

Sigma Kappa takes part in national effort

BY CARLEN FIDLER
Staff Writer

For two semesters, the Delta Theta chapter of Sigma Kappa at Truman State has participated in the Ultra Violet Campaign, a national campaign that benefits university chapters across the country and provides support for their main philanthropies. The fall 2015 semester was the first time the sorority took part in this campaign.

The Ultra Violet Campaign helps raise unrestricted dollars, money an organization can use however it deems most appropriate, to support the sorority's main priorities. These priorities are referred to as PULSE — philanthropic initiatives, unrestricted gifts, leadership development, sisters in need and education. Each of these priorities will impact members across the nation and at Truman.

"It's new to our chapter," said junior Maddi Hartke, Sigma Kappa webmaster. "It is a huge thing everywhere else, and it is cool that we are able to bring it to Delta Theta."

Hartke said she presented information about the campaign to students, faculty and members of the community.

Sophomore Campbell Drake, philanthropy vice president, said this year is a building year, and she said she expects the campaign to be bigger during the future.

Drake said Sigma Kappa is planning a 5K run to help raise money for the Ultra Violet Campaign.

Chapters may choose from one of the many Ultra Violet fundraising events or develop their own event, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation. Members of the sorority can advertise their event to raise awareness for the

foundation's mission and its causes, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

When members of Sigma Kappa raise money, it will go to the Sigma Kappa National Foundation. From there, the foundation will decide where the money goes. Donations could go to any of the sections of PULSE. This money could possibly benefit members of the Sigma Kappa chapter at Truman, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

"To me, the UV campaign is a way to give back and help my own sisters," Drake said. "For Sigma Kappa, it means that we come together to help our sisters with different programs."

Drake said Sigma Kappa's main philanthropy focuses on finding a cure for Alzheimer's and aiding the Maine Sea Coast Mission. The national foundation has pledged to give a gift of \$1 million to the Alzheimer's Association Women's Research Initiative, which focuses on clinical research for women, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

Unrestricted gifts allow funding for programs across the nation, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation. For example, if a member of Sigma Kappa wants to host a free medical clinic for the homeless community, money raised can help sponsor this event, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

Sigma Kappa also focuses on developing its members as leaders. Leadership consultants attend chapter meetings across the country to help train, teach and educate members to help them become strong leaders, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

Sisters In Need helps Sigma Kappa's across the nation who have experienced

tragic events, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation. These can include financial distress, deaths in the family, medical issues or natural disasters. Since 2005, the Sigma Kappa Foundation has awarded more than \$40,000 to members across the country.

"To me, the UV campaign is a way to give back and help my own sisters. For Sigma Kappa, it means that we come together to help our sisters with different programs."

-Sophomore Campbell Drake, Sigma Kappa philanthropy vice president

Education is important to the women of Sigma Kappa as well, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation. Members across the country receive scholarships. The foundation has awarded 778 scholarships since 1989, which help pay for academic needs such as tuition, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation. If a member is struggling to pay for school because of family emergencies, the foundation is able to help pay for academic costs, according to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

To start raising money for the Ultra Violet Campaign at Truman, Sigma Kappa will host a trivia night for all Truman organizations to attend 7-9 p.m. March 30 in the SUB Down Under. This will be Sigma Kappa's first fundraising effort for the campaign.

Students spell for Greek philanthropies

BY JESSICA HOWARD
Staff Writer

Delta Phi Epsilon and Alpha Kappa Lambda teamed up to host Truman State's first Philanthropy Spelling Bee March 29 in the SUB Activities Room.

The women of DPhiE came up with the idea to host the campus-wide spelling bee for charity earlier this year. Shortly after it began planning, DPhiE contacted AKL to ask the fraternity to co-sponsor the event. Together, the organizations reached out to all the Greek fraternities, sororities and most of the service organizations on campus to participate in the event.

Junior Jaelyn Kueny, DPhiE philanthropy coordinator, said the women hoped it would be a lighthearted event and a fun competition. Kueny said she hoped to draw people with the philanthropy aspect of the event.

Kueny said the spelling bee followed traditional rules with a few twists, such as the organization that sells the most tickets got a free pass to use on a mistake. She said a word list and judges from DPhiE and AKL were ready for the competition, and there were seven organizations with two participants each signed up for the event. Kueny said each round increased in difficulty until only one participant, the spelling bee champion, remained. She said the champion, sophomore Alex Vietor, a member of Alpha Gamma Delta, received 20 percent of the total funds raised from ticket sales to give to a charity of her choice.

Kueny said the remaining 80 percent of ticket revenue went to the Delta Phi Epsilon Education Foundation — a philanthropy that provides academic and business scholarships to sorority

members and their families — and the national AKL philanthropy, These Hands Don't Hurt.

AKL philanthropy chair, sophomore Benjamin Russell, said These Hands Don't Hurt is a national campaign that seeks to prevent sexual abuse and domestic violence through education and encouraging people to take a personal stance against abuse. He said These Hands Don't Hurt gives people a chance to pledge they will not be a part of physical abuse by having a poster students can sign.

Russell said he appreciated the opportunity to raise money and awareness about multiple causes.

"DPhiE came to us with this idea for the spelling bee, and at the time, I assumed and had no problem with going with one philanthropy, but they asked us if we wanted to do a separate one," Russell said. "We have three national philanthropies, and These Hands Don't Hurt is our biggest one. This seemed like a big platform to raise awareness."

"This seemed like a big platform to raise awareness."

-Sophomore Benjamin Russell, AKL philanthropy chair

With the proceeds going to at least two charities, Russell said the organizations had no set goal for how much the event would raise, but ended up raising \$280.

Junior Jordan Vassel, AKL vice president, said this semester and this event in particular are part of a large effort to increase how much work his fraternity puts into doing good.

"We're setting precedent, if you ask me, for years to come," Vassel said. "This semester we are setting a precedent, and this spelling bee is one of those things."

TRUMAN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Summer Session.
On Campus. Online.

summer.truman.edu

TRUMAN
this summer

Registration Begins
MARCH 15

Don't change horses in midstream! Stick with the quality you know while getting ahead on your degree by taking conveniently scheduled interim and summer courses from Truman.

Elect to . . .

- Choose from lots of options.
- Avoid the hassle of transferring credits.
- Tackle a challenging course.
- Save money by finishing college on or ahead of schedule.
- Boost your Truman GPA and keep your scholarships.
- Get the quality you've come to expect.