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The University Archives  
and Records Center

A Guide to the  
Delta Psi Fraternity Records  
1890-1985

7.0 Cubic feet

UPS 41 DP

Prepared by Kaiyi Chen

2001

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**PROVENANCE**

These records were the gift of the Delta Alumni Association, Inc. in two parts. The University Archives and Records Center received the records of the Delta Chapter in 1976. The addition of the records for the Delta Alumni Association were received in June 1990.

**AGENCY HISTORY**

The Delta Psi fraternity was organized to: establish a bond of union between college students; improve its members through literary exercises; give life-long support of the brotherhood; and advance each member through protection and support. Candidates must be undergraduates or graduates of some college, law or medical school having the power to confer degrees. Initiation of student attending a school already having a chapter of Delta Psi is not permitted unless authorized, nor is membership in any other collegiate secret society.

The Delta Chapter was founded at Burlington College, Burlington, N.J. on November 28, 1849 by Warren Livingston. Lack of support from the administration eventually led the members to investigate the possibility of transferring the chapter to another institution. On December 27, 1854 the chapter was transferred to Philadelphia. The Delta Chapter House, known as St. Anthony Hall,

opened in January 1889. The Delta Alumni Association was incorporated in Pennsylvania in 1912, and is concerned with the scholastic standing of the undergraduates and the maintenance of the St. Anthony Hall and the St. Anthony Club. The fraternity and Alumni Association remain very active today.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The records of the Delta Psi Fraternity include papers for the Delta Chapter and its parent organization the Delta Alumni Association.

For the Delta Chapter there are: bylaws, 1890-1966; Constitutions, 1891-1922; books of forms, 1884-1905; decisions, 1852-1911, membership information, 1861-1906, 1976; histories, 1888-1924; and a volume of poems by Robert Hunter McGrath, 1885-1886. The bulk of the Delta Chapter papers include minutes, 1861-1927 and financial papers, 1855-1909. The minute books provide the richest information on fraternity life and often include topics of debate that were held both formally and informally at the Chapter House in an effort to improve members through literary exercises. Topics ranged from national political events to campus events to philosophical issues to other varied interests such as the existence of supernatural beings. The financial records basically record payments of dues and fines charged by the fraternity.

Although the Delta Alumni Association was incorporated in 1912, there is nothing for these early years. The records begin with the bylaws, 1953-1955 and minutes, 1950-1985. There is information for the annual meetings from 1962 to 1973. The correspondence, 1960-1976 and the financial papers, 1925-1938, 1940-1976 primarily concern fundraising efforts by members of the association to support the fraternity and maintain the buildings. Miscellaneous papers such as insurance policies and publications fill out the remainder of the collection.

**Delta Psi Fraternity Records  
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**INVENTORY**

<b>DELTA CHAPTER</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
<b>Constitution/Bylaws</b>		
Bylaws, 1890	1	1
Constitution/Forms, 1891-1896	1	2
Constitution and Bylaws, 1922	1	3
Bylaws, [1966]	1	4
Book of Forms, 1884	1	5
Book of the Law, 1883-1897	1	6
Book of Forms, 1905	1	7
Decisions, 1852-1911	1	8
Decisions, 1861-1883	1	9
<b>Membership</b>		
Original Roll of Members, 1849-1887 (Photostat copy)	OS 7	
Registry, 1861-1881	1	10
Committee Book, 1866-1877	1	11
Visitor's Book, 1885	1	12

Roll Book, 1893-1906	1	13
<b>Histories</b>		
1888-1889	1	14
1895-1898	1	15
1898-1899	1	16
1899-1903	1	17
1924 [notes]	1	18
Essays and Poems by Robert Hunter McGrath, 1885-1886	1	19
<b>Minutes</b>		
Feb. 25, 1861-Nov. 20, 1866	2	1
Sept. 29, 1870-May 11, 1875	2	2
May 18, 1875-Oct. 12, 1877	2	3
March 16, 1880-Nov. 2, 1886	2	4
1884-1885, drafts	2	5
Nov. 9, 1886-Nov. 27, 1894	2	6
Nov. 28, 1894-May 4, 1897	2	7
May 9, 1916-Feb. 14, 1927	2	8
<b>Financial</b>		
Ledger, Apr. 1, 1855-Dec. 1, 1860	3	1
Cashbook, Apr. 1, 1855-June 30, 1865	3	2
Ledger, Dec. 5, 1860-Jan. 1, 1867	3	3
Ledger, Jan. 2, 1868-Oct. 2, 1869	3	4
Cashbook, Jan. 3, 1868-Dec. 18, 1869	3	5
Ledger, Oct. 5, 1869-Dec. 1, 1869	3	6

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Ledger, Dec. 2, 1869-May 1, 1874	3	7
Ledger, June 1, 1874-June 5, 1878	3	8
Ledger, June 4, 1878-Jan. 8, 1884	3	9
Ledger, Jan. 8, 1884-Dec. 31, 1889	3	10
Ledger, July 26, 1906-Nov. 27, 1909	3	11

**Miscellaneous**

Cipher for Code, 1858	3	12
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**DELTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**Box**

**Folder**

**Constitution and Bylaws**

Bylaws, 1953	4	1
Bylaws, 1955	4	2
Committees/Membership, 1962-1969	4	3

**Minutes**

1950	4	4
1951	4	5
1952	4	6
1953	4	7
1954	4	8
1955	4	9
1956	4	10
1957-1959	4	11
1960-1961	4	12
1962-1963	4	13
1964	4	14



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1965	4	15
1966	4	16
1967	4	17
1968	4	18
1969	4	19
1970	4	20
1971	4	21
1972	4	22
1973	4	23
1974-1975	4	24
1976	4	25
1977	4	26
1978	4	27
1979	4	28
1980	4	29
1981	4	30
1982	4	31
1983-1985	4	32
Fraternity Planning Committee II, 1970	5	1
<b>Meetings</b>		
Annual Meeting (Grand Chapter), 1968	5	2
Annual Meeting(Grand Chapter), 1969	5	3
Meeting Notices, 1962-1963, 1966	5	4
<b>Buildings</b>		

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Agreements with the University, 1964-1989	5	5
Saint Anthony Hall, Fire prevention, 1968-1969	5	6
Saint Anthony Hall, Fire prevention, 1970-1972	5	7
Inspection, 1970	5	8
Insurance, 1976	5	9
<b>Correspondence</b>		
1960-1961	5	10
1962	5	11
1964-1965	5	12
1966	5	13
1968	5	14
1969	5	15
1970-1972	5	16
1973-1974	5	17
1976-1987	5	18
Agreements, 1960-1964	5	19
<b>Financial</b>		
Ledger, 1924-1934	OS 7	
Ledger, 1934-1939	OS 7	
Tax papers, 1940-1945, 1970-1978	5	20
Statement/Reports, 1964-1965	5	21
Grady Wood Fund, 1964-1965	5	22
Finance Committee papers, 1968-1969	5	23
Statements, 1968-1970	5	24

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Rushing Fund, 1968	5	25
Life Insurance Program, 1968	5	26
Contributions, 1968	5	27
Scholastic Award, 1968-1969	5	28
Warren Livingston Award, 1968-1969	5	29
Rushing Fund, 1969	5	30
Contributions, 1969	5	31
Tax papers, 1969-1978	5	32
Statements/Reports, 1970	5	33
Statements/Reports, 1972	5	34
Trusts, 1970-1971	5	35
Contributions, 1972-1973	6	1
Contributions, 1973	6	2
Contributions, 1974	6	3
Contributions, 1975	6	4
Contributions, 1976	6	5
<b>Gifts</b>		
Day, William L., 1974	6	6
Dechert, Robert, 1976	6	7
Downs, Ellason, 1979-1984	6	8
French, G. Ross, 1970-1971	6	9
Guthrie, Emily, 1976-1977	6	10
Harris, John Andrew, III, 1972	6	11
Lloyd, Malcolm, Jr., 1974	6	12

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Price, Eli Kirk, III, 1976-1977	6	13
Robb, Henry B., Jr.	6	14
Starr, Floyd, 1973	6	15
Townsend, Richard L., 1966-1972	6	16
1977-1978	6	17
Pension, Gas---	6	18
Taxes	6	19
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
History of the Fraternity of Delta Psi by Van. H. Cartmell, Vol. 2, 1902-1934 (copy 1)	6	20
(copy 2)	6	21
Catalogue of Members of Delta Psi, 1936 (printed)	6	22
Homecoming, 1975-1976	6	23
In Memorium, George Tucker Bispham	6	24
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Phi Chapter, membership, 1976	6	26
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