Club/Group Updates

- **Alpha Phi Omega** represented by Michael Doo and Christine Roe (Service VP)
  - In the middle of rush
  - Going down to food bank on Thursday as part of rush
  - Joseph’s House & Shelter training on Feb 7th is open
    - Going downtown twice a month to spend night in Joseph’s House
  - Working with Habitat For Humanity in February
  - Working with St. Anne’s Institute for children to do an event
  - Working with Community Gardens
  - Working with Equinox shelter for battered/abused children and women in Albany
  - The **BIG** event they’re planning centers around participating in a fundraiser through St. Baldrick’s (a child cancer organization)
    - Albany Pump Station
    - March 22nd
    - Raise money by having volunteers to get pledges and have their heads shaved
    - Get involved as “shavees” and other capacities
    - Want other clubs/organizations on campus to get involved
    - A pledge member is co-chairing this and wants to raise campus involvement
    - They still only have a few volunteers & fundraising dollars
  - Preparing for an NRB activity where they’ll work with Habitat to offer another or larger program. They might also do their own Habitat-like program. The goal is to let more incoming students take part in service before the semester begins
  - Doing MMOC for GM Week again

- **Habitat For Humanity** represented by Kyle Mattson
  - 2nd annual Home Run For Habitat on Sunday, April 5
    - Open to Troy community this year
  - GM Week Events by Habitat
    - LEGOS/graham cracker house event
      - Donate money to vote for best house
      - Winner donates half of donations to charity of their choice
      - Rest of donations go to Habitat
    - Homeless awareness event on Wednesday with info handouts and promo granola bars
      - Maybe work with Alpha Phi Alpha to extend it
  - Booth at Winter Carnival
    - Cameron has 8 hockey tickets for gift packs to kids that come
  - Annual chocolate bar sale for after spring break
Newsletter coming out

Habitat Spring Break: 1st info Meeting tonight at 9pm
  - Going to North Carolina

Spring Break Reason event in Albany during RPI’s spring break to build a house on Capitol Hill.
  - They’ll participate if enough people are staying around campus for break
  - Raise awareness that 600,000 are homeless in NY state

- **Relay For Life** represented by Daniel Hogan
  - Kick-Off event 7-9pm this Thursday, Jan 29th in Sage Dining Hall 2nd Fl
    - Learn more about Relay
    - What’s in store this year
    - Fun event
    - Refreshments provided
  - First weekend of Feb: Regional Summit that some committee members attending to learn about Relay and best practices to bring back to our event
  - Already have 19 teams and almost $2000 raised so far
    - Should jump after Kick-Off
  - **Volunteers wanted to help with Thursday’s Kick-Off**
    - Help with setup from 6-7pm
    - Help with cleanup after Kick-Off ends
    - Please email Anika (bracea@rpi.edu) ASAP if you are available

- **Circle-K** represented by Jacquie Fable
  - Chose a charity to support: St. Joseph’s House
  - Sat, Feb 28: Iron Chef
    - Same days as Winter Carnival & Senior Night
    - Talk to Cameron & Martha about the date
    - Already contracted local businesses & have continued support from last year for prize baskets for winning chefs
  - Last weekend of March: convention in Albany with lots of members attending
  - Capital Divisional meeting for lieutenant governor elections (~6 colleges in Albany region)
  - 8 members went to food bank on Community Service Day
    - Kiwanis helped with Renew America Effort with Habitat in Albany on that same day
  - This past Monday, they helped with Vanderheyden Carnival by doing games for kids

- **IFC** represented by Philanthropy Chair Ken (hutchk3@rpi.edu)
  - Greek Hockey Night went very well
    - Good turnout
    - 1035 cans
- Point system for IFC w/philanthropic events
- Working for less legislation for mandated philanthropic events
  - Fasting event in February (fast for a day)
    - Make donation from part of house pledges
    - Collect donations
    - Cause to support being determined via survey
  - Egg hunt by EMPAC idea for troy community children
    - contacting local farmers markets for egg donations
  - Idea for competition to stay on roofs/scaffolding (details need to be worked out regarding safety)
    - Competition of who can stay up the longest
    - Competition, athleticism and donations all in one
  - Will include forward info about Relay For Life and Kick-Off on to other houses

**Senate’s Community Relations Committee** represented by Will
  - Bringing back a cooperative/collaborative community service project that never got followed up on 2 semesters ago with the city & mayor
    - Aiming for spring event
    - Go and clean Troy up to raise awareness that RPI supports the City of Troy
    - Want it to be as big as possible
    - There are different parks all over
    - Maybe even work w/Habitat to build houses
    - Planning stage to get up in next month or so

***Updates from Cynthia Smith***

- Tutor Time going well with work-study and volunteers
  - Troy Public Library in Lansingburgh might be one of two Troy libraries forced to close this weekend due to budget issues
  - Tutor Time will lose one of their branches
    - Been in Lansingburgh for 9 years.
    - Have a space on the second floor we’ve painted twice
    - Still have Lansingburgh Boys & Girls club one block away from library as a temporary fix
    - Library district budgeting up for election in next few months
    - Letters have been written to the papers/city/city council about how much we value our libraries. Alumni of Tutor Time have written letters
    - $135,000 budget deficit needs to be overcome

- Getting ready to email blood drive sponsorship info for the 9-10 drives on campus
  - Sponsoring groups recruit appointments, get name on posters they put up & maybe help on day of
  - The dates will go fast. Select top 3 choices for your group.
- ~90-100 appointments per drive
- Maybe trying to get more drives this semester
- Donors can give blood every 56 days

**Volunteer Recognition / Clothe-A-Child/ Appreciation Dinner on Tuesday, March 23**
- Fac/staff (or anyone else) can sponsor students to dinner with $10 donation
- Sodexo/suppliers cover expenses. All money goes to the charity.
- Fac/staff do all serving.
- Volunteer recognition part of the dinner this year
  - Nomination forms to nominate those deserving award (which are given out at dinner)
  - Showcase in Union by bookstore shows last year’s recipients.
  - Award for most outstanding community work also presented here
  - Club awards
  - Individual awards
  - Be ready for nomination forms coming out soon
- CSC involved in helping present awards at dinner
- Active CSC members/reps can go for free (donation is still welcome) to give awards and enjoy the dinner

**Lots of luck with service reporting online.**
- Many reports came in before holidays
- Sending them as you do them better than all at once
- Lots of new service reported this year

**Phone call from local diabetes organization**
- Want to do a walk in the fall (October)
- October 24th & 31st are possible dates
- Oct 31st sounds the best for a Halloween-themed event
  - Walk/parade of costumes?
  - Would students show up at ~2pmr to walk somewhere in community & to fundraise for diabetes
  - Halloween on a Saturday this year
  - Kids could come in costume and do trick-or-treating
  - “Halloween parades are fun” -Cynthia think it would be fun.
  - Frats might get involved
  - Good for Troy/RPI relations
  - Boys & Girls Clubs and maybe Vanderhyden
  - IFC could maybe help organize it, but Ken needs to talk to people first

**Last week’s service projects were at 8 locations**
- Helped with Troy Housing Projects
  - lots of kids
  - start of great relationship
- Americorps/Vista volunteers at each location
- Valuable for RPI students to be with them at the locations

Next meeting on Tuesday, February 10th at 7pm in DOSO Conference Room

Meeting concluded at 7:41pm