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Letter from the President:

Dear Sisters,

This semester in A.O.E. at the University of Maryland was tons of fun, crazy busy, lots of hard work and full of laughs. Upsilon took a class of 19 spectacular candidates and congratulates three graduates this semester. The Nu class was the first to experience new recruitment requirements which include more mandatory events prior to installation. On their way to becoming sisters we tied-dyed, went to Georgetown, took a Halloween Hayride, learned business etiquette and connected with alumnae among other things.

My incredible board put together some awesome events and our sisters raised a good amount of money for us to put towards events next semester. We adopted a



A.O.E. dressed up on Halloween!



Hilary G., myself and two recent alumnae at convention in Philly. reward system for sister attendance and participation where the top prize was the winner's choice between a massage at the health center, money towards merchandise, or a gift card to a restaurant!

Other sisters dedicated hours of their time to our philanthropy this fall, AdoptaPlatoon, where we put together packages and sent letters in support of a group of marines overseas. We held a campus wide volleyball tournament coordinated by our Sisterhood Committee Head which was a great success in raising money for shipping!

This semester was also our first semester in our office in the student union on campus and the executive board enjoyed having the new space to

meet with sisters and candidates.

Next semester we are looking forward to continuing all the improvements put forth during the fall as well as getting ready for Relay for Life, our annual Date Auction and Turtle Trot 5K as well as Maryland Day and many more events. We would especially love to host events with other chapters this semester, and will be inviting our neighbors to attend our annual 5K race in the spring. Hope to see you all there!

In Sisterhood,

Mandy Dols
President, 2011-2012

P.S. Check out the pics of some of my favorite memories of the semester!



Part of my family rocking our new A.O.E. sunglasses, a fall Day Away gift from the Exec Board.

New Events Make Nu Class Feel Welcome



Sisters and candidates bond over tie-dye, all smiles on a rainy day.



Sisters and two candidates showing off their Georgetown sweets and shopping steals.

Madison Rohrbaugh

Throughout the fall 2011 semester, the Upsilon chapter enjoyed a handful of new sisterhood events.

The goals of these events included the promotion of candidate and sister involvement so that each sister could meet and bond with each candidate.

For our first event, we welcomed our prospective candidate class with a mandatory tie-dye event. We had a spectacular turnout of sisters and prospective candidates alike, despite the continuous downpour of rain during the event.

All of us crowded under one tiny tent for over an hour creating beautiful t-shirt art, and some of us spent days getting the die off of our hands. Having an event where candidates could meet sisters and learn how much fun we have together was a great success.

Another sisterhood event we added mid-semester was a trip to Georgetown to shop, socialize and stop at the famous Georgetown Cupcake bakery. This event was planned so that candidates could acquire more interviews and get to know potential bigs. Luckily, the weather was on our side and welcoming to all of our outdoor

activities. The metro ride and walk to Georgetown's main street allowed for candidates to interview many sisters and for sisters to catch up with one another.

We tackled Georgetown by shopping and grabbing food in smaller groups followed by meeting up at a cute park for a picnic. Finally, we ventured over to Georgetown Cupcake. After we devoured our cupcakes, we made the trek back to campus for our weekly meeting.

All in all, this semester was a ton of fun and the new events were a huge help in integrating the candidates into the sorority.

Sisters and Alumnae Bond over Barbeque!

Lauren Tullis

This year the Upsilon Chapter has been working hard to increase the involvement of alumni with the chapter events.

We began this by first working to confirm that all of our alumni contact information was up to date. The Alumni Committee, a dedicated group of six sisters, reached out to our alumni through email, Facebook, and text. We were able to successfully update or confirm the information for many of our Alumni.

The Alumni Committee also hosted an Alumni Barbeque. For the second year in a row, the Upsilon Chapter hosted a barbeque for our alumni before one of our home football games. While the weather was less than ideal – forty degrees and hailing – there was a great turnout and everyone had a wonderful afternoon. Our dedicated alumni drove from Maryland, Washington DC, and Virginia to attend the event. In all, over 30 sisters and candidates attended, as well as nearly 10 alumni.

At the barbeque, we bundled up, put up tents, and huddled

together around the grill while reminiscing with alumni and hearing all about their developing careers. We feasted on hot dogs, burgers (veggie and regular), pasta salad, and a delicious cake. This event is special because it provides the chance for our alumni to meet some of our newer sisters. In addition, it allows our candidates to have face-to-face interviews with alumni, satisfying the new requirements for a candidate to reach sisterhood.

In the coming semester, the Alumni Committee will continue working to increase the involvement

of Alumni members in the Upsilon Chapter events. We are also hoping to gather enough information from our alumni to compile into an Alumni Database. This resource would be incredibly useful for sisters as they could identify alumni with similar career interests, as well as using it for other networking purposes. Furthermore, we look forward to seeing our alumni at some of spring events, including our annual charity 5K.

We are eagerly awaiting a fabulous spring!

Fun Fall Traditions Continue with Hayride and Dated

Laken Ensor

This year the sisters of the Upsilon Chapter shook up an annual tradition of celebrating the fall season together with a hayride and bonfire in mid-October. Instead of our usual trip to the pumpkin patch, we went to Butler's Orchard in Germantown, Maryland for a relaxing nighttime hayride around the farm.

A bonfire followed the 45-minute hayride, where everyone enjoyed roasting marshmallows and hot dogs while the Executive Board cooked burgers and more hot dogs for everyone. The sisters enjoyed having the time

to escape from school for a while and bond with one another. Candidates were able to get closer to many of the sisters, and everyone had a really great time. We were even able to invite a recently graduated sister to enjoy the food and fun that fall night, so candidates had the opportunity to meet an alumna and sisters had the opportunity to catch up with her!

We found that the hayride and bonfire event, as opposed to going to the pumpkin patch, allowed everyone to stay together and proved to be a much more unified group activity. We absolutely hope to go back next year!

Sisters, candidates and dates alike came out in their best dress this December during ritual week to continue another annual fall tradition: our end-of-semester dated dinner.

We returned this semester to the Clarion Inn in College Park, where we were able to reserve a banquet room to enjoy dinner together before exams began. Sisters were able to bring a date (or a friend) to the dinner catered by the Clarion Inn. We also had dessert made by a few of our best bakers. Everyone got dressed up and enjoyed a night of food and fun with the sisters and their friends!

We also gave out superlative awards to our

sisters after dinner that night to recognize what each one of our sisters brings to the sorority, including awards for best big/little pairing, best smile, most contagious laugh, most school spirited, most athletic and craftiest sister.



Maria M., Rosalie W. and Sarah E. made Hayride a family affair and use the fall event for some big/little/grandlittle bonding.



Above, sisters all dressed up and posing for a group photo after eating a delicious meal and coconut cupcakes baked from scratch by a few of our very own at the end of Dated Dinner. The event always occurs at the end of each semester as a part of ritual week.

Upsilon Sisters Bring Home the Bacon with Food Sales

Sudi Jawahery

As always, the sisters of the Upsilon Chapter have taken advantage of numerous opportunities throughout the semester to support the activities of the sorority.

In past semesters, A.O.E. has set up a table in the engineering building to sell grilled cheese every other Thursday. Sisters typically volunteer for an hour or more and busily butter, grill and take orders, while also catching up with each other and meeting new candidates. This semester, sisters and candidates were so enthusiastic about working that additional Wednesday sales were

scheduled in order to accommodate obligations during Thursday sales. All of the sisters' hard work on grilled cheese days brings in about \$100 each time!

The sisters of A.O.E. Upsilon demonstrated their true dedication to supporting the sorority by fundraise outside of the regular school year.

Each year, the chapter staffs a basketball concession stand. This year, our first two basketball games took place during the winter break. Groups assigned winter break dates are often forced to drop out of working due to a volunteer shortage. Fortunately, the sisters of the Upsilon

Chapter took time out of their holiday breaks to ensure that we had enough volunteers to staff our stand.

In just two games we raised over \$700, and ensured that we will have the opportunity to staff a concession stand in ACC games later in the season. In the past, A.O.E. Upsilon has raised over \$2000 from basketball concessions. The money raised by working concessions and grilled cheese makes the professional and social events of the sorority possible, including dated dinners, information sessions, sorority outings, day away, and many more.



Emily G. poses with the freshly prepared pretzels before the start of the game versus Cornell.

Professional Events Prepare Sisters for the Job Search

Hilary Grebe

Throughout the fall semester, the Upsilon Chapter hosted many beneficial professional events planned by the Professional Committee for the sisters. The two most exciting were the Etiquette Dinner and the Alumni Panel held during ritual week.

The Alumni Panel took place on Thursday December 1st with six people sitting on the panel. Those in attendance were alumni of Maryland along with the IEB Director of Expansion, Catherine Ross. The sisters really enjoyed the event in which they were able to ask the panelists any questions that they had about balancing work and social life, continuing on to graduate school, and the "real world".

The attendees got to learn about finding graduate school mentors, deciding on a career path and what it is like to be a technical consultant. Issues such as negotiating pay, investigating benefits and asking for time off before starting were also addressed.

It was especially nice to have a sister from a different chapter give her perspective, answer questions and interact with the girls.

For our etiquette dinner, we had a woman from the University of Maryland Engineering Co-op and Career Center come in and talk with us about the etiquette needed for getting a job or internship.

This event proved very useful for our sisters who asked many questions and

interacted with our lecturer. The sisters were able to ask a variety of questions on topics including table manners, making conversation, phone and email etiquette and approaching recruiters in the job search environment. The types of environments that were discussed in detail include recruiting events on campus, cocktail hours and banquet type atmospheres. We also discussed in great deal about what is acceptable to wear to these different types of events.

In the future we hope to collaborate with the Society of Women Engineers chapter on campus at the University of Maryland to host a larger etiquette dinner. We are also looking into hosting a financial planning workshop.

Supporting Our Soldiers by "Adopting" a Platoon

Haley Crock

This semester, we had the opportunity to get involved with an organization called AdoptaPlatoon. Based out of Texas, AdoptaPlatoon is an organization that sets up individual and platoons of soldiers that are deployed overseas with people state side who pledge to support them by writing letters and sending needed supplies to them in care packages. We were lucky enough to be assigned a group of 20 male and female Marines in Afghanistan to support.

In order to raise money to support our Marines, we started off the semester with a volleyball tournament. About 12 teams came out to play, and the tournament was overall a great success! AdoptaPlatoon t-shirts were given out as prizes to the top 3 teams. The Enginerds, a team of six AΩE girls, also received a prize for



The Enginerds pose with our banner after claiming their prizes for Best Team Shirts!

necessities, and holiday cards for our Marines and the other soldiers they are stationed with. One sister even worked with the organization Beyond These Walls to have elementary schoolers write thank-you cards to our platoon as well. Throughout the semester, we were able to send over about 45 packages to our soldiers. We were able to give them food, hygienic necessities, games, letters, and clothing. A few soldiers even emailed us thanking us and telling us how much receiving the packages and letters meant to them while they were gone.

To get involved with AdoptaPlatoon and see how you can support our soldiers, visit their website at AdoptaPlatoon.org.

About Our Organization..

Still building a strong foundation, the University of Maryland Colony was founded on September 17, 2005. The Upsilon Chapter was established in Spring 2006. The sisters are avid promoters of friendship, leadership, individual growth, and professionalism to all members of the organization, the

community, and the professional world. Alpha Omega Epsilon provides many opportunities for involvement to help strengthen the roots of the chapter. Upsilon abides by the ideals and objectives set by the International Board. Formed with only fourteen girls, the chapter now has over seventy

actives and is continuing to expand. Active in the A. James Clark School of Engineering, the chapter participates in engineering related activities such as the Engineering Fall Picnic, E-Week in the spring, intramurals, and grilled cheese sales every other week in the building lobby.



We sent 21 packages in December!

having the best team shirts.

Throughout the semester, we sent 3 sets of care packages, and 5 packages of letters from AΩE girls to soldiers. A big thanks to Josey Simpson, the Director of Alumni Relations for the Clark School, for her immense contributions to the packages. Her son's Boy Scout troop has a similar program, so once she heard what we were doing she got involved right away and always contributed a couple boxes worth of items for the care packages. Our most memorable set of packages was probably our Christmas care packages. After the UMUC Marriott donated shampoos, conditioners, soaps and mouthwashes to the packages and Josey donated about 30 pounds of candy, AΩE girls were able to stuff 50 stockings with candy,



Heidi helps stuff stockings for our Marines.