

The Grip

Fall 2017



The Grip

Fall 2017 Edition

Published by Gamma Psi International Board of Directors
October 23rd, 2017

Table of Contents

3...	Introduction	<i>Matthew "Rex" Hrozenciĸ</i>
4...	International Board of Directors Report	<i>Mike Albrecht</i>
5...	Eta Chapter Report	<i>Cody Slaughter</i>
6...	Iota Chapter Report	<i>John Moran</i>
7...	Eta Chapter Reflections	<i>Kyle Dobry</i>
10...	Gamma Psi Softball	<i>Matthew "Rex" Hrozenciĸ</i>
11...	Gamma Psi 757 Takes on top Golf	<i>Matthew "Rex" Hrozenciĸ</i>
12...	Convention Report	<i>Matthew "Rex" Hrozenciĸ</i>
16...	Gamma Delta Psi Historical Society Report	<i>Dorsey Howard</i>
18...	Nirvana Chapter Report	<i>Dorsey Howard</i>
20...	Furthering Brotherhood Beyond School	<i>Brandon "Bucky" Brinsfield</i>
21...	A Note from the Communications Director	<i>Kyle Dobry</i>
22...	Garnet Membership	<i>Kyle Dobry</i>

Introduction

I hope this new issue of the *Grip* finds you well. When I first began to revive this project almost a year ago I had two purposes in mind: to bring back a much needed newsletter to strengthen the Brotherhood of our beloved Fraternity, and to provide a historical record of our doings so they may be properly preserved in the larger compendium of our official history book. They seemed to fit my job descriptions as Editor of the *Grip* and Historian of the International Board of Directors (IBOD). It was after some delays that we finally had a new issue published for the first time in nearly two and a half years this past summer. I am extremely grateful for the warm reception it received from the Brotherhood.

Due to the amount of Fraternity events and relevant news that was due to occur in the coming months, such as Convention, the IBOD decided that a follow-up issue in the fall was necessary to continue keeping as many Brothers in the loop as possible. It has now become our goal that future issues will be published on a seasonal, quarterly basis. The success and dedication of our current IBOD members gives me no reason to believe that this goal will not be met.

As many of you know by now, the Fraternity voted to pass a new set of bylaws for the IBOD at our annual Convention. Part of these new bylaws involved a major restructuring of the IBOD's positions and each position's respective duties. Our Convention summary article, which you will read in a bit, will explain these bylaws and restructuring in detail, and why we believe this was a necessary step forward. Under this restructuring, the duty of publishing future issues of the *Grip* has fallen under the responsibility of our new Communications Director, Kyle Dobry (Eta #104). The future of this newsletter is more than safe in his hands. I will be continuing my involvement with the IBOD as one of the new Executive Vice-Presidents alongside Alex Collie (Eta #103) providing general counsel, administrative duties, historical and other chief executive needs for the Fraternity.

Things are looking brighter than ever for the future of Gamma Psi, and it is an honor to be a part of the process of spreading the virtues of tolerance, scholarship, social poise, and citizenship. I can't wait to see what this next year brings.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Matthew "Rex" Hrozenciĸ

International Board of Directors – Executive Vice-President

Eta Chapter #107

International Board of Directors Report

As another successful convention comes to a close, a regenerated feeling of optimism fills the Gamma Psi Spirit inside of me. I want to start off by thanking all the Brothers of Gamma Psi and Gamma Delta Psi for making it down to Longwood for an awesome weekend of business and bonding. Special thanks go out to the Brothers of Eta chapter for helping to coordinate and host everyone who came to Farmville

In evaluating the state of the Fraternity, I like to look at it from the perspective of “past, present, future.” Gamma Psi has gone from an unincorporated fraternity to a fraternity with legal corporate standing. We have gone from a disorganized structure to a structure that operates in unity. We have gone from a Fraternity with no expansion plan to a Fraternity with an expansion plan we can deploy nearly anywhere. Most importantly, we have gone from no support structure, to an organization with a governing body of directors.

Presently, we have updated bylaws, Constitutional amendments, and instituted a new risk management policy. We have a stronger and more dominant presence at Bridgewater and Longwood. We are working at expanding to other schools and trying to build a network from the ground up.

In the future, Gamma Psi is looking to grow. We are working to continue to build the fraternity. We are working at giving brothers potential internships in order to help brothers grow and prosper in their career and to help the fraternity grow. We are looking to continue to build relationships with the campuses that we operate on.

Overall, I am very excited. We have a unique opportunity to build and brand Gamma Psi as something different from what is out there. I sense that a desire for change is in the air on college campuses, and we plan to hopefully capitalize on that. I am proud of Gamma Psi’s past, happy with where we are presently, and extremely excited for the future

Michael “Dundee” Albrecht

Gamma Psi International Board of Directors – Chief Executive Officer

#92 Eta Chapter

Eta Chapter Report

So far for Eta chapter during the Fall '17 semester, we've taken 7 new members: Aaron Burstein (Tinker), Ridge Christian (Coach), Steve Farnor (Slinky), Cole Milliron (Falco), Dustin Pechart (Morty), Danny Scott (Dice), and Kyle Stone (Ness). Eta chapter's cumulative GPA has also taken a dramatic rise among other fraternities at Longwood; with Eta chapter jumping up two ranks in regards to academics. We've established ourselves as a well-known organization on campus since our days of first being recognized by the school. Our presence has become known amongst fellow Greeks as well as non-Greeks. In recent months we've reconnected with our chapter history, tracing back family lines as well as establishing connections between actives and alumni. This semester has been off to a bright start and we expect even more great things in the time to come.

Cody Slaughter
#119 Eta Chapter

Active Roster:

#100 Zach Bowen
#109 Joshua Willis-Jones
#110 Carter Johnson
#112 Brandon Brinsfield *Historian*
#114 Jose Escobar
#115 Justin Ferranto *Pledge Educator*
#116 Sterling Foster *Sergeant at Arms*
#117 Brian Hrozencik *Corresponding Secretary*
#118 Joe Hyman *Vice-President*
#119 Cody Slaughter *President*
#121 Nick Conner *Treasurer & Fundraising*
#122 James Gallagher *Community Service*
#123 Ben Kaiser *Recruitment Chair*
#125 Austin Van Horn
#126 Isaiah Wiggins *Risk Management*



Iota Chapter Report

Iota Chapter is working on expanding, both in size and in our community. One goal we have for this year is to do at least one community service activity a month. Current groups we intend to work with are the Bridgewater Retirement Center, Virginia Wildlife Refuge, and Local High Schools. We are down to 9 active brothers and currently have 3 members in our pledge class. Our goal for this semester is to improve upon the quality of our pledge process, better define our traditions and the things that make being in Gamma Psi memorable.

John Moran



Eta Chapter Reflections

2016/2017 School Year

As I sit in my office and watch students arrive for the school year I am stuck with a feeling unlike anything I have felt before. This feeling is hard to explain as I do not believe a single adjective has been invented to describe such a wide array of feelings.

I am sad that I will not be joining my Brothers for another journey. The past three falls I have arrived on the campus of Longwood University ready to take on the world with the best group of men by my side. This Fall I stand back and watch the chapter I worked so hard to help lead go in whatever direction it may see fit. This excites me.

This summer as I moved out of the basement of "Hospital House", where many memories were made and lost this year, I had a younger Brother approach me with a question. "Kyle", he asked, "are you worried about the chapter, like umn, do you think we are going to lose our traditions?" This question blew my mind. To me, a Brother who has been around for over three years, this worry was not even comprehensible, but this new Brother, of less than two months, had these worries.

I was quick to dismiss this question. "No, I'm not worried", I said "I have seen my hard work pay off when I see the virtues of tolerance, scholarship, social poise, and citizenship, displayed in each and every brother that has come after me. Things may change but Gamma Psi will always stay true to page one." Why was I so quick to dismiss this Brother and his concerns? Because I went through this year with these gentlemen, and oh what a year it was.

In the spring of 2016 Eta Chapter graduated a number of active brothers who, for years, were a vital part of the chapter's leadership. This meant that the next school year would thrust a number of excited, and inexperienced brothers into leadership positions. A majority of the chapter's membership consisted of first year brothers who were now not only finding their way in the brotherhood but having to lead it as well. The fall semester ended up not being what we had hoped it would be but rather a semester that we needed it to be.

This past Fall semester could have been known as the great Fraternity Pledge Drought of 2016. On campus fraternities across the board, due to credit and grade barriers set for the by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, saw a drastic drop in men able and willing to rush. For these reasons in addition to the tumultuous start of the

semester Eta chapter decided not to take a minuscule pledge class. Instead the chapter decided to refocus its energy inward.

With no pledge class to focus on the chapter began to look forward to the next semester. Eta chapter began holding events on campus in an attempt to improve its image. Community service events and field days were held on campus in an attempt to get the Gamma Psi name spread across campus. Brothers from across the political spectrum were involved in major ways with the Vice Presidential Debate on campus, with two brothers (myself and Joseph Hyman) appearing on national television. Cody Slaughter did wonders as social chair when it came to establishing and improving relationships with other organizations on campus. All in all, the ups and downs of the fall semester ended up bringing a dozen brothers so close that the next semester's success was all but inevitable.

There are times when you enter a situation that you can just feel the electricity in the air. That is how I would describe the start of the Spring 2017 semester at Eta Chapter. We put in the preparation the semester before and we were going to have one hell of a semester. With Walk a mere three weeks away Eta chapter held a number of recruitment events, building off of the good work done the semester before. All of this had work cumulated at Walk where Eta Chapter had seven pledges run their way, the third most amongst Fraternities at Longwood. This success, while not surprising to me or anyone who actually knows Gamma Psi, was quite a shock to the office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) who could not believe we were able to compete with the likes of Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma Nu.

Simply having more pledges than the other Fraternities does not make Gamma Psi successful. What makes Gamma Psi successful is a pledge process that turns pledges into great Brothers who are well versed in the qualities of tolerance, scholarship, social poise, and citizenship. After an extremely successful pledge process directed by Justin Ferranto, Eta Chapter had the pleasure of welcoming six new Brothers who continue to represent the Fraternity's good name.



Although Eta Chapter's internal operations were running smoothly, spring 2017 was not without its external battles. Longwood OFSL, in attempt to comply with North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) insurance policy, required all of its chapter members to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU required that each member organization would not associate with any Greek Life Organization not officially recognized by the University as an on campus organization.

Gamma Psi Brothers, not agreeing with this policy, took a stand against the IFC Memorandum. A group of brothers met repeatedly with the director of IFC as well as the governing board to express their concerns for such a Memorandum. Eventually IFC agreed to present the memorandum as Bylaws to be voted upon by the active chapters, rather than simply imposing the memorandum. Unfortunately Gamma Psi was the only chapter to vote against these bylaws. Although Eta chapter did not succeed in stifling IFC's destruction of civil liberties I am proud of the chapter for standing up for what is right.

Since coming on campus campus Eta Chapter has struggled to keep pace academically with the other fraternities on campus. For the past two years when Greek GPA ranks were released Gamma Psi would be listed last. This past year Eta Chapter instituted a stricter academic plan for their Brothers and Pledges. The results were immediate with Gamma Psi moving up to third in the GPA ranks of social Greeks.

I am beyond excited to see what this great group of men will accomplish in the coming school year. This group of 15 men stood by my side as we fought against discrimination and stood up for what we knew was morally right. Gamma Psi Eta Chapter does not get pushed around by anyone. These men are leaders and they will continue to lead this chapter to the greatest heights it has ever known. Gaining Ever Failing Never! Hail all Hail to Eta Chapter!

Kyle Dobry

#104 Eta Chapter

International Board Of Directors - Communications Director

Gamma Psi Softball

On July 30th, 2017 the Brothers of Gamma Psi met at Richard Bland College, the home of Beta chapter, to play a game of softball and cook out. The event was attended by a great amount of Brothers from all generations and from many chapters, and the IBOD hopes to host another alumni event in the near future.



Gamma Psi 757 Takes On Top Golf

On August 15th, 2017 the Gamma Psi Brothers in the 757 area code met up for a couple rounds of golf and beer at Top Golf. They have already begun arranging more events like this for alumni to meet up and reconnect. The 757 covers most of Southeast Virginia, including Virginia Beach and parts of Williamsburg, and Newport News.

The Brothers in the 757 area will be meeting again in November. For more details please reach out to Ricky Hodges at (757)-567-5950.



Convention Report

On the weekend of September 29th to October 1st, 2017 the Brothers of Gamma Psi and Gamma Delta Psi, some coming from far as Canada, convened for our annual Convention in Farmville, Virginia at Longwood University. This Convention easily became one of our busiest and productive, being our first weekend long event since the IBOD was reactivated. The Brothers rolled into town early Friday night before meeting up for a game of basketball, followed by socializing and catching up.

Everybody reconvened early Saturday morning for Convention at Hull Auditorium a little after ten o'clock. Brother John Slate was gracious enough to serve as our Sergeant at Arms for the entire duration of the event, while Grand Brother Mike Kuch of Gamma Delta Psi served as parliamentarian. Chapter reports for Eta and Iota, as you've read above, showed that both chapters are continuing to make major improvements and producing Brothers that are invaluable assets to Longwood and Bridgewater. Furthermore, restarting Beta Chapter at Richard Bland College is looking more and more like a possibility with a small group of students taking serious interest in starting a Crescent Club.



One of the IBOD's greatest accomplishments this past year was achieving our status as an incorporated non-profit fraternal organization. Thanks to the hard efforts of our IBOD Chief Executive Officer, Michael Albrecht, Gamma Psi is now a legally recognized Fraternity. In addition, the IBOD also put on two successful Brother Education Weekends.

Currently, the IBOD is also focusing on increasing the amount of alumni events that it hosts.

One of the most important pieces of business that took place at Convention was the IBOD's presentation of its new bylaws. These bylaws consist of 12 articles that outline how IBOD and Fraternity in general operates itself. To keep consistent with our incorporation status the IBOD used a general template for how a non-profit organization orders itself and customized it to fit Gamma Psi. The IBOD is also looking into purchasing insurance for the Fraternity, but we need acquirable funds.

The second piece of important business that the IBOD presented was our new Risk Management policy. This policy covers every one of the Brothers, so that we are legally protected. There will be a representative at every Induction ceremony to ensure that all new Brothers sign on to this policy. This is something that the IBOD will be strictly enforcing.

The next item on the agenda was passing constitutional amendments. Article 4's sections 1 and 16 were amended to update the Fraternity's official publications and Risk Management policy. Additionally, Article 5 section 6 had amendments on active chapter membership and outlined length of active membership now that we are a legal entity. Thirdly, Article 6 Part A Section 10 on chapter officers was amended to outline the role of the Risk Management officer. Amendments to Article 7 were amended to allow a restructuring of the IBOD officer positions to resemble that of a legal entity. Section 8 on the IBOA was also amended so that two IBOA members serve three year term, two serve two year term, and two serve a one year term.



Gamma Psi Fraternity International Board of Directors 2017 -2018
(Left to Right) Michael Albrecht, Matthew Hrozencik, Bud Weyland Kyle Dobry
(Not Pictured: Alex Collie)

Finally, it was voted to amend several articles in section 9 on the appointment and duties of District Deputies. The last amendments were to Section 11, on changing the requirements to submit constitutional proposals, amendments resolutions one week prior to Convention rather than six weeks prior.

The IBOD also made the proposal of a Garnet Opt-In Program to help it generate revenue, which allows an active brother to pay an additional \$10 to their dues. If they opt in to this program they will receive membership cards and a hard copy of the Grip. This option is also being given out to alumni for \$20. Semester dues were voted to be raised to \$15 for each active Brother, to be paid at Convention and Brother Education Weekend. This will go into effect the spring semester of 2018.



Another piece of business was discussing a Gamma Delta Psi service program that the IBOD is proposing. Under this proposal we could start Gamma Delta Psi back up as a community service program with a big brother-little brother system. There would still be pins and inductions, but we would be able to market Gamma Delta Psi in today's political and social climate. We believe that this program would be extremely beneficial for high schoolers in low income areas, and could target high schools close to Longwood and Bridgewater.

It was after a short recess that the IBOD voted to make Brother Troy Adams the 9th member of Rho Alpha Chapter. Elections were then held afterwards.

The following Brothers were elected to IBOD positions:

Michael Albrecht *Chief Executive Officer*
Anthony "Bud" Weyland *Chief Operations Officer*
Kyle Dobry *Communications Director*
Alex Collie and Matthew Hrozencik *Executive Vice-Presidents*

The following Brothers were elected to the IBOA:

Tony Weyland – 3 year term (Chairman)
Shane Grissom – 3 year term
Grand Brother Randy Picardat – 2 year term
Trent Armitage – 2 year term
Grand Brother Larry Belcher – 1 year term
Grand Brother Mike Kuch - 1 year term

Additionally, Grand Brother Danny Wyatt was elected to be an all time at large advisor.

Convention concluded with the swearing in of the new IBOD. Afterwards, the Brothers reconvened at Third Street Brewing for an evening of beer and relaxation after a long day. At this event Grand Brother John Cobb was recognized as the alumni of the year. This award is more than a testament to the years of dedication John has shown the fraternity, it is also a thank you for the recent support he has shown the next generation of Brothers. Greg (Pappa) Jones was also honored as a member of Rho Alpha Chapter.



The next morning, the IBOD hosted a cookout at Wilcks Lake park before everyone set out back home.

The Winter Edition of The Grip will include details on next years convention. We hope to see as many Brothers as possible at future events.

Matthew "Rex" Hrozencik
International Board of Directors – Executive Vice-President
Eta Chapter #107

Gamma Delta Psi Historical Society Report

This article was read aloud at Convention

The Gamma Delta Psi Historical Society was founded in October, 2011 when a group of history-minded brothers from Canada and the U.S. assembled in Chester, Virginia and vowed to concentrate our talents, energies and efforts toward the goal of researching, recording and preserving the documents, publications, artifacts and oral traditions from our glorious past.

After six years of intensely focused effort, it is our pleasure to announce that we have accomplished our primary goals involving projects utilizing all known public and fraternity records. Individual items of historical interest will be disseminated as they appear, but the main body of research is believed to have been completed. Of course, there's always the delightful possibility that some "holy grail" item from our past such as the 1879 Charter for Alpha Chapter or an engraved pin that once belonged to a Founding Brother might appear. In the meantime, the brothers who have dedicated so much time and energy to the dissemination of our glorious history are in a stand-by mode pending new developments.

Unfortunately, the mass of chapter records listing full membership over our history of 138 years have been lost or destroyed. If they ever surface they will be scanned and shared. Sadly, many young brothers could not foresee the value of their chapter rolls, photographs and minutes of meetings when the chapters became inactive. It is likely those records were discarded and lost forever. For that reason, there are glaring gaps in our overall history which will not likely ever be retrieved. The majority of the surviving archives have been transferred from Canada to the custody of Bro. Parker Simmons in Dinwiddie, Virginia, who has agreed to protect and preserve them. Additional items still in the custody of Bro. Dorsey Howard will be transferred to Bro. Simmons once they have been thoroughly examined and digitally scanned for posterity.

By far the most time and energy consuming work done by the Historical Society was accomplished by Bro. David Bartlett who copied and forwarded the voluminous records of the Obituaries of Gamma Delta Psi Brothers at Yale University. Numerous fascinating histories of the lives of our long-ago brothers have been emailed over a period of many months. We sincerely hope that every brother has enjoyed reading these inspiring biographies.

Our gratitude is expressed to those brothers who have worked so hard to make the Historical Society a success. Brothers Dave Bartlett, Grand Brother Mike Kuch, Joe Italia and Grand Brother Kevin Stockdale have dedicated many hours of their personal time to research, writing and editing, website management and consulting in order to assemble and distribute our historical data. Thanks brothers, for a job well done.

We are very much open to the idea of the election or appointment of a slate of younger brothers to assume the duties of the members of the Historical Society in order to facilitate the survival of our group far into the future. Time marches on and we older generation brothers are well aware that our time is limited. The exemplary work done by Grand Brother John Cobb in collecting and preserving the history of Gamma Psi Fraternity needs to be given permanent recognition and support by a Historical Society composed of younger brothers who have many decades to devote to assisting him in his noteworthy projects.

We who compose the core founding membership in the Historical Society will always be available to assist in the research and dissemination of historical information for the brotherhood's when the opportunities arise.

Wishing Gamma Psi Fraternity International every success in the years to come.

With Warm Fraternal Regards,

Dorsey Howard
#58 Beta Alpha
Acting Chairman- Historical Society

Nirvana Chapter Report

with comments from Dorsey Howard

This article was read aloud at Convention and followed by a moment of silence

Greetings Brothers. It is with the utmost solemnity and reverence, and with the fondest warm fraternal memories, that we present the names of the brothers who have passed into our Nirvana Chapter in recent months and years. This memorial was last presented in Toronto, Ontario, Canada at the assembly of brothers held in May, 2016. All chapters mentioned are from Gamma Delta Psi Fraternity International. From the records of the Historical Society:

Alpha Eta Chapter – Niagara Falls, New York (1910 – 1977)

Shawn Hale

Alpha Phi Chapter – Mimico, Ontario (1954 – 1975)

Grand Brother - Doug Jamieson #62

Neil "Buddy" Johnston #32

Ron Weeks #76

Alpha Chi Chapter – Oakville, Ontario (1955 – 1977)

John Worthington

Bryce Dennis #210

Beta Alpha Chapter – Hopewell, Virginia (1956 – 1992 & 2009 – 2015)

William "BILL" Elliott #37

Franklin Emerson #46

Terry Dail #107

James Dale Kitchen #115

Mike Cunningham #126

David Atkins #138

David Alan Powrozniak #158

Nathan Lee #180

Beta Gamma Chapter – Chester, Virginia (1957 – Unknown Year)

Donald Edwards Graves

Linwood Osterbind #66

Beta Pi Chapter – Colonial Heights, Virginia (1964 – 1992)

Donnie Belcher

Donald Barnes # 50

Rick Mccool

Beta Sigma Chapter – Toronto, Ontario (1965-1977)

Brian “Benji” Auger

Beta Tau Chapter – Dinwiddie, Virginia (1965- Unknown Year)

John Corsentino

Gamma Alpha Chapter – Rexdale, Ontario (1966 – 1990)

Alfred “Fred” Wilkinson # 79

Gamma Epsilon Chapter – Matoaca/Chesterfield, Virginia (1968-1977)

Jim Chitwood

Gamma Theta Chapter – Petersburg, Virginia (1968 – 1982)

John Burgess # 1-C

Mark “Weasel” Ashby

Furthering Brotherhood Beyond School

My name is Brandon Brinsfield #112 from Eta Chapter of Gamma Psi, and I am the current Historian for the Fall 2017 semester. The position of Historian entails collecting information from the chapter and documenting their endeavors for further use in the future. While it may appear that Historian is a low-risk position, it has become increasingly important, considering the growth of both Eta Chapter and the IBOD as a whole. Failure to document records and events important to Gamma Psi Fraternity International can lead to many disasters that could potentially damage the Fraternity. The Historian's role is to preserve the traditions and records of Brothers that make Gamma Psi unique, including but not limited to keeping records of all the Brothers after they leave college.

The necessity of maintaining records of all the Brothers leads into my current project. I am in the process of working with the IBOD to compile a complete database for Brothers of Gamma Psi. My ultimate goal is to create as close of a database of all the Brothers of Gamma Psi from every chapter. Because that is a long-term goal, I am primarily concerned with compiling the information from the brothers of Eta chapter first. I am more than open to collecting information from brothers of other chapters though.

Upon the completion of my project, Brothers will be better able to connect and network in the professional world beyond college. This will make it more beneficial for Brothers in the sense they will be able to enjoy the mutual benefits and social enjoyments of our Brothers outside of our school years. The database would also contain records of any notable positions the Brothers held and also contain an informal big/little list of all the brothers. I was able to start this list with the help of Cody Slaughter and his project in 2016, which focused on putting together a family tree for the Brothers of Eta chapter.

I am always open to more help from other brothers in completing this database. If you are reading this and would like to fill this form out, please type in the link below or message me on Facebook through the International pages for a chance to fill out the form. It should only take thirty seconds of your time and I strongly urge all brothers to share this link with anyone that may not necessarily prefer to use social media to access it.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjurzR1IAAt47xDwzFwORXLuCexOt9F7jfDL_qqe_pi1WG9JzQ/viewform?c=0&w=1

Brandon "Bucky" Brinsfield
#112 Eta Chapter

A Note from the Communications Director

I want to first say that I am honored with the trust bestowed upon me by my Brothers. As your newly elected Communications Director I am beyond excited to work with the rest of the Board during the 2017-2018 school year. The future is bright for this great fraternity and I am honored to be in a position of leadership. As the first Communications Director of the IBOD I have inherited a number of new responsibilities that have been moved and consolidated from other positions. One of these responsibilities bestowed upon me is the production and distribution of The Grip.

As a current member of the IBOD I would like to express my gratitude to those who came before us. Thank you to the Brothers who started this publication and thank you to the brothers who kept in touch. It is because of you that we have the opportunity to publish The Grip today. Throughout the past two years the grip has been slowly revitalized. First by Alex Collie, Bud Weyland, Tristan Sanderson (Eta chapter #111) and then by Matthew Hrozencik this past year. Thank you four for helping to continuing the foundation of this publication that I now get to work with.

This year the The Grip will be published quarterly. In addition to this Fall edition we are aiming to publish a Winter Edition in Late January/Early Fall, a Spring Edition in May, and finally a Summer Edition in August.

Any Brothers wishing to contribute to The Grip are welcome to do so. Brothers are encouraged to submit anything they believe would benefit their brothers. Any past Fraternity experiences, pictures, or general thoughts are welcome. Please send any article written to ibodgammapi@gmail.com. Those wishing to get more involved with the publication of The Grip please contact me at kdobry@rbc.edu.

I am excited to share another productive year with my Brothers.

Kyle Dobry

#104 Eta Chapter

International Board of Directors - Communications Director

Garnet Club Membership

One of the IBOD's new programs, approved at convention, is the "Garnet Membership". The purpose of this program is two fold. First and foremost this is an opportunity to stay connected to the fraternity regardless of how far a Brother is from pledging. We hope that in maintaining and building our network Brothers old and new are able to maximize their benefit from this great organization. Additionally this is a way for Brothers to help fund the IBOD and their business endeavors.

For \$20 a semester, or \$40 a year, one may receive their Garnet Membership. Included with this is a subscription to a physical copy of The Grip, as well as an official Membership Shingle - complete with the Fraternity's officially licensed seal.

Those interested in opting into this program please contact Kyle Dobry or Bud Weyland at ibodammps@gmail.com. Please include "Garnet Club" in the subject line of the email.

A very special thank you those who have already purchased their Garnet membership. It is because of your generosity that we at the IBOD are able continue our hard work. In the example that you have laid we hope to show our dedication to this great brotherhood.

Shane Grissom
Greg and Judy Jones
John Slate
Danny Wyatt