

Fall 2015



KAPPA PSI: CHI

A newsletter of Chi Chapter - University of Illinois at Chicago

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Letter from the Editors:

Greetings, Brothers!

This summer has been a busy and eventful time for Kappa Psi Chi Chapter! We are distributing this summer newsletter to update all Brothers on what Chi Chapter has been up to during the spring and summer. Last semester ended with a painting social and the annual spring formal, which brought Brothers together for a fun and memorable night one last time before finals. As summer approached, Chi Brothers maintained their dedication to community service by visiting the families at the Ronald McDonald House for an arts and crafts event and by volunteering at a Special Olympics athletic event.

August was an exciting time for many Brothers of Chi Chapter as they embarked on their trip to the 57th Grand Council Convention (GCC). For many Brothers, attending GCC was a new and memorable experience, while others were excited to reunite with old friends at their second GCC. This issue features an article about two Brothers' experiences representing Chi Chapter at GCC. We are very excited to announce that we are a national top-five chapter this year! We are especially proud to congratulate Brother Dr. Latha Radhakrishnan as the new Grand Regent of Kappa Psi. Chi Chapter Brothers were ecstatic to hear this news and are ready to support her as she leads Kappa Psi through the next two years. We would like to thank all of the Chi Brothers who contributed to this issue of the newsletter. This year will be exciting for the newsletter committee as we welcome more Brothers who have signed up to share articles about their experiences with the Fraternity. Stay tuned for our next newsletter which will feature these Brothers as well as an introduction to the 2015-2016 E-board.

Proud To Be Your Brothers,

KY Chi Newsletter Co-Editors
Helen Sweiss, Rebecca Mousseau
and Albert Xu



*We are especially proud to congratulate
Brother Dr. Latha Radhakrishnan for
having been elected Grand Regent of
Kappa Psi!*

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Spring Formal

By Brother Stephanie Chang

On a breezy evening in April during the Spring 2015 semester, Chi Chapter Brothers met at River Roast for waterfront dining along the Chicago River. As Brothers walked into the restaurant they were greeted by the Spring Formal Committee who handed out place cards for a masquerade-themed Spring Formal dinner.

The elegant meal of filet mignon, oven-roasted chicken, and ricotta pappardelle was a welcome change of pace for Brothers who were almost finished with another school year. While everyone enjoyed the evening, Brother Emily Armgardt, the Social Chair, in charge of the formal dinner, admitted the planning leading up to formal was challenging.

"Finding a place to have the event is the hardest part," she said. "It is a delicate balance of finding a great location while keeping the cost low for all the Brothers."

Formal sub-committees spent months picking the perfect location, choosing a theme, making decorations, and finding entertainment for the night. Brother Melissa Chaung, a member of the committee and Social Chair for 2015-2016, believes her involvement helped her learn how to start planning early for next year's formal.

Entertainment included Brothers singing a duet, superlative awards, and an end-of-the-year slideshow to share memories and celebrate another year of Brotherhood.



P3 Brothers at Spring Formal.

"I think formal turned out very well," said Brother Emily. "It was great to see months of planning come to life. I really enjoyed myself and truly hope everyone else did as well!" Kappa Psi Chi Chapter Brothers would like to thank all Brothers who dedicated their time and effort to making Spring Formal a success!

"It was great to see months of planning come to life. I really enjoyed myself and truly hope everyone else did as well!"



Brother Melissa Chaung and Brother Anthony Chiang winning Best Big/Little with (left to right) Brothers Harshal Rathod, Rushi Patel and Jason Mei.



Painting Social

By Brother Stephanie Chang



Brothers showing off their finished paintings at the painting social.

A jar of blue paint and a murky cup of water sat on the table in front of Brother Jessie Khy in a small, but brightly lit art studio. Sitting in a row beside her, 18 other Brothers donned art smocks and gathered materials needed for canvas painting. On a cold day in February, Chi Chapter Brothers took a break from a busy week of pharmacy school to socialize and express their artistic talents through a creative painting class.

Brothers had the chance to pick anything they wanted to paint, either by choosing from a collection of pictures at the studio or by searching through Google images on their phones. The art instructor taught basic techniques on how to start painting, and then she encouraged everyone to continue painting on their own. She walked around to answer questions and offer advice.

“My favorite part about the social was that the class was structured in a way that people with a variety of artistic talent could come together and paint whatever they wanted,” said Brother Jessie. “Even if it was someone's first time painting, everyone's paintings looked amazing, and we all had fun doing it.”

After a couple hours and many brush strokes, Brother Jessie turned a blank canvas into a lively scene from the ocean. The room was filled with an assortment of unique paintings. From the Chicago skyline to flowers to sports logos to Cookie Monster, each Brother's painting displayed an image with bursts of color that was unlike any of the others.

Brothers enjoyed a night of bonding, laughter, and even surprise by their own painting abilities. At the end of the class, everyone took home their piece of artwork to remember the KY brotherhood event. “It was a really relaxing night where we could spend time together painting and admiring each other's work,” said Brother Jessie. “I got to see people I don't normally get to see at school, and it was really fun!”

“Event if it was someone's first time painting, everyone's paintings looked amazing, and we all had fun doing it.”



Summer Philanthropy with Chi Chapter

By Brother Tanja Alavanja

Chi Brothers continued their philanthropy efforts during the summer, too eager to wait until the Fall academic year commenced. Brothers continued to make a difference in people's lives this summer by enthusiastically volunteering at a Special Olympics bowling event and at a Ronald McDonald Crafts Night for the Kids event. Special Olympics and Ronald McDonald House are two organizations Chi Chapter has established strong relationships with over the last few academic years. I would like to give a shout out to the Chi Brothers who have continued to volunteer over the summer to support the effort of these organizations, which seek to positively influence people's lives and fill their hearts with comfort and joy.

The Transition from Collegiate to Graduate Brother

By Brother Rebecca Mousseau

Last year, I participated in the Epsilon Upsilon/Illinois Graduate Mock Interview event at Roosevelt University. Even though I knew it was just for practice, I was extremely nervous, because it was my first time interviewing for a pharmacist position, and, as a P3, I did not feel prepared. As I approached the room with my pressed suit jacket and neatly-printed curriculum vitae, I was breathing heavily. However, when I walked into the room, I breathed a sigh of relief as I was greeted by Collegiate and Graduate Brothers who I have gotten to know over the past few years. We were all simply happy to see each other. When it came time for my interview, I was no longer nervous. The fact that my interviewer was a Kappa Psi Brother was a huge comfort to me. I realized that, even though the application and interview process will be intimidating for all of us, we will continue to have the support of Brothers to lift us up.

The Illinois Graduate Chapter provides Collegiate Brothers with so many opportunities, including mock interviews, career roundtables, residency roundtables, networking events, philanthropy events, and more. I have been seeking these opportunities since becoming a Neophyte, and I feel that this decision has helped prepare me for my P4 year. Therefore, I encourage everyone to start attending events with I-Grad this year. P4 Brothers, this is a critical time to start becoming involved with I-Grad, even if you have not participated in the past. The opportunities that I-Grad provides are even more important this year, and I-Grad provides a future platform to help new Collegiate Brothers after we graduate.

As Chi Chapter's P4 Liaison this year, I want to help ensure that all Chi Brothers, whether they are Neophytes or soon-to-be Graduate Brothers, remain informed of the different ways to become involved with I-Grad. Please reach out to me with questions or ideas

(becca.chemie@gmail.com). P4s, I know this year will be scary, because we do not know where we will end up in the future. However, take comfort in the knowledge that, no matter where we end up, we will always be Kappa Psi Brothers.



(left to right) Brothers Darina McDee, Ina Liko and Rebecca Mousseau at the 57th Grand Council Convention in Denver, Colorado.



Reaching New Heights at the 57th Grand Council Convention (GCC)

By Chi Chapter GCC Delegates, Brothers Matt Holderly and Lil Herrera



(left to right) Brothers Levi Pilonas, Yeran Vavayan, Lil Herrera, Matt Holderly, Ben Nagy, Darina McDee and Ina Liko at GCC in Denver, Colorado.

Before attending our first Grand Council Convention (GCC), we heard testaments from Brothers who had attended previous GCCs. These Brothers described a week full of fun, fellowship, and hard work which would help the fraternity grow and prosper as a whole. However, after reading about the events that would take place during the 57th GCC in Denver, Colorado, we found our excitement steadily growing as August crept closer.

Eight Chi Brothers arrived in Denver for the 57th GCC, which we soon learned would measure up to the hype previously described. Brothers were able to participate in whitewater rafting, ziplining, and other excursions in the mountains of Colorado. Fellowship was delivered in spades, as Chi Brothers were able to cement our relationships with our fellow Mid-America Province Brothers as well as meet a myriad of Brothers from around the world.

Our expectations were blown away by the numerous awards Chi Chapter Brothers received, which included Brother Rebecca Mousseau's Foundation Scholarship, our very own GCD Dr. Latha Radhakrishnan's Grand Council Deputy Certificate of Excellence, and Chi Chapter's ranking as the 5th best Collegiate Chapter in the Fraternity as a whole for the previous year. We would also like to send out a hearty congratulations to our Illinois Graduate Chapter Brothers who were ranked as the best Graduate Chapter in the Fraternity for the previous year.

As time went on, our experiences only improved - from raising nearly \$1,000 for Chi chapter at chapter sales, to meeting and hearing from the leaders and legends in our Fraternity, such as Brother Robert Magarian who served as Executive Director for twenty years, Brother Norman Campbell, the oldest Past Grand Regent in attendance, who marked his 25th GCC attendance (50 years attending GCCs), and current APhA President (and former Grand Regent) Brother Lawrence "L. B." Brown.

Without a doubt, the greatest achievement of the 57th GCC was made by our very own GCD Brother Dr. Latha Radhakrishnan, who was elected Grand Regent of the Fraternity. We could not be more proud of the accomplishments Dr. Radhakrishnan has made in her years of service to our Fraternity, as well her ascension to the office of Grand Regent! She serves as a model for us all to emulate now that the 57th GCC has concluded, we have returned to our homes, and we continue working to improve our Chapters, Provinces and the Fraternity as we strive to reach new heights.

"The greatest achievement of the 57th GCC was made by our very own GCD Brother Dr. Latha Radhakrishnan, who was elected Grand Regent of the Fraternity."

