New sorority helps Christian women bond

By Joshua Cuneo
Senior Staff Writer

There’s a new face in the Tech sorority crowd, and it’s explicitly Christian. Alpha Delta Chi began almost two years ago at Lambda Nu, a local sorority for women who actively celebrated Christ and the principles of Christianity in their everyday lives. The group was a member of the Christian Council but refused admitance.

“Why all of us became involved in their field and wanted to see any one version of the Bible. In fact, the founding members interviewed at different churches.

“Because it is a Christian sorority,” said Jesslyn Beattie, a 4th year Computer Science major and secretary of ADX. “We wanted to make sure we were living [Christianity] out every day because that’s our personal belief,” explained Beattie. “We’re all Christian, we have faith in God, we’ve worked through Jesus Christ, and wanted a sorority where all of our sisters felt the same way.”

The group is not affiliated with any denomination-specific church or organization, and does not officially use any one version of the Bible. In fact, the founding members interviewed at different churches.

“Our purpose is to glorify God and to grow together as sisters and to build a sorority,” said Annette Daly, a 4th year Biomedical Engineering major and president of ADX. “You’re going to find different ways in sorority. It’s just another factor that...makes each of us unique and each of us have our own differences.”

In addition to its spiritual support, ADX is working to provide traditional Greek opportunities to its members. Jones, who also serves as the Scholarship Chair, described many academic programs, all of which are currently still available to members.

“We’re just getting started and we’re just implementing some kind of things that will all happen in the future, and I think that one of these will be a scholarship,” she said.

“I [also] plan on starting a big sister, little sister study hour, and [we’ll] come up with a spreadsheet...so you know which one of your sisters to go to to help out with tutoring.” Jones also hopes to start awarding archiver for future pledges.

Being new, ADX is also developing their list of activities and service projects, including an annual semi-formal, crush parties, Brews Games, Stone Mountain visits and retreats. The organization also commits itself to geographic areas.

“We’ve done Habitat for Humanity, we participated at the Festival of Trees, we had a block party for underprivileged children...and we lived in a highly Hispanic community,” said Daly.

“Our purpose is to glorify God and to grow together as sisters...”

Annette Daly
President, Alpha Delta Chi

“I think something I really like, just being on exec and being able to help make decisions and give me insight and look into other people’s insights,” said Beattie.

“I guess I kind of feel like the sorority is our baby cause we all founded it and stuff...it’s kind of like a motherly position, I guess.”

It’s definitely become a passion in all of our lives. We just give our hearts to it and give all of our time to it,” Jones added. “It’s different to create something and knowing that you’re going to leave a legacy here...something that girls in the future...will benefit from and grow from.”

Advisory groups help students get involved academically

By Michael H. Andelman
Contributing Writer

Although many students know about opportunities for student involvement in organizations and in their major, many academic advisory boards, committees and professional organizations give students the opportunity to contribute to their respective fields.

Colleges and departments have independently taken steps to support the recruitment of these areas of student involvement. However, the scope of the advisory board or organization can differ greatly between colleges of schools.

The College of Sciences does not have any formal student advisory boards, rather, a series of professional committees of students to get involved in their field and departmental affairs. These organizations include Beta Beta Beta (Biology), Alpha Chi Sigma (Chemistry and Biochemistry), Gamma Alpha Upsilon Lambda Nu (Biology), Society of Physics Students and the Psychology Club. Most of these organizations have a committee for professional activities that promote student-faculty interactions.

The College of Architecture encourages student involvement in all of the faculty committees. The College of Architecture also provides professional organizations that promote student-faculty interactions.

“Most faculty have been responsive to having student advisory groups...everyone in their right mind would want that.”

Dr. Robert McMath
Vice Provost of Academic Affairs

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An advisory program for Nuclear and Radiological Engineering is expected to be formed in the fall.

Some academic units such as the College of Computing have a formalized graduate advisory council while undergraduate advisory efforts are not as organized. Associate Dean Ellen Zegura said, "on the undergraduate level, we have some things are in the early stages of development...[including] an effort to tap into the female undergraduate students."

She also expects more formal opportunities over the coming year. Like many other academic deans, she believes that "things that contribute to making undergraduates feel like they are part of the community, and respected by the community are extremely important."

The DuPree College of Management has a student advisory board that has recently worked to sponsor study breaks and create a suggestion box to connect students with the college's administration. Other input includes changes to the enrollment system for classes and the number of electives offered. Members of the advisory board are chosen by academic advisors who identify students interested in helping to improve student life.

Dr. Nate Bennett, Associate Dean for the College of Management, states that, "the shared view around here is that student involvement is very important...we have made a continual effort to make sure students are being heard."

The Ivan Allen Student Advisory Board has worked on various projects and contributed to the Ivan Allen Founders Day. It meets on a regular basis to discuss and relay issues of concern and suggestions. Students can also join the Prometheus Society for HTS majors and Phi Alpha Delta, the pre-law society.

Students contributing to their academic units have also had an impact beyond their respective schools; Mechanical Engineering students established an honor code prior to its establishment institution-wide. Vice-Provost Dr. Bob McMath believes that "students can have the most impact on curriculum, the way the school expects students to behave and to have some advisory role in the selection of new faculty."

Students can contact their school's undergraduate coordinator or advisement coordinator for more information about how to get involved with the advisory council for each individual school.

"Most faculty have been responsive to having student advisory groups...everyone in their right mind would want that," said MCMath.