

ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

We are the Zeta Phi chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha. We got our start as The Women's Interest Group (TWIG) and were installed as a chapter on October 23rd, 1999. In 2000, we moved into the first sorority house in the city of Chicago (previously prohibited by Brothel Law—look it up!). Since our installment at IIT, we have had strong presence on campus. Our sisters serve as executive board members in other student organizations, including Union Board, EWB-Haiti Outreach, Honors Medical Society, Illinois Tech Acappella and SGA. In each of the last two years, our national organization has named us a Four Star Chapter in recognition of our successes and overall development. This is an honor presented to only a few chapters annually.

Every fall Alpha Sigma Alpha organizes a philanthropy event, Queen of the Quad, in order to raise money for the S. June Smith Center, a facility that helps children with disabilities and their families. The event consists of men dressing up as women and competing in a beauty pageant (complete with a swimsuit competition). Spectators vote for their favorite contestant by donating money. The contestant who raises the most is crowned Queen of the Quad.

As women, we are a close knit group of friends. We enjoy impromptu Disney movie or The Big Bang Theory marathons and playing Just Dance on the Wii. We take epic Alpha Sushi Alpha outings to Sushi Para Tu. Around our house, a group



bursting song or friendly jibes are not unusual occurrences. To add some more fun and motivation to our academics, we have divided into teams and started a House Cup competition, à la Harry Potter. We earn points for class attendance and A's.

Alpha Sigma Alpha is the only national sorority on IIT's campus. We were founded in 1901 at Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia by five women dedicated to the development of women of poise and purpose. We fill our time

trying to balance our four aims of Physical, Spiritual, Intellectual and Social development. Our motto is "Aspire, Seek, Attain." Our vision is to cultivate values and ideals in women who are known for their character and concern for others. Alpha Sigma Alpha inspires women to lead, to serve and most of all to make a difference.

As sisters, we push each other. If a member is skipping classes and falling behind academically we are there to pick her up. Individual chapters, and the Greek

Community as a whole, are uniquely fit to fill this purpose. Our familial relationships allow us to be supportive and when the time calls for it, critical. Our chapter is a family and support system away from home for many of us. Without a support system, college can be a scary place. Some people find this support system in friends, either who live on their floor or within their major. Either way it is an important part of college and without it, students can end up floundering.

ALPHA SIGMA PHI

Founded at Yale in 1845 by Louis Manigault, Horace Spangler Weiser and Stephen Ormsby Rhea, Alpha Sigma Phi is one of the oldest national fraternities. From the onset the organization has been committed to the awesome power for individual and social good that can be achieved when men of good character band together as brothers.

Far from the stereotype of fraternities in recent years, Alpha Sigma Phi provides its undergraduate men with character and leadership development programs that are second to none. Each year the President's Academy of Leadership offers our next generation of chapter officers and the alumni advisors who support their efforts a hands-on educational experience designed to enhance their strengths and support values based leadership. Additionally the award winning Ralph F. Burns Leadership Institute offers an annual opportunity for our newest members to examine the values of the fraternity and challenges them to emulate the program's namesake by living life in pursuit of our Purpose: To Better the Man, through the creation and perpetuation of Brotherhood founded upon the virtues of character...Silence, Purity, Charity, Honor, Patriotism.

Silence: He has the strength to embrace silence and the will to build an interior life founded upon an honest desire to truly listen to others. Trust in silence transcends

the gulf that is created when men feel the need to compete in action or rhetoric. He is introspective and self-reliant.

Charity: He is charitable in the broadest sense of the word. A man who strives for a life of charity and service is more patient, kinder, and more forgiving of the flaws of others. A charitable man sacrifices

of himself to help others and seeks no recognition in return. He is humble, reverent, and generous.

Purity: He consistently strives for purity of mind, body, and soul. The man who is pure of thought, word, and deed does not shrink from adversity or lofty goals. There is no self-pity, rationalizations, or

apologies. He is moral and a gentleman in the finest sense of the word.

Honor: He lives a life of personal integrity, thereby accruing honor. An honorable man lives up to promises made—to others and to himself. A man of honor is not vain, and is willing to endure scorn or ostracism rather than conform to the pressures of peers, superiors, or the fashion of the day. He is ethical, honest, and trustworthy. Patriotism: He loves his country, remaining consistently engaged in its affairs. He seeks to know his country and to pass that knowledge on to others. He is devoted to the principles of personal freedom, justice, and civic responsibility embedded in the U.S. Constitution that have made our country. He is loyal, proud, and humble.

Alpha Sigma Phi has been a chapter at IIT since 1939, and is closing in on celebrating its 75th anniversary. One of the most important activities of the fraternity is recruitment, and we are happy that we initiated six new brothers into our brotherhood this past weekend. The Alpha XI chapter here at IIT has seen some scary times in the past few years, but just like our phoenix mascot, we are determined to once again rise from the ashes to become a great fraternity of brothers dedicated to our values, and committed to improving the world around us.

