



DELTA TAU DELTA

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY - ROAD PROGRAMMING

The Road Programming

Event 1: Delt and the South Asian Cultural Exchange: Breaking Down Barriers (800 level) (1000 level)

Date: 1/26/2017

Presenters: The brothers of Delta Tau Delta and members of the Lambda GSA

Agenda: Lambda Chapter Brother Henry Bristol (Chair, Diversity and Inclusivity Committee) planned and executed a joint event in the chapter shelter with members of SACE, the South Asian Cultural Exchange on campus. The evening started with introductions and an overview of the goals of the event, before everyone split off into breakout groups, with each group containing 3-4 brothers and 3-4 members of Lambda. The goal of the evening was to foster dialogue and personal connections between two spheres of campus that may normally never come in contact with one another. This is in the hopes that Lambda Chapter can be on the front edge in the Vanderbilt IFC community in regards to connecting with the rest of campus and seeking to overcome the stereotype of fraternity men as exclusive and closed off. This was part of a series as a continuation of a similar event with the South Asian Culture Exchange in the fall of 2016.

Attendance: 23 members

Non-Member Attendance: 14

Guided questions included:

- Name, major, year, what brought you to this event today?
- Where are you/your parents from, and what brought you/your family to your hometown?
- How do you think your upbringing shaped who you are?
- What parts of your cultural heritage don't resonate with you?
- Do you feel like there are divisions on campus? What are they?
- What do you think people assume about you from the way you look?
- What is your experience with/opinion of microaggressions?
- What's an initiative you'd want to see on campus?
- Where are places that you feel safe and unsafe on campus?

Event 2: Healthy Habits

Date: 1/31/2017

Presenters: Tyler Anderson, Community Service Chair

Agenda: Brother Tyler Anderson, as part of our Light of Aspiration program, led an event where he discussed healthy habits for college aged males to consider. The Lambda Chapter, following success in New Member Education, spread a "Light of Aspiration" program to the whole chapter, where individual members could lead discussions related to topics that connected with their passions and driving motivations. Brother Anderson was the first participant of this. Anderson discussed the importance of sleep, exercise, and nutrition through a PowerPoint presentation with research backing up and supporting each tenet. Following the presentation,

attendees discussed challenges and barriers to practicing these healthy habits alongside the day-to-day stress of college.

Attendance: 12 members

Event 3: Diversity & Inclusion Training (600 Level)

Date: 2/20/2016

Presenters: Gregory Fontus, Program Coordinator for Inclusion Initiatives and Cultural Competence

Agenda: Greg Fontus led the chapter along with other IFC fraternities in a program called the identity circle. Greg read a statement that ranged from harmless (e.g. "I like cheese") to triggering (e.g. "I am a victim of domestic violence). Should a brother identify with that statement, he stands up. This activity is done in silence. After the activity, Greg de-briefed with the ultimate goal of helping us understand different identities and how we should be open to all people, not demeaning a certain identity either overtly or inadvertently.

Attendance: 64 members (at Chapter)

Event 4: Boundary Setting (600 Level)

Date: 2/27/2017

Presenters: Project Safe Center

Agenda: A presenter from the Project Safe Center, a victim-advocate and support center for survivors of sexual assault, came to Delta Tau Delta to discuss appropriate boundary setting and how communication can pay dividends in our personal relationships. Discussion also included exploration of ways to ensure safety and security at fraternity social functions with outside guests. This was part of the Light of Aspiration series, as Brother Alexander Spanopoulos had considerable interest in the topic and helped connect the ROAD chair with the center.

Attendance: 22 members

Event 5: Storytelling and Personal Narratives (600 / 800 level)

Date: 2/28/2017

Presenters: Dr. Frank Dobson, Assistant Dean and Chair of the Black Cultural Center

Agenda: Dr. Dobson gave a presentation at the Black Cultural Center and invited Delta Tau Delta members to attend, alongside anyone interested in the community. The discussion related to the importance of articulating and recognizing personal narratives for resilience. Often, narratives go unheard or unspoken, leading to feelings of isolation, especially for minority or underrepresented groups. The discussion detailed barriers to communication on campus and how members of majority populations could step back to foster more healthy dialogue. Additionally, best practices for finding your own personal narrative were discussed and initial narratives were shared at a group level. Finally, the importance of mental narratives for mental health were discussed.

The Lambda Chapter and ROAD team employed the following methods to ensure adequate brother attendance: email reminders, 25 individual texts inviting members, in-person

advertisements, chapter announcements, and meeting together as a group at the shelter to walk over.

Attendance: 30 members

Non-member attendance: 23 members

Event 6: The Black Vanderbilt Experience and DTD (600 Level)

Date: 4/3/2017

Presenters: Dr. Roosevelt Noble, Senior Lecturer in Sociology

Agenda: Dr. Noble brought insights from his 'exit-interview' research from black Vanderbilt graduating seniors to elaborate and illustrate upon the "BV" experience. Specifically, Dr. Noble discussed the importance of supporting black fraternity members. By joining a historically white organization, many black students experience an inability to fully immerse in the black student culture. When national issues occur that may affect identity groups, it is crucial for our fraternity to fulfill the membership promise and support all members. Additionally, Dr. Noble and brothers brainstormed barriers to more diverse recruitment and membership.

Attendance: 36 members

Event 7: Diversity in Recruitment (600 Level)

Date: 9/18/2017

Presenters: Nancy Nolan, Lecturer, Dept. of Human & Organizational Development

Agenda: Nancy Nolan, a faculty member who serves as a VUcept "Peer Orientation Leader" partner with Brother Kyle Money, came to Delta Tau Delta to discuss the importance of acknowledging implicit bias in recruitment following our spring discussion with Dr. Noble. Recruitment can often fall victim to initial, shallow impressions - "I like him, he's a good guy," or "He was really nice." We often don't stop to think about how our internal psychology may lead us to favor certain characteristics over others and how that can accidentally shape a chapter culture. Nolan continued to discuss ways to improve recruitment, leading a collaborative brainstorming session for brothers and providing frameworks for challenging automatic thoughts and beliefs.

Attendance: 28 members

Event 8: Hurricanes and Climate Change (600 Level)

Date: 9/25/2017

Presenters: Professor Jonathan Gilligan, Associate Professor of Earth and Environmental Science

Agenda: Climate Professor, Dr. Jonathan Gilligan, led a discussion related to the recent hurricanes in Houston and Puerto Rico. Dr. Gilligan discussed climate trends, ways to evaluate news sources and research efficacy, and his personal take on the relationship of climate change and hurricanes. Interestingly, as Gilligan discussed, increased global warming both contributes to stronger hurricanes and forces that mitigate hurricane formation, leading to an overall inconclusive field of research. Towards the end, Dr. Gilligan also discussed his passion for EES and his career journey, providing valuable insights for brothers considering different career options.

Attendance: 35 members

Event 9: How to Change A Tire

Date: 10/30/2017

Presenters: Chris DeLuca, Assistant Treasurer

Agenda: Brother Chris DeLuca, as part of our Light of Aspiration program, led an event where he taught brothers how to change a tire. DeLuca continued further following the demonstration and led a discussion on important safety considerations for long road trips and general vehicle maintenance best practices.

Attendance: 11 members