member of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity. Leib also holds a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Detroit School of

Law and a masters degree in kinesiology, with an emphasis in sport business, from the University of Michigan. He is a trial, appellate and arbitration attorney with the Law Offices of Lawrence J. Leib, his firm in Detroit.



A member of the Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity Board of Directors for more than a decade, Leib was elected its president in 2006, serving through 2008. While on the board, he created the fraternity's annual International Service Project, an event now in its fifth year. He also oversaw the launch of Sigma Alpha Mu's centennial celebration and \$5 million endowment campaign. He and his wife Dori live in Farmington Hills with their son

New Vice Presidents Expand Their Roles at the NIC

Meghan Ward-Bopp was promoted to vice president of member involvement, and Ben Pendry was named vice president of advancement at the recent NIC Board meeting.

In these new roles Pendry will continue to be the organization's advocate for NIC Standards implementation. He also will expand his leadership within the NIC Foundation (NICF) and the NIC's public relations and marketing programs. Ward-Bopp will advance the Interchange and Associate Member programs and continue to provide management of the organization's annual meeting and ongoing development of its social networking activities that includes three new web sites.

“I am proud of Meghan's accom-

plishments and know her ongoing leadership will continue to advance the organization and breadth of services we provide to our membership,” said NIC President and CEO Peter D. Smithhisler. “Ben's on-the-ground work with students, student groups and alumni on campuses around the U.S. has advanced the NIC considerably, and I look forward to him taking this leadership role as we continue to work with our members in engaging their members and advancing the purpose and meaning behind the Standards.”



A native of Crawfordsville, Ind., Ward-Bopp holds a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism from Ball State University, where she joined Alpha Chi Omega Fraternity and served as chapter

president. She continues active volunteer involvement in Alpha Chi Omega, serving as national risk management and standards specialist.

A native of North Wilkesboro, N.C., Pendry earned a B.S. degree from Western Carolina University. At WCU, Pendry joined Sigma Chi Fraternity, serving in numerous



roles, including chapter president. His ongoing work recently earned him the Fraternity's Grand Consul Citation. Pendry is a member of the National Eagle Scout Association, the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors, the Northeast Greek Leadership Association and is a frequent participant in fraternity leadership institutes/conventions as a lead and small group facilitator.

Upcoming Dates

11/1 Member Compliance Form Due: Execs should have an email in your inbox with the subject line “NIC Compliance Report,” sent with an excel file from Ben Pendry on Monday, 9/28. If you need your compliance form re-sent, please let Ben know.

11/1 Member Satisfaction Survey Response Due: To access the survey, please click here: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=P9ox9AqX9esG19FnyxhXJO_3d_3d

1/30/2010 IFC Academy: The 2010 IFC Academy will be held on January 30, 2010 at the Indianapolis Downtown Hilton. More information is online at www.nicindy.org/programs/ifc-academy/ or contact Ben at Pendry@nicindy.org