

The Rho Chapter Crest

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The Rho News

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers,

At Homecoming this past fall, the DKE House welcomed back many Rho Dekes. Friday night the students hosted a first floor cocktail reception immediately preceding the Marquis Founders Dinner. Providence smiled upon us; inclement weather led to the cancellation of the Grossman House dedication. As a result, two College VPs, non-DKE trustees, and several other administrators attended our extremely successful reception. Afterwards, the Rho House Association received compliments about our students, and that this event is exactly the type the College hopes fraternities can contribute.

Following the annual meeting, the students hosted an alumni tailgate on the Markle Parking Deck before the football game (Lafayette 30, Holy Cross 13). The evening saw the return of Oktoberfest to the DKE bar room. All told, this was a very successful Homecoming weekend with the reintroduction of cocktail and bar room parties to the DKE House.

The Rho House Association again hosted a DKE leadership conference this winter for our students. They took stock of progress towards their annual operating plan and made several adjustments to position themselves to achieve their goals. In addition, thanks to the generosity of our alumni funders two men attended Futures Quest this winter, a fraternal leadership development conference hosted by the NIC. Notably, the VP of Campus Life read their testimonials, shared the results with the Implementation and Assessment Group on Greek Life, and the relevant committees with the Board of Trustees. The Lafayette Magazine recently covered these conferences in the Spring 2013 Edition, across the page from the introductory profile of Alison Byerly, Lafayette's next President.

This has been a banner year for our fraternity as well as an important turning point in the direction Greek Life is going at Lafayette College. I've asked Jared Piette '12 to pull together a mix of alumni updates, undergraduate news, and Greek Life news for this edition of the Rho News. Enjoy!

In the bonds,

Michael De Lisi '03
President, Rho House Association

"Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat"

- Brother Theodore Roosevelt
Alpha/Harvard '80

UNDERGRAD SCHOLARS

The following Dekes made the Dean's List for Fall 2012 (semester GPA above 3.60):

- ◆ Nicholas DiNino '15
- ◆ Kevin Fasano '15
- ◆ Brandon Goldstein '15
- ◆ Lenny Nguyen '13
- ◆ Andrew O'Brien '13
- ◆ Dashiell Schwartz '13
- ◆ Daniel Zakzewski '15
- ◆ Charles Laird '13 - Project Manager at Hunter Roberts Construction Group (NYC)
- ◆ Henry Sandman '15 - Intern at the Aries Group (DC)
- ◆ Daniel Toutoungi '13 - Professional Underwriting Associate for Ace Group
- ◆ Dashiell Schwartz '13 - Associated Actuary at Buck Consultants (NYC)
- ◆ Corey Cunningham '15 - Wilson Esler Law Firm
- ◆ Jonathan Frederick '14 - R Squared (Moonachie, NJ)
- ◆ Patrick Scognamiglio '14 - Defense Attorney Intern in New City, NY
- ◆ William Garson '15 - Hourigan Construction Company

The following is a selection of Dekes who have been placed with an employer for a job or internship starting this summer:

5TH MEMORIAL B-BALL TOURNAMENT HUGE SUCCESS

On Saturday, March 6, the brothers of the Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon hosted the 5th Annual Jeremy Saxe Memorial 3v3 Basketball Tournament in the Kamine Gym of the Kirby Sports Center. Teams spent the week signing up and preparing for either the competitive or noncompetitive bracket, both of which received a large turnout.

The noncompetitive bracket was won by brothers **Dan Toutoungi '13**, **Will Brandt '13** and **Andrew O'Brien '13** (below left), who relied on tenacious defense to win the championship trophy.

The competitive bracket featured several marquee matchups. Lafayette basketball star Tony Johnson teamed up with two members of the Lafayette football team, while Bryce Scott, another member of the basketball team, headlined a team of his own. The two squads met in the championship game. With a large crowd on hand, the highly competitive game did not disappoint, but in the end, the rookies were no match for Johnson and company. Brothers **Rob Howe '14**, **Michael Kelley '14**, and **Charles Roberts '14** (below right) finished in third place.

DKE would like to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who showed up to participate and to those who worked to make this event possible. Just shy of \$8000—the most money raised of the five tournaments to date—was raised for the Jeremy Saxe Foundation, which was created in honor of brother **Jeremy Saxe '09** who passed away during his senior year at Lafayette because of an undiagnosed heart condition. The foundation's mission is to strengthen education and development in Nepal, where Saxe studied abroad during his Junior year. The foundation awards educational scholarships to underprivileged children, has built a daycare center so that young mothers can continue their education, and is in the process of building a K-6 elementary school.



Non-competitive champions (left) and competitive third-place finishers (right). In the center, Billy Greene '13 takes a shot.

FRATERNITY AND SORORITY CAMPUS NEWS

Chi Phi Lawsuit

As of the last issue of the Rho News, we were awaiting the court to make their decision. The court ruled against Chi Phi. Their alumni are appealing this ruling, and we now await the results of this appeals process.

IAGGL Progress

Last August DKE alumni leadership published a dashboard we use to track progress towards implementing the Board's 23 directives to strengthen Greek Life at Lafayette College. We are pleased to report considerable progress.





















Under the new leadership of Vice President Annette Diorio, the Implementation and Assessment Group on Greek Life (IAGGL) refocused on implementing the Board of Trustees' Directives to strengthen Greek Life. In short, Annette reported to the Board that our community made significant progress towards achieving the Board's end goals, having already achieved those goals in some cases. She also published an implementation grid that identifies the person responsible for each item, including those planned for implementation next year.

Of great interest are the changes underway now surrounding the conduct system under the stewardship of Greg Meyer, the new Director of Student Development. He will be reporting to IAGGL on the new training in the conduct process, which dovetails with the recommended shift from the old punitive conduct model towards one focused on education and student development.

This shift is a monumental one that is necessary to promote student well being and treat groups like ours fairly and equitably. The hopes we discussed in our last issue are coming to fruition.

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On Track: Upward Trending Changes

Short Name	Board Action	BoT Action Date	Administration & Faculty Action
Partner with AISB		10/22/2011	
Greek Life in College PR		10/22/2011	
Partner with nationals		10/22/2011	
Strengthen alumni advising training		10/22/2011	
VP of Campus Life to secure more Greek Life resources		10/22/2011	
Revamp accreditation program (COMPASS) with NIC guidelines		10/22/2011	
Fund for financial support of joining Greek chapters		10/22/2011	
Open alcohol-free social events		10/22/2011	
Leadership development program		10/22/2011	
Time and Responsibility Grid		10/22/2011	

Significant improvement since August 2012. Continue this trend!

Full dashboard at rhodke.org

NOTES FROM ANN ARBOR

PUSH FOR GROWTH

DKE International's staff is growing! In the past year, it's gone from two consultants to three, with a few interns joining staff this summer as well. They're also still seeking to grow to new campuses, so if you have any suggestions of or connections to schools that you think DKE should be at as early as next fall, please contact chapter consultant Shea Agnew (shea@dkehq.org) at any time.

DKEGEAR.COM

DKEgear.com is the result of a new contract DKE International has with the popular online merchandise store Greek Gear. They've created an attractive, easy-to-navigate online store that offers a wider selection of DKE merchandise than what was available before. International is working with higher-end brands like Vineyard Vines and Smathers & Branson to come up with products that will live up to DKE's pedigree. You can look for more merchandise releases in the coming year, as well.

The new store and expanded selection of products offered on DKEgear will significantly increase DKE HQ's non-dues revenue, allowing DKE International to take on more projects in the coming years. Be sure to shop on DKEgear for all your Greek merchandise needs!



DKEGear.com Gentleman, Scholar, Jolly Good Fellow.

DKE SUMMIT

The Summit is a new gathering for Dekes that will take place biennially, in the off-years between International Conventions. The inaugural Summit will be held August 1-4th at Kappa Chapter (Miami University) in Oxford, Ohio. DKE International was seriously considering hosting the event at Rho, but learned last-minute that Lafayette would be unable to host the event this summer. The Summit's curriculum will have a focus on leadership, with prominent DKE alumni from different fields holding panel discussions on topics that relate to both the business world and the functioning of a DKE chapter. Headquarters is subsidizing the cost, so a nomination from an alumnus or Brother Beta and a formal application is required from each potential delegate. The Lion Trophy will be awarded at a formal banquet hosted by Kappa Chapter alumni on Saturday, August 3rd.

COMMUNITY NEWS

- ◆ Alison Byerly has been named the 17th President of Lafayette College. While studying at Wellesley College as an undergraduate, she often visited her brother at MIT, including living in his fraternity house over several summers!
- ◆ Annette Diorio was appointed to replace Celestino Limas as VP of Campus Life & Senior Diversity Officer.
- ◆ The College filled several other vacancies in Campus in Life effective at the start of this academic year including Paul McLoughlin II as Dean of Students and Greg Meyer as Director of Student Development. As mentioned early, these administrators are bringing a fresh perspective in updating Lafayette's Student Handbook and conduct system to focus on student development.
- ◆ **Michael Kelley '13** was elected Brother Beta of the Rho Chapter for 2013.
- ◆ Lafayette hosted addresses by world leaders Tony Blair, Jane Goodall, and Jimmy Carter this April.

For more brief news and DKE trivia, consider checking out DKE International's daily "This Day in DKE" posts on Facebook; search "Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity" to find their page.

KIEFER '95, THOMSON '98 HOST LAW SCHOOL PRESENTATION

By: Wiley Houldin '15

On Wednesday, April 3, the brothers of the Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon, along with the Lafayette Government and Law Department and the Office of the Dean of the College, sponsored a presentation titled "Full Disclosure: Perspectives and Advice on Law School and the Legal Profession." **David W. Kiefer '95** and **Fletcher C. Thomson '98**, both DKE alumni, conducted the presentation and conveyed to aspiring potential law school students the benefits and challenges that come with the legal profession. Kiefer and Thomson provided a detailed insight into their experiences through law school, from the application process to the steps after graduation.



Upon completion of the presentation, the students left with a deeper understanding of how to approach a potential application to a law school. This presentation is another example of how the brothers of Delta Kappa Epsilon are attempting to connect with the student body to provide learning experiences for the entire campus.

Updating DKE's History Book

We need your help! Brother Thomson is currently working on writing an update to A Brief Sketch of Rho Chapter, a book published in 1906 about our chapter's founding and initial years by Brother Francis Shunk Downs. A copy from the original printing is located in Lafayette's Special Collections & College Archives, while a reproduction can be found in the Rho Chapter Library. The updated book will fill in the history of Rho Chapter for the 20th Century, and will be published for our 160th anniversary in October 2015. If you have any information you'd like to contribute to the written history of our chapter, please contact Brother Thomson at fletch1@gmail.com!

For more information about current undergraduates and a regularly updated news blog please browse the undergrad website at <http://sites.lafayette.edu/dke/news>.

RHO HOUSE ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Help Wanted

Communications Director – Manages communication for the alumni. Advises undergrads on PR issues.

Director of Civic Engagement – Organizes alumni for philanthropy and service events. Provides continuity to students in civic engagement to promote useful citizenship. Aligns causes DKE supports with our values and membership.

Membership Development – Supports ongoing membership development such as leadership conferences, time management skills, networking skills, business etiquette, etc.

Reunion

Reunion is June 7-9th this year. [Register online](#) today! The DKE House will again be open all weekend. We'll be scheduling a photo opportunity for all Rho Dekes at the DKE House on the College's official schedule of events. DKE's reunion is open to all class years!

Don't forget to sign up for automatic dues payments at <http://www.rhodke.org/rhodke-dues.php>

◆ 0-4 years since graduation: \$25 ◆ 5-9 years since graduation: \$35 ◆ 10+ years since graduation: \$50

Thank you for your continued support of our great fraternity.

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Laf360

Laf360 is a new initiative the Board of Trustees recently kicked off to improve the student experience at Lafayette College. Two Dekes serve on the Steering Committee. JB Reilly '83 serves as the Trustee Representative and Michael De Lisi '03 serves as the Alumni Association Representative.

Unrecognized Groups

The Board of Trustees recently adopted a policy prohibiting students from using campus resources or otherwise engaging with unrecognized fraternities and sororities while on campus. We re-published the [full policy here](#) along with the accompanying [FAQ here](#). Unrecognized groups detract from recognized chapters on campus like DKE, but, although well intentioned, we believe this policy was unnecessary. We need a framework for recognition driven by student demand, interest, and ability to advance the Mission of the College. In the past year, there have been 10 chapters seeking to partner with the College to either recolonize or bring a new chapter to campus, including several culturally based groups.

It makes no sense for the Board to keep the College's doors closed while there is clearly more student demand than the current chapters can meet, causing student suffering as a result of the moratorium on recognizing new chapters. Hopefully the Board will permit the administration to work with these groups to create the strongest possible applications for eventual Board review after their decision in the Spring of 2014.

GOT NEWS?

New Job?

Engagement?

Newborn?

Alumni Outing?

Recent Grad?

Marriage?

Kids at Lafayette?

Other Announcements?

LET US KNOW!

POST YOUR STORIES AT www.rhoneews.org/about/submissions OR EMAIL US AT rhonews@rhodke.org !