



## INDIANA EXPANSION Q&A

### **When Was Phi Delta Theta Founded and Where?**

**Phi Delta Theta was founded December 26, 1848 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio**

### **What does Phi Delta Theta stand for?**

**Phi Delta Theta was founded on three principles: friendship, sound learning, and moral rectitude. Today our organization still represents these values but lives them out as a social fraternity; embodying, service, leadership, and personal development.**

### **How many chapters does Phi Delta Theta currently have?**

**Phi Delta Theta currently has 154 chapters and five colonies. Throughout the last 157 years Phi Delta Theta has had chapters at over 250 campuses. Indiana Alpha at Indiana University was at the time of its founding, Phi Delta Theta's second chapter.**

### **Where else in Indiana is Phi Delta Theta established?**

**We have Indiana chapters at Wabash College, Hanover College, DePauw University, Indiana State University, Purdue University, Ball State University, and the University of Southern Indiana. We are also making a return to Franklin College and Butler University here in the next year and half.**

### **What will our colony/chapter be called?**

**The colony/chapter at Indiana University will be called Indiana Alpha. The "Alpha Chapter" title means that Indiana University was home to the first chapter of Phi Delta Theta in Indiana.**

### **Why is Phi Delta Theta expanding to Indiana University?**

**The Indiana Alpha chapter of Phi Delta Theta was the Fraternity's second chapter, established in 1849. Being the second chapter, Indiana Alpha has always been held**

**in high regards with the General Fraternity. In the fall semester of 2004, Phi Delta Theta suspended Indiana Alpha's charter for the first time in its history after hazing practices were reported. Two years later, Indiana Alpha makes its return to campus with the goal of establishing a new chapter full of leaders, who will bring the chapter back to continue its esteemed heritage.**

**What is the Chapter Advisory Board?**

**The Chapter Advisory Board is a group of alumni, faculty, and or parents that advise the group and attend meetings weekly. Each advisor is paired with an officer. These alumni will help and advise the colony throughout the process, and will be a great resource to have. Every one of Phi Delta Theta's chapter advisory boards are filled with volunteers who have a genuine interest and believe in fraternity. Their lifelong commitment to the Fraternity will show the new chapter the endless benefits that come with membership in Phi Delta Theta**

**How many alumni are there in the Bloomington area?**

**There are over 10,000 Phi Delta Theta alumni living within a 100 mile radius of Bloomington, including large populations in the Chicago and Indianapolis area. Networking opportunities are endless and can become valuable when your internship and job search begins.**

**Why should I join a fraternity that is rebuilding like Phi Delta Theta, rather than a fraternity that is already established?**

**The opportunity to be a Re-Founding Father of a chapter of Phi Delta Theta is a very unique experience. During the re-building of a chapter you have the opportunity to lay the "ground work" and "foundation" for generations who will follow in your path. This means someone will serve as Indiana Alpha's re-founding president, treasurer, recruitment chair, etc. With the help of the Chapter Advisory Board and Fraternity's staff, all members will help to create the groups original bylaws, mission statement, and programs to determine the direction of**

**the organization. With an established fraternity you are joining an organization that already has traditions, systems, and officers. There, it often takes a number of years before you can hold a major leadership position. The leadership development opportunities with Phi Delta Theta are endless.**

### **What is a Re-Founding Father?**

**Re-Founding Fathers are the first class of new members that join a new colony before it is installed as an official chapter.**

### **What is the pledge period or new member period like? How long does it last?**

**The new member education period for a new fraternity is vastly different from one that is already established. The first group that joins prior to colonization will have “on the job training” as they first learn their roles within their offices and committees. At the same time, they will also learn the history, hierarchy, and political system of the fraternity through studies with the Chapter Advisory Board and their Phikeia Manual. The second class taken in the Spring of 2007 will go through the first actual new member education program developed by the initial class and the chapter advisory board.**

### **How much does membership cost?**

**The upfront cost for membership in the Indiana Alpha Colony will be \$175 dollars due at the colonization scheduled for September 14, 2006. This fee is for the \$100 colony fee which gives you a colony badge and Phikeia Manual. The remainder of the cost is for the liability insurance which gives your colony the ability to hold social events with full insurance coverage. We live in a very litigious society and due to issues and claims in the fraternity world; fraternities are the 6<sup>th</sup> most expensive entity to insure in this nation. Therefore, there is a cost for fraternity insurance; however Phi Delta Theta has one of the lowest insurance rates around among fraternities due to its alcohol-free housing policy.**

**There will be additional costs that will be determined by the group. Because you are starting your own fraternity you will have the opportunity to determine the operating**

**costs. What type of social events would you like to hold, what type of philanthropies would you like to give to? How much will this all cost? Based on these factors a operating budget will be determined and dues will be decided based on these numbers and the shared costs.**

**What is a colony, how long does it take to gain chapter status and become a member of Phi Delta Theta?**

**A colony is a group of students who are in the process of petitioning Phi Delta Theta Fraternity to become a chapter and initiated into our organization. In order to receive this recognition they must build the “foundation” and lay the “ground work” for future generations to come. This will be the responsibility of the colony members of Indiana Alpha at Indiana University. This includes passing all examinations, creating and living up to academic standards, building programs covering all areas of chapter operations, and developing a commitment to service and philanthropy. Ideally this process will take close to a year. Our goal is to have the Indiana Alpha chapter installed in the final months of the 2007 Spring semester. However, if this is to be accomplished a large amount of work must be done and all goals must be met in a timely manner.**

**If I join now will I get to select future members?**

**We encourage everyone to recommend anyone who they believe would make a tremendous addition to the group. Any individual recommended will sit for an informational interview and asked to attend recruitment events. However, during the initial recruitment process prior to the September 14th colonization date all membership selection will be handled by the staff on site and the Chapter Advisory Board. Once colonized, the group votes to determine any new members.**

**Is there a Fraternity house?**

**Phi Delta Theta owns a beautiful chapter house in Bloomington. The chapter house is located at 1215 North Jordan. Since our chapter was closed in 2004, Phi Delta Theta’s House Corporation has rented the chapter**

**house to another fraternity on campus. The House Corporation plans on raising money and renovating the house. Phi Delta Theta will be able to move in during the Fall 2007 semester. Before moving back into the house, Phi Delta Theta will have to get to chapter status and begin succeeding on campus. Moving back into the house in 2007 will provide motivation to our colony members and will be a great reward for performance. When Phi Delta Theta moves back into the house, the property will be alcohol-free.**

**What is the alcohol-free policy?**

**Six years ago, Phi Delta Theta passed its alcohol-free housing initiative. The policy is not one that says our members can not drink alcohol, but the Fraternities properties will be alcohol-free. This policy has been a great success and has created a clean and safe living environment for our chapters. The policy allows our students to succeed academically, be proud of where they live, and focus on the principles our Fraternity was based upon. Many fraternities have received the "Animal House" stereotype because of their alcohol use and abuse, but Phi Delta Theta is changing negative perceptions of Greek societies on an International level.**