



The Delta Psi Sig

RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

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One Sig's Faith at RPI

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I had a few goals when I first entered college. Number one on that list was continuing my journey and involvement in my Catholic faith while at school; and I can assure you that going to Greek hadn't even crossed my mind. But one year later, here I am: a member of the Delta Psi Sig. And in addition to my responsibilities as a Sig, I divide my time on campus among my studies and involvement in both the RPI council of Sigma Chi and the Knights of Columbus and the Newman Catholic Fellowship. What's best about all three of these organizations is that they work hand in hand to continually develop my character. From the perspective of a high school student, going Greek was nothing more than the stereotypical story you saw on TV or in the movies. But as I hung around our chapter house I began to understand what fraternities, or at least Sigma Chi, were all about. And now, as a member, I have a good sense of what it means to be a friend, a brother, and a Sigma Chi. But what's been most eye-opening to me was how much my faith has come into play as a Sig. I am able to represent the fraternity in my two clubs – areas where Greek numbers are lower compared to the rest of campus. It's yet another place to keep the name of Sigma Chi heard often and spoken highly of at RPI. Also, the leadership example and lessons of Sigma Chi have positively influenced my service in both the Knights and Newman. I serve as the Deputy Grand Knight of our council of the KofC and as an officer in Newman; and as elections and appointments approach for next year, I plan on continuing to serve in both of these organizations in addition to the taking on more responsibility in our chapter. Yet beyond all of these temporal affairs, what's most valuable to me as both a Sig and Catholic is

how I am continually forced to look introspectively and constantly better my moral fiber and overall character. It's a necessity that a man knows himself before attempting to lead others; and our job is never finished in the lifelong attempt to become the best version of ourselves possible. Our strong brotherhood keeps others close by so that I never become complacent. I know there will be people to help me when I stray from my path just as I will be there for them. I've seen the beauty in men from all walks of life and faiths coming together for a common purpose. And in appreciating both the traditions of my faith and our fraternity I hold the past as a strong lesson in our future. I value my involvement in my faith on campus as much as I value my membership in Sigma Chi. For me, they go hand in hand and I look forward to seeing where both lead me in the future.

In Hoc,
Philip Maas

Fall Philanthropy

On Halloween, the brothers of the Delta Psi Chapter hosted our 51st Annual Halloween Haunted House for the RPI and Troy communities. The Haunted House was a resounding success. We had to cut off the line 45 minutes early, and we still had over 485 people tour our haunted mansion, more than we've ever had in the past. Admission was free, and we were able to raise \$390 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Every fall, as a ser-

vice to our neighbors, we rake their leaves. On Saturday, November 6, 39 brothers, pledges, and guests participated in our Annual Leaf Rake. Fueled by a hot breakfast, we started early, and worked efficiently to clear 18 yards of leaves, many more than we have been able to do in the past. Our neighbors were very happy with our work, and we hope to further improve relations with our neighbors. As we complete the semester, we are

looking for more philanthropy opportunities for the spring. We have been in discussions with the Hope 7 Community Center in Troy to help tutor in their after-school program and collect donations for their food bank. We are excited to work with them next semester as a philanthropy partner within our community.

In Hoc,

Aaron Squier
Philanthropy Chair
Mechanical Eng. 2013

A New Chef at Delta Psi

This year we have hired a private chef, Raoul Joakim Mothander, nicknamed Jukie (*you-key*), to prepare dinner five days a week. Jukie was born and educated in Sweden and has been all over the world in his career as a chef. His cooking has been a great addition to the house. There has been much praise for Jukie, not only from active brothers, but also from parents, guests and visiting alumni. Jukie has brought the house better quality meals that

are also more nutritional, and lessened strain on brothers who no longer need to volunteer to cook for us. He is a dedicated worker, flexible to our needs and able to correct for some of our own mistakes. Jukie is a great asset to the Delta Psi Chapter personally and professionally.

In Hoc,

Kyle Finver
Chemical Engineering
2013
Steward

ROTC Life

Most students at RPI believe that school is difficult enough with just their classes and friends to deal with. But when you throw in something as time-consuming as ROTC, the stress level greatly increases. I don't mean to write this to complain about my current condition, but just to notify others that they have no right to complain about their lives (except Architecture students, of course). One of the benefits of being an Air Force ROTC cadet at RPI is that you can relate very closely to a group of people who have the same goals as you do and share your pains. Most of the cadets can depend on each other when someone is going through an especially difficult patch. I involve myself with three extra-curricular activities within Air Force ROTC: Armed Drill Team, Un-

armed Drill Team, and Arnold Air Society. Each of these activities adds on to the total time for Air Force ROTC every week. Instead of having about 7 hours dedicated to Air Force ROTC, I'll have about 12 spread throughout the week. Add in the all the planning and emails that go into each event, this



adds up to a good portion of my week. It's difficult to find time to do much of anything on

my own free time, but if I'm going to be in the military, I will have to get used to sacrifices. My brother told me before I went to college that I have to choose two of three things: school, friends, and sleep. Adding in Air Force ROTC doesn't make this decision any easier. Most of the time, I find myself giving up hours of sleep to accommodate my workload. But I don't regret the extra-curricular activities that I do, least of all, Sigma Chi. I think most college students come in not having that many very close friends, but Sigma Chi has given me many.

In some ways, it is very similar to Air Force ROTC. The camaraderie felt between stu-

dents going through the same problems and sharing the same interests can be found in both organizations. Some of the reasons that I was attracted to Sigma Chi and Air Force ROTC were Sigma Chi's motto and the Air Force's core values. "Friendship, Justice, and Learning" compared to "Integrity first, Service before Self, and Excellence in All we do." These mottos and my friends in both Sigma Chi and Air Force ROTC keep me from letting RPI get to me. Hopefully, this has given you some insight into being an RPI student, an Air Force ROTC cadet, and a brother of Sigma Chi.

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Upcoming Events

December 2nd — Fall Scholarship dinner

December 2nd — Billiards Trick Shot show with Alpha Omega Epsilon Sorority to benefit the American Heart Association

December 8th — SafeZone training seminar

February 5th — The 2011 Hudson Valley Province Workshop, held at Rensselaer Polytechnic this year.