This month we would like to introduce Darrell Rowe, MSUM 1990 Phi Sigma Kappa alumni. Darrell is now the Assistant Vice President of First International Bank & Trust in Fargo, ND. He also serves as President of the MSUM Alumni Foundation Board, where they oversee the Alumni Foundation office, and work hard to raise scholarship funds for MSUM.

Darrell joined Greek Life to meet new people, not realizing just how much of a positive impact it would have on his life. As he became more involved, Darrell was elected to committees such as Alumni Relations and Annual Banquet.

Greek Life participation extended far past committees for Darrell and his Phi Sigma Kappa brothers. They also partnered with sororities for the teeter-totter-thon; participated in the Big Brother program; and sponsored a child in a 3rd world country. The MSUM Phi Sigma Kappa Chapter was even recognized by the international chapter for superior chapter based on the size of their fraternity for GPA’s and Community Involvement.

Phi Sigma Kappa also attended most of the athletic games and threw theme parties (alcohol-free events) with the sororities. Some while trying to get our team fired up.”

One of Darrell’s favorite aspects of being in a fraternity was getting to know the Alumni when they returned to MSUM to support the fraternity for different events. “They went through the same things that we did. So you felt an instant connection with the Alumni when they came back.” He smiles recounting, “Our underclassman team was the first team to beat the alumni in basketball at our annual banquet.”

He really appreciated the camaraderie that was established within his fraternity. “There were always guys there for you. They held you accountable; you could have candid conversations, and they would tell you their honest opinion.” To this day they still keep in touch through phone, email, Facebook, and get-togethers. Darrell related how even though everyone in his fraternity was from completely different backgrounds, they all “found that common gel to bond as a group. To this day I could call up any Phi Sig alum, and they would be there to help me to the best of their ability.”

Darrell also learned many important skills that would prepare him for a successful career. From networking with Alumni to working on projects with the Phi Sigma Kappa brothers, Darrell learned how to speak in front of a group, have integrity, accept constructive feedback, hold productive meetings, organize projects, and respect others.

When asked for advice on joining Greek Life, Darrell responded, “At least be involved. The more time you put in, the more rewards you will see. We wanted people we recruited to be involved, because we saw them as the next leaders.”