

Delta Tau Chapter at Southern Methodist University

DELTA TAUKS

Winter 2012

STATE OF THE CHAPTER

By: Mike Morley (2012), President

The Fall semester of the 2011-2012 school year was one of the most successful and productive semesters this chapter has experienced in a long time. Currently we are one of the largest chapters on campus, at 95 active members, with an overall chapter GPA of 3.27 (5th overall among all campus fraternities). We are very pleased with the results of Rush Week and we pledged a great group of 27 young men who will soon become respectable Phi Gams.

We remained in great standing with the school throughout the semester and have not received any disciplinary reprimands in almost two years. We recently had four of our members participate in the first ever Greek Leadership Retreat run by school administrators. Our outstanding participation in this event along with our good standing with the school has led us to become one of the leading organizations on campus.



Throughout the semester we have participated in multiple community service events, raised money through a successful philanthropy event, and given back to the community in numerous other ways. We recently received recognition in The Phi Gamma Delta magazine for our community service participation. We understand the importance of not only improving brotherhood through social functions, but also through volunteering our time and helping out those who are less fortunate.

We continue to enjoy the cooking of Chef Mike and he recently displayed his culinary

skills for a group of graduate brothers. Lunch and dinner-time are busy in the FIJI house, as members congregate to enjoy each other's company and Chef Mike's meals.

We look forward to carrying this success in to 2012 and on in to the future. We will continue to pursue excellence and improve the chapter as we carry on the Phi Gamma Delta tradition.

Pig Dinner is planned for April 19th, 2012 at the Palomar in Dallas. We look forward to a successful event with a large turnout this year.

James E. Caswell Endowment Program

By: R. Stephen Meek (2012), Corresponding Secretary

On October 22, 2007, we lost one of our finest, Dr. Jim Caswell, who had served as the Vice President for Student Affairs at Southern Methodist University since 1988. His time at SMU spanned over 48 years from his beginning days

as a student where he was a member of Delta Tau, and ultimately becoming the Vice President for Student Affairs. He retired from SMU on May 5, 2007, and to honor his legacy of leadership, the Jim Caswell Endowment for Lead-

ership Development and Training was established. He inspired generations of students and colleagues with his charisma and mentoring leadership. This endowment will support the James E. Caswell

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 - Help us update our alumni database and find lost brothers so we can stay in touch with everyone!
- Visit www.fiji-smu.org to update your contact information.

CURRENT INTRAMURAL STANDINGS

Flag Football
First Place

Soccer
Third Place

Golf
First Place—Brian Snee
(2012)

Overall
Second Place

With our winnings this semester, we plan to place first in intramurals overall.

James E. Caswell Endowment Program cont'd...

***“Jim Caswell
Endowment for
Leadership
Development and
Training.”***

Undergraduate Leadership Fellows Program, which will provide support for the leadership development of a group of undergraduate students who will be chosen annually through a competitive grant process. Each chosen student will receive up to \$5,000 to develop and participate in leadership projects in various areas including education, nonprofit, faith-based, sustainability, and cross-cultural leadership.

Fellows will each have an individual mentor and will also meet as a group throughout the year to share their experiences. Fellow Delta Tau alumni will be contacting you in the near future with more information on this program and how you can become part of this special initiative.

The following is link to the endowment website: [Dr. Caswell Endowment Fund Website](#) . The website provides further information about the endowment, as well as an opportunity to donate to the campaign. Thank you.



SOCIAL UPDATE

By: Cameron Purcell (2013), Social Chair

This past semester had more than its fair share of social events. We threw some of the biggest and most fun themed parties on campus which were simply warm up laps for Black Diamond last semester. Black Diamond was held at the Marriot Hotel in downtown Dallas. Limos brought everyone from the FIJI house on SMU campus to the Marriot where we had a room block for our top 40 rushees as well as actives. The dinner and dance were held in the Marriot's largest ballroom where we had live music throughout the evening. Although social events are a big part of the fraternity, we also like to give back when we can: Delta Tau donated \$1000 of the social budget to the Red Cross Japan Relief Fund. We also partnered with the Pi Beta Phi sorority during homecoming and enjoyed spending time with the girls while building our float. Bigger social plans for this upcoming semester include Pig Dinner to be held in Dallas on April 19, 2012. Last year's Pig Dinner was a huge success, and we hope to carry that success forward with this year's dinner by increasing the number of alumni in attendance. Pig Dinner will be followed by our traditional trip down to Austin for Fiji Island.



CURRENT BCA & CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Allen Myers** (1964), Pig Dinner, armyersretired@sbcglobal.net
- **Bob Wood** (1978), Fraternity Law/University Relations, rccwood@aol.com
- **Charlie Martin** (1963), Risk Management, cmartinmarketing@aol.com
- **Chuck Briant** (2003), Housing, chuck.briant@archongroup.com
- **Evan Saks** (2007), Ritual/Scholarship, saks.evan@gmail.com
- **Fielding Graham** (2009), Fundraising, fielding.graham@ms.com
- **Jeff Samford** (1960), BCA Co-Chair/University Relations, jsam3409@aol.com
- **Joe Mira** (1988), Brotherhood Programs, jmira@krcf.com
- **Joshua Sepkowitz** (2002), BCA Co-Chair/Chapter Operations, joshua.sepkowitz@gmail.com
- **Matt Barron** (2007), Pledge Education, matt.e.barron@gmail.com
- **Matthew Furman** (2010), Purple Legionnaire, mfurman@mail.smu.edu
- **Tyler West** (2011), Treasurer, twest@smu.edu

COMMUNITY SERVICE

By: Bryan Poppler (2012), Community Service Chair

This semester the members of FIJI were highly involved in community service and philanthropy events around the Dallas area. On August 28th, 2011, over 80 members volunteered at EQUEST, a therapeutic horse farm in North Dallas. For the last 30 years, EQUEST has concentrated on the rehabilitation of men and women with physical and cognitive disabilities through the therapeutic benefits of riding horses. After learning about this farm and their admirable mission, our chapter was inspired to provide an afternoon of manual labor to help with the maintenance of the EQUEST farm. In addition to volunteering at EQUEST, members of the chapter also volunteered at the North Texas Food Bank, which distributes food to 1,184 feeding and education programs in thirteen North Texas counties. At the Food Bank, our members helped pack over 700 meals for underprivileged children in the Dallas community. Furthermore, our fraternity organized a "Stars and Stripes" philanthropy event, which raised over \$1,500 dollars for the United Service Organization, or USO. Other members of the chapter also volunteered at the Texas Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament, Habitat for Humanity and contributed to a Dogs for Dogs philanthropy event which benefited local animal shelters. We are proud of our involvement in the community this semester and we look forward to contributing more in the future.



SMU'S CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

By: John Potts (2013)

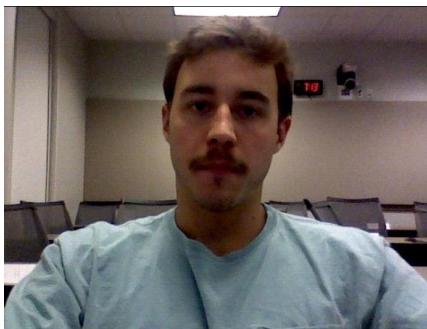
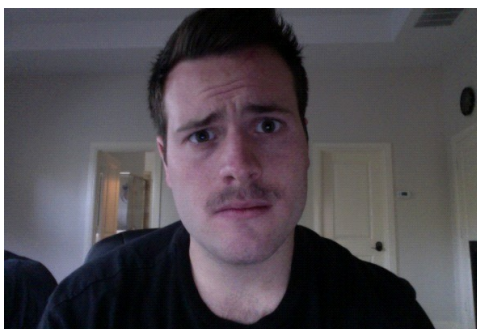
This holiday season, the brothers of Delta Tau were fortunate enough to sponsor two boys from Cesar Chavez Elementary School during the annual Celebration of Lights. We met two good friends, Nairi and Norman, a few hours before the ceremony and played some holiday games while enjoying punch and cupcakes. Over the course of the night, the two friends enjoyed seeing the SMU campus and listened to SMU's President Turner read the Christmas Story on the steps of Dallas Hall. Once the ceremony concluded, we surprised the boys with gifts we had wrapped for them earlier in the week. We played soccer with Norman's new soccer ball before they climbed back onto their bus with smiles and left the entire chapter warm with holiday cheer.



“MOVEMBER”

By: Jeff Jones (2013)

During the month of November, many students on campus like to start the month clean-shaven and then grow out their mustaches and facial hair just for fun and call the initiative “No Shave November” or “Movember.” Many Fiji’s decided to grow out their mustaches during the month but a fellow Phi Gam decided to grow out his mustache for a good cause. Gerald Fawcett (2013) joined a website where he posted a picture of himself and his mustache and other users could then donate money to his page, based on the quality and prowess of the mustache, for prostate cancer and other men’s related cancer research. Fellow Fiji’s Jeff Jones (2013) and Clay Patterson (2012) teamed up with Fawcett and together; the 3 raised \$1,000 benefitting prostate cancer.



2010 DELTA TAU CHAPTER PLEDGE CLASS

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Forrest Flick Ackerman | Alexandria, VA | • Payton Tyler Lott | Honolulu, HI |
| • Connor Buck Angle | Laguna Niguel, CA | • Luke Chapman Mullan | Pacific Palisades, CA |
| • Michael Keathly Armstrong | San Jose, CA | • John Charles O’Shea | Washington, D.C. |
| • Ryan Wesley Cordill | Houston, TX | • Alexander Heyward Prince | Jacksonville, FL |
| • Spencer Burton Eichler | Pacific Palisades, CA | • William Bryce Reid | Dallas, TX |
| • Adrian Marcelo Elosua | Monterrey, Mexico | • William Scott Sanford | Pacific Palisades, CA |
| • Andrew Ryan Fennessy | Paradise Valley, AZ | • Michael John Strauss | Tustin, CA |
| • Alexander David Fox | Dallas, TX | • Logan Hill Weddle | Winston-Salem, NC |
| • Maxwell Robert Friess | Los Gatos, CA | • Charles Zakskorn III | Orinda, CA |
| • Leland Bond Guralnick | N. Hollywood, CA | | |
| • Garrett Craig Harper | Springdale, AR | | |
| • Zack Eskew Hood | Fort Smith, AR | | |
| • Hunter Mattingly Houston | Houston, TX | | |
| • Grant William Johnson | Newport Beach, CA | | |
| • Miles Marshall Karro | Nashville, TN | | |
| • Blaine Salvadore Kern III | New Orleans, LA | | |
| • Kevin Lawrence Lazares | Los Gatos, CA | | |
| • Joseph Norbert Letter | Scottsdale, AZ | | |



DELTA TAU GRADES

This past semester the Delta Tau Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta obtained an average GPA of 3.266. Approximately 30% of the initiated brothers achieved a 3.5 GPA or higher, and they are as follows:

- John Darwin (2012)
- Curtis Elijah (2012)
- Daniel Farabaugh (2012)
- Brett Haness (2012)
- Jeff Jones (2013)
- Scott Kirchhoff (2012)
- Gavin Krogus (2014)
- Wilson Maclin (2012)
- Gates Maus (2012)
- Stephen Meek (2012)
- Chase Michalek (2012)
- Josh Moore (2013)
- Mike Morley (2012)
- Clay Patterson (2012)
- Mike Peterson (2012)
- Bobby Phelps (2012)
- Bryan Poppler (2012)
- Mark Pruett (2014)
- Collin Quigley (2013)
- Matthew Reyes (2014)
- Kyle Riddles (2012)
- Eric Sabandal (2013)
- John Sabo (2013)
- Alex Schafnitz (2012)
- August Scherer (2014)
- Mark Seidel (2012)
- John Sievers (2012)
- Charlie Sonnenberg (2012)
- Matt Strauss (2012)
- Andrew Thorington (2012)
- Mark Voosen (2013)
- Trev Wilgus (2013)

PIG DINNER

Pig Dinner will be held on Thursday April 19th, 2012 at the [Palomar](#). Last year was a huge success, and we believe this year will follow suit. We look forward to seeing you there!



DELTA TAU CABINET

John Sabo (2013) - Chapter President
jsabo@smu.edu

Scott Kirchhoff (2012) - Chapter Treasurer
skirchhoff@smu.edu

Sean Higgins (2013) - Recording Secretary
smhiggins@smu.edu

Myles De Vilder (2013) - Corresponding Secretary
mdevilder@smu.edu

John Potts (2013) - Chapter Historian
jrpotts@smu.edu

Information Update

Please send us your new contact information so we can update our records.

Updates can also be made any time at www.fiji-smu.org.

Name _____ School/year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-mail _____

Send to: Josh Sepkowitz, 5743 Prospect Ave. Unit D, Dallas, TX 75206