EcoReps Ronen and Zil do their part to save the planet!

The Eco-Reps at University of South Carolina is a peer to peer leadership program educating and engaging students in sustainable living. Two Preston residents, Ronen Rappaport and Zil Shah are among the members.

The Eco-Reps are a branch off from sustainable Carolina; they focus on informing and encouraging USC students towards sustainable living and environmental friendliness. The Eco-Reps focus more on creating a grass-roots movement starting from residential halls and eventually moving towards campus-wide events.

The Eco-Rep projects for this year include:

- Stop the severe amount of nuclear processing occurring at the Augusta processing plant
- Limit the amount of disposable silverware/ material being used in dining halls across campus
- Create campus-wide “freecycling” program
- Create a green fund for next year
- Compost bins for organic material to be disposed of in Preston

Preston residents are more than welcome to stop by anytime to speak with Ronen (room 239) or Zil (room 137) to add suggestions, inquire about events, to help out, or to just chat. Students are more than welcome to attend Preston Government meetings (which are every Thursday at 8pm) to partake in hall government decisions. Zil or Ronen will be attending, as well.

This weekend was a big weekend for University of South Carolina Eco-Reps. They hosted the very first Eco-Reps conference in the Green Quad. It started Friday and ended Sunday with a total of 11 colleges attending. Participants learned tons of new more environmentally friendly projects and will be bringing these ideas back to Preston!

It should also be noted that another Prestonite can add Eco-Rep to her resume: Cailin Preston. Cailin, who is currently studying abroad, collaborated with Margaret Bounds to train students from each residence hall on campus to serve as an Eco-Rep for their hall governments.

More information about the Eco-Reps can be found at www.uscecoreps.webs.com

Happy 1st birthday to Preston’s youngest resident, Joseph Donaldson!
Meet your Resident Tutors (RTs)!

Resident Tutors (RTs) are graduate students who live in Preston and are here to assist you with all things academic! Whether it’s general study skills or something with your particular class or major, set up an appointment or stop by the PACE Office (room 110). Drop-in hours are Sunday to Thursday, 8p-9p.

Himal Ahuja (in the PACE Office on Sundays and Wednesdays)
Himal is attending the University of South Carolina graduate school in International Business. He is from Mumbai, India, originally. With his degree, Himal hopes to work in the automotive industry with a job in international business, which “will teach me the best practices of different cultures and countries.”

Plamena Berova (in the PACE Office on Thursdays)
Plamena is from Sofia, Bulgaria. Her undergraduate degree is in economics from Sofia University. She is now a grad student in International Hospitality and Tourism Management. Plamena is a big music fan and wants to work a job that incorporates hospitality and entertainment together. She also enjoys interacting with people from various cultures and backgrounds.

Lydia James (in the PACE Office on Mondays and Tuesdays)
Lydia is originally from Surrey, England and is working on a master of arts degree in teaching theatre and English. One day she hopes to be a high school Drama and English teacher. Her hope for Preston is “to meet loads of new people with many different personalities and to be a positive and influential tutor to residents.”

Want to be a Preston Ambassador?

Applications are available NOW for ‘12-‘13 Preston Ambassadors and due by Wednesday, February 1 at 5pm (check your email). Preston Ambassadors assist with Fall Banquet, Gatsby, give tours of our great building, move-in day, and many other great events!

Random Trivia

1. January 23, 1957: Toy company Wham-O produces first Frisbees
2. "Almost" is the longest word in the English language with all the letters in alphabetical order.
3. The name Wendy was made up for the book "Peter Pan."
4. There are no clocks in Las Vegas gambling casinos
5. Human saliva has a boiling point three times that of regular water.

FEDEx is BACK

The Friday Evening Dining Experience (FEDEx) is BACK! The first Friday each month, anyone interested can join to celebrate and learn about different cultures through food at various local restaurants and eateries.

We’ll choose a different cuisine each month. Information and RSVP’s will be through Facebook, and spots will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis, as some restaurants may not be able to accommodate large groups. Carpools will be encouraged and you’ll pay for your own meal.

Our first trip will be to the Mediterranean Tea Room on Friday, February 3. More information at https://www.facebook.com/events/321356371242516/

If you have questions or suggestions, please send them to Sarah Morgan at morgans@mailbox.sc.edu.

WAY TO GO!

Congratulations to Chadwick Devlin on being nominated for the 2012 edition of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges!

Who’s Who is a nationally recognized institution of the American academic community. The University of South Carolina nominated only 85 individuals for this honor.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

Matthew Pantone
January 27

Nicholas Johnston
January 29

@PrestonRCollege  Search “Preston Residential College”  http://preston.sc.edu
One Book, One Columbia encourages all area residents to read the same book at the same time and share with their friends and neighbors. Reading will take place January 17 - February 29, 2012

Interested in reading along? Contact AJ Keene (room 356) to get your copy of the book! There are 15 copies available.

How’s the weather?

- **Monday, Jan. 23**
  - High: 65° / Low: 43°

- **Tuesday, Jan. 24**
  - High: 71° / Low: 44°

- **Wednesday, Jan. 25**
  - High: 65° / Low: 50°

- **Thursday, Jan. 26**
  - High: 73° / Low: 57°

- **Friday, Jan. 27**
  - High: 67° / Low: 51°

- **Saturday, Jan. 28**
  - High: 63° / Low: 35°

- **Sunday, Jan. 29**
  - High: 59° / Low: 33°

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Skill Builders are monthly leadership workshops sponsored by Student Organizations & Leadership Programs to assist student leaders in enhancing their leadership skills and developing the essential skills necessary to work and lead effectively with others. The first Skill Builder workshop will be on Wednesday, January 25 from 4:30pm - 5:30pm in RHU 305. Topic will be “Leading and Managing a Team”

February 4, 2012
9:00 am – 4:30 pm in the Russell House University Union. Cost is $20 per student. Registration deadline is January 26!
http://www.sa.sc.edu/leaders/sldc/

Who Owns Democracy? A Forum on Money and Politics
Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library, Program Room
Jan 23, 2012 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Please RSVP to 803-777-0578.
Pizza and drinks will be provided.
Herb Hartsook, SCPC Director, will moderate the forum and lead discussion of this issue. Many feel that the influence of big money in political campaigns corrupts our system of government and results in the rich and powerful receiving preferential treatment. During the forum, participants will discuss campaign finance reform, restrictions on lobbyists, and other matters.

Participants will receive a twenty-eight-page issue book prepared by The National Issues Forums Institute prior to the forum. The results of the forum will be aggregated with those of similar forums held across the country and shared with leaders in our government.

“Your Secret Weapon? Cultivating EQ for Sustainable Leadership in today’s global environment”
Thursday, January 26 at 7 p.m. in the Law School auditorium

Mackin, senior vice president and chief communications officer at Duke Energy, will give a talk discussing the importance for leaders to develop their emotional intelligence or EQ in order for businesses to succeed globally.

EQ refers to the ability to understand and manage emotion, your own and that of others. Mackin will also share personal experiences from her career as a communications professional with some of the nation’s leading companies.

Sponsored by the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies.

Greg Van Kirk, Ashoka Lemelson Fellow at Columbia University and President and Co-Founder of the Social Entrepreneur Corps
Wednesday, January 25
12:15p - 1:30p in the Lumpkin Room 8th floor of the Moore School of Business.

Pizzas, drinks and cookies will be provided as long as they last!

Learn more about the work of the Social Entrepreneur Corps: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ctOxOA5Uf&list=UUAkHuSHF2lW-Ao_xUNiwi&index=2&feature=plcp

Greg is a former Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala.
Write, cast, direct and edit a 5-minute movie in a week and borrow an Apple laptop and Panasonic HD camera. FOR FREE.

Campus MovieFest (CMF), the world’s largest student film festival and is back at Carolina for the second year.

Sign up online www.campusmoviefest.com

Deadline to register is February 7

Preston’s own Ken Etheridge directed “The Pursuit,” which was named Best Picture at the 2011 CMF finale.

Brought to you by Carolina Productions.

NOMINATE YOUR PROFESSOR

We are always on the lookout for new Preston Associates! Let us know who you think might be a great addition to Preston!

Email Dr. D donaldbj@mailbox.sc.edu with your suggestion(s).

See something incorrect?

Direct all comments and questions about this newsletter to Sarah Morgan, Assistant Principal at morgans@mailbox.sc.edu

Do you have what it takes to create an impeccable garment made only of condoms? Register to participate in Project Condom: Season 5- a four-week design contest that culminates with the Project Condom runway fashion show on March 1 at the Russell House Ballroom. Students work in groups of three or more and be sponsored by a student organization or create your own team name. All the condoms you need to make your garments will be provided in an assortment of colors.

A panel including special guest judge, Project Runway (season 8) and Project Runway All-Stars Mondo Guerra will judge the garments and declare a winner. The audience will also have a chance to vote for their favorite designs. Winners will receive prizes from ONE Condoms!

Visit http://www.sa.sc.edu/shs/cw/projectcondom/ for more information about Project Condom and to register your team.

Research opportunity!

Seeking a student (ANY major) interested in “Caricature and Race in American Comic Books, 1938-Present”

I am seeking a student who is interested in comic books and graphic novels to serve as a research assistant on a project that examines the history of racial caricatures in comics. The research assistant’s duties will involve going through an electronic collection of downloaded public domain comic books from the 1930s-1950s and documenting instances of racial caricatures in those comics. The research assistant should have access to his or her own computer and be proficient in MLA citation format. Experience creating Excel spreadsheets or Outlook databases may be helpful as well. The student would also collaborate with me on a Magellan Scholar grant application.

Please contact Dr. Andrew J. Kunka, Associate Professor of English at University of South Carolina Sumter by email (ajkunka@uscsumter.edu) to express interest or ask any questions.

The deadline to apply for a Magellan Scholar award for undergraduate research is Thursday, February 16 at 5pm.

Details are at www.sc.edu/our/magellan.shtml.

South Carolina and the Civil Rights Struggle Conference

Register Now for only $40!!

http://www.nche.net/page.aspx?pid=434

The conference will be held February 23-24, 2012 at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC.

Special Guests will include Congressman James E. Clyburn, South Carolina 6th District and the remaining members of the "Friendship Nine"

Hosting an event?

Be sure to complete the program planning form, available online at preston.sc.edu/docs.html and outside room 101. This form will help keep you on track and remind you of deadlines and be aware of what resources you may need.

Gamecock Connection

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions is looking for enthusiastic, dedicated Gamecocks to assist with recruiting prospective students at Admissions special events. Volunteers will assist with Admissions events this spring, and there will be a mandatory training meeting for new members.

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