

THE PHI ALPHA

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“ . . . AND WHOSE SELF CONTROL IS
EQUAL TO ALL EMERGENCIES”



*The problems facing SAE today must
be met aggressively through the
development of leadership qualities*

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Mississippi Theta
Co-Editor

RALPH CHIDO
West Virginia Alpha
Co-Editor

When a problem arises it is like a flare to those who care. A flare which must signal men, in our case, the true gentlemen, to thought, action and reaction. These must lead to a plan of unity. This unity must consist of cooperation, imagination, and determination, thus resulting in solution.

Such a task is easier said than done. The practice of avoiding problems with the hope that they might disappear will not work. It never has. The problem must be met head on. In this way only can it be coped with successfully. The enthusiasm needed to spearhead the resolving of such problems lies in the development of leadership.

The leader, who is the beacon of the fraternity, is responsible for steering it safely through the problems it confronts. Leadership demands of its possessor that he be blunt in his objectivity, yet well rounded in his application; well defined in his goals, but open minded in his approach and consistent in his propriety.

In facing problems, this leader must be resourceful enough to realize the benefits to be gained by working with the interfraternity world as a whole. Cooperation among Greeks is mandatory if we are to survive the anti-Greek sentiment of this age.

Leaders are not born, they are a result of their environment and their experience. Sigma Alpha Epsilon is this environment, this experience. SAE Leadership School is the pinnacle of this potent combination.

This issue of the PHI ALPHA deals with what we feel to be some of the most pressing problems facing Sigma Alpha Epsilon today. We have made every effort to present the facts and experiences of others in an unbiased way; it is hoped that the thoughts of others will help to give a better insight into the problems we must seek to solve. With a questionnaire we have recorded the opinions of over 300 of the fraternity's leaders, both undergraduate and alumni, at Leadership School.

While we have offered information on these various areas, it must be realized that each problem is a unique situation and must be dealt with individually. The fraternity can offer no pat answer to each problem, rather it can train its men to be leaders — train them to meet any problem by carefully considering the question and acting decisively to find the best possible solution. Only this type of training — this type of leadership can ensure the continued progress and greatness of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Drugs: The Campus and the Fraternity

In a recent issue of TIME magazine, from December 28, 1968, Donald B. Louria, President of the New York State Council on Drug Addiction, said, "In the last five years the use of pot on college campuses has reached epidemic proportions." In his book, "The Drug Scene," Louria estimates that 15% of the 6.5 million college students in America smoke pot. At some schools apparently half the students have tried pot and 25% or upwards smoke once or twice a week.

In the same issue of TIME the Michigan Health Department reported that pot smoking "represents a social form of recreation far removed from the traditional problems of narcotic addiction or alcoholism." They also found that students who use pot were more socially conscious, more politically active than those who did not, and they earned just as good grades in school.

Whether or not these quotes are completely accurate we must admit that the problems of drugs and marijuana on college campuses are increasing every day. We would be kidding ourselves to believe that the Greek system is not being effected by this problem. Because of the increase in the use of drugs and the growing acceptance of them it is essential that we discover the reasons for the increase, the attitudes of the people directly or indirectly involved and discover a workable solution to the situation.

With an average of 200 delegates answering several questions on drugs, 58% reported that the use of drugs is prevalent on their particular campus and 79% said drugs are not confined to the so-called "Hippies." Out of the 200 delegates 13% said they personally use drugs and 67% said the use of drugs existed in the Greek housing units. It is interesting to note the percentage of delegates who use drugs comes very close to the estimate of student drug use throughout the country.

Although 94% of the delegates felt that the fraternity house is not a good place to use drugs, 82% felt they were tolerant of other people using drugs. This appears to show a general acceptance of drug use. In another question, assuming a brother was caught using drugs in the house, the delegates were evenly divided among expulsion, suspension, and reprimand. Each choice had approximately 33% approval as the "right" thing to do. If we look at these two questions and their percentages we find that the delegates actually do accept the use of drugs and, if the problem does occur in their houses, there was no clear majority in favor of one particular method of handling the problem. Therin may lie our problem.

Since 76% of the delegates felt that the use of drugs is not immoral it would be difficult to convince a brother that he is morally wrong in using drugs. Even when the possible physical and legal consequences of using drugs are explained to a brother, 83% of the delegates felt that this would not stop him from using them. Obviously neither one of these approaches is feasible. There may still be a solution.

It appears that to argue morals or medical statistics is useless. But, if caught, the repercussions from the National Fraternity, the University and Government Agencies are difficult to ignore. There must be a concentrated effort to explain that a brother, who uses drugs in the house, is placing not only himself in jeopardy but also the entire chapter. In "Off the Cuff" discussions with the delegates most felt that peer group pressure, is the answer. They felt the majority of the brothers must create the atmosphere that using drugs is not the "cool" thing to do. If the problem is so large that the majority of the brothers are using drugs, then, seemingly, as a last alternative this pressure must come from outside the chapter.

As fraternity men, as SAE's, we need to realize that we face a perplexing problem. It does exist. Although the survey's indications and the suggested solutions are not absolute they were designed to stimulate awareness and possible solutions. We must agree that both are necessary.

DALE SAPPER, Ohio Gamma
GLENN BOWRON, Alabama Mu

A PRAYER FOR SAE

Dear God,

As we reflect on the prosperity our fraternity enjoys today we are reminded that there have been many problems to stand in our way. From the first days of the fraternity, through the Civil War, and even today, the existence of problems has tested our brotherhood. There were many times, I am sure, when the leaders of the past came to You for help, receiving peace of heart and the strength and determination necessary to carry on. Surely they must have dreamed of and prayed for Sigma Alpha Epsilon to become the best fraternity in America. Certainly these dreams and prayers must have seemed whimsical and unreachable to many. But, just as surely, they arose from their knees and went to work in order to realize those dreams. And God, I pray that in every man's heart who wears an SAE

badge, there is the feeling that his impossible dream is now a reality.

Help us to experience a feeling of rebirth and rededication, oh Lord, a rebirth of that great winning spirit of the past and a rededication to preserve our prosperity and to strive for even higher goals. Keep our eyes on these goals, Lord, but also help us never to lose sight of You, for we pray that this faith might give us the strength to meet all challenges, solve any problems, and endure any hardships.

So, we submit to You, oh Lord, our prayers for those great men who have come before us, our thanks for the goals they reached, and our dreams for continued prosperity for Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Amen.

ALLAN CHAPPELLE, Alabama Mu

Change - for Better or Worse?

Change — Revolution — Flouting of Authority — these seem to be the themes of our era — the Fraternity included in this time. A more graphic representation of change could not have been made than at the 113th Anniversary Convention of SAE in San Francisco. This hectic four-day conglomeration of meetings, songs, and general sessions in June produced many revolutionary results. Of these results two seem to be outstanding: first, an amendment that individual chapters will set the voting requirements in the election of pledges and second, the initiation of new colonization procedures and charter granting operations.

The Permanent Committee on National Laws, was still divided in support of these amendments. From this split two equally distinct cliques of thought were apparent in the open discussions and finally in the voting on these National Amendments. The basic reason for the adoption of this amendment on chapter autonomy in pledge election requirements was due to the increasing number of institutions that demand the abolition of the unanimous "BALL" system. If not abolished, the 100 per cent acceptance of a pledge could result in many chapters being removed from these institutions. Counter to this argument was the apparent feeling that some consistency should be kept nationally in the selection of pledges.

Many long and heated discussions followed the Permanent Committee recommendation of this proposal but a final positive vote initiated this amendment into the National Laws.

The second major set of amendments included new colonization procedures and charter granting. Colonization was accepted readily but charter granting had a "hang-up" in the direct-voting-by-mail operation for acceptance of individual chapters. Persons from the area of the local who have a personal acquaintance with it cannot now be heard, stated the Permanent Committee.

Again after much discussion, the direct-voting-by-mail system of acceptance was adopted.

Was there change at this Convention? ? ? Yes!!!! Will these new methods work? ? ? No one will be able to answer this question until these methods have been employed in this new era of SAE.

CHARLES KOHLI, Ohio Sigma
JAMES JESTER, Ohio Sigma

Racial Integration into Greek Organizations

The integration problem, which has become a very prevalent factor in today's society, confines itself not only to the integration of schools, business and athletics, but has gradually become somewhat of a major confrontation to the Greek organizations on today's college campuses. Many of the chapters have already been faced with this dilemma and in some cases it would make no difference.

On many campuses there are people who unite their forces in search of common goals. The Greek fraternal organization is analagous to this group of

individuals. It is commonly known, however, that there are certain groups whose goals might differ, and therefore they form their own "fraternity." The majority-minority of today's campuses do have similar organizations known as "All-Black" fraternities whose goal achievements might differ from the other organizations. But what is the case if there is no "All-Black" fraternity? Then the other Greek organizations are thereby faced with the integration aspect.

As the enrollment in college becomes larger, so does the membership of the Greek organizations. The minorities become aware of these fraternities and are drawn to them, perhaps out of true and genuine interest or just plain curiosity. As these minorities soon discover, there are minimal percentages of persons of their own race invited to membership and they are faced with one of two alternatives: First, try to infiltrate one of these organizations or secondly, form an organization which would include only members of their race.

Possibly the only way to deal with the integration dilemma is to conduct an entire chapter meeting on this confrontation to decide what the specific chapter is to do about integrating minorities and what steps should be pursued to eliminate any future arising problems.

Avoid misconceptions about racial integration, but beware also of apathetic views. When the time comes we don't want to be known as either Partisan or Bi-Partisan, but we do want to know what we are eventually going to be confronted with and we must know what steps to take. We must all act reasonably with a basic understanding of racial integration. When the time comes handle it as you see fit — handle it as true gentlemen of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

PHIL KIRBY, Calif. Xi

SAE: Where Are You?

What is the fraternity's place on campus? In what direction must it proceed if it is to be an effective and meaningful institution? In the past, a fraternity's strength or weakness was expressed when rivalries between individual fraternities developed. These are quite heated even today, but for the most part the focus must change. The concern of SAE and of all fraternities should be more of purpose rather than competition.

Some chapters have initiated fund raising drives, public and community service campaigns, improved scholastic programs and student government work.

The talents and traits of each individual fraternity man must be utilized in a much broader direction. If a man has some abilities let him use them, not just for his fraternity but, through his fraternity, channel it toward school and community needs.

If the fraternity system dies it will be because it has become an ineffective institution; not able to cope with its own potential. To make sure this does not happen, we must re-evaluate ourselves and we must become aware of new responsibilities to our fraternity. This is a most serious task which must be taken not for the good of SAE or any individual fraternity but for the future of the entire panhellenic world.

Charles B. Galloway, Florida Beta
Thomas M. Gonzales, La. Tau-Upsilon

Phi Alpha Questionnaire

The staff of the PHI ALPHA at this second session of the 35th Leadership School was aware that there are several definite problems facing our fraternity. In an effort to better understand how the delegates felt about these issues we distributed the following questionnaire to our fellow delegates. It is partially reprinted here with results. We found the results interesting, sometimes surprising. I would appreciate your comments or opinions.

JIM PAUL, Texas Epsilon

NATIONAL LAWS: According to a change at the recent National Convention: Election of a pledge shall be the sole prerogative of the individual chapter, provided no chapter's requirements shall fall below one-half plus one of the members of the chapter who are eligible to vote.

What percent do you as a representative of your chapter favor?

100%	80%	60%	50% plus one
49.4%	36.7%	5.6%	8.3%

- Do you think a black brother would hurt your chapter?
Yes 41.3% No 58.7%
- Would the mere color of a man's skin keep you from wanting him as a member of your chapter?
Yes 14.6% No 85.4%
- If an initiated black brother transferred to your campus, would your chapter accept him on an equal basis?
Yes 45.1% No 54.9%
Would your alumni accept this?
Yes 42.8% No 57.2%
- Are you faced with the integration problem?
Yes 41.1% No 58.9%
- Is there a black fraternity on campus?
Yes 43.7% No 56.3%

DRUGS (including marijuana)

- Is the use of drugs prevalent on your campus?
Yes 57.3% No 42.7%
- Does the use of drugs exist in the Greek housing units on your campus?
Yes 66.7% No 33.3%
- Do you feel the use of drugs is immoral?
Yes 23.5% No 76.5%
- Do you personally use drugs?
Yes 12.9% No 87.1%
- Do you feel the fraternity house is a good place for the use of drugs in order to escape the likelihood of being caught?
Yes 5.8% No 94.2%
- How do you feel brothers who are caught using drugs should be handled:
Expelled 33.7% Suspended 33.2% Reprimanded 33.1%
- Regardless of whether or not you use drugs, can you be tolerant of others who use them?
Yes 81.5% No 18.5%

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