



New Growth, Deeper Community Define Year 4 at UNC



It's been quite a year already in Greek Ministry at Carolina, and some of our best is yet to come!

It's always hard to put two months, or even just a month into perspective in such a short amount of space. From the Kickoff Cookout, Greek Getaway, FOCUS Groups, and Bring Your Buddies events the

ministry is now much more than just our Greek IMPACT Monday Night meeting. Thanks to the risks that leaders have taken these last two years—***the ministry expands the walls of a 'typical Christian meeting' and is strongly developing into the missional community that I envisioned 4 years ago.***

Greek IMPACT has become the highlight of my week. Freshman and sophomore year, I knew there was something missing and I could never put my finger on exactly what could fill the spiritual void that seemed to always conflict with my Greek life. However, Greek IMPACT has been the perfect balance and the perfect fit for me!

- Laura Cline, junior Delta Delta Delta

The Monday Night meetings are still the core of what we do—***providing a place of shade for fraternity and sorority students to come and hear about living 'life to the full'*** at least one time in the midst of an often hectic and stressful academic and social life. And between 40-60 Greeks come each week. But this year FOCUS Groups have found a key place in the life-development of many students.

For the past three years, these groups of mentoring and discipleship have fallen largely in my lap - I have probably discipled close to 50 individuals in my 4 years on staff. This year, however, ***students started to take seriously the task of discipling each other in FOCUS Groups***, which encourage Greeks to take a closer look at who they are, who God is and how their faith and Greek experience can co-exist. More than 20 students are engaging in FOCUS Groups led by someone other than me this semester. This is such a great testimony to the leadership and ownership students are taking in this ministry!

I was anxious about joining a sorority because I didn't want to compromise myself in the stereotypical Greek setting. Greek IMPACT immediately got me plugged into a group of people who are in the same situation as me. We talk about issues that we struggle with, and nothing is sugar-coated. Being a Greek follower of Christ isn't easy, but IMPACT has allowed me to form relationships that will help me grow.

- Berkley Webster, freshman Alpha Delta Pi
 (on far left with Victoria Beasley, junior Delta Delta Delta and Mallory Brown, junior Alpha Delta Pi)



"Greek IMPACT has helped me realize what is really important in the Greek system has led to a better balance to my college life."

- Charles Askew, sophomore Phi Delta Theta

Reflections and Prayers

✚ I feel like we have done our events excellently this year. For more detailed wrap-ups on those events, please check the Web site (*address below*).

✚ I was initially concerned about leading with 6 juniors and 1 sophomore on the Vision Team. It has been so encouraging, though, to see them lead and lead well - and is a testament to the leadership culture that we have created within the Greek ministry.

✚ We have a great group of freshman women involved right off the bat who really provide energy to the group. As freshmen guys get initiated into their fraternities pray that they also will connect well with the ministry.

✚ We have several core students overseas this semester. Pray for their remaining time abroad and their transition back into Carolina culture and Greek ministry.

✚ Our senior involvement has been sporadic. Pray that seniors would not disengage their faith.

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Overseas Experiences Continue to Shape Greek Ministry



This summer we had another Alpha Tau Omega take a global mission trip to Africa. Since ATO alum Dusty Harrisons trip to Morocco two summers ago the fraternity has taken a great interest in the faith of that continent – even using their annual golf philanthropy to help fund a mission in Africa.

After hearing about an opportunity at Greek Conference to join InterVarsity students in Ghana this summer, Hunter Culbertson formed a ministry support team and prepared himself for six weeks ministering to a primarily Muslim culture. During his time overseas he had many opportunities to see into the lives of Ghanaian culture, learn from Ghanaian Christians and spend time in witness to Ghanaian Muslims in the district of Twifu Praso. While the impact Hunter left on the culture, and the work he did for Gods Kingdom was dramatic (many came to Christ because of his preaching and the relationships the group developed), the work that God did in Hunters life was as profound.

“I experienced more growth in my walk with Him during these 6 weeks than I have in the rest of my life,” said Hunter upon his return. “I have a renewed passion for Christ and a true desire to follow him in everything I do. The hard thing as I return is going to be sustaining this passion and desire. I'm fearful that as I return I will slide back into my old self. My biggest worry is that over time I will lose the changes God made in me this summer. However, I truly believe that if I continue to go to Him, and trust in Him; I will not only sustain this growth but grow more and more and more. For my relationship with God is not a destination but a journey that is never complete.”

Hunters transition back to the American, and specifically the Carolina Greek culture has been challenging at times, but overall I have sensed a stronger sense of mission, purpose and commitment to living a life of faith this year. I'm excited to hear of the stories in the ATO house as guys ask Hunter about his summer experience and as he lives and acts differently as a result of what God did in His life in Africa.

Thank you for the weekend retreat to Wrightsville Beach. I know a lot of people made the weekend possible, but if it weren't for you, GI at UNC wouldn't even exist. I cannot even tell you how much you and GI mean to me, and how much better GI has made my college experience.

The weekend of 'rest' was much needed for me. I'm in the process of reorganizing my priorities because they're so out of order right now. I had been putting so too much emphasis on business school work and succeeding in academics, that I had put my friends and relationships on the back burner. This weekend allowed me to see why relationships are so important and why I would never survive without them. I see God most through people, and I think He used this weekend to remind me of how present He is in everyone and how much He uses people to express His love.

I've never had much luck with retreats, and I was a little anxious about the weekend. But it's amazing to me how comfortable I felt at all times and how I could be myself around everyone. I felt like I had known these people all my life. My life and relationship with God have been refreshed after the weekend. It reminded me of how awesome God is and how much He can bless our lives with so many unique and wonderful people. I'm looking forward so much to the rest of this semester and all of next year with such an incredible group of people. Thank you for devoting your life to helping students find God—you're a blessing to this campus.

- Shannon Johnston, junior Kappa Delta (in picture on far left)



The Students Speak

Connecting with Kim & On the Homefront will return in December

Also, see what I'm thinking at notsoreligious.blogspot.com.