Thank You All

Dear Baker,

One year ago, I stood before you all to ask for your vote in confidence in me to serve as your President. It has really been one hell of a year, and as hard as it is to say, it is about the time for me to step down and let someone new take over. Looking back, there were times when it seemed as if the year was flying by, and there were times where it seemed as if time could not move any slower. At times I felt fueled with energy and at others I felt incredibly alone. But through the ups and downs of the presidency, my learning about leadership and myself as a person has been tremendous, and I would just like to thank you all for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

As you can expect the amount of things to be simultaneously aware of as President, starting off was no easy task. But after a year, I'm at a point where I feel like I've finally got the hang of it–right as we're heading into election season. So as we welcome our next President along with all the new Cabinet members this month, keep in mind the difficulties they may be facing picking up a new role, and try to support them through the process. We are a family after all, and we'd like to see each other succeed in what we do.

So as I sign off on my last State of Baker, I want to again say a big Thank You to everyone in this college. Whether you are a senior or a freshman, on or off campus, a cabinet member or someone who is not involved with Baker at all, your inherent membership in this college has given my life incredible meaning this past year, and I love you all. To the seniors: best of luck after college. To everyone else: continue to make Baker as great as it can be.

Hell Yeah,
Adrian Yao

Coming up: Election Speeches

Starting Tuesday, Feb. 4th, we will have our presidential candidates give their speeches during dinner at 6:00 pm in the Commons followed by a question and answer session open to the floor. Voting will take place online between Wednesday and Friday night! Don't miss out!

And our two presidential candidates are...

Andrew Stout
Jordan Rothfeld
Other Notes on Elections:

- You can find Andrew’s and Jordan’s election blurbs on the tables in the Commons.

- To run for Executive Officers, Class Reps, or Chief Justice, please turn in your blurbs and petitions to Kaitlin Barnes (keb9) by Sunday, Feb. 9th, at 11:59 pm. Speeches will be given on the following day, Monday, Feb. 10th at 6:00 pm (note the date change).

- To run for University Reps, BGHS Ministers, or Socials Chairs, please turn in your blurbs and petitions to Kaitlin Barnes by Sunday, Feb. 16th, at 11:59 pm. Speeches will be given on the following day, Monday, Feb. 17th at 6:00 pm (note the date change again).

- We will have Baker-only dinners on the days for election speeches, so make sure you show up to hear them!

February Babies

Feb. 1 Dominique Devlin
Feb. 2 Reyna Zhang
Feb. 4 Farah Ashraf
Feb. 5 Sun Hye Kim
Feb. 7 Benhang Shi
Feb. 8 Victoria Eng
Feb. 9 Matthew McFadden
Feb. 10 Michelle Tran
Feb. 13 Nichole Kwee
Feb. 14 Guilherme Abreu
Feb. 15 Patrick McCarthy
Feb. 18 Jesse Passman
Feb. 22 Claudia Iriondo
Feb. 23 Haley McCann
Feb. 25 Thomas Loughlin
Feb. 26 Lisa Tseggay
Feb. 27 Patric Han
Feb. 28 Joseph Ballard
Feb. 29 Joshua Yip

Say hi to our O-Week 2014 Coordinators!

Congratulations to our new O-Week Coordinators: Logan Crowl, Victoria Eng, and Mini Bhattacharya! They’ve got some great ideas, some great team chemistry, and also a great height profile that follows the function $y = -2x + \log(\text{logan})$.

They’ve already sent out O-Week 2014 theme submissions, so be sure to give your ideas!

If you’re interested in advising for O-Week, talk to them! Applications should be available soon.

Hell yeah!

RACs on RACs on RACs

Also say congratulations to our new Room Assignment Chairs: Michelle Tran and Alex Zaita! They will be the point people in charge of everything related to the housing of Bakerites.

We will be drawing the kicklist on Wednesday, February 26th (the Wednesday before Spring Break) so be sure to come out, either to get kicked or to watch people get kicked!

*On a more serious note, attached to this document is a one-page overview to the room assignments at Baker, so look it over new students!*

Michelle Tran

Alex Zaita
Check out these Bakerites on Campus!

Marimba Recital
Feb. 5th @ 8:00 pm
Duncan Recital Hall
Who: Lucas Sanchez, Emma Terrell

Sid Rich Musical: Star Geeks
Feb. 7th @ 8:00 pm
Sid Rich Big Room
Who: Ian Mauzy

Rice Jazz Ensemble’s Black History Month Concert
Feb. 10th @ 8:00 pm
RMC Grand Hall
Who: Beau Reescano, Ian Mauzy

Kinda Sketchy presents: People You Should Date
Feb. 14th @ 9:27 pm
RMC Grand Hall
Who: Andrew Stout, Dennis Budde, Logan Crowl

Pub Night and 90s Public Party Date Set
If you haven’t heard, the date of our Pub Night has been moved back to February 25th. Yes, that is the same night as Changeover, which is also the Tuesday before Spring Break! You’ve got almost no excuse not to go!

On another note, our Baker 90s Public Party has been moved to Saturday, April 19th. The 90s party is usually pretty popular so get pumped!

PI to use money elsewhere
First, the Bad News: H&D is still in the process of obtaining an occupancy permit from the City of Houston to get the old wing lounge refurbished, and it looks like the lounge will not be completed this semester.

The Good News: the money that Permanent Improvements has saved up to purchase furniture for the lounge is now to be used elsewhere. Come to Cabinet or talk to Jesse Passman (jep3) if you’ve got ideas! Alternatively, you could post your ideas onto the Baker What If’s page!

BGHS and CSC to host Valentine’s Event
Valentine’s Day this year happens to fall on a Friday, and BGHS will be hosting their annual Valentine’s Day Event! This year however, CSC will co-host the event so that we can spread some Baker love beyond the hedges of Rice University. Look out for more details!

Masters to host Jr. and Soph. class socials
To the Juniors and Sophomores out there, save these dates as Ivo and Rose would like to host class socials at the Baker House!

Juniors: Sunday, February 9th @ 3:00 pm
Sophomores: Friday, February 21st @ 8:00 pm
Room Assignment Policy Overview:

Disclaimer: This is meant to be a brief review of the Room Assignment process, and nothing in this document is official, so it is recommended that you refer to the full Room Assignment policy at some point.

1. **Submit an Intent to Jack Form**
   a. This is a short form where you write your name and answer a few questions. You must submit this form to live on campus, and there is a very strict deadline for turning these in.
   b. **You can still V-Off after the kicklist** has been drawn and still get the extra points for “Ving-Off” (more later)

2. **Kicklist**
   a. The RACs will count the number of Intent to Jack Forms and compare that to the number of available rooms by gender to see how many of each gender are not guaranteed housing
   b. On Kick Day, all names eligible to be kicked (i.e. not guaranteed housing through Cabinet position, full-scholarship athlete, senior status, or previously Off-Campus, etc.) will be written on pieces of paper and drawn out of a hat
   c. The first name drawn is the “top” of the kicklist, which is **BAD**. You want your name to be drawn as late as possible
   d. The full kicklist will be posted, with names numbered from 1 to around 50. If for example 25 people must be kicked, a line will be drawn under name 25. All names under that line are on campus.
   e. **You can V-Off until around the day of Room Draw and still get your points.**
      i. Volunteering to live off-campus (to “V-off”) in exchange for 0.5 bonus point* (see Extra points) in a future room draw can be done by submitting a V-Off form to Ms. V's Office.
      ii. Once you submit your V-Off form, it cannot be retracted.
   f. If someone below the line volunteers off, the line will move up. **This means you want people below your name (higher number) to volunteer off so the line moves towards you**
   g. This also means that people really high on the list (like number 1) are unlikely to get back on, so it's in your best interest to Volunteer Off

3. **Room Draw**
   a. Prior to Room Draw, the CODLUS will be posted. This is a map of Baker with all available rooms and suites listed by gender and amount of people per room/suite
   b. As a common courtesy, place a post-it note on the room you intend to jack for (the room you want) along with the average number of points among the jackers (roommates or suitemates)
   c. **Points:**
      i. Rising Sophomores: 2
      ii. Rising juniors: 3
      iii. Rising Seniors: 4
   d. Extra points:
      i. **Volunteered off Campus for 1 year: 0.5 points**
         1. If you do not submit your V-Off form by the posted deadline and are kicked off campus, **YOU WILL ONLY GET 0.25 POINTS.**
      ii. **Volunteered OC for 1 semester: 0.25 points**
      iii. **DID NOT COMPLETE FRESHMAN SERVICE HOURS:** **-0.1 POINTS. YES. NEGATIVE POINTS.**
         1. This means for the rest of your Baker career, you will have lower priority than the rest of your class
   e. Rooms will be drawn for by point priority
      i. The highest point average will be given top priority
      ii. The average point total of all roommates (or all suitemates) jacking for a room will determine the priority
      iii. **THIS MEANS IF YOU DON'T COMPLETE FRESHMAN SERVICE HOURS YOU WILL BRING DOWN YOUR ROOMMATES' AVERAGE AND NOT WANT TO BE CHOSEN AS A ROOMMATE**
      iv. In the case that two or more sets of roommates want the same room or suite, the room will be determined by card draw. Each party draws one card, and the “highest” card wins