

February 2008

REGIONseven ACUI newsletter



Serving colleges and universities in Ohio, Michigan, and Ontario, Canada

Letter from RD

2008 = New Beginnings

With the New Year, come new beginnings. I'm sure many of you have established personal resolutions for 2008 and probably even broken some of them already! Many of you have also established professional goals and are taking steps to reach them. It is my hope, that some of your professional goals include your professional organization of choice, the Association of College Unions International (ACUI).

As your new regional director, I am here to make ACUI's Region 7 valuable to you. My goal is to work with our dedicated and talented group of individuals on the Region 7 Leadership Team (RLT) to present possibilities and opportunities that will help you in your career. With your input, we hope to provide you with information, workshops, and networking opportunities that help you be the best college union or student activities professional possible.

With difficult budgetary times at many of the institutions in our region, we're "doing more with less" and being challenged as professionals to find the balance to excel, while maintaining balanced lives. Now, more than ever, is the time to reach out to your fellow colleagues in our profession and share best practices. Networking will help you realize that you're not the only one facing challenges!

As you tackle challenges in this new year, I hope you will share with your RLT what ACUI can do to make the organization more useful to you and your institution. Would a roundtable discussion help? A drive-in workshop? What kind of information can we share in our newsletter or on our website that would be of value to you? I encourage you to take a moment and email one of the RLT members (see last page) an idea. We would love to hear from you.

In addition to the highlights of the regional conference this past November at Ohio University, this issue focuses on other program opportunities including the regional College Bowl and Recreational tournaments at Michigan State University February 22 – 24 and the annual conference in New Orleans, March 16 – 19. Consider taking part in one or both opportunities and open new possibilities for you, your students, and your staff! You never know...it could bring a whole new beginning, one that you've never imagined.

Kim Jacobs, Regional Director



Announcements

Students – Keep your eyes open for the scholarship application to attend the I-LEAD Institute in Bloomington, Indiana, July 20-25. I-LEAD offers student leaders the opportunity to focus on personal growth and the pertinent issues facing our world. The recipient will receive the \$650 registration fee. Transportation will not be provided. The I-LEAD application will be sent to professional staff members in the spring.

Congratulations to Amy Vickers Lee, assistant director, Scheduling and Events, at the Kennedy Union at the University of Dayton, who got married on July 14.

Congratulations to Kennedy Union's Night Operations Manager Brandy Mapes, who had a baby girl named Althea, on August 31.

Have some news to share in the next issue? Email info to Amy Browns at amy.browns@uc.edu.



YSU Opens Pete's Place



Youngstown State University (YSU) recently opened the doors to Pete's Place Restaurant located in Kilcawley Center. YSU's beloved mascot, Pete the Penguin welcomed students, faculty, staff, and visitors with a free 'Pete's Place' t-shirt at the restaurant's grand opening. Customers are delighted with the fun atmosphere and the contemporary décor accented with retro diner tables, unique lighting, beaded window treatments, and comfy booths. The University's colors of red and white were chosen for Pete's Place and are complimented by sleek black, brushed chrome, and neutral grays.

Pete's Place offers a new kind of dining experience on campus with an all-you-care-to-eat lunch buffet priced with the student budget in mind at only \$5.79. Customers who want quick service are thrilled with the new concept of paying immediately at the buffet line. The buffet features three specialty salads with organic salad dressings, whole-

wheat gourmet pizzas and traditional pizzas, just-baked breads, a choice of homemade soups, and includes a tall beverage. For just a \$1 more, students can choose to add the sandwich or pasta of-the-day to their lunch. Marisa Wiery, a junior majoring in social work, says "The food is fabulous. Pete's Place is a smart choice for lunch...fast, affordable, and it's all you can eat!" During fall semester, *'Wednesday After Hours'* entertainment in the restaurant includes DJ's, Guitar Hero competition, Spin the Prize Wheel, Battle of the Sexes game, and a Corn Hole competition on Pete's Place patio. Tom Totterdale, SODEXHO Dining Manager, is very pleased with how the new restaurant has been received, "The crowds, customer comments, and sales figures all indicate that Pete's Place has hit the target and met the dining needs of our campus community."



Bourassa, Stanowich, Leishman, and Naja Honored

ACUI Region 7 sponsors a variety of awards and scholarships for both students and professional staff. For students, there are the annual Colleen Hennessy Undergraduate and Graduate Awards, and I-LEAD and ACUI Conference scholarships. For professional staff, two annual awards are given – the Gretchen Laatsch Outstanding Service Award and the Bob Rodda New Professional Award. Award recipients were honored at the regional conference at OU in November.

Mark Bourassa, assistant dean of students and director of Marbeck Center & Conferences at Bluffton University, was awarded the Gretchen Laatsch Outstanding Service Award. This award recognizes an individual for his or her significant leadership, volunteer service, and commitment to Region 7, while reflecting the mission and goals of the Association. According to Bob Rodda, director of Lowry Center and Student Activities at the College of Wooster, "Mark is a consummate professional. His most outstanding trait is his constant and consistent support and participation in regional and national ACUI activities. Mark has served in a number of leadership positions in the region including conference committees and a term as the Administration, Finance and Management Education Council Regional Chair. He also has been the regional coordinator for small schools. Mark says "yes" before "no" when asked to volunteer and delivers."

Bluffton University also took home honors for the Bob Rodda New Professional Award, which recognizes an individual who has been in the field for less than five years and demonstrates the potential and commitment for excellence in the field of student activities or the union. Dan Stanowick, assistant director of the Marbeck Center since 2005, proved he was the best candidate for this honor. According to LeeAnne Sipe, student chair of the Marbeck Center Board, "Dan has a vested interest in my role as a leader and my future in student affairs. Thanks to his dedication to the campus programming board, many student leaders like me have had the opportunity to attend the Region 7 conference."

The Colleen Hennessy Undergraduate and Graduate Student Awards recognize and reward students for their outstanding and significant contributions in campus activities and/or unions. This year's recipient of the graduate award was Kate Leishman from The Ohio State University. According to Pam Davis, associate director of the Student Union at Wright State, "Kate has proved through her self confidence, passionate and infectious spirit for ACUI and Region 7, that she is an excellent team player and will succeed in her chosen career field. Kate has attended and planned several Region 7 Conferences and Recreation Tournaments and is well on her way to becoming a successful college union professional, as she is focusing on staying in Region 7 to continue her dedication to Ohio and Michigan!"

Loyal Naja, student activities assistant at Macomb College, was honored with the Colleen Hennessy Undergraduate Award. Her supervisor, Diane Wisnewski, states, "In addition to her main charge of providing quality programs and encouraging involvement for Macomb's students, Loyal supervises seven student workers. Loyal is not only their supervisor, she is their mentor, teacher and counselor. She takes a personal interest in each and every one of them and constantly challenges them to be creative, accountable and passionate. Loyal can do this because she practices what she preaches; she leads by example."

Diane Wisnewski, Scholarship and Awards Coordinator

Making a Difference - Region 7 Conference Recap



The weekend of November 9-11 was full of great memories, professional development and most of all, fun. Hosted by Ohio University (OU), ACUI Region 7's annual conference was a great success, thanks to the delegates, the conference planning team and most of all, the staff and students of OU's Baker Center, whose superb customer service made the weekend smooth sailing for all attendees.

With more than 170 delegates from Ohio, Michigan, and Northern Kentucky, the weekend kicked off with a tailgate themed dinner and entertainment by comedian Demetrius Nicodemus, an Ohio State graduate. Saturday was full of festivities including educational sessions, a student etiquette lunch, a 5K Run/Walk, a service project for the troops and some unbelievable magical entertainment by another Ohio State graduate, Michael Kent. It was great to be able to support local entertainers at our conference.

The weekend wrapped up with a nice big bow on Sunday following a keynote by our special guest, Dan Maxwell, who charged each of us to find purpose in whatever we do. It was truly inspiring to hear a leader in our association remind us to look for the little things and little opportunities to truly "Make a Difference." We also got a preview of the 2008 ACUI Region 7 Conference, which





will be held at Eastern Michigan University (EMU). Get ready for some fun at EMU's awesome new Union!

Special thanks to our outgoing regional director, Joe Gutowski, who worked diligently until the moment he handed over the reins to Kim Jacobs. Without Joe's leadership, the conference and Region 7 wouldn't be the BEST in the association. Thank you, Joe!

Finally, special thanks to all the delegates and presenters who made the trip to beautiful Athens, Ohio. Some of you traveled less than two hours, and some, more than eight. We all appreciate your dedication to the region and to our profession!

Kay Robinson, 2007 Conference Chair



The Ohio State University College Bowl Team

2007 College Bowl Recap

With their second consecutive victory in the ACUI Region 7 College Bowl tournament, the team from The Ohio State University earned a return trip to the College Bowl National Championship. The 2007 championship was hosted in downtown Los Angeles by the University of Southern California, May 4-6. This annual championship event features the tournament champions from each of ACUI's 15 regions and a 16th team chosen randomly as a wild card from the list of regional runner-ups.

The Ohio State team, featuring graduate student Matt Luby, freshman Andy Sekerak, and seniors Abe Kanter and Jonathan Graham, represented Region 7 well, finishing with nine wins and six losses, tying for the sixth best record in the round robin. The top four teams in the round robin (Williams, Minnesota, Baylor, and USC) advanced to a double elimination playoff, with Minnesota ultimately winning the title. Among the nine teams defeated by Ohio State in the round robin were two of the playoff teams, USC and Baylor.

Want to participate this year? The 2008 Region 7 tournament will be held at Michigan State University on February 23-24. For more information about College Bowl on your campus or participating in the regional tournament, **contact Patrick Kachurek at patrick.kachurek@wright.edu**.

Matt Couch, 2007 College Bowl Coordinator

Michigan State, Here We Come!

The Michigan State University Union is in prime shape and ready to host this year's Region 7 Recreation and College Bowl Tournaments, February 22-24. Registration is now available online for all those interested in participating in this great event. This year's Recreation events include:

- Men and Women's 9-Ball (qualifier for the International ACUI Tournament)
- Men and Women's Table Tennis (qualifier for the International ACUI Tournament)
- Chess
- Dance Dance Revolution
- Euchre
- Halo
- Poker
- Recreational Bowling
- Super Smash Brothers

The top two finishers in each event will receive a commemorative medal, as well as a gift certificate to a popular bookstore chain. Additionally, the top two finishers in Men's and Women's 9-ball and Men's and Women's Table Tennis will receive regional support for their registration at the international tournaments.

A closing banquet will be held on Saturday, February 23, to honor the winners for each event, as well as those participating in the Region 7 College Bowl tournament. Register by February 1 online at <http://www.acui.org/registration> and receive a \$5 savings per participant. Questions? Please contact the Regional Recreation Coordinator, Kate Leishman at Leishman.2@osu.edu or 614-292-6062.

Kate Leishman, Recreation Tournament Coordinator



ACUI's 88th Annual Conference in New Orleans Features Unique Community Service Projects

Do you know what it means to make a difference in the lives of countless citizens in a very rich and diverse community? Do you know what it means to help people in need? Do you know what it means to be part of the first-ever ACUI association-wide community service project? If you don't know, you will after Monday, March 17.

The ACUI Conference Program Team invites you to be a part of an amazing community service experience, in which the entire association will participate in various community service projects throughout the city of New Orleans. These projects will be facilitated by Habitat for Humanity, Catholic Charities, Common Ground Collective, Trinity Christian Community and AmeriCorps, Second Harvest Food Bank, Dillard University, and the City Park in New Orleans. ACUI volunteers will work with these organizations to help rebuild the future of New Orleans by:

- tutoring middle school youths
- painting and cleaning of homeless shelters and community centers
- building homes
- helping beautify one of the city parks
- sorting and packaging food at a food distribution center
- cleaning and mowing yards.

There is something for everyone and all physical and skill levels will be accommodated.

How to Participate

To participate, you will need to sign up for a specific service organization online as you register for the conference. At the conference check-in, you will be given a ticket, a ribbon and a wristband listing your service organization. Please display the ribbon and wristband throughout the entire conference. This will help trigger conversations and dialogue surrounding this special project. All service organizations are associated with a unique color. If you are interested in volunteering as a group at the same site, please make sure the entire group registers at the same time and signs up for the same site. Since this is an association-wide project, no other educational sessions, tours, etc. will be planned during this time.

On Monday morning, all service project participants will gather in the hotel ballroom (see specific times below). Be dressed in your green volunteer t-shirt, work pants/shorts, closed toe shoes, and be ready to go. A grab-n-go breakfast and lunch will be available as you depart the Ballroom and water will be provided on the bus and at the site. All volunteers will return to the hotel by 1:00 p.m., except for Habitat for Humanity volunteers, who will arrive back at the hotel by 3:00 p.m. Volunteers will be wearing bright gold t-shirts. They will be able to assist you with any questions you may have. Thank you in advance for helping the citizens of New Orleans!

Mary Edgington, ACUI Conference Program Team

Organization	Time to Meet	Bus Departure
Habitat for Humanity	6:45a.m.	7:00a.m.
Catholic Charities	7:00a.m.	7:10a.m.
City Park in New Orleans	7:10a.m.	7:20a.m.
Trinity Christian Community and AmeriCorps	7:20a.m.	7:30a.m.
Common Ground Collective	7:30a.m.	7:40a.m.
Dillard University	7:40a.m.	7:50a.m.
Second Harvest Food Bank	7:50a.m.	8:00a.m.

Don't Miss Region 7 Activities at the Annual Conference, March 17-20

Plan to join your colleagues at the following regional activities at the international conference in New Orleans (more details to come at a later date):

Sunday, March 16

6:30p.m. Region 7 Meeting

Get updates on events, programs and other happenings in the region. More importantly, meet old friends and make new ones as you begin your New Orleans conference experience!

8:00p.m. Region 7 Dinner at Embers

First night and we're out on the town; enjoy dinner at a New Orleans restaurant! Join in the fun of dinner with others from Ohio, Michigan, and western Ontario schools! You must pre-register for this dinner when you register for the conference. You cannot register for this event when you arrive in New Orleans, so please do it in advance. The more the merrier!!

Tuesday, March 18

9:30p.m. Battle of the Regions College Bowl, Slam Poetry, and Spelling Bee

This is where we uphold our reputation (or maybe not!) by competing against the other 14 regions. Sign up at the regional business meeting to take part in any and/or all of the competitions, or just come out and cheer on your colleagues. In the mean time, get in shape by warming up your buzzer fingers, writing some slam poetry and reading Webster's before bedtime!!

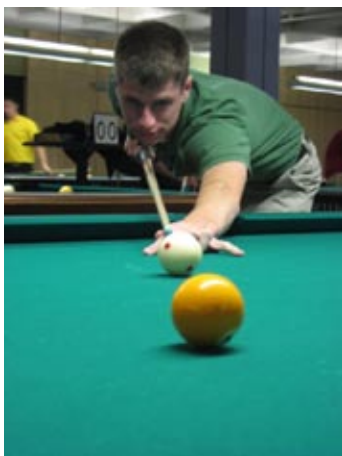
Wednesday, March 19

6:15p.m. Regional Reception

One last toast to your colleagues before the conference ends! Masquerade ball attire encouraged!! Find out who's behind that mask before the closing banquet!! Enquiring minds want to know!! Don't you??



Region 7 Contestant Finishes Second in ACUI 9-Ball Championships



Minnesota State University, Mankato, hosted the 2007 ACUI International 9-Ball Championships July 10-12, celebrating ACUI Recreation's 70th year. This was a partnership with the Billiard Education Foundation (BEF) Junior National Championships, welcoming more than 150 19 & Under players from across the U.S. and Canada. The 30 male and 19 female players in the collegiate event represent more than 600 collegiate contestants who vied for a shot at the international title by first winning their campus championship and later finishing in the top tier at their regional championships. Three men represented Region 7 at the collegiate Championships:

Ryan Balks	Michigan State University	Winner, Region 7 Recreation Tournament
Dan McGuire	University of Akron	Winner, U of M Team Pool Championships
Mike Shrum	University of Akron	Runner-up, Region 7 Recreation Tournament

Balks, a 4-year veteran of ACUI regional and championship tournaments and a former junior contestant, capped off his senior year with his best ACUI finish, taking home the trophy for 2nd place, as well as a tuition refund of \$500. McGuire and Shrum both finished in a tie for 9th-12th place. There were no female representatives from Region 7 in the championships this year.

Full results of the Region 7 contestants in the championship tournament:

Men's Division

2nd	Ryan Balks	Michigan State University
9th-12th	Dan McGuire	University of Akron
	Mike Shrum	University of Akron



This was the third year that the ACUI Collegiate tournament took place alongside the Junior National Championships. For more information about junior pool, visit www.billiardeducation.org. For more information about the collegiate pool season, including two regional opportunities to qualify for the 2008 championships, visit www.acui.org and click on "Student Programs." There are two active Facebook groups for general ACUI recreation discussion among college students; if you would like to join, just search for "ACUI 9-Ball" or "ACUI Table Tennis" on facebook.com. Congratulations to Ryan and all of the ACUI 9-ball champions!

Betsy Sunholm, ACUI Recreation & Leisure Time Activities Program Team Chair

GLOSA Endowment Reaches \$10,000 Goal

It took several years of talking before Gretchen Laatsch (retired from The University of Akron) and Bill Shepard (Wright State University) finally worked out a plan to raise funds to endow the Gretchen Laatsch Outstanding Service Award. Our goal to reach \$10,000 was well in hand before this year's Region 7 conference and was exceeded at the conference with a final total of \$10,250. The endowment has been established with the Akron Community Foundation under the watchful eyes of Gretchen Laatsch and her husband James Switzer.

Special thanks to those who have made pledges and contributions, so far. These contributors include Phil Hirsch (retired Youngstown State), Kathy Morris (Wright State University), Colleen Hennessy (retired Michigan State), Bud Marston (retired University of Akron), John Ellinger (The Ohio State University), Gale Swanka (Bowling Green State University), Helen Welford (retired The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), Rick Danals (Wright State University), Bob Rodda (College of Wooster), Colleen Barker-Williamson (Case Western Reserve University), Vicki Fete (retired University of Akron), Betsy Sundholm (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), Bill Shepard (Wright State University), Pam Davis (Wright State University), Mark Bourassa (Bluffton College), Joe Gutowski (Case Western Reserve University), Jeff Pelletier (The Ohio State University),

Dan Maxwell (Indiana Univ.-Purdue Univ. Indianapolis), Gretchen Laatsch and James Switzer.

If you would like to contribute any amount to the endowment, please send a check, payable to the Akron Community Foundation, 345 West Cedar Street, Akron, OH 44307-2407, and note on the memo line "GLOSA Endowment." As always, the colleagues in Region 7 are the best, and I thank you for your commitment to and financial support of this project.

Gretchen Laatsch, ACUI Past President



Region 7 Leadership Team

<i>Mark Albers</i>	<i>University of Dayton</i>	Facilities and Operations Education Council
<i>Chad Barnhardt</i>	<i>Ohio University</i>	Campus Life and Program Management
<i>Mark Bourassa</i>	<i>Bluffton University</i>	Auxiliary Services Education Council
<i>Amy Browns</i>	<i>University of Cincinnati</i>	Newsletter Editor
<i>Carlos Costa</i>	<i>Eastern Michigan University</i>	2007 Regional Conference Chair
<i>Kim Jacobs</i>	<i>Bowling Green State University</i>	Regional Director
<i>Patrick Kachurek</i>	<i>Wright State University</i>	College Bowl Tournament Coordinator
<i>Kate Leishman</i>	<i>The Ohio State University</i>	Recreation & Leisure Time Activities Tournament Coordinator
<i>Jean Ann Miller</i>	<i>Oakland University</i>	Communities Liaison
<i>Jeff Pelletier</i>	<i>The Ohio State University</i>	Administration, Finance, and Management Education Council
<i>Audrey Schwimmer</i>	<i>University of Michigan</i>	2007 Regional Conference Chair
<i>Gale Swanka</i>	<i>Bowling Green State University</i>	Regional Business Manager
<i>Aronda Thomas</i>	<i>Bowling Green State University</i>	Web Coordinator
<i>Diane Wisnewski</i>	<i>Macomb Community College</i>	Scholarship & Awards Chair

To post announcements or employment opportunities, please email the information to Newsletter Editor Amy Browns at amy.browns@uc.edu.

Designed by Stefanie Krajnyak, Campus Services Marketing, University of Cincinnati

