Seminar to focus on ending hazing

Purdue News Service

Purdue University will host a think-tank seminar to come up with solutions to the problem of hazing on Nov. 7, concurrent with the Indiana Greek Leadership Conference meeting on campus.

"Hazing is a national problem that threatens the well-being of students by demeaning or disregarding them with the promise of letting them join an organization," said Andrew Robison, assistant dean of students. "We're going to try to come up with a more comprehensive and unified approach to set an agenda for a coalition to address this complex societal issue."

The first National Hazing Symposium is designed to incorporate diverse perspectives, from high school to college administrators as well as student-life professional in student activities, bands and athletics, Robison said.

The discussion will revolve around the state of hazing and include an overview of how hazing issues affect areas such as athletics, fraternities and sororities and judicial affairs, Robison said. The seminar is open to anyone interested in ending hazing in this country, he said.

Symposium participants will also have the opportunity to contribute to the agenda for next year's first National Hazing Prevention Week in September 2005, sponsored by Campuspeak, an agency that represents college campus speakers.

Registration fee is $75, which includes program materials, a Saturday night reception, Sunday continental breakfast and lunch. Registration and program information is available online. Participants will include educators and administrators from a variety of organizations, including the Association of Fraternity Advisors, the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Association of Student Judicial Affairs.

The Indiana Greek Leadership Conference (IGLC), being held the same day, is a nationally recognized leadership seminar targeted to undergraduate fraternity and sorority student leaders. Registration for this event is $45 for Purdue students and $60 for non-Purdue students, which covers five educational sessions and lunch.

IGLC is sponsored by the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Association, which has been held at Purdue for 20 years. It will attract nearly 1,000 undergraduate student leaders from across the Midwest.

Eight alum honored with engineering awards

Purdue News Service

Purdue's College of Engineering honored eight graduates with the 13th annual Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineering Awards on Thursday.

The awards were created to recognize the school's alumni for significant professional contributions to the field, were presented during a ceremony at the Holiday Inn Select in Lafayette.

"The recipients of this year's awards are pioneers, explorers, entrepreneurs and leaders whose stellar achievements have led us across the boundary of the 20th century and into the 21st," said Mark T. Smith, head of the school and Michael J. and Katherine R. Brick Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering. "We are proud to recognize the extraordinary achievements of these alumni."

The honorees are Billy W. Beyers Jr., JoMel Chang, R. Lee Hamilton Jr., Jong Wou Park, Theodore S. Rapport, Peter W. Sauer, Brian R. Smith and Ji Zhang.

• Beyers received a master's degree from Purdue in 1968. After a career of working with video compression and digital television, the Carmel resident retired earlier this year. During his career, Beyers was awarded 45 U.S. patents and two Emmy awards.

• After earning her master's and doctoral degrees in database management systems in 1975 and 1977, respectively, Chang became the first woman researcher in computer science at the AT&T Bell Laboratories. Chang, of Menlo Park, Calif., has founded two technology integration companies — Virtia and QlinSoft — and currently serves as chairman and CEO of QlinSoft.

• Hamilton is president and CEO of Freedom Scientific, which produces assistive technology products for the blind and visually impaired. Hamilton joined the company in 2002 and led the integration of the four companies that were merged to form Freedom Scientific. A resident of Tampa, Fla., he earned his doctoral degree from Purdue in 1974 and 1977, respectively.

• Park earned his doctoral degree from Purdue in 1988. He worked for four years in product development for IBM before he began similar research at Samsung Electronics Co. Currently living in St. Louis, South Korea, he serves as executive vice president and general manager for the digital printing division in Samsung's Digital Media Business.

• Rapport received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in electrical and computer engineering in 1982, 1984 and 1987, respectively. He currently is the William and Bettyte Nowlin Chair in Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Texas-Austin. He also is the founding director of the campus' Wireless Networking and Communications Group.

• Sauer earned his master's and doctoral degrees from Purdue in 1994 and 1997, respectively. Since 1977, he has been a faculty member at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he teaches courses and directs research on power systems and electric machines. He serves as the Grainger Chair Professor in the university's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

• Smith, of Round Rock, Texas, is a managing partner for Techxas Ventures, an early-stage technology venture capital firm that is one of the most active seed and early-stage investors in Texas. He also is a managing partner for Convergent Investors VI, with which he has been involved since 1999. Smith earned a master's degree in electrical engineering from Purdue in 1986.

• Zhang of Monte Sereno, Calif., is co-founder and chief technology officer of Exuvia, a digital media networking startup company founded in 2002, with operations in both the United States and China. He received his doctoral degree from Purdue in 1989 and holds eight patents in digital video compression, media storage and networking.
Purdue angle

Tuition at Purdue this fall increased 4 percent from $192 to $5,000, for in-state students who enrolled before fall 2002. There also was a 4 percent fee increase for in-state students who enrolled since then, from $232 to $6,092.

Fees for out-of-state students rose 6 percent. Those who enrolled before fall 2002 are paying $17,552, or $996 more, and students who enrolled since are paying $18,700, or $1,060 more.

didate John Edwards said.

John Bailey, deputy policy director for the Bush campaign, said financial aid and funding for Pell Grants have increased substantially under the president's watch.

"The Kerry campaign's attacks on the President's leadership is just another example of a campaign that will do or say anything, regardless of the facts," Bailey said.