DU Brothers Continue To Lead On MIT Campus

The 2000-2001 academic year began with yet another strong rush. Rush chairs Ben Powers ’02 and Aaron Fernandes ’03 masterminded a brilliant rush plan and recruited the strongest pledge class on campus. The pledges have excelled in their pledge program under the tutelage of Pledge Trainer Chris Kelly ’02. A former house president and two-term steward, Chris has instilled his own enthusiasm and house pride upon the future leaders of Delta Upsilon Fraternity.

DU brothers continue to lead on campus as well as within the house. Ming-Tai Huh ’02 took command of the struggling Freshmen Arts Program and turned it into one of the most exciting pre-orientation programs. Colin Galbraith ’03 led the Freshmen Leadership Program for the second year in the row. Chris Kelly ’02 and I served as orientation leaders for the third year in a row, a feat known as the “Tim Zue Trifecta.”

An unwavering belief that the most important part of an MIT education is to learn from mistakes—both in the classroom and in the real world—has prevented Dave from becoming overbearing or heavy-handed in his leadership. For this, two decades of DU men are in his debt. There are countless numbers of us who learned some of life’s most important lessons during our terms as president, treasurer, house manager, steward, or social chair. In an age when the fraternity system is under attack and more and more alumni boards are taking over chapter responsibilities, Delta Upsilon remains a shining example of what a fraternity should have: enthusiastic new members, positive campus influence, athletic excellence, responsible leadership, and dedicated graduates. Only through outstanding alumni leadership have we been able to maintain a proud reputation.

Congratulations Dave, and thanks for everything.

Christopher Kelly ’02
Pledge Trainer
Class Of Nine Caps Outstanding Rush For Technology Chapter

The Technology Chapter of Delta Upsilon had an outstanding rush once again this year, despite increased competition among houses. DU ended its final old-style rush with a class of nine superb individuals. In a year where most houses were vying for large classes, our successes in previous years allowed us the luxury of avoiding a frantic rush. Instead, we focused our energy on only the freshmen we really were interested in. The resulting pledge class of 2005 is a diverse and strong class. Members are already competing in five varsity sports, participating in Air Force ROTC, as well as making their presence known in student government. These nine young men are excellent additions to the house.

In the wake of rush come issues for the future. As the institute works toward completing its new freshman dormitory, Delta Upsilon is looking toward new traditions (and strategies). After this year all freshmen will be required to live on campus. This means that the entire Greek system on campus must adapt in order to survive. The Inter-Fraternity Council has set up a two-week recruitment period for next fall and is working out the new rush rules for that period. With this framework in place, the DU brothers are working to create a new approach to rush that will ensure our success through this transition and well into the future.

Benjamin Powers ’02
Rush Chair

— Class of 2005 —
Nine Pledges (in order)

Joshua Faust Walton
Greenwood, IN
Aero/Astro

Alvin Carter Powers
Brentwood, TN
Electrical Eng., Computer Science

David Daniel Lohrey
Belvedere, CA
Civil Engineering

Constantinos Tsoucalas
Northridge, CA
Management Science

Daniel Jacobs
Soquel, CA
Environmental Engineering

Peter Sung
Edgewater, NJ
Electrical Eng., Computer Science

Mathew John Theis
Littleton, CO
Aero/Astro

DU Brothers Make Time To Contribute To The Community

Delta Upsilon is unique in part because brothers participate in a variety of activities and have diverse interests. While academic loads at MIT limit the amount of time students can allocate to personal growth, many brothers still manage to give to charities and volunteer operations in Boston.

Last fall Matthew Hausman ’01 ran a successful FSILG change drive called Change for Charity. In the spring Peter VanBuskirk continued the Yanni project with an ambitious event, Christmas in April, during which an entire Saturday was devoted to fixing up a Boston brownstone house. The house, which is now a group home, was once part of the Underground Railroad and residence of Coretta Scott King.

Also this year, several brothers, including Stephan Bewley ’01, Chris Kelly ’02, Aaron Fernandes ’03, Dave Hensle ’03, Mark Kanstantin ’03, Mark Sellmyer ’04, and Carter Powers ’05, participated in the MIT sponsored four-mile Run For Kids, which supports underprivileged Boston and Cambridge youth. Upcoming efforts include a renovation project in conjunction with the Pine Street Inn, one of Boston’s busiest food kitchens. Aside from fraternity-organized projects, several brothers donate their time to organizations such as Massachusetts General Hospital and the Red Cross. If you have any suggestions for community service, please e-mail me at mselly@mit.edu.

Mark Sellmyer ’04
Vice President Community Service
From The Alumni President

Fraternity Houses On Campus?

Three years ago, when President Vest first announced that all freshmen would live on campus starting in 2001 (subsequently postponed to 2002), some of the fraternities felt very vulnerable. If your house was located in Brookline, or was run down and surrounded by BU dormitories, you’d be concerned for your future, too. A small group of alumni officers from a handful of houses began meeting to explore the possibility of convincing MIT to help build new fraternity housing on campus.

Provost Larry Bacow (now the president of Tufts University) supported the initiative with significant study funds and the participation of Steve Immerman, perhaps MIT’s most effective special project manager. The results of the study that emerged showed that new houses for 40 members could be built for about $4 million each, assuming a complex of at least six houses. This was seen as feasible for groups who have substantial equity in their current houses but would be a stretch for new operations, such as a sorority looking for a house.

I participated in this study effort for two reasons. As chairman of the Board of Allocation for the Independence Residence Development Fund, I wanted to be fully informed about the potential demand that this initiative might make on the IRDF. This now stands at a total of $18 million, most of which is already committed in the form of low-cost mortgages to independent living groups at MIT. I also was concerned about the future strength of DU and wanted to keep open the option of moving DU to campus, if that seemed prudent.

My current evaluation of the situation is that DU is in an unusually strong situation for continuing off campus. We occupy a prime site conveniently located on the Boston side of the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge. There are several adjacent MIT fraternities, which means there is a critical mass for a continuing MIT presence on the block. The neighbors accept, perhaps reluctantly, the reality of fraternity operations.

I continue to be committed to the concept that MIT students should have the opportunity to take charge of how they run their daily lives. Maybe the majority of undergraduates entering MIT don’t want to have this responsibility. Maybe they just want a place to sleep, so they can focus on their busy lives and all the different things they do centered around MIT. But I think there is still an enduring value to getting away from MIT at night. To eating and sleeping and socializing with a small group of close friends who share goals, to making decisions about how to run things and then shouldering the responsibility to follow through on those decisions. So, I think we should work to maintain a strong operation at our current location, thereby continuing a long tradition at 526 Beacon Street.

At the same time, I will continue to work with the project to bring some fraternities into new housing on the MIT campus. I view this as another piece in the puzzle of student living options. My goal is to maintain a strong position for fraternities and independent living groups at MIT, because that also supports a strong future for DU at MIT.

Dave Latham ’61
Alumni President

House Repairs During Busy Term Include Fire Safety Upgrades

This term has been fairly busy for the physical plant of the house because of several major repairs and replacements that have been done.

The summer ended with the start of work week in preparation for rush. In addition to a thorough cleaning of the entire house, several repairs were made such as fixing broken doors, replacing missing stair spindles, and painting several hallways. The ice machine and reach-in refrigerator were both replaced with funding from the alumni board.

The front doorbell, the pledge project of the class of ’69, also broke during work week. The electronics of the doorbell are somewhat outdated at this point, and, as a result, the house was unable to obtain the same parts originally used in its construction. A project is currently under way by several course six and course two majors at the house, to replace the old electronics with a more current digital system. Once completed, it should sound exactly the same as the old bell.

Fire safety for the MIT independent living groups has become a major concern of the administration at MIT. As a result, all the fraternity houses were required to make sure all fire suppression systems in the house were up to code before an inspection by the Boston Fire Department. To meet these requirements, several things had to be done. All the fire extinguishers in the house were recharged and inspected. Several smoke detectors nearing the end of their 10-year life cycle were replaced. The old powder an- sup system, which controls fire over the grill in the kitchen, had to be replaced with a new liquid system because of a new law in the United States outlawing powder systems. American Alarm came and inspected the fire alarm system to ensure that it would work properly in the event of an emergency. There is an effort currently under way in conjunction with other houses at MIT to get the fire escapes refinished and inspected. All these repairs have been completed and should secure us a passing safety inspection.

Thanks to the generous contributions from the alumni and hard work of the brotherhood, many improvements to the safety and condition of the house have been made during this productive term.

Matt Waldon ’03
House Manager
Delta Upsilon Alumni News

Contact EDWARD M. FETTES ‘40 at 33 Gunwale Way, Yarmouthport, MA 02675; edfettes@capecod.net.

GEORGE M. WATERS JR. ‘42 is still active managing personal investments and as investor, director, and chairman of Audit Committee of the Royale Energy, the largest independent producer of natural gas in California. George also still plays tennis and jogs. Reach him during the winter months at 81 Lake Shore Dr., Rancho Mirage, CA 92270.

Say hello to ROBERT L. KLAUSMEIER ‘48 at 2516 Deepwood Dr., Wilmington, DE 19810-3605.

H. RICHARD CROWTHER ‘54 writes, “Nancy and I are retired, living in Pennsylvania in the summer and the California desert in the winter. We would be pleased to hear from our Delta Upsilon brothers.” Reach the Crowthers during the winter at 75-165 Osage Trail, Indian Wells, CA 92210.

Our deepest sympathies go to PAUL M. COX ‘61 who lost his wife, Karin, on June 1, 2001, after a six-and-a-half year struggle with breast cancer. Send condolences to Paul at 9 Lantern Lane, Cumberland Foreside, ME 04110, coxpmnc.org.

We have a new address for BAKOS ANTHONY ISAAC ‘75 of 8500 Shannon Way, Wichita, KS 67206-1824; tony.isaac@lodgeworks.com.

DANIEL EHRENFRIED ‘80 left the software business to run a 20-acre cattle ranch in central Montana. Reach him at 240 Aralande Gulch Rd., Townsend, MT 59644; dhe@littletree.com.

In July, SCOTT A. BERCIELI ‘85 wrote that he had taken a permanent vascular surgery job at the University of Florida and welcomed his first son, Matthew John. Visit Scott and take a dip in his pool at 10310 SW 17th Place, Gainesville, FL 32607, or e-mail him at berciesa@mail.surgery.ufl.edu.

Martha and STEVEN D. BARRETT ‘89 are the proud parents of a son, Joseph Michael, and a daughter, Talia Emily, both born on May 10. To provide room for the new arrivals, Martha and Steve have relocated to 112 Dalton Rd., Belmont, MA 02478. E-mail Steve at barrett@alum.mit.edu.

Please note this new address for ERIK LARSON ‘92 of 77 Grand View Ave., #102, San Francisco, CA 94114; larsone@alum.mit.edu.

“It was great to see everyone from the class of ’99 in Rochester at JEFFREY STEINHEIDER’s (’99) wedding,” writes MICHAEL FITZGERALD ’99, who lives at 3175 Suwanee Creek Rd., Suwanee, GA 30024; mfitz@alum.mit.edu.

JEFFREY D. STAMLER ’00 has a new address of 2005 21st Ave. S, #310, Nashville, TN 37212; jdstamler@alum.mit.edu.

DECEASED
WILLIAM S. KATHER ’40
March 8, 2001

Delta Upsilon Athletes Push MIT Teams To Victories

The brothers of Delta Upsilon had another fine showing last year in the athletic arena. Most impressive was the chapter’s win in the MIT Octathlon Competition. The Octathlon is a campus-wide athletic competition that features eight sports in one weekend. DU, captained by Athletic Chair Mark Sellemyer ’04, went undefeated in all eight sports and took the title for the 2000-2001 school year. Judging by the athletic talent of our new pledges, prospects look good for a repeat performance this year.

DU was well represented on the varsity sports front as well. Delta Upsilon brothers dominated the MIT men’s soccer team last year. Six starters wearing the DU letters, including team captain Jim Anderson ’01, led the team. Anderson and I were named to the first team for the NEWMAC Conference. In addition, I earned the honor of Rookie of the Year for the conference and took team MVP honors. This year’s team looked even stronger with Doug Allaire, Cory McLean, pledge Josh Walton ’05, and I combining for nearly 90 percent of the team’s offense.

The varsity water polo team had one of its best years ever thanks in large part to eight DU brothers. Stefan Bewley ’01 captained the team and Jeff Colton ’02 was named MVP. The team won the D3 Eastern Championships with an impressive overtime win over Johns Hopkins University. Bewley was named Player of the Tournament and Colton and goalie Peter Van Buskirk ’04 were named to the First All Tournament Team. Colton was also named to the First Team All-American, and Bewley was named to the second team.

DU has also dominated the Charles River with a strong presence on the varsity crew team. MIT’s heavyweight men took first place in the Head of the Ohio earlier this year and followed it up with a strong sixth-place showing in the collegiate division of the Head of the Charles. Three out of the four members of that boat—Collins Ward, Brian Richter, and Nick Abercrombie—were DUs. In addition, this year’s freshmen boat is led by two DU pledges, Matt Theis and Andy Hill, who have the top two individual freshman erg times.

Nick Nestle ’04
Athletic Chair