



PSI NEWS

The Psi Chapter of Psi Upsilon at Hamilton College

CLINTON, NEW YORK

SPRING 1992

Hamilton's Private Societies

The following "position paper" on the evolution of the society system at Hamilton College was submitted by Jeb Becker '61, president of Psi Chapter of Psi Upsilon, Inc. Jeb is also the newly elected president of the Hamilton College Inter-Society Alumni Council (ISAC).

1. Residential Building Safety and Comfort

All fraternities have been updated to comply with residential safety codes. Most have been modernized with energy-saving features such as thermopane windows and energy-efficient heating systems. All have operational fire and smoke alarm systems interconnected with Hamilton security. All houses are inspected on a regular basis by representatives of Hamilton security and the dean's office, with necessary recommendations forwarded to alumni and undergraduate presidents.

2. Insurance

All fraternities are insured under a group policy written through a Clinton, New York, agency for boiler and building coverages. All fraternities are covered under this policy or a national program for \$1,000,000 liability insurance, including most liquor liability coverage.

3. Alcohol Policies

The Inter-Society Council (ISC) and individual societies have specific alcohol and party policies in force, including party registration, security guards, and professional bartenders at large parties; careful attention paid to avoid underage drinking; and ISC patrols. These are coordinated with the office of the dean of students.

Security officers and many other members have been through the TIPS Program. Regular discussions on the subject of the responsible use of alcohol are held by the Inter-Society Alumni Council (ISAC) and by individual society alumni leadership.

As in all of society, alcohol abuse and misuse is a problem on the Hamilton campus. The alcohol policies in place have resulted in a significant reduction of alcohol-related accidents over the past few years.

Regulation and education are constant priorities as each year brings a new group of students exposed for the first time to a large degree of individual freedoms. A prohibition against first-year students attending society functions that

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The Psi Is Working Productively To Confront The Challenges

As history has dictated, the melting snow marks the beginning of the ever-present debate of the role of private societies on the hill. Once again, a small minority of students are attempting to instigate what they hope will be the fall of Hamilton's Greek system. Recently, certain anti-society groups insinuated that society members were not fit to hold campus positions such as resident advisor. Others accused Hamilton's administration of not passing progressive new policies such as self-scheduled exams because of the "presence" of societies on the hill—"they cannot be trusted" was the actual quote. Yet, unlike past springs when society members have quietly allowed the countless society slurs to go unchecked, this year marks a change in Hamilton's history. Hamilton's Greek system, while not attempting to alter the tradition associated with each specific society, is making a conscious effort to attack and debase many of the "negatives" brought against Hamilton's societies. The Psi of Psi Upsilon is no exception to this rule. Working with the Inter-Society Council and members of other societies, the officers of Psi Upsilon are productively working to meet the challenges that are currently confronting the Psi and the entire Greek system.

At the present time, Psi Upsilon is sponsoring educational workshops concerning such topics as sexual harassment, AIDS, and hazing for its new members. Taking a leadership role in educating people about their responsibilities concerning the distribution and consumption of alcohol, the Psi is sponsoring educational forums for all new society members. Recently four brothers of the house successfully completed

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Join Us During
Reunion Weekend
for
IRISH COFFEE

Friday night,
June 5



Hamilton's Private Societies

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involve the service of alcohol until the winter break has the effect of controlling underage drinking. The ISC continues to recommend that first-year orientation include specific training on alcohol awareness.

4. Academics

Unlike many other campuses, Hamilton's society grade point average (GPA) is only slightly lower than the overall college GPA. This can be explained in part by the society member's tendency to become involved more in college extracurricular activities and society leadership functions.

A speaker's bureau has been instituted whereby lectures on various subjects will be brought to the campus.

Many societies have internal academic assistance programs.

5. Pledging

Together with a "dry rush," all societies have abolished hazing in any manner and are emphasizing the constructive learning process that occurs during the pledge period. Rush and pledge periods have been minimized so as to not have a negative effect on academics.

The ISC and ISAC spend much time and effort in educating society members on this important issue.

6. Leadership Training

Private societies continue to be an invaluable resource with which to learn leadership skills that provide members with lifelong benefits. The maturation that takes place as society leaders grapple with the many social and economic problems associated with living in the house and interacting closely with members of four classes is significantly noticeable and rewarding to those of us who believe in and care for this character development process.

The ISC has recently begun a series of workshops wherein the various skills needed to cope with society living (i.e., accounting, house maintenance, kitchen stewards, and society chairmen) will be taught to undergraduates assuming officer positions. This will be done by current officers with the help of alumni advisors.

7. Discrimination Against Women

A. Coed Fraternities: Although this has been suggested as a remedy to housing discrimination, the track record on other campuses for coed fraternities has not been good. We are told of situations where the concept of coed fraternities has been or is being abandoned. The Emerson Literary Society (ELS) exists at Hamilton for those few students who wish to exist in a coed society atmosphere.

The two Hamilton sororities, Phi Beta Chi and Kappa Delta Omega, are well represented on the ISC and ISAC and have made it known that they are not in favor of a mandatory coeducational fraternity system.

B. Housing: There is no question that the sororities are disadvantaged in their programming efforts because they do not have their own housing facilities nor are they allowed to "block together" in dormitories. This has been a result of Hamilton administration policy and not because of any discriminatory practices of the fraternities. The fraternities have, through the medium of ISC and ISAC, petitioned the adminis-

Confronting The Challenges

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and were certified in a TIPS program, which trains people in the responsible distribution of alcohol and also in proper intervention techniques when the situation "becomes out of control."

In other measures to silence its critics, the Psi, with the support and acknowledgement of Hamilton College security, initiated a volunteer brother-run escort service for those needing assistance home from house-sponsored social events. In order to confront what Hank Payne terms the "unintellectual" side of societies, the house is looking into revising the old tradition of inviting faculty members down for dinner by having each professor present an informal presentation or question-and-answer period.

While some of these "changes" to the "system" are quite new, and progressive, some things will always remain a constant in the house. "Ma" can still be seen haunting the kitchen. Baked ziti is still served Monday, Thursday, and Friday—each time under a different name. Many Psis are preparing for yet another successful season on the lax field, led by brothers and tri-captains Chris Wallace '92, Pete Reed '92, and John Neuwirth '92, while the rest of the house waits for the sun and the opportunity to pass the afternoon away sitting on the front wall.

YITB,
Patrick Dorsey '93
President

In upcoming issues of the Psi News, we are hoping to include more alumni information. Eventually, we would like to dedicate an entire section of the Psi News to the activities of brothers, regardless of their year. Send in some information.

tration on several occasions to end this housing discrimination.

The Bundy dormitory complex was constructed with facilities for three then-existing fraternities. With only Delta Phi remaining of these three, there exists the desired facilities for sorority housing in Bundy with no expenditure of monies needed by the college. Phi Beta Chi and KDO have made it known that this arrangement is more than acceptable to them and that it would allow them to grow and prosper and become an even more positive part of the Hamilton College community.

The ISC and ISAC stand firmly behind the sororities in their desire for equality in housing.

8. Alumni Leadership

Underlying and supporting all aspects of society existence is a dedicated group of alumni leaders. Each society is guided by an active board of trustees that meets on a regular basis to help monitor financial and social issues. Each society has a representative on the Inter-Society Alumni Council, which meets periodically as a body or by committee and works with the Inter-Society Council to further strengthen the society system. Among other things, the ISAC keeps in contact with other colleges of similar size and quality in an effort to learn other programs that successfully integrate society systems into the college academic atmosphere.

Brothers Volunteer Much Time To Helping Community

The house has been unusually active in the community this year. Many of the brothers have committed a great deal of time for the campus volunteer organization HAVOC. Brothers and pledges have not only participated in literacy assistance programs but have also volunteered their time doing various charitable fund-raisers. Among these fund-raisers have been the CROP walk against hunger, the National Hunger Cleanup on April 11, and the Utica big brother/big sister bowlathon. The house also served as the meeting site for the Inter-Society Council (ISC) kids day. Children from the United Way of Utica came and spent the day frolicking about the hut. Finally, a handful of brothers have played an integral role in planning the first-ever ISC-sponsored three-on-three all-night basketball tournament. All proceeds from the event went to the Utica big brothers and big sisters program. We trust that the active community service of the brothers this year will continue in the upcoming semesters as well.

YITB,
Rick Meyers '93
Philanthropy Chairman

The Psi's New House Jobs Policy Proves Worthwhile

Psi U has maintained its reputation for cleanliness this semester. With the new policy for house jobs instituted, the house has never been so spotless. As usual, house jobs are being done to perfection.

The most notable improvement to the house was in the great hall. A shiny coat of polyurethane has been added to our recently stripped and repaired floors. The leaking pipes in the kitchen have been replaced, and a new, secure door has been fastened to the entrance adjacent to the cave. Also, the roofing over the back entrance to the tap room has been reshingled. The house's fire alarm system has been updated, and all of the fire extinguishers have been repaired and refilled.

As construction by the college begins this spring, Psi Upsilon awaits the much needed new parking lots in the rear of the house. The existing driveway between the house and Wally J will be made into a lawn. Also with the coming of spring comes the pledge project. As of now the brothers plan for the pledges to renovate the tap room in the basement.

Yours in the Bonds,
Michael Hodgin '94

FALLCOMING 1992
OCTOBER 10 • 1:30 P.M.
HAMILTON VS. TRINITY

Psi Upsilon Reports Solid Financial Status

As usual, the Psi of Psi Upsilon's financial status is solid. I have been working closely with Pauline Thaler, our accountant in New Hartford, and we are comfortably "in the black."

I have been pleasantly surprised with the rate at which our accounts payable have been resolved. To date, only a few undergraduate brothers are significantly in debt to the house, and those brothers have submitted plans for payment. Although we continue to experience minor problems with graduate brothers settling old accounts, we are generally pretty sound.

The annual St. Thomas party was more than just a social success—we survived financially as well, taking only a minor loss. Our social fund is being well managed, and all monies allocated for other house needs have held up surprisingly well. I am also proud to report that we are inching closer to paying back the college loan we took to refurbish the house with new window panes. Our account with the college Inter-Society Council has been settled.

Of course, we would welcome any and all contributions from our alumni. While Psi U is not in a desperate situation by any means, any donations would be greatly appreciated. There are numerous projects we would like to begin for the betterment of the house, if only the finances were available. Help us out.

YITB,
Paul Earle '93
Treasurer



The Brothers Look Forward To A Successful Pledge Process

In a year when the future of selective societies at Hamilton becomes an important issue, Psi Upsilon and other fraternities have received much interest from their pledges. The Psi of Psi Upsilon has 12 pledges from the class of 1995.

Our pledges this year come from as far north as Canada and as far south as Maryland. Several of the pledges have continued the tradition of joining brothers on the varsity hockey, lacrosse, and football teams. We look forward to having a successful pledge process this spring.

Among the 12 members of the pledge class is a 22-year-old Marine who served in the Persian Gulf war. Derrick Johns, from Bristol, Connecticut, spent over 300 days in the gulf region, beginning in August 1990. Since Johns is older than many of the students at Hamilton, he plans to take courses in the summer so that when he comes back in the spring he will be a junior. We at the Psi are fortunate to have Johns joining the hut.

YITB,
Craig A. Morgan '94
Secretary and Editor

WHAT'S NEW WITH SOME ALUMNI?

JAMES S. D. COOPER '36 writes, "All's well with the Cooper clan. Our numbers now total 23 in all, including five great-grandchildren. I'm still playing golf quite regularly. My handicap seems to rise as the years go by. Obviously, that's because my clubs are getting older. I had a real fun day of golf in September, playing with classmate Allen Gibbons of Buffalo. It was good to see DAN FENNER '36, 'Denny' DALE '36, and others at our 55th reunion last June." Drop a line to "Coop" at 31 Mountain Rise, Fairport, NY 14450.

ROGER G. WILSON '44 recently retired from the New York State Executive Department, Division of Parole. He receives mail at RR #3, Box 2065, Hartford, NY 12838.

Residing at a new address is JOHN R. JAENIKE '46. Reach him at 621 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

Attorney MICHAEL D. SEITZINGER '69 receives correspondence c/o Pierce, Atwood, Scribner, Allen, Smith & Lancaster, 77 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330. He informs us that THOMAS J. FRAWLEY '69 was recently sworn in as a circuit judge for the state of Missouri. "Tom presides in the city of St. Louis."

A tax accountant with KPMG Peat Marwick, J. TERENCE MacAVERY '72 writes, "On a single day recently, I had occasion to speak to two different Psis (BRAD COOKE '72 and JERRY RYAN '72), another alumnus (Mike Hirsch '72), and the son of Dean Winton Tolles (Winton Jr. 'Tony'). It was quite a Hamcol day. The family news: My son Ryan (11½) has been selected for the town all-star basketball team for fifth and sixth graders because of his outstanding jump shot. Those who remember my jump shot will know that Ryan inherited his from his mother. My daughter, Meghan (10), seems, however, to have my jump shot. Luckily, she's an expert horsewoman and doesn't have to rely on her basketball skills for athletic achievement. This talent also does not come from me." Terry receives mail at 8 Hillside Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028.

CRAIG H. TOMPKINS '74 moved to Houston (1606 Beachcomber Lane, Houston, TX 77062) and opened an office of Padgett Business Services, a national accounting and tax company. "I am enjoying working more on my own compared to the corporate world. Any brothers traveling to Houston, please call or stop in."

"I've lived in Denver the past 10 years," announces DOUGLAS R. WRIGHT '75, "practicing law, raising kids, running, skiing, and all the other bold Rocky Mountain things. I'm now the managing partner of the Denver Technological Center office of Colorado's largest law firm. Occasionally, I see NED COLLUM '75 out in Aspen, where he lives, skis, and plays CPA. While back in New York City last year, for my third New York Marathon, I saw both TIM JONES (stage name Malloy) and DICK PATRICK '73 reporting on the tube." Mail will reach Doug at 649 Saint Paul St., Denver, CO 80206.

J. PETER DAVIS '78 is currently the director of housekeeping for a five-diamond luxury hotel (Rittenhouse Hotel) in

Philadelphia. "I credit my two years of living in Psi U ('76-'77) for my career success (just kidding!). What are other brothers from my class doing?" Send news to Pete at 533 Bridge Rd., Glenside, PA 19038.

Working in investments with Smith Barney is DAVID A. GARFINKEL '78. He writes, "All is great here in New Rochelle (175 Overlook Circle, New Rochelle, NY 10804). We've moved up from New York City for a year and now love the 'country' living. It's nothing like Clinton, though. I remember snow in September one year and a blizzard during finals another. I'm now married with two girls (ages four and one). I see more Saturday mornings at 6:00 a.m. from the waking up side rather than the old 'time to rack' Psi side." David also provides us with news from some brothers: "DAVID NICHOLS '77 is now a Rye, New York, man with a beautiful bride named Katherine 'Candy' Nichols (K '78). They recently welcomed their third boy. Dave is no doubt destined for a Bank of New York presidency now that his goldfish-swallowing days have passed. ANDREW BURNS '78 is also a father (two boys) with wife (Dr.) Julia. They have shucked off the New York climate for southern comfort in Virginia. Andrew is destined for the presidency at Wheat, First. I saw STUART MALIS '77 in Boston. He is AOK, a Patriot fan, and a father-to-be."

PETER M. LORBER '81 pens, "I had a blast at Fallcoming. Was happy to see the ROK hasn't changed. Things are okay in the lone star state. I left Exxon a year ago for a better job at FINA Oil & Chemical. I spend the days doing oil and gas exploration and spend nights fighting fires." Peter has a new address of 147 E. Pathfinders Circle, The Woodlands, TX 77381.

Insurance agent STEVEN D. STORK '83 would like to hear from brothers GROVER FITCH '82, BOB TUCKER '84, and KEN MEEKER '84. The address for Steven is 443 N. Main St., Penn Yan, NY 14527.

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

A. PRESBY COLBURN '41, February 2, 1991
M. CAYLEY SMITH JR. '31, December 28, 1988

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Published by the Psi Chapter of Psi Upsilon at Hamilton College for its members and friends. News and pictures are always welcome and should be sent to Psi Upsilon Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 57, Syracuse, NY 13210-0057.