

PETITION

of the

Professional Commerce Club

of the

University of Chicago

to

Delta Sigma Pi

Professional Commerce Fraternity

A PETITION
to
The International Fraternity
of
DELTA SIGMA PI

By the
PROFESSIONAL COMMERCE CLUB
of
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

School of Commerce and Administration

February 1

1 9 2 8

Petition to
DELTA SIGMA PI

We the undersigned, members of the Professional Commerce Club at the University of Chicago School of Commerce and Administration, in the belief that the character of our personnel and sincerity of our purpose merit consideration--do with this writing petition the International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi for a charter

1. Robert B. Stevens
2. Daniel A. Costigan
3. Henry Paulman
4. Graydon B. Bower
5. Thomas. Wesley Rogers.
6. J. J. Wilderth
7. Henry de Valle
8. Robert J. Williams
9. Kenneth P. Stibgen
10. Raymond B. Bredinger

11. James I. Allen.
12. William B. Holmes
13. W. Buell Seace
14. Emmett C. Barr
15. George R. Gould
16. John L. Munday
17. Albert A. Floun
18. Carl D. Hazebrook
19. William J. Conway
20. Melvin J. Turner
21. John A. Kramer
22. Kenneth B. Alwood
23. Wilson I. Payne
24. Kenton J. Letts
25. William Fred Bleak
26. John Peter Chole
27. _____
28. _____



The Purpose
of

O U R L O C A L

The club is organized to foster the study of business in the University of Chicago; to encourage scholarship and the association of students for their mutual advancement by research and practice; to promote closer affiliation between the commercial world and students of commerce and to further a high standard of commercial ethics and culture and the civic and commercial welfare of the community.

History of
The University of Chicago

The story of the University of Chicago is a story of achievement from the date of founding to the present day. This can be attributed to the genius of its founders and the ability of each succeeding administration.

The University was founded in 1891. The steps in organization were not successive and orderly steps. They came so fast that they crowded upon and overlapped each other. They were all taken within the twenty-one months preceding 1891. In that brief space of time, and before the doors were opened for students, the college (for such was the original plan) with seventeen acres as a site, \$1,000,000, and provision for one building, had developed into the University of Chicago with an enlarged and much improved site, \$4,000,000, and provision for ten

buildings, with a faculty of one hundred and twenty teachers and with an academy, a college, two graduate schools, and a divinity school.

The University is an endowed Baptist institution, the original small college being the product of the hopes of the American Baptist Educational Union. John D. Rockefeller and the Rockefeller Foundation have been the largest donors. Also, numerous prominent people throughout the United States, the Alumni, and the members of the faculty have contributed large sums for the further development of the University. At the present time the University is one of the three largest endowed educational institutions in the world, having over \$54,000,000 in assets.

William Rainey Harper, then teaching at Yale, was secured as first president of the University. Professor Harper was a man of great vision and business capacity, as well as being a great educator. This man proceeded with his plans to so organize the University and man its various departments with professors that from the day it opened it

took its place in the first rank of American universities. How well the plans of the first president materialized is seen in the fact that during and before the first scholastic year three thousand students had applied for admission.

In gathering a faculty for the new University President Harper originated a policy that has been successively carried out by all of the succeeding presidents. He sought big men. He wanted big men--the very best and ablest, the most distinguished scholars and teachers that he could find. He tried for and secured professors from the leading universities in the country. A mention of a few names will bring this point out--J. Laurence Laughlin, Political Economy--Harry Pratt Judson, Religion--Albion W. Small, Sociology--A. A. Stagg, Physical Culture--A. A. Michelson, Physics--E. D. Burton, Religion--T. C. Chamberlin, Geology--R. D. Salisbury, Geology--J. M. Coulter, Botany--Alice Freeman Palmer, Dean of Women.

During the first seven years twenty buildings were erected at a cost of \$2,200,000. All of the money for this

building program was forthcoming from friends of the new University. The student body increased from 721 in the first year to over three thousand in 1898.

In 1906 President Harper died. The loss to the University was great. To this man's genius may be attributed a large measure of the institution's success. Harry Pratt Judson, the second president was immediately appointed. He had been a close associate of President Harper and carried on with the expansion of the University with ability and foresight. During the administration of President Judson eight new buildings were built. In the last year of President Judson's presidency the enrollment had increased to over thirteen thousand (1923-'24).

In 1923 President Judson retired and Ernest DeWitt Burton was unanimously elected acting president. He had been closely connected with the University in both educational and administrative capacities since its inception in 1891. Shortly afterward he was elected to the presidency. After three very successful years President

Burton suddenly died and Max Mason then at the University of Wisconsin was elected to the presidency.

The organization of the University includes these five divisions:

The University Proper

The University Extension

The University Press

The University Libraries, Laboratories,
and Museums

The University Affiliations.

It may be said of three of the general divisions that they were new features in the organization of an American University. These three were--University Extension, University Press, and University Affiliation. These three have immensely increased the usefulness, scope, and power, of the University. It has been the purpose to extend college and University instruction to the public at large, to make the University useful to other institutions, and to expand its usefulness and influence through its press, as

widely as possible. These five general divisions may perhaps be regarded as the foundation upon which the University is built. The institution is coeducational.

The work of the University has been arranged to continue throughout the year. It is divided into four quarters of twelve weeks each, with a recess of one week after each quarter. A student may take his vacation during the period of any one of the four quarters. This plan of a continuous session secures certain advantages which are denied in institutions operating under the semester system or for only three quarters of the year.

At the present writing work is offered to graduate and undergraduate students in the following departments:

English, History, Political Science, Art, Philosophy, Germanics, Romance Languages, Semitics, Greek and Latin, Sociology, Geology, Geography, Anthropology, Astronomy, Chemistry, Physics, Botany, Zoology, Law, Medicine, Commerce and Administration, Economics, Divinity, Social Service Administration, Home Economics, Military Science, and Education.

In a rating by departments of American Colleges and Universities recently published by the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the University's Law School ranked second, the Medical School first, and the School of Commerce and Administration second.

From the date of opening it has been the policy of this University to stress graduate work. Every year new gifts are being received, new buildings are being built and new equipment installed for the furtherance of this objective. The past four years have seen a tightening up of the entrance requirements for undergraduate students. An average of 85 in secondary school work is required of applicants for admission into the Junior colleges. Also, a thorough psychological test must be passed and the general character of the applicant is thoroughly investigated before he is admitted. During these years tuition has been raised from \$60.00 per quarter to \$100.00 per quarter. The University of Chicago is not a poor man's school--and a product of four years work at this institution may feel reasonably sure that he has secured an education--in the truest sense of the word.

History of
The University of Chicago
School of Commerce and Administration

In February, 1894, in response to the growing demand for a course in "University instruction which would provide professional training for the practical work of business in its various branches" Professor J. Lawrence Laughlin, then head of the department of Political Economy presented to the Senate of the University a plan for a College of Commerce and Industry.

Plans did not mature until 1898 and when the school came into being in that year it was known as the College of Commerce and Politics.

In 1902 a separate school with its own faculty and administrative officers was authorized. The faculty consisted of all those giving instruction in the college and five members at large appointed by the Board of Trustees. It was authorized to make its own regulations concerning the work, subject only to the approval of the Senate and General Admin-

istrative Board. The first faculty meeting was held on April 26, 1902.

Henry Rand Hatfield, Assistant Professor of Political Economy, now at the University of California, was appointed Dean and served in that capacity until 1905. He was succeeded by Francis Wayland Shephardson in 1906. Leon Carroll Marshall succeeded Mr. Shephardson as Dean in 1909.

In 1910 when Mr. John D. Rockefeller made his final gift of ten million dollars to the University, a committee was formed to consider ways of strengthening the existing departments in the University. Fortunately for the College of Commerce and Administration, one way chosen was to have Mr. Marshall make a study of American Schools of Commerce. After this study had been made there was a reorganization of the school in 1912, and from that year, under the guidance of Mr. Marshall the College of Commerce and Administration began a period of rapid development which culminated in its becoming a professional school with a distinct faculty and a curriculum of its own.

Gradually technical courses were added and the scope of the College was broadened to give training not merely for business alone, but for commercial teaching, public service and philanthropic work.

In 1916 the name was changed from College of Commerce and Administration to School of Commerce and Administration, as it is known today. In this year an event occurred which did much to aid the School; the donation by Robert Williams of the Eli B. Williams and Harriet B. Williams endowment fund. This endowment yields about eighty thousand dollars annually and has placed the work of the School on a firm financial basis.

In 1923 leaders in the packing industry approached University officials and proposed a form of cooperation to be called the Institute of Meat Packing. They cited the fact that the University men were being employed in the industry in rapidly increasing numbers and urged the University to point the training of some of these men for the packing industry.

The four year course in the Institute of Meat Packing is based on a careful selection of courses in the natural

and social sciences, supplemented by a general survey of the field of commerce and the application of principles of commerce to the packing industry. The Institute of Meat Packing is administered jointly by the University and the Institute of American Meat Packers, the net cost paid by the latter. The School also has a first class department of secretarial instruction and education for the women in the School.

In 1924 Mr. Marshall resigned because of poor health and was succeeded by William Homer Spencer, who had been an assistant dean in the School for four years.

History of

The Professional Commerce Club

On October 20, 1927, a group of eighteen students in the University of Chicago School of Commerce and Administration met and decided to organize a local commercial fraternity for which they felt there was a distinct need.

These men felt that several concrete benefits would accrue to the members of this group and the student body of the Commerce School as a whole through the establishment of such an organization.

In the past there had been very little acquaintance-ship and association in a professional way between members of the student body in this department of the University. At that time there was no organization of any sort to promote and foster a common meeting ground for any kind of professional activities among undergraduate Gentile men in Commerce and Business. Moreover, the community of interest which should exist between students and faculty members was not as intimate as it might have been.

School had definite intentions of going directly into business upon receiving their degrees, but many of these men had no contacts with men actually in business by which they might secure positions and very few had their feet on the ground and knew definitely what line of business endeavor they wanted to get into. They felt that an organization of this kind would or could do much to promote contacts and assist in aiding them to find themselves. They realized that a commercial course of study prepared a student only in an academic way for a business career, and that something additional, in their opinion, ought to be done to promote a professional feeling and interest in the actual field of business while a student is in school.

With this situation in mind the group felt that a fertile field awaited an organization, the personnel of which had the vision and energy to make the most of its opportunities.

On the night of October 31, 1927, the eighteen again met and the local took its final form. A President, Treasurer and Secretary were elected. The name of Pi Sigma Delta was

adopted. It was decided that the membership should compose twenty-five undergraduates, five graduate students, and five faculty members. By means of two membership drives twenty-five of the most representative undergraduates were obtained. Three graduates have become affiliated with the organization and are very active in its affairs. In addition two faculty members have joined. In view of the interest that is developing among other members of the faculty the local is reasonably sure of filling its quota within the next month.

At the second meeting of the local organization representatives from Delta Sigma Pi and Alpha Kappa Psi gave the newly organized local fraternity a prospective of their respective organizations. From the first it had been the intention of the group to petition a national commercial fraternity for a charter. Both of the above mentioned organizations had been discussed informally. At the same meeting after hearing these representatives and some discussion, it was decided by a unanimous vote to petition Delta Sigma Pi for a chapter.

The organization having gotten well under way, in the early part of December, 1927, the Board of Student Organ-

izations met and gave formal University recognition to the local professional commerce fraternity. One technicality stood in the way at first. The Board permits no local organization to be formed that bears a Greek Letter Name. Owing to this, the name of Pi Sigma Delta had to be dropped and the local adopted the name of Professional Commerce Club.

Dean Spencer readily gave his consent to the organization of the group and several faculty members felt that such an organization would fill a vacancy in the student life of the school as it was.

At the present time the organization has been running little over three months, and even though the local is yet an infant, both its members and members of the faculty feel that it has been making rapid strides of progress. Weekly meetings are held and a program of professional activities has been outlined for the Winter and Spring quarters. The good financial condition of the organization is another favorable indication of the interest that the members are taking in the successful carrying out of the venture.

On January 10, 1928, the first of a series of luncheons

which comprises a part of the professional activities program was given at one of the local hotels. Mr. William A. Dargin, Head of the Department of Public Relations for the Commonwealth Edison Company, and former assistant to Secretary of Commerce Hoover, spoke on Simplification in Industry. The meeting was well attended by the membership and by several non-members. Seven faculty members were also present. The whole affair was voted a success by faculty men, non-members and members alike. Judging from the success of this function the program as has been outlined bids fair to be a success as a whole. The program is a smoker or other informal meeting to be held in the evening, at which time members of the faculty or such others speakers as may be obtained will address the group.

In the latter part of December, 1927, the local took dinner at the Northwestern Chapter house of Delta Sigma Pi.

It has not been the purpose of the organization to confine its entire membership to the student body and consequently the local has adopted the plan of obtaining several of the more prominent alumnae of the Commerce School as members. One of the faculty members has cordially offered his

assistance in securing these men and the group feels that within the next few months the prestige of the local will be considerably enhanced by such additions.

The local wishes to acknowledge the organization help given by Mr. Carl D. Reyer and the advice given by Professor L. D. Edie, both of Delta Sigma Pi.

CLUB (PI SIGMA DELTA)

The average of the members of the group was computed and amounts to nearly a B average, which according to the grading system would be B-.

TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN THE COMMERCE SCHOOL BY QUARTERS BEGINNING in 1922.

'22	AUTUMN	631
'23	WINTER	558
'23	SPRING	<u>561</u>
'23	AUTUMN	524
'24	WINTER	438
'24	SPRING	<u>421</u>
'24	AUTUMN	495
'25	WINTER	457
'25	SPRING	<u>422</u>
'25	AUTUMN	503
'26	WINTER	471
'26	SPRING	<u>439</u>
'26	AUTUMN	470
'27	WINTER	424
'27	SPRING	<u>400</u>
'27	AUTUMN	264.

The high enrollment in 1923 was due to the fact that many students returned to school after the war, also many Noyes Scholarships were offered, which made it possible for many ex-service men to come to the University.

The gradual dropping off in the last year or so is due to the abandonment of the old Junior and Senior College

system. The school is now entirely a Senior College. Also the requirements have become much more stringent and the school has been divorced from the Department of Political Economy, although it cooperates with it.

A FEW PROMINENT ALUMNI ARE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING:

- Mr. Donald P. Bean 5527 University Ave., Chicago.
- Hunfy D. Lee, Inspectorate of Salt Revenue, Wutungchiae,
Szechuen, China
- Mr. Clinton Slusher, Cedar Products Company, San Luis Obispo, Cal.
- Mr. Ralph D. Kellogg, Baker, Kellogg & Co., 120 Broadway,
New York City
- Mr. Carl Ullman, Dollar Savings and Trust, Youngstown, Ohio.
- Mr. Leverett S. Lyon, Robert Brookings Graduate School of
Economics and Government,
Washington, D. C.
- Miss Marion Clark, Social Service Department, University Hos-
pital, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Mr. F. A. Winterhoff, Square Electric Co., Detroit, Mich.
- Newman A. Toles, 19561 Longwood Drive, Chicago.
- Mr. Frank E. Weakly, 205 So. LaSalle Street, Chicago.
- Mr. Ellis Hoglund, 6060 Rivard Street, Detroit, Michigan.
- Mr. Julius Gordon, 205 No. Michigan Boulevard, Chicago.

A LIST OF FRATERNITIES ON THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CAMPUS

<u>Social</u>	<u>Date of Establishment on Chicago Campus.</u>
Delta Kappa Epsilon	1893
Phi Kappa Psi	1894
Beta Theta Pi	1894
Alpha Delta Phi	1896
Sigma Chi	1897
Psi Upsilon	1897
Alpha Sigma Phi	1898
Delta Tau Delta	1898
Chi Psi	1898
Delta Upsilon	1901
Phi Gamma Delta	1902
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	1903
Delta Chi	1903
Sigma Nu	1904
Kappa Sigma	1904
Alpha Tau Omega	1904
Phi Kappa Sigma	1905
Acacia	1908
Delta Sigma Phi	1910
Tau Kappa Epsilon	1917
Zeta Beta Tau	1918
Pi Lambda Phi	1919
Phi Delta Theta	_____
Kappa Nu	_____
Phi Pi Phi	1924
Tau Sigma Omicron	1925

Honorary

Phi Beta Kappa	General	1899	
Sigma Xi	Science	1903	
Order of Coif	Law	1911	
Alpha Omega Alpha	Medicine	1902	
Eta Sigma Phi	Classical	Local	
Gamma Alpha	Science	1908	
Alpha Sigma Delta	Commerce and Administration		Local
Phi Delta Kappa	Education- graduate.	1909	
Kappa Pi	Art	1925	

Professional

Gamma Eta Gamma	Law	1920	
Phi Alpha Delta	Law	1902	
Phi Delta Phi	Law	1903	
Wig and Robe	Law (Jewish)		
Delta Theta Phi	Law	1909	
Phi Alpha	Law (Jewish)		
Alpha Kappa Kappa	Medical	1901	
Nu Sigma Nu	Medical	1893	
Phi Beta Pi	Medical	1901	
Phi Chi	Medical	1905	
Phi Delta Epsilon	Medical	1918	
Phi Rho Sigma	Medical	1895	
Theta Kappa Psi	Medical		
Phi Lambda Kappa	Medical.	1912	

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

The School of Commerce and Administration

Office of the Dean

Mr. H. G. Wright
National Secretary
Delta Sigma Pi

My Dear Mr. Wright:

A group of students of the School of Commerce and Administration have organized within the School here at the University a Local Professional Commerce Fraternity. It has, I understand, applied to your organization for a charter.

This commerce fraternity has been approved as a legitimate student activity by the University Board of Student Organizations. The petition of the group for a charter of a national organization has the approval of the faculty of the School.

The young men who have signed the petition are all young men of fine character and good scholarship.

Yours sincerely

(Signed) W. H. Spencer

WHS:D

C O P Y

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

The School of Commerce and Administration

February 2, 1928

Mr. H. G. Wright
National Secretary
Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Wright

A group of graduate and undergraduate students of the School of Commerce and Administration of the University of Chicago have organized a club which, I understand, is petitioning for a charter as a chapter of Delta Sigma Pi.

I know personally most of the men who are members of this Club and I can, without hesitation, say that they represent the active, clear-thinking men of the school. There appears to be a place for such a Society in the activities of the School of Commerce and Administration and I believe that this Club of men would carry on such traditions as your Association has established.

If the group as now formed meets the requirements of the National Association of Delta Sigma Pi I believe you would do well to give their application serious consideration.

Sincerely yours

(Signed) C. R. Rorem

Assistant to the Dean

CRR:GS

C O P Y

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Office of the Recorder and Examiner

December 3, 1927

Mr. Robert B. Stevens
5621 Woodlawn Avenue
Chicago

My dear Mr. Stevens:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Student Organizations, at its meeting this morning, approved the application of The Professional Commerce Club, and this name has been added to the list of recognized student organizations.

Yours very truly

(Signed) Walter A. Payne
D

Recorder and Examiner

P.S.

May I have the names of your secretary and treasurer.

C O P Y

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
The School of Commerce and Administration

February 7, 1928

Mr. H. G. Wright
1485 Adams Franklin Building
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Wright

I am very glad to endorse the application which is being made by the C. & A. group at the University of Chicago for a charter of Delta Sigma Pi. I know a number of the men in the present organization and have attended some of the meetings which have been held. I am favorably impressed by the spirit and attitude of the members. In my opinion the University can adequately support a chapter and I hope that favorable action will be taken.

Sincerely and fraternally yours

(Signed) Lionel D. Edie

E:T

C O P Y

DISTRIBUTION OF PETITIONERS BY CLASSES AND AGE

<u>Age</u>	<u>Number</u>
19	1
20	3
21	2
22	4
23	7
24	4
26	1
27	2
28	2
	<hr/>
	26

<u>Class</u>	<u>Number</u>
Sophomore	2
Junior	10
Senior	10
Graduate	4
	<hr/>
	26

Faculty 1