



The DUCK CALL

A Publication of Delta Upsilon at the University of Missouri • Summer 2017

Chapter House Lease Finalized; Return to Campus on Schedule

On behalf of the entire alumni board, I want to thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work through the necessary steps relating to the suspension of the chapter last December. In this newsletter, I want to share a list of frequently asked questions we have received and provide as much clarity as possible.

What is our financial status? Will we be able to keep the house?

Our most pressing initial priority was to ensure that we have sufficient funding to cover our operating expenses (mortgage, insurance, and property taxes) until we return to the chapter house. **I am happy to inform you that we recently finalized a two-year lease agreement with Delta Tau Delta that will run from June 1, 2017-June 1, 2019.** This will allow us to essentially break even over that time period, retain ownership of the facility, and allow us to move back into the chapter house in the fall of 2019.

While the basics are covered, we will need to budget for miscellaneous costs relating to recruitment and recolonization of the new chapter. **It will be important for those donors who have made pledges to honor those commitments during this time period.** If that occurs, we should be in good shape.

Does the university/DUIF support our efforts to restart the chapter? When will that begin and what will the process be?

We have recently reconfirmed commitments from the university and Delta Upsilon International Fraternity (DUIF) to begin recruitment of new members during the spring/fall semesters of 2018.

The newly recruited members will be housed in a residence hall during the 2018-19 academic year as they go through the recolonization process. Once completed, the group will be rechartered and move into the chapter house in the fall of 2019. A team made up of DUIF staff and Missouri alumni representatives is being formed to help plan and coordinate that process. They will utilize best practices from similar efforts at campuses across the nation and will also attempt to address “lessons learned” from our latest experience. Specifically, they will reach out to an expanded base of exceptional member prospects and recruit an 11-member local advisory team. There are some real benefits that can be derived from this process and we will share additional details in future communications.

Why was the chapter closed?

As stated in our communications last December, the chapter was closed for repeated violations of DUIF and university loss prevention policies,

primarily alcohol and drug related. There was also a consistent failure of the chapter to self-govern. This pattern goes back to the fall of 2013 and included a reorganization process that began in fall 2014 and lasted through May 2016. As soon as the restrictions were lifted, we experienced three loss prevention incidents in the first month of the 2016-17 school year.

Would the chapter have been closed if not for the publicity related to a couple of high-profile accusations?

That is hard to say. The DUIF board specifically stated that it did not base its decision on the chapter members’ alleged involvement in an incident with the Legion of Black Collegians (LBC) or unsubstantiated claims of predatory drug use. At the same time, it is impossible to know what the university might have done should decisive action not been taken. Unfortunately, the recent loss prevention history made it difficult to give the chapter the benefit of the doubt.

Was there any substance to the high-profile accusations?

Neither of the accusations was ever substantiated.

Why should I give money when we don’t have a chapter?

The theme of our recent capital campaign was “Missouri DU-Building Our Next 100 Years.” This is about leaving a legacy for the long term. These next two years have the potential to help us develop a foundation that can live up to our aspirations. While this is not the way any of us wanted it, we need to make sure that we capitalize on this opportunity. Your support during this time is critical to our future success.

What communication will I receive going forward?

We understand that a situation like this requires frequent and effective communication. Now that the lease situation is behind us, we are committed to do just that. We plan to have something to you at least quarterly, whether that is an e-mail blast, updates on our website, additional newsletters, etc. We will even consider face-to-face meetings/teleconferences if there is sufficient interest. You are always welcome to reach out to me at the contact information below.

Fraternally,

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While dealing with the unfortunate suspension of the chapter in December has been our recent focus, it is important that we not lose sight of a tremendous event that occurred last June. On Saturday, June 18, 2016, over 100 people, including alumni, contractors, university/international fraternity officials, and guests, attended the official house
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REMEMBERING A TRULY HISTORIC OCCASION

Chapter House Dedication

(Continued from front)



dedication ceremonies. Activities began with an open house social at the chapter house. Tours were conducted and a plaque was presented commemorating the occasion. **Chris Hemeyer '00** served as emcee. Board member/project manager **Ted Murray '71** recognized members of the design and construction teams. Later that evening, during a donor recognition dinner at the Reynolds Alumni Center, presentations were made by **Bruce McKinney '74**, alumni president; **Collin Smith '16**, chapter president; Justin Kirk, Delta Upsilon International Fraternity executive director; and Todd McCubbin, executive director of the Mizzou Alumni Association. The highlight of the evening was the opportunity to say “thank you” to those in attendance for their support and to announce that the campaign goal of \$3 million had been reached.



Included below is a link to the photo gallery from the event and another to a special feature article that appeared in the *DU Quarterly*. We hope you enjoy looking at these. Please know that your support of the Missouri Chapter is appreciated and will make a difference for years to come.



To view more photos, visit: <http://missouridu.com/house-dedication/>

DID YOU SEE THIS LAST SUMMER?

To read the *DU Quarterly* feature, visit:
https://issuu.com/deltaupsilon/docs/134.2_high_res

