

LIFESTYLES

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Phi Delta Chi: *future leaders in pharmacy*

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CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The 2014-15 academic year was memorable for the Alpha Psi chapter of Phi Delta Chi, a professional pharmacy fraternity whose sight is set on the continual development of future leaders in pharmacy.

Phi Delta Chi was founded at Pacific in 1956 and has continued its legacy of promoting scholastic, professional and social growth among brothers. Within the Pacific community, brothers are actively involved, holding positions such as organizational officers, committee co-chairs, student advisors and teaching assistants.

Mitchell Kozono '16, '19, a member since 2013, states, "Because of Phi Delta Chi, I have been able to experience so many aspects of Pacific and really see all that our University has to offer, allowing me to fully maximize my years here and every opportunity that comes my way."

This year, Phi Delta Chi's biennial fraternal conference, known as Grand Council, was held in Albuquerque, N.M., with the presence of 94 alumni and collegiate chapters from across the nation.

The Alpha Psi chapter made its legacy by receiving the Emory W. Thurston Grand President's Cup, along with several other awards.

The Thurston Cup is the highest honor any chapter can receive and is awarded to the chapter with the highest overall achievements in categories such as brotherhood, leadership and scholastics.

This year, Alpha Psi placed first in Professional Projects, second in Scholarship, third in Chapter Publication, fourth in Leadership and eighth in Brotherhood.

Alpha Psi's Worthy Chief Counselor (president), Logan Brodnansky '14, '17 spoke of the conference saying, "Grand Council was an incredible experience. We were able to further develop our leadership and professional skills while helping other chapters improve as well. Having so many of our members take part in this milestone by attending the conference made all of our hard work over the years pay off."

For the Professional Projects award, Alpha Psi hosts the annual Color for Cures Run at University of the Pacific, has two major health fairs per year, participates in Relay for Life and hosts the St. Jude's Letter Writing Campaign.

The Alpha Psi chapter earned its placing for the scholarship award based on the programs it has installed to promote scholastic improvement and achievement. Some of these programs include weekly study groups in the



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library to encourage Brothers to study together, resume writing workshops and mock interviews to help prepare the brothers for pharmacy school admission interviews.

The Chapter Publication category refers to an annual report that summarizes the chapter's history and progress and also contains all of the officers' reports and thematic reports. These reports can include but are not limited to professional and service projects, alumni outreach, rush events, social events and philanthropy, to name a few.

In 2014-15, Alpha Psi made its chapter publication in the form of a cookbook; each report was written in the style of a recipe, which included the key ingredients that made up Alpha Psi.

For the Leadership category, the Alpha Psi chapter held an undergraduate panel, among other events. At this event, undergraduate brothers were able to ask graduate brothers about the many leadership roles they held during their years of undergraduate studies.

The graduate brothers also shared the leadership opportunities available and how their undergraduate experiences allowed them to earn the leadership positions they hold now in pharmacy school.

The Brotherhood award is given based on the chapter's programs and events that encourage brotherhood. This involved things such as creating the mentor and mentee program and having weekly hangouts or barbecues where all of the brothers can bond. Brotherhood is not only promoted within the Alpha Psi chapter but also with other chapters at retreats in Yosemite and Lake Tahoe.

The cumulative efforts of the Alpha Psi chapter and their accomplishments in these categories led them to become the top chapter of Phi Delta Chi in the nation.

The prestigious Emory W. Thurston Grand President's Cup award reflects the chapter's continuous dedication to serving the community and instilling leadership in its Brothers for the future of pharmacy.