Columbia University Inter-Greek Council Newsletter

December 3, 2014

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Part I.I: About Greek Life at Columbia

The Columbia University Greek community is comprised of 11 fraternities in the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC); six fraternities and six sororities in the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC); and five sororities in the Panhellenic Council (NPC). The Inter-Greek Council (IGC) oversees these 28 fraternities and sororities.

Columbia Greeks encourage academic success, community service, philanthropy, campus involvement, and leadership development.

CU fraternities and sororities emphasize a continued commitment to service and philanthropy. During the 2013 calendar year, CU Greeks raised $141,286.86 for philanthropy and volunteered 26,437 community service hours. During the 2014 calendar year, $146,033 was raised for philanthropy and 30,757 community service hours were volunteered.

All chapters must meet the “ALPHA Standards of Excellence” each semester. ALPHA Standards are an initiative instituted by the university to uphold and promote community standards of philanthropy, service, and fraternal development. The ongoing recognition of Columbia fraternities and sororities depends on their meeting or exceeding the requirements of these standards. Examples of ALPHA Standards include organizing large-scale philanthropy events, holding educational workshops, and organizing leadership development programs.

Part I.II: Statement of Shared Values

The Statement of Shared Values is a statement defining what it means to be Greek at CU. It is based on information from every Columbia Greek organization and it aims to recognize how the bonds formed in fraternities and sororities influence and support Greeks through life. It was produced in December 2010.

Statement:

*The fraternity and sorority community at Columbia University strives to foster a holistic collegiate experience that will strengthen a commitment to life-long membership and our alma mater.*

*We believe that through our dedication and promotion of social consciousness we greatly contribute to the creation of a vibrant cultural community that emphasizes diversity, inclusiveness, and mutual respect. We are values based organizations and, through our actions, we embody these ideals and inspire others.*

*Leadership. Scholarship. Empowerment.*
Part I.III: About the ALPHA Standards of Excellence

The “ALPHA Standards of Excellence” are a Columbia University initiative that was instituted to uphold and promote community standards of philanthropy, service, and fraternal development. The ongoing recognition of Columbia fraternities and sororities depends on their meeting or exceeding the requirements of these standards. The standards encourage academic success, community service, philanthropy, campus involvement, and leadership development. Examples of ALPHA Standards include:

- **Educational Standards**
  Chapters must complete educational workshops and events on topics like sexual violence, drugs & alcohol, criminal liability & basic legal concepts, and risk management & insurance coverage. They also must host two workshops or shared experiences of their choice: the first must develop critical thinking skills, and the second must develop skills and understanding in leadership, communication, and membership.

- **Philanthropy & Community Service**
  Chapters must organize and execute a large-scale event that benefits an organization of their choice. Over 60% of a chapter’s members must participate in at least one of the philanthropy events sponsored by other Inter-Greek Council organizations. In addition to this, all Greek individuals must complete at least 10 hours of community service per semester.

- **Involvement on Campus**
  Chapters must collaborate with a non-Greek campus organization to plan and execute a large-scale event consisting of an educational program or leadership workshop. Over 60% of a chapter must be involved in another non-Greek student organization. Chapters must also have members who hold executive officer positions in recognized non-Greek student organizations.

Columbia’s Office of Residential Programs rewards chapters that exceed the standards and make a significantly large positive impact on their campus and community while fulfilling their organization’s mission and vision.

Part I.IV: About the Inter-Greek Council (IGC)

The Columbia Inter-Greek Council (IGC) is the self-governing student organization that oversees Columbia Greek life’s three councils: the Inter-Fraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, and the Panhellenic Council. The IGC provides guidelines and support to Columbia’s 28 Greek organizations.

The Columbia Inter-Greek Council Executive Board consists of four directors, three council presidents, and the judicial board chair.
2014 Columbia IGC Executive Board:

- **Board of Directors:**
  Director of Internal Affairs: Daniela Luna (Sigma Lambda Gamma International Sorority, Inc.)
  Director of Marketing and Public Relations: Jill Klein (Delta Gamma)
  Director of Philanthropy: Teddy Finkelstein (Sigma Nu)
  Director of Programming: Andrew Chapman (Sigma Phi Epsilon)
  Judicial Board Chair: Shawn Patel (Sigma Nu)

- **Council Presidents:**
  Inter-fraternity Council President: Bishoy Ameen (Sigma Nu)
  Multicultural Greek Council President: Liane Darson (Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc.)
  Panhellenic Association President: Jessica Chi (Sigma Delta Tau)

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End of Part I
Part II: Community Facts, 2014

Part II.I: Columbia Fraternity & Sorority Life 2014 Population:

1,500-1,750 students
~20-25% of the CC, SEAS, BC, and *List College undergraduate population
Inter-Fraternity Council: ~35% of total CU Greek population
Multicultural Greek Council: ~10% of total CU Greek population
Panhellenic Council: ~55% of total CU Greek population
*Ranges reflect semester-to-semester fluctuations, given varying recruitment processes by councils
*List College denotes JTS/Barnard duel degree students and JTS/GS duel degree students

Part II.II: Scholastic Facts

Average GPA of Columbia Greeks: 3.47

Inter-Fraternity Council Average GPA: 3.43

#1 IFC GPA: Beta Theta Pi
#2 IFC GPA: Alpha Delta Phi

Multicultural Greek Council Average GPA: 3.26

#1 MGC GPA: Sigma Lambda Gamma International Sorority, Inc.
#2 MGC GPA: Lambda Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Inc.

Panhellenic Council Average GPA: 3.53

#1 CUPA GPA: Kappa Alpha Theta
#2 CUPA GPA: Sigma Delta Tau

*The above GPAs are based off of the most recent data available from the Columbia University Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. These GPAs do not include grades recorded after January 2014.

Part II.III: Leadership & Involvement Facts

Part II.III.I: Greek Involvement in non-Greek campus organizations

Greeks involved in one-or-more non-Greek campus organization: 82%

Inter-Fraternity Council Average: 80%
#1 IFC Involvement: Sigma Nu (100%)
#2 IFC Involvement: Beta Theta Pi (98%)
Multicultural Greek Council Average: 93%

Panhellenic Council Average: 82%
#1 CUPA Involvement: Sigma Delta Tau (95%)
#2 CUPA Involvement: Alpha Omicron Pi (87%)

Part II.III.II: Greeks with leadership positions in non-Greek campus organizations

Greeks in leadership positions in one-or-more non-Greek campus organization: 41%

Inter-Fraternity Council Average: 32%
#1 IFC Leadership: Beta Theta Pi (79%)
#2 IFC Leadership: Delta Sigma Phi (55%)

Multicultural Greek Council Average: 42%
100% of members hold leadership positions in outside organizations in: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., La Hemandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc., and Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc.

Panhellenic Council Average: 47%
#1 CUPA Leadership: Kappa Alpha Theta (54%)
#2 CUPA Leadership: Alpha Omicron Pi (53%)

Part II.IV: Philanthropy Facts

Total philanthropy dollars donated by Greeks in 2014: $146,033 (~$90 raised per CU Greek)
Inter-Fraternity Council Total: $41,114 (~ $73 raised per IFC member)
Multicultural Greek Council Total: $12,941 (~ $81 raised per MGC member)
Panhellenic Council Total: $91,978 (~ $103 raised per CUPA member)

Breakdown of the $146,033 2014 total:

Total funds raised for *non-IGC-sponsored philanthropy events: $77,861
Inter-Fraternity Council Total: $33,227 (~ $58 raised per IFC member)
Multicultural Greek Council Total: $12,829 (~ $79 raised per MGC member)
Panhellenic Council Total: $31,805 (~ $36 raised per CUPA member)

*Non-IGC-sponsored chapter philanthropy events include all philanthropy events that are planned and executed by chapters and benefit legitimate 501C3 incorporated groups other than Relay for Life

Total funds raised for an IGC-sponsored event (Relay for Life): $68,172
Inter-Fraternity Council Total: $7,887
Multicultural Greek Council Total: $112
Panhellenic Council Total: $60,173

**Part II.V: Community Service Facts**

Total community service hours donated by Greeks in 2014: 30,757 hours
Inter-Fraternity Council Total: 10,407 hours (~18 hours per IFC member)
Multicultural Greek Council Total: 3,449 hours (~21 hours per MGC member)
Panhellenic Council Total: 16,901 hours (~19 hours per CUPA member)

End of Part II
Part III: IGC Awards 2014

The following awards were presented to Greek organizations at Columbia University on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. These awards were created to honor the outstanding achievements made by Columbia Greek organizations during the 2014 calendar year.

*Please refer to the Chapter Tributes in Part IV of this newsletter for further information on specific accomplishments of award-winning chapters.

Category #1: Achievement of Excellence

Inter-Fraternity Council: Sigma Nu
Multicultural Greek Council: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Panhellenic Council: Delta Gamma

Category #2: Philanthropy & Community Service

Inter-Fraternity Council: Alpha Epsilon Pi
Honorable recognition: Kappa Delta Rho

Multicultural Greek Council: Sigma Lambda Gamma International Sorority, Inc.
Honorable recognition: Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc.

Panhellenic Council: Alpha Chi Omega
Honorable recognition: Kappa Alpha Theta

Category #3: Programming

Inter-Fraternity Council: Delta Sigma Phi
Honorable recognition: Pi Kappa Alpha

Multicultural Greek Council: Sigma Lambda Gamma International Sorority, Inc.
Honorable recognition: Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

Panhellenic Council: Sigma Delta Tau
Honorable recognition: Alpha Omicron Pi

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End of Part III
Part IV: Chapter Tributes

Chapters receiving IGC awards for the 2014 calendar year have been given tributes below. The tributes are written to highlight the outstanding achievements and accomplishments of fraternities and sororities at Columbia University.

Category #1: Achievement of Excellence
Primary selection criteria: exceptionally strong and consistent performance in philanthropy, community service, and chapter leadership; represented the ideals of Fraternity & Sorority Life throughout the Greek and non-Greek Columbia University community.

Inter-Fraternity Council: Sigma Nu

- During the 2014 calendar year, Sigma Nu Fraternity successfully upheld all ideals of the Fraternity and Sorority Community and represented these ideals throughout the Greek and non-Greek campus community. Notable chapter achievements included the successful planning and execution of eight separate chapter philanthropy events, all planned through collaborations with one or more non-Greek campus organization, and raising a total of $5,137 for various causes. An additional notable achievement included the chapter’s usage of its house to partner with non-Greek campus organizations to host enriching events for the Columbia community. These events included: an open-mic night with campus literary magazine 4x4; a Columbia faculty colloquium featuring lectures open to the greater community; and two separate weekly discussion groups on The Story of God and The Columbia Catholic Ministry Bible Study.

Multicultural Greek Council: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

- During the 2014 calendar year, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. successfully upheld all ideals of the Fraternity and Sorority Community and represented these ideals throughout the Greek and non-Greek campus community. Notable chapter achievements included Delta Sigma Theta’s outstanding achievements in philanthropy; despite having only two sisters during the fall of 2014, each sister raised an average of $1,461 for various philanthropic causes supporting the Harlem and Columbia communities. Combined with the $1,562 raised during the spring semester when the chapter had six members, this amounts to $4,684 total for philanthropy during the 2014 calendar year. Additionally, Delta Sigma Theta programmed over 10 unique, highly successful events such as Black History Month Educational Hunt with PS Kids and a Luncheon for the Adaoha C. Hamilton Scholarship Fund.

Panhellenic Council: Delta Gamma

- During the 2014 calendar year, Delta Gamma successfully upheld all ideals of the Fraternity and Sorority Community and represented these ideals throughout the Greek and non-Greek campus community. Notable chapter achievements included the chapter’s philanthropic efforts for their national philanthropy, Service for Sight. During the 2014 calendar year, sisters raised $7,861.79 total for Service for Sight, the
highest amount raised by an IGC chapter for a single non-IGC-sponsored philanthropic organization. The chapter also volunteered 2,121 service hours for the foundation. For these hours, sisters created innovative projects for Service for Sight that included an awareness video for Nystagmus and the building of occluders for local schools to use in sight preservation lesson plans. In addition to Delta Gamma’s philanthropic and community service achievements, the chapter’s leadership has made significant efforts towards upholding the values of Greek Life on campus, and has successfully remained in good standing with the Columbia University Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life in Student Affairs at all times during the 2014 calendar year.

Category #2: Philanthropy & Community Service
Primary selection criteria: Raised the most money per council for philanthropy and had all members participate in chapter-related community service projects on a regular basis.

Inter-Fraternity Council: Alpha Epsilon Pi
Honorable recognition: Kappa Delta Rho

- Alpha Epsilon Pi: During the 2014 calendar year, Alpha Epsilon Pi raised $6,754 for chapter philanthropy projects, the highest total of all IFC chapters. Notable 2014 AEPI philanthropy events included an Oktoberfest party, AEPi-A-Bro event and an online Date Auction event, which raised funds for Innovation Africa. Additionally, AEPI raised $3,254 for 2014 Relay for Life, the most of all IFC chapters.
- Kappa Delta Rho: During the 2014 calendar year, Kappa Delta Rho raised $6,500 for chapter philanthropy projects, the second-highest total of all IFC organizations. 2014 KDR philanthropy programs include: multiple philanthropic social events hosted at the KDR house through co-sponsorship with campus organizations like Design for America and Youth for Debate; and a Lemonade Stand to benefit the Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF).

*Multicultural Greek Council: Sigma Lambda Gamma International Sorority, Inc.
Honorable recognition: Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc.

- Sigma Lambda Gamma International Sorority, Inc.: During the 2014 calendar year, Sigma Lambda Gamma volunteered 251 hours towards community service, averaging 63 hours for each of Sigma Lambda Gamma’s four members, the highest per-member average of all Columbia Greek organizations.
- Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc.: During the 2014 calendar year, Lambda Pi Chi volunteered 245 hours towards community service, averaging 49 hours per Lambda Pi Chi’s five sisters.

*Given MGC chapters’ structure and size, which range from 1-60 members, the philanthropy & community service awards for MGC are based primarily on community service hours rather than philanthropy dollars donated, as this method prevents the occurrence of sized-based disadvantages for chapters.

Panhellenic Council: Alpha Chi Omega
Honorable recognition: Kappa Alpha Theta

- Alpha Chi Omega: During the 2014 calendar year, Alpha Chi Omega raised $30,386 total for philanthropic causes, the largest amount raised of all Columbia Greek
organizations. On average, each AXO sister raised $220 for philanthropy. Philanthropic causes supported by AXO included: Relay for Life, for which AXO raised $17,434; and AXO’s two chapter philanthropic organizations, Domestic Violence Awareness and Support (DVAS) and the Rachel B. Swett Endowment. 2014 AXO Philanthropic events included: Kiss Your Crush, March Madness for Charity, Clothing Drive with Circle K and Pi Delta Psi Fraternity, Runway Warriors, and a Post-Runway Warriors Calling Drive. In addition to raising $30,386 for philanthropy, AXO also volunteered 4,134 total community service hours, averaging 30 hours per sister.

- **Kappa Alpha Theta:** During the 2014 calendar year, Kappa Alpha Theta raised $22,946 for Relay for Life 2014, the largest amount raised of all Columbia Greek organizations and all Columbia University organizations. Kappa Alpha Theta's contributions to Relay for Life 2014 comprised approximately 27% of all funds raised for the event. Additionally, the chapter supported the following community service efforts during the 2014 calendar year: GreenFest Volunteering, The Wendy Walk, Hope Lodge, NEDA Walk, Climate March, Community Lunch Soup Kitchen, Making Strides for Breast Cancer, Common Ground Festival, CASA Gala, and Dorot Thanksgiving Lunch.

### Category #3: Programming

**Primary selection criteria:** Created highly innovate programs that made significant contributions to the campus community.

**Inter-Fraternity Council:** Delta Sigma Phi

**Honorable recognition:** Pi Kappa Alpha

- Delta Sigma Phi: Through innovative programming during the 2014 calendar year, Delta Sigma Phi added to the overall sense of University community and created enriching experiences for students. Notable Delta Sigma Phi programs included the chapter’s spring 2014 collaboration with Postcrypt Art Gallery. For the event, Delta Sigma Phi hosted a Postcrypt art exhibition on gender and sexual identities at their chapter brownstone. An additional notable event included the chapter’s Date Auction, which raised $1,500 for the Elisabeth Glaser Foundation for Pediatric Aids.

- **Pi Kappa Alpha:** During the 2014 calendar year, Pi Kappa Alpha successfully revamped their annual flagship philanthropy event, Taylor Trudeau Cycle for Life, to become the chapter’s most successful philanthropic event to-date. The event set new PIKE philanthropic event donation, attendance, and participation records. PIKE’s innovative efforts, which included switching event locations and adding elements like ‘Pie-a-PIKE’, led to the event raising $2,940 total, the highest amount of any past PIKE philanthropy event. Given PIKE’s membership of 30 brothers, this amounts to an average of $98 raised per PIKE member.

**Multicultural Greek Council:** Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

**Honorable recognition:** Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc.

- Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.: During the 2014 calendar year, Kappa Phi Lambda created multiple innovative programs that promoted cultural awareness and were highly welcoming to all members of the University community. Notable Kappa
Phi Lambda events included their ARISE Benefit Dinner, which featured student performances and educational cultural booths. For the event, the chapter made significant efforts to reach out to all members of the Columbia Greek community to increase participation and boost cultural awareness. In addition to ARISE, Kappa Phi Lambda also hosted multiple educational cultural discussions with both Greek and non-Greek campus organizations.

- Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc.: During the 2014 calendar year, Sigma Lambda Beta created unique programs that successfully added to the Columbia community through providing meaningful educational opportunities. Notable Sigma Lambda Beta programs included collaboration with SAUF, Casa Latina, and Men of Color Alliance to create a video on the state of men at Columbia University. The video includes individuals involved in athletics, the Greek community, and the greater Columbia community. Additional notable programs included collaboration with the Men of Color Alliance to host a discussion on The State of Colored Men and a Young Men of Color High School Awareness Brunch.

Panhellenic Council: Sigma Delta Tau

Honorable recognition: Alpha Omicron Pi

- Sigma Delta Tau: During the 2014 calendar year, Sigma Delta Tau programmed highly successful events that made significant contributions to the overall Greek and non-Greek University community. Notable Sigma Delta Tau programs included Quest for the BeSDT, a fall talent show featuring performances by 11 Columbia Greek Organizations. The event was widely attended by both Greek and non-Greek members of the community and involved the participation of all three councils of the IGC. Quest for the BeSDT 2014 raised a total of $2,600 for SDT’s national philanthropy, Prevent Child Abuse America. Additional notable programs included SDT’s bi-annual Eat Late fundraiser for their internal scholarship fund. For the event, SDT delivered freshly baked cookies directly to students’ doors. For spring 2014 Eat Late, 370 cookie orders were placed, and for fall 2014 Eat Late, 470 orders were placed, the highest number of all past SDT Eat Late events.

- Alpha Omicron Pi: During the 2014 calendar year, Alpha Omicron Pi created new and innovative programs that contributed to the greater University community. Given that 2014 was Alpha Omicron Pi’s first full calendar year as an established Columbia sorority, it is notable that all 2014 chapter events were programmed from scratch. Noteworthy chapter programs included a comedy night for charity co-hosted with Sigma Nu Fraternity, a celebratory bake sale for the last day of spring 2014 classes, and a week-long pre-Thanksgiving Pie sale throughout campus.

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End of Part IV
Part V: Keep up with Columbia Greek Life

Website: blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/cugreeklife

Facebook: facebook.com/ColumbiaGrecks

Instagram: instagram.com/columbiagreeklife

Columbia University Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life:
studentaffairs.columbia.edu/reslife/fraternity_sorority

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The End