

WHY ALCOHOL-FREE HOUSING?



WHY PHI DELTA THETA IMPLEMENTED ALCOHOL-FREE HOUSING

The alcohol-free housing initiative was adopted following years of declining recruitment figures, poor academic performance by our members, deteriorating living facilities, and the alienation of our alumni base. At the forefront of the decision was the alcohol-dominated culture that existed on college campuses and within our chapters that was diminishing the principles upon which Phi Delta Theta was founded.

In 1997, Phi Delta Theta's General Council announced its alcohol-free housing policy to the world. Chapters were given more than three years to implement this paradigm shift on their campus and all properties were required to be alcohol-free by the implementation date of July 1, 2000.

Since the implementation, Phi Delta Theta has undergone transformational change and has become a noticed leader within the fraternal world. The policy, deemed by many as a factor that could be the end of an organization, has benefited Phi Delta Theta greatly in many ways.

Most importantly, the culture that it has created is attracting values-based men who are placed in safe environments where they can become the greatest versions of themselves.





THE CARDINAL PRINCIPLES

Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude are the three Cardinal Principles of Phi Delta Theta. However, it seemed that for many of our chapters, these sacred principles had taken a backseat and were no longer the focus. Brotherhood in our chapters was suffering and apathy was rampant. Alcohol-free housing has allowed Phi Delta Theta to regain focus on the principles upon which it was founded.



Friendship



Sound Learning



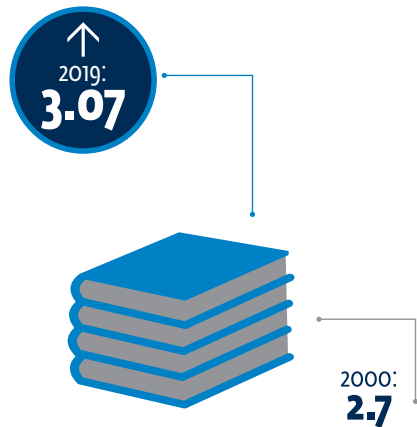
Rectitude

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Overall academic performance was weak, at best, as many of our members failed to meet chapter and university academic requirements. Removing alcohol from our chapter houses has created an improved learning environment and our members' academic performance proves this.

Chapter GPA Expectation

At the 2017 Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute, the General Council voted to increase the academic minimum standard for chapters from 2.5 to 2.75 or the All Men's Average. This policy change became effective January 1, 2018.



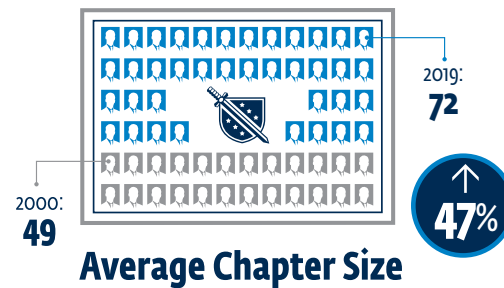
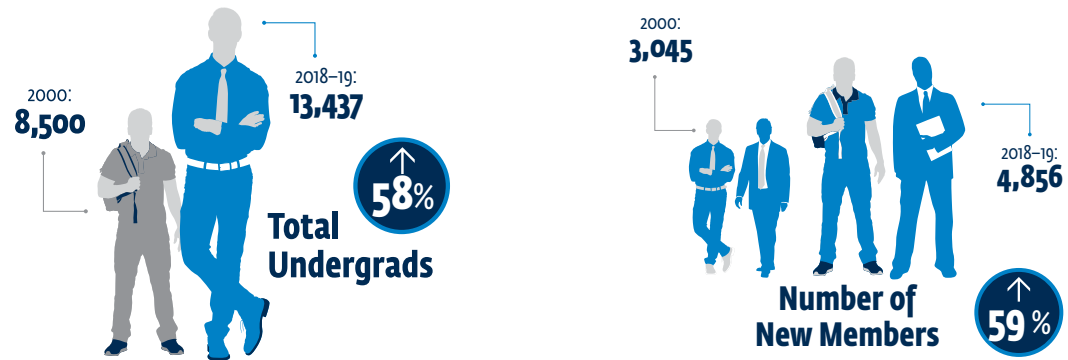
Average Chapter GPA





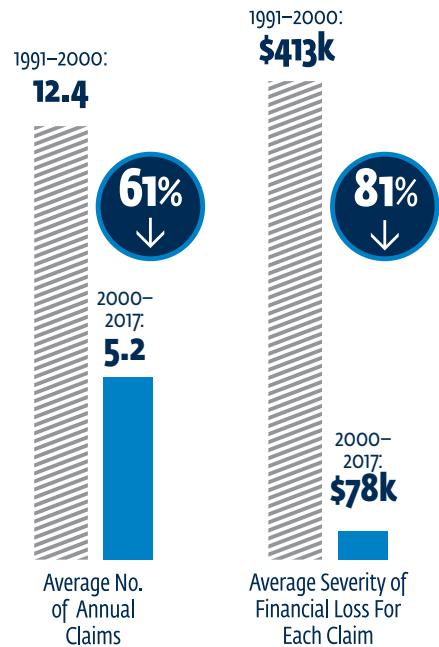
RECRUITMENT

A culture dominated by alcohol curtailed our ability to recruit campus leaders, aggravated campus officials to the point of distrust, and alienated much of our alumni base. Removing alcohol from our chapter houses has created a renewed focus on recruiting values-based members and a surge in demand for Phi Delta Theta membership.



RISK REDUCTION AND SAFETY

Alcohol-related incidents, including deaths, sexual assaults, fights, hazing, and vandalism had become all too common. These horrific incidents became a terrible financial burden and were a major stain on a Fraternity that strives for the development of strong moral character within its membership. Alcohol-free housing has resulted in safer environments for our members and any guests.



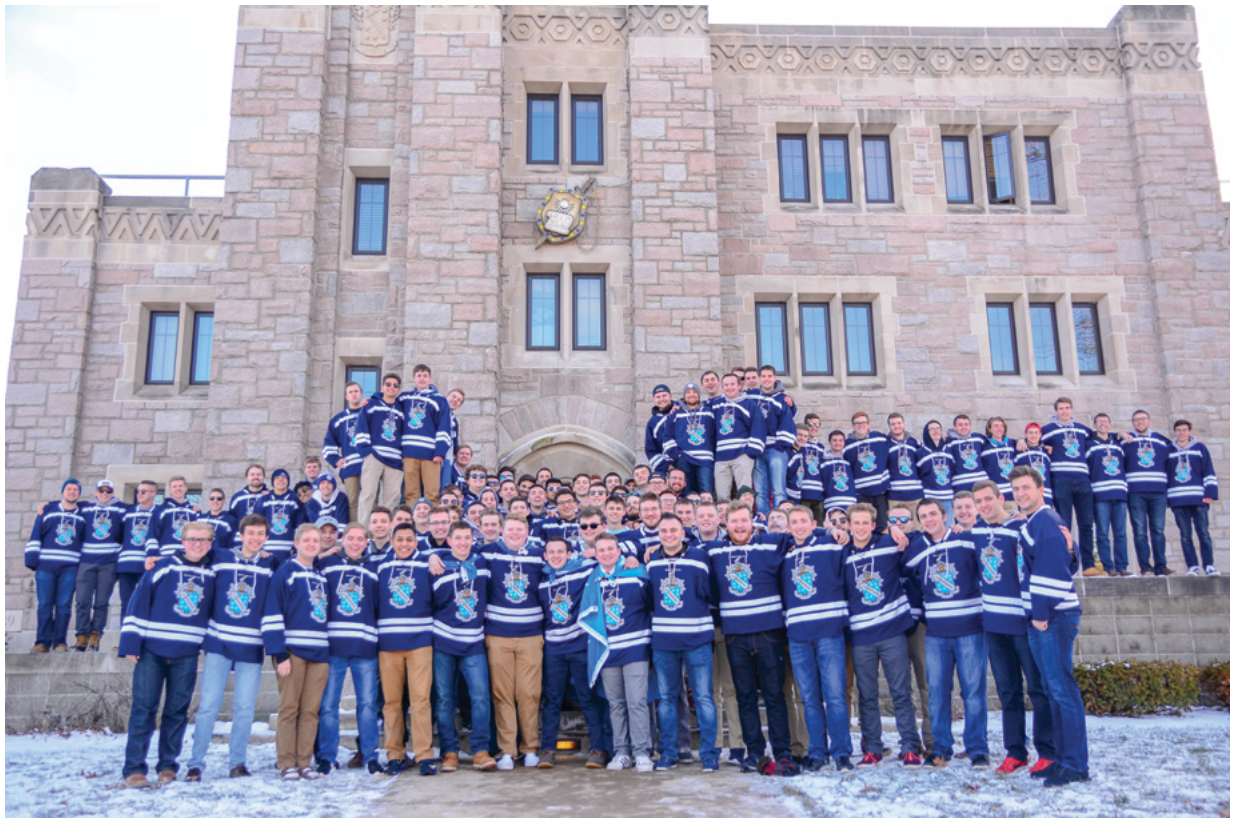
Insurance Claims & Their Severity





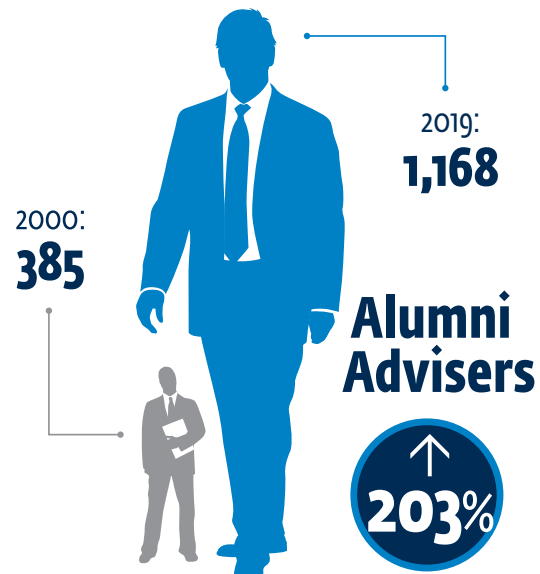
CHAPTER HOUSE UPKEEP

Once majestic Fraternity houses had become shells of their former selves. They had been trashed by the continuous wear and tear that came with weekend after weekend of parties and vandalism by members and non-members. Alcohol-free housing has enhanced our facilities and their ability to attract men to live in them.



VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Many house corporation officers, chapter advisers and other alumni had lost the will to fulfill their respective duties and assist chapters with day-to-day operations. Many were tired of having to constantly deal with problems and wanted a change. Alcohol-free housing has brought our alumni back to serve our chapters, resulting in stronger operations organization-wide.





STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Many members of Phi Delta Theta were acting in a way that did not bring credit to the Fraternity. Simply put, their actions did not align with what the Fraternity stood for and this was hurting the Fraternity as a whole.



THE COST OF MEMBERSHIP

Drastic increases in liability premiums were a concern as well. These increases were a result of the incidents mentioned above and were a major financial burden for our undergraduates. Today, Phi Delta Theta boasts one of the lowest per man insurance premiums amongst fraternities, making the Phi Delt experience a more affordable one.





All of these factors played an important role in the General Council's decision to implement alcohol-free housing and eliminate alcohol from all chapters facilities by the year 2000.





PHI DELTA THETA