

## **PROPOSAL FOR NEW STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSITION**

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### **PURPOSE:**

THE HIGH SIERRA SEMESTER HAS PRIDED ITSELF ON THE TEACHING AND TRAINING OF LEADERS THROUGH ITS USE OF THE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE AND FORMALIZED TRAINING YET OFFERS RELATIVELY FEW STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO PRACTICALLY LIVE OUT THE SKILLS THEY ARE LEARNING. RECOGNIZING THIS DISPARITY, WE RECOMMEND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW STUDENT LEADER POSITION THAT WOULD FALL UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE RESIDENCE LIFE DEPARTMENT ENTITLED *SPIRITUAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESOURCE TEAM* MEMBER, (SAR TEAM).

### **NEEDS ASSESSMENT:**

CURRENTLY, THERE IS A LACK OF PRACTICAL OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO ENGAGE IN EXPERIENTIAL LEADERSHIP WHILE AT HIGH SIERRA. ALUMNI HAVE OFTEN COMMENTED THAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP DURING THEIR SEMESTER WOULD HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED.

WHILE THE RESIDENT ADVISOR ROLE OFFERS EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING TO TWO (2) STUDENTS, AS THE ONLY STUDENT LEADERSHIP ROLE, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR THE RAS TO FOSTER HOLISTIC GROWTH FOR ALL RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF SPIRITUALITY.

RECENT EVALUATIONS, BOTH AT HIGH SIERRA AND ON APU'S MAIN CAMPUS REVEAL THAT RESIDENT'S NEEDS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT ARE LARGELY UNMET BY EVEN THE BEST RAS.

### **DESIRED OUTCOMES:**

- A LARGER NUMBER OF HIGH SIERRA STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN PRACTICAL LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND GUIDANCE
- THE GREATER HIGH SIERRA COMMUNITY WILL RECEIVE MORE INTENTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH
- HS RAS WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE BY PEERS IN ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR CURRENT ROLE
- SAR TEAM MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE MENTORING AND DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING
- SARs WILL ACT AS ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR BOTH STUDENTS AND STAFF IN ASCERTAINING THE GENERAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING OF THE COMMUNITY
- SARs WILL SHARE IN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF HELPING THE HIGH SIERRA COMMUNITY LIVE UP TO APU'S MOTTO OF "GOD FIRST"
- THE HIGH SIERRA CAMPUS PASTOR WOULD TAKE A MORE INTENTIONAL ROLE AIDING STUDENT DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE SAR TEAM
- THIS POSITION WOULD CREATE AN ADDITIONAL RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE STRUGGLING

### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- COMPENSATION FOR SARs IN THE FORM OF EITHER MINISTRY CREDITS (30 PER SEMESTER) OR A FINANCIAL STIPEND NOT TO EXCEED \$500 PER SEMESTER.
- CREATION OF SAR TRAINING WHICH WOULD INCLUDE A 2 DAY RETREAT

- GREATER COMMUNICATION AND PARTNERSHIP WITH MAIN CAMPUS RESOURCES (CAMPUS PASTOR'S OFFICE, D-GROUP OFFICE, COUNSELING CENTER, ETC.)
- FOUR HOURS A WEEK OF GUIDANCE BY THE GRADUATE ASSISTANT

**FORMAT:**

- SAR TRAINING WOULD BEGIN ON MAIN CAMPUS DURING THE WEEKEND PRIOR TO MOVE-IN AND WOULD CONTINUE DURING ONE WEEKEND WITHIN THE FIRST MONTH AT HIGH SIERRA
  - IN THE INAUGURAL SEMESTER SARs WILL BE SELECTED FROM THE RA APPLICANT POOL
  - IN THE FUTURE SAR SELECTION COULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF HIGH SIERRA, THUS ALLOWING ALL HIGH SIERRA STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE A DESIRED LEADERSHIP POSITION
- SARs WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND WEEKLY STAFF MEETINGS WITH GA AND MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH ENTIRE REZLIFE STAFF
  - THE SAR TEAM WILL STUDY ONE BOOK ON LEADERSHIP DURING THE SEMESTER
  - MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE INTENDED TO CONSIST PRIMARILY OF HOLISTIC COMMUNITY EVALUATIONS, EVENT PLANNING AND STAFF BONDING
- SARs WILL BE REQUIRED TO MEET ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE GA ONCE A WEEK FOR MENTORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY
- SARs WILL BE REQUIRED TO MEET ONCE A WEEK WITH THEIR RA (WHO MAY OR MAY NOT BE THEIR ROOMMATE) FOR INTENTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY, ENCOURAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY UPDATES
  - WHETHER OR NOT THE SAR WILL BE THE RA ROOMMATE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE GA AND RD
- SARs WILL BE EXPECTED TO OFFER A WEEKLY FLOOR OR COMMUNITY EVENT DESIGNED TO FOSTER SPIRITUAL GROWTH
  - THIS COULD BE DONE INDIVIDUALLY OR IN TANDEM (I.E. BREAKFAST CLUB, PRAYER MEETINGS, WORSHIP NIGHTS, ETC.)
- SARs WILL BE EXPECTED TO ASSIST IN CREATING A CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY
  - THIS WILL INCLUDE:
    - PASSIVE PROGRAMMING IN COMMUNAL AREAS
    - AIDING THE RAs IN UTILIZING THE RESIDENCE HALL
    - ENCOURAGING AND DISPLAYING SERVANT ATTITUDES
- THE SAR TEAM WILL BE EXPECTED TO CREATE ONE MAJOR COMMUNITY WIDE EXPERIENCE THAT WILL PROMOTE DEEPER RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD AMONG PARTICIPANTS (I.E. BENEDICTINE RETREAT, POINT LOMA STYLE PRAYER WALK, MINI CONVENTION, ETC.)
- SARs WILL BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT ALL REZLIFE EVENTS, WHETHER THROUGH ATTENDANCE OR SERVICE
- SARs WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN ACCOUNTABILITY AMONG THEIR PEERS

**THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:**

- MUST THE SAR BE THE RA'S ROOMMATE?

- **WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO CHOOSE THE SAR TEAM?**
- **COULD THIS BE PERCEIVED AS AN ELITIST GROUP?**