

May 5, 2012

Spring 2012 Issue



Inside this issue:

- Words of the Phi **2**
- Social Spotlight **3**
- Introducing the **4**
Greek Letter Officers
- Congrats to the **4**
Graduating Seniors

Welcome! *Stephen McCrory, AI '14, and Sam Simmons, AΘ '13*

For those of you who have traveled near and far to join us this weekend, we would like to thank you for coming! This year's Elder Banquet marks the 33rd year of our chapter's existence. We hope that this weekend reminds you of the great times you had during your time as an active and that your visit adds another memory to that list.

Our annual reunion reminds us that Zeta Psi is not merely an extracurricular activity, but a brotherhood that stays with us for the rest of our lives. In addition to reminiscing with your pledge brothers, we encourage all of you to get to know the

current actives of the house because Zeta Psi's membership is always growing with some of MIT's finest students. Get to know the funny stories of the year, and what the brothers are up to these days. For those of you who couldn't make it to the banquet this year, we hope you will remain connected with the house in other ways.

Brothers in the area are always welcome to stop by, whether it is a weekend or during the school day. Also, be sure to look forward to the occasional Elder updates from Peter Ortez, our Alpha Sigma. We hope you

can make it to Elder Banquet in future years and remember to stay in touch.

In TKΦ,
Sam Simmons, AΘ '13 &
Stephen McCrory, AI '14



2012 Elder Banquet Chairs
Stephen McCrory and Sam Simmons

The Semester in Review *Pedro "Peter" Ortez AΘ '13*

Hello and welcome to our 33rd annual Elder Banquet! I'm Peter Ortez, the Alpha Sigma for this year, and I'm excited to share with you all news from our chapter over the past year.

First of all, I am proud to introduce the fifteen members of the newly initiated Alpha Kappa pledge class. These young men have shown immense pledge class unity, determination, dedication, and overall excitement of their initiation into our Brotherhood and I encourage all of you to allow these fine young men to introduce themselves to you so that you may see the latest in a long line of outstanding Zetes.

The Alpha Kappas have done a great job renovating one of the

second floor doubles, formerly known as "Demon" and now dubbed "Dream Machine." If you get a chance, I highly recommend taking a tour of this room and allowing the Alpha Kappas to show off the hard work they put into their room.

Other improvements to the House have included the installation of a 120" high definition projector in the TV room, and a full renovation of our server closet, including upgrading the fan and creating a secondary server closet to decrease overheating and create a more organized system.

Additionally, the House has instituted a reward for Highest and Most Improved GPA to increase house studiousness,

and have continued to improve upon campus relations and IFC participation. On the Community Service front, we raised more money than ever this year for Relay For Life, with Peter Augusciak AK '15 raising the most money out of all individuals at MIT, over \$3000! Also, we held our Second Annual Zeta Psi Dine & Dash this year, which was a rousing success.

As Alpha Sigma, I will be working on a few new initiatives to improve Elder Relations, but I don't want to give those away just yet. Stay tuned and enjoy the rest of this newsletter.

In TKΦ,
Peter Ortez

Words of the Phi *Chris Rullan AO '13*



Dear Brothers and Elders,

I am delighted and honored to welcome our chapter's Elders back to MIT for Zeta Psi Rho Alpha's 33rd Annual Elder Banquet. On behalf of all of the actives, I can truly say that we are genuinely excited to spend this weekend with you. For weeks we have been anticipating your arrival and are glad you made the trip here. I hope that you have a great time, stop by the house, and share stories of how this house has changed. I know that you'll be greeted well, and hope you are as pleased with the state of the house as I am.

Next, I would like to recognize Chip Whittemore (AH '12) for his outstanding job as Phi for the previous two terms. Chip's hard work and dedication has allowed this house to grow and strengthen the brotherhood and fraternal community for years to come. Whether representing Zeta Psi while lobbying congress or meeting with school leaders on campus, Chip has certainly made a positive impact on our culture. Chip's commitment has made it an honor to be a leader of this great fraternity. Rho Alpha has continuously grown in its fraternal bonds as well as its reputation in the community, poising the house to continue on this path for years to come. My time as Phi is almost half over, but the support I've received makes me look forward to the next term.

To take a moment to introduce myself, my name is Christopher

Rullan. I am a junior majoring in Mechanical Engineering and a proud member of the Alpha Theta pledge class. I was born on Long Island, but grew up in Pittsburgh as a die-hard Steelers fan. I have two brothers at home, but I have joined many more brothers here at Rho Alpha. I am a two-time captain of MIT's varsity lacrosse team as a goalie. Since becoming a brother I have served as pledge trainer, winter retreat chair, and now Phi. Over the past few years I have seen this house grow and I will continue this tradition to ensure the prosperity of our chapter and its dedication to its brothers. I have met so many great people in this chapter, and have seen how our fraternity develops brothers into the best men they can be.

Our newest pledge class, the Alpha Kappas, was initiated at the end of January. We had a strong effort throughout rush and pledge period to add 15 new brothers. As their pledge

trainer I can certainly say it was exciting to see the Alpha Kappas earn their positions as brothers. As pledges the Alpha Kappas renovated "Dream Machine," their pledge project room and put on a great pledge formal. Ultimately, the Alpha Kappas "survived" pledge period, and hit the ground running within the house. As brothers, the Alpha Kappas have taken on Greek Letter positions of Sigma (Zack Bright, AK '14), Delta (Noa Flaherty, AK '14), and Sigma Rho (Dan O'Donovan, AK '14), as well as numerous house positions. The house looks forward to the Alpha Kappas moving into the house next fall and contributing positively to Zeta Psi for the next three years.

Our house has a solid reputation on campus. Next fall our house will have eleven orientation leaders, more than any other house on campus, putting us in strong position for next fall's rush. Over Campus Preview Weekend we hosted 18



Rho Alpha Zetas hanging out at the Second Annual Zeta Psi Dine & Dash: David Chester AH '12, Chip Whittemore AH '12, Alejandro Dos Reis, AH '12, Lionel Sotomayor AH '12, Mike Riegelhaupt AO '13, Michael Leaman AH'12, Dakota Heiserman AI '14, and Bennett Wilson AH '12

pre-frosh, who had rave reviews for staying with us. Over a month ago we held our 2nd Annual Dine and Dash Charity event. With over 70 participants, we managed to raise over \$700 for the Margaret Fuller House Charity in Cambridge, MA. Zeta Psi had a new Alpha Kappa class member (Alex Kiefer, AK '14) participate in AΦ's King of Hearts Competition, placing in the top five by performing various circus stunts. Along with that Rho Alpha's renowned Zeta-wockeez made another appearance at AXQ's annual Lip Sync. We have brothers participating across campus in athletics such as crew and tennis, as well as other extracurricular activities such as Design Build Fly and Symphony Orchestra.

Our social scene is a good as ever. Our parties are still booming and we have

guests pouring in from BU, Simmons, Northeastern, Wellesley, Harvard, and of course MIT. Every party has been a full house and we have been turning guests away earlier and earlier each time. After a week of hard work, the brothers of Zeta Psi still know how to have fun and nearly every weekend has a social gathering of some scale.

It's been over 30 years since the first Zetes passed through MIT, and shorter since all of you have moved on. Due to the efforts of all of those before us we have been able to continue and enhance the experience of being a Rho Alpha brother. As a leader of this chapter I know we are positioned for well over 30 more years of success. Our chapter has begun exploring options for future housing situations as our current lease expires in less than nine years. In the

coming five years we will be determining a large part of how these next 30 years will unfold. In these tough financial times the bonds of Tau Kappa Phi remain as strong as ever, especially here at Rho Alpha. Thank you to all of you who have contributed or are considering contributing to the fraternity. Every little bit helps us to become a better fraternity and none of this would be possible if it wasn't for you.

Always in TKΦ,

-Christopher "Air Bud" Rullan, AO '13

Social Spotlight *Billy Kelleher, AK '15*



Alpha Kappas on their Pledge Trip

L-R: Chris Hunter, Jonathan Terry, Nathan Spielberg, Dan O'Donovan, DC Danko, Matt Hunter, Zack Bright, Noa Flaherty, Parthiv Patel, Alex Kiefer, Max Maybury, Christian Alonzo, Erik Pearson

The past semester has been very successful for Rho Alpha in terms of social activity. Three parties were hosted at the house since winter break. The themes for the parties were Heaven and Hell, Mansion, and The Seven Deadly Sins. Each party was a great success drawing large numbers from both students on MIT's campus and also the other local colleges. Each party was DJ'd live by Michael Harradon, (Alpha Theta, '13) and David Couto (Alpha Iota, '12). Both the lighting on the dance floor and the new LED system installed in the bar area were a hit among the many partygoers. Rho Alpha's combination of a lively environment, great mixing, and high-tech visual displays have made the Zeta Psi house a very desirable party destination.

In addition to large parties, Rho Alpha also hosted a number of mixers, including those with Boston University's Sigma Kappa chapter, Harvard's Women's Crew team, and MIT's Women's Lacrosse team. Each

mixer was an opportunity to show off the house and to make connections with new people.

Also, the brothers of Rho Alpha have also continued their effort to improve their standing with on campus groups. Alpha Phi's King of Hearts and Alpha Chi Omega's Lip Sync have been recent venues where Zetes can demonstrate their skills, talents, and personality to the entire MIT community. By continuing to participate in events such as these, the Rho Alpha chapter will continue to build on its already good position with the MIT administration, the Interfraternity Council, and the many other MIT living groups and organizations.

**Greek Letter
Officers - 2012**



Φ
Chris Rullan
AO '13



ΑΦ
Tim Jenks
AO '13



Σ
Zack Bright
AK '15



ΑΣ
Peter Ortez
AO '13



Γ
Michael Riegelhaupt
AO '13

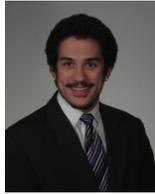


Δ
Noa Flaherty
AK '15



ΣΡ
Dan O'Donovan
AK '15

Congratulations to the Graduating Seniors!



Name: David Chester
Major: Physics
Future Plans: Grad School for Theoretical Physics at UCLA
Favorite Beer: Beer



Name: Alejandro Dos Reis
Major: Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Future Plans: Software Engineer at Raytheon
Favorite Beer: Berr



Name: Mike Gerhardt
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Future Plans: Accepted into Ph. D. program applied physics at Harvard
Favorite Beer: Harpoon Leviathan



Name: Michael Leaman
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Favorite Beer: Cool, crisp, refreshing natural light



Name: Chijoke Okeke
Major: Economics
Future Plans: Undecided
Favorite Beer: Orange Juice



Name: David Parell
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Future Plans: Product Development Engineer at Apple, Inc.
Favorite Beer: O'Douls



Name: Lionel Sotomayor
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Future Plans: Systems Engineer at Boeing in El Segundo, CA
Favorite Beer: Blue Moon



Name: Zachary Stauber
Major: Materials Science and Engineering
Future Plans: Business Analyst for McKinsey & Co. in Palo Alto, CA
Favorite Beer: Heineken



Name: Bennett Wilson
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Future Plans: Product Design in Boston, MA
Favorite Beer: "Double IPAs to the dome"



Name: Chip Whittemore
Major: Aerospace Engineering
Future Plans: Working as an Analyst for Renaissance Strategic Advisors in Washington, DC
Favorite Beer: Leinenkugel Sunset Wheat (whatever the hell that is)

TKΦ