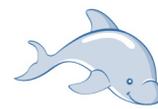


Alpha Omega Epsilon

University of Maryland, Upsilon Chapter



Fall 2012

www.aoepsilon.weebly.com

From the President

Dear sisters,

What an exciting semester we had! After attending Convention in Salt Lake City this summer, I came back in the fall with many new ideas for change. And with that, the sisters of the Upsilon chapter embraced them with open arms. One of our newest and largest changes this semester was found in our recruitment structure. This semester, we focused more on relationships between our current sisters so we could strengthen our chapter before installing new candidates. Therefore, we did not install candidates this semester; however, we did host fun “candidate interest events,” as we called them, each month. This was a great way for potential sisters to get to know us without the pressure of making the full commitment in such a short period of time.

As for our own chapter, we were able to learn more about each other at Day Away (which was a huge success!), as well as our annual Hayride event, Thanksgiving Dinner, and our weekly meetings. This semester, we added fun sisterhood

Our Newest Event: Dolphin Dates!

By Kristen Giles

Creating new traditions can be just as important as maintaining old ones. This semester, the Upsilon Chapter implemented the idea of “Dolphin Dates” about twice a month. A Dolphin Date is a casual get-together at a location near campus for a couple of hours on a weeknight. We held Dolphin Dates at a variety of places including Jason’s Deli, Noodles and Company, and Applebee’s.

Some of our sisters offered up their apartment and hosted a yummy potluck dinner Dolphin Date this semester. Our last dolphin date of the semester took place at Jason’s Deli and was a candidate-interest event that allowed potential candidates to get to

Inside This Issue

From the President	1
Our Newest Event: Dolphin Dates	1
New Recruitment Changes	2
Meeting New Sisters, Close to Home	2
Annual Fall Hayride Trip	3
Annual Fall Dated Dinner	3
Fun, Fall, Fundraising	4
Alumnae UMD Football Tailgate	4
The Road to Terp Thon	5
Forming a More Professional Sister	5
Meet the Upsilon Board	6

activities to both the start and the end of our chapter meetings. As well, we created biweekly “Dolphin Dates” during the week as casual dinners for sisters to enjoy a meal with other sisters they wouldn’t normally meet up with. These turned out to be a fun and easy way to get to know more of the many sisters we now have in our chapter!

I look forward to the upcoming spring semester and want to wish all the best to our four beautiful and newest alumnae: Liz Slick, Christena Neshawat, Heidi Schmitz, and Dana Hartman! Good luck to you all and please come back and visit us! We will miss you!

In sisterhood,
Chelsea Gratz

know some of our lovely sisters. Dolphin Dates provided sisters with the opportunity to take a break from their hectic lives and schoolwork and bond with sisters during the week. The executive board was very open to suggestions from the chapter when creating dolphin dates and will continue to be so next semester. Dolphin dates were extremely successful this fall and will hopefully be even better this spring!

Sisters at our first Jason’s Deli Dolphin Date



New Recruitment Changes!

By Amanda Abutaleb

This past semester, the Upsilon chapter did not install any new candidates but continued to hold recruitment events, which we called “Candidate Interest Events.” Usually scheduled once or twice a month, these events were held to give potential candidates the opportunity to experience a taste of AΩE without the formal commitment of being a candidate. We received a lot of great feedback from the potential candidates about these events and hope to further improve these events in the future!

We held events such as a dinner with the Executive Board, a tie-dye social with the sisters, and dinner at Looney’s Pub for our restaurant

Meeting New Sisters, Close to Home!

By Spenser Keane

This semester, our chapter reached out to our sisters at George Washington University! Kristen Giles, our Sisterhood Committee Head, joined forces with the Chi Chapter Sisterhood Committee Head, Janeen Williams, to plan a delicious, fun-filled potluck for our chapters.

On a warm and sunny afternoon in September, our sisters traveled via metro to the GWU campus in Washington, DC. We were greeted with friendly smiles and handshakes as we approached their charming urban campus! After indulging in food and engaging in conversations with new sisters, it was time for a few icebreaker



Potential candidates playing an Icebreaker game with the Exec Board at one of our Candidate Interest Events

fundraiser! We also invited potential candidates to our final Dolphin Date at Jason’s Deli to get to know our sisters in a more casual setting. All in all, we believe our fall recruitment events were very successful and we look forward to seeing some familiar faces in the spring when we install candidates!

games! Kristen and Janeen lead us in several activities that helped us learn more about our sisters such as “Human Bingo” and a game that involved girls running in and out of a circle learning fun facts about one another.

Our fun-filled Saturday afternoon ended with group pictures and potential plans for getting together in the future! Overall, this was a wonderful event and an even greater way to meet new sisters outside of our chapter! We hope to see the Chi Chapter sisters again very soon in the Spring!



Sisters from Upsilon Chapter visit the Chi Chapter at their George Washington University campus in September

Annual Fall Hayride Trip

By Kristen Giles

This fall the sisters of the Upsilon chapter went to Butler's Orchard in Germantown, Maryland to celebrate the season and have some fun off-campus. We loaded onto larger tractor-pulled hayrides and enjoyed a scenic (and a little spooky) hayride around the farm. The apples we were given to munch on were fresh from the orchard and quite delicious!

A two-hour bonfire followed the hayride where sisters enjoyed chatting around the fire and making s'mores. We also played some fun sisterhood activities in which we learned some fun facts about each of our sisters! It was a wonderful opportunity for sisters to forget about all of the stress that comes with school during the mid-semester and participate in an event where we could get to know one another better. Despite the rainy weather and the occasional burnt marshmallow, everyone who attended had a blast and the event was a great success!



Sisters gather around a bonfire after the hayride



Secretary and President roast marshmallows at the bonfire

Annual Fall Dated Dinner

By Kristen Giles

This semester we continued our tradition of having an end-of-the-semester Dated Dinner during Ritual Week. The event took place in a gorgeous banquet room at the Riggs Alumni Center. Candles were lit, the buffet was filled to the brim with delicious food, and the tables were full of sisters and dates alike dressed to the nines. Each sister was allowed to bring a date or friend to the event to share the fun (and the good food). The Chef's Table catered the event and provided us with a delicious dinner and dessert.

The executive board created a lovely balloon backdrop on one of the walls of the banquet room for sisters to take pictures in front of. Disposable cameras were set at every table to provide sisters and dates with the opportunity to

make memories and take silly pictures throughout the night. After dinner, superlative awards were given to sisters to recognize the impact and personality traits that each of our sisters has on our chapter. These were voted on by the sisters at Day Away and were a fun addition to our Dated Dinner!



Sisters at Dated Dinner during Ritual Week

Fun, Fall, Fundraising!

By Sudi Jawahery

This fall, the sisters of the Upsilon chapter kept up with fundraising events to support the activities of the sorority. As expected grilled cheese sales were an almost-weekly event staffed and run by sisters in the lobby of the engineering building. Sisters volunteered for an hour or more to help set up, butter, grill, clean and take orders for grilled cheese. Our grilled cheese fundraisers remained popular within the engineering community, with each sale bringing in a profit of about \$70 each!

This semester, we also decided to branch out

and sign up to work a football concessions stand! In the past, we have only worked basketball concessions, but with the success of those fundraising activities we hoped to continue to fundraise successfully throughout the year with football concessions. Out of 6 home games, the Upsilon chapter staffed a stand for 3 of the football games with a profit of about \$300 each. Sisters volunteering at each game worked for about 6 hours on Saturday afternoons.

Alumnae UMD Football Tailgate

By Alex Paraloglou

This year, the Upsilon Chapter made it a goal to reach out to as many alumnae as possible, especially with the most recent graduate class being so large. This semester, the executive board implemented a committee requirement, which was a huge help to the Alumnae Committee. The committee had 11 members who helped contact alumnae, update the alumnae contact information, as well as set up and clean up for the tailgate.

The tailgate was a great success this year

and the weather held out (unlike last year's snow storm for those of you who attended and remember). Overall we had a great turnout with 28 sisters and 11 alumnae! It was a fun opportunity for sisters to meet those who came before them and for alumnae to meet the new sisters in their families. Even though it was an early game, we showed up at 10am to (eventually) eat burgers, hot dogs, chips, dip, and pasta salad. We even learned that it's rather difficult to make (edible) bacon on a mini grill! It was tons of fun and we look forward to more Alumnae events in the future!



Upsilon Chapter sisters and alumnae at Alumnae Football Tailgate

The Road to Terp Thon!

By Brianna Brassard

This coming March will be the fourth annual TerpThon dance marathon where University of Maryland students pledge to dance and stand on their feet for 12 continuous hours to raise money for the Children's National Medical Center. In order to raise the minimum funds needed to participate in the event, sisters went canning on the National Mall in Washington, DC on a beautiful November morning. Sisters walked around the mall in DC to spread the message of TerpThon and why we have become so passionate about the cause. In turn, we met generous individuals who donated to our cause.

Next semester we hope to go canning again as well as host a fundraiser at one of our local College Park restaurants. We look forward to the TerpThon event on March 9 and can't wait to show our support "For the Kids!"



Sisters pose for a picture on the National Mall in DC in efforts to raise money for TerpThon

TerpThon

If you are interested in donating to one of our sisters, please visit [our team fundraising page by clicking here!](#)

Forming a More Professional Sister

By Chelsea Gratz

This year we held a lot of professional events, both similar to ones that we have had in the past as well as new events that sisters can take advantage of. Our first main professional event is one that is very important to us. It is our Accenture Information session that is usually held early in the fall. Most sisters find this to be an important event because we have so many Upsilon Alumnae who are employed with Accenture in the nearby area. Therefore, Upsilon chapter Alumnae and other UMD alumnae usually host this information session. It's a great way for sisters to network with sisters who came before them as well as learn about a very prestigious and well-known technical consulting company.

We also co-hosted an event with the Society of Women Engineers to bring an all-female panel from IBM to campus to speak with female engineers at Maryland. This was also a great event for sisters to learn more about another technical consulting firm as well as the other opportunities that IBM has to offer. Additionally, the Upsilon chapter hosted Information Sessions with Whiting-Turner, a Construction Contracting Company, as well as the Food and Drug Administration. These were all very informative and beneficial to our sisters.

Our final professional event was our "Etiquette Night" held during Ritual Week. This was a fun event for sisters to come out and learn some useful etiquette tips from our own alumna, Tracy Epstein. Overall, our professional events were a success this semester and we have plans in the works for a potential mini career fair for our sisters in the spring!

2012-2013 Full Board

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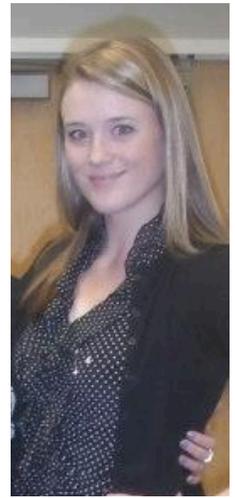
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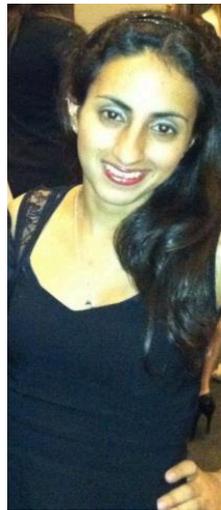
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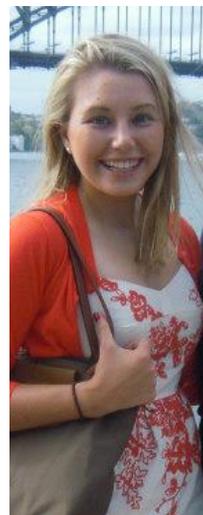
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