As you approach the end of your first college semester, here are some thoughts you may want to consider.

**Hang on.** First of all, if you are reading this in late November/early December, it's not over quite yet. You should be very logical and disciplined as you approach the last two weeks. Even a bad semester can be partly salvaged with a strong finish. And a good semester can be enhanced with a strong finish. And you must be very logical and focused. In terms of your finals and papers, ask this question: Where can my efforts do the most good? Don't waste time on side issues or lost causes. Put all your effort into the courses and tests that can make the biggest improvement.

**Crash at home.** Wait until you get home, then give yourself 24 hours to crash, sleep, and spoil yourself. You have worked hard, you deserve to take hot showers and sleep late. Sometimes students get a cold or a short illness right after they get home, almost as if they were holding it off while they were studying for tests, and then when they crash at home, their defenses are down.

(continued on p. 3)

Creighton Career Center Resources Available to All Students by Jim Bretl

The beginning of our mission statement starts with being “...committed to assisting students and alumni in clarifying, developing and implementing career goals that reflect their unique roles in the world of work and their commitment to a life of service to others.”

This mission is manifested in a number of ways from career counseling and academic advising to assistance with resumes, cover letters and practice interviews. It’s the latter that this article will address.

Students, in general, are requiring resumes and cover letters earlier and earlier in their academic careers. Not only are they required of internship employers as early as the summer after freshman year, but they are also being required to apply for leadership positions on campus. Students at all levels are encouraged to come to the Career Center in Brandeis Hall B-03 for samples, or simply access them online at http://www.creighton.edu/careercenter. After developing a rough draft, all students are encouraged to have this draft reviewed and critiqued at the Career Center by one of five counselors. There are walk-in hours from 2:00-4:30 M-TH every week that classes are in session.

Another very valuable service that many students are taking advantage of is the Career Center’s practice interview service. Whether students are pursuing employment, internships, leadership opportunities or graduate/professional school, there are counselors available to provide mock interviews and to critique those interviews immediately afterwards. This generally requires an appointment which can be made by simply calling 280-2722 and asking for a practice interview. You will be matched with a counselor based on what the practice interview is for.

The Creighton Career Center’s Resource Manual, updated and revised every year, is also a valuable tool for students looking to develop resumes and cover letters or for reviewing typical interview questions. Two tips that all students should remember and use in their job or internship search:

1) Make sure your paperwork is COMPLETELY error-free. This means having several people critique it – maybe even your English professor!

2) Prior to every interview, take out a blank sheet of paper and title it – “Things I Want to Make Sure I Say During the Interview.” Write down accomplishments, specific achievements and items that will set you apart from the other candidates. Don't stop writing until you fill the page!!

The Career Center is here for you regardless of whether you are applying for an RA job in the Residence Halls or going after that interview for a full-time position after graduation. Let us know how we can help you!
Fraternity Spring Recruitment
by Nate Tracy

Fraternity recruitment starts the Sunday after school resumes in the spring semester and runs for two weeks. During that time you have the opportunity to attend events sponsored by different chapters and get to know just what it means to be Greek at Creighton. These events can range from informal trips to Old Chicago, Buffalo Wild Wings and house tours; to formal events here on campus where fraternities talk about their values, philanthropies, alumni connections and leadership opportunities. The goal of recruitment is to fully expose unaffiliated members to what it means to be Greek and let each chapter showcase their strengths.

I would like to personally invite each of you to attend, even if you think you have no interest in Greek Life. I think you will be surprised by the opportunities that exist.

You can register at: http://www2.creighton.edu/studentservices/fraternitiessororities/index.php. There is a non-refundable $28 registration fee. If you register after January 1, 2008, the registration fee is $32. The deadline to register is January 9, 2008 at noon.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following people:

Nate Tracy, Interfraternity Council President
(651) 283-1907 - nathantracy@CU

John Carney, Interfraternity Council VP of Recruitment
(573) 881-2062 - johncarney@CU

Sorority Spring Recruitment by Jessica May

Creighton’s sorority recruitment is an exciting time during which girls are invited to learn about our sororities and then potentially join one of four social sororities: Delta Zeta, Gamma Phi Beta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, or Pi Beta Phi. All four sororities offer unique experiences in the way of scholarship, leadership, service, and sisterhood. The Recruitment process will begin Wednesday, January 9, 2008 with an informational meeting at 9 pm in Rigge Science 120. The process then continues Thursday, January 10 through Monday, January 14. Recruitment is a mutual selection process designed to enhance the recruitment experience and help guide girls in their possible placement in a sorority.

You can register for recruitment at http://www2.creighton.edu/studentservices/fraternitiessororities/index.php. There is a non-refundable $28 registration fee. If you register after January 1, 2008, the registration fee is $32. The deadline to register is January 9, 2008 at noon.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the following people:

Meghan Gaffney, Vice President of Membership Selection
(630) 280-0275 - meghangaffney@CU

Jessica May, Panhellenic Council President
(541) 206-8457 - jessicamay@CU

Susan LeGalley, Greek Advisor, can also be contacted regarding Fraternity and Sorority Spring Recruitments. She can be reached at (402) 280-1715 or via e-mail at susanlegalley@CU.
**Between Semesters: Thoughts for Freshmen Continued** by Mike Kelley

*(continued from p.1)*

You will want to catch up with friends, to hear their stories and tell them face-to-face all that you have been trying to say virtually. Give yourself lots of time with friends.

**Parents and family.** Within the first few days, you should sit down and have a long talk with your parents. They may not have heard the details, especially about the last couple weeks when you got so busy. They are anxious to know how much you have changed, and you want them to share in your successes, and to hear about the things that have challenged you. You may have to work out a different deal with your parents than you have had before. The rules may be different, with you expecting to govern your own time and come in very late. Talk to your folks and work something out so they are not laying awake all night waiting. You will be home long enough for the “visitor” privileges to wear off, so you should offer to pitch in and help with dishes and laundry or whatever chores you usually do when you are home for a long time. Deal with this early and there won’t be hard feelings.

**Old school.** You might want to consider visiting your old high school. You could see your favorite teachers, say hi to friends in grades behind you. You can get a unique view of how far you have come and how much you have changed by visiting your old school and saying hi. When the bells ring between classes, it won’t mean you have to go to class and you can watch the kids running down the halls like you used to run. You can just let those old folks know that you have successfully moved on. It can be fun to get this perspective.

**Rest and reconsider.** When you get a few moments, after the first week or so at home, take a look back at the semester. Ask yourself some serious questions and answer them honestly. What are you most proud about? What efforts paid off the best? What new friends have you met that hold real promise to be really important to you? You may want to “fine tune” your involvement with your friends, put real energy into the relationships that seem worth it, diminish your involvement with others that are not what you had hoped.

Take a fresh look at your career goals. What have you learned about yourself, your interests, and about the demands of the career path you have been pursuing? This is a time to re-dedicate your efforts. Or it may be time to re-direct your efforts and explore other options. Take a walk by yourself. Talk to a trusted advisor or a parent. Use this time away from school to decide how you want your second semester to be better, and how you might be different. You might consider committing yourself to one concrete change for the second semester.

**Next summer.** It may seem way too early to be thinking about next summer, but it’s worth just a few minutes. In broad terms, what do you plan to be doing next summer? Speak with your parents and see what they are expecting. If there are any actions you can take now that will make next summer better, take an hour or two and do them. Like talking to the boss you might want to work for again next summer. Or writing an application for a program you might want to look into for next summer.

**Heading back.** Sometimes students find it hard to return to school after they have been home. They get real comfortable in their familiar old surroundings, and they dread having to leave them and go back to all the work and stress that college can demand. You should talk with a trusted adult or parent about this, if you feel this way. Remember that it’s often harder before you leave than it is when you get back to school. Consider what you can do to make next semester better.

Take a look at the courses you are signed up for next semester. Are they still the best courses for you, especially if you are doing some re-thinking of your career direction? You have some time the first couple days after you return to make some course adjustments if necessary. Talk with or email your advisor to see what might be possible about any course changes.

**But now is now.** But if you are reading this in late Nov./early Dec., next semester seems far away. So focus your efforts on the next days and weeks, and make a really strong finish to your first semester. And remember that there are lots of folks who are on your side here at Creighton. Your teachers, your RA, your friends. And there are friendly counselors at Creighton’s Counseling and Psychological Services (280-2733) who are very willing to talk with you and help you finish strong. Good luck.

---

**Housing Recontracting Process** by Jackie Lawrence

All Creighton students from outside the immediate Omaha area are required to live on-campus their first two years at Creighton. In late January/early February, Freshman residents will be e-mailed detailed instructions from the Department of Residence Life (DRL) about the E-Lottery housing recontracting process for the 2008-2009 academic year. This e-mail will also include the necessary paperwork and important deadlines in order to complete the E-Lottery process, so it is important to read this information carefully. After completion of the necessary paperwork, students recontracting for housing for next year will receive an online sign-up time and 8-digit E-Lottery PIN that will be used to sign-up for next year’s room in either Swanson, Kenefick, or McGloin Hall. For questions, contact your Hall Staff or visit our website at http://www.creighton.edu/ResidenceLife.
Words of Wisdom by Some Fellow New Students

Scott Peak

Major: Journalism and Mass Communications


It may seem simple but find something you love to do and it will make your Creighton experience worth it.

2. Introduce yourself.

One of the easiest ways to make new friends on campus. Just say hello!

3. Get to know your RA’s.

They are real people too and they love to talk just as much as you do. Get to know them. Go to dinner with them.

4. Go to sporting events.

There is a never-ending supply of sporting events to go to. Everyone is fun and you can also support your Bluejays.

5. Keep your door open.

It is a lot easier to meet the people on your floor when your door is open. There are plenty of interesting people who live near you. Get to know them.

6. Don’t live on Facebook.

Get out and live your life. Have a fun time. This will produce more stories to share than just Facebooking all day.

7. Open up.

You would be surprised at the number of people who are like you. These people turn into lifelong friends.

8. Sleep.

Totally underrated and yet totally necessary. Have fun and then make sure to get some sleep. You will feel better in the morning.”

Monica Ibarra

Major: Nursing

“The place that I have found to be most helpful is Student Support Services (SSS). It is a one stop place where I could get free tutoring, no printing cost, and fun workshops. There are professional people there that can help in Math, Science, and English/Writing. For other subjects, upperclassmen help tutor. I first found out about this program last year when I would come to Creighton to work on my Gates Millennium Scholarship, and I met a wonderful lady named Tami there. She is the one person that helped me out the most to get into Creighton. It is all about networking, so start talking to people! After I got accepted into Creighton, she told me to apply for this program and I think it is the best decision that I made because then I have someone with whom I could talk. Tami has been at Creighton for so long and she also happens to have graduated from here, so she knows what teachers are good to take. She also tries to make the SSS programs interesting. Some of the workshops are things like going to the play Modern Millie and going to play Laser Tag; and some others are very helpful, like working on four year plans. Student Support Services is housed in Markoe Hall, which is next to the Old Gym. Many people don’t know where that is or are unsure of what is housed in that building, so go check it out next time you are in the area!”

Contributors:

- Jim Bretl is the Director of the Creighton Career Center. Jim can be contacted at jbretl@creighton.edu.
- Monica Ibarra and Scott Peak are freshmen. They are both members of the Freshman Leadership Program. Monica can be reached at Monicabierra@creighton.edu and Scott can be reached at ScottPeak@creighton.edu.
- Mike Kelley, PhD serves as the Director of the Counseling and Psychological Services Center on campus. Dr. Kelley can be reached at michaelkelley@creighton.edu.
- Jackie Lawrence is the Housing Assignments Coordinator for the Department of Residence Life. Jackie can be contacted at jlawrence@creighton.edu.
- Jessica May is a junior studying International Relations and Pre-Law. She is the President of the Panhellenic Council. Jessica can be contacted at jessicamay@creighton.edu.
- Nate Tracy is a senior studying History and Economics. He is the President of the Interfraternity Council. Nate can be contacted at nathantracy@creighton.edu.

A special thank you to Ms. Margarita Dubocq, Graduate Student in the Education Department, who produced this newsletter.

Who Says There is Nothing to Do???

Movie Series
Dec. 1 through Dec. 13
“Out There: Nebraska and the Great Plains in the Movies” is a movie series curated by Kurt Andersen, author and public radio host, who is thrilled to show the eleven films that intersect the worlds of the movies and Nebraska (a.k.a., movies that were filmed in or that are about Nebraska). These movies will play at different times at the Ruth Sokolof Theater (1340 Webster St., Omaha, NE 68108). For questions, please call 402-933-0259, e-mail eleanorashford@creighton.edu, or visit the following website: http://www.filmstreams.org.

Holiday Lights Festival: ConAgra Foods Ice Rink
Dec. 1 through Dec. 16
There is a $5 fee for admission and skate rental. All proceeds from skating will be donated to The Food Bank. Visit http://www.holidaylightsfestival.org/conagraicerink.html for more details.

Concerts
12/2 Voices of Omaha Handel’s ‘Messiah’ @ Holland Performing Arts Center
12/4 Chimaira @ The Rock (Papillion)
12/4 Holiday Joy Concert @ Holland Performing Arts Center
12/8 Mandy Patinkin in Concert @ Holland Performing Arts Center
12/12 Trans-Siberian Orchestra @ the Qwest Center
12/26 Mannheim Steamroller @ the Qwest Center