The Greek Gazette

ISSUE 2, MAY 2010

Greek Relations Executive Council would like to wish everyone a fun and safe summer with our second and last issue of the semester! Hit the books hard this week and good luck with all your finals.

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Sigma Phi Epsilon Calls Delta Upsilon Their New House
By Sara Schlueter

At the beginning of May, the Sigma Phi Epsilon house will be undergoing some drastic changes. The house will have a three million dollar renovation that could potentially take a full year to complete, so the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon have decided to find a new home for the fall semester: the Delta Upsilon house.

Originally, the Sigma Phi Epsilon house was just going to have updated sprinkler systems installed, but other changes needed to be made as well.

“Our alumni decided that if we were going to do [those changes], [we] might as well renovate the entire house. The amount of money that we have raised so far is a little over two million dollars,” said Cade Russell Sigma Phi Epsilon member and Vice President of Risk Management for the Interfraternity Council.

The new renovation plans will include a new addition to the back of the house, larger rooms, new heating and air conditioning, and handicap accessibility for the first floor.

“Pretty much the whole house is going to be gutted and everything will be changed and new,” said Russell.

Because of the extensive renovations, finding an alternate place to live was the only option. The Sigma Phi Epsilon men had contemplated apartment complexes, dorm floors, and even Alpha Sigma Phi’s residence hall, but in the end the Delta Upsilon house made the most sense.

“The Delta Upsilon alumni are currently fixing up their house to make it livable for us, but once we move in, we have to paint and provide desks and some furniture for ourselves for the time that we will be living there,” said Russell.

While the house is being renovated, recruitment for the fraternity should not be negatively affected, but rather, Russell says, “I believe that we will improve [recruitment] with the upcoming renovation to our facility.”

New Greeks: Sigma Nu and Alpha Sigma Phi
By Josh Monroe

Iowa State’s Greek Community has welcomed two new re-colonized chapters to its campus. Sigma Nu Fraternity and Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity have both recruited almost 25 members. Sigma Nu’s national organization began its recruitment efforts this past summer, while Alpha Sigs began around the middle of the fall semester.

Sigma Nu returns to the Greek Community after being one of the first to colonize in 1904. In 1917, they built and lived in what is coincidentally now Alpha Sig’s house on sorority circle. Sigma Nu was active until 1998, leading Alpha Sigs to then occupy the residence.

“The opportunity to work with a group of guys for a single goal” is what Brandon Werner, Sigma Nu’s president, says he chose to join for. “We could start something new into what a fraternity should be, and not what people necessarily think they are.” Werner said that his fraternity will continue to be a non-facility chapter at least another year, and their advisory board and alumni will consider finding a residence in the future.

Although Alpha Sigma Phi is not currently living in their facility, it is still owned by their alumni. The fraternity is notable for the fact that they own and operate the touchdown cannon at Iowa State football games.

With many new members under strong leadership, the Iowa State Greek Community has a lot to look forward to in the future from these two new fraternities.
Alumna Spotlight
By Ellie Skowronek

Katie Hartranft, a Kappa Delta alumna, graduated in 2009 and is now interning at Greek Affairs and interviewing for graduate programs in student affairs. As an undergraduate, Katie was on Homecoming Central, in Rho Lambda, participated in Dance Marathon, and worked at The Café. Her favorite memory of Iowa State is the closing ceremony of DM 2009. Below is a list of more of her favorite ISU events.

ISU Events:
VEISHEA
ISU Traditions:
The Zodiac
Lancelot & Elaine
Homecoming:
Lawn Displays
Greek Week Activities:
Lip Sync
Greek Olympics:
Egg Joust
VEISHEA:
Cherry Pies
Parade

 Finals, Finally!
By Lindsey Niehm

With less than a month of class left and warm weather to distract us, it is easy to forget about homework and tests. Now we’re on the home stretch, which means this is the time to work hard and finish strong. Spring semester flies by every year, but the last month goes especially fast. Greek Week events, VEISHEA, philanthropies and activities outside have taken up the past few weeks of our free time. However, don’t let these distractions prevent you from acing your finals and any projects you need to finish up. Here are some tips to prepare for finals:

+ Study outside
+ Make note cards over study guides- do more now for less stress before any finals
+ Make a calendar of dead week and finals week, detailing what you need to study each day
+ Give yourself breaks- go for a run, play Frisbee, and catch some sun on central campus
+ Eat healthy snacks- fresh fruit is back in season
+ Study with friends and quiz each other even if you aren’t in the same class
+ Read the Greek Gazette to stay informed on what’s going on in the community, since you will be so busy studying 😊

How To: Recruit For Your Chapter
By Ryan Johnstone

Every chapter has recruitment chairs, but the reality is the entire chapter has the responsibility of promoting their house and helping out with recruitment. This column being the paragon of all Greek knowledge, here are some pointers for the entire chapter.

- Wear Letters. Wear them proudly. When you are out doing anything positive on campus, in the community, or back home make sure everyone knows that is the character your chapter upholds and represents. Quality attracts quality.
- Be active. You cannot help your chapter by sitting in your room all day...well, unless you live vicariously through Facebook. Go out, join a club, play some sports. Anything! Find people with common interests who aren’t Greek, and show them the grass is greener on our side.
- Recruitment chairs. Talk to them. Ask them questions. It’s probably just hitting them that they signed up for a whole summer/semester/semesters of ridiculously hard work. They want your help. So help them.
- Clean. Chapter houses get dirty sometimes. No potential new member wants to join a house that looks as if it has more in common with a junkyard than an institution of higher education.
- Brag. Talk about how awesome your chapter is. This is easy.

There you have it. If your chapter has its best recruitment class in years, you will probably have this article to thank next fall.

Questions, comments, or ideas for future articles? Please contact IFC/CPC VPs of Communications: Josh Monroe at jjmonroe@iastate.edu or Kathryn Graen at kjgraen@gmail.com

Greek Factoids

Alpha Tau Omega was the first fraternity founded as a national organization, not just a local or sectional fellowship.

In the earliest years of Alpha Gamma Delta at Iowa State University, when a sister wanted to announce her engagement, her fiancé would send the house a five-pound box of candy.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has the largest Greek system in the world, with 69 fraternities and 36 sororities.

Through 1956 at Iowa State University, no women were allowed to enter a fraternity house unless a house mother was present.

Iowa State University President Gregory Geoffroy was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon at the University of Louisville.