



# SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF GREEK HOUSING

# NEWSLETTER

*Volume 7, June, 2002*

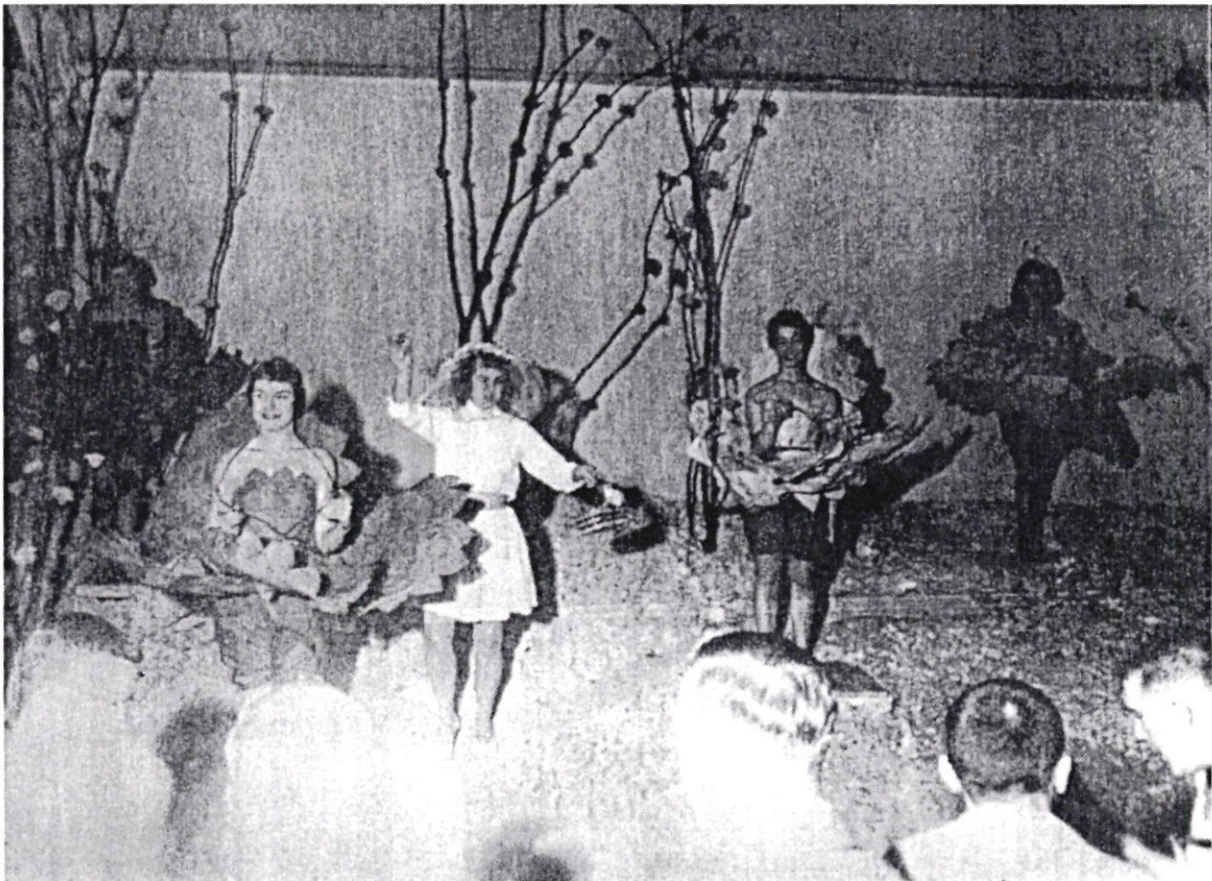
## Alpha Delta Pi Preserves its History in the Archives

Cleaning out a closet is a task that never looks appealing. For the chapter members and corporation board at Alpha Delta Pi, it was no different.

Like most chapters on the University of Illinois campus, Alpha Delta Pi accumulated years and years worth of nostalgia and meeting minutes, all stored under a layer of dust in a storage closet. Because of a desire to store and preserve the materials properly, the chapter donated them to the University of Illinois Student Life Archives.

The chapter designated one of its members to work with an alumna and an archivist to gather the materials together to send to archives. Over all, the job took about 45 minutes and gave each of the women a chance to take a closer look at all the valuable memories and information that had been stacking up over the years. It was a valuable experience that has long-term benefits to the chapter and its legacy at the University.

Cara Augspurger,  
Alpha Delta Pi Alumna



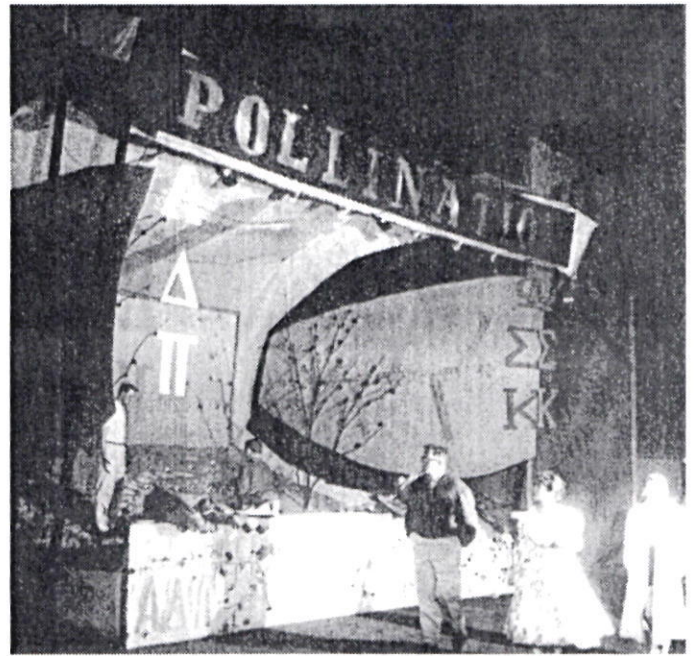
On April 23, an Alpha Delta Pi alumna, the chapter historian, and the archivist for student life and culture met at the ADPi chapter house to gather the chapter's records for transfer to the Archives. It was clear that ADPi has a strong commitment to its history by the large amount of records it saved over the years. The chapter stored most of its records in a dedicated alumnae room, however important materials (such as minutes) were kept in the attic and in other locations in the house. Within an hour's time, the three had carried 10 boxes of records—minutes, by-laws and constitutions, correspondence, committee records, manuals, alumnae materials, scrapbooks, photographs, and national history materials—to the archivist's car.

Upon reaching the Archives, staff arranged the ADPi records in the Archives' conference room on two large tables. They placed minutes, historical documents, and scrapbooks in chronological order; and arranged the committee records and manuals, photographs, and other materials as well. After Jonathon Coit, SPGH's graduate student researcher, completes the ADPi history in May, these materials will be placed in acid-free folders and boxes and stored in a temperature-controlled room at the Archives. Staff will create a finding aid (folder title list inventory) that will be added to our online searchable database.

Alpha Delta Pi's records will be professionally cared for in years to come. Don't your fraternity or sorority's records deserve the same care? Contact us today for more information.

Ellen Swain,  
Archivist for Student Life/Culture  
University of Illinois Archives

Archives Research Center  
1707 S. Orchard  
Urbana, IL 61801  
Phone: 217/333-7841  
Email: [eswain@uiuc.edu](mailto:eswain@uiuc.edu)  
Web: [web.library.uiuc.edu/ahx/slc](http://web.library.uiuc.edu/ahx/slc)



## Notes from the Greek Summit on Saturday, 20 April 2002, at the University of Illinois

Forty-five people came together on a Saturday at the University of Illinois to meet at a summit for Greeks. Included in the group were several sorority house-directors, a few representatives from Greek national offices and many representatives from local chapter alumni boards and house corporations.

It became clear to the attendees that many concerns and issues were shared across the entire Greek system and that it is way past time for all the Greek organizations to share information and join together so that we might all survive and thrive into the 21st century.

The University has wonderful Greek advocates in Dan Bureau, Assistant Dean of Greek Affairs and in Lisa Ruster the assistant to Dan. They stand ready to help all the local chapters in any way they can. To that end, Dan has created a Yahoogroups for advisors and housing corporations to share ideas, resources and solutions, as well as a forum for asking questions needing solutions. This will be especially valuable

to newer members of alumni/ae boards. You can sign up to participate in this group at [HousingCorporationIssues-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HousingCorporationIssues-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Participants at the conference determined the following action steps:

1. Increase opportunities for collaboration between organizations, particularly at the alumni/ae level.
2. Promotion of the Yahoogroups developed for the advisors and housing corporation boards to share ideas and resources.
3. Possibility of developing a Greek Alumni/ae Board that would work to address greater Greek issues on campus and in the two cities through a collaborative approach
4. Possibility of making some funds available to hire an individual as an assistant to the alumni/ae board to help forward progress on housing issues and other system-wide issues as developed by the board.

The House-Corporation sub-meeting forwarded consistent concerns and issues to the whole group.

1. How are we/do we compete with university and private housing including dorms and apartments? Issues included amenities of residence halls and apartment complexes; obtaining lists of new students soon enough to inform them of Greek housing options: working as a unified group with the cities on code requirements for our chapter houses.
2. Housing maintenance, upkeep and management finances are ever an issue, as are life-safety and support issues.
3. PanHel Council adopted a policy to have all chapter houses wheelchair accessible for Rush in the Fall of 2002. This **does not** mean ADA approval for permanent ramps. **Be sure to contact Lisa Ruster ([ruster@uiuc.edu](mailto:ruster@uiuc.edu))** for the latest information on this issue.
4. Membership recruitment and the 30-Hour Rule. Some solutions that were generated were:
  - A. Hiring of professional property managers for regular (perhaps as often as weekly) property inspections. This would be a professional company with salaried employees and a shared job description between groups.
  - B. Increase system-wide co-operation; share best practices of all chapters with all chapters. Perhaps even system-wide lease uniformity

- C. Explore concept of co-operative buying to lower costs

Links for IFC and Panhellenic Council are:

<http://www.illinigreeks.com/> -IFC

<http://www.uiuc.edu/ro/panhellenic/> - Panhellenic

These sites are very interesting, each chapter is supposed to have something on the site and it might be a good introduction for new students to learn about the Greek system at Illinois. Perhaps other schools have this too, it's worth checking.

## Alumni Summit Opens the Door for Collaboration

submitted by Dan Bureau

On Saturday, April 20th, about 45 individuals came together to discuss current and future status of the Fraternity and Sorority Community at the U of I. Housing Corporation Representatives, Alumni Board Members, House Directors, National Representatives and University Administrators discussed trends that are impacting Greek Life across the country and brainstormed in small solution groups about the possibilities that exist for our organizations.

Spawn out of a need to increase education and awareness, while wanting to break down the barriers that exist between individual organizations, the summit permitted dialogue to occur that will hopefully create important partnerships between committed volunteers from fraternities and sororities on our campus and across the nation. In relation to Greek Housing, the following issues were addressed by a group of 12 to 15 individuals who work directly with the management and maintenance of fraternity and sorority facilities.

1. How do we compete with university and local housing options? Issues such as the amenities of residence hall and apartment complexes, as well as, the high degree of policies that govern the policies as "imposed" by NPC, IFC and the U of I.
2. Membership recruitment and the "30 Hour Rule". This would include the recruitment of high school seniors or the lack thereof and, therefore, a decrease of students living in the chapterhouses.

3. Housing maintenance, upkeep and management. The finances of all three are an issue, as in mandated life safety and support issues.

Solutions that were generated:

1. The hiring of property managers for weekly inspections
2. Increase system cooperation—share best practices
3. Explore group buying practices with area businesses (ie. cooperative concept).
4. Increase communication among housing corporation members through email and the use of yahoogroups.

In addition, as a part of a larger group meeting with, not only housing corporation representatives but also, alumni and national officers, the following action steps were determined as outcomes of the alumni summit:

1. Increased opportunities for collaboration between organizations.
2. Promotion of Yahoogroups developed for advisors and housing corporations to share ideas and resources. You can sign up for this group at [HousingCorporationIssues-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:HousingCorporationIssues-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com).
3. The possibility of developing an Alumni/ae Board that would work to address greater Greek Issues

through a collaborative approach( two separate boards with one geared toward housing issues and one geared toward alumni advisors).

4. The possibility of hiring an individual to serve as an assistant for this board to help forward progress in both areas concerning Greek Housing.

Hopefully all in attendance and those who could not be there will commit to moving forward our fraternity and sorority community. While we know that managing our own organizations with the limited volunteer time we all have is difficult enough, we can truly accomplish our own individual goals when we share resources and come together to solve greater community-wide problems. If you are interested in getting involved in this effort, please contact Dan Bureau at [dbureau@uiuc.edu](mailto:dbureau@uiuc.edu).

“Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.”  
-Warren Bennis

## SPGH

Society for the  
Preservation of  
Greek Housing  
PO Box 2764  
Champaign, IL 61825-2764

