



## **Epsilon Rho Receives Awards And Recognition At National Convention**

By Chris "Yabut" Patterson, W'73, Alumni Assn. Officer, Sept. 8, 2009

Brothers!

In a first-of-its-kind occurrence for our Chapter, Epsilon Rho received three prestigious awards, and had an alumnus elected to Grand Council, at the biannual National Convention held in St. Louis, Missouri, July 22-25, 2009. These awards are due to a decade of undergraduate work at the Chapter with guidance from dedicated alumni leaders and support by hundreds of involved alumni-at-large.

Our Active Chapter received the Pyramid of Excellence Award, our Chapter President the Order of Sphinx Award, and our alumni organization the Hugh "Cap" Ryan Outstanding Alumni Association Award. At the start of Convention, Brother Jim "Lurch" Larson, W'72, past Chapter President, was serving as an appointed member of Grand Council. During the Convention Lurch was elected to a full four-year term on the Grand Council.



### **PYRAMID OF EXCELLENCE AWARD**

The Pyramid Of Excellence Award is only earned by the top Chapters in the Fraternity. We can all be extremely proud of the accomplishments of our Active Chapter and its men. Along with Epsilon Rho, the following Chapters earned this most prestigious of Chapter awards from Delta Sigma Phi.:

Alpha Alpha - University of Illinois  
Alpha Lambda - Millikin University  
Beta Mu - Transylvania University  
Epsilon Tau - Grand Valley State University

Theta Mu - University of Kentucky  
Kappa Delta - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Theta Chi - University of Georgia

The Pyramid of Excellence Award is presented annually to undergraduate Chapters which have demonstrated excellence in all areas of fraternity operations during an academic year. This competition seeks Chapters which most exemplify the true spirit of our founders, by personifying the Fraternity's mission of building better men and excellence in their collective contributions to the Fraternity and their host campuses.

To be eligible, chapters must be in good standing and are required to annually complete the Fraternity's Accreditation Application. Evaluation criteria include: chapter academic performance, recruitment and retention of members, campus and community involvement, alumni support and involvement, financial strength, and adherence to the official Ritual of Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity. Our ACB deserves high praise for guiding our Chapter.



### **ORDER OF SPHINX AWARD**

The Order of Sphinx Award is given biennially to some of those undergraduate Brothers, nominated by their Chapter or a national officer, for outstanding contributions to their campus, their Chapter, and the Fraternity. Each Chapter may submit one nominee for every 25 members in their Chapter. Not all nominees meet the standards of this individual award. Epsilon Rho's current Active Chapter President, Ian "Shooter" LeMay, F'05, was one of the undergraduate nominees who received this important individual award.

You can congratulate our Chapter President for his accomplishment, and the Chapter for their outstanding work, by sending Ian an email at [ilemay@calpoly.edu](mailto:ilemay@calpoly.edu). It's certainly deserved!



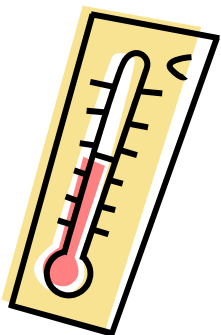
## HUGH "CAP" RYAN OUTSTANDING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

The Hugh "Cap" Ryan Outstanding Alumni Association Award is presented to only one Alumni Association or Alumni Chapter which has shown excellence in support of a local Chapter or in strengthening the bonds of Brotherhood in a particular geographic region. The award is named in honor of Dr. Hugh "Cap" Ryan, Pittsburgh '16, whose extensive service to the Fraternity included being National President, Editor of The Carnation, and National Historian.

For the first time in our 60 year history at Cal Poly, and as a complete surprise to our ACB and Association leaders, Epsilon Rho's Alumni Association was honored with this award and distinction. In his presentation remarks at Convention, Executive Director Scott Wiley noted that our alumni web site, our alumni directory, and our alumni newsletters were key factors in winning the award, and examples for other alumni organizations to follow.

This award is correctly dedicated to the hundreds of involved Epsilon Rho alumni, from 1951 to 2002, who have generously contributed Association dues, donations, organizational ideas, photos and other input for the alumni web site, and help in finding our lost alumni. Put another way, this award is dedicated to all those who had faith over the last ten years that an Epsilon Rho Alumni Association could promote the alumni bond and help strengthen our Active Chapter.

While we're sincerely pleased with National's recognition - Epsilon Rho has yet to reach its full potential. Much work remains to build improved alumni services into our one-year-old web site, find and connect 700 missing alums, preserve our unique photo history, and encourage knowledge and initiative at our Chapter.



Association officers are 100% volunteer, but we incur costs for paper, printing, postage, a DSP scholarship, photo preservation, alumni searches, gifts to our Chapter, and web site.

All our funding comes from alumni. To date this year, only 97 alums have given. This is **less than half** the usual number - and time grows short. Along with other topics, we report our 2009 fundraising results at the Homecoming ACB meeting, October 17<sup>th</sup>, in SLO.

We could really use your help.

If you haven't yet sent in 2009 Association dues (\$20), made a donation to any of our worthy alumni initiatives, or updated changed personal contact info for the directory - now is your chance.

Please open, print, fill out, and surface mail us the simple, attached, one-page form, if only to update your directory info. We want to keep you in-the-loop and help alums locate you. Maybe it's their turn to buy!

For the Delta Sig Alumni Association team, thanks for your Brotherly support and congrats to all Cal Poly Delta Sig alums - the best in National!

Cheers & YITBOS,  
Yabut

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PS - Visit your DSP alumni web site at: <http://SLODSPAlums.com>! New, shorter, and easier-to-remember pointer-domain-names will also get you there: <http://www.SLODSPAlums.com> and <http://www.SLOYitbosAlums.com>.

The alumni site has news stories about chapter and alums, past newsletters, event calendar, alumni directory, a growing photo collection from old scrapbooks (but not bird-book!), colony/chapter history, and a hellofa' lot more! With your continuing help we'll keep growing the site's content and usefulness.