

FALL 2009 NEWSLETTER

College Fairs

This past fall, we had 32 AAO Volunteers cover 31 fairs around the world, including 2 international fairs! In all, 63% of the fairs that were posted, were covered by AAOs. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to cover a college fair.

I know that fair participation can be intimidating, but it's easy to talk about your experiences at Lehigh, so I encourage more of you to sign up for future fairs. If you're too timid to do one by yourself, grab a fellow alum and attend the fair together.

Speaking of college fairs, spring fair invitations are arriving daily in the Admissions Office, so keep checking the college fair website for AAO opportunities. The site can be found here: <http://www3.lehigh.edu/alumni/volunteer/aaolcollegeFairs.asp>

2009 Legacy Weekend

On September 5th, the Lehigh Legacy Weekend Event was held on campus. 173 prospective students and their family members attended the event.

The program a great success, despite an LU loss at the end of the Lehigh/Central Connecticut State football game. Please check www.lehigh.edu/legacy for updated information on next year's program.

November 2009



Quotes from Legacy Weekend

"[The event] was very well presented and very informative...[My son] was very impressed with everything he saw and everyone he met. We both had a great day."

"The program exceeded my expectations."

"We always knew that on paper Lehigh would be a good fit for [our son], but now we are convinced, but more importantly, HE is convinced."

Alumni Interviews

It's that time of year again – applications are rolling in, and prospective students are requesting Alumni Interviews. As the alumni interview requests come in, I will match the prospective students with alumni in their area, so you may be receiving a request from me, asking you to help interview prospective students.

Alumni interviews are meant to be beneficial for both parties. It is an opportunity for the student to learn more about Lehigh and to share their personal and academic achievements, and an opportunity for alums to share their love for their alma mater. Since some of the candidates you interview may not have visited the campus, it is absolutely essential that you are a reliable source of current information on Lehigh. It is also important to remember that you may be the only personal contact the candidate makes with Lehigh.

The interview also provides the Office of Admissions with valuable insight into the candidate, as there are many things that cannot be readily reflected in an application for admission. An interview should be helpful in determining a candidate's maturity, motivation, and personality in general. Personal interviews are also effective recruiting tools as they serve to personalize the admissions process.

While an interview is not a required part of the admissions process at Lehigh, it can help a student decide whether or not to attend Lehigh.

Attention! An online summary form will be in place again this year for you to share your comments about the interview with the Office of Admissions. If you interview a prospective student, please use the form found [here](#).



FALL 2009 NEWSLETTER CONTINUED...

Alumni Recommendations

The Alumni Association and I have received quite a few inquiries from alums who wish to write a letter of recommendation in support of a prospective student who is applying for admission to Lehigh this Fall. Please use the following to help guide you on how to write and submit a letter of recommendation:

The student's application will include their SAT or ACT scores, a transcript with their high school courses and grades, their GPA, rank (if applicable), a list of their extracurricular activities and leadership roles, essays, and letters of recommendation. As you write your letter, please do not reiterate information that we will receive from the student. Comments on character evaluation, personal stories and specific interaction accounts are most helpful and meaningful to the admissions committee. The best comments are those with intangibles.

How to submit a letter of recommendation:

OPTION ONE: Click [HERE](#) for an online submission form

OPTION TWO: Write a free form letter of recommendation including the following information, and touching upon the following points (a-h below):

Your Full Name

Your Mailing Address

Your Class Affiliation

Prospective Student's Full Name

Prospective Student's High School

a) Explain the nature of your relationship to the student. In what capacity do you know the student?

b) How long have you known the student (number of years)?

c) Did the applicant approach you for the recommendation, or did you offer without being asked?

d) Knowing Lehigh, in your opinion how would the applicant do in the Lehigh environment?

e) What interactions have you had with the applicant? - AND - Did you discuss Lehigh during any of the interactions? *If you have never met the applicant, please state that in your letter.*

f) Has the applicant given you any indication of their level of interest in Lehigh? Please discuss.

g) What potential contributions can you see the student making to Lehigh University?

h) Please share any anecdotal stories that give the admissions committee some insight into the applicant's personality and quality of character.

This information is also available on the AAO website: www.lehigh.edu/ao

A Final Word...

Thank you again to everyone who volunteered their time and shared their passion for Lehigh this past fall. Please continue to check the "Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities" section on the main AAO webpage and enjoy the holidays!
Barrett E. Frankel '02, '03

