PI TAU SIGMA ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

2009-2010

Kettering University Delta Chi

A. Initiations

The Delta Chi Spring term initiation for B-section students was held on Friday, June 4th, 2010 at Kettering University. The selection process began several weeks before initiation and was conducted according to Article III, Number 5 of the Chapter Manual. An interest meeting was held to educate potential inductees on the activities of the chapter and benefits of membership. The interested initiates paid their initiation dues and were required to organize and participate in a community service activity of their choice (subject to approval of the chapter officers); the class volunteered at the Flint Children's museum in several shifts, serving a minimum of one hour per member to help the museum prepare for its summer activities. Initiates were also required to obtain the signatures of at least four current members, the officers, and advisor in order to be initiated.

The initiation ceremony was conducted on Friday, June 4th in a dimly lit room decorated nicely for the ceremony. Initiates were arranged in alphabetical order and led into the room where they remained seated through the ceremony. After their membership was conferred upon them by the ritualistic proceedings outlined in the Chapter Manual, they came to the front of the room, one by one, for congratulations, to sign their name to the membership record, and receive their keys and membership cards.

Immediately following the ceremony, the chapter officers, current members, and advisor took the new members to the Redwood Lodge for a celebratory dinner. It was a very nice evening, and the members of the Delta Chi chapter shared stories and grew closer to one another over the meal.

A second initiation ceremony was held for four members who could not make the first ceremony.

B. Chapter Activities

Our chapter currently carries inactive status. Delta Chi was neglected by members in the terms before the current members were elected. The current officers were elected in the fall of 2009 and were given little direction. The goal of the officers for the 2009-2010 academic year has been to restore the chapter and regain its position as an honorary group on campus.

To accomplish this, the chapter officers met every Monday during the lunch hour for the first five weeks of the school term. The following was accomplished during these meetings:

- Established new initiation requirements:
    - Initiates must organize and complete a community service project, approved by the chapter officers, in which each initiate serves at least one hour. This must be a

'community' service project – one which directly benefits the larger community and does not count doubly for the members to fulfill requirements for other societies. Current members are invited and encouraged to participate.

  - Initiates must obtain signatures from at least four current members, the chapter officers, and the advisor to be eligible for initiation. This requirement ensures that initiates are at least introduced to members they do not know and opens the door for future communication and networking.

- Organized and co-sponsored an alcohol awareness event with Beta Theta Pi Fraternity and Kettering's Black Unity Congress (BUC). At the event, students drove golf carts through an obstacle course while wearing goggles which simulated varying levels of blood alcohol content. Local law enforcement officers were in attendance and gave a presentation on the dangers and consequences of driving under the influence. Food was provided. The event was well attended (~75 students) and was quite successful.

- Created process for obtaining names of students eligible for initiation.

- Organized a new member interest meeting.

- Organized a meeting outlining initiation requirements for those interested persons who paid their dues.

In addition, one meeting was held with the entire chapter:

- The plan for restructuring the Delta Chi chapter was discussed among current members. Chapter officers proposed new activities and processes to current members to gauge interest and receive feedback. Together, the chapter decided to have the new members organize and participate in a community service activity as a requirement of initiation. We also decided to organize leadership events in the future for the benefit of all chapter members and to have at least one event serving the student body per term.

- We also discussed personal development in relation to the workplace. Based on Richard Bolles' book, *What Color is Your Parachute* each member was able to assess their personality and relate it to their career.

The chapter president attended the convention at Texas Tech where she served as the voting member for the chapter. The chapter advisor, Prof. Raghu Echempati accomanied her to Lubbock, Texas at Texas Tech for the convention.

The current chapter officers are as follows:

- Kristin Warren President
- Diane Brown Vice President
- Charity Rogers Treasurer
- Chris Pueppke Recording/Corresponding Secretary

The Recording Secretary, Matthew Laux, was removed from office due to lack of participation. He did not attend any chapter functions and did not respond to any e-mails sent by chapter officers.

C. Other

Next term, in the fall of 2010, we plan to host at least one leadership event for members, perhaps a personality assessment/development workshop. In such a setting, members can learn about the strengths and weaknesses of their personalities and learn ways in which to improve their leadership skills by communicating more effectively with others.

We also plan on expanding our community service effort and hope that current members will participate in community service events organized by the initiates. By setting a standard with this incoming class, we hope that the chapter will continue to grow and become more influential on campus.

It was mentioned earlier in the report that the previous chapter officers left us with very little direction, and had done little with the chapter. To prevent this for reoccurring, the current chapter officers will be assisting the newly elected officers as mentors in their new roles. Kristin Warren was re-elected to the presidency. With strong leadership and through this mentorship process, we have ensured continuity in the hope that our chapter is never again in the state it was when the current members were initiated.