

Bluffton University

RA Group Process Activities

2013-2014

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2013

“May the Odds Be Ever in Your Favor”

Whom Would You Hire?

Imagine you are a member of the RA Selection Committee. Your task is to choose one staff of **six** RAs from the candidates listed below. When you have finished that, collaborate with the others in your group as a selection committee and arrive at a consensus of opinion of who should make up the staff. Do your best to arrive at a consensus. A simple majority vote is not sufficient.

Individual Choices	Group Consensus	RA Candidate
		Hercules Strongman - a Caucasian junior from Elida, OH. Plays football and runs track. Goes home almost every weekend. Has a 2.95 GPA.
		Petunia Flowerpot - A Caucasian female, junior, member of Camerata, has been referred in the past for two alcohol violations. Has respect from the women on her floor currently and leads hall association. GPA 3.6.
		Penelope Kardashian - an African American transfer from Baldwin Wallace University. She loves Dance Dance Revolution (a video game) and plays softball for Bluffton. Holds a 3.20 GPA.
		Snooki Polizzi - A Caucasian sophomore from the Jersey Shore. Maintains a 4.0 GPA. Her current RA describes her as quiet and nice. Experienced homesickness her first and second semesters.
		Tsunami Sea - A Caucasian male, sophomore, very athletic (loves to surf), on the soccer team; past reputation of being a partier; now works in the front desk of Marbeck Center. 2.7 GPA.
		Sprinkles Cupcake - an international student from Bombay, India. A math major who works part time at Common Grounds. Her current GPA is 2.89.
		Mufasa Lion - An African American sophomore from Findlay, OH. Often teased by floor mates for his small stature. Engaged and spends most of his free time with his fiancée Sarabi. Used to be active in Student Senate. GPA 3.0.
		Katniss Everdeen - A Caucasian sophomore from Cleveland, OH. She has been referred during her first year for open hour policies. She is active with MCB. She has a 3.45 GPA.
		Barney Stinson - a junior Latino male; ex-marine; has been known as organized and structured. He has had past roommate conflicts and has had 5 roommates in 3 years. GPA 2.9.
		Gangnam Syle - an Asian American junior from Detroit, MI. Runs cross country and sings in Accent. With his major of Youth Ministries and Recreation, he hopes to be a director of a youth center. His GPA is 2.59.

Staff Team:

Candidates NOT Selected:

Legos Activity

Directions to read: Your job is to build something out of Legos that would enhance the community that we assign to you. This could be anything that would be useful to a Bluffton student and would benefit them in the community. The three groups are: **commuter students** (to help them feel a part of the community), **first-year students**, **seniors/upperclassman**. We will divide you up now.

Goals/directions for facilitator:

- In this activity, students will use Legos to build a contraption/something that would benefit or enhance the particular community. Students would work together in small groups and then share with the larger group
- Divide group among the large group (3 or 4 in a group)
- Goals- teamwork, communication with each other, creativity, community enhancement

Notes about what happened/notes for the future:

Build a Residence Hall

Directions to read: You have been selected by the University to be on the committee that will plan the construction of a new residence hall on Bluffton's campus. At this point in the planning process there are no constraints and there is essentially an unlimited budget for the project. Your task is to develop the building and give a short presentation which will answer the following:

1. Number of residents that can be housed in your building and why.
2. Where your building is located on campus and why you chose that location.
3. How your design promotes or encourages community development.
4. Location and size of various facilities (student bathrooms, public restrooms, desk area, office space, meeting rooms, lounges...) and rationale for their location and/or size.
5. Any other specifics about the building you want us to know about.

Use the butcher paper and markers to “build” and get creative!

Goals/directions for facilitator:

- Groups of 3 or 4 will get poster board (butcher paper) and markers to design their own hall.
- Students should keep in mind what makes a community and the logistics
- Goals- work together, creativity, understand and build community

Notes about what happened/notes for the future: