SIGMA



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The newsletter for alumnae and friends of Sigma Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Fall 2021



Annie and Yuli gather with Sigma sisters.

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Yuli, the new "house dog!"

Meet Annie Gregor!

Introducing Sigma's New Director of Resident Life

Annie started her new position as director of resident life (formerly known as "house mom") this summer and is enjoying her first fall at 1202 W. Nevada. See below for a fun Q&A with Annie.

Can you share a bit about your background?

I was born and raised in Evanston, Illinois. I have two older brothers. I attended the University of Wisconsin and received a library and information science degree. Most of my work life before becoming a house director was working for management consulting firms in downtown Chicago as an information specialist/researcher (and sometimes editor).

Tell us about your furry friend!

My life is better because of my lovely little 8-yearold cairn terrier, Yuli. She's adapting quite well to our new home and is unofficially the house mascot!

What are some of your interests?

Animal rescue, conservation, biking, hiking, dogs, sailing, swimming, skating, sports, reading (nonfiction please), history, biographies, bookstores, music (especially live music), theatre, museums, art, movies, documentaries, architecture, historic markers, old cemeteries, weaving, spinning, crocheting, embroidery, crossstitch, floor cloths, sewing, gardening, and haikus.

What do you enjoy most about being Sigma's director of resident life?

The best part of my job is that I get to make a difference pretty much every day. I feel lucky to be living among and sharing a home with the vibrant, intelligent, and thought-provoking women of Sigma Chapter. My goal is to make this beautiful, historic house feel like a home for everyone.

Building Committee Update

First and most noticeable of our chapter house projects: the landscaping in the front has been given an overhaul. Phase I was completed in August; this opened the view of the house with removal of old shrubbery, trees, and railroad ties. Phase II is slated for next spring, with more plantings and rework of the brick pathway.

Inside, the house director's suite was completely remodeled. The open floor plan includes a kitchenette and laundry facilities. While remodeling, some plumbing and electrical issues were discovered, as well as damage to the roof. All of those are being addressed and will be taken care of during school breaks.





Landscaping around the chapter house was updated this summer.



Alumna Spotlight – Kourtney Dhiman Murray '09

In this issue, we're pleased to feature our youngest board member in the Sigma Housing Corporation. Kourtney has been instrumental in providing a fresh perspective to committees and board meetings. We appreciate her giving spirit in all that she does.

What led you to join ADPi and what are some of your favorite memories from your college days in the house?

As an only child, I always dreamed of being in a sorority. And while the socials and cute outfits were definitely on my radar, it was really the sisterhood that I was longing for. I found my home away from home with a supportive group of women who not only taught me so much, but also carried me through so much in my life. I'm forever grateful to call the women of Sigma my sisters.

From the late-night talks over Flaming Hot Cheetos dipped in cream cheese to the energy of recruitment buzzing through the house, it was always so special to share both the little and big moments with your friends.



Fresh out of college, I began my career in real estate at a boutique brokerage in Chicago as an administrative assistant. I quickly grew to become the company's content and marketing manager while doing sales on the side, and eventually, I knew it was my time to move on to my next chapter to do sales full time.

Shortly after this realization, the funniest thing happened. I was showing a property and I got stuck in an elevator with an @properties broker. We connected, and that was the spark.





Blast from the past! Kourtney Dhiman Murray '09 and her sisters as active Sigma members.

That connection led to a new opportunity at a new brokerage that gave me the tools to become a top Chicago broker, and now I'm building my real estate team, KM Living, while also proudly serving as the president of @properties' non-profit organization, @gives back.

This year, I joined forces with three of Chicago's strongest women in real estate and launched a non-profit, RE-CONNECT Chicago. Turning our love of giving back to our city into an even deeper connection, our hope is to reenergize our youth, support our homeless population, and refuel our hungry by reconnecting people to their local communities.

Share what motivated you to volunteer for ADPi and some of the key things you've been working on.

I joined our housing corporation to further connect with the chapter and to give back to the house that's given so much to me. While in school, I wasn't the girl who knew exactly who she wanted to be when she grew up; having a space to explore my passions while being surrounded by such driven women was crucial to my coming-of-age story.

To me, a home is so much more than the four walls you live in—it's where you share stories over your favorite meal; it's where you go to recharge after a long day; it's where you go to be you. Together with the building committee, we're working toward transforming the house into a home that offers purposeful and inspiring spaces where our future Sigma sisters can thrive.

Kourtney lives in Chicago and can be reached at kourtney@atproperties.com.

Let's Stay Connected!

Have you joined the Sigma Strong Facebook page? Please check us out at facebook.com/groups/433256040197413.

You'll find that it's a great place to learn about what's happening at the house. You can reconnect with old friends. You'll have the opportunity to make new ADPi connections, too.

If you're already a member, make sure your Sigma connections are members of the group.

We've recently posted a list of "lost" sisters (sisters who do not have a valid mailing address in our database) on Facebook as well. Take a look to make sure you're not on there—and maybe you can help find some of your friends.



Welcome, Alpha Class of 2021!

Liz Beam *Bloomington, Ill.*

Olivia Caboor Schaumburg, Ill.

Jessie Cleverly Cincinnati, Obio

Madelyn Danosky Geneva, Ill.

Hannah Geest Highland, Ill.

Elise Hutchins Wheaton, Ill.

Lillian KatzOak Park, Ill.

Abby Lachman
Dayton, Obio

Becca Larmer Aurora, Ill.

Ashley Menendez Hinsdale, Ill.

Jasmine Mui Chicago, Ill.

Nicki Niecestro Wheaton, Ill.

Sydney Overstreet Tucson, Ariz.

Emily Paulus Lincoln, Ill.

Jocelyn Pytel Los Altos, Calif.

Brooke Roseland Seneca, Ill.

Emily Ryan Lombard, Ill.

Madeline Saari Oak Brook, Ill.

Mary Simon Marietta, Ga.

Kate Varak Naperville, Ill.



Mikaela Warfel Maple Park, Ill.

Ava Wetzel
Arlington Heights, Ill.

Olivia White LaGrange, Ill. Lauren Zeilstra Batavia, Ill.

Alex Zelcer
Atlanta, Ga.

Collegian Spotlight — Hannah Walsh '19



Hannah Walsh '19 is a junior Delta member who serves as VP of event management for Sigma. She is a psychology major, looking to pursue a career studying children with neurological disorders. Hannah was passionate and committed during the recruitment process and cannot wait to form bonds with our new members. Having a younger sister

has shaped Hannah into the role model she is for all our Alphas, and she is excited to provide many opportunities and events where new members can begin their lifelong friendships with each other.

Sigma Awards in 2021

Congratulations to Sigma Chapter for being recognized with three House Corporation Awards in 2021!

- The 3 Diamond Award was given to 12 chapters.
- The Construction Award was given to three chapters.
- The Communication Award was only awarded to our chapter!

Performance awards are achieved through meeting the established criteria for the current academic year. This includes legal compliance, being fiscally sound, good communication with chapters and district teams, and creating a safe home environment. House corporations are also judged on a positive working relationship with the chapter, development of a long-range capital improvement plan, development of safety upgrade plans, efficient management of employees and staff, participation in training opportunities, and improvements to the chapter space.

Save the Date

Annual Sigma Housing Corporation Meeting

Sunday, November 7 1 p.m. Central Time

Join us on Zoom through this link:

tinyurl.com/ADPiSigmaMeeting2021

All Sigma ADPis, past and present, are welcome to participate. Topics will include elections, financials, facility updates, and future plans.

Stay Connected with Sigma Chapter!

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- sigmaofadpi.com



ALPHA DELTA PI

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SIGMA STAR

Homecoming 2021

Alumnae from the 1980s reunited for 2021 Homecoming, and it was as if no time had passed since seeing each other last.





