Fall 2014
MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Students

From: Cori Jackson
Director of the Center for Student Involvement

Re: Alternative Spring Break 2015

Thank you for expressing interest in the Alternative Spring Break program. This memo outlines the information that you need to know about this program. It also poses some questions for you to think about while you make your decision of whether or not you want to participate in the Alternative Spring Break Program. Attached you will find an application form that must be filled out in its entirety in order to be considered as a participant. **This application is due in the Center for Student Involvement on or before Wednesday, November 19th, 2014. You must also attend one of the following group information sessions. All will be held at the Center for Student Involvement on the first floor of the Angell College Center.**

- Tuesday, November 4th 2PM
- Thursday, November 6th 3PM
- Monday, November 10th 11AM
- Tuesday, November 11th 9AM
- Wednesday, November 12th 11:30AM
- Thursday, November 13th 3PM
- Friday, November 14th 1PM
- Monday, November 17th 2PM
- Tuesday, November 18th 10AM
- Wednesday, November 19th 2PM

As of this date, the Alternative Break Program is offering five trips – 4 open trips and 1 for members of fraternities/sororities. Nine student participants and two site leaders (in one van) will be going to each site.

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<th>Site #1</th>
<th>The SHACK program (Fraternity/Sorority Life)</th>
<th>Pursglove, WV</th>
<th>Community outreach</th>
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<tr>
<td>Site #2</td>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Bridgeport, CT</td>
<td>Building homes</td>
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<td>New Bern, NC</td>
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<td>Site #4</td>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Georgetown, SC</td>
<td>Building homes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site #5</td>
<td>SCA</td>
<td>Mt. Rogers, VA</td>
<td>Trail maintenance</td>
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The trips will be leaving around March 14th and returning to campus around the 21st.
Working with various volunteer agencies is not always an easy job, so you must be both flexible and understanding. Some of the work you will be doing will depend on the weather, which might be unpredictable.

As you may or may not know, to be a participant of the Alternative Spring Break Program you must also make a financial commitment. If you are selected to be a participant, you must give the Alternative Break Program $90 by Monday, December 1st to confirm your position. This money is non-refundable. Along with this financial commitment, you must also agree to actively participate in the fundraising efforts for this program. The overall budget for Alternative Breaks 2015 is about $30,000. With everyone’s combined efforts we will be able to raise all the money.

You also need to know that the Alternative Break Program is drug and alcohol-free. From the time you leave on the trip until the time you arrive back in Plattsburgh, you must agree to live with this standard. If you think this might pose a problem for you, you might want to consider your involvement with this program. If you would like an explanation, don’t hesitate to stop in or call.

We predict that a lot of people will express interest in this program, but will not follow through with handing in an application and scheduling an information session. You should be aware that this type of experience is not for everyone (of course you could never really know for sure until you have experienced something of this nature). We want you to think long and hard about your commitment and whether or not you are up for the challenge. Some things you should be thinking about include: long van rides EACH WAY; the living conditions, which includes preparing meals; the lack of privacy for a week; the work, which will be hard both physically and emotionally; and the uncertainty and possible lack of organization of the projects you will be working on once you arrive at your site.

If you come to the conclusion that you want to go on this trip (after considering everything and you have gotten permission from your family, if you need to), fill out the attached application in its entirety. Some of the questions will make you think. This application is meant to help you with your decision making, so please be honest and true to yourself.

We know this is a lot of information. If you have any questions or want to talk about this program, do not hesitate to stop in the Center for Student Involvement (first floor Angell College Center) at any time or you can call 564-4830. Good Luck!
ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK 2015
APPLICATION FORM

Name: ____________________________

School or Local Address: ____________________________

Phone Number: _________________________ Banner ID or User Code: _________________________

Age: __________ Gender: _______ E-mail Address: ____________________________

Major: ____________________________ Academic Class: ___________ # of Credit Hours Completed _______

T-shirt Size: ____________

Have you participated in Alternative Spring Break or Alternative Winter Break in the past?  Y  /  N

*Please be complete in your responses to the following questions. Answer them on an additional sheet(s) of paper. Please type or print your responses. Take some time to reflect on the questions before answering them. Please be honest when answering these questions.*

1) What do you hope to accomplish in one week? What qualities and skills do you possess that would help you do this?
2) A group of your close friends are planning a trip to an exotic and far away island. They really want you to join them and ask you to explain why you want to participate in the Alternative Spring Break Program. Give your response.
3) What do you think the overall goals of Alternative Break trips should be?
4) What excites you the most about going on a trip of this nature?
5) What fears do you have about going on a trip of this nature?
6) What do you perceive to be the biggest challenges for you concerning the travel situation and the living conditions? How do you think you might cope with these challenges?

I agree, by signing below, that 1) I will give $90 as a non-refundable confirmation fee no later than Monday, December 1st, if selected; and 2) I will live with and support the program’s standard of being drug and alcohol-free. I also agree to actively help with fund raising and planning efforts.

__________________________  __________________________
Signature of Applicant         Date

Please mark your preferences: 1 being your first choice and 2 being your second choice, etc. Rank EVERY option. If you need more information about the sites, stop in to the Center for Student Involvement.

____  Site #1  The SHACK program  Pursglove, WV  Community outreach
(Fraternity/Sorority Life – YOU MUST BE A MEMBER TO CHOOSE THIS SITE)

____  Site #2  Habitat for Humanity  Bridgeport, CT  Building homes

____  Site #3  Habitat for Humanity  New Bern, NC  Building homes

____  Site #4  Habitat for Humanity  Georgetown, SC  Building homes

____  Site #5  SCA  Mt. Rogers, VA Trail maintenance

1. Once you have completed the entire application, including the above questions, please return everything to Cori Jackson in Student Activities & Volunteerism.
2. All applications are due no later than Wednesday, November 19th, 2014.
3. Remember that you must also be part of a group information session on or before November 19th, 2014.
PHI 395C ETHICS IN ACTION PRACTICUM

Spring 2015
Wednesday 3:30 — 5:45

Reflect, Discuss, Write about Real World Ethical Issues in Community Service

Requirements

- Complete Learning Contract and Internship Proposal Form;
- Enroll in a Farming and Food Internship for spring 2015 (through philosophy department) and take PHI 395C for 3 credits; or
- Enroll in Alternative Spring Break for spring 2015 and take PHI 395C for 3 credits; or
- Fulfill 45 hours of community service activities through Project HELP in spring 2015 and take PHI 395C for 3 credits.

Objectives:

- To acquaint students with a variety of ethical issues that may emerge from the practice of doing community service or the practice of professional service;
- To encourage students to become agents of social justice through the practice of community service or the practice of professional service;
- To provide an opportunity for students to read, write, reflect, and discuss the ethical dimensions of community service or professional service activities.

Prerequisites:
Sophomore Standing or POI
Liberal Arts: 1–3 Credits

Department of Philosophy
SUNY Plattsburgh
101 Broad St.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
(518) 564-2831

To enroll in PHI 395 contact:
Dr. Beth Dixon
beth.dixon@plattsburgh.edu
Please complete each of the following forms as part of your application. INCOMPLETE FORMS = INCOMPLETE APPLICATION AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. If you have questions about completing these forms, please stop by the Center for Student Involvement.

We ask every participant to complete Habitat for Humanity’s Emergency Contact Information form. It is very helpful for site leaders for all trips (Habitat or not).

Please note, the liability release form requires a witness to your signature. Staff in the Center for Student Involvement and/or site leaders may not be your witness.
Team Leaders: KEEP THIS FORM WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES! Do NOT return it to the Collegiate Challenge office!

Collegiate Challenge Participant: Thoroughly complete this form and return it to your team leader.

1 PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Full name __________________________________________

Allergies (medicine, food, etc.) __________________________________________

Any special dietary needs __________________________________________

List any medication being taken __________________________________________

Date of last tetanus shot __________________________________________

Physical impairments __________________________________________

Other __________________________________________

Family physician __________________________________________

Address __________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State ____________ Zip/Postal code ____________

Phone ( ) ____________________________

Name of insurance carrier __________________________________________

Phone number of insurance carrier ( ) ____________________________ Policy number __________________________

Social Security number of the policy member (i.e. parent) __________________________

2 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT

Name __________________________________________ Relationship __________________________________________

Address __________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State __________________________________________ Zip/Postal code ____________

Daytime phone ( ) ____________________________ Evening phone ( ) ____________________________ Cell ( ) ____________________________
PLATTSBURGH STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
2015 ALTERNATIVE BREAKS
HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT/RELEASE/INDEMNIFICATION
OF ALL CLAIMS AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

The Alternative Break Program you are about to participate in can result in several positive outcomes for you--including helping people in need of help, developing new skills, exploring a new geographic location, meeting new people and making new friends, and establishing a sense of civic responsibility. The nature of the activities associated with the Alternative Break Program brings many benefits, but there are also some possible risks we want you to be aware of.

We firmly believe that the benefits of this program to you far outweigh the potential risks, and that accidents occur much less frequently when adequate preparation is accompanied by sound judgment. You, however, must take a very active role in maximizing your chances for success and safety, and minimizing risks. This can best occur if you do the following:
1. Read and understand all the information on this form. If you have questions, ask your site leader or call Student Activities & Volunteerism.
2. Some of the Alternative Break sites require physical work. Take responsibility for your physical fitness. Although the Alternative Break program attempts to accommodate different levels of physical ability, you are responsible for your level of involvement. Be honest with yourself and with your site leaders in what you can handle.
3. Follow the directions and advice of the supervisors at your site supplied by the host agency.
4. Follow the directions and advice of the Alternative Break site leaders. Your site leaders are eager to help you have a successful and meaningful experience.

NOTICE: THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT. By signing this agreement you give up your right to bring court action to recover compensation or obtain any other remedy for any injury to yourself or to your property or for your death however caused arising out of your participation in the Alternative Break Program at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE that involvement in the Alternative Break Program has inherent risks. I agree that my participation in the Alternative Break Program is entirely voluntary. I have full knowledge of the extent of the dangers and risks associated with the Alternative Break Program, including but not limited to:

1. Broken limbs
2. Death
3. Eye injuries
4. Facial injuries
5. Head injuries
   6. Back injuries
   7. Trauma
   8. Paralysis
   9. Vehicular accident
  10. Criminal victimization

I further acknowledge that the above list is not inclusive of all possible risks associated with the Alternative Break Program, and that the above list in no way limits the extent or reach of this release and covenant not to sue.

I further understand that all participants are subject to SUNY Plattsburgh policies as written in the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct and all federal, state and local laws, and that in the event of violation of these, or behavior which is considered by the College to be detrimental to the participant, or other participants, the College shall have the right to pursue judicial charges and/or initiate legal action against participants as deemed appropriate.

RELEASE/INDEMNIFICATION AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

In consideration of my participation in the Alternative Break Program, I, ____________________________, the undersigned, agree to release on behalf of myself, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators and assigns; the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, SUNY Plattsburgh’s College Auxiliary Services, and SUNY Plattsburgh’s Student Association their officers, agents and/or employees from any cause of action, claims or demands of any nature whatsoever, including but not limited to a claim of negligence, which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators and assigns may now have, or have in the future against the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, SUNY Plattsburgh’s College Auxiliary Services, and SUNY Plattsburgh’s Student Association their officers, agents and/or employees on account of personal injury, property damage, death or accident of any kind, arising out of or in any way related to my participation in the Alternative Break Program, whether participation is supervised or unsupervised,
howsoever the injury or damage is caused, including but not limited to the negligence of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, SUNY Plattsburgh’s College Auxiliary Services, and SUNY Plattsburgh’s Student Association, their officers, agents and/or employees.

In consideration of my participation, I the undersigned participant, agree to indemnify and hold harmless, the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, SUNY Plattsburgh’s College Auxiliary Services, and SUNY Plattsburgh’s Student Association, their officers, agents and/or employees from any and all causes of action, claims, demands, losses or costs of any nature whatsoever arising out of or in any way relating to my participation in the Alternative Break Program. I hereby certify that I have full knowledge of the nature and the extent of the risks inherent in this program and that I am voluntarily assuming the risks. I understand that I will be solely responsible for any loss or damage, including death, I sustain while participating and that by this agreement I am relieving the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, SUNY Plattsburgh’s College Auxiliary Services, and SUNY Plattsburgh’s Student Association, their officers, agents and/or employees of any and all liability for such loss damage or death.

I further certify that I am in good health and that I have no physical limitations, which would preclude my safe participation in this program. I agree that I will choose a level of involvement that does not exceed my physical capabilities.

I further certify that my date of birth is __________ (month/day/year), that my present age is __________, and that I am, therefore, of lawful age (18 years or older) and otherwise legally competent to sign this agreement. I further understand that the terms of this agreement are legally binding and I certify that I am carefully signing this agreement, after carefully reading the same, of my own free will. If I am not 18 years of age or older, my parent or guardian must give their written permission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this instrument is duly executed at Plattsburgh, New York, this, the _____ day of ____________________, 20__.  

Signature  
Printed Name

Witness Signature  
Witness Printed Name

As the parent or guardian of the applicant, I fully understand the rewards and risks involved with participating in the Alternative Break Program. In acknowledging the above-mentioned risks and responsibilities, I hereby release and forever discharge the Alternative Break Program, its leaders, the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, the College Auxiliary Services, New York State, from any and all liability and all claims that I have or might have as a result of the applicant’s participation.

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)  
(Date)  

When you have completed this form, please return it to your site leader, drop it off at Student Activities & Volunteerism, or mail it to:

c/o Alternative Break Program  
Center for Student Involvement  
110 Angell College Center  
SUNY Plattsburgh  
101 Broad Street  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901