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.
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
- 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
- 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!

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!
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 Balanced 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