



DELTA UPSILON

INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY

SUBSTANCE-FREE HOUSING STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

Throughout my college experience, I have learned that the only thing constant in life is change. Throughout my *DU* experience, I have learned that it is better to initiate the change than be a reactant of change.

The existence of fraternities is under attack. Four fraternity-related hazing deaths in less than a year (thankfully not within DU) have created a whirlwind of media backlash and political conversation on whether or not fraternities should exist. As a whole, the current image of fraternity life is not one of noble history and world changing men. We HAVE to change because, if not us, then who?

When this topic of substance-free housing first came up, like most of us, I was extremely hesitant. Why should we disturb our existence when we are not the problem? After much conversation and thought, I realized that this initiative is the only way we will ever protect life and our beloved Fraternity. I reflected upon our founding and upon our Ritual. "We must jealously guard against any who may disturb the harmony of our fraternal life" were the words that rang true to me. Our foundation is cemented in our brothers' history to overcome adversity and injustice, and in our ability to adapt to a changing world. For 184 years, Delta Upsilon has withstood a U.S. Civil War, The Great Depression, two world wars, and modern-day terrorism. "Our past is secure; our future depends upon our vigilance."

Brothers, I ask that we come together as our Founding Fathers at Williams did all those years ago. Let us come together and change the image of fraternity. Let us come together and change the culture of our campuses. Let us come together and initiate change in *our* image than react to someone else's change.

Walter Oliff, *Central Florida '17*
Undergraduate Director, Delta Upsilon Board of Directors

To me, the meaning of DU is to have a constant support network of brothers who are always looking to push each other and better each other. Alcohol plays no role in that. It's encouraging your brothers to go study more, apply for that internship they really want, or asking them to volunteer with you—to build better men. Alcohol doesn't play a role in what it means to be a DU. To be a DU is to be constantly pushing and striving to make each other better.

Alex Mulligan, *Toronto '18*
Province 6 Undergraduate Advisory Board Representative

Home is definitely a place that you look to after a long day, somewhere you feel comfortable, can relax and be yourself. It is really important that a DU chapter house embodies those values. It is the one place where everyone can meet and connect, and it puts everyone on the same page. You want to do that in an environment that is accepting, safe and warm. A DU house should be all of those things.

Arjun Singh, *Indiana '19*

I am on a campus with a recent hard alcohol ban. With reduced intake of hard alcohol, we have seen less dangerous behaviors. We've definitely seen amongst the community that there is less really risky behavior. It's created a safer environment. A lot of people were aghast at the announcement, but we've been able to grow, move forward and adapt. In the chapter and in the community, things are safer. I hear of fewer hospitalizations. I hear of less damage being done and less fighting. All those things that you hear about being the cons to Greek life, those things have been reduced since our hard alcohol ban went into place.

Ashton Mills, Oregon State '19
Chapter President

I believe the substance-free housing policy is a good thing. It shows that Delta Upsilon is working to change the fraternity stereotype and that we are willing to take steps to prevent potential incidents from happening. DU continues to lead the way for positive change. That will help us not only continue to exist, but to be an example on our campuses and in society.

Joshua Chase, Wichita '18
Undergraduate Director, Delta Upsilon Board of Directors

DU has always been innovative, whether it is non-secrecy or non-hazing. This is another chance for us to innovate and update our programs and activities. That's really exciting. It's a chance for us to stand out. Fraternities have been under the microscope for some time, and this is a change for us to make positive strides in the higher education community and to stand out as a leader, instead of appearing stagnant and stuck in the past. It's not going to be easy for some chapters, but it is really an opportunity for us update how we do things. We can create a force for change in the Greek community.

Alex Mulligan, Toronto '18
Province 6 Undergraduate Advisory Board Representative

Anyone who has followed the news lately is aware that Greek organizations have been under a lot of scrutiny. A lot of us know it's really just a few bad apples that give the entire tree a bad name. I think it's really important that we don't just react to changing sentiment, but that we be proactive in taking steps that show we are embodying what our organization is. What we are is an organization of people who are better men.

Arjun Singh, Indiana '19

I like to think of everything within the terms of the Four Founding Principles. If we can't justifiably back up our actions with one of the Four Founding Principles, we shouldn't be doing it. I am a firm believer in that. We can't advance justice in the 21st Century world with the state fraternities and sororities are in and continuing to allow bad behaviors and actions to exist.

Ashton Mills, Oregon State '19
Chapter President