



# The Dirk

Iowa Delta Alumni Newsletter • Est. 1948



The Newsletter for Alumni and Friends of the Iowa Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Drake University • Fall 2009

## Phase II Renovations Spark Immediate Results

### Chapter GPA Climbs with New Study Areas

The Brothers of Iowa Delta put their newly renovated chapter room and library to work for them this past semester. The new rooms provided the men with a comfortable place to study and collaborate on class projects. The hard work was rewarded. The chapter of 98 members earned a 3.41 GPA for the spring semester. For the fifth consecutive year, Iowa Delta had the number one fraternity GPA at Drake.

“The new chapter room and library have created a great academic environment that really puts a strong emphasis on our class work,” stated chapter president **Tyler Boggess ‘10**. “During finals week, we even

set up an additional table in the entryway to accommodate the numerous brothers studying.”

In addition to the chapter room and library renovations, the dining room received new carpet and all of the bathrooms received complete renovations. The chapter room also had a SMART Board installed for chapter meeting presentations and group study sessions. These updates and enhancements bring to a close Phase II of the renovation project.

The first phase of the project focused on security and safety. Installation of a sprinkler

system throughout the house as well as a security system with cameras, improved lighting and key card access panels at the doors have made the chapter house one of the most secure at Drake.

Vice President of Programming **Scott Copeland ‘11** reflected on the importance of the new renovations saying, “The new improvements have improved our grades and have made our chapter meetings much more efficient. We also use the room to present slideshows to recruits during rush. It has done more for the chapter than we imagined.”

## Iowa Delta Captures Fourth Buchanan Cup Chapter Recognized for Outstanding Achievement

Iowa Delta won its fourth Buchanan Cup at the national Sigma Phi Epsilon Conclave this summer in Orlando, Florida. Only the most outstanding SigEp chapters receive this annual award. The chapter now only needs to win the award one more time before it receives a gold cup symbolizing a Decade of Excellence.



*Brothers Celebrate with the Buchanan Cup at Conclave.*



# Undergraduates Making an Impact at Drake

SigEps dominated the Student Government Association ticket at Drake University and successfully saw four brothers elected to the Student Senate.

**Ben Cooper '11** led the ticket and will lead the Student Senate as a result of winning his election for Vice President of Student Life. In addition to Cooper, **Tyler Boggess '10** will represent the College of Journalism and Mass Communication and **Bradley Dick '10** will represent the College of Arts and Sciences as Student Senators. **Ben Whitmer '12** won the post of Senator at Large, and he also won his election for Residence Hall Association President. **Chris Nowacki '12** joins Whitmer as the Vice President of Residence Hall Association.

*Ben Cooper, Vice President of Student Life.*

Newly elected Vice President of Student Life, Ben Cooper '11, was pleased to see the results of the elections. "The entire chapter helped everyone who ran for an office. It shows what the brotherhood can do when we all work together."

*Iowa Delta brothers find time to take a picture at the Sigma Phi Epsilon Carlson Leadership Academy. Fourteen members attended the national leadership program.*



*Iowa Delta wishes the 2009 Senior Class the best of luck in their endeavors!*



## This Just In!

Congratulations to Iowa Delta for adding 29 new members this fall!

### Chapter Officers

#### President

Tyler Boggess '10  
Kearney, MO

#### V.P. of Programming

Scott Copeland '11  
Davenport, IA

#### V.P. of Recruitment

Jon Zolkoske '11  
Neenah, WI

#### V.P. of Finance

Greg Wolf '10  
Seattle, WA

#### V.P. of Member Development

Danny Hayward '11  
Mt. Pleasant, IA

#### V.P. of Communications

Adam Ungerer '11  
West Salem, WI

#### Chaplain

Chris Collinsworth '11  
Algonquin, IL

## Aggressive Recruitment Dominates Year Round

### Iowa Delta Recruits 36 New Members for Academic Year

Vice President of Recruitment **Jon Zolkoske '11** plans to follow on last year's success with recruitment and make it another dominant year for Iowa Delta. With 30 new members recruited in the fall of 2008 and six recruited in the spring of 2009, Zolkoske plans to improve upon those numbers.

"We know how to recruit the right men, and our new house renovations will definitely help us," said Zolkoske. "We just need to stay focused during recruitment and remember that there is always the opportunity to find potential recruits."

Please submit any recruitment recommendations directly to Brother Zolkoske at [jonathon.zolkoske@drake.edu](mailto:jonathon.zolkoske@drake.edu).

# Relay Weekend Excites All Attendees

## Undergrads and Alumni Come Together to Celebrate Relay's 100th Anniversary & New Renovations

With the 100th running of the Drake Relays and Phase I and II of the chapter house renovations complete, alumni returned for Relay Weekend with more anticipation than years past.

The festivities began Friday evening with tours of the chapter house for all SigEp alumni and guests. For most alumni, this was the first time they saw the newly finished renovations, and they were not disappointed. A new event for the relays, The All-Greek Open House, took place on Saturday allowing all Greek alumni the opportunity to see the renovated Sigma Phi Epsilon house on Saturday.

Besides the Relay itself, the culminating event every year is the Annual Alumni Meeting and Awards Banquet. Iowa Delta had the pleasure of having Dr. Debra Bishop, Faculty

Fellow, speak at the banquet and share words of inspiration and encouragement.

The Annual Meeting took place following Dr. Bishop's comments where alumni elected the Alumni Board for the upcoming year. Brother **Gary D. Ordway '64** will continue to serve as president of the board.

At the annual awards ceremony, **Mark Micheli '10** received the Rodney E. Rhoads Scholarship, which recognizes an Iowa Delta Junior every year. Dr. Debra Bishop, Faculty Fellow, and Kevin Teets, Resident Scholar, received Special Awards for their service to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

The Alumni Hall of Fame also added two new members to its ranks. **Ron Olson '63** and **Shawn Rolland '04** received the honor and acknowledgment in front of their fellow brothers.



*Dr. Debra Bishop, Faculty Fellow, speaking at the 2009 Alumni Banquet.*

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## Brother to Brother

**Richard Allen Vincent '76** received the Associate in Risk Management (ARM) designation from the Insurance Institute of America.

\*\*\*\*\* *Do you have news you'd like to share with your brothers? Post interesting information about yourself online at [www.drakesigep.org](http://www.drakesigep.org). Did you recently get married? Have a baby? Change jobs? Retire? Let us know. Post your news today.*

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## Thank You From The Chapter

From **Mark Micheli '10**: "From all that you have given me — a wonderful living facility, multiple scholarships, the chance to grow as a leader and world citizen and finally, for the opportunity to travel to Greece and Conclave this past August — allow me to extend my most sincere thank you."

From **Mike Crown '12**: "First, let me say that I had absolutely no interest in joining a fraternity one year ago. I carried the stereotypical view of Greek life into my first few weeks at Drake, and only signed up for Rush because I heard that there would be free Buffalo Wild Wings at one of the houses. My opinion of fraternities did not change until I arrived at the fifth house on my tour — Sigma Phi Epsilon. It was a non-pledging, dry fraternity and its members were involved at all levels of campus life. It had the highest fraternity GPA for the eighth consecutive semester and it emphasized brotherhood through friendship and respect rather than hazing and peer pressure."

### Alumni Advisors

#### President

Gary D. Ordway '64

#### Vice President

Joe Spiess '05

#### Treasurer

Rod Rhoads '57

#### Chapter Counselor

Dr. Ryan McClellan, PharmD.

#### Secretary

William B. Crawford '63

#### Faculty Fellow

Dr. Debra Bishop, Ph.D.

#### Resident Scholar

Jeff Edgar

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## Alumni Vision

Your Board will continue to enable the undergraduate chapter to be number one academically, provide service to the community and university through meaningful philanthropy, encourage campus leadership in the student senate, win a fifth Buchanan Cup, which is Gold, and remodel the kitchen and build a new patio as phase III Renovations. We also plan to start an annual campaign through the National Education Foundation to support our Balanced Man Scholarship program and Resident Scholar program. Keep the faith, Brothers — we are breaking new ground.

# Save the Date

## Drake Relays Reunion 2010

Relay's Alumni Open House will be Friday April 23, 2010 and the Relays reunion banquet will be April 24, 2010. In addition to the Relays, Iowa Delta will host the annual alumni meeting, alumni board elections and the annual awards ceremony. Please mark your calendars and continue to check [www.drakesigep.org](http://www.drakesigep.org) for more information.

### Visit the Sigma Phi Epsilon Website

Visit [www.drakesigep.org](http://www.drakesigep.org), the official Iowa Delta alumni website, to:

- Learn more about the chapter
- Search for alumni
- Update your address, phone number and e-mail address
- Find out about upcoming events
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
- Contribute to the house renovation campaign



*The SigEp Softball Team helped the chapter win the campus intramural championship. Their flag football team competed in the National Championship in Tampa, Florida, over Winter Break.*

[www.drakesigep.org](http://www.drakesigep.org)



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Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Edit your member profile online at [www.drakesigep.org](http://www.drakesigep.org) or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: Sigma Phi Epsilon, Drake University #557, PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_