

Hello Pledge Schools,

I hope this update finds you in good spirits and enjoying the academic semester. A few notes of interest:

- **Thanks to HSU for our 20th Anniversary Leadership Conference** – Many thanks to Humboldt State University for hosting *Ignite: Lighting the Passion Within* to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Graduation Pledge. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Chris Dehart, Johnathan Wu, Noelle, Jaime, and Dawne, not to mention the numerous volunteers who assisted in making the conference a success! For a full report on the conference, or contact Chris DeHart, cpd7001@humboldt.edu.
- **Checking in with campus activities** – I will be contacting each school in the coming weeks to check in on pledge activities. We've had a bit of a slow start on our external front this year, however a good foundation has been set to make this one of our most successful years!
- **Don't overlook December graduates!** Although the number of students who graduate following the Fall semester is generally less than in the Spring, they should not be overlooked. Simply having a Pledge table can have a great impact. On average, the percentage of student who take the Pledge is higher in following the Fall semester than after the Spring semester, so any efforts will be well worth it!
- **Looking for an internship? Consider working with the GPA** – The Graduation Pledge Alliance is proud to announce several internship opportunities. Please visit <http://www.graduationpledge.org/internships> for more information. Questions? Please e-mail me at smasters@bentley.edu.
- **Help us grow, share the Pledge!** It may seem a bit difficult, but think of how many friends and colleagues share a similar interest in social and environmental responsibility. If you're a student, think of a friend from high school who attended a different college or university but you know is interested in social and environmental issues. Or if you're an administrator, faculty, or staff member, perhaps you know a colleague or met someone at a recent conference who you think would be interested. Not sure what to say or how to approach them. Follow this link to find out simple tips to reach out and share our message (<http://www.graduationpledge.org/outreach>).

That is all for this update.

Good luck!

Steve

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