



Fall Edition

Delta Omicron THUNDERBIRD



Derby Days

Dear Brothers, Families, and Friends of Sigma Chi,

Every year, Sigma Chi chapters across North America organise Derby Days, fundraisers benefiting the Children's Miracle Network. Here at Delta Omicron, our campaign is held to benefit BC Children's Hospital. This year, we have also sponsored Shinerama, a UBC student fundraising initiative benefiting the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Over the summer and fall, we hold many events to help with fundraising— you can learn more about all of them at our Derby Days page at the Delta Omicron website, <http://www.ubcsigs.com/derbydays>.

While we held a barbeque, a car wash, and a change drive beforehand, undoubtedly one of the best events of the summer was the volleyball tournament in early August. Nine teams participated and many more fans showed up in support down at beautiful Locarno Beach. The action was great, the teams were competitive, and everyone had a great time.

Once the summer was over, we ran our traditional events in September. Our Endless Summer bar party at Tonic Nightclub was a big success, not to mention the incredible Dance-Off competition between all of the sororities. Penny Wars, a fundraising competition between the sororities and the Silent Auction are still ongoing.



Courtesy of Keith Martin

This year our goal is to raise \$15,000 combined for BC Children's and Shinerama! We are reaching out to our community of friends and family to ask for support in reaching our fundraising goal – please see the table below for ways to donate.

Thank you for your support of Derby Days 2009!

Keith Martin
Derby Days Chairman 2009

Make cheques out to	BC Children's Hospital Foundation
Mail to	Sigma Chi Derby Days c/o Ashleigh Gulkiewich BC Children's Hospital Foundation 938 West 28th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4H4
Online Donations	http://www.bcchf.net/ise/main.cfm? ISE=SigmaChiDerbyDays
Tax receipts	Issue for donations of \$20 and above

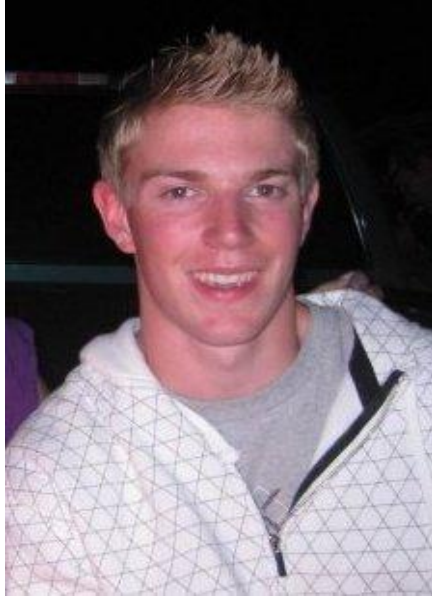


Photo: Drew Gamble

Rush Profile

Featuring **Drew Gamble**

Why did you decide to join a Fraternity?

I think initially it was because of housing needs and the fact that I am a legacy. However as I met more of the guys at Sigma Chi and saw the strength of the brotherhood, my views changed and I became more drawn to the social aspect, such as going to parties and exchanges, and also building connections.

What aspect did you love most about Sigma Chi during formal recruitment?

The fact there is always something to do: parties, dinners, sushi nights or

Derby Days events. Regardless of what's going on, there is always an overwhelming amount of new people to meet whenever you visit the House. I especially enjoyed Wet Rush in particular because it was the first time I was with a lot of my potential pledge brothers. It was also at Wet Rush when I was introduced to the sorority aspect of the Greek system because you get to meet all these girls who just went through recruitment and some of the active girls as well.

What was your most memorable moment during formal recruitment?

My favourite memory of rush was formal rush. It was cool to dress up and meet a lot of the guys that will potentially be accepting a bid with you on Bids Day. You get a speech from the Sweetheart and esteemed alumni, and it was just having a nice dinner on the fraternity's dime.

What helped make your decision on becoming a Sigma Chi?

I've had my second thoughts towards the end of rush on whether it was for me or not. I think living in the house was a big factor; my roommate Steve Vuu helped me and piggybacked me through rush and pledgeship. Vuu would often talk about what the brothers of Sigma Chi were all about, and the type of people who come around.

What do you think sets Sigma Chi apart from other fraternities?

Our Leadership programs. Sigma Chi offers leadership development programs such as Horizons every year in Utah for a select number of Sigma Chis. Our international always pours large sums of money for Sigma Chis all over the continent to attend the Balfour Leadership Training workshop in South Carolina and teach us the tools of success in college and life. From personal conversations, guys from other fraternities are amazed that we have so much support from our International in leadership opportunities.

What was your favourite aspect of pledgeship and why?

Developing friendships with your pledge brothers. You start off pledgeship as complete strangers; you show up to your first meeting after accepting your bid and you know as many as maybe ten out of the twenty to thirty

faces in the room. But by the end of pledgeship, you know everybody on a personal level, which sets you up for a sweet pledge class.

Since becoming a Sigma Chi, have you taken on any leadership opportunities either within the Fraternity or on campus?

Since joining Sigma Chi, I've taken on the role of Social Internal, so I'm the guy who's responsible for sorority relations and planning awesome exchanges with the girls. As Social Internal, it's great to see guys break out of their shells and talk to girls. It builds sorority relations, making girls recognize that Sigma Chis are good men at heart and they become more willing to participate in our philanthropies and other events.

What advice would you offer those who are interested in pledging Sigma Chi?

Do it.

If you feel like you fit in with the guys here, experience a whole new aspect of university, be exposed to a multitude of leadership experiences across campus, and grow as a person, then consider joining Sigma Chi. It's a great way to have fun with your brothers and sorority girls. If you're having second thoughts, talk to another rushee or one of the active members because we all have had our second thoughts and we're always happy to talk to you---it's totally worth it.



Courtesy of UBC Emerging Leaders

“Leadership is....” A Sigma Chi Experience

By: Brother Will Tao

From its inclusion in our Chapter’s popular rush slogan, “The Leaders of Men Since 1855” to its prominent feature in our Fraternity’s vision, Leadership is undoubtedly a word that has become synonymous with the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Not surprisingly, it is our collective emphasis on leadership and personal development that has, more often than not, served to attract many of UBC’s finest athletes, scholars, and citizens to join the ranks of our brotherhood.

Yet, unlike in other organizations, I would argue that the strength of our leadership in Sigma Chi extends well beyond merely our executive roles within the chapter. In fact, our brothers have often used their executive experience at Sigma Chi as a launching

point- for leadership roles in the workplace, on varsity athletic teams, and in many other campus organizations. Personally, it has been one of my greatest joys at Sigma Chi to have seen the transformation of many brothers from shy and timid individuals uncertain of where to start into outgoing and confident leaders, continuously striving for greater things.

Yet, I believe, now more than ever, that with the beginning of a new school year and with the eminent arrival of new members, it is important to define what “being a leader” and “leadership” truly means to us.

My thoughts on leadership are heavily influenced from a book that I received one late-spring day in April at a UBC student leadership recognition event on campus. Before the event, I remember myself considering whether or not to attend. Part of me felt as though the invitation had been a mistake, that my few volunteer roles on campus did not warrant any form of

“recognition”. Yet, the other part of me, felt that I needed to be there. I needed to represent the Emerging Leaders of UBC as its incoming president. The past year had seen our campus-wide leadership development organization, one originally founded by two brothers of our fraternity, double in membership and become one of the most unique student organizations at UBC. I needed to represent the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

“Why Lead?”

It was a question I had never contemplated. Leadership to me was always just “done.” I led because I wanted to succeed, but such a rationale proved inefficient during times where my motivation waned. The book, through interviews with some of the World’s greatest leaders, revealed a central philosophy for leadership- the idea of “leadership as service to others. It pushed forward the argument that leadership was only truly unconditional when it was performed in the service. Yet, without being completely idealistic, it showed individuals being drawn to Leadership through different streams- some as a response to difficult life struggles, others as a response to injustice. It gave me clearer image of leadership- beginning with a desire of an individual, but ending, ultimately, in the inherent satisfaction of helping others, with seeing other’s succeed and prosper. Before reading this book, I had always been struggling with the whole selfless/selfish debate- one that made me fear leadership roles for being selfish, but fear joining certain causes for dissociating from my own leadership role in the process. Drawing from this, I can see why our fraternity has become successful as a leadership development organization. Our

leadership efforts, Derby Days, Sandwiches for the Homeless, and even our scholarship program are designed as a way to promote both individual development and the benefit of others. We can say that it is as individuals that we enter our fraternal doors, but it is as brothers that we leave. Whether it is organizing a party, a charity event, or mobilizing support for one of our brothers- our different temperaments, talents, and convictions are showcased in the collective effort.

But with my praise for our chapter’s leadership quality comes a forewarning for caution. Through my participation in over twenty organizations at my time on campus, I have seen leadership become a power trip, harbour micromanagers, and create conflicts within organizations. When this occurs, our individual emotions must be taken out of the situation. We must allow others to grow, develop, and produce their work. Yet, the real challenge will be when an organizations well-being is at stake, and the decisions we make in applying our leadership. Thus again, the importance of balancing out the individual and the collective interest becomes apparent.

Leadership is most definitely a learning process. I have learned so much as a member of our fraternity and now as the President of The Emerging Leaders of UBC. If anything, what I want to take out from my final year (and a half) of university is to learn how to inspire myself and others to be great and do amazing things. This year ELU will be hosting challenging leadership workshops in the first term (including a student-led one) and then applying our

leadership skills to community projects and events.

With that being said, I would encourage all the brothers, active and alumni, who read this piece, to participate in the Emerging Leaders of UBC. If you have any questions- and don't know what the Leadership Challenge or Summit is, feel free to stop by the house and chat with Steven Vuu, Lee, or myself. Visit www.elubc.com for more information.

I look forward to an amazing year of leadership.



Editor's Note: Questions and comments can be sent to editor@ubcsigs.com so please feel free to send in your thoughts.

Brother Lee Xu