

Greeks up for executive board offices

Editor's note: This is the last Greek in Review column that will run for the Spring semester. This column identifies members of Greek organizations that are running for a student government executive board office.

Greek in Review

BRIAN SALIBA

People never seem to stop and realize exactly what it is the Greeks do on our campus. What do they do? They get involved.

This article will focus on the individual members of these Greek organizations, who actively participate on UNLV's campus.

Today is the last day student government will be holding the primary elections to determine next

year's executive body. It is this body that determines where student funding shall be allocated for the next academic year.

The list has been narrowed down to the last six candidates. Of those candidates four are members of the Greek system.

Running for student government president is Aaron Rosenthal, president of Sigma Chi Fraternity. Aaron has served a one-year term as a student senator, assistant director for Nevada Student Affairs, member of the honors program, and various other committees within student

government. He is a senior finance major, looking to represent all of his constituents.

Running for student government vice president is Terry Moore, member of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, and currently the highest ranking senator in student government for the last two years. Moore is a junior honors student majoring in environmental studies while minoring in political science. He is looking to strengthen the bridge between the executive board and the directors to ensure proper procedure takes place within the work place.

For senate president we have two qualified candidates.

First, we have Joe Laxague, vice president of Sigma Chi

Fraternity, and returning senator for business and economics. Joe has served on bylaws and constitutional revision and constitutional revision committees, faculty senate curriculum committee, student ambassador, or a member of Golden Key Honor Society, member of Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity, and Student Alumni Association. Joe is looking to reduce stipends and be more responsive to student needs.

Next, we have Patrick Smith, member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, and current senate president. Pat has served student government as a senator for student development, business and economics, director of Nevada Student Affairs, and pro-tempore. He is a past president of his

fraternity, and is currently a communication major.

The only true voice you have, whether you are Greek or not, is to get out there and vote. Not only can you select next year's officers, but the overall theme for Homecoming. It is up to you the student, to decide.

If you are interested in becoming involved on campus, especially in joining the Greek system, please call Dane Roberts, Greek advisor, for more information at 895-3221, or stop by the Moyer Student Union in Room 111.

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To get more, give more

BY TOM FIELDS
CONTRIBUTING OPINION WRITER

"Good afternoon, UNLV Accounting. This is Denise. May I help you?"

"Yes, Denise, I'd like to find out where my paycheck is."

"Cheryl handles all paycheck problems."

Patient pause. "May I speak with Cheryl?"

"Cheryl is not here today."

Longer pause, not nearly so patient. "Do you know when she'll be back?"

"She's out sick, so I don't know when she'll be back."

Blatantly irritated, I respond, "If Cheryl drops dead, who will handle her responsibilities?"

Now it was her turn for a confused pause.

Although the names have been changed to protect the incompetent, this situation actually happened to me here on campus. No matter how I tried, I could find no one who knew what was going on in their own department, and no one who cared to find out.

I was finally sent to Cheryl's voice mail (the techno equivalent of an oubliette, a place to be forgotten), where I was completely ignored and my call not returned. It took over two weeks and several calls to get an answer, not to mention the missing paycheck.

I recall working for Westin Resorts, a world-wide, multi-billion dollar hotel chain. Standard policy was to reply to customer questions with an answer, and if one didn't know the answer, to let the customer know one would find out — and then go and find out! Calls were not transferred to another line until a physical person answered. Failure to do so was grounds for immediate dismissal.

Perhaps this combination of ignorance, apathy and "pass the buck" syndrome is genetic. When God asked Adam why he ate the apple, he replied "I don't know," and then blamed Eve. Eve promptly blamed the snake, and if there had been anyone else in the Garden, I'm sure the snake would also have dodged the responsibility.

The writer of the book *Everything I Know I Learned From Star Trek* noted that whenever Captain Kirk left the bridge, he assigned someone else to take the con. You always knew who was in charge. My own military experience validates the idea that people need to know who is running things, who should have the answers, and who makes the decisions.

I've been a temporary employee off and on for over a decade, and my first questions at a new job deal with finding out what the chain of command is, so that I know who can answer questions and who has authority to sign documents, who my boss is, etc.

If a customer asks a question and you do not know the answer, say so, then follow up with "but I'll find out." That makes quite an impression, gives you extra recognition, and usually takes very little effort on your part. This makes all the difference between merely filling up the hours until quitting time, and doing your job to the fullest. How can you expect to have pride in yourself if you do a mediocre job?

I suppose that's really the thrust of this column. I'm not one to take the easy path of mediocrity. As students supposedly preparing for a better future (meaning better job and

higher pay), it is your responsibility to have responsibility. To take pride in how you do your job. To provide good customer service — especially if those customers are in-house.

This will gain the notice of those above you, who are always looking for someone who goes the extra mile. Promotions are often based on customer response, and customers are eager to give repeat business to places where they are treated well, even if prices are higher. If you doubt it, consider Spago in the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace (where else can you get a small coffee for six bucks?).

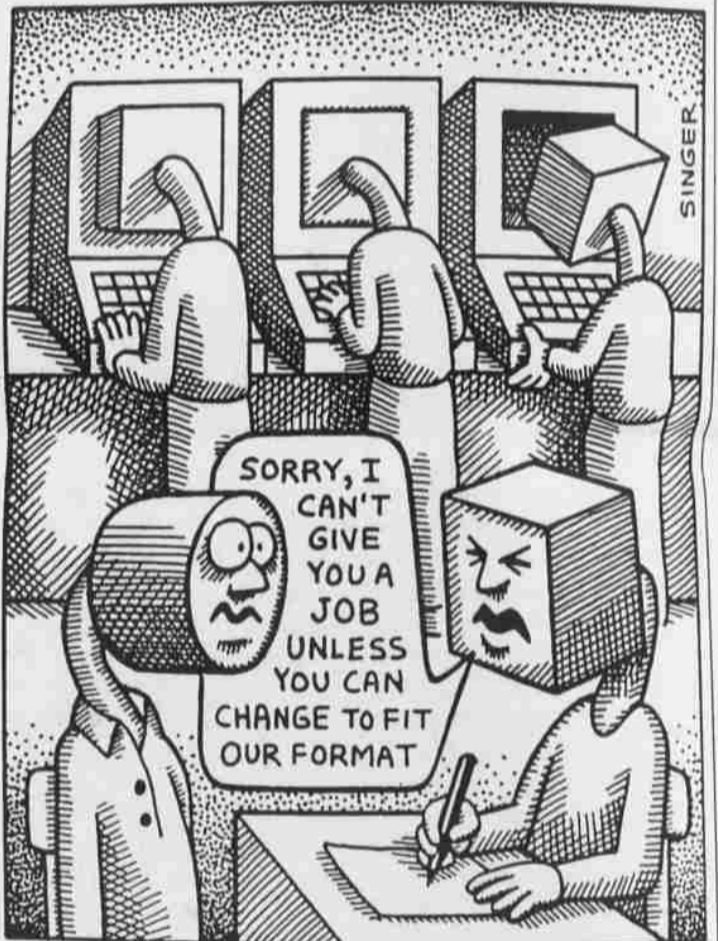
I once took an opinion test, and responded with single word answers. I received a "C" on the test, and then complained to the teacher that the opinions I wrote were 100 percent accurate and deserving of an "A," so how did she justify my grade?

She said I had only given single word answers with no explanation, and thus my opinions were only average, which is denoted by a "C" grade. To get more, I would have had to give more.

Her lesson was well taught, and I've applied it throughout my life, with great success. My employers are always amazed when I take a little extra effort when something isn't exactly my job, but someone needs the help.

No customer wants to hear "That's not my job" or some verbal equivalent. Remember, you might think it isn't your job to find the answer to someone's question, but their paycheck could be riding on what you tell them. Imagine how you would feel if it were your paycheck! To get more, you must give more.

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National Student News Service, 1996

Housebreak

from pg. 5

members and girlfriends about living with him, only to have them sympathize with me. That worked for a little while until it just didn't bother him any more, in fact it entertained him.

My new tactic is using the reward system. Beer and cigarettes are an excellent enticement, for some reason roomies love to smoke your cigarettes exclusively. The more they are jouncing out for a smoke, the more you can get them to do around the house.

Roommates like stuff. As was the case with the cigarettes, they like your stuff the best. Leaving CD's out and keeping everything with electricity on all night is their way of saying, "Pay more attention to me." It's times like these where a friendly pat on their head makes things nice and toasty. Then again, a quick

spray of water in their face does the trick, too.

Make no mistake about it, a roommate is an excellent pet despite all the responsibility that is involved in taking care of them. My roomie is a loyal friend and shares the same bizarre sense of humor that I have. In the same respect he has to put up with my idiosyncrasies. But unlike him, I have a column to vent my frustrations in. Yes folks, Opinion is good.

It's good to make sure that you're compatible with your roomie. Being good friends and living together are two different things. Learning to compromise equally is the perfect elixir to any concoction that living together might produce.

So if you think you can handle the responsibility, I highly recommend that you find yourself a roommate. After all, what would college be with out them?

Vincent Caliguire is a staff Opinion writer.

The Rebel Yell

encourages students, faculty and staff to write letters to the editor. Letters should be formatted double-spaced on Macintosh disk in Microsoft Word, (or typed if you are technologically challenged), and include the author's name, address and telephone number. Writers affiliated with UNLV must

include class and major, or faculty or staff position. Writers requesting their name be withheld must include their name and telephone number for verification. Letters submitted without this information will not be printed. Letters are subject to edit for length and clarity.