



# Spring 2009

# Semester Newsletter

Dear Alumni Brother,

Greetings from the Collegiate Brothers of the Epsilon Sigma Chapter of Sigma Nu at Rhodes College! My name is Andrew Bell, and I am the interim Alumni Relations Chairman of the Chapter taking over for Nathaniel Mahoney. We of the Active Chapter wish to extend our thanks for all of the Alumni support that we have received this year and in years past. This is the second installment of the Chapter's bi-annual Semester Chapter Report for the 2008-2009 school year and we are very excited to be sharing some great news with you concerning the growth of our Chapter.

This newsletter is meant to serve as a transition from previous newsletters, in that we are transforming it into a more alumni-based forum. The Active Chapter is working closely with the Alumni Chapter, gaining and learning from each other. Through our relationship with the Alumni Chapter, we have grown and developed so much and look forward to a continued future of positive Active-Alumni Chapter relations. We hope you read on to learn more about the recent successes of the Chapter and consider becoming involved with the Chapter and/or joining us at future events.

Much has happened since the last Semester Chapter Newsletter was sent out in the spring: continuing with a tradition of excellence in scholarship, the brothers of Sigma Nu posted yet another strong semester academically; the Chapter House has been the object of immense change and improvement; and our values-based recruitment plan outlined in the LEAD programs has seen the success of a second pledge class this year. We are very proud of such achievements!

## **Eminent Commander's Report**

Brothers,

I can safely say that during my college career I have never been more proud to call myself a member of Epsilon Sigma of Sigma Nu. The chapter is excelling far beyond I ever could have imagined. Chapter morale is at an all-time high and all men are proud to wear their letters every day of the week. We have recently reached a recently unprecedented level of campus and chapter involvement, participation in philanthropic events, and academic success (last semester Sigma Nu had the highest GPA of all Greeks and non-Greek males and females behind only Kappa Delta!). Having recently celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this February there has never been a better time to become involved again with the chapter. I invite you to read further and get more detailed information from our other officers. Should you have any questions please feel free to email me at [mcwap@rhodes.edu](mailto:mcwap@rhodes.edu).

*Alexander P. McWhirter '10*  
*Eminent Commander*

## **Lieutenant Commander Report**

Brothers,

As the Lieutenant Commander, I have worked hard to ensure Epsilon Sigma has a brotherhood which upholds the tenets and the Law of Sigma Nu. The Disciplinary Committee and I have created a new Constitution which combines the past constitution with a new, more encompassing and streamlined approach. This document will ensure that Epsilon Sigma is a self-regulating body conforming to our chapter's, the national fraternity's, and Rhodes's standards. The mission of the Disciplinary Committee is to resolve conflicts prior to any action having to be taken by the D.C. and to assist each brother in maintaining a high sense of honor. With this as our charge, I hope the D.C. will not have to convene during my term, but at the very least we have a solid document which the brotherhood of Epsilon Sigma can rely upon. If any members of the Alumni Chapter would like to view our newly ratified Constitution, please email me at [davea@rhodes.edu](mailto:davea@rhodes.edu). Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you in the future.

Fraternally,

*Erik Davis '10*  
*Lieutenant Commander*

## **Rush Spring 2009**

This semester, as Marshal, I have successfully integrated the LEAD program fully within pledgship



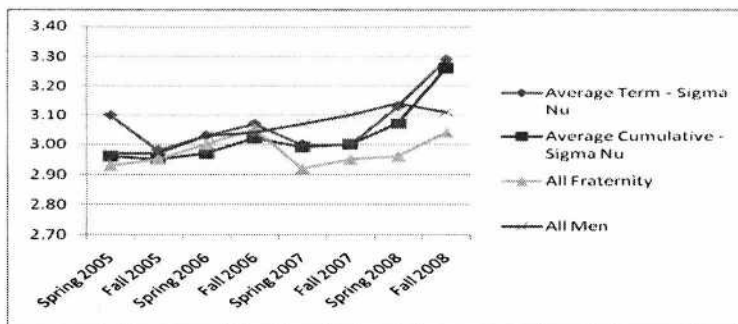
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with a strong emphasis ethics and values. Alumni Advisory Board Member Rob McCleary (insert badge number here) has helped facilitate three of the ten LEAD sessions which focused primarily on how to act as a man of honor and the meaning of living ethically. Other LEAD sessions have centered on fraternity information and the history of Sigma Nu, which gives the pledge class a better sense of where our traditions originate. The current pledge class consists of three members; Charlie Napier from Nashville, TN, Daniel Henke from St. Louis, MO, and James Wilson from Darien, CT. They are well on their way to becoming knights, and I look forward to welcoming these pledges into our Chapter. I have the greatest confidence that they will be instrumental in making Epsilon Sigma a strong and lasting organization.

*Nathaniel Mahoney '11*  
*Marshal*

## Spring 2009 Grades



This past fall, the Active Chapter continued its trend of strong academic achievement, receiving average semester and average cumulative GPAs of 3.29 and 3.26, respectively. Currently, we possess the highest grade point average of all the fraternities in the IFC and Epsilon Sigma's grade point average is second only to the Kappa Delta sorority among all Greek organizations. A continued emphasis on the LEAD program has contributed to the Chapter's academic success, and we are all looking forward to further progress in the future.

## LEAD Report

Dear Sigma Nu Alumnus,

As the LEAD Chairman for the Epsilon Sigma chapter I am responsible for coordinating the LEAD Program. As you may know, LEAD is the four-year leadership development program for Sigma Nu collegians. This year, we are interested in getting more alumni involved with the program as LEAD facilitators. There are sessions on a variety of topics. Each Phase of the Program has a unique curriculum. Session guidance notes are available to help you prepare and present sessions. If you would like more information about helping as a LEAD Alumni Facilitator, Please contact me by phone at 615-579-6741 after 2 pm or by email at [weljw@rhodes.edu](mailto:weljw@rhodes.edu). Thank you for your interest. Fraternally,

*John Wells '12*  
*LEAD Chairman*



## House Improvements

The Epsilon Sigma Chapter has seen many updates in the last year, the main update being a renovation of the basement floor. All of the rooms of the basement have been repainted, and a big-screen TV was added. Painting has begun on all of the doors and door jambs, and the leak in the Goodbar Morgan room has been fixed thanks to the Alumni Chapter and Alumni Advisor Board. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April the Epsilon Sigma Chapter will be hosting an Alumni-Chapter house workday. On this day we will be working on a few small improvements including painting and tiling. We hope that all who can, will join us.

*Ferrel Varner '11*  
*House Chairman*

## Recruitment 2009



After a successful Recruitment in the Fall of 2008, the Brothers of Epsilon Sigma are pleased that the values based recruitment has continued to foster chapter growth in the Spring of 2009. Three fine young men are now working to join the ranks of Sigma Nu. Since a visit from a recruitment advisor from the General Fraternity, the Epsilon Sigma Chapter has been working hard to develop a year round values-based recruitment plan that adheres to regulations of both Sigma Nu General Fraternity and Rhodes College. The Plan seeks young men who are honest, involved, hardworking individuals who will be involved with both Sigma Nu and the Rhodes Community. The growth thus far is encouraging for members of the Chapter, and brothers look forward to another successful recruitment in the Fall of 2009. We plan on having another alumni recruitment event after the success of the alumni dinner in the Fall. Alumni will be informed of a date and location during the summer, and we hope to have a strong alumni presence. If any alumni would like to contact me regarding the alumni dinner, please send me an email at [walbr@rhodes.edu](mailto:walbr@rhodes.edu).

*Ben Waller '11*  
*Recruitment Chairman*

## Epsilon Sigma's Finances

Our chapter has made great strides in increasing its accountability with chapter funds. For the past year we have create and implemented a sound budget, which with other tools has allowed the chapter to have sound financial fitting. We have also implemented a savings program that will allow us to have a reserve in case of emergencies, or hopefully allow us to do some more renovations around the house. Our chapter has for the past two years been in sound financial footing with Sigma Nu, and this semester we have been able to pay the General Fraternity all of the dues, before they were due.

*Stephen Risley '11*  
*Treasurer*

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## **Epsilon Sigma Philanthropy**

This year, the Epsilon Sigma chapter has decided to require six hours of community service per semester for every brother. In late April, our chapter will be having a philanthropy event with Chi Omega at Shelby Farms. We will be assisting the park in their maintenance and cleanup tasks. In the future, we are looking into having a tricycle race fundraiser that involves teams from the entire campus community. Finally, the chapter hopes to visit the children staying at St. Jude's Target House for an afternoon this semester.

*Matthew McCulloch '11*  
*Philanthropy Chair*

We hope you found this newsletter informative and consider becoming involved with the Chapter and/or joining us at future events. On behalf of Epsilon Sigma, we wish you a very pleasant holiday season and the best wishes for the future.

Fraternally,

Andrew Bell '12  
Alumni Relations Chairman

