

# GAMMA UPSILON ALUMNI CORPORATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2011 MEETING

3:00 PM – CHAPTER HOUSE

## I. CALL TO ORDER, RECITAL OF THE CREED – 3:14 PM

## II. ROLL CALL

Present – Carroll, DonCarlos, Scheve, Wolf

Absent – Howard, Kulhanek, Rozovics

## III. REPORTS

### A. President (Carroll)

#### 1. Relationship with OmegaFi

- a. GUAC has started a relationship with OmegaFi for database and website management, as well as publication of the Manifesto and administration of fundraising campaigns. This was done to relieve the workload on the GUAC officers, primarily the secretary.
- b. A new alumni website is operational at [www.gammaupsilon.org](http://www.gammaupsilon.org). The website will have news and secured access to the alumni database.
- c. Carl Alston and Jeff Albrecht are going to be trained on how to use and manage the OmegaFi system and the alumni website.
- d. OmegaFi will also be coordinating the annual campaign, receiving donations and handling the administrative duties.

#### 2. Campus developments

- a. It is mandated by the State of Illinois that a sprinkler system be installed by January 1, 2013. We are in the research stages right now. The University wants to receive our plans for the installation by January 2012.
- b. There is a Greek alumni reception tonight at 6:30 in the new alumni center. Food and drink are provided. There is a \$35 cover charge.
- c. The Golden Guard Luncheon was held yesterday. Twenty alumni were in attendance. This was a decrease from previous years, due to eight deaths.
- d. Eight members of the Golden Guard also attended the memorial service for Brother Shalikashvili. They were impressed with the chapter's performance, as were Alan Galsky and other University officials. The Fraternity presented a certificate to Bradley University and to the chapter.

#### 3. Fraternal developments

- a. The Grand Chapter and IHQ have had to deal with several campus emergencies regarding the use of alcohol. These problems mainly arose from chapters who did not put in place

rules concerning alcohol following the abolition of AFH. Dealing with these emergencies has consumed a lot of the national Fraternity's time.

- b. Next MYLC will be at University of Illinois on February 17 - 18. Bob Carroll will be facilitating; Chad Strelow is coordinating it. Registration is \$25/man. The event actually costs the Fraternity about \$100/man, but the difference is being paid for by the Foundation Chapter. There will be two tracks, one for newer members and one for experienced leaders.

B. Vice President (Kulhanek, absent, report given by Carroll)

1. Annual campaign status

- a. We have collected \$4400 from various alumni. This is below par; last year we collected \$8000 total. This decline is partly due to the transition to OmegaFi, and partly due to the state of the economy.
- b. There has been an increase in major contributors (four donors contributed \$500 or more each), but the total number of contributors has declined.

C. Secretary (Howard, absent, report given by Carroll)

1. A *Manifesto* went out this summer, containing information on the picnic and other items.
2. Going forward, the secretary will be focused on recording information about the board and keeping other board members accountable for the tasks assigned to them

D. Treasurer (Rozovics, absent, report given by Carroll)

1. Year-to-date financial statements (through October 5) were distributed.
2. GUAC is in solid financial health. We have ample reserves for emergencies and to proceed with the sprinkler system.
3. Rozovics has been concentrating on getting our finances and financial records in order so that we can pursue a loan if desired for the sprinkler system.
4. Question from Tony Dodaro: What is the other income on the financial statement? Answer: We believe it is the result of a stock liquidation earlier in the year.

E. Housing Facility Manager (Scheve)

1. Mold problem this summer

- a. A mold issue occurred in the C-room and several individual rooms on the lower level this summer. A professional mold remediation company was called to take care of the mold. The furniture and carpet in the C-room needed to be replaced, and several infested personal items were discarded.
- b. The C-room carpet has been replaced, but there were difficulties in delivering the furniture. It has not arrived yet, and so we have not yet paid for the furniture.
- c. Total cost of the mold problem was about \$16,000.

2. Water main not installed
    - a. We were expecting to install a new water main this summer, but the City of Peoria and the water company put up a bunch of bureaucratic roadblocks. Illinois American Water Company apparently would not give us the tap we needed without fire protection plans, which are not available yet. This work will now take place next summer.
    - b. We are not using the same company that Bradley University selected. We are going with a company of our choice so that we have more control over the installation. We have narrowed our selection down to 3 contractors at this point.
  3. Water heater replacement
    - a. The water heater had sprung a leak. A new water heater was installed the next Monday, and several other minor repairs were taken care of.
  4. The remaining steel doors have been installed. They were obtained at minimal cost (\$175 for approximately \$8000 worth of material).
  5. Fire safety re-inspection is October 22. Multiple violations were found during the first inspection the first time, mostly concerning proper use of extension cords and appliances. Some dissatisfaction was expressed with the ever-changing requirements for fire inspections. The chapter has taken care of its issues regarding the violations.
- F. Chapter Adviser (DonCarlos)
1. Due to the length of this report, it is included separately at the end of these minutes.
- G. Chapter President (Dodaro)
1. Chapter report
    - a. The chapter played in the championship B league soccer game. They lost to a team coached by a priest, but the chapter's overall league record was 3-1. They did beat Delta Upsilon and Sigma Chi.
    - b. Morale is very high due to the performances in sports and recruitment.
  2. The Statement of Expectations is complete with all Initiated signatures.
  3. Housing contracts:
    - a. Fourteen housing contracts were presented to GUAC. The president is making an effort to get the remaining members to turn their contracts in.
    - b. The GUAC will wait two or three weeks to receive the remaining ten contracts.
    - c. Anticipated total membership desiring to live in house next year is approximately 28.
    - d. The chapter is trying to get Bradley to waive the buyout fee for breaking dorm residence contracts.
  4. Kevin Yndestad is optimistic about returning to the chapter, but his cancer paralyzed the right side of his body about two weeks ago. This

paralysis thankfully responded to treatment and Kevin is able to walk again.

5. Question from Tim Belter: Did we make an announcement regarding the housing contracts during the parents luncheon? Answer: No, but Bob Carroll did discuss the contracts with some of the parents

#### H. General Questions for the Board

1. None.

#### I. Citations of Honor

1. Brothers Howard, Kulhanek and Rozovics were each issued a Citation of Honor for their service on the GUAC.
2. Special recognition was given to Mike Scheve for installing the seven steel doors at this Homecoming Weekend.

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

#### A. Adoption of Revised Bylaws

1. Moved by Scheve; seconded by Wolf; motion passed 5-0. The text of the revised bylaws can be founded at the end of these minutes.

### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Election of 2011-13 Board of Directors

1. Bob Carroll was nominated by Scheve, seconded by Alex
2. Sean DonCarlos was nominated by Scheve, seconded by Carroll
3. Mike Scheve nominated by Dodaro, seconded by Carroll
4. Alex Wolf was nominated by Scheve, seconded by Carroll
5. Marty Deering was nominated by Rozovics, seconded by Wolf
6. Jeff Albrecht was nominated by Carroll, seconded by Scheve
7. Jeff Rozovics was nominated by DonCarlos, seconded by Carroll.
8. Nominations were accepted by all present.
9. Scheve moved to dispense with secret balloting, seconded by Carroll. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
10. Motion to elect all 7 nominees to the 2011-13 Board of Directors passed 4-0.

#### B. Installation of New Directors

#### C. Election of 2011-13 Officers

##### 1. Election of President

- a. Bob Carroll was nominated by Scheve, seconded by Wolf.
- b. Carroll was elected by acclimation.

##### 2. Election of Vice President

- a. Mike Scheve was nominated by DonCarlos, seconded by Albrecht.
- b. Scheve was elected by acclimation.

##### 3. Election of Secretary

- a. Marty Deering was nominated by Albrecht, seconded by Scheve.
- b. Jeff Albrecht was nominated by Carroll, seconded by DonCarlos.

- c. Deering was elected by secret ballot.
  - 4. Election of Treasurer
    - a. Jeff Rozovics was nominated by DonCarlos, seconded by Scheve.
    - b. Rozovics was elected by acclimation.
  - 5. Election of Chapter Adviser
    - a. Sean DonCarlos was nominated by Scheve, seconded by Wolf.
    - b. DonCarlos was elected by acclimation.
- D. Installation of New Officers

## **VI. GOOD OF THE FRATERNITY**

- A. Critic's Report – Tony Dodaro
- B. Board Response – Bob Carroll
- C. General Discussion

## **VII. DETERMINE DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Next meeting will take place on January 15, 2012, time TBD at Wolf's house.

Adjourned – 4:56 PM

## CHAPTER ADVISER'S REPORT — OCTOBER 15, 2011

Sean DonCarlos, Chapter Adviser

### **Chapter Advisory Board:**

I will be contacting three recent alumni that the chapter has proposed for the CAB. I meant to do this earlier, but was distracted by a standards issue. These three alumni are: Mark Blomberg '11, Mike Dicken '10 and Dave Starek '10.

Alumni who are interested in serving as an adviser or want more information about advising are welcome to contact the chapter adviser at any time. We have openings in all areas of chapter operations except recruitment, risk management, Ritual and standards.

### **Finance:**

Kevin Yndestad, the elected treasurer, has not been able to return to Bradley due to ongoing health issues. After several interim treasurers, the chapter elected Evan Fitzer to complete the remainder of Kevin's term.

Progress has been made in getting OmegaFi to accurately reflect the state of chapter finances. (OmegaFi is a company that provides billing and collection services for fraternity and sorority chapters. The Grand Chapter mandated that all Theta Chi chapters use OmegaFi's services starting no later than September 1, 2011.) The previous treasurer, Mark Blomberg, had not been using OmegaFi and so information was not being recorded accurately.

The chapter budget had to undergo adjustment earlier this semester, as there are only 21 residents instead of the 24 expected, which translated into a revenue loss of approximately \$5500. The new chapter budget is balanced, assuming 95% collections. Part of the adjustment was that four members who were supposed to live in house but did not, and did not have justification for not doing so, were to be assessed an additional charge to help make up some of the shortfall. I have asked the treasurer what happened with this assessment, as OmegaFi does not show it.

I received a copy of a notice from OmegaFi to the chapter stating that OmegaFi had insufficient funds to pay several bills. These bills appear to be connected with new member registration fees and part of the insurance. I am not sure why OmegaFi thinks there is insufficient funds, collections appear to have been such that money should be readily available. I forwarded this notice to the treasurer for action; as of October 13, I had not heard anything, although this was only one day after I received the notice myself.

### **Membership Education:**

The new member program this semester is a slightly modified version of the program used that semester, which was well received by new members and chapter. It includes a mix of education about the Fraternity, team-building/brotherhood exercises, and small "life skills" workshops. If you have questions about the specifics of the program, please ask me - or better yet the marshal, Jeff Baumgartner - after the meeting.

The marshal also reports that this new member class appears to be collectively more active and more enthusiastic about the Fraternity than previous new member classes have been.

**Minutes and Reports:**

Chapter and cabinet (steering committee) minutes are received weekly. Individual committee reports are more sparse, although some committees report through the cabinet committee minutes. On the whole, however, the flow of communication has improved over previous semesters. Response time to my questions is *much* better than it used to be.

**Philanthropy:**

The previous philanthropy chairman, Colby Tapling, has resigned the office due to inability to devote sufficient time to it. (Colby is also an ARA.) The chapter has elected Jake Ward to finish the remainder of Colby's term. In spite of this transition, the chapter's shack for the annual Shack-a-thon (a philanthropy involving the construction of and 24 hours' living in a makeshift shack on the quad to raise awareness of homelessness) drew sufficient attention to itself to land on the front page of the Scout.

**Recruitment:**

The chapter recruited 11 new members through the formal recruitment process this fall. While this number is not bad in and of itself, the result was below both alumni and chapter expectations. As of October 13, one additional member has been extended a bid through informal recruitment methods. The chapter has several informal recruitment events planned for the remainder of the semester.

I cannot tell from my records that the chapter has examined its formal recruitment to determine why it did not bring in the expected number of recruits, nor why informal recruitment has only produced one new member so far. The chapter may have had these discussions, but I do not have evidence of them.

Additional observations from Ben Blomberg '09, CAB recruitment adviser:

Ben feels that part of the difficulty in formal recruitment this year is that the chapter has a large number of disaffiliated men, including 3 IFC officers, 6 Rho Chis (no idea why we had so many), and 2 ARAs. Adam indicated to Ben that he felt "short-handed" at times during formal recruitment.

Ben also feels that the switch from three rounds to two harmed the chapter. He believes Third Round has historically been the chapter's best performance, and that smashing Second and Third Rounds together resulted in the chapter not being able to assess potential new members as accurately, present the "Theta Chi brand" as clearly, and close the deal as effectively.

His final note is that he has been unable to identify a likely successor to Adam as recruitment chairman, and when he asked Adam if anyone was planning to run, Adam replied no.

**Risk Management:**

I conducted a yearly review of FIPG regulations during my visit in August.

While I have not observed an in-house chapter social event in person recently, the chapter does have provision for sober executive officers, additional sober monitors, monitoring of guests' alcohol consumption, etc. In addition, the risk manager attends all social committee meetings so that events he judges to have unacceptably high risk can be adjusted/quashed before too much time/money/effort is invested in them.

**Ritual:**

The chapter budget this semester includes a line item for the replacement of Ritual robes.

A Ritual review is scheduled for Friday, November 4. Initiation ceremonies are scheduled for Friday, November 18. Alumni participation is strongly encouraged; the Ritual was extensively revised in 2010 and it is worth seeing the new version.

**Scholarship:**

I do not have the scholarship program nor scholarship committee minutes, nor do the steering committee minutes indicate much of what is going on in scholarship. As of October 13, the scholarship chairman had not responded to a request for information.

**Sports:**

The chapter is maintaining its strong involvement in interfraternal/intramural sports and is fielding competitive teams in several events.

**Standards:**

Four members were suspended earlier this year by the chapter for having unacceptable grades and/or being so uninvolved with the chapter that continued good standing seemed inappropriate. In addition, one officer stepped down and a replacement was re-elected due to an insufficient GPA to hold office.