

Phi Sigma Sigma

List of founders:

Brittany Hanna
Brittany Hyde
Lori Schwartz
Kristina Messina
Gemi Wyllie
Kaie Small-warner
Cheryl Dingman
Amy Perkins
Becky Thompson
Leslie Stark
Aliea Hernberg
Maggie Walsh
Ashley Vargas
Ashley Young
Chavan Pinder
Terri Benjamin
Stephanie Crow
Stephanie Groleau
Kim Dunkley
Tanyka Sham Ku
Jaclyn Parker
Luz Laidlaw

Local History:

Delta Psi Sigma, a local sorority, was founded on October 24, 2002 on the Florida Tech campus. In the fall of 2003, Delta Psi Sigma requested approval from the Panhellenic Association to allow the expansion of a third National Panhellenic Council Sorority to the Florida Tech Campus. They were approved and so began the expansion process.

A letter was sent to the 24 eligible Panhellenic sororities that included information about Delta Psi Sigma, the local sorority. This letter also informed them that Florida Tech was expanding and asked them to send packets of information about their own sorority. Five of the sororities responded and sent packets that Delta Psi Sigma reviewed.

Delta Psi Sigma chose three of the five sororities to come and make a presentation for Delta Psi Sigma and the Panhellenic Association for approval to expand on the campus. Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Phi Epsilon and Phi Sigma Sigma received letters inviting them to come to Florida Tech to present. Delta Phi Epsilon decided not to make a presentation, while Alpha Xi Delta and Phi Sigma Sigma made presentations in the spring of 2004.

After the two sororities made presentations about themselves, the Ladies of Delta Psi Sigma chose to invite Phi Sigma Sigma to expand onto the Florida Tech Campus as their beliefs were very close to those of their own. The Panhellenic Council then

officially invited Phi Sigma Sigma to the campus and allowed the new sorority to begin recruitment in the fall of 2004. However, due to the horrible hurricane season of 2004, Phi Sigma Sigma made the decision to postpone their recruitment until the spring of 2005.

In the spring of 2005, Membership Manager Lisa Wallace and Field Staff Consultant Katie Reigleman from Phi Sigma Sigma Headquarters came to Florida Tech to recruit women for their new colony. After two weeks of non-stop recruiting, 36 women were pinned into the Phi Sigma Sigma Fraternity. These women were given the challenge of making a new chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma from the colony they were just pinned into.

The first task that needed to be completed was the election of the new executive board that included an archon, vice archon, bursar, sisterhood development chair, membership recruitment chair, scribe, tribune, member-at-large, and Panhellenic delegate. The women elected to these positions were Brittany Hyde, Maggie Walsh, Lori Schwartz, Kristina Messina, Kaie Small-Warner, Amy Perkins, Ashley Young, Gemi Wyllie, and Cheryl Dingman, respectively.

Once the colony had leaders in place, the Constitution had to be written. Brittany Hyde and Kristina Messina wrote the Constitution using the examples of the Theta Xi and Kappa Chapters (other Phi Sigma Sigma Chapters) as guides. The colony discussed and voted on the written Constitution and it was then adapted.

Another large task that the colony needed to complete was the formation of committees. The colony agreed to create ten committees including, chapter excellence, scholarship, philanthropy, fundraising, multiculturalism and diversity, risk management/public relations, health and wellness, alumnae/families, social, and the super sigma committee.

During the spring of 2005, the colony members participated in philanthropy events and their first Greek Week. The colony agreed to host the annual Florida Tech Campus Clean Up and also participated in Habitat for Humanity in cooperation with the rest of the Fraternity and Sorority Community.

After a short three months, the colony journey had ended. The women of the Colony of Phi Sigma Sigma were initiated as Sisters and after a long weekend of celebrations, they were given their Charter on April 30, 2005. The Iota Eta Chapter was finally installed and the newly initiated women moved on to lead the next group of Iota Eta new members.