

# THE IOTA DELTA UPDATE

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## Iota Delta Grabs Hardware at College of Excellence

In late July, 1996, we sent the largest delegation to the College of Excellence in Memphis, Tennessee! The 9 undergraduates and 3 alumni spent 5 days at the University of Memphis learning skills important to fraternity operations.

The crowning moment of the week was the Awards Brunch on Sunday morning. We showed up at the ceremony having made many new friends and left with the Thomas Gehring Most Improved Chapter Award! Additionally, we received the Chakett Award for outstanding communication with the national office. The third award of the morning was the Academic Honorable Mention. This award is given to those chapters which have shown an outstanding two year improvement in GPA. We were recognized as having the single highest one year increase, a feat of which we are quite proud!

These awards cap off a fantastic year at 1400 North Jordan. We wish that each of you could enjoy our 1996 Gehring application, where we enumerated our successes. Our greatest strides were in Pledge Education, Academics and Campus Involvement.

What have we done? We fielded an all-rookie Little 500 Bike Team that finished 30<sup>th</sup> in the race. We won second place in I.U. Sing last February. We were paired with Chi Omega Sorority, and enjoyed spending long hours socializing and practicing with them. We also have several brothers positioned in many important campus positions, including the Indiana University Supreme Court, Indiana University Student Association, and the *Indiana Daily Student*. Two of our recent initiates were also appointed to the IFC-Panhellenic First-STEPP program, a program to develop future campus fraternity and sorority leaders. These and other accomplishments also earned our chapter special mention at the National Interfraternity Institute as one of the most improved chapters of **any fraternity in the nation!**

We have a house that is filled above our break even point. We already have a eight man Fall 1996 pledge class, and our 50 actives are taking an active role in propelling our fraternity into a leading role on campus. The following four pages are the active chapter and alumni association's chance to tell you what we are hoping to do over the next year, and encourage your involvement in what is destined to be a banner year!

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## Alumni Association Report

A new school semester is like a new beginning. At IU they come three times a year and offer a variety of opportunities to shape the future. We are most likely to find the creativity, new ideas and leadership needed to advance as a chapter and as an Alumni Association during these time frames. As we begin this year, there is good news and great plans to report on.

In 1980, the Chi Phi Congress authorized the awarding of the Thomas A. Gehring Chapter Excellence Awards as a tribute to the memory and constructive work of Dr. Thomas Gehring, Iota Delta, '60. This year at the ninth annual College of Excellence (COE), Iota Delta was named the 1996 winner of the Dr. Gehring Most Improved Chapter Award. Although we have won the Gehring award on four other occasions, being recognized this year as the Most Improved Chapter was a significant achievement. Three years ago the Iota Delta Alumni Association had to consider selling the house, recolonizing the chapter, or going inactive because of declining membership. (Please see *Alumni News*, Page 2)

*We Need Your Help... Please Return the Enclosed Alumni Questionnaire to the Chapter House... We are Starting an Alumni Database... Thanks*  
Visit our Website: <http://www.indiana.edu/~chphi>

## House Briefs

### Spring Pledges

There have been five pledge classes since the refounding of the Iota Delta Chapter in Fall of 1994. The most recent addition to the brotherhood, the Alpha-Epsilon Pledge Class, was ten men strong. Nine of these new initiates are living in the house this fall, and many have already assumed chairmanships. We still maintain a strict No-Hazing policy with our pledges, and their program lasts from six to eight weeks.

### I.U. Sing

For many years, I.U. Sing has been a major campus event, uniting it for a mid-Winter song pageant. We were paired with Chi Omega, and our entry, *Wolf Side Story*, was awarded second place out of 30 entries. We were fortunate to have established contacts with one of the largest and best sororities on campus, and our interactions continue to this day.

### Little 500

For the first time since the refounding of Iota Delta, there was a Chi Phi Cycling Team entered in the 1996 Little 500 Bike Race. Socially, the week was a success, as we partied for three nights during that week with our sorority pair, Alpha Gamma Delta! Our bikers qualified for the race ahead of several other Fraternity teams, and finished the race in thirtieth place! Congratulations to our all rookie team of Matt Casper '99, John Hanley '98, Matt Laue '97, and Scott Vargas '97.

### Academics

Iota Delta Excelled in scholarship for Spring Semester, where the cumulative GPA for all members was a 2.88!!! We are not letting up, as we will have study tables five nights per week in the fall, and are continuing mandatory study tables for active members with less than a 2.50.

## Alumni News Continued...

Today Iota Delta has again earned the respect of the Grand Council, alumni and undergraduates from across the country.. Iota Delta was also nominated at COE for the Most Outstanding Delegation award, and Brett Trout, the current Alpha, was nominated for the Most Outstanding Delegate. The chapter was recognized for having the highest single year grade point average improvement, and we received the 1996 Chakett Award in recognition of the articles written and submitted to National. Iota Delta also had the largest number of representatives at COE - nine undergraduates and three alumni.

How did they do it? In the 1995-96 school year, the chapter was able to **focus** on several near-term attainable objectives and project tasks. These included: planning and organizing for rush and social activities such as Homecoming, IU Sing and Little 500; directing the collective efforts of over 50 chapter members and controlling their own finances. They developed a long-term **vision** of where they wanted to go and how they were going to get there. Last fall the chapter established winning the Gehring award as the main goal for 1995-1996. They were able to obtain the **commitment** from the membership to support a zero tolerance policy towards hazing, identifying designated drivers and treating all house guests with respect.

Why do some IU graduates participate in the Iota Delta Alumni Association while the majority has not? One of the Alumni Association's goals for this school year is to expand the number and involvement of graduates in chapter and alumni association activities. There are over 300 alumni living in the Indianapolis metropolitan area, and there are 650 to 700 alumni nationwide. One example of this is our monthly dinner meeting. On the 2nd Wednesday of each month the Chi Phi Alumni Club gets together for a few libations and dinner. Our best outing was last month at Rick's Cafe on Eagle Creek, when about 15 Chi Phi alumni showed up. For more information on upcoming Chi Phi Alumni Club activities, or if you need to get on the Club's mailing list - call Brother Dan Bowden at (317) 580-7896 for dates & times.

During COE I asked the Grand Alpha elect - Brother Jeff Velis (Alpha Tau 86) what Michigan's key to success was in terms of alumni support. Michigan alumni lead the country in terms of financial contributions to their chapter house with over 30% contributing on a regular basis. Jeff said the three key ingredients to getting more alumni involved were - communication, communication and communication.

We tried this and were successful in February of '93, when 15 to 20 alumni went to the house to watch the IU vs Penn St. basketball game on TV. Last year for Homecoming we went out on a limb and bought over 50 tickets to the football game, unfortunately no more than 20 alumni showed up. The moral to the story - communicate the intent, obtain commitment, secure the resources and follow-up.

I think that all of us would agree that today more than ever, competition among all professions is fierce. Most universities, including IU, do a fairly good job of educating students in the technical aspects of a field or profession. However, they devote little time to preparing or teaching students the art of leadership and how to apply leadership skills to the business environment or community. Throughout America, the business community has expanded the role and responsibilities of corporate trainers, facilitators and mentors. We plan to benchmark from the success and lessons learned at COE during the first Iota Delta undergraduate/alumni retreat scheduled for the 21st of September. We are in the process of developing an agenda now.

Finally, if your business has a need or requirement for an intern or you are in a position to make the hiring decisions for next summer please let your Alumni Association know. There may be an opportunity for one or more of the undergraduates to work for you or your organization.

-Steve Pappas '76, Alumni Association Vice President

## Dance Marathon is Approaching...

Hello Iota Delta Alumni:

I am writing to tell you about something I am involved with at Indiana University. The organization is IU Dance Marathon, and it was established in 1991 by Jill Stewart, an IU student and friend of Ryan White to honor and continue Ryan's fight against the AIDS virus and other infectious diseases.

Every year, IU has a 36-hour dance marathon in October. Hundreds of students participate in the event—dancing, playing games, talking and eating for 36 hours with no sleep, all in order to raise money for the Ryan White Infectious Disease Center at Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. Dancers raise money through pledges from family and friends and by canning at intersections and shopping malls for donations. Corporate sponsors and donations cover the cost of hosting the Marathon so every penny raised goes directly to help the children of Riley.

IU Dance Marathon is one of the greatest organizations I have come in contact with on campus. It is entirely student run, with over 100 students on one of eleven committees organizing the event and hundreds more students getting involved at the actual Marathon. Dance Marathon's motto: "The Chance of a Lifetime, to Give a Lifetime a Chance" is realized in the organization's great success. In 1991, \$11,000 was raised for the children at Riley, in 1992, \$23,000, and in 1993, \$60,000. In 1994 the event raised over \$100,000, and last year we raised over \$140,000 for the Ryan White Infectious Disease Center!

In order to continue making a difference in the lives of children, IU Dance Marathon needs continued support from students, their families, and friends. By being involved with Dance Marathon, I have seen the importance of making sure that more people are aware of this event and encouraged to participate in some way. IU students give their time, money, and energy for the children of Riley, but your help is needed too. I would sincerely appreciate your donation—any amount helps. Checks can be made payable to Indiana University Dance Marathon and sent to Chi Phi.

Thank you.

-Corey Gers, '99, Dance Marathon Chair

## New Newsletter Format

This *Iota Delta Update* is "New and Improved"! A joint decision was made between the Alumni Association and the Undergraduate Chapter to no longer use the services of University Publishing. This occurred after much harassment this summer by individuals from this publishing house. This company demanded a \$400 deposit prior to printing the issue. They claimed that they would collect the first \$1200 of the donations, and would not return the deposit until they had made \$1200. This is not where we want our donations to go.

We have managed to put out this newsletter for just less than \$300 including postage! This is thanks in great part to the brand new photocopier we leased for the house. This lease is much more advantageous, as we are no longer charged per copy.

This issue was printed with much haste, and as a consequence, there have not been the usual compliment of photographs included. The next issue promises to be more thorough, and we look forward to sharing with you, our alumni, the great successes at Iota Delta.

We are hoping to use some of the donations from this *Update* to fund the next several issues. Thank you for your support of this project and all the great things happening at Iota Delta.

-Erik Lagzdins, IT 95, IA 99, Graduate Chapter Advisor

P.S. Here is a great place to introduce myself. I am a recent graduate of Northwestern University, where I was a Chi Phi. I am now pursuing an undecided number of both Chemistry and Education(Curriculum) Graduate Degrees at Indiana University. I am proud to call Iota Delta Home, and am glad to have been here over the last year serving as advisor. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, problems or suggestions. I look forward to meeting you soon.

## A New Feature... Recognizing Alumni Contributors!

In recent years, it has been very difficult to recognize the donations of time and money from alumni in our newsletter. This has been primarily due to the efforts of University Publishing. (More about that below.) We have changed the newsletter and included a hopefully complete list of alumni donors at press time.

The Alumni Association and the Undergraduates would like to thank the following individuals for their donations. We have set the money aside for house maintenance needs.

Joe Amicucci  
Kenneth Anderson  
Patrick Bixon  
Dan Bowden  
Kelly Gelarden  
Joe Goeller  
Scott Hughes  
Mark Lappel  
Otto Linn  
Steve Pappas  
William Pridemore  
Ray Privette  
John Sharpe  
John Sullivan

We would also like to thank the "Cutting Crew" of Kelly Gelarden and Steve Pappas, who brought all of their lawn cleaning equipment to the house and spent the entire day tidying up the yard!

And, to assure that the yard stays in good shape, we would like to acknowledge the donation of a Lawn Mower by Brother Dave Estes!

One Last note, the active chapter would like to acknowledge the efforts of those alumni who live nearby and in Indianapolis and play an active role in helping us out. Thank you for your time, understanding and interest.

We hope to be able to include a much longer list of donating alumni in the next *Iota Delta Update*, scheduled for printing in late November, 1996.

## Homecoming Weekend 1996!

With the fall semester upon us, we would like to extend an invitation to all of you to return to 1400 N. Jordan this fall. Whether you and your family or class mates come for a home football game or you are just passing through on business, the undergraduates welcome the opportunity of meeting new alumni. This year IU plays the University of Iowa on the October 12<sup>th</sup> for Homecoming. Ticket costs are \$23.00 each. If we buy 25 or more, the price drops to \$15.00. Many alumni have already contacted me for ticket information. Please mail the RSVP card to the address indicated or call Steve Pappas at (317) 881-0584 (home) or (317) 885-2432 (work) if you have any questions. Remember, we want to have a confirmed count no later than the 20th of September.

## We Want You...

### Come Experience Ritual!

As part of our efforts to improve the little details about our chapter, we have re-dedicated ourselves to performing ritual. We are going to host our National Ritualistic Counselor, John Gianetti, who will be discussing the interesting history of our Ritual. In two hours, you can hear more about ritual than you probably ever knew existed. We are inviting all alumni to return for this event, and we look forward to making this event. A "Ritual Weekend" an annual experience.

Additionally, we are inviting the entire Grand Council to attend the Initiation of the Alpha-Zeta Pledge Class. The weekend will consist of an Initiation Banquet, as well as the Initiation Night Festivities. For Information about these two weekends, Call the house (812-337-8077) or Erik Lagzdins (812-339-1139) or visit our website (<http://www.indiana.edu/~chphi>). We look forward to seeing you soon!

## At Your Service-Chi Phi Officers

### Iota Delta Alumni Association:

Bryan Gray	President	317-831-4555
Steve Pappas	Vice-President	317-881-0584
Joe Goeller	Secretary	317-257-0878

### Iota Delta Chapter of Chi Phi

Brett Trout	President	
Scott Morrison	Vice President	
Derrick Gingery	Secretary	812-333-1975
Kevin LaPorte	Treasurer	
Steve Papp	HouseManager	812-330-0045
Kevin Maresca	Historian	
Steve Auslander	Rush Chairman	

Erik Lagzdins      Advisor      812-339-1139

These officers most current phone and address contacts may be obtained by calling the house at 812-337-8077.

The Chi Phi Fraternity  
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