



Golden Key International Honor Society

University of Illinois at Chicago

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GENERAL BODY MEETING AGENDA:

- I. Welcome
- II. Introduction of Board Members
- III. Golden Key 101
- IV. Goals and Projects for 2007-2008 Academic Year
- V. FOCUS Literacy
- VI. Raffle off T-Shirts
- VII. Conclusion

Meet the 2007-2008 Golden Key Board

PRESIDENT: MAHAM LODHI

My name is Maham Lodhi and I entered UIC in the GPPA program for Medicine in the fall of 2005. I applied for a position on Golden Key Executive Board as soon as I learned about it because I saw the potential this society had in making my years at UIC worthwhile. I was taken on the board as the "Freshman Representative" and in this way I was able to find out what Golden Key at UIC was really about. From then I have had the experience of being the Treasurer of Golden Key and now am the President, and it is my honor to serve you all and help you achieve what you would like to achieve through Golden Key and all the benefits that come along with this society.

I am a third year Biology student, trying to learn my way into the healthcare field, just like the majority of you. I hope to graduate this spring and enter UIC Medical School in the fall of 2008. Golden Key has helped show me how far a little effort can go. Devoting some of your time to the community can make a huge difference in someone's life as well as in your own. Experiences are what make a person and I feel that Golden Key has definitely helped make me into who I am.

VICE PRESIDENT: EMILY FINCHUM

Emily Finchum, Vice President of the UIC Chapter of Golden Key, is a 3rd year Pre-Medicine student majoring in Biological Sciences and Psychology. She is planning to attend graduate school for her Masters in Public Health with a concentration in Infectious Diseases and, later, medical school. After graduating she intends to work with HIV/AIDS research and risk-prevention campaigns.

TREASURER: STEPHANIE WU

Stephanie is a third-year Biological Sciences major and GPPA Medicine student. This is her second year in Golden Key; last year she was the Campus Relations Chair, and this year she will be serving as Golden Key's treasurer. She plans to attend medical school after her undergraduate study.

FUNDRAISING CHAIR: TOM VADAKARA

Hi, my name is Tom Vadakara. I am a junior at UIC. This is my second year with Golden Key and my first year being in charge of fundraising. Right now I am majoring in Psychology and Economics. Some of my interests include traveling, reading, and following the stock market. Future plans will hopefully involve more traveling. I would really like to see the pyramids in Egypt and Istanbul, Turkey.

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“16% of the adult population has a below-basic level of literacy.”

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SECRETARY: EMMA PEARSON

Hi Golden Key members, my name is Emma Pearson. I have been a member of Golden Key since January 2006, and I will be the Secretary for Golden Key this year. I am a biology major and a German minor in my senior year at UIC. I plan to attend veterinary school after graduating, either at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or at Cornell University, and I am also President of the Pre-Veterinary Student Association at UIC. After vet school, I hope to either practice small animal medicine or work in the field of public health. In the rare moments that I have spare time, I enjoy reading or watching movies. I also enjoy traveling, and would love to spend some time traveling the world, especially Europe. I look forward to being a part of Golden Key with you this year!

EXECUTIVE CHAIR: STACEY CARTER

My name is Stacey Carter and I am a senior majoring in Accounting. I was inducted in Golden Key in January 2007 and now I am the Executive Chair for the 2007-2008 academic year. After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting in May 2008, I plan to go to graduate school in order to receive a Master of Science in Accounting so I can sit for the CPA exam. My hobbies include shopping, dancing and reading.

CCIL COORDINATOR: SELMA SAYEED

Salma Sayeed is a senior majoring in English at UIC. She has been in Golden Key for one year and is the CCIL coordinator this year. She plans to pursue a career in pharmacy and enjoys reading.

VOLUNTEER CHAIR: ELZBIETA STARZYKA

Ella is a Biological Sciences major who will graduate in 2009. She has been in Golden Key for one year and plans to further Golden Key community volunteerism. She enjoys sports, contemporary art, and sleeping. Ella thinks Golden Key is a great opportunity and you should grab it!

FOCUS: Literacy *By Emily Finchum*

One of the major domestic issues in the United States is one that many people do not even recognize as a problem. Nevertheless, literacy rates in the United States are staggering when compared to the notoriety that surrounds American schools - 16% of the adult population has a below-basic level of literacy. That's almost one-fifth of the adults in this country! What Golden Key International Honor Society has been trying to do in recent years is to educate its members as to these problems; in turn, Golden Key chapters have been leading the fight against illiteracy in America in various ways. Some of the ways in which Golden Key chapters have been accomplishing this goal include starting after-school reading programs in local schools, sponsoring mentoring programs amongst middle-school children, and hosting book drives.

And those are the campaigns focused solely on fostering alphabetical knowledge, but the fact is, that there are so many different kinds of literacy that are being overlooked in America. For instance, in terms of financial literacy, many adults do not know about credit lines or how to balance a checkbook. This, of course, makes it practically impossible to own a house, or even something as simple as being able to buy groceries from week to week. With regards to health literacy: some people are unable to read prescription bottles and dosages; for obvious reasons, this is unacceptably dangerous.

The bottom line is: we need to help. There are so many opportunities in the city of Chicago. There are countless schools in the UIC vicinity, and there are many children/adults/families in desperate need of help. To begin taking on some of the responsibility, we entreat Golden Key members to join us in our efforts to combat illiteracy. This year the UIC Chapter of Golden Key will begin to spearhead tutoring programs, fundraising, and (possibly) a creative writing contest at a local elementary school - we need volunteers!!! Sign-up sheets will be distributed at the General Body meetings, and we'd greatly appreciate your help.

For further information regarding literacy in the United States, visit the following websites:

WWW.NIFL.GOV

WWW.GOOGLE.COM/LITERACY

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CAMPUS RELATIONS CHAIR: MEGAN STOKES

My name is Megan Stokes and I am a senior majoring in Marketing with a minor in International Business. I have been in Golden Key for one year and am currently the Campus Relations Chair. After I graduate in the spring, I plan on going to law school somewhere in the city. I love watching sports, mainly baseball. I'm extremely interested in Greek and Roman mythology and ancient Greek and Roman history. I also love to watch movies and am addicted to television.

PUBLICITY CHAIR: PRIYA KALAPURAYIL

Hello, everyone! My name is Priya Kalapurayil and I am the Publicity Chair this year for Golden Key. This is actually my 1st semester as a member of Golden Key--I was just inducted this past spring. Just a little background information about me: I am a third year student in the GPPA Medicine program majoring in neuroscience and sociology. Besides Golden Key, I am also a Peer Mentor in the Residence Halls, the Health Education Chairperson of New Life Volunteering Society, and a member of the Society of Future Physicians. With regards to Golden Key, I am really excited about reaching out and attracting others to get involved. We have a lot of great programs, and not many people know about them, so I will be working to make sure that everyone is aware of the wonderful opportunities we have to offer. Besides that, I look forward to meeting and interacting with each of you in the upcoming year!

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: MARISSA KING

Hi everyone! My name is Marissa King and I am serving as the Newsletter Editor for Golden Key this year. I just joined Golden Key in the spring and am really excited about everything we have planned for this year! I'm a junior Statistics and Operations Research major and love watching the Cubs, playing the piano, and going to movies. I look forward to meeting all of you and having a great year!



Golden Key Board Members Emily Finchum, Ella Starzyka, and Maham Lodhi at the International Conference in Atlanta

2007 Golden Key International Conference

By Ella Starzyka

This summer's four-day Golden Key International Conference held in Atlanta was a very positive experience for our Chapter representatives (Maham, Emily, Marissa, and I). This was a great social and educational opportunity. We had a lot of networking opportunities with students and faculty from around the world. As a Chapter, we earned Gold Standing - for our extensive volunteering and community involvement. Furthermore, we learned about the various opportunities Golden Key provides and about social issues that we should help deter such as illiteracy. As a Chapter, we decided to focus on illiteracy and we're in the process of creating an educational program for elementary school children that would help deter illiteracy in our UIC community. As the Volunteer Chair, I hope we can add more volunteering activities that are illiteracy-related and include mentoring. If you have any ideas for volunteering activities, feel free to contact me at estarz2@uic.edu.



Candlelight Vigil on the Lakefront

By Maham Lodhi

October 1st begins the Month of National Domestic Violence Awareness. Not many people are aware that each year 960,000 to 1 million women are abused by a partner or former partner and each year 3,000 women are murdered as a result of domestic violence. Around the world at least 1 in every 3 women has been abused during her lifetime. Almost 25% of American women reported being physically assaulted by a husband or boyfriend. On average, more than 3 women are murdered by their husband or boyfriend in our country, every day. Our community needs to reach out to the victims of such violence and put an end to the suffering. Between Friends hosts a Luminaria every year to pay homage to those who endured such suffering and to their family and friends, and this year we will join them in their 13th Annual Light up the Lakefront Luminaria. We will illuminate the coast with 3,000 candles at dusk, transforming Oak Street Beach into a gleaming portrait against the deep waters of Lake Michigan. It is an experience like no other and cannot be achieved without your help. Please join us and show your support to your community in this race against violence. For more information email me at mlodhi2@uic.edu.

Fall Semester Fundraising *By Tom Vadakara*

One of the main goals of Golden Key is to contribute to the betterment of society through service. We obtain the necessary funds to accomplish this mission by organizing various fundraisers throughout the year. We will be selling Purple Ribbons for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month this October. Please show your support for all who endure Domestic Violence by purchasing and wearing the ribbons during the month of October. Also, please watch for our bake sales, spare change drives, and other fundraising opportunities, which raise money for many notable causes. Your support through these small donations will go a long way in making a difference in someone's life!

October Volunteer Activities:

LIGHT UP THE LAKESHORE- LUMINARIA

When: Monday, October 1st, 3:30-8pm

Location: Golden Key will be going as a group and meeting at UIC.

If you want to meet us there, meet at Oak Street Beach on the concrete partition in between the bike path and the beach. (Oak Street beach is right on Lake Shore Drive, right before getting to Michigan Ave, directly adjacent to The Drake)

GOLDEN KEY BLOOD DRIVE

When: Tuesday, October 16th, 9:30am to 4pm

Location: SCE (room TBA)

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB HALLOWEEN EVENT

When: Need help (10-15 volunteers) on Oct. 25th, 5pm-9pm to set up Haunted House Oct. 26th 3pm-9pm--Halloween PARTY! Dress up!

Location: Southwest side of the city at 2950 W. 25th street at the corner of 25th and Sacramento

10K CROPWALK

When: Sunday Oct. 21st

Where: Starts here on campus, going up to Millennium Park and the Bean, and then returning to campus.

Agape House is the host of the Chicago CROPWalk, a fun 10k walk that supports the work of the international aid organization Church World Service. This is the Walk's 25th year, and we are working to make it the most successful walk to date.

For more info, visit:

<http://www.chicagocropwalk.org/>
www.agape-uic.org

For more information on these and other volunteering events, join us at general body meetings or contact any Golden Key board member.