



HESA GSA Monthly News Update

November/December 2009

Greetings!

Thank you for reading the first edition of the HESA GSA Monthly News Update! Our hope is that you stay informed about all the things going on in Student Life at Baylor and beyond. May this newsletter be the beginning of many collaborative opportunities between HESA faculty, students, and alumni.

Enjoy!

Monthly Event Showcase



Steppin' Out

Steppin' Out is on Saturday, November 21, 2009, and March 27, 2010. Each semester, Steppin' Out sends approximately 3,000 Baylor students into the community to volunteer at churches, schools, non-profit organizations, and agencies in Waco. Steppin' Out is one of the largest community service projects on an American college campus and is nationally recognized for its commitment to service. We invite graduate students to register as individuals or as an association by filling out a "Volunteer Registration Form" at http://www.baylor.edu/student_activities/service/index.php?id=35894.

Christmas On 5th Street

Celebrate Christmas with the Baylor Family!

The division of Student Life and department of Student Activities cordially invite you to its annual Christmas on 5th Street Celebration on Thursday December 3rd from 6pm-10:30pm. The evening will feature Kappa Omega Tau's Annual Tree Lighting and Concert; BRH Cocoa, Cookies, and Carols; and the Christmas Market Place. There are plenty of family friendly activities, like a live Nativity and petting zoo, pony rides, pictures with Santa, a Winter Wonderland scene walk through experience, and carriage rides.

Come for the tradition, the free Hot Cocoa or Cider, and the fun!



HESA GSA Upcoming Events

November 9th

General Meeting at Common Grounds

Volunteer Opportunities

Alcohol Awareness Work Team

November 11th

Need volunteers to help with the taking down of the flag display.

Contact Meghan_Oster@baylor.edu

Christmas on 5th Street

December 3rd

Need volunteers for decorating at various campus locations.

Contact B.J._Layman@baylor.edu

Santa's Workshop

December 4th

Need volunteers for wrapping presents, set-up, supervision, and clean-up.

Contact Jimmy_Kohles@baylor.edu

A Word from an Alumni – Michael Shehane

Howdy from Aggieland,

My name is Michael Shehane and I currently serve as the Career Coordinator for General Academic Programs at Texas A&M University. In this capacity, I assist graduating seniors through the career preparation process as well as freshmen and sophomores navigate the delicate shift from General Studies to declaring a major. Basically, I help students discover and follow their passions in life! How cool is that?! The transition from graduate student at Baylor University to full-time student affairs educator at Texas A&M has been an intriguing and wonderful journey. Upon reflecting on my time at Baylor, I believe that the Higher Education and Student Affairs Masters program was rigorous and rewarding. The courses truly challenged me to reframe my understanding of higher education, the faculty were excellent and dedicated to the cultivation of student learning, and the cohort model allowed me to develop lifelong friendships within a Christian community. I am so thankful for being an alumnus of the HESA program. It has fully prepared me to serve higher education and student affairs as a confident, intentional, and reflective professional.

In closing, I was asked to provide some words of advice and/or encouragement, so here it goes:

- For those students currently enrolled in the HESA program, please soak up as much knowledge and as many experiences as possible. Challenge yourself to take advantage of practicum opportunities, serve as teaching assistants, connect with members of both cohorts, and dedicate time to the Higher Education and Student Affairs Graduate Student Association (HESA-GSA). These opportunities will provide you with a wealth of experiences that pay huge dividends once you reach the professional world.
- For the program alumni, take full advantage for the new Graduate Student Association created specifically for our program. This devoted group of students has accepted the challenge of serving as a catalyst for engagement among past, present, and future students of our HESA program. We all have an opportunity to reconnect and invest in the program that contributed to our current paths of success.
- For all, I continue to love Baylor University and feel blessed to have graduated from such a tremendous institution of higher education. I hope you join me as I continue to pray for the success of the HESA program, its students, and the faculty.

Thank you and Sic 'Em Bears,
Michael E. Shehane, M.S.Ed.
Baylor Class of 2009