

Seshait 2007-2008 Convention Report

Florida A & M University

Professional Development

Project Dimensions is a series of workshops that were open to all students in the school of architecture. These projects provided tools for enhancements through professional development. Also, there were resume writing, portfolio design and interview preparation workshops that were lead by Professor C.L. Bohannon. The portfolio design workshop was held close to winter break to help upper division students prepare their work for submission into 5th year and the graduate programs.

The Job Fair consisted of 19 prestigious firms that paid a \$100 registration fee to set up and conduct interviews with promising architectural students. 4th year, 5th year, and graduate students were guaranteed at least three (3) interviews with the firms of their choice which took place between 1:30-3:30pm. After 3:30, all students from 1st year and up were able to walk up and converse with the participating firms. There was a hospitality suite located nearby for the firms to enjoy snacks and beverages in between their interviewers. Seshait brothers served as runners for the firms in efforts to ensure that they had everything they needed without the worries of having to leave their assigned booths. A webpage was setup on famusoanet.net for students and firms to create usernames and passwords to upload their resumes and a maximum of five portfolio samples.

Community Service

Seshait participated in 2 Habitat for Humanity projects on 3 occasions along with the help of students in the FAMU School of Architecture. The project was an opportunity for APX and students of architecture to come out and serve the community.

Fundraiser

During the fall semester we held a Faculty luncheon about two times each month. We charged students \$5 and faculty \$7.50 and created a relaxed environment to converse with other students and faculty. There were international cuisines which ranged from Caribbean to Soul food to Italian. Another very successful fundraiser that we held was a School of Architecture Top Chef Competition where faculty and students paid \$4 for each dish entered into one of the four categories. The categories were main dish, side dish, dessert and appetizer/other. The winner was chosen through surveys provided by students and faculty who paid to be food critics. The winner of the main dish category was Rafeeq Asad, a graduate student with his barbequed turkey. The winner of the side dish category was Daniel Burke, a 3rd year design student with his butter garlic mashed potatoes. Daniel also had the most votes overall and was named SOA Top Chef. Last but, not least, the winner of the dessert dish was Shelbra Williams, a 3.1 student, with her blueberry surprise.

This year, for Valentine's Day did a Message in a Bottle fundraiser, an event held on Valentines Day. The bottles were \$5 and consisted of flowers donated from local florists, candy and a message from a sweetheart.

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During the Fall Semester, we held 3 fundraisers at Cold Stone Creamery. Each Cold Stone Fundraiser was an hour long event in which APX members encouraged students to come out and purchase ice cream. We received 25 percent of the earnings made during that hour.

We also held two car washes at Tires Plus which helped to fund our annual retreat to St. George Island.

Social Events

The first major social events for each semester took place during Interest Week. The social events which took place during Interest Week included game night followed by a meet and greet. Game Night consisted of fun filled games such as Taboo and the Link Game. We also served smoothies to the guests while they viewed Seshait memorabilia on display.

The SOA Party

The SOA Party was the very first Seshait Party. The intent of the party was for the students of the School of Architecture to unwind and have good time without the worries of school work. It was a huge success with over 100 students in attendance. This could be the beginning of a new tradition.

The Secret Garden

Secret Garden is an annual event that has become a Seshait tradition for quite sometime. This year it took place on Valentines Day for the first time. The event was held at the Warehouse, a refurbished warehouse from the war era. This year's theme was sensual seduction. Tickets were sold at \$10 for singles and \$15 for couples. There were a wide variety of performances from local artists, musicians, poets, models, and bands. In order for the word to spread amongst local artists we held auditions which were advertised via internet, flyers, newspapers and word of mouth. The auditions were an extreme success pulling in more than enough artist and poets alike. The event was classy and sophisticated; with the lights dimmed low and the sounds of jazz one could be taken back to the Harlem renaissance age of the 1940's. The venue was an all black affaire which added to its sensual mood. There were edible fruit center pieces lit by candles on each table and delicious food catered from Olive Garden and others served buffet style.

Pledge

This year, Seshait initiated 4 new brothers during the Fall Semester: (1) Justin Steile, (2) Lowrett Cartwright, (3) Elzora Tameka Knight, and (4) Riccardy Volcy. These brothers have proven to be very helpful and have definitely shown leadership and initiative. We certainly have 11 pledges.