



SigEp Newsletter

Spring / Summer 2013

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Buchanan Cup

For the first time in Sigma Phi Epsilon PABB RLC history here at Drexel University, we are now the proud owners of the most prestigious national award that a SigEp chapter can be bestowed, the Buchanan Cup. This award is given at SigEp's biennial conclave, the largest gathering of fraternity brothers in the world where delegates from each chapter in the nation are present. The cup celebrates the highest performing chapters and represents superior and sustained achievement. Of the 200+ SigEp chapters on college campuses across the nation, Drexel SigEp is one of only 32 chapters to receive this high honor at this year's conclave that was held on July 31, 2013 to August 4, 2013 and one of two chapters in Pennsylvania to win the award this year.

Originally known as the chapter leadership cup, the long history of this award dates back to its inception in 1961. The cup was then renamed in 1967 to honor the memory of former Grand President Edwin Buchanan and his 35 years of service to Sigma Phi Epsilon. The "Buc Cup", as it is commonly referred to, recognizes the best-of-the-best SigEp chapters. Each

chapter is measured against the accomplishments of other SigEp chapters across the nation. Only the ones that are truly exceptional and excel in every area of operation are awarded with the Buchanan Cup.



PABB SigEps at Conclave during Award Ceremony

Drexel SigEp's acceptance of the Buchanan Cup wraps up an exceptionally dominant year for our chapter. On campus, SigEp has won every major award that is given to Drexel fraternities. (More on Page 2)

SigEp Reigning Greek Week Champions!



Watch the action here!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKxGYDdd0oI>

(More on Page 2)



**The “Buc Cup”,
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The 2012-2013 academic year resulted in our first ever Buchanan Cup, our third consecutive Dean’s Cup (awarded to the IFC chapter recognized by the administration of their achievements and campus involvement), our second consecutive Greek Week title, and IFC athletic championships in basketball, soccer, and football. Although the academic year is not over yet, we have also maintained the highest cumulative GPA on campus through three terms. We look to finish out this year with the highest academic standing as well.

Winning Dean’s Cup for three consecutive years allows the receiving chapter to permanently keep the cup; thus, just as the Dean’s Cup will forever be a fixture in our

Buchanan Cup (Cont.)

chapter room, the Buchanan Cup will now join it.

Furthermore, we have no plans for our excellence to slow down from here on out. When a SigEp chapter earns 5 consecutive Buchanan Cups, it is awarded an engraved gold bowl, a specialized Buchanan Cup that symbolizes a decade of excellence. We look on toward this goal and plan on maintaining our outstanding achievements by building balanced men here at Sigma Phi Epsilon.



SigEp Reigning Greek Week Champions! (Cont.)

Drexel SigEp celebrated another Greek Week title this year, beating out all 11 of the other IFC fraternities on campus to win the crown. This year’s title is the second consecutive Greek Week victory that the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon have earned and marks the 5th time in the last 6 years that SigEp has placed in the top two of IFC fraternities at the annual competition.

At last year’s Greek Week in 2012, the competition went straight down to the wire as Sigma Phi Epsilon and Pi Kappa Alpha battled down the stretch. Eventually, the winner was decided by the slimmest of margins with SigEp beating out Pike in the final event, the tug of war, to win the exciting contest by only 12 points. Although 2013’s Greek Week ended in SigEp placing 1st and Pike in 2nd once again, SigEp

had already run away with the lead before the final day of competition. SigEp ended up with championships in the tug of war, the 5K Pipino run, volleyball, the talent show, the chariot race, and both arm wrestling weight classes. SigEp also played in the flag football championship game and finished top three in the tile and eating contests.

The overwhelming camaraderie, creativity, and athleticism were all factors in the truly chapter-wide effort to bring home another Greek Week trophy. SigEp’s exceptional year in athletics was also accentuated by IFC athletic championships in basketball, soccer, and football. The all-around excellence of the fraternity were seen again this year with a third consecutive Dean’s cup and our first ever, nationally recognized Buchanan cup. A truly trophy year for the balanced brothers of Drexel SigEp.

SigEp Adopted A Street!

Adding to the long list of SigEp's community service initiatives, our chapter is now pioneering an effort to improve the everyday lives of not only Drexel's Greek life, but the university's students as a whole. Partnering with Drexel's student affairs office and Associate Dean John Cooke, SigEp is establishing a biweekly street cleaning project on Drexel's 34th street.

The street cleaning utilizes the manpower of our chapter to pick up and dispose of the trash that litters the sidewalks along the street. Currently, we cover the sidewalks on both sides of 34th street between Powelton Avenue and Lancaster Avenue. The idea for such a street clean-

ing event was first thought of by our own Chris Baccash in November of this past year. Chris has spearheaded the completely voluntary event ever since and is responsible for our partnership with Drexel's student affairs office. So far, SigEp has received help from the sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha, and we are currently encouraging any other fraternities and sororities to join this community service initiative.



Although we are operating locally for now, we hope to soon extend the effort throughout Drexel's campus community in the future. Street cleaning helps beautify our campus and city while improving the

quality of life of all Drexel students. Getting rid of unnecessary trash alongside our thoroughfares on campus not only eliminates the obvious eyesore it creates, but also is a benefit to our urban environment. We have ambitious plans for our street cleaning event, and there is no community service effort on campus quite like it. As a casual observer of our campus environment, any bystander can see that an effort like this is needed. Drexel SigEp's plans for this event do not have a timetable. As long as there is trash on our sidewalks, we plan to keep cleaning.



Sigma Phi Epsilon PABB Hosts Judge Mitch Crane

On August 24th, Judge Mitch Crane traveled to our chapter house to meet and speak with our members. Judge Mitch served District Governor at the time of our founding for District Six, he is the creator of EDGE, an advocate for Pennsylvania Beta Beta and a recipient of The Order of the Golden Heart-- SigEp's highest honor for life-long volunteers.

Prior to our meal, Judge Mitch held court out on the porch and greeted dinner guests as they arrived and introduced himself. During dinner, Judge Mitch made

sure to speak with and engage each guest which set the tone for rich conversation. He shared his experiences as a brother, a volunteer, an activist, and as a human being.

Judge Mitch was generous, liberal if you will, with his time; he drove all the way from Lewes Delaware to meet with us-- we are grateful for both his time and his life long commitment of holding our fraternity to high standards.



Mitch Crane

Alumni Section



Jaime Cordero

“It was a good group of guys, and I could see a piece of myself in every one that I met.”

“The SigEp Way of Living” - by Ari Yamaguchi

“You can end a friendship. It’s a lot harder to end being a brother in SigEp.”

Going into my interview with Jaime, I had high expectations. You can’t not have high expectations when Adam Zahn tells you this guys is “one of the best SigEps that PABB has seen over its history.” Jaime did not disappoint—relaxed, modest, open, and intelligent, he exuded exactly what it means to be a SigEp as he sat across the table from me a hookah restaurant just down the street from the house. Jaime discussed old stories, group dynamics, and even his views on many of the issues we still face.

Why join SigEp? Introduced by his friend and fellow engineer Dillon, Jaime immediately felt at home. “It was a good group of guys, and I could see a piece of myself in every one that I met.” Coming from an intense background of high school sports, he knew the signs of a good group include healthy interaction and respectful guidance provided to the younger members by the older. Having seen the positive effects of that from his many high school teams, he could tell that SigEp had the a beneficial dynamic.

What positions did you hold in the chapter and what did you learn from them? “I was famous for being chaplain for a long time. Being chaplain has no frills, it’s a thankless job.” Taking the position of chaplain as a Sophomore, Jaime had to do a lot of growing up in order to take on the responsibility of doing the right thing even if its is unpopular. This lesson is one that can help any fraternity. Going forward in his career, Jaime has a strong sense of taking a stand for what’s right. Just as important as knowing what’s right and wrong, he developed the skills to defend such an sometimes unpopular decisions. These experiences allowed Jaime to build on the innate leadership that comes with being in a fraternity.

Jaime had this to say as a former Sigma coordinator: “I have plenty of friends that I would never want in SigEp. They just have different values... This is the opportunity to drive the Balanced Man. It’s also the time to drive home taking the ideals seriously.” With the wrong guidance in the most formative time as a young new member, it’s very easy to stray from our ideals and not take them seriously. That’s why Sigma coordinator is one of the most important jobs in ensuring the future of the chapter. Jaime believes that Sigma coordinators should be respected juniors or seniors, so that they can represent seniority, while simultaneously engaging older members and giving the freshmen a more senior mentor. After the leadership he undertook starting in his sophomore year, he was able to explode onto his professional life as an immediate leader in employee organizations and networks.

How can we engage older guys? “It’s hard to get guys to come over when school and setting up a career takes over” Friendly competition such as Beta Beta week and getting together off campus are both great options, he says. Jaime remembered how he and his fellow brothers went on ski and snowboard trips to Canada during breaks. “It really comes down to programming though. You need a wide range of things to attract different guys.”

How has SigEp played a part in your personal life? “Well I met my wife through SigEp.” One Marathon Night, Jaime and his big “Goofy” decided that, lacking any real Christmas lights on the porch, they should steal DZ’s. That night happened to also be the night of new member initiation for DZ. Jaime held a black sheet over the window while Goofy stole the lights, “and that lasted all of 30 seconds.” The girls came out to stop them and stationed their new initiates outside to make sure Jaime and Goofy would not strike again. The two of them stayed outside all night talking with the twelve girls, and among those girls was Jaime’s future wife. The moral that I took away from this? Don’t steal from DZ. You might end up married.

What’s the best way to live the ritual and cardinal principles? “Anything you do, regardless of how difficult, any time you face adversity, maintain a moral compass... I was fitting cap and gown when my upcoming job went under and they offered me a job in Houston. In the job market it would have been the next November before I even got an interview. A lot of my friends were settling for mediocre jobs with no investment from their employers. As I said before, it’s always easier to do nothing, but it’s important to do what’s going to benefit you, whether it’s with women or your job.”

“Don’t steal from DZ. You might end up married”

SigEp PABB Ranked First In The Nation In GPA

2012 - 2013 year was definitely the year for Sigma Phi Epsilon Pennsylvania Beta Beta Chapter. According to Drexel Fraternity Sorority Life, SigEp had the second highest cumulative GPA on campus with 3.38, right below Delta Phi Epsilon sorority. Needless to say, SigEp was number one among fraternities last year.

Summer term of 2013, SigEp ranked first with an incredible GPA of 3.56 among all organizations and ranked first in campus. Our brothers are surely collecting the rewards of their diligence.

However the biggest news for SigEp PABB came on August 19th, 2013 from the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC). NIC ranked the top 22 fraternities who un-weighted annual GPA was at least .50 above their campus's all-male GPA, and [SigEp PABB took the first place in the nation!](#)

“The men in these 22 chapters are holding themselves to a higher standard, which epitomizes the spirit of fraternity done right.”

-NIC President & CEO Pete Smithhisler

Chapter Room Renovation by Alumni

In July of 2013, a group of alumni and undergraduates of SigEp PABB spent three weekends updating the chapter room and naming it in memory of Brother Jamie Rosley, a founding father of our chapter who we lost earlier this year. The room was last renovated in 2007 when Jamie used his talents, personal funds, and resources to redesign the first floor of the chapter house, converting what was a TV front room and underutilized recreational middle room into a formal Chapter Room in the front room and TV room in the middle room. The Chapter Room design was a huge success has been heavily used for the last six years for E-Board, Cabinet, AVC, MemDev challenge meetings, as well as study sessions. We frequently used the room to host faculty and guests for meetings, discussions and meetings. The renovation was a success and the room has been heavily used resulting in wear and tear.

During our recent renovation, we replaced the worn IKEA desks with a custom-built desk space in front of the chapter room with electrical outlets to plug in laptops and phone chargers. We added custom built in benches to increase seating capacity in the room for meetings, study sessions, and rituals. Matt Baum headed up the design and construction of the desks and benches. The lighting was upgraded to provide more even lighting though out the room. We also purchased and installed a 50" Smart LED TV in order to facilitate meetings with multimedia presentations. These and other improvements that were made to create a modern, inviting, and state of the art setting to meet the needs of our chapter's increase in academic and development activities in our Residential Learning Community. All the funds for this project were donated by alumni, undergraduates and friends. A formal dedication of the space will occur at the AVC annual meeting in October.



Before



After



For more visit sigep-drexel.org

SigEp

SigEp Wins Deans Cup for Third Straight Year

For the third consecutive year, Sigma Phi Epsilon was awarded the Dean's Cup from Drexel University. This is the fourth time Sigep was the recipient of this award in the last five years. Each year the "best," chapter on campus is awarded the cup for balanced excellence and innovation in scholarship, community service, leadership and brotherhood. This year's victory reflects the accomplishments of 2012 calendar year. In 2012 SigEp proudly recorded:

- \$50,000 raised for children's cancer research for St. Baldrick's
- Top academic performance on campus
- A spring break trip to Georgia, serving Habitat for Humanity
- The 2012 Greek Week Champions

The application for Dean's Cup, however, highlights not only the ups, but the challenges of a year. The reviewers were impressed with how our chapter handled unpredictable adversity when we lost our dear founder, Jamie Lee Rosley. This event, among others, proved the strength of our brotherhood and the depth of our friendship-- the most important



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