

UPUA reviews future agenda

By Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Student leaders hope their Sunday afternoon "gameplan" meeting will lend a variety of University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) initiatives some increased momentum.

UPUA President Gavin Keirans said he's hoping to turn a lot of the semester's conversations into action. UPUA needs to go "full steam ahead" with many of its proposed initiatives, Keirans said.

During Sunday's "agenda-setting step," Keirans (senior-business management) said he discussed having each committee create a 90-day plan to establish a timeline for both fall semester plans and those that will stretch into the spring.

If the assembly approves the 90-day plan, it would require each committee in UPUA to submit a week-by-week outline of what they will be doing for the next three months.

The individual plans would be followed up by a progress report, Keirans said, where committees would report whether each of their goals were accomplished — and why.

Keirans said the plans would be made available to the student body, published through UPUA's Web site.

While there has been a lot of conversation about major initiatives, Keirans said, he believes there are some sections of UPUA that need to establish concrete goals — and this system of benchmarks in a more public forum could help that happen.

UPUA Governmental Affairs Committee Chairwoman Colleen Smith said she found Sunday's

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Colleen Smith
UPUA Government Affairs
Committee Chairwoman

meeting helpful. Colleen Smith (sophomore-biology) said she was glad to have the input of the entire assembly, giving each member the opportunity to voice his or her opinion on what should happen with each initiative.

"We've had some pretty good accomplishments, but we could be doing a lot more," Colleen Smith said. "We have the talent and the capabilities."

Medical amnesty is one of the major initiatives discussed Sunday that Keirans said he hopes to see come to fruition by next semester. He called it a common-sense safety measure he wants to move along as soon as possible.

UPUA Director of University Relations Chris Smith said he has recently been in meetings with officials from the State College Borough and the university to have a medical amnesty policy implemented.

In all the talks that have taken place, Chris Smith (senior-political science) said he did not anticipate any roadblocks that would stop the proposed policy from being put in place.

"I'm excited to try and get things moving before next semester," Chris Smith said.

To e-mail reporter: lc5019@psu.edu



Chris Donadio/Collegian

Mash Bash participants compete to see which group can eat Thanksgiving-style food in the quickest time.

Greeks stuff faces for charity

By Somer Wiggins
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Students stuffed themselves with mashed potatoes and other Thanksgiving-themed foods Sunday night at the third annual Mash Bash.

Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and Chi Omega sorority held the food contest to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and LiveStrong.

Teams of four stood around tables inside the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity house and split a container of mashed potatoes and stuffing, a cup of cranberry sauce and a cup of gravy. Fraternity and sorority members made the food.

Competitors were told to flip the container over when they had finished all of its contents and raise their hands in the air and then they counted down to the start.

The competition itself lasted less than 15 minutes.

Teams shoveled the food into their mouths with their hands, disregarding the provided forks and spoons. Some teams strategized by having one team member eat the cranberry sauce while the other three worked on the container of mashed potatoes and stuffing, pouring the gravy on top.

"It's one of those things you don't want to watch but you can't look away," Hallie Krauser (sophomore-marketing) said, while watching the team nearest her devour its container of food.

The winning team was comprised of John Fitzpatrick (sophomore-mechanical engineering), Greg Fernandez (sophomore-journalism), Alex Byrne (freshman-division of undergraduate studies) and Brett Smith (sophomore-finance), who won gift certificates to D.P. Dough.

The team ate all of their food in about three minutes, guessed Haley Korner, the philanthropy chair of Chi Omega sorority.

"That was the fastest I've ever seen," Korner (sophomore-nursing) said.

This year Mash Bash had more competitors than it had seen in past years.

Pat Ryan, philanthropy chair for Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity, attributed the success of the event to the food.

"Everyone loves Thanksgiving food," Ryan (senior-history) said.

Aubrey Barrett, president of Chi Omega sorority, said she was pleased with the event and the turnout.

"Hopefully this raised enough money to make a wish come true," Barrett (junior-public relations) said.

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