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'Ladder' teaches risk management

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On Tuesday, Aug. 31 at 6 p.m., greek organization members attended a workshop in the Garrison Lecture Hall. This was the first time the greek life has had a workshop over risk management. A resource created by the Phi Kappa Phi fraternity released a one-page risk management policy based on the FIPG (Fraternal Information and Programming Group) organization.

Lori Hart Ebert and Steve Whitby are the developers of the Ladder of Risk program encouraging students to walk out with useful tools and knowledge, so that every fraternity/sorority can realize how quick it can be to jeopardize someone's chapter or even someone's life.

Shawn, CAMPUSPEAK facilitator, was the emcee for the hour and a half workshop.

His past fraternity experience includes being a brother of the Farmhouse Fraternity and an IFC President of Iowa State. Shawn has a tremendous portfolio, starting with Phi Beta Phi programming and education director, traveling consultant, North American Interfraternity Conference, as well as the Pan-Hellenic Advisor for 15 different chapters throughout North America.

Their website said that for the greek organization, "One of the most important elements of success is their understanding of their responsibility, and one of their most important responsibilities is the safety of their members and guests."

Back in the early '60s, not many people went into college and joined a fraternity or sorority. It was not until the early '80s when partying was associated with fraternities. It was not long until September of 1989 when a ban was created, aiming not only towards protecting the fraternity members and pledges, but to clean up the "Animal House" reputation of harassing, partying and drinking excessive amounts of alcohol.

That was where the FIPG came in, providing Henderson with one of the best workshops there was for teaching the basics of risk management available to the sorority and fraternity community.

The Ladder of Risk is a chance for chapter presidents, campus leaders, chapter advisors, social chairs and members to obtain a better grasp on compliant social event planning, dealing with good risk management tools.

This program uses a ladder as the key example of what they want people to learn from. Each time people put their fraternity/sorority in danger, they take a step up the ladder until the point they eventually fall off the ladder, causing the fraternity lawsuit cases or health issues.

During the workshop Shawn said, "When boiled down, it is simply a way to stay low on the ladder of risk." Shawn played a game called "Is It Worth It?" where there was a chance to win up to \$10, starting with \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10.

The host asked questions relating to the material learned beforehand, and if the contestant could not come up with an answer, he or she was allowed to call someone in their sorority/ fraternity or use a greek crowd answer.

Each time an answer was correct, he or she moved up to the next level and had the chance to leave with the money the person

won or move on to the next question. There were three girls who won \$10.

Afterward, the sorority and fraternity members present were rewarded with pizza in appreciation of their undivided attention during the presentation.

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