



February 19, 2007

Ms. Deborah A. Raziano
National President, Delta Zeta Sorority
c/o Alumni Affairs Office
Clarence James, Jr. Alumni House
Nicholls State University
Thibodaux, LA 70310

Dear Ms. Raziano:

I am appreciative of your assistance in arranging the meeting among Cindy Menges, Executive Director of Delta Zeta Sorority, and DePauw faculty and staff. The staff and faculty have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to talk directly with a representative from the national organization. The reports I received from the meeting were positive, and were reported as such in the campus newspaper.

Despite the positive nature of the conversation with Ms. Menges, however, many people at the University still have concerns about the actions taken by the national sorority. After several weeks of interviews and conversations with DePauw students, faculty, alumni and national sorority officers, four issues form the basis of the University's dissatisfaction with your actions:

1. While those of us at DePauw recognize the right of a national Greek organization to restructure, it is critical that nationals consider the potential impact of such action on a campus as small as ours. As you know from your experience with us, a midyear reorganization of such significant magnitude as implemented by Delta Zeta focuses attention on the entire Greek system in a negative way.
2. The members of Delta Zeta learned of the outcome of the membership review one week before final exams began, thus creating an unacceptable disruption in the academic lives of our students. The timing of the membership review created not only dismay for the students who thought they would be continuing as active Delta Zeta members, but also anxiety for them about how and where to find housing for Winter Term and second semester. Many women spoke of their inability to focus on year-end assignments, papers and exams because of their feelings of rejection and worries about where they would be living in the coming months.
3. The outcome of the membership review also created a significant disruption for students who had to move from one housing space to another in the middle of the academic year. The women (and their parents) thought they would be living in the Delta Zeta sorority house for the 2006-07 academic year. Placing women on alumna status in the middle of the year forced them to find alternative housing. While the University worked diligently to provide suitable housing for these students, it was an unexpected interruption to have to move their belongings and to settle into a new environment. We were not able to accommodate all of the

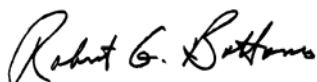
students as a group so they were forced to separate from friends they anticipated living with this year.

4. It is clear from the student interviews with our staff that the women of Delta Chapter believed they would be able to make the choice as to whether they continued as active collegiate members or took alumna status. Because the students were not given the choice, those involved had a number of questions and concerns about the process. When the letters arrived carrying the news of the membership review, the students were not supported by the presence of a national or chapter representative. The letters to the students arrived in early December and it was not until February that a national representative came to campus.

As you know, the University is involved in a significant effort to improve the campus life of our Greek students. As a result of the concerns expressed in this letter the University is incorporating into new living standards a clause that will require Greek organizations with chapter houses to house students for the entire academic year unless there are behavior issues that warrant a separation of a student or students from their housing contract(s). This requirement will not allow a Greek organization to restructure in the middle of an academic year if it involves breaking housing contracts with students.

As to Delta Zeta's future at DePauw, I understand from Dean Babington that the national organization is considering its options including closing for a period of time with some promise of being able to re-colonize in the future. Under the circumstances we are not prepared to make such a guarantee.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Bottoms
President

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