

PRIMANNUM HONOR SOCIETY IS THANKFUL



NOVEMBER 2014 | ISSUE TWO

GIVING THANKS FOR PRIMANNUM

BY: SANA HAIDER

Because November is a great month for being thankful, we should be appreciative of the unique opportunities we are given as Primannum Honor Society members. Primannum offers various scholarships, monthly newsletters and engaging events, and most people would agree that our organization strives to benefit its members.



Jo Anne J. Trow was a former national president of Alpha Lambda Delta, and now there is a scholarship awarded to Primannum members in her honor. Photo source: Alpha Lambda Delta website

Scholarships are an important part of Primannum. Applicants essentially compete with other Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Eta Sigma members along with local Primannum members. At least \$10,000 is

awarded yearly. There are different applications depending what academic year a student is. There is a New Member Scholarship for freshmen, or members who have just been inducted into the organization. The Jo Anne J. Trow Scholarship Award is for sophomores. There are 10 \$3,000 and 25 \$1,000 scholarships available on the basis of merit. For juniors, there is a local university chapter sponsored option to apply for: the Helen E. Clark Scholarship Award. Seniors have the chance to apply for graduate fellowships through either ALD or PES. In addition, seniors who are graduating and have fulfilled the obligations of membership and are in good academic standing have the option to receive honor cords. Finally, for students looking to study abroad, there is the James G. Stemler Study Abroad Scholarship. On the basis of merit, ALD awards \$1,000 to 10 different students in support of their study abroad costs.

Make sure to check the calendar on the website that lists all events: general body meetings,

Scholarships:

- New Member Scholarship
- Jo Anne J. Trow Scholarship Award: 13 \$3000 and 25 \$1,000
- Helen E. Clark Scholarship Award
- James G. Stemler Study Abroad Scholarship
- Alpha Lambda Delta: 10 \$1,000

workshops, fundraisers, information sessions, guest speakers and social events. There are many leadership positions and ways to get involved in areas of leadership, volunteerism, academic affairs, communication, event planning, fundraising and academic enrichment. In addition, we have monthly newsletters like this one that contain different articles relating to a general theme.

Overall, there are many opportunities that Primannum makes available to us, while providing multiple ways for us to give back. November is all about giving thanks, so please keep in mind all that you have to be thankful for this month.

NETWORKING: IT'S LESS INTIMIDATING THAN YOU THINK

10 WAYS TO MAKE CONNECTIONS IN COLLEGE

BY JENNIFER LINKINS

1 DON'T BE TOO SCARED TO TRY

The biggest mistake you can make in networking is avoiding it altogether because it seems too daunting. "Students need to realize that these people actually really want to talk to students and they want to talk about what they do," said senior marketing and psychology major Mike McGovern, a Peer Career Educator at the University Career Center. Making connections with professionals in your career path will be essential, so take that first step and networking will soon become natural.

2 KNOW YOURSELF AND YOUR PLAN

That first step is defining who you are, what you want to do and what you can do for an employer. Once you have done this, summarize it into a 30-second elevator pitch that you can easily say to anyone you meet. Then you can target the people that you are interested in connecting with such as professionals in your field.

3 BUT DON'T PLAN TOO MUCH

It is important to tackle networking with an overarching plan (i.e. elevator pitch, self concept, target group) but do not try to plan every detail. Networking feels more natural when you treat it as a process of normal conversations. So avoid telling yourself that you have to meet x amount of people and attend x amount of networking events.

4 YOU DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND A NETWORKING EVENT

Again, networking is all about conversations. While networking events and panel discussions are great, you do not have to attend these to create a network. "Next time you go to a professional sports game, you are probably going to be sitting next to someone who is not a student," said McGovern. "Strike up a conversation with them, talk to them, ask them how they got here, ask them what they do. Maybe what they do would be of great interest to you." Do not forget to get their contact information!

5 ACTUALLY LISTEN

Another networking mistake is forcing the end goal too much. It is natural to want to sell yourself to the professional, but not for the sake of giving up valuable advice. "Having a real conversation and making observations is invaluable and more genuine," Ko Im of "The Huffington Post" said. "See personality traits you may want to emulate or pull ideas from later."

8 USE LINKEDIN AS A COMPLEMENTARY TOOL

LinkedIn might be the only way you are networking right now, but it should not be. "What LinkedIn allows you to do is to see what people bring to the table prior to having a conversation, so you can actually see what that person has done, what they know and then connect with them that way," said McGovern. The website is an efficient way to meet professionals in your particular niche, but it should be utilized as a way to initiate face-to-face conversation.

7 UTILIZE NETWORKS THAT YOU'VE MADE

Your connections are awesome for advice, but you should also be using them in your career and internship search. If you are applying for a position in a company where you do have contacts, you should definitely reach out to your contacts with questions like: do you have any suggestions as for how to shape my resume or what makes a person successful at your company? "What you are doing is you are showing interest, and then also taking something from it," said McGovern.

6 FOLLOW UP WITH CONNECTIONS, BUT DON'T BE PUSHY

If you have emailed someone once and they have not responded within a week, feel free to send them a follow-up email to show your interest. However, if they still do not respond, it is best to let that one go, and do not take it personally. Professionals are busy and will not always have time to maintain the conversation.

9 TREAT INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWS AS WHAT THEY ARE

Most professionals are eager to share their wisdom and success with aspiring students, so imagine how it must feel when the student they are talking to is only interested in a job opportunity. If you have an informational interview with someone, make sure it is only exploratory. The interview should be a learning experience, not a chance to push a job application in their face.

10 KNOW THAT IT WON'T WORK PERFECTLY AT FIRST

"Get out there," said McGovern. "It is going to be awkward the first couple of times you try to do it, but after that it is going to get smoother. Practice makes perfect." If your first couple of networking experiences do not go as hoped, keep practicing. With more experience speaking to others, you will become increasingly confident in yourself and the skills you possess. Now go start a conversation today!

SPOTLIGHT: JENNIFER LINKINS

BY LIA COLLEN

As the first member of her family to attend college, sophomore marketing major Jennifer Linkins wanted to take advantage of her opportunity. Linkins' mother grew up on a farm, so her family never had the money to afford higher education, besides brief time at a technical business school. Her dad was drafted into the Vietnam War, so he never had the chance to finish school either. Her parents knew that in the current economy, Linkins' would need a college degree to succeed in the professional world. Her parents did everything they could to ensure that college would be a possibility for her.

Linkins' applied to three schools, but she knew that the University of Maryland was her top choice for two key reasons. First, she grew up in Maryland and wanted to attend a university that represented the state. Second, Linkins' is an only child and did not feel comfortable moving far away from home. "My whole family was very excited and proud that I would be coming to school here, especially since not many people in my family attended college and the university is a top notch school," Linkins said.

She is happy with her decision to attend the university, Linkins said. She finds that some days are better than others, but overall she loves the school, particularly when she became involved with various clubs and activities. "Do not narrow your life down to just classes and going out at night," Linkins said. "That will get old fast and you will find yourself curled up in bed doubting yourself." She recommended finding clubs, volunteering or working in fields where people connect with one another. She worked as a marketing intern last summer at the University Career Center, where she was able to create graphic design, make promotional videos, manage social media accounts and plan events. She still works on campus as an undergraduate graphic designer. Working with other students is a great experience, and



Jennifer Linkins enjoying a day at the beach.
Photo by: Diane Linkins.

the commitment keeps her active and allows her to continuously build her portfolio, she said.

Linkins became a member of Primannum when she was admitted based on her freshman GPA. She decided to get involved with the Communications and Marketing Committee because she is really passionate about marketing and wanted to use this passion to promote Primannum. Linkins emphasizes the importance of meeting other Primannum members and getting involved with the activities. "If you are using Primannum as another group to put on your résumé, you're doing it wrong," Linkins said. "Get involved and you will realize the benefits!"

OPPORTUNITIES YET TO BE EXPLORED

BY: KATIE MEDLOCK

The university has a lot to offer students. A great education is just the beginning of what we students can take advantage of while being here. We can host our own radio shows, attend famous comedians' performances and observe art right on campus.

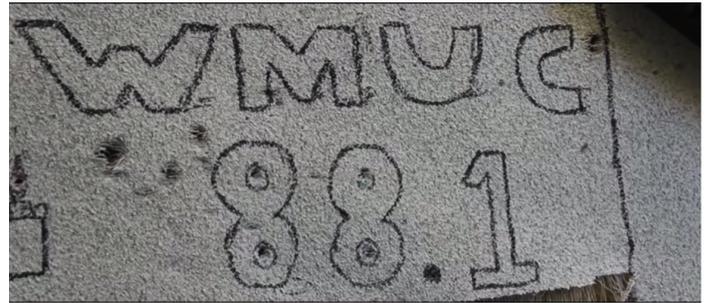
WMUC is a student-run station at the university. It has an FM and digital station that can be found on their website at www.wmuc.umd.edu or on the air on 88.1 FM in College Park. Students can host their own radio shows about whatever they desire.



AshyTheClassy (Ashwin Reddi) and Matt Renehan in the studio at WMUC.

Photo by: Ashwin Reddi

Cheri Wang, a fellow Primannum member, is one of the lucky students who have their own shows. Wang's is called "Polite as F**k." "It is a great platform to be able to express myself and introduce new music to people, which I am really passionate



WMUC drawing in the College Park Radio Station.

Photo by: Alex Galiatsatos

about," she said. Check her out on Wednesdays from 1-2 a.m. on the digital station.

Bands use WMUC's station to record. For instance, Bare Left is a new up-and-coming band from the university that recorded their latest two EPs at the radio station.

"It is the only way that college students can afford to get decent recordings," said Alex Galiatsatos, lead guitarist. "They can network, meet other local bands and people interested in the same things." You can listen to Bare Left's music at bareleftmusic.com.

On November 1, Student Entertainment Events (SEE) hosted Kevin Hart. SEE is in charge of concerts, comedy, performing arts, movies, special events, lectures and more at the university. To find out more, or to sign up for newsletters, visit its website at see.umd.edu.

There are still more opportunities available at the university. We can see plays, music and dance performances at The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. We can see art at galleries around campus like The Hermin Maril Gallery and the University of Maryland Art Gallery both located in the Art/Sociology building, The David C. Driskell Center and the Stamp Gallery. Additionally, we are close to Washington, D.C., so with all of this and more, it is easy to take advantage of all that the university has to offer.

DIVERSITY AT UMD

BY: ADAM HURWITZ

During our time here at the university, we gain many new experiences. We learn how to network ourselves, how to manage our finances and about new people. The latter is one of the things that make the university and, more specifically, Primannum Honor Society, so special.

The university is made up of nearly 50 percent minority students, which include a representation of 94 countries that make up 3 percent of the overall population. U.S. News & World Report rated the university at an ethnic diversity index of .61. The rating is on a scale from 0-1, with 1 being the most diverse, measuring the probability that any two random students will be of a different ethnicity or race. A .61 rating proves that the university's efforts to increase the variation of our population have been effective.

So the university and Primannum, being a subset of the overall population, are diverse.



The university encourages students to rise above stereotypes and discrimination.

Photo source: University of Maryland's Office of Inclusion and diversity



Why does that matter? Well, diversity in college benefits students' academic development, as proven by Alexander Astin, Ph.D., in 1993. Primannum strives to promote superior academic achievement among students, intelligent living and a continued high standard of living, and the recognition and development of meaningful goals for students' roles in society. An increased ethnic diversity in a college population will increase the likelihood that students of differing backgrounds will interact, said Mitchell Chang, Ph.D.

As Astin stated, interacting with someone of a different background positively affects academic achievements among students. With a greater number of different opinions and viewpoints on issues, students are able to learn more about others and understand all sides of an issue. These interactions also lead to a greater preparation for future, post-college interactions.

In a job, you will not be working with a group of people who all grew up in the same neighborhood, have had the same experiences and have learned the same methods to problems and opinions on issues. Most likely, you will work with a group of people who grew up in various places across the country and possibly the globe. The diversity of the university of Maryland and Primannum Honor Society is actively preparing us for the future while exposing us to diversity now.