



VCU CHAPTER UPDATE



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Officer Spotlight

Golden Key is Now an ACHS Member

On February 18, 2005 we had a general chapter meeting. This was a great success for our chapter of Golden Key. We have never had this many members attend meetings! We discussed the events that our chapter will be involved in this semester. Members will be rewarded for their participation by receiving points for attending Golden Key sponsored events. Points qualify our members to receive chapter scholarships, attend conferences, receive graduation regalia, and to run for office. We would like

all members to keep in mind that in order to run for an office you must attend at least 80% of the meetings.

All members should keep in mind that Blackboard is our primary way of communication regarding upcoming events and your way of giving input to all of the officers as to what you would like to see done through our chapter of Golden Key here at VCU.

Don't forget to check out our chapter website for pictures and updates regarding what goes on at

VCU's chapter of Golden Key International Honour Society. Brian uploaded pictures and is nearly done creating the website, so in the meantime everyone can see what Brian has completed thus far.

All in all, our meeting was a success and we hope to expand as an organization and build upon the precedent set at the first meeting here at VCU.

A Few Words from Our President

It is a great pleasure and honor to be serving all of you. We have a great organization and a wonderful group of officers. This year it is my hope that Golden Key will become a more prominent organization on campus, and become more involved both in our community and internationally. We have taken numerous steps to achieve this goal by attending a regional conference in Washington, DC in January and collaborating with other Golden Key chapters from the East Coast. This

semester I am pleased to announce that our chapter will be participating in the Intercultural Festival, a community service project with Children's Hospital at MCV, Golden Key Awareness Week, an Honorary Member Breakfast, and a Study Breakfast at the end of the semester. We are looking for all of our Golden Key members to help participate in these events, and to make our chapter rise to the top.

I invite all of you to get involved with our chapter. There is something for each

of you to be involved in regardless of the amount of time you have to commit. To volunteer with Golden Key for any of the above mentioned activities please email the Golden Key Executive Board at goldenkeyvcu@yahoo.com





"Since its inception, the festival has become a university-wide event that grows each year."

Intercultural Festival

Free and open to the public, the 2005 Intercultural Festival will be held 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in VCU's Park Plaza. Some of this year's festival activities will include cultural stage performances; VCU art student showcases; ethnic cuisines from local restaurants; a cultural fashion show; free dance lessons; children's activities, crafts and door prizes.

VCU has celebrated the festival for more than 10 years. Since its inception, the festival has become a

university-wide event that grows each year. In 2003, ICF was deemed an official VCU tradition by the VCU Academic Campus Student Government Association.

Every year different organizations set up booths to create awareness about their organizations. If you are a Golden Key member please volunteer at the booth to help our organization out. Jithin Veer is the coordinator for this event so please contact him if you

have any questions about this event celebrating diversity and arousing awareness about our organization. You may contact him at veerjr@vcu.edu.

Golden Key Awareness Week

We would like to thank each and every volunteer that came to help out and sit at the Golden Key booth in the commons. This proved to be a great success as in most cases it was not the candy that drew people to us, but more the curiosity that was generated by our presence. We had a significant number of people put their name down showing interest in Golden Key.

Our goal is to make everyone aware of the

prestige of being in such an organization, and in order to achieve this we continually promote ourselves to the public. We would like all who are eligible to be a part of our organization so that they may also have access to academic recognition, career assistance, leadership opportunities, community service projects, and much more.

David did a wonderful job organizing this event for us and we should all thank him for doing his best to

propel Golden Key on its way to flourish here at VCU. For any additional comments or ideas to help David raise awareness here please feel free to email him at yindm@vcu.edu.

End of Semester Study Break

The Golden Key officers are in progress of coming up with an end of semester study break. Please help out Golden Key by getting involved. Keep in mind all activities you participate in earn you points toward scholarships and benefits

from the society.

If you would like to help out email our president Gabriella at shermang@vcu.edu.

This is a great opportunity for all to participate

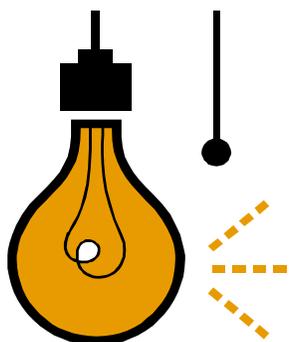
especially if you have not had the time to do so in the past or would like to continue to be a very active member in Golden Key.

Deanna Faulk
 Position: Community Service Director
 Major: Biology/Psychology

A little about myself: I am currently a senior with expectations to graduate in December of this present year. I will be attending medical school beginning in fall 2006 either at MCV through the guaranteed medial program or some where else (hopefully UNC Chapel Hill!) and in many years to come, I will be a compassionate physician. I am actively involved in Golden Key, a peer educator, a devoted student and teacher (with TA-ing, SI-ing, etc.) Currently, I am trying to chill as much as possible while I wind down my undergraduate career and prepare mentally for college. I'm a proponent of intellectual knowledge and growth as well as hanging out, relaxing and having fun. My favorite pastime is LAUGHING---hey, you don't get the nickname smiley for nothing. Also, I am very into health from the standpoint of exercise and nutrition. Learning and applying these principles to my life is my new passion. So look for me at the gym in the mornings trying to work it out and hopefully I will soon kick it into high gear as a personal

trainer.

Beyond the many things that Golden Key is doing this year, we are still focused on the Service that we provide to the community. As community service director, I am responsible for organizing and planning the particular project that we will be doing for the semester. Golden Key members gave very good ideas, but with lack of time, we will only focus on one for the spring semester. The ideas, however, will be carried over and enacted in the fall. I am very excited that we will be planning to work with the medical campus to volunteer with the children's ward at MCV hospitals. It should be a fun and rewarding experience that I envision all of the members to actively participate. We are shooting to have the event toward the closing of the semester in April, so it will be a great way to end the semester on an inspiring and fulfilling note.



Golden Key is Now an ACHS Member!

"We are honored to announce that on 18 February 2005, Golden Key International Honour Society became the 69th member of the [Association of College Honor Societies](#) (ACHS). Our application for membership as a "General Scholarship Upper Division" honor society was approved and we are proud to be a member of this prestigious community of honor societies and scholars.

Since its founding in 1925, ACHS has served as the only standard setting body and certifying agency for college and university honor societies. ACHS sets the standards of

organizational excellence and scholastic eligibility for honor societies. ACHS's petitioning and selection process is very rigorous and thorough (it requires a supermajority vote of 80% of the ACHS membership), which makes us all the more proud of this significant achievement.

The mission of ACHS is to build a visibly cohesive community of national and international honor societies, individually and collaboratively exhibiting excellence in scholarship, service, programs, and governance. As an organization they encourage such core values as integrity, honor, character and leadership.

As you know, Golden Key believes in being mission focused, values based and demographics driven. We build individual character by inculcating values in to every aspect of the Society. Our mission is to build global communities of academic achievers by

providing opportunities for individual growth through service, leadership, as well as personal, professional and cultural development. We envision a global community of academic achievers committed to using their excellence to improve our world. We do this by creating a culture of public works and global citizenship. Our values are the bedrock upon which we are built. We value integrity, inclusiveness, collaboration, innovation, teamwork and respect for others."

For the full article check out the Golden Key International Honour Society Website at www.goldenkey.org. Here you will not only find the latest news regarding the society as a whole, but a land full of opportunities for students graduating in the near future.

Your Golden Key Officers:

President:

Gabriella Sherman

Vice President of Cultural Affairs:

Jithin Veer

Vice President of Campus Awareness:

David Yin

Secretary:

Sarah Gibbs

Technologist/Webmaster:

Brian Nguyen

Community Service

Director:

Deanna Faulk

Historian:

Aarti Jani

Newsletter Director:

Ashish Sethi

About Our Organization

Golden Key is an academic honour society which recognizes and encourages scholastic achievement and excellence among college and university students from all academic disciplines. The Society awards its members over \$400,000 annually through 17 different scholarship and award programs.

Members are connected to exclusive career opportunities and assistance through Golden Key's partnerships with major corporations and graduate programs. The Society

provides campus and community service opportunities enabling personal growth and leadership development as well as collaborating with university faculty and administrators to develop and maintain high standards of education.

We hope you will spend a few moments exploring Golden Key! On these pages, you can learn how the Society began and where it is headed in the new millennium. We invite you to contact the Golden Key

International Headquarters or any of our staff or volunteer leaders to learn more about Golden Key.

Golden Key is proud to have nearly 350 chapters at colleges and universities in six countries: Australia, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States.



We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://vcugoldenkey.cjb.net/>
