Please visit http://axo.mit.edu/parents.php for more information about downloading issues of our parent’s newsletter.

**In This Issue...**

**Sister Spotlight:** Sha-har Admoni ’09, Vice President of Fraternity Relations

**Events:** Family Weekend Brunch, Fondue

**Plus:** Independant Activities Period, GPA Award

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**Alpha Chi Omega wishes all of its families a wonderful holiday season!**

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**Academics**

For the Spring 2008 semester, Alpha Chi Omega achieved an average GPA of 4.46 out of 5.0, making our chapter 7th out of all Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups. Furthermore our GPA ranks 1st among the other sororities.

In addition to our amazing overall academic standing, individual sisters were awarded with a pearl for their AXO badge signifying a 5.0/5.0 GPA for the Spring semester. These amazing sisters are Grace Yao ’11, Emily Shao ’11, Mahati Chintapalli ’11, Lisa Schlecht ’10, Minh Huynh-Le ’10, Wendy Chen ’10, XiaoXiao ’09, Emilienne Repak ’09, Libby Palmer ’09, Michelle Lustrino ’09, Sarah Cooper-Davis ’09, Steff Brenman ’09, Sha-har Admoni ’09, and Becca Adams ’09. The chapter congratulates all these outstanding sisters for their hard work and dedication to intellectual development!

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**Independant Activities Period**

This month long period during January allows students to discover new interests through fun workshops, take accelerated language classes, travel around the world, have internships with MIT alums, and more. Here is what some of our sisters are planning for this IAP!

I will be traveling to Mexico to continue my summer project. With four other MIT students, we’re heading down to Tuxtla-Gutierrez, capital of the state of Chiapas, the southernmost and poorest state in all of Mexico. The team will be there for three weeks implementing our Leadership Training Institute curriculum and working with adolescents about the foundations of leadership. After my trip to Mexico, I will be in Brazil, the first of the three countries I will be studying in for all of spring semester.

-YeSeul Kim ’10

This IAP I am going to be part of a three person team, including my fellow Alpha Chi Katrina Ellison ’10, in the web programming competition class, 6.470. It takes place over a five day period, with the project being announced on the first day of the class. The final websites will be judged and there are prizes for winning designs.

-Katie Thomas ’10

Over IAP I am planning to take the class 2.670, Mechanical Engineering Tools, along with many other Alpha Chi sophomores. The class focuses on teaching machining techniques, and culminates in building a stirling engine. In addition to the class, I am also a part of UPOP, Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program, a yearlong program that helps sophomores create resumes, interview for jobs, and find summer internships. Over IAP, there is a week-long intensive workshop for UPOP.

-Amanda Grue ’11

In addition to taking the web designing class and a possible internship showing how important video is in day to day life, I plan to make the most out of MIT’s IAP in the fun department. I want to take the just-for-fun MIT “Charm School” class, famous for teaching students the ways of etiquette, and a few crash courses in different programming languages, like C and C++.

-Jenny Chan ’11
MIT’s Family Visiting Weekend was October 17th-19th. That Sunday morning our sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, welcomed families of the sisters and new members into our beautiful mansion for brunch. The goal of this event was to introduce new members’ families to what being a part of an MIT sorority truly means and to have an environment open to questions. We created several posters detailing our philanthropy, domestic violence awareness, as well as our other events and some history of our sisterhood. Overall, the event was quite successful, with about 34 families visiting.

We hope that by having met upperclassmen sisters, parents could get a feel of the bond we share, ask any questions they may have regarding the sorority, see the support network that this provides, discover the scholastic and vocational aid, learn of our events and aims, and more. We are very proud of the strong involvement of our members in the community, and we are recognized among all of the sororities, even by President Hockfield, for our presence. We hope that you have seen all the benefits of having your daughter in Alpha Chi!

If you have any further questions or have not yet received the finance pamphlet describing where dues go, please email axo-familywknd@mit.edu.

-Family Weekend Committee, Anya Shafiro ’10, Vicki Stolyar ’09, Anne Shen ’11, Julie Paul ’10, and Katie Thomas ’10

In the “Blue Room” of the AXO mansion, Tayina Tardieu ’10 poses with her father and brother after eating brunch during MIT’s Family Weekend.

Sisters Stephanie Shin ‘10 and Robin Shin ’12, enjoy Parents Weekend brunch with their parents at the Alpha Chi Omega mansion.

Lauren Sless ’12 and her parents enjoy the brunch together.
Fondue

This fall, we hosted our annual Fondue event, where we invite the faculty to our house for desserts and conversation. This year, around 50 faculty members attended the event. After faculty hour, our event opens to the entire MIT community, and sisters’ friends from their dorms, classes, and clubs all come to enjoy desserts and see our beautiful mansion.

Fondue allows our sisters, especially the freshmen, to interact with the MIT community outside of classes. The faculty hour was initiated years back to encourage interaction with MIT Faculty. Through faculty hour, many of our sisters learn about research being conducted in different departments, and some of our freshmen learn more about majors they may be considering. In turn, we hope that the faculty learn more about Alpha Chi Omega, Greek life in general, as well as some of the things that our sisters are passionate about, namely, our philanthropy with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Domestic Violence Awareness Week, and LipSync.

It is truly a classy and one of a kind event that every sister puts effort in to make special. Throughout the past few weeks, sisters worked hard to organize and carry out the dessert making, advertise to the faculty and the MIT community, and make the event a success.

-Fondue Committee, Grace Yao ’11, Jasmine Park ’11, Veronica Wilson ’11, Samantha Marquart ’11, Sarah McDermott ’11, Steph Leger ’11, and Liz Denys ’11
Sister Spotlight

MEET VP FRATERNITY RELATIONS:
SHA-HAR ADMONI ’09

What is your major? What outstanding work have you done with it?
I am majoring in brain and cognitive sciences with a minor in economics.

What hobbies and activities do you do at MIT besides AXO?
I am an EMT and I work on the MIT Ambulance. I tutor a third grader twice a week, and I also play oboe and English horn in the wind ensemble. I was also active in dorm government before I moved into the house.

What are your plans after MIT?
I plan to go to medical school next year.

What other positions have you served in AXO besides VP Fraternity Relations?
I served as a spirit chair for one semester.

Has this position been your most time consuming?
Definitely. Some weeks are busier than others, though.

Has it been your most enjoyable?
Yes, by far. My position has three different components: philanthropy, ritual, and parent relations. For philanthropy, the main responsibilities are Domestic Violence Awareness week in the fall and LipSync in the spring. For ritual, I help plan the new member initiation and work with the VP of Education to teach our chapter about the things that make Alpha Chi unique. Finally, my newest responsibility, parent relations, includes working with the Parent Chairs to put together this newsletter and keep our parents up to date with what is going on here at AXO.

How has this position helped you at MIT, among other experiences?
Being VP Frat Rel has helped me learn how to manage different committees, how to delegate tasks, and how to get other people excited about the things that I find exciting. I have found my experiences in AXO particularly helpful in medical school interviews; I have learned to speak confidently about myself and my work.

Was there a particular moment that touched you the most during your times in AXO?
I specifically remember one wind ensemble concert my sophomore year. I always email out to the chapter when I have concerts, but I don’t usually expect too many sisters to come because I know everyone’s always so busy. For this one concert, though, I was really hoping to have some support in the audience because I was particularly fond of the music and proud of all the effort that we had put into making this concert great. When I walked on stage, I heard cheers and saw banners and I knew that I had sisters in the audience there to support me. Having them there to see me, even though my own family couldn’t be there, made me really appreciate the sisterhood of AXO.

How do you balance all of your problem sets, exams, leadership positions, and AXO? What has it taught you?
To be perfectly honest, it’s not easy. But I stay extremely organized and plan out my day (or week, if I have a lot of things going on) so that I can make the best use of my time. I also make sure I have time for myself, either to hang out with friends, go to the gym, or sleep in. I’m a very busy person, but being busy has taught me a lot about what I’m able to accomplish and how to manage my time well.

– SHA-HAR ADMONI ’09, VICE PRESIDENT OF FRATERNITY RELATIONS

Amy Gilpin ’09, President, and Sha-har Admoni ’09, VP Fraternity Relations attended the National Convention this summer in Arizona.