

# Greek Life 411

## Grade Reports are Out

Fall 2005 grade reports have been released. This information was gathered through member rosters on the Greek Database. Overall, the results are an improvement from past semesters. Here are a few highlights:

- We know have 5,043 members in the Florida Greek community (this accounts for over 15% of the Undergraduate Population at UF)
- The Fall 2005 All-Greek average was 3.280. This

is above the undergraduate average (3.222).

- 45 of the 60 chapters were above a 3.0 GPA
- 2,344 Greek members had a GPA of 3.5 or higher

Congratulations to the following chapters who have achieved the highest GPA within their respective councils:

- Alpha Epsilon Phi (Panhellenic) with a GPA of 3.56

- Zeta Beta Tau (IFC) with a GPA of 3.515
- Lambda Alpha Upsilon (MGC) with a GPA of 3.46
- Alpha Kappa Alpha (NPHC) with a GPA of 3.418

If you are interested in reviewing a complete grade report, you are welcome to access a copy on the reports area of the Greek Database or contact Chris Bullins (bullins@ufl.edu).

Office of Sorority & Fraternity Affairs (OSFA), University of Florida

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### Contact Info:

Office Phone: 352-846-3171

Office Fax: 352-392-6450

Chris Bullins

Director

bullins@ufl.edu

Anthony Crenshaw

Assistant Director

acrensha@ufl.edu

Lisa Kendall

Assistant Director

ljk@ufl.edu

Betsy Dunn

Graduate Assistant

betsyd@union.ufl.edu

Barbara Breen

Senior Secretary

barbarab@union.ufl.edu

## Upcoming Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 19-Feb2	Panhellenic Recruitment		
January 28	Black Student Leadership Conference	8:00am-3:30pm	J. Wayne Reitz Union
February 2	Order of Omega Meeting	7:00pm	Kappa Delta



Our website is a great resource for calendar dates!

You may now find a list of Florida Greek events...updated daily!

Check out [www.greeks.ufl.edu](http://www.greeks.ufl.edu).

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## Tip of the Week...Scholarship:

Now is the time to visit Academic Advisors! Demand for academic advising is less while it's still early in the semester. It's never too early to begin planning or review a course sequence. Meet with your Academic Advisor now in order to avoid long lines and headaches later in the semester.

## Campus Chatter:

### The Talk about Delta Chi...

Word on the street is out!

Representatives from Delta Chi fraternity arrived on campus today to begin the establishment of a colony at UF.

Delta Chi Fraternity was founded on October 13, 1890 by eleven law students at Cornell University. In 1922, the Fraternity officially went "general," thus opening its membership to men in all areas of study. Currently, there are 123 chapters and colonies operating throughout the United States and Canada and Delta Chi has initiated 92,000 brothers.

For more information on Delta Chi Fraternity or their colony at the University of Florida, please visit [www.deltachi.org](http://www.deltachi.org) or contact Rusty Williams, Leadership Consultant, at [rustyw@deltachi.org](mailto:rustyw@deltachi.org).

Below is a question and answer session with Chris Bullins about the expansion process:

Q: How successful are fraternities when they come back after being gone?

A: Fraternity and sorority success depends on the marketing plan the organization creates prior to arrival. Groups I have seen succeed started weeks in advance by getting their name out via campus newspapers and other forms of advertisements. Delta Chi has done a good job of getting its name out even before formal recruitment efforts have started on-campus.

Q: Are many students eager to get involved with them or does it take a few semesters?

A: Students are eager to get involved when they see a group that is aligned with their interests and values. Sororities and fraternities that offer a well-rounded experience - social opportunities along with scholastic excellence, community service, and leadership development - do exceptionally well.

## Black History Month Activities

A number of Florida Greek organizations will be sponsoring events in as a part of the University's Black History Month activities.

See below for a list of these events. All are encouraged to attend!

Feb. 2: A Royal Feast, Institute of Black Culture, 11am (Zeta Phi Beta & Phi Beta Sigma)

Feb. 2: The History of Black Month, Institute of Black Culture, 7pm (Omega Psi Phi)

Feb. 3: Eastside ETTA-Kate, Eastside High School, 2:30pm (Alpha Kappa Alpha)

Feb. 5: Super Bowl Party, Tivoli Clubhouse, 6pm (Sigma Lambda Beta & Sigma Lambda Gamma)

Feb. 8: Financial Planning for the College Student, Reitz 284, 7pm (Sigma Gamma Rho)

Feb. 9: A Royal Feast, Institute of Black Culture, 11am (Gamma Eta)

Feb. 13: Brothers and Sisters in Cinema: A Voyage through Black Films, Institute of Black Culture, 7pm (Alpha Phi Alpha & Phi Beta Sigma)

Feb. 15: The Art of Royalty: A Night of Jazz and Verbal Expression, Orange & Brew, 7pm (Iota Phi Theta)

Feb. 16: A Royal Feast, Institute of Black Culture, 11am (Kappa Phi Lambda & Lambda Theta Alpha)

Feb. 23: A Royal Feast, Institute of Black Culture, 11am (Theta Nu Xi)

A Royal Feast is a lunch series that focuses on various topical issues. Interested in knowing more about stepping? Step Afrika is the first

professional company in the world to develop a production on the history of stepping and its connections to art forms around the world. Founded in 1994, the company is critically-acclaimed for its efforts to promote an understanding of and appreciation for stepping and the dance tradition's use as an educational tool for young people worldwide. Step Afrika will perform at UF as part of Black History Month on **Friday, February 3, 2006 at 9:00 PM** in the **Rion Ballroom**.

**Chapter Presidents:**  
We want your feedback!  
Please remember to complete the Greek Advance evaluation.  
Check your email for the link to this online survey.

## Do you Remember?

Do you know of any awards that have disappeared from our Greek Awards ceremonies? Are there named awards that we are missing?

The OSFA is currently evaluating our recognition system and would like to bring back any awards that we might have lost over the years.

Please contact Betsy ([betsyd@union.ufl.edu](mailto:betsyd@union.ufl.edu)) if you have any input. Comments and suggestions are always welcomed.

Thanks in advance for your help!

**FLORIDA GREEK**  
IFC MGC NPHC Panhellenic

## Around the Nation

Houston Chronicle  
January 24, 2006

UT student's alcohol level over 6 times legal limit Autopsy shows 'incredible' blood content of 0.50 percent when he died at a fraternity Dec. 10

By JANET ELLIOTT

AUSTIN - A University of Texas student had a blood alcohol level more than six times the legal limit for driving when he died of alcohol poisoning in December at an off-campus fraternity, a state investigator said Monday.

Phanta "Jack" Phoummarath had a level of 0.50, according to Capt. David Ferrero of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, who has seen the autopsy report.

Rueben Gonzales, a UT professor of pharmacology who studies drinking behavior, said that level would be equivalent to "chugging a fifth" of liquor. He said the only other way to get to that high of a blood alcohol content would be for someone to consume several drinks an hour for 24 hours.

"It's an incredible amount to get to that high a level. It's really tragic," said Gonzales.

Ferrero said a .50 blood alcohol content is "very unusual." A person is considered legally intoxicated for operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.08.

TABC investigators are trying to determine if anyone should be charged with making alcohol available to a minor. Phoummarath was 18 when he was found dead Dec. 10 at the Lambda Phi Epsilon house west of campus.

He was a freshman from Houston.

His family could not be reached Monday for comment.

The Travis County medical examiner ruled in December that Phoummarath died of acute alcohol poisoning. However, results of the autopsy, including the blood alcohol level, have not been released because police and prosecutors have said the information would interfere with their criminal investigations.

Ferrero would not comment on what type of alcohol Phoummarath had consumed.

He said the TABC investigation is on hold while the agency seeks advice from the Travis County District Attorney's Office about whether a subpoena is required to get the names of students who attended the party from UT.

In December, the Asian-American-interest fraternity was banned from campus for six years after a university investigation found evidence of hazing the night Phoummarath drank himself to death at a party honoring new members.

The investigation by the dean of students' office found that new members were expected to consume large amounts of liquor when they were being presented as active members.

New members also were subject to paddle swats and interrogation in line-ups, had to shave their heads and were required to clean rooms and do laundry of active members, all activities considered hazing by the university.

The investigation also found the pledges engaged in football games with active members without appropriate protection. In August, a 19-year-old Lambda Phi Epsilon pledge in California died of head injuries suffered in a football game.

Austin police and the Travis County Attorney's Office are conducting separate investigations into Phoummarath's death. County Attorney David Escamilla said his office is trying to determine whether the fraternity or any individuals will be charged with hazing.

Texas law defines hazing as any activity involving consumption of alcoholic beverages which subjects a student to an unreasonable risk of harm or which adversely affects the mental or physical health of a student. Hazing that causes death is a state jail felony punishable by confinement in a state jail for up to two years and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

The release of the autopsy report initially was blocked by the Austin Police Department. Earlier this month, the police said they no longer objected to the release, but the Travis County Attorney's Office raised the law enforcement exception to disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act.

### Serious risks

On Jan. 20, Attorney General Greg Abbott's office concluded that the medical examiner may withhold the autopsy report because it would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime.

Escamilla said he had no comment on Phoummarath's blood alcohol level.

Alcohol poisoning occurs when the human liver fails to metabolize large amounts of alcohol consumed in a short amount of time. Most people face serious risk once blood-alcohol levels exceed 0.30, and blood alcohol contents of 0.45 and higher are fatal to nearly all individuals.