

International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi
Report of the Southern Provincial Vice President
Dr. David B. Ross
January 2013



Travel Visitation and Communication Summary:

6/2012	Southern Provincial Leadership Meeting via teleconferencing
8/24-26/2012	Board Meeting Oxford Ohio (via teleconferencing due to work schedule)
9/5/12	PVP conference call
9/18/12	Board meeting teleconferencing
10/9/12	Board meeting teleconferencing
10/12-14/2012	LEAD School Norfolk, VA
10/19-20/2012	Area Conference at FAU (Zeta Phi, Epsilon Rho, Delta Iota, Tampa Alumni, and Sigma Beta Pi, So Atl RVP)
11/10/12	Atlantic Coast Joint Initiation hosted at UCF (Theta Sigma, Gamma Lambda, Beta Eta, Kappa Pi, Atl Coast and South Atlantic RVPs)
11/30-12/2/2012	Installation of University of South Florida, St Petersburg Rho Psi
12/4/12	PVP conference call
12/11/12	Board meeting teleconferencing Numerous communications to Central Office staff, RVPs, committee chairs, DDs, and university personnel throughout semester (travel was limited due to heavy work schedule)
1/4-6/2013	Leadership team meeting in South Florida

General Comments and Upcoming News:

This will be my last semester as the Provincial Vice President as I believe we have two competent and dedicated Regional Vice Presidents ready to lead the Southern Province for the years to come. The Southern Province Leadership Team along with alumni, collegiate, colony members, and pledges, have created great direction for our Province. We have developed much strength throughout the years as well as continually build on other areas. I do not like to use the word “weaknesses,” I like to think we are strong and continue to see positive direction, share best practices, collaborate, and compromise on the best for our organization. Please note that we should continue to build relationships and communicate with one another; have dialogue so there is no loss in any meaning of your diverse perspectives on how our organization should operate. There is no doubt that we are diverse; this is what makes us better, as long as we remain open to listening to new ideas and perspectives on how to move forward in a global environment.

I want to thank all of the Regional Vice Presidents from 2007 to now who have made this Province a success . . . with your dedication and leadership styles, we, as a team, made many strides, gained new insights, and created an internal bond of leaders that will continue to grow.

I want to thank past RVPs Michelle Cain, John Cookson, Dean Ferguson, Mary Moon Cox, Derrick Singletary, Josh Snow, and Darrick Williams as well as the present RVPs Jessica James, Lee James, Heather Lewis, Christopher Sweet, Sean Vineyard, and Janene Winton.

As I state in ever report as well as verbally at all conferences, initiations, and meetings: Remember that Central Office and the Leadership Teams are always working together for the betterment of Delta Sigma Pi. They are available to assist all Brothers to advance in all areas of our bylaws, rules and regulations, as well as professionally.

I encourage all chapters to send as many Brothers to our LEAD Schools and Provincial LEAD Conferences on a consistent basis. All chapters should start planning their fundraising as well as communications with their university student government to obtain funds for traveling to GCC in August. Keep in mind that I have always asked for the chapters' input for learning sessions at our national events; contact your District Directors and RVPs. The Leadership Team wants to meet the needs of all chapters (i.e., collegiate, alumni). I will be working with the present RVPs to design the curriculum for the fall LEAD School in Columbia, SC.

“It’s very easy for me to say what success is. I think success is connecting with an audience who understands you and having a dialogue with them. I think success is continuing to push yourself forward creatively and not sort of becoming a caricature of yourself” - Lena Dunham

Leadership Team Update:

All six Region Vice President (RVP) positions are filled and leading their regions in a positive direction. All chapters should contact their RVPs if they are in need of any questions or concerns. Next Leadership Team meeting is tentatively scheduled for the first week in June 2013.

The Atlantic Coast RVP (Chris Sweet)

No report submitted

The Central Gulf RVP (Lee James)

All the chapters are functioning well and pursuing expansion opportunities. The Region has very dedicated DDs who are helping chapters reach beyond their potential. There has been a lot of unity in the Region due to the leadership and dedication of the chapter advisors, in addition to their longevity as the current chapter advisors (Auburn chapter advisor has been there for 12 years). As it has been stated, “If it is not broke, do not fix it,” only make it better. There has been an 83% participation rate at national events.

The Mid-Atlantic RVP (Sean Vineyard)

Overall, the Mid-Atlantic Region did well in the fall semester of 2012. All of the chapters are well on their way to meeting their requirements for Chapter of Accreditation and many are striving to achieve higher levels. The Mid-Atlantic Region has continued to expand this semester as Alpha Omega Phi is working towards becoming a recognized chapter and we have a new colony at the University of Richmond (30 members) as well as working towards a new colony in Hampton Roads. The goals for this Region are to maintain a high level for the CMP program. A push is being made for a high turnout in Raleigh NC.

The Mid-South RVP (Heather Lewis)

The Mid-South Region is looking forward to a Joint Initiation in Nashville this spring semester. We are looking into a Mid-South Bus Trip to Raleigh, NC for the Southern Provincial. The Mid-South has developed a Regional Recruitment Committee to help all chapters and share each chapter's strengths and challenges of recruiting. Chapters are great about asking the School of Business and Student Government Organization for financial help in sending brothers to LEADs and other Fraternity events. Several chapters are working on a Rose of Deltasig fundraiser with wooden roses. Website that sells wooden roses is www.thewoodenrosecompany.com

The South Atlantic RVP (Janene Winton)

Congratulations to the new brothers at Rho Psi (The University of South Florida at St. Petersburg) for working hard to build their new chapter, which only took only 20 months. This was a great accomplishment. There has been a lot more participation by the chapters at the national events in the past year. The Epsilon Rho chapter hosted a stellar regional initiation this past fall semester . . . Beta Eta at the University of Florida is hosting the fall Florida joint initiation.

The Southeastern RVP (Jessica James)

For the Fall 2012/Spring 2013 Deltasig year, the Southeastern Region of the International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi is operating under the theme "Sustaining the Balance." Unlike Fall 2011/ Spring 2012 (where goals were centered around opening the channels of communication amongst chapters and national officials and enhancing operational responsibility), this year we are focused on keeping the doors of communication open and ensuring that chapter strategic initiatives are aligned with regional, provincial, and national goals. We are emphasizing the importance of accurate reporting for all officials (i.e., executive committee, district directors, RVP); as well as, systematically meeting CMP deadlines (i.e. chapters and RSDAC committee). Due to the hard-work of all the supportive brothers in this region, all chapters are on target to meet CMP requirements. District directors also set goals aligned with national goals. As of Dec 31st, we were able to conduct a joint initiation for the fall and encourage early fundraising for Grand Chapter Congress.

Provincial Committees:

The Province continues to build its relations between chapters and Regions. The following provincial chairs are working with the national level as well as all chapters in their specific areas: Alumni Development – Erin Lee; Community Service – Jeanne Gregory; Professional Development – Jenna Sympson; and Scholastic Development and Awards – Jessica Noble

According to the numbers with Make a Difference Day, in the Southern Province, the following Regions reported 49% participation. This is by Region:

Atlantic Coast - 4 chapters participated

Central Gulf - 1 chapter

Mid-Atlantic - 6 chapters

Mid-South - 3 chapters

South Atlantic - 5 chapters

South Atlantic - 5 chapters

At the Norfolk LEAD School we conducted a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society which we raised \$380.00. The game/fundraiser was for chapters to donate \$10 by asking any

questions to alumni. We read the questions and answers at closing session . . . from the 25 chapters that were involved, there were great questions, answers as well as much laughter . . . another great idea and involvement between collegiate and alumni. The Province also participated in the **Blood Drive**; 4 chapters have registered so far for this year, which runs 9/1-4/30. Also at **Norfolk LEAD**, 21 collegiate chapters participated and 6 alumni chapters participated out of 61 attending chapters - 44% participation.

I spoke with Kara Hoover-Lenox regarding communicating to alumni in regards to the breakout sessions at LEADs and Provincials. In the Southern Province "ALL" sessions meet the needs of collegiate and alumni levels. When both groups are involved in sessions, they can share ideas and thoughts from different perspectives . . . this creates a learning environment compared to just a session of talking so-to-speak. This is a point for GCC as well.

All Regions have submitted for Collegiate of the Year.

Discipline/Receivership/Guidance Update:

During the Provincial Leadership Meeting, the leadership team recommends the follow:

- Florida International Guidance until 1/13 Let guidance expire
- Florida Southern Guidance until 1/13 let guidance expire
- Florida Atlantic University Letter of warning
- South Florida Polytechnic Closed 6/12 university closed
- Virginia Commonwealth University Chapter Closed 6/12, returned the Charter to Central Office
- West Alabama request receivership (receiver Richard Blaski)
- Wingate suggest guidance until 1/2014
- Kappa Psi letter of concern

Expansion:

There will be continuous research in all Regions to seek out the feasibility of future growth. We are looking at the population of enrollment in Colleges of Business, other student organizations, as well as commitment from faculty and administration of the universities.

Atlantic Coast:

Savannah State University was reinstalled on December 8, 2012 and is now the Kappa Chi Chapter.

Central Gulf:

We have been granted permission by Jacksonville State University to pursue interest in starting up a colony; however, at this time another business fraternity is on this campus. The RVP is conducting research on its possibilities.

Mid-Atlantic:

Alpha Omega Phi (AΩΦ): Duke University Colony Summary: The colony has improved in the past semester. Since the DD is stepping down, the RVP is contacting alumni in the area to help fill the void of the DD and motivate the students. This colony is a graduate student program.

Upsilon Omicron Rho (YOP): University of Richmond Colony Summary: This colony was just recently formed and is beginning its work to become a recognized chapter. There is an interest of 30 people at this time.

Mid-South:

The end of May 2012 brought the close of Theta Phi Omega colony at East Tennessee State University;

The University of Memphis is projected for a fall installation; and

The University of Kentucky is beginning the process as a current Brother has transferred to this university and hopeful for a successful colony.

South Atlantic:

University of South Florida at St. Petersburg was installed on December 1, 2012 and is now the Rho Psi Chapter.

Southeastern:

Expansion is in great thought. As of right now, our target schools for growth are Emory University and the University of Charleston.

Legislature:

No legislature submitted at this time.

2013 Goals:

- Work closely with the present leadership team to make sure there is a smooth transition from my leadership style to the next PVPs style
- Seek out future leaders in the RVP positions and DD positions
- Promote an educational platform to the entire Province: Have a learning process rather than moment of facts and storytelling
- Transfer knowledge so Brothers, not only understand, but can actually apply “true” leadership in their everyday experiences
- Educate chapters on the importance of how to create a meaningful dialogue between members of the fraternity as well as members of their universities
- Educate chapters on the importance of “all” chapter operations as well as ritual
- Educate chapters on risk management policies and situations
- Promote future attendance at the LEAD School, LEAD Provincial Conference, and GCC
- Emphasize the awards programs to the chapters
- To continue having the BCS National Championship in the Southern Province
 - **2006 Univ. of Florida** over Ohio State
 - 2007 LSU not this Province but close
 - **2008 Univ. of Florida** over Oklahoma
 - **2009 Alabama** over Texas
 - **2010 Auburn** over Oregon
 - **2011 Alabama** over LSU
 - **2012 Alabama** over Notre Dame