

Greek Life 411

Gamma Eta's Fashionable Philanthropy

Adapted from The Alligator
www.alligator.org
Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006

By Kylie Craig

The Gamma Eta Sorority sisters put fashion first Monday night to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

The sorority hosted its first-ever Finding a Cure in

Style fashion show at Füs Restaurant and Lounge downtown.

The show included models from the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, Multicultural Greek Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council as well as other UF organizations.

Rebecca Veitia, the director of the event, said the sorority's social chair, Yvette Regalado, came up with the fashion show idea.

"A few of my sisters and I took the idea and ran with it," Veitia said.

Money for the event was raised through model registration fees and entry fees.

Gamma Eta's national cause is breast cancer awareness. Veitia said the local chapter decided to donate the money to the American Cancer Society on its own.

Last year the sorority raised \$4,000 for breast cancer

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Upcoming Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday, March 6	NPC Badge Day		
Tuesday, March 7	NPHC Advisors Mtg	8:00pm	JWRU Room 318
Wednesday, March 8	Gator Baseball Greek Night	6:30pm	McKethan Stadium
Wednesday, March 8	Greek Blood Drive Ends		
Saturday, March 11	Spring Break Begins		



Check the website for a full list of dates updated daily!

Tip of the Week...Service:

Service and philanthropy: there is a difference!

Read the "Campus Chatter" column on page 2 this week to find out more. Think about ways that you can influence the development of social responsibility among your members. Take the time to work with your chapter to develop a holistic charitable program that includes both service and philanthropic efforts that will be meaningful to the membership.

For more information about service, philanthropy, and service-learning, feel free to contact Betsy Dunn or check out the website of the Center for Leadership and Service at UF (www.dso.ufl.edu/clc).

Campus Chatter:

The talk about Service and Philanthropy...

Members of our Florida Greek community contribute to the greater Gainesville community, our nation, and our world in many different ways.

Florida Greeks do a great job with philanthropy. We donate millions of dollars annually to worthwhile causes. It is a positive selling point for our community and a beneficial way for us to share our resources. But are we truly learning about others and ourselves by donating money? Are members developing personal worth or social responsibility by writing checks? Could we assist in the development of our members in a more intentional manner? Let's talk about the difference between service and philanthropy...

The term service refers to direct service: the actual hands-on occurrence of people helping others. Service means *doing* something so that, at the end of the activity, volunteers have effected a change. An example of service is spending a few hours at a children's hospital playing games with the patients.

Philanthropy is the raising of funds or resources for a cause. The term is generally used by Greeks to describe money raised for charitable causes (often causes identified by our national organizations). An example of a philanthropy is raising funds to donate to a local or national children's hospital (sounds like Dance Marathon, right).

We hope that you will take the time to educate chapter members on the difference between service and philanthropy and the benefits of each in their lives.

Thanks to our friends at the University of Illinois for some of the above information.

Delta Chi Fraternity: Set for Success

The Delta Chi fraternity has completed the first phase of expansion for their newest colony right here at the University of Florida.

As of Thursday, the fraternity boasted 27 Associate Members including:

- 2 Seniors
- 8 Juniors
- 8 Sophomore
- and 9 Freshmen

The Associate Members hold a 3.39 cumulative grade point average and the group is made up of:

- 8 engineering majors
- 3 finance majors
- 1 accounting major
- 1 nutrition major
- 1 history major
- 1 criminology major
- 3 political science majors
- 1 marketing major
- 1 health science major
- 3 business majors
- 2 microbiology majors
- 1 pre-dentistry major

and 1 classics major

The fraternity colony has a solid support system from local alumni as well as chapter alumni in other parts of the country. Their advisor is John Denny, Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Disability Resources at UF.

Colony leaders have a great deal of work ahead of them to continue the efforts of the fraternity's national consultants, but the Associate Members have received great guidance and they are dedicated to the fraternity. They are ready for the experience and are excited about the growth and expansion of the colony.

The 27 Associate Members of the UF colony will continue recruiting in hopes of having over 35 men by the fall semester. National representatives will return to campus to complete the associate member process for the initial Associate Members with initiation ceremony on Saturday April 8.

For more information on the Delta Chi fraternity, visit www.deltachi.org.

Please help us in welcoming the Delta Chi fraternity to the Florida Greek community!

Contract Questions?

On March 30 at 12:00 noon, the OSFA and the Office of Student Activities will present a contract negotiation workshop. The workshop is intended to provide information for members who deal with contracts for the chapter (President, Social Chair, Philanthropy Chair). Chapter advisors are also welcome to attend!

Greek Blood Drive Leaders
(as of Friday, March 3)
Total Donations
Sorority League: Chi Omega (28)
Fraternity League: Lambda Chi Alpha (43)
Percentage Donations
Sorority League: Sigma Kappa (27%)
Fraternity League: Lambda Chi Alpha (57%)
Way to go Greek Gators...keep it up!

Shout Outs...

Congratulations to the brothers of the Alpha Eta chapter of Phi Kappa Tau on their successful philanthropy program: "Midnight Madness featuring 'Say What?' Karaoke." Thanks to the support of the 500 people who attended, the brothers raised enough money to donate \$5000 to the Hole in the Wall Gang Camps. The brothers report that this is the most raised by the Alpha Etas in recent history, possibly ever!

Around the Nation

Adopted from Time Magazine
www.time.com
Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2006

**Taming the Toga:
As campuses fight boorish behavior,
the nation's largest fraternity seeks
a manners makeover**

By NATHAN THORNBURGH

As they do every week, the 90 members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) fraternity at Oregon State University file into their dining hall for a very different kind of frat party. The rows of scrubbed and pressed young men sit down to eat under the watchful eye of the brother who is acting as manners chair. No swearing is permitted. Napkins on laps are required. Small bites are urged instead of gulps. Scofflaws must do penalty push-ups or pay a fine into the piggy bank in the middle of each table.

Call it the new "fratiquette," but these weekly civility sessions are just a small part of a growing reform movement led by Sigma Phi Epsilon, the country's largest fraternity. As colleges continue to crack down on binge drinking, hazing and general hooliganism, some fraternities are redefining the Greek experience in order to save it.

Oregon State's is among the 256 SigEp chapters nationwide that have adopted the Balanced Man Program, an intensive four-year fraternity experience created 13 years ago by concerned SigEp leaders to shift the center of life in the houses from beer-

soaked blowouts to activities that promote healthy living and self-respect. To eliminate hazing, the program does away with the pledge system--all recruits are equal members from Day One. Alcohol is allowed, but booze-free activities are encouraged. The George Washington University chapter does yoga together. At Miami University in Ohio, fraternity brothers learn how to salsa-dance and cook traditional Mexican meals.

The SigEps of Oregon State were a long way from such genteel pursuits just five years ago. At a school that offers a degree in fermentation sciences, the SigEps of old stood out for their love of inebriation. "When I got here in 2001, it was awful," says Mike Powers, 20, a senior. "Drugs were coming in, grades were falling. There were nothing but monster parties." The chapter hit bottom that fall when a single party resulted in a whopping \$195,000 in fines for 26 separate counts of providing alcohol to minors.

The house needed a fresh start, which led to a purge of partyers in which a third of the brothers left the chapter. "We needed to get rid of the cancers of the frat," says Powers.

Today the chapter, reorganized under the Balanced Man Program, has rebounded. Membership is almost back to prepurge levels, and last summer the chapter won a national SigEp award that placed it in the top 15% in academics and community service of all chapters in the country.

But the frat makeovers have their detractors. In the rush to save fraternity life, some say, SigEp and the Bal-

anced Man Program may be ruining it. "Some of my best experiences in college were stupid things I did with my friends, usually involving alcohol," says Kevin Stange, whose SigEp chapter at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was frequently in trouble with the national organization when he was a student in the late 1990s and which eventually closed for several years. "We never went too far, though," says Stange. "And the real reason people join frats is to have fun. Balanced Man doesn't address that." Online chat rooms like Greek chat.com are ablaze with debate about the changes. Still, after membership declined throughout the '90s, the number of new SigEp recruits has increased 11% since 1999. Insurance premiums, which have a habit of rising when frat boys burn down their houses or fall off their balconies, have gone down the past two years. The average GPA for SigEp's members has reached the 3.0 mark, which the organization boasts is the highest of all fraternities. Following SigEp's lead, other national fraternities have rolled out similar programs, from Sigma Alpha Epsilon's True Gentleman to Beta Theta Pi's Men of Principle. According to some members, there's an unexpected bonus from all these reforms: women seem to like them. "They can go to 21 other fraternities to get drunk," says Oregon State SigEp member Cameron Saffer. "Here you find respectful young men."

With reporting by Eli Sanders / Corvallis

FLORIDA GREEK
IFC MGC NPHC Panhellenic