



Organizations and Activities -- Pi Alpha Tau Papers, 1963-1991

An inventory of the collection at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Collection Summary

Creator:	Office of Student Affairs
Title:	Office of Student Affairs -- Organizations and Activities -- Pi Alpha Tau Papers, 1963-1991
Dates:	1963-1991
Abstract:	Pi Alpha Tau was a coed social fraternity that originated at University of Illinois at Chicago Circle in Fall of 1966 and existed until the early 1990s. Collection consists of founding documents, fraternity records, budget documents, copies of the fraternity newsletter The Cranberry, alumni membership records, and memorabilia.
Quantity:	8.5 Linear Feet
Identification:	059-07-16

Administrative History

Pi Alpha Tau was a coed social fraternity that originated at University of Illinois at Chicago Circle in Fall of 1966 and existed until the early 1990s. A 1990 article in the Chicago Sun-Times quoted Gaylord Cox, the fraternity's advisor, as saying that Pi Alpha Tau was the world's oldest existing coed fraternity. ("Coed fraternity engenders lifelong relationships" Chicago Sun-Times Tuesday August 7, 1990, p. 14, Pi Alpha Tau Papers, Box 5 folder 55).

The fraternity had precursors in unofficial groups of students on campus. A group of students who congregated in the small amphitheaters that existed in the original campus Forum came to be called The Excedra Sitters. This group ceased to exist around 1965, when the members took the name the Patricians. The fraternity took its name from the first three letters of "Patricians." Pledges had to participate in Dress Funny Day, memorize Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem "How Do I Love Thee," and complete "Hell Night" to become a member. In Fall 1966, the organization was granted pre-organization status by the UICC Office of Organizations and Activities, and it later was recognized as an official student organization. A constitution, written by Tom Stamos, Sue Sundman, and Mike Kolundzij, was ratified in Winter of 1967.

Members of Pi Alpha Tau were active in campus life, including Freshman Weekend, ROTC, and Student Government. During the time of its existence, the fraternity was

largely a social fraternity. A fraternity newsletter, *The Cranberry*, was distributed beginning in 1967, though it appears to have ceased publication during at least one period of the fraternity's existence (the late 1970s). Fraternity alumni were active in organizing reunions. The fraternity ceased to exist in the early 1990s.

Scope and Contents

Collection consists of founding documents, fraternity records, budget documents, copies of the fraternity newsletter *The Cranberry*, alumni membership records, and memorabilia.

Detailed Description/Box and Folder Listing

Series I: Founding Documents and Fraternity Records

Box 1

1. PAT Patrician Founding – constitution, first pledge class, history, general records, 1966-1973
2. Meeting minutes, 1966-1968
3. Meeting minutes, 1966-1968
4. Pledge rush documents, correspondence, 1966-1970
5. Financial records, dues proposals and records, 1967-1974
6. Treasury record and roster, 1968-1969
7. Desk checks, 1966-1968
8. Treasury record, 1967-1968
9. Committee reports, 1971

Box 2

10. PAT General business, 1970-1971
11. PAT roster and mission statement, 1966-1971
12. Rosters (not complete), 1969-1980
13. PAT pledge manuals, 1966-1988
14. Pledge forms, 1971
15. Pledge forms and membership records, 1971
16. General correspondence, 1968-1971
17. Constitution, rush schedules, president list – Interfraternity Council (IFC), 1967-1970
18. Shawn Dougherty – Miss Springtime fliers, undated
19. Tom Stamos – correspondence, 1966-1967
20. Minutes, 1970-1980
21. Minutes, 1991

Series II: Cranberry Newsletter

Box 3

22. Cranberry newsletter, January-April, 1967
23. Cranberry newsletter, April-December, 1967
24. Cranberry newsletter, 1968
25. Cranberry newsletter, 1969
26. Cranberry newsletter, 1970
27. Cranberry newsletter, 1971
28. Cranberry newsletter, 1972
29. Cranberry newsletter, 1973

30. Cranberry newsletter, 1974
31. Cranberry newsletter, 1975
32. Cranberry newsletter, 1976
33. Cranberry newsletter, miscellaneous, circa 1960s-1970s
34. Cranberry newsletter (scattered), 1980-1990
35. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1967
36. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1968

Box 4

37. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1969
38. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1970
39. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1971
40. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1972
41. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1973
42. Cranberry newsletter, copy 2, 1974

Series III: Alumni

43. Alumni – record book (includes Cranberry newsletters, invitations, executive board meeting minutes, rosters), 1969-1976
44. Alumni – financial records, alumni association member lists, 1974-1984

Box 5

45. Alumni declarations, circa 1970-1979
46. Alumni membership records, circa 1973-1974
47. Alumni records, pledge classes, 1965-1974
48. Alumni – record book, 1976-1978
49. Alumni – legal documents, alumni declarations, articles of membership, rosters, 1969-1980
50. Alumni list, alumni surveys, 1990

Series IV: Memorabilia and Photographs

51. Memorabilia – July 1974 California trip with [Bill Voda?], 1974
52. Fliers – Be a Star event, circa 1970s
53. Invitations and programs – induction banquets, reunions, “Hellnights,” 1966-1975
54. Calendars, fall picnic announcement, memorabilia, circa 1978-1984
55. News clipping re Pi Alpha Tau, coed fraternities, 1990
56. Membership card, undated

Box 6

57. Notebooks, circa 1982
58. Photographs, circa 1960s-1970s
59. Fliers, election booklet, “The Action Coloring Book,” election materials – student government, 1967
60. Chicago Circle Players theatre programs, 1968-1970
61. Scrapbook contents – event attendee lists, ceremony texts, folder 1 of 2, 1969-1979
62. Scrapbook contents – event attendee lists, alumni member list, folder 2 of 2, 1979-1990
63. Music – Pi Alpha Tau song and popular song lyrics book, circa 1960s-1970s
64. Miscellaneous – clippings, memorabilia (Warren Allen), circa 1961-2000
65. Time capsule contents (removed from metal box with notation “to be opened May 15, 1980”), folder 1 of 2 – PAT History, bylaws, constitution, signature list, 1970

66. Time capsule contents, folder 2 of 2 - photographs, memorabilia, 1970

Box 7

- 67. Scrapbook, Fall 1969- Spring 1971
- 68. Scrapbook, Fall 1966- Spring 1967
- 69. Scrapbook, Fall 1967- Spring 1968

Box 8

- 70. Scrapbook, Fall 1968- Spring 1969
- 71. Scrapbook, 1971-1980
- 72. Scrapbook, Members, Fall 1967 – 1969
- 73. “Hell Night” Poster, 1968
- 74. Name tags and signs, undated
- 75. Certificates, 1978-1979
- 76. Dairy Entries, 1963-1976
- 77. Super 8 movie reel, undated
- 78. Negatives, 1969
- 79. Negatives, Virginia, Spring 1972

Box 9

- 80. Photographs, 1972
- 81. Photographs, undated
- 82. Photographs, undated
- 83. Photographs, undated
- 84. Photographs, undated

Box 10

- 85. Negatives, undated
- 86. Negatives and Contact Sheets, undated
- 87. Negatives and Slides, 1971
- 88. Negatives, 1964-1967

Box 11

- 89. Negatives, 1969-1971
- 90. Negatives, 1970-1972

Box 12

Memorabilia, 1966-1988

Box 13

Trophy – Interfraternity council Greek Olympics first place, 1976-1977

Box 14 CLOSED

Photographs, 1967, RESTRICTED