

A DAY WELL SPENT AT COOK ELEMENTARY



“Red light, green light! Red light....green light!!” This game could be heard throughout the halls of Cook Elementary School. This was one of the many games that Golden Key members played with the 5th grade class of Cook Elementary. When Golden Key members first arrived at the fifth graders classroom, they were greeted with huge smiles and welcomes from the young, energetic group. After our introductions, we started off our fun-filled day by providing a few yummy snacks for the young group to eat. We

passed out all of their favorites including doritos, oreos, and chip dip with fruit punch to drink. We sat with the young group as they ate and got to know more about them individually. We were delighted to know that some of them even plan to attend GSU one day and become fellow Panthers. After eating, we proceeded to play games. We played games such as musical chairs, red light, green light, and simon says. Everyone was excited after playing the games but this was not all we had for them. At the conclusion of our visit, we passed out Christmas presents. Everyone was delighted with their gift after receiving presents such as CD players, Brats dolls, and remote control cars. Before we left the class, we received a big thank-you from the group. After seeing how much they enjoyed themselves and the smiles on their faces, it was clear that this was a day well spent at Cook Elementary.

By: Jennifer Dixon

SPRING 2008



GOLDEN KEY EVENTS

Golden Key has volunteered at:

- * Project Empty Bowls
- * Cook Elementary
- * Product Rescue Center

PRODUCT RESCUE CENTER

When Golden Key members arrived at the Project Rescue Center, we watched a video to train of the proper ways to inspect, sort, and pack goods. Not knowing what to expect next, we entered a huge warehouse and were divided into three groups. Group tasks consisted of sorting, weighing,

packaging clothes and food for the people in need. These goods would be distributed to places such as nonprofit organizations and homeless shelters. The goods that were sorted through consisted mostly of toiletries, toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, and children’s toys. Time went

by quickly as volunteers diligently worked to provide for people who really need it. At the end of the day, everyone had a good time while having the satisfaction of knowing that their hard work was going towards a good cause.



Join Golden Key!

Be part of an active organization and that contributes to our community through donations, community service, and tutoring young students.

Various internship and study abroad opportunities are provided exclusively for Golden Key members.

Golden Key continues to aid members even after graduation by assisting with graduate school applications, testing, and financial assistance.

International conferences held annually exclusively for Golden Key members for networking and recognition.

Over \$400,000 in scholarship money awarded annually to graduate and undergraduate members.

Be recognized for your hard work and dedication.

MEET OUR OFFICERS

Getting Ready to Graduate... The Real World is Coming!

I am about to start my senior year here at Georgia State, and the pressures of starting a life are real and hitting hard. The semesters have been going by so fast that I just know I will be graduating in the blink of an eye. There are deadlines and applications and resumes all swirling around in my head. I plan to go to graduate school, so I am fortunate to have some sort of transition phase, but I can only imagine the day when graduation comes and the real world starts.



Someone told me when I graduated from high school that at your high school graduation, people send money and presents and congratulations. At your college graduation, it can be a very different story, receiving a kick in the butt and a "time to get a job". I keep giving myself the advice to start early, prioritize, and take it slow. Start networking now for recommendation letters and connections to jobs in your field. Keep your resume up to date and keep your eyes open for things you can participate in to add to it. Look at deadlines and fill out your applications early enough to give you time to revise it. But don't forget, these are your college years so have fun and don't let them fly by too quickly.

By: Nora Rogers,
Honorary Member Liaison



Ughh! I had just received another invitation to another honor society that wants all my money. Golden Key International Honour Society, I had never heard of it before and now they wanted me to become a member. The invitation stated I was in the top 15% of my class, I guess that was good. But what made me not delete that message and do research on the society, I do not know. However, I do know it was one of the best decisions I've made in my lifetime. When I chose to delve into the background and mission of Golden Key, I knew that this organization was for me. I had to join. Not only was it for the benefits and rewards, (which are many), but joining GK was an opportunity for me to connect with others that valued

the power of education as much as I did. Golden Key is mission focused, values based, and demographics driven, all standards that I pride myself on. I knew I wanted to be more than a member; I wanted to be a leader in Golden Key. So, I decided to run for president. That was a bit unorthodox, being I was a new member. Nevertheless, there was a need and I was the right person for the job. As president, I have the responsibility of heading a very distinguished and admirable organization. It is an honor for me to be a leader in such a respected society. This semester I have seen myself grow and mature because of my leadership role and I have built friendships with the other executive board members and active members of Golden Key. As of now, I am still learning and I know this experience is not over yet. Golden Key has so much to offer and I have much to offer back. Great things are in store for this organization and I plan to be on the forefronts of our success.

Sara Brown, Co-President



Facts About Golden Key

Golden Key International Honour Society, founded on November 29, 1977 here at Georgia State University.

Golden Key Mission:
To enable members to realize their potential.

Golden Key Values:
Integrity, Collaboration, Innovation, Respect, Diversity, Excellence, Engagement.

Golden Key has chapters at over 360 colleges and universities in Australia, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.

Proud of our 2008 Graduates

Graduating from College



Four years. It seems like they flew by so fast. I remember being a freshman, walking around campus upset because I was lost and couldn't find my class. I remember getting my first research paper assignment and then saying, "I can't wait until 2008 so I can graduate and be done with this!" I remember going home every weekend because I missed my family and I wasn't used to being so far away from them. Now here I am, 2 months away from being a college graduate! At times it seems surreal because I've been going to school all of my life. How will I ever adjust to not going to school? I am so proud of myself for the determination, perseverance, and intelligence that I have developed and shown during my college career. Although at times this journey has been difficult, if given the opportunity, I would do it all over again. Now it's time for me to move on to a new phase of my life; it's time for me to jump out into the real world. May 10, 2008, 2:00pm, Georgia Dome.....here I come!!!

By: Shantia Reese,
Co-President

Graduation...Here I come!!!

I was surprised when I got the letter in the mail inviting me to join the Golden Key International Honour Society. I barely have time to check the mail in between all the other things that I have to keep up with. I knew from the way the envelope looked that there was something different about this letter. When I read through the information inside I could hardly believe they were talking about me. Why? I am a non traditional student. I waited many years after finishing high school to began college in the name of "finding myself." A million jobs, one husband, and two home schooled children later, it was a very special honor and privilege to be invited to join. I finally felt like despite my outstanding grades, someone else was watching my academic progress and wanted to acknowledge my academic achievements. Golden Key is the only college organization that I have been a member of my whole entire college career. Not only am I member, but I also have the distinguished privilege of serving as one of the group's Community Service director. Participating in the events that Golden Key sponsors gives me a chance to experience another side of college life I would have missed if I had not been invited to join. I proudly tell people that I am a member of Golden Key so they may marvel at my level of accomplishment despite my status as a non traditional student. Golden Key International Honour Society has increased my confidence in my own abilities as well as helped me realize more of my potential. The Golden Key has opened door to me completing my college experience.

By Robin Armstead,
Co-Community Service Director



Golden Key International Honour Society



Procrastination: The #1 Killer of a Good Semester

So it's the first week of school and your professor assigns a long-term project that is due during the week of finals. He or she provides some type of guidelines detailing what is expected for the final project. However, there is no schedule attached with the guidelines. It's up to you to decide at what pace you want to work. So what do you do? You can either start today or you can wait and start later. In all honesty, most students would opt to start later. Then the question becomes how much longer do you wait before you start? A "good" student would probably give it a week or two but a student like me, and many others here at Georgia State University, would probably start in a month or two. Why? I think the answer can be summed up in one word: procrastination. It is always so much easier to put off for tomorrow what could be done today. However, this hurts us

in the long run. What happens when there are three months left in school and you finally decide to start your project? Well, you're too busy preparing for finals that you don't put forth your best effort on this particular project or you try so hard to get a semester's worth of work done that you completely forget to study for finals. While it is quite possible that the student in this situation can both pass finals with stellar grades and make a great grade on the project, the moral behind the story is that procrastination causes a lot of unnecessary stress and increases the chances that something will go undone. So we (including myself) should all make a conscious effort to get our assignments done in a timely manner so that they don't pile up on us and weigh on our shoulders like the weight of the world.

By: Dionne Corn, Sophomore Recognition Coordinator

The Trials of Being a Golden Key Secretary



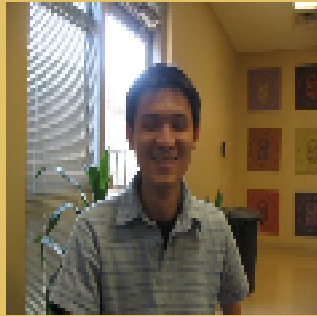
Never before in my life have I imagined myself as an officer of an organization as big as Georgia State's Golden Key International Honor Society. Being quite shy in public, and rather standoffish, I was humored when my mom told me to get involved in this new organization that I was invited to join. Looking at all of the Officer Positions that Golden Key had to offer, I decided to run for the position of Historian, because it didn't involve a lot of work and I really like taking pictures

which is one of the jobs Historians have to do. After talking about my decision with my mom she said, "Why do you go for the secretary position, you're pretty organized." Laughing at her I said "I definitely do not want to be the secretary of Golden Key!" After persuading me to run for the position, I decided that having the job of Recording Secretary would be pretty cool. When I actually filled out the application and turned it in, I got extremely nervous. "Oh no," I thought to myself, "I'm actually going to have to talk in front of people. And on top of that I have to make a campaign speech!" Nerves were winning the best of me up until the day of the election for Golden Key's New Officers. When I saw that not many people chose to run for positions, my nerves calmed down...a little. When I saw that I was the only person running for Recording Secretary my nerves calmed down a lot more. I remember writing a speech, but I completely forgot to look at my paper when I started to talk. That small

2 minute campaign speech was my first step in overcoming my fears of talking in front of other human beings. When I was elected Recording Secretary/ Historian (by default), I was so excited about beginning the semester as an officer of Golden Key. So far as Recording Secretary, I must admit it is a lot of work. But it is also a rewarding experience to work with people that I would have never met before through this organization of honor students. If you want to get involved in Golden Key, but you are too shy or unsure, I say "Go for it!" Because with Golden Key you have nothing to lose!

By Chizara Ahuama-Jonas

Recording Secretary



I would describe my collegiate experience so far as transforming. I was always the shy kid growing up; you know, the kid that sits in the back of the room as to draw little attention to him. But after experiencing life at GSU, it all came to an end. Now I am the man that will walk up to you, smile, give you a firm handshake, and say, "Hi." How did this transformation come about?

The only reason I can think of is to get involved. Many students come to campus, attend class, and leave. But don't you want to get your money's worth? The advantages of getting involved are vast. Networking, lifelong friendships, service to the community, and namesake are just a few to list.

I work about 24 hours a week, take 16 hours course credit, and actively participate in 3 organizations. It's no secret that time management is key here. This is a good way to prepare for a full time job in which deadlines and time management are important. Also I know the benefits of getting involved. How actively involved are you?

By: Ken Lai,
Webmaster



Why I Study History

Since I was young, my parents taught me that life was about making the best decisions at the right moment. Furthermore, they told me that of all the decisions I was going to make, two of the most important would be choosing the right life-partner and majoring in something I was passionate about. Fortunately, I have made the right decision on the latter; history passions me.

My friends always ask me "but why History?" The truth is there is not a fixed answer to this question. The more I interact with history my enthusiasm for it evolves; is an active process in which initial motivations give place to new motivations. When I first decided to major in History I was obsessed about factual knowledge. I wanted to know all the dates and cause-effect relationships of every important event in history – by important event I mean, events that have drastically change the course of history, for example: WW2. I was never sure why it was so, but I thought that knowing all these facts was part of building my general culture; an attempt to be the least ignorant possible.

Later, after my first college semester I started questioning myself "and what if I do not know all these facts? Then, why History?" Finally, after a year or so, the answer arrived.

While taking a course on the history of the Persian, Greek, and Roman Empire, I realized what really motivated me about History was not the mere facts, but the cause-effect interaction that exists between each of them. Why the Persians organized their empire in Satrapies, while the Greeks organized themselves in city-states? What were/are the consequences of these different state organizations? These became the type of questions that hunted me. I was captivated by the interconnection that exists among every action. I concluded then, that just as one can "rebuild" the past by tracing back the logical cause-effect sequence, I was going to be able to decipher my life's cause-effect sequence in order to know myself better.

Yet, this semester I found new motivations. I have discovered that History is also about understanding the people of the past in their time framework; it is understanding that although we still live in the same Universe that people have lived in 10,000 years ago, people have conceived the Universe in different ways. In other words, I transformed history into the quest inside the minds of the creator of history and observing their world through their eyes.

However, I am not saying that history is only this. I am saying that this is what history means to me. It is knowing the facts, connecting the cause and effect relationship between events, and understanding history from the actors' perspectives. Maybe next semester history will mean something different to me; who knows? What really matters is that history always finds a way to passion me. This is why I study history.

By Leonidas Oyaga,
Treasurer