

Material Advantage Chapter Fundraising Ideas November 2011

My name is Brian LaQua (blaqu@wisc.edu), and I am from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Chapter. Our best fundraising activity is EnginEarrings. These are annealed and etched pieces of aluminum, connected to beads and other jewelry items to make earrings. For men, we also make tie-tacks and cufflinks out of aluminum and bronze. These are all sold for \$5-10 each. At Engineering Expo, a 3-day science fair in Madison, we raised over \$500 dollars.

I have included links to some pictures below to give everyone a better idea of what they look like.

<http://iweb.tms.org/Communities/FTAttachments/tie%20tack.jpg>

<http://iweb.tms.org/Communities/FTAttachments/earring.jpg>

Regards,

Brian LaQua

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I wanted to let everyone know about the possible opportunity for selling concessions at sporting events. At our school clubs can sign up for football games or basketball or any other sporting events to sell concessions. We have done this in the past and gotten around \$500 for football games and \$300 for basketball games. Unfortunately this year we found out about this opportunity too late and there are no more spots open. Our club is ready to jump on this opportunity at the start of next school year to get spots. Some other schools may have this option and I wanted to give them a heads up for next year.

Thanks

Heidi Coleman

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Bake Sale (two nights) \$400

Current fundraising projects:

- Raffling a football signed by the football coach
- Raffling a bottle opener forged by a student
- Creating patterns to cast belt buckles

Christian Birkett

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Virginia Tech

Our most recent success in fundraising was to raise money to fund student travel to MS&T. In preparation for an ABET review, MA members were gathered to clean and beautify Clemson's National Brick Research Center. In addition, Clemson MA will be raking leaves periodically through fall. In compensation for our services, Clemson faculty have been very generous in donating \$600 toward our trip, lifting much of the financial burden for the travelling members.

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Fundraiser: Pizza Sales!

Money raised per week: \$350

Time commitment: 2 hours per person in sales plus 1 hour in preparation every week

Iowa State University sells pizza for two hours during lunch every week in the MSE building atrium. We sell one slice for \$1.50, one can of pop for \$0.50 and two slices + one can of pop for \$3.00. Obviously the 'combo' is the best deal, and that is what we sell the most of. We buy the pizza wholesale for ~\$8.00 plus a \$5 tip for the delivery person, (we are tax exempt as a university group, and we buy single topping) and can make about \$4 in profit for every pizza sold. Our sales area is ideally located in a high traffic area, right next to a 450 person lecture hall that has two different classes during our sale time. At the beginning of the semester we sell around 45 pizzas a week, and by the end of the semester we sell over 60 a week. Sales do tend to slow as finals draw closer.

There are several groups on campus that do the same pizza sale, but I think we are one of the most successful because our chapter is consistent and because we sell the best pizza in town (not the cheapest). We also have access to a refrigerator, so our pop is cold. We sell four different types of pizza: pepperoni, sausage, cheese and a special. We have a four week rotation of favorites from the pizza place we order from: Barbeque Beef, Bacon Ranch, Canadian Bacon, and Chicken Alfredo but we also try to do other specials to keep our sale interesting. It should be noted that you can make more money selling a cheaper pizza for the same price, but we think that selling high quality pizza creates more repeat business. The pizza is delivered to our building, once at 10:30 and again at 11:30. We bring the pop from the student fridge on a cart, and the tables are stored in a closet near the atrium. There always needs to be at least two students fundraising at any time; one to take money and the other to handle the pizza; four people is optimum for busy times (when students transfer classes), so there can be two lines at once. If we have any leftover pizza, we sell it from our student fridge at a reduced price.

Required:

Pizza and pop
Cash and change: ~\$100-150

2-4 fundraising volunteers
Food safety and sales training (different for every school)
2-3 tables
A sign to explain the prices, toppings and group
Rubber gloves, plates and napkins

How to be successful:

Consistency
Good pizza
Cold pop

Weekly special, Good location!

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