DISTRICT III ARCHON REPORT
Dustin Meeks
March 4, 2017
St. Louis, Missouri

Brother SWGP and Brothers,

It is an honor to once again be assembled with you, and I am pleased to offer this report on behalf of the chapters of District III. Since our last meeting in beautiful Indianapolis, IN I have made visits to the chapters at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Northwestern University, DePaul University, Wittenberg University, Wabash College, Bowling Green State University, the University of Toledo, and the University of Michigan. In all cases, my brothers have been accommodating hosts and each of these visits has offered me the opportunity to learn more fully the unique characters of the institutions with whom we are partnered and the chapters who I have the distinct privilege to represent on this council. I have visits this semester so far planned to Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, DePauw University, Purdue University, and Valparaiso University on my calendar.

In addition to my visits to chapters in my district I was honored to represent the Executive Council at two Regional Officer Trainings. The first in Columbus, OH featured several chapters from my district as well as many from my colleague Brother Xhoni Qyteza's District II. This program was the first of the eight ROT programs across the country and I was greatly impressed not only with the high attendance we had from regional chapters but also with the quality of discussion that my brothers were engaging in as they shared best practices and pitfalls from their own chapter experience with their peers. I was also called upon by the national fraternity to represent the peers on the Executive Council at the Regional Officer Training in Houston, TX. This is of course well out of my usual territory but it was a fantastic opportunity to meet and work with the chapters from Nico Suarez and Nick Sharp's districts. I wanted to express a particular commendation for the men of the Texas A&M Colony and West Virginia University Colony both of whom greatly impressed me. Their officers demonstrated a willingness to learn and a clear capacity for both leadership and gentlemanly conduct which should be a model to all chapters. I have no doubt that these groups will be successful as they seek to join our strong band as fully chartered chapters.

It is at this time that I would like to address a few issues which I believe to be pertinent to the membership of our strong band. The first is the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation's plans for a new suite of programs built around the newly formed Nelson Leadership Institute. I object on behalf of the men I represent most strongly to this action by the foundation on two grounds. Firstly, I object to the foundation's creation of a set of programs because this action is out of line with the mission of the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation which is to foster leadership and academic success amongst members of Phi Kappa Psi by supporting the qualified programming of the fraternity in addition to providing scholarships. There has never been a point in the history of the foundation and fraternity's relationship that would suggest that this mission would include the creation of programming separate from the fraternity's programming. Secondly, I object to the foundation's creation of programming because it is a financial burden which is both unnecessary and considering the poor quality of the foundation's fundraising ability quite reckless. Duplicating the fraternity's primary function of training and providing

programming for our undergraduate members is unnecessary especially in light of the fact that the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity has never been in a better position to provide world-class programming than it is now. In light of this obvious duplication, I could not believe that a suitable argument could be made by the Board of Directors of the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation for what will surely be a significant expense on non-existent foundation resources. I believe the foundation's resources were never intended for this purpose and so on behalf of my brothers who have donated I object, and as a trustee of the fraternity that relies on what scant resources the foundation can conjure without purging its restricted funds, I again object. It is absurd that the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation would act in a manner this irresponsible and so clearly directed at damaging the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. If this plan of action is not promptly ended, it would be my position that the Executive Council take whatever measures may be necessary to remove the foundation's ability to strangle the fraternity's development for its own ends as it is the Executive Council's duty to defend and advance the fraternity above all else.

In the Bond,
Dustin W. Meeks…
Indiana Iota '14
District III Archon

Chapter Reports

Illinois Alpha – Northwestern University

"Things are going well here at Phi Psi, IL Alpha. Over the course of January 4th – January 6th (Our first week of Winter Quarter) we gave out our bids and now have a strong pledge class of 33 members. This is right around our target number, and up from last year's pledge class of 27 students. The start of this quarter also meant the transition of the GP, VGP, and P. Our transitions have gone smoothly, and our executive board is operating effectively. As a part of a required project mandated by Northwestern's office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, we are launching a large-scale analysis into how our chapter can be the best possible academic resource to our members. We will be surveying our members and holding a focus group to determine which programs we have run in the past have been most effective in helping our brothers academically, and looking for new ideas we can use. Our major philanthropy project for the quarter is raising money for Northwestern's Dance Marathon. Every year we partner with a sorority and run various programs throughout the quarter to raise money for this event. Last year we raised just over $60,000, and this year we plan to top that. We have already raised $37,000, and this is not counting $16,000 that one brother from our chapter has raised by himself, as he is the co-chair of this event. In terms of struggles, the climate surrounding fraternities at Northwestern is definitely changing, and not in our favor. Our office of student conduct is cracking down on fraternities at a much greater rate than ever before, and for small violations for which they would have ignored in recent years. To make matters worse, Northwestern's Sigma Alpha Epsilon Chapter has four allegations of use of date rape drugs at events they held in January, two of these allegations also carry sexual assault allegations. Yesterday, on February 6th, an email was sent to the entire student body detailing these allegations, and today it was picked up by national news outlets. These events will likely put even more pressure on administrators to discipline all of the fraternities, despite the fact that we have done nothing wrong in this regard. Despite this, as of now, we are in good standing with the University, morale is high among the brothers, and our new pledge class is great."

- Jack Harrington, IL Alpha GP

Illinois Delta – the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champagne

"The Illinois Delta chapter of Phi Kappa Psi is one that has one of the brightest futures among all active chapters. We just moved into a new 71-man house a little less than a year ago. We are still trying to work out the kinks of it because a host of problems have resulted such as it feeling too much like an apartment and a loss of community. Besides the new house, we have a very great fall class that were initiated before the new year. Our spring class is one the largest we have had in awhile with around 25 guys signing bids. They all have incredible potential to benefit this house and are great guys to know. We are currently working on improving our committee system, our alumni relations, and the sense of brotherhood. Communication has always been a problem, and one of our goals is to drastically improve that so no brother is ever left asking questions. One problem we will be facing is meeting accreditation standards. The new standards seem to be made for a 50-member chapter in the 90s. It will be difficult

to meet some of the requirements such as service hours, charity money, a and brothers getting involved outside fraternity life."

- Trevor Giannetti, IL Delta GP

Illinois Epsilon – Illinois State University

No Report

Illinois Zeta – DePaul University

No Report

Illinois Eta – Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

"The IL-Eta Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville recently initiated 12 new brothers, bringing our total membership up to 62 Actives. So far this spring, we have gotten 6 new members as well. Last September we partnered with the school's Student Government to host our 5th annual Glow Party, which was attended by around 3500 guests. We also boasted the second-highest GPA of all fraternities for the fall semester, at a 2.85 GPA, and we have a 3.01 chapter-wide cumulative GPA. This semester, we will be partnering with the Treehouse Wildlife Center for a service event, and we have a canned food drive planned for April."

- Eddie Siemer, IL Eta GP

Illinois Theta – the University of Illinois at Chicago

"Over the past year, Illinois Theta has been working to maintain and further the strong relationships that have been built both within the chapter itself and between the chapter and the surrounding community. As such, active brothers and alumni alike have been able to enjoy various events focused on brotherhood, with the new tradition of an annual 'House Crawl' having been established following the particularly positive reception of its premier. Furthermore, our longstanding 'Bags for Breast Cancer' bean bags tournament saw a new level of success this past Fall with a significantly larger number of area sponsors becoming involved for the first time, and it has only been rivaled on campus as of late by our 'Breaking Barriers' car-smash fundraiser, which will be taking place for the second time later this Spring."

- Robiel Barredo, IL Theta GP

Illinois Iota – Northern Illinois University

"The IL Iota chapter of Phi Kappa Psi is doing very well. Our fall 2016 GPA was 2.9320. This was the highest GPA in chapter history and it scored us the second highest GPA out of all IFC chapters on campus. Additionally, this semester we initiated 25 new members into our chapter putting us at the largest chapter on campus with 89 overall members and 10 current potential new members. On a separate note, this March we plan to have our newest philanthropy event: Phi Psi Dodgeball. We hope that this event will not only reach out to greek members on campus but other members of our community as well.

Moving forward we are making new strides with all of our committees. As a whole, the chapter recorded over 1,005 community service hours last semester. Additionally, we have strived to create great community relations with the DeKalb Police, Fire Department, and University by holding events like our Phi Psi Barbeque and inviting their members to speak in sessions at our chapter, thanks to our outstanding Community Relations committee. On another note, our Academics committee has started creating study plans for all of the members who failed to meet our minimum GPA requirement last semester. We hope that a study plan tailored to their classes, schedule, and needs will help them achieve the grades they truly want. Recruitment is doing extensive work on finding the most top-notch candidates for our brotherhood and is hoping to increase the number of the current 10 we are working with. Our social committee has revolutionized their committee. They, have done extensive work setting up event rooms and decorations, and dramatically improving the relationships with the Sororities on campus and the fellow fraternities too. Additionally, our two committee heads for social have done such a great job with social policy and working with risk management that we have been thanked and applauded by the community and university for our efforts. Our tech chair who handles online media has done a great job managing the website, posting brothers of the week, and maintaining a great following on Facebook and Twitter! Fundraising has had a great start too, we recently did an event with Super Bowl squares and were able to raise a nice sum of money for our chapter. We hope to see more successful events in the future like the Phi Psi carwash and silent Auction. Moreover, Fraternity Education is taking a turn for the best by beginning to test our teachers weekly on the material they will be teaching and their speaking skills. Additionally, we have continued to use our new committee: wellness. This year the committee head is taking the initiative by advising on workout habits and eating habits. Plus, he has created a competition to incentivize our members to improve their overall health! Alumni committee has also implemented some new strategies. Our committee head has increased the number of events we will be having at the fraternity house and on campus to 4 or more. Our alumni definitely have become more involved and intrigued in the progress of our chapter. Service is doing well too, the committee head has done a great job of finding new opportunities and focusing on larger projects such as involvement in Dance Marathon and NIU Cares Day. Furthermore, athletics committee is continuing to perform greatly. They have set up multiple avenues for intramurals and other activities for the chapter. Our housing committee and manager has worked hard on repairs and maintaining the cleanliness of the house. He is great to work with and a fine manager so far! Finally, our finance committee has done an ecstatic job helping with improvements to the house, budget appropriations, and longterm budget planning for house projects.

On a separate note, our chapter is trying to find new ways to expand opportunities. We are currently working on a mentorship program with alumni and established members of our community. Currently, we have 20 available mentors and 15 matched mentors plus mentees. We hope that this new program will develop leadership skills, advance networking skills, and increase the overall maturity of our members. Additionally, the program has succeeded in increasing alumni involvement. We found that the program offered a new avenue that many alumni were interested in. Besides the mentorship program, we are also trying to hold a leadership retreat for our chapter similar to what the national leadership academies provide to the chapters. We hope that this retreat will improve the knowledge of our chapter leaders and culture new opportunities for the future. Overall, we feel that we are living up to the expectations and values of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. We have increased relations with local chapters such as UIC and University of Illinois and feeling all the benefits of national brotherhood. Furthermore, while just approaching our 10th year anniversary we have just submitted a form to the University for the Outstanding Student Organization Award on campus, and hope to hear good results. Finally, as we are all moving forward in our college lives, we hope that we can continue to surpass the achievements of the past and improve the chapter and our community."

- Kyle Leitz, IL Iota GP

Indiana Alpha – DePauw University

No Report

Indiana Gamma – Wabash College

"The Indiana Gamma chapter at Wabash College is off to a quality start to the semester. Our current house number is 44 including two new members who will be going through the new member program this spring. This spring we are working on converting our old cold dorm to a study area that all of the brothers can utilize along with other house improvements, including hanging our old composites in the hallways. Also, we are currently planning our large philanthropy event, Sets on the Beach, improving our A&PR committee, and reviewing our scholarship standards to improve our houses standing in G.P.A. As of now we are having is with Alumni Relations, but we hope with the rebirth of our newsletter and several events that are being planned for this semester we can be on the right path to improve our relations. We have also had two consecutive small pledge classes, but we have invested a lot of time and effort into righting the wrongs of past rushes and look forward to a class of around 20 for the fall."

- Anthony Eley, IN Gamma GP

Indiana Delta – Purdue University

"We currently have bided close to 15 new members for the spring semester of 2017. Major chapter projects include revamping our chapter bylaws and creating a new grievance council that we have lacked since attaining Grand Chapter. This has been our main struggle so far, aside from having underwhelming New member GPA's. Concerning philanthropic activities, we are currently building upon our Tailgate Toss event that we recently started last year. In addition to encouraging a greater involvement in the community to meet our new service hour requirement. And luckily have gotten several of our members participate in habitat for humanity for Spring Break. And most importantly, Indiana Delta is proud to be sending one of our upstanding brothers to the new Nelson Pivot leadership conference.
A drive to grow and improve characterizes Indiana Delta. The improvements that we feel need to be addressed are the Chapter Consultant Services/Visits. Those services should be customized to better mold to and effectively communicate to the different chapters and their respective organizational cultures."

- Tomi Gogic, IN Delta GP

Indiana Epsilon – Valparaiso University

"What a year it has been for the men of Indiana Epsilon at Valparaiso University. With one of our largest fall new member class in the past few years 7, we were able to continue our recruitment success by adding 18 more members through spring rush. Our favorite memories of the year include our annual Phi Psi 500 tricycle race philanthropy event, which raised almost $1200. This fall we had a chapter GPA of a 3.223. This placed us 3/9 among fraternities at Valpo. The brotherhood has accumulated more than 1100 service hours within the chapter over the course of the 2015 and 2016 academic year.
One big goal of this year's officers has been to increase efficiency and we have felt pretty successful in doing so."

- Nicholas Eder, IN Epsilon GP

Indiana Eta – Indiana State University

"Indiana Eta had a late start coming into the Fall of 2016. Because our chapter did not begin operating until October, we were unable to complete a lot of the things we would have liked to; such as community service hours and philanthropy events. Our overall GPA also suffered during the semester as many of our member's grades were already solidified before the chapter began to continue its operations. However, coming into the Spring of 2017 we now have initiated three new brothers increasing our chapter size from six to nine active brothers. We now have a scheduled philanthropy for March 25th as well as scheduled community service events with the Boys and Girls Club in our area. We have also have implemented an academic plan for members that did not meet our GPA requirement of a 2.75 by creating a mandatory set of ten library hours per week, as well as incentives for members who show improvement in their grades. There have also been great learning experiences we have been

fortunate enough to participate in this semester. Our executive board was able to attend the Regional Officer Training where we were able to learn valuable information on how to better understand and lead in our positions. Also, I as president of the chapter was able to attend the Association of Fraternal Leaders and Values Conference held in Indy where I was able to gain ideas for recruitment as well as gain new insight on being a great leader for our chapter. With our chapter only holding nine active members, our biggest problem we have is delegating responsibility between committees. But with all the struggles of having such a small chapter, our new advisory team has immensely helped guide us in the right direction and we certainly have great things to look forward to in the future."

- Dustin Follmer, IN Eta GP

Indiana Theta – Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

"The Indiana Theta Chapter has seen relatively stable recruitment numbers recently, approximately 20+ in the fall semesters, with approximately a dozen in the recent spring classes. We have recently seen many older members drop because of not wanting to pay dues any longer. Our philanthropic events are increasing in size and donations. We recently increased on service requirements to 15 hours a semester, up from 10 prior to the change. We actually placed first among IFC on our campus for cumulative service hours last academic year... With many newer members and older members dropping, our culture is shifting and we are attempting to get back to the roots. This has been done on the fly with younger members taking on leadership roles."

- Aidan Wilkins, IN Theta GP

Indiana Iota – Ball State University

"During the fall semester, our chapter made great strides towards recruitment, philanthropic endeavors, and leadership. We reached our goal of rushing 32 new members for fall recruitment with the hard work and effort from the entire brotherhood. Our second annual fall philanthropy, Island Wars, (whom we paired with another sorority this year with Alpha Omicron Pi), was a great success having raised over $4000 and contributing over $1500 of it to the Boys and Girls Club of Muncie to increase funds for better programming and facility upgrades. Several new members throughout their new member education stepped up and participated in committees, brotherhoods, and various chapter operations, benefitting the chapter with increased participation and attendance at events during the semester. Although the active brothers had an overall GPA of 3.18, the new members dropped the average to a 2.9, but with the upgraded academic plan set in place by our scholarship chairman, we anticipate having above a 3.0 average in the chapter and seeking to return to having the top grades in the IFC community here at Ball State.

The Indiana Iota chapter just recently received full accreditation with distinction in the IFC community with an excellence in academic achievement for the 2015-2016 school year. Our former president was awarded President of the Year for his time as GP the past two semesters and one of our brothers

received Outstanding Council Member of the Year for his time as VP of Community Outreach on the IFC executive board. Although this is a proud moment in our current history, the new executive board and fellow committees have noticed problems that we as a chapter must focus and improve upon for the spring semester. Some of these problems include complacency, laziness, lack of participation and motivation, and academic achievement (especially for new members and those under our GPA minimum). By implementing a new delegation system within the executive board and chairs, we have already seen increased communication and more productive committee meetings. On top of fines and consequences to pushing brothers to attend events, we will start creating awards and incentives for different chairs to help guys stay motivated and work harder for mandated aspects of the fraternity including grades, community service hours, and attendance. The Indiana Iota chapter has continued to grow this past year on campus and is striving to rank in the upper quartile of academics, community service, and philanthropy come the end of the academic year while maintaining the best brotherhood on campus."

- Thomas Jacocks, IN Iota GP

Michigan Alpha – University of Michigan

No Report

Michigan Beta – Michigan State University

"This Spring Michigan Beta gave out 8 bids to join our chapter which was down considerably from the last two semesters. Low numbers were reported for nearly every fraternity at Michigan State so we are not alarmed by the low turnout after giving out 33 bids in Fall 2016. Our biggest project this semester is our new philanthropy event, Phi Psi Sets Flint Spikes, which we created to raise money for the Boys and Girls Club of Flint. We created a GoFundMe as well as other events designed to raise funds which are all culminating in a volleyball tournament with sororities participating. The tournament is set for February 11th and we are expecting a great turnout with close to 100 girls. We also have two percentage nights set up with Chipotle to try and help us reach our goal of raising $10,000. After three years of solid recruitment and a unified goal to become one of the top houses on campus we now rank fifth in size. Our chapter is bigger than it has ever been and it has become evident that we have severely outgrown our small chapter house which only lives 13. We have added a couple of annex houses and are constantly searching for a new property to accommodate our new numbers."

- Jackson Rapaich, MI Beta GP

Ohio Beta – Wittenburg University

"Phi Kappa Psi Ohio Beta is excelling here at Wittenberg University. This academic year has been a record-setting year for our chapter. Just this past fall we celebrated our 150th anniversary, which makes

us the oldest chapter in Ohio. Spring rush was about two weeks ago and we pulled in the largest recruitment class out of all Greek organizations on campus, with 23 new members. This is not only the largest fraternity recruitment class in Wittenberg's history but also when they become initiated actives; we will be the largest fraternity in the history of Wittenberg, with 80 active members. Also, we hold a 3.1 accumulative GPA, which is the second highest on campus behind Beta Theta Pi, who has around 44 active members. Community service and philanthropy are going very well too. This past fall we had a philanthropy event that was a 5k on campus, called Phi Kappa 5k. We made around two thousand dollars off of ticket and t-shirt sales. For our community service, the fraternity paired up with a nonprofit organization called ManPower that helps young inner-city boys grow and learn about what it means to be a man with life lessons and lectures. At the end of the program, we normally play some basketball or any other game/sport they want to play. Overall, our chapter is growing and taking steps in the right direction. We have close relations with the school and will be working with the administration on helping them get things accomplished around campus and be the leaders that we are for Wittenberg."

- Evan Wheeler, OH Beta GP

Ohio Zeta – Bowling Green State University

"Our chapter of Phi Kappa Psi Ohio Zeta here at Bowling Green State University is in a growing position. We have been put under social suspension for the spring semester. Since then we have lost many men to early alumni. Due to this, our chapter has been shrunk from around 63 men to 40 members including our members who are inactive due to internships. This sudden change in membership has given our chapter a new life. We now have the chance to rebuild the chapter for the better. Our Fall recruitment we have brought in 13 new members. Our fall new member's class has been one of the best new member's classes we have had in a few years. They show the best brotherhood along with the drive to give back to the chapter. The fall new members have also brought in the highest new member GPA on campus with a cumulative 3.4. For the spring we have brought in 4 new members to go through the pledge process. We are very excited to see what these men can do. As a chapter, we have a current GPA of 3.2. Some chapter projects that we are working on right now are rebuilding our chapter. We are a young chapter with most of our executive board being sophomores. As for struggles our major concern in our chapter is recruitment and the future of the chapter. What got us into the current situation (being on social suspension) we are in now is having one good pledge class then not recruiting any good pledge classes for a while. We are looking to get some help from nationals for the recruitment in the fall so that we can recruit some of the best men on our campuses."

- Drew Dutson, OH Zeta GP

Ohio Eta – University of Toledo

"Here at Ohio Eta, we just finished our informal spring recruitment. We are happy to report that we got 14 new members who combined have a GPA of 3.48. We are very proud of the standard we are holding

and how we were able to get 14 new gentlemen who meet our high standards. As a greek life on Toledo's campus, we have revamped how we are recognized within this group. We used a similar style as our accreditation. We are eligible to achieve all and be recognized as a top greek life organization. We will have the actual results at the end of this month."

- Lucas Widner, OH Eta GP

Ohio Mu – University of Dayton

"Ohio Mu is currently on the rise on the campus of the University of Dayton. With every executive board member being a Sophomore, Ohio Mu has numerous young leaders who are passionate about turning this chapter into something great. We are currently in the middle of recruitment season and we had record high numbers of Potential New Members attend events. In past years, we have never required members to have service hours, but now it is a requirement. We plan to do service projects in inner city Dayton, and Relay for Life on April 8th. Currently, we don't have any major struggles within our chapter. Almost every brother has paid their dues on time, which has been a struggle in past years. Everything is running smoothly, and we as executive leaders can't wait to keep things going."

- Aidan Johnson, OH Mu GP

Wisconsin Gamma – Beloit College

"Wisconsin Gamma has had a year of transition. A strong and large senior class has started to give way to the younger generations, with 7 of 9 officer positions held by promising sophomore brothers. We have hosted multiple philanthropic pancake breakfasts, open to the entirety of campus, which have all been successful based on historical precedent. We inducted 16 men into our new member process last night, with, in addition to our beta rush this spring will be one of our largest classes in recent history. We have brothers that have been extremely active in leadership on campus, filling many positions in student government, and multiple presidencies of clubs, from Chess Club & Amnesty International to the Beloit Science Fiction and Fantasy Association. We also have a strong presence on the swim team, the cross country team, and the track team. We have also done philanthropic work outside our campus community, volunteering as Firefighters in South Beloit and at our local food pantries.

Unfortunately, our campus fell victim to 2 hate crimes earlier this semester, and we as brothers of Phi Kappa Psi have worked diligently to stand with the victims of hate crimes, and oppose all forms of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of discrimination.

In all, we have had a strong year. Looking to the future, we plan on more actively engaging our alumni association, and providing more avenues for alumni to get involved in supporting the active chapter, something that has fallen by the wayside recently."