

## ***Fraternities and Sororities: An Archival Research Guide***

*“The Vice-Chancellor’s Committee on Fraternities and Sororities recommends that Fraternities and Sororities be recognized on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro for a trial period of five year.”*

*--Report to Vice Chancellor James Allen, March 20, 1979*

### **OVERVIEW**

The Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives Department at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) contains a number of primary source material related to the topic of fraternities and sororities on campus. In 1893, two literary societies, the Adelpian and Cornelian, were established as forerunners to the Greek system. However, when fourteen girls attempted to create a Greek letter sorority in 1896, they were quickly told by the administration to disband because those societies were deemed inappropriate to public education. In the late 1970s though, Vice Chancellor Jim Allen became a strong proponent for the establishment of fraternities and sororities on campus. In 1979, the Board of Trustees finally approved the creation of a Greek System at UNCG with the first student rush beginning in 1980. By the Fall of 1981, seven fraternities and seven sororities were officially recognized. As of 2010, there ten fraternities and eleven sororities on the UNCG campus.

### **ARCHIVAL RESOURCES**

#### Individual Collections

##### **Chancellors Papers: Ferguson, James Sharbrough**

**University Archives, 1965-1979**

**UA 2.8**

The records of Chancellor James Sharbrough Ferguson contains the papers of the Committee on Fraternities and Sororities which authorized the establishment of the Greek System at UNCG in 1979 (Box 83).

##### **Chancellors Papers: Moran, William Edward**

**University Archives, 1979-1994**

**UA 2.9**

The records of Chancellor William Edward Moran contain several references to fraternities and sororities on the UNCG campus. This includes material related to the first rush on campus in 1980 (Box 2 and 9) as well other fraternal activities in subsequent years (Boxes 18, 26, 37, 61, 72).

**Division of Student Affairs: Fraternities and Sororities**

**University Archives, 1974-2009**

**UA 42**

Greek fraternities and sororities at UNCG are regulated under the Department of Campus Activities and Programs which falls under the Division of Student Affairs. These records contain general information about academic reports, Greek life, inter-fraternity council, national fraternity councils, and recruitment. There are also files related to individual fraternities and sororities.

**Beta Phi Mu- Beta Beta Zeta Chapter Records**

**University Archives, 1983-2003**

**UA 51**

This collection contains correspondence, meeting minutes, and chapter information related to the activities and history of the Beta Phi Mu- Beta Beta Zeta Chapter.

**Delta Pi Epsilon- Zeta Chapter Records**

**University Archives, 1942-1986**

**UA 51**

This collection contains meeting minutes, handbooks, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks related to the activities and history of Delta Pi Epsilon- Zeta Chapter.

**Delta Sigma Pi- Iota Omega Chapter Records**

**University Archives, 1980-1998**

**UA 51**

This collection contains correspondence, photographs, scrapbooks and chapter information related to the activities and history of the Delta Sigma Pi-Iota Chapter.

**North Carolina Alpha Delta Kappa-Beta Chapter**

**Manuscript Collection, 1959-1986**

**MSS 155**

This collection contains scrapbooks related to the activities and history of the North Carolina Alpha Delta Kappa-Beta Chapter.

**Omicron Na Alpha- Kappa Chapter Records**

**University Archives, 1942-1989**

**UA 51**

This collection contains a notebook with membership and chapter information related to the activities and history Omicron Na Alpha-Kappa Chapter.

**Sigma Xi Records**  
**University Archives, 1942-1989**  
**UA 51**

This collection contains annual reports, meeting minutes, chapter documents, membership information, and newspaper clippings related to the activities and history of Sigma Xi.

Subject Files

The following subject files have a variety of material, including correspondence, flyers and newsletters containing information related to the activities and history of each organization.

Adelphian Society	Fraternities	Sigma Gamma Rho
Aletheian Society	Gamma Theta Upsilon	Sigma Phi Epsilon
Alpha Delta Pi	Greek Life	Sigma Sigma Sigma
Alpha Kappa Alpha	Kappa Alpha Psi	Sigma Theta Tau
Alpha Kappa Delta	Mu Phi Epsilon	Sigma Xi
Alpha Lambda Delta	Omicron Nu	Sororities
Alpha Phi Alpha	Phi Alpha Theta	Societies (Literary Societies)
Alpha Phi Omega	Panhellenic Association	Tau Pi Delta
Beta Gamma	Phi Beta Kappa	Tau Psi Omega
Beta Gamma Sigma	Phi Beta Sigma	Theta Nu Xi
Delta Pi Epsilon	Phi Mu	Zeta Phi Beta
Delta Sigma Pi	Phi Netat Sigma	
Delta Sigma Theta	Pi Kappa Lambda	
Dikean Society	Pi Sigma Epsilon	

Articles

**“Greeks on Campus”**  
*Alumni News*  
**Winter 1977, Pg. 5**

This article provides a brief history about students struggle to establish a Greek System on the UNCG campus. It points out that in January 1975, an Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Sororities and Fraternities recommended against the establishment of such social organizations.

**“The Greek Debate...Again”**  
*Alumni News*  
**Spring 1979, Pg. 6-7**

This article recaps the continued controversy surrounding the establishment of fraternities and sororities on the UNCG campus. It highlights the various advantages and disadvantages of a Greek system as well as the general feelings of the student body and faculty.

## Books

**Trelease, Allen W. *Making North Carolina Literate: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, from Normal School to Metropolitan University*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2004.**

This book provides an extensive history of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro from its founding in 1891 up through 1994. It includes information about the history of the Literary Societies and the founding of Greek life on the UNCG campus.

## Photographs

The UNCG University Archives contains several photographic collections related to fraternities and sororities on the UNCG campus. Please contact the Archives for more information about specific organizations.

## Online Exhibits and Resources

### **UNCG Greek Life Homepage**

<<http://www.uncg.edu/cap/greeklife/>>

This website provided general information related to the various fraternities and sororities on the UNCG campus. It includes a list of the organizations as well as information about the rules and by-laws of Greek life.

Sean Mulligan  
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