

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

SIGMA SIGMA PHI TAU CHAPTER

Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine – California
1310 Johnson Lane
Vallejo, CA 94592
www.tourossp.org

Sigma Sigma Phi National Meeting
Las Vegas, NV
October 26, 2008

Submitted by Anar Shah, SSP President

2008 – 2009 Leadership

President: Anar Shah

Vice President: Rechel Orlino

Secretary: Mackenzie Brown

Treasurer: Veena Patel

Admissions Committee: Michael Kulczycki, Mike Kim, Steve Hioe, Eric Giang

Judicial Committee: Joan Chapman, Allen Miao

Website Manager: Eric Giang

Advisor: Dr. John Glover

2011 Membership

Marc Cabanne*

Lindsay Chapman*

Mark Chou*

Lindsey Gerdes*

Ben Kemp*

Brett London*

Bindu Sunder*

Megan Furniss*

Robin Bennett*

Edward Pang*

2010 Membership

Bonnie Chang

Katrina Dominguez

Billy Le

Lindsey Demetral

Alice Gray

Nasim Gorji

Mary Hung

Maura Iezzi

Steven Leto

Timothy Litwin

Dustin Lopes

Morgan Marcuccilli

Meghan McClymont

Amy Motamed

Cristina Muresanu

Derek Orchard

Coral Peterson

Nicholas Sanchez

Diana Sepehri

Ellen Shen

Joshua Smalley

Puja Thakkar

Edward Verceles

Justin Virojanapa

Jedediah Wheeler

2009 Membership

Ryan Brewer

Aaron Centric

Krystin Cheung

Pin-Chieh Chiang

Daun Chung

Jason Comfort

Joelle Donofrio

Katayoun Edalat

Brian Fields

Sarah Fong

Stella Huang*

Heather Hyun

Bob Kelley

Ian Lee

Jessica Lehosit

Annie Lim

Kevin Lin

Alisha McCon

Diana Nguyen*

Holly Olivier

Nhan Pham

Kien Phung

Miko Rose

Mike Rozenfeld

Thomas Sichi*

Neeta Singh*

Moxie Stratton

Jenny Tran

Linda Tran*

Matthew Walvick*

*Members accepted October 2008

Introduction

The Tau Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi at Touro University – California is in its third year of existence on campus. The mission of the Class of 2011 under the guidance of Dr. John Glover, is to create a strong presence in the Vallejo and Touro University communities through service and academic excellence. In order to create a name for our chapter, our executive board has elected to collaborate with various organizations on campus to spearhead large, community events such as the Mare Island Run, AIDS

Awareness Panel, and the Teen Life Conference. By choosing to work with other organizations, we are attempting to serve the community outreach initiatives recently established by our student government.

Earlier this month, we accepted the final six members of the Class of 2009 as well as ten members of the Class of 2011. In January, we will begin the application cycle for the Class of 2010 and the Class of 2012. The new members in the Class of 2011 have many wonderful ideas and are planning to choose small service projects to initiate and lead during the remainder of the academic year.

Financial Report

Our current account balance is \$720.45.

Events and Projects

Shoe Drive – April 28th through May 1st, 2008

In late April SSP collected five large sacks full of new and used shoes for the Vallejo Global Center for Success. The shoes were then sold by the Global Center for Success to raise money for literacy programs for the local community. The Global Center for Success is an organization that provides supportive human service programs to a diverse population including the homeless and economically disadvantaged by providing them with the developmental tools they need to be self-sufficient in the community. This was a great project to include the entire campus while establishing a relationship with a wonderful service organization in the community.

Beach Cleanup – May 4th, 2008

In early May, as a group we drive down to the Linda Mar State Beach in Pacifica, CA to help the Pacifica Environmental Family clean up the local beach. We spent four hours walking the beach and collecting trash to create a cleaner environment for residents and wildlife. This was a fun bonding experience for our executive board, and the appreciation we received from the local residents made this an event we plan to do again next spring.

Summer 2008

I am proud to report that every executive board member from the Class of 2011 participated in an international service project, local volunteer project, or volunteer research experience.

Fall Application Cycle – October 9th, 2008

Earlier this month we completed the fall application cycle. We accepted the final six members of the Class of 2009, and ten members into the Class of 2011. An induction dinner will be held October 30th, 2008 to discuss the roles of the new members for the remainder of the year. In January we will begin the application process for the Class of 2010 and the Class of 2012.

As was established by the founders of our chapter, we have a strict application process to screen for the most qualified and committed medical students to represent Sigma Sigma Phi at Touro University. For the Class of 2011, the Registrar set the GPA cut off at 3.4 (the top 25%). With verification from the registrar submitted written applications were passed for initial screening to our advisor Dr. Glover. After Dr Glover's initial review of the applications, the admissions committee reviewed and scored each anonymous application using a point based rubric to evaluate for service experience, commitment to osteopathic medicine, and personal balance. We invited our peers to an interview to discuss their ideas, experiences, commitment to service, and vision of the future for SSP at Touro before making final decisions regarding acceptance.

We used the same process for the Class of 2009 with the exception of the interview. Due to the nature of our rotations, many in the Class of 2009 are on rotations at sights away from the Bay Area and it would be very difficult to invite them to interview on campus.

In order to maintain membership, six hours of community service (2 of which must be an SSP event) are required per semester while maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.0. The judicial committee oversees the review of specific cases when these conditions cannot be maintained.

AIDS Awareness Panel – November 17th, 2008

In collaboration with SOMA, AMA/CMA, ACOFP, and Internal Medicine Club, we are organizing an AIDS Panel which will comprise of three guest speakers to discuss HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area community. We are also creating a public awareness display on the front lawn of our campus which will include thousands of red ribbons.

Mare Island Run – November 23rd, 2008

SSP is co-sponsoring the third annual Mare Island Run – a 5K charity run/walk – with the Touro University Student Chapter of the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine. We are supporting two charities this year, the Greater Vallejo Recreation District and the Fighting Back Partnership of Vallejo. This year, it is our goal to raise at least \$10,000 with at least 400 runners/walkers to help fund valuable activities for the families and children involved with these organizations. In addition to raising funds, our other main objective is to promote health, wellness, and fitness in the Vallejo community. This is a shared goal of GVRD, Fighting Back Partnership and Touro University. On race day, we will have an OMM station, a medical treatment station, health education tables, and sponsor support.

Greater Vallejo Recreation District is committed to building community and enhancing quality of life through people, parks, and programs. Vallejo's Fighting Back Partnership is a non-profit collaboration that partners with businesses, residents, and government to improve neighborhoods, strengthen families, and support youth development. By working with neighborhoods to counter alcohol and other drug-related crimes, they strive to increase effective substance abuse treatment and provide support for families facing health, economic and housing challenges.

Teen Life Conference – March 2009

Along with many organizations from all of the health sciences programs at Touro, we will be helping to organize and run the largest campus-wide health fair. The purpose of the Teen Life Conference is to serve as a health resource for the local Vallejo community by addressing health care issues through poster presentations and health screenings. Teenagers from local high schools and their parents from the Vallejo area are invited to Touro University's campus to experience this health fair. Last year presentations included osteopathic medicine, smoking, sports related injuries, depression/stress/anxiety, diabetes, nutrition, STDs, and teen violence. We had health education and screening areas for vision, body mass index, blood pressure, glucose, and nutrition. OMM treatments and first aid instruction were also available.

Thank you for your support!
Respectfully,

Anar Shah, OMSII
President, Sigma Sigma Phi – Tau Chapter