

OHIO GAMMAGRAM

OHIO GAMMA OF SIGMA PHI EPSILON AT OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY – SPRING 2002



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Special Points of Interest

• The Chapter held an average 3.16 GPA after Autumn Quarter, which was the highest of any fraternity on campus

• Our current manpower level is 56, which places us as the fourth largest of the 27 fraternities on campus after just one year of operation.

Hold the Date

October 25-26 is set for the Rechartering Festivities. Plan now to attend the Football Game and Banquet. Details to Follow.

From George Gornall, President, Ohio State SEC:

Sigma Phi Epsilon Is Back at Ohio State SigEp Sweeps Ohio State Greek Awards



Ohio Gamma of Sigma Phi Epsilon swept the Ohio State Annual Greek Awards this spring. Pictured with President Kirwan are brothers who attended the awards event.

The awards displayed here are as follows:

- Chapter of the Year
- Challenging the Process
- Outstanding New Member- Scott Phillips
- Outstanding Recruitment Plan
- Outstanding Diversity Programming

The Chapter also captured its first intramural championship in soccer this spring.

The year 2001 witnessed the return of a fraternal powerhouse to the Ohio State University. Sigma Phi Epsilon was back with a new purpose and with a group of balanced men that had been hand-chosen to lead SigEp into the future.

We met in the basement of the Ohio Union for our weekly chapter meetings and felt our way through new rituals, all the while forming the unshakeable bonds of brotherhood. Our name got out on campus as we began to distinguish ourselves as “the new breed” of Greek men. We dominated Greek Week in the spring of 2001 and began to make a place for ourselves in the Greek community.

As classes began again in the fall of 2001, our men moved into

our chapter facility, which was a huge step. We finally had a place to call our own — somewhere that brothers could hang out and, more importantly, call home. Through hard work by the University, Alumni Board and entire chapter, the facility was improved both inside and out, culminating in the installation of our letters on the outside of the house.

We began to operate more efficiently as a chapter. Our manpower jumped more than fifty men for the first time since we returned to the university. The Ritual took on a whole new meaning.

Out of this came something we set out looking for: Brotherhood. We began to realize that Sigma Phi Epsilon wasn't an abstract term any longer. It was us.

We have come a long way in one short year and we are very proud of our accomplishments, but we are not satisfied—we want more. We carry many goals with us into the future.

We will continue to increase our manpower, incorporating more quality men into our ranks. We have programs in place to help develop our members as balanced men. These range from a variety of academic and athletic programs to brotherhood and service opportunities.

We know that as we grow as a fraternity, our brothers will grow as individuals. In the coming months, we will continue to strive to make our new breed of Greek men the best Greek men at Ohio State.

From Jon Cross, Alumni Director

Letter to Alumni

Yes, the SigEp boys are back in town and are stronger than ever.

Hello, my name is Jon Cross and I am the Alumni Director for our chapter. I am a senior majoring in political science, from Kenton, Ohio. I am proud to send you the first copy of the Ohio State Sigma Phi Epsilon

Alumni Newsletter since we recolonized the Ohio State campus.

We felt the importance of our alumni and want to build a strong relationship with our members of the past. I hope that you stay in contact with us, and as always, our house is your house here at Ohio State. This

newsletter will be the first of many, as we hope to continue to inform you about our chapter, our accomplishments, alumni news, and important events. As a student who recently joined this awesome organization, I have been deeply impressed and wish I had joined earlier. The Greek community here at Ohio

State has been awakened by this group which is setting new standards for success. If you would like to visit our chapter or have any questions, please feel free to contact me personally.

Jon Cross,
Alumni Director
614-565-3195
cross.93@osu.edu

From Brian Head, Vice President Member Development

Becoming Balanced Men

Year after year of declining membership and enthusiasm may not have concerned many in the Greek Community, but to those in Sigma Phi Epsilon, it was a warning that there is something inherently wrong with the Greek system's status quo. Accordingly, SigEp's Strategic Planning Committee met in 1989 and adopted a new vision for the Fraternity—Building Balanced Leaders for the World's Communities.

The committee saw numerous problems, such as little involvement of older members, poor community involvement, poor understanding of the values articulated in the Fraternity's Ritual, and a limited focus on good leadership practices, including goal setting, mentor-

ing, and respect for self and others. The committee addressed all three of these concerns in the formation of SigEp's Balanced Man Program (BMP).

The BMP is a four-year membership development program that endorses the ideals of the sound mind and sound body. SigEp began instituting the program at all willing chapters since 1992, and Ohio State is just one of the to-date 157 that have taken on the challenge.

The BMP has done away with the traditional rush/pledge method of increasing membership. Bids can be extended at any point during the year. Recruits, once initiated, are voting members from day one after they go through the Sigma Rite of Passage. Once through, the Sigma is the first of four chal-



Members of Ohio State SigEp at a Balanced Man Banquet

lenges that a member must complete during his undergraduate years. The next three challenges, in order of completion, are Phi, Epsilon and Brother Mentor.

While in the challenges, members must complete a number of different tasks in order to move on to the next challenge. The Sigma Challenge focuses on becoming adjusted to both the fraternity and the university, since most members in that

challenge will be freshmen. The Phi challenge fosters gentlemanly behavior and proper social skills, while the Epsilon Challenge develops crisis management and leadership skills. The Brother Mentor is the final challenge and in which members prepare themselves for the life after graduation while also maintaining the service and involvement components of all the previous challenges.

From Dennis Kaps, Sound Body Chairman

Keeping Sound Bodies

As Sound Body Chair of the Ohio State SEC chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, I take Sound Mind Sound Body seriously. I believe that these values are at the very heart of our fraternity; I also believe that without a sound body one can not have a sound mind. That is why I make sure that my chapter members have every opportunity to enhance their bodies.

I request that every member turn in his own personal fitness goals. Once I have an individual's goals, I devise a plan for

him to achieve them. Because everyone's goals are different, everyone's plans are different. Whether someone has a goal to lose ten pounds or a goal to gain ten pounds, I make a program that considers both workout and diet.

Though all plans are specific to the individual member, most plans fit within three categories. The first is brothers who are new to working out and would like to increase overall muscle mass and strength. The second is members who'd like to increase muscle tone and lose

weight. The third plan usually involves men with prior workout experience who wish to add size and strength to their bodies.

I call these three groups the Sigma, the Phi, and the Epsilon groups. Though they have no relation to what stage in the Balanced Man Program a man is in, the groups exist so brothers will have a group of men to workout with who have similar experience levels and goals. I do this because we all know we can accomplish more when we work together.

Over the past year, our

chapter has torn out a bar that stood in our basement and replaced it with a state-of-the-art weight room, complete with many free weights and even a cardio machine. Almost any exercise can be done in our weight room,; even a professional weight lifter would be able to complete his routine in our house. With the combination of our great weight lifting facility, workout programs, and most importantly the dedication of my chapter brothers, Ohio State SigEps have the opportunity to develop themselves physically.

From Jonathan Maneval, House Manager

The Facility

The restoration of the chapter facility of Sigma Phi Epsilon is one of the proudest updates we can share with SigEp alumni. Throughout the last year a facelift of the facility has occurred that is nothing short of miraculous. Through partnership with the university, the Alumni Board, and Headquarters, the facility that could once double as a trash receptacle has been transformed into a residential learning environment that even the President of Ohio State is proud of.

Renovations include new flooring, repainting, new dry-wall, new furniture, new bathrooms, new kitchen, new lighting, new letters, removal of a bar and addition of a weight room. The study room has also been updated with new furniture, art work, and computer. Wiring for cable, phone, and

high speed internet has been added to each room. Additionally, rooms are now furnished with beds, microwaves, refrigerators, dressers and wardrobes. Unparalleled professional staff for the facility includes Residential Scholar, maintenance, housekeeping and a cook.

The Sigma Phi Epsilon facility is unquestionably the premiere chapter facility on campus. Our emphasis on an environment that stimulates physical and mental development undoubtedly shows our desire to become truly Balanced Men. The overhaul of the facility is the beginning of a new SigEp Fraternity that will guide the Greek community at Ohio State into the future as



quality men who are leaders on campus.

We thank you for your support as we worked through the completion of the housing proj-

ect, and we invite you to stop by the facility and see first-hand the changes that are making Sigma Phi Epsilon the number one college fraternity in America.

From Nengi Krukrubo, Vice President Recruitment

Recruitment Report

At this point in time, I can confidently say that the chapter's recruiting great SigEps has never been stronger. My goal as Vice President of Recruitment is to recruit at least forty new men with strong character and sharp minds by the end of the school year. These men will be people who are already trying to live the "sound mind sound body" ideal on their own.

We have been off to a very strong start, having initiated sixteen new men into the Ohio SEC Chapter the first six weeks of Winter Quarter alone.

We intend to use the entire chapter as a recruitment tool. Brothers have been asked to recommend potential SigEps, and we have been inviting them to brotherhood events such as the Super Bowl, bowling nights, chapter meetings, and basically

anything that gets these potential brothers to see what I know about the chapter – that we are a group of down-to-earth guys, academically sound, physically fit, involved on campus, committed to never-ending development and guys who know how to have a good time.

We will be targeting at least 3000 students who excel academically (GPA > 3.0) by sending letters inviting them to

an open house. That is followed by a series of events to recruit the best men who come out to the open house. The goal is to get to know them better and see if they are fit for Sigma Phi Epsilon.

When all is said and done, my goal is to provide a comprehensive plan whereby we will continue recruiting great SigEps at Ohio State University for many years to come.

From Scott Phillips, Community Service Learning Chair

Our Fight Against Hunger

In 1993, Nancy Phillips, the co-owner of Guarino's Restaurant in Cleveland's Little Italy, devised a plan to feed Christmas dinner to over five hundred people who otherwise would not enjoy a holiday meal. She performed this service every holiday season until 1999 when the tradition was passed onto her grandson, me.

I enlarged and refined the service project. The tradition will undergo its best improvement yet, as the Ohio Gamma chapter of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity enhances and improves the service even more:

Our plan is to feed thousands of people in various cities throughout Ohio, including Cleveland, Toledo and

Columbus. We will do this by soliciting donations and holding fundraisers to afford us the ability to buy the ingredients required for the dinners.

The meals will be prepared in our chapter house by the brothers, then packed into insulated containers and driven to the target cities. Once there, brothers will distribute the din-

ners at homeless shelters throughout the cities. With the help of SigEp alumni, it is sure to be the most successful service project our chapter has ever undertaken.

For more information, contact Scott Phillips at 440-570-1638 or Phillips582@osu.edu.

From James Hammerschmidt '69:

Time and Change Will Surely Show...

Brothers, sit back for a moment. Close your eyes (no, this isn't an invitation to take a nap). And think of the good times as a Sig Ep. Okay, a moment won't be nearly long enough, and I dare say that *good times* doesn't adequately describe your memories. They were great times. Fantastic days (at least on weekends), fun-filled nights, all so very clear yet today. Though each of us will undoubtedly have differing recollections, occasionally even of the same event, there will be a single overriding theme ... that of the unequivocal and unwavering love for the Brothers who are forever woven into the fabric of our memories.

So powerful are these "memories" that who amongst us hasn't longed, at least once, for a return engagement. Of course, George Orwell only wrote about time travel, so we won't be gathering back in time and place. Were that trip possible into the future, though, we might be disappointed. The Greek fraternity has fallen on difficult times at OSU and Sigma Phi Epsilon suffered especially hard and was disbanded a couple years ago. Fortunately, all is not lost.

A group of upper class OSU students with high ideals and a passion for greater educational experiences are embracing the Heart of Sigma Phi Epsilon. They

have accepted the challenges of revitalizing (*re-colonizing* is the official term) the Gamma chapter and are doing so with a zeal and dedication and commitment unequalled on campus. They are not afraid to excel, or to stand apart from the crowd, or to believe in the sanctity of mind, body and soul.

These students are exceptional and they hold the future and fate of our fraternity in their

minds and Hearts. And they need and deserve our full and complete support. Not so we can recreate our good times – but so each of them can create their own. It is how our legacy continues and the heritage is preserved. It is the natural order.

I have had the pleasure to meet many of our new Brothers and I am excited about what they are bringing to our Chapter. I am proud to call them Brothers.

Moved? Had a Promotion?

Send us Your Updates Email us your news to:

Ohio_Gamma_Alumni_News@yahoo.com

Look for the Alumni News section in our next newsletter

Check Out Our SigEp Web Site

For the latest news on undergraduates and alumni, go to:

www.osusigep.com

SigEp National Headquarters: <http://www.sigep.org>

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Want to stay in touch with your Brothers Electronically?

Announcing the new Tennessee Pi Alumni listserve. We'll send out periodic notices about alumni & UTK news. To subscribe send an email to:

Ohio_State_Sig_Eps-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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Sigma Phi Epsilon

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