



SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY Delta Delta Chapter

Leadership, Scholarship, Brotherhood

PURDUE UNIVERSITY



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"I will endeavor to retain the spirit of youth"
~Sigma Chi Creed, George Ade ΔΔ 1887

Fireside Chats Return to Delta Delta

Many of us are familiar with the McCutcheon illustration (circa 1935) of the Old Grad sitting in front of the Great Hall fireplace and having a heart to heart talk with his undergraduate Fraternity brothers.

Delta Delta Alums Take Part

Fast forward to 2016 and the active chapter is once again hosting "fireside chats" with prominent alumni through the marvels of today's technology. Using new high-end video conferencing equipment installed in the chapter house, the undergraduates can invite alumni to speak to them from the comfort of their own homes.

Guests for the first two fireside chats held this semester were Past Grand Consul Dick Hester and Rick Smith '81, the CEO of Equifax. Brother Hester who was the first to present using the new technology covered a number of Sigma Chi related topics.

In the second session Significant Sig Rick Smith discussed his career and current position as CEO of Equifax, how Sigma Chi values have driven his life and career, and the broad network of close friends he has established throughout the Fraternity's alumni. The brothers then spent time in an open Q&A session where they sought advice from Brother Smith on a number of topics.

Krach Family Foundation Supports Leadership Initiative

The goal behind installing the video technology was creating a way that the active chapter could tap into the wealth of knowledge and wisdom so many of our Delta Delta alumni possess. The idea of "remote" Fireside Chats was proposed using today's technology and through the generous support of the Krach Family Foundation, the House Corporation arranged to have the new video conferencing system installed earlier this year.

The new system is comprised of two separate units. The larger unit has a 65" screen and can be set up in the Great Hall or Dining Room. With high-end video and audio it allows for presentations to larger groups. Along with Fireside Chats, it is used in House Corporation meetings to allow brothers to participate remotely. The smaller unit with a 50" screen is located in the Education Wing conference room and permits brothers to hold video conferences for job interviews and less formal group meetings.

Fireside Chats Warmly Received

The two initial Fireside Chats went very well with high attendance from the chapter, strong participation in the discussions, and positive feedback from the attendees. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated hearing about the impact Sigma Chi has had on the lives and careers of their alumni guests.

Consul Rajiv Samagond '17 stated, "We're very much looking forward to future chats and would encourage any of our alumni who wish to take part to get hold of me."



Significant Sig Rick Smith '81 holds his Fireside Chat using the new video conferencing system.



The new video system allows remote participation by our alumni.



Undergrads fill the Great Hall for the recent Fireside Chats.

