

Sigma Tau Delta: newest honor society addition

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Staff Writer

If you see signs around campus this fall promoting the Meredith STD club, don't be alarmed—it's not what you think. This dubious abbreviation refers to Meredith's newest honor society, Sigma Tau Delta.

Sigma Tau Delta is the international English honor society for those who are majoring or minoring in English. Membership in the society is open to students who have a 3.0 average in their English classes, are in the top 35 percent of their class and have completed at least three semesters of undergraduate work.

On Sunday, Apr. 22, 18 Meredith students joined this society when Meredith's newly established Alpha Iota Rho chapter of Sigma Tau Delta held its first induction ceremony.

According to Dr. Louise Taylor, head of the English department, the idea for the chapter came from 1999 graduate Keanne Tomlinson. Tomlinson researched the benefits of having a Meredith chapter of Sigma Tau Delta and found support among most English majors.

Taylor also cites Dr. Susan Gilbert of the English department as being helpful with making many of the contacts necessary to get the chapter started.

The chapter, which has been in the planning stages for about a year, finally became a reality earlier this spring when English professor Amy Griswold was appointed faculty adviser.

Griswold, a member of Sigma Tau Delta who served as an officer in the organization during her college years, was chosen for her experience with the organization.

Griswold said, "I look forward to using my knowledge to help Meredith make a smooth transition into national Sigma Tau Delta activity."

She was assisted in organizing the Meredith chapter by senior Carrie Swart, chapter president. Swart volunteered to

help organize the club last fall and was drafted to help Griswold in the spring.

Griswold said, "Meredith needs Sigma Tau Delta. With such an upstanding English department, the majors need extra stimulation and experience in a professional society that is internationally known."

Both Griswold and Swart cited the opportunities offered by membership in the society as benefits it would bring to Meredith. Griswold said, "There are some excellent opportunities within the society for grants, awards, and internships; there is also an international magazine of student writings published annually."

"The membership will also help with networking in the professional world. It is also recognition of one's hard work since a certain GPA is required for all members," Swart said.

Swart added, "I believe Sigma Tau Delta will be a solid asset to our excellent English department."

At their first meeting earlier this month, the officers made plans for the chapter's future, including possible fundraisers and gatherings, such as a *movie night for both members and non-members*. The organization also plans to design T-shirts for members and supporters.

Sunday night's brief induction was held in the Chapel Commons Room and included a written ceremony describing the history, significance and goals of the organization. The students took an oath of membership which included a promise to abide by the motto of the club, "Sincerity. Truth. Design."

According to Griswold, "The ceremony was flawless."

In addition to Swart, Sigma Tau Delta's other newly inducted officers for 2001-02 are Lori Anderson, vice-president; Lee-sha Austin, secretary; Ganey Mozley, treasurer; and Christy Sadler, historian.

Other students inducted on Sunday night were Keri Burton, Carolyn Clark, Elizabeth

Crowder, Emily Fammartino, Amber Lynch, Leslie Maxwell, Eveline Muela, Laura Norris, Dorothea Park, Sarah Pritchard, Ayana Rhodes, Dana Turnage, and Natasha Venema.

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highlights from the early part of the century. Before their three minutes were up, many in the audience knew who had taken first place in this contest.

The juniors immediately followed and brought out their backdrop of "women who should have gone to Meredith." Dolly Parton, Shania Twain, Aretha Franklin, and Destiny's Child all showed up at Meredith that day. Dance routines and famous look-a-likes pulled the class of '02 together.

Finally, the seniors showed the crowd what "The Final Tour" has been like for them this past year. They told the audience "Bye, Bye, Bye" with a little help from N'Sync and asked how you measure a year.

The audience saw traditions from each year that the seniors have been here and watched as the co-chairs, Hilary Allen and Wallis Kirby, performed in their last Stunt. Many of the participants became a little emotional when lip sync was over.

Just like for any Meredith event, the co-chairs for each class put forth large amounts of time and enthusiasm. The sophomore co-chair was actually just a chair this year. Beth Jarvis was in charge of the outline of the program for them by herself. "I had so much fun preparing it because I definitely didn't do it all myself. It was a class effort - the costumes, the dance routines - they did it all. I was just in that leadership position".

STUNT results are located on page five.

Students make exciting plans for summer

STEPHANIE JORDAN
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The countdown has begun—only 16 days until exams end and spring semester 2001 is officially a thing of the past. Nothing but long days of sun and balmy nights stretch ahead.

So what are Meredith women planning to do to fill the time?

For the Class of 2001, this summer represents something new—there is no next semester at MC. Some will begin jobs, continue the job search or work part-time for experience, and still others will enjoy just one more summer vacation.

Sarah McAlister, a prospective May graduate, will be working in Raleigh at Camp Upward Bound at the YMCA. "It's a field-trip camp. We take two field trips a day, so it should be pretty easy and fun," said McAlister.

But for many Meredith students who won't be in the procession on Mother's Day, the break from classes will be short indeed, as first session of summer school begins soon.

In order to build up hours, rising senior Christie Aycock plans to take several classes. "This way my senior year won't be so busy, and I'll be able to have fun," said a hopeful Aycock.

Freshman Claire Young hope to attend summer school

at Louisburg College. "Hopefully I'll be able to get some gen. ed. stuff out of the way," she said.

Some students are lucky enough to attend summer school abroad. Meredith Carson said, "I'll be spending the early part of the summer in Spain with Dr. Nittoli's program. I'll still sort of be in school, but I know it will be fun, so I won't really notice. I'm excited."

And still others plan on doing a little of everything—working a little, playing a lot and hoping to rejuvenate by August.

Sophomore Alison O'Leary says that she is "going home to try and save some money for next year."

For freshman Brooke Barber, relaxation is a major part of her summer plan. She said, "Hopefully I'll find a job to work a little. Our family is planning several vacations though, so we'll see."

Junior Natalie Jenkins has similar plans. "I'm going to move to the beach, work some, lay out some. I am just looking forward to some time off," Jenkins said.

Whatever their plans might be, Meredith students are all anxiously awaiting some much needed and well-deserved relaxation.

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posed organization will have prior knowledge of the proposal and the meeting.

Sophomore senator and 2001-02 Senate secretary Beth Stephenson noted, "Senate made a good, solid, well-educated decision regarding Campus Crusade. However, the event was a wonderful learning experience for Senate in helping us realize that proposed organizations need to be publicized to the campus before they are presented."

Briefly stated, Senate serves as an umbrella for all campus

organizations. The group maintains the constitutions of present Meredith organizations, regulates new organizations through the proposal process, and examines current organizations to ensure that they are following both the guidelines set by their constitution and by the college.

Senate is looking forward to a successful year in regulating organizations and in serving the students. All students should know that if they have a concern with any organization, Senate is always prepared to listen.