

Dear fellow SigEp NH Alpha Alumni,

We are writing to inform you about the outcome of the membership review undertaken by SigEp National. Of the 102 undergraduate brothers in the house at the start of the review, 19 remain.

This process began with the National fraternity suspending every current member of the chapter. To remain in the brotherhood, each individual was required to submit a questionnaire (including his academic and disciplinary records) and sit for an interview conducted by a committee hand-selected by SigEp National. The Membership Review Committee consisted of a National representative, alumni from other chapters, and Sean Anthony '06.

With the conclusion of this review, SigEp NH Alpha **has lost its autonomy** and the chapter will now be overseen by an Alumni Advisory Council (AAC) put in place by National. The AAC will have complete control over bid offers and undergraduate officer positions, and it will have continued power to expel brothers from the fraternity. It appears that the AAC will be composed of individuals, some with no prior ties to Dartmouth, who agree with National's actions and the process that has unfolded to date.

In addition to the loss of autonomy, this process was highly objectionable for two main reasons.

- **Reason #1: Opaque and aggressive standards were used to remove active brothers:** 63 of 102 brothers applied for readmission, indicating their willingness to follow National's policies. Of the 63 brothers who applied for readmission, 44 were denied the ability to remain in the brotherhood.

Those denied include exemplary individuals without judicial records such as one brother who is an early Phi Beta Kappa inductee (3.99 GPA) and an active member of the Dartmouth community (Trips leader; member of club lacrosse, running, and Nordic ski teams; SigEp Academic chair), who has also shown dedication to community service (he previously worked as a Spanish medical translator at a free health clinic).

If these brothers did not meet National's standards for remaining in the house, then it is unlikely most of us alumni would have made the cut either.

- **Reason #2: Results reflect a startling decline in diversity:** This review has crafted a more homogeneous membership with very few members of minority and marginalized communities. While about 40% of the pool of applicants were non-white, they were invited to rejoin SigEp at **roughly half the rate of white applicants.**

Additional details on both of these objections, as well as additional biographies of brothers expelled by the review, can be found at the end of this letter.

We believe in a SigEp that promotes the values that we have always espoused – Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love – while also fostering the values of Dartmouth College such as diversity and inclusivity. We encourage you to join us as we work to protect SigEp NH Alpha's values and help our chapter continue to serve its brothers and the Dartmouth community. To do so, **please sign up** for membership in the chapter's own alumni governing body, the Alumni and Volunteer Corporation (AVC), by completing [this form](#)* and completing the \$25 payment, which will entitle you to voting rights on any question put to the Corporation's members. Future communications will outline next steps to protect our chapter and its values.

Best regards,

Zach Supalla '07, Recruitment
Craig Breslawski '08, CFO
Jon Simpson '08
Nick Weir '09, VP Programming
Eric Schwager '10, President

Alex Becker '10
Philip Burgin-Young '12, President
Ethan Weinberg '12, Risk Manager
Dan Rosengard '13, President
Sean Darrow '13, CFO

Joseph Yi '13
Henry MacQueen '14
Eli Darrow '15, President
Jon Xu '15, CFO

* <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScu2Dm6xevKnnpn2D3RNnkjLIZWFkSyv8Qg5FHSd10M2Wj3RNA/viewform>

Additional details on Reason #1: Opaque and aggressive standards were used to remove active brothers

63 brothers out of 102 applied for readmission. By applying to retain membership in the house, these brothers indicated their intent to follow National's policies. Those who chose not to apply are primarily either seniors who graduate in six weeks or did so on principle as a rejection of the overall process. The criteria and process that National used for this review remain opaque to us, but its results – and likely effects – are clear.

Of the 63 brothers who applied to remain part of SigEp, 19 were offered the chance to remain within the brotherhood. We are devastated by this outcome, particularly upon learning more about the individuals who were rejected from membership in the fraternity. These brothers are exemplary Dartmouth students with fantastic academic records who are leaders around campus. Examples include:

Exemplary individuals expelled by the membership review committee:

Individuals names have been anonymized to protect future career prospects that could be impacted from having been arbitrarily expelled from their fraternity before graduating.

Brother A '18

Brother A is a neuroscience major. He has a **3.99/4.00** cumulative GPA and has received **9 faculty citations for academic excellence** across 5 departments. Brother A was granted early inductance into Dartmouth's chapter of **Phi Beta Kappa** for holding one of the top 20 cumulative GPAs in his class. Brother A is also a member of **The Order of Omega and Gamma Sigma Alpha honor societies**, which recognize academic excellence and leadership in active members of Greek organizations, and he has been a **Rufus Choate Scholar** (top 5% of the class) for the past 3 years. Brother A moved into the SigEp chapter house the first term he was eligible and has served the chapter as an academic chair, dedicating time to organize brotherhood study spaces and tutor brothers in chemistry and neuroscience. Outside of SigEp, Brother A is an active member of the Dartmouth Outing Club's First Year Trips program, where he has served as a **Trip Leader and Lodj Croo member**. Throughout his time at Dartmouth, Brother A has been a member of the **club lacrosse team**, the **DOC club Nordic ski team**, and the club running team.

SigEp National decided that Brother A is not worthy of membership in SigEp.

Brother B '19

Brother B is a Neuroscience major with a **3.96/4.00** GPA. He is the recipient of the **Krehbiel Family Scholarship Award, the Rufus Choate Scholar Award, and the Presidential Scholar Award**. He has worked as a **Presidential Scholar Research Assistant** in a prominent psychology lab on campus, a **Biology tutor**, and a **snowboard instructor**. Brother B is also particularly passionate about volunteering, and has served as the **President of a mentoring group for Upper Valley high-schoolers with chronic illnesses**. Last summer, Brother B volunteered in the materials management department of an underfunded hospital in his home state. This term, he **is volunteering at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in the Patient Support Corps**. For medical reasons, Brother B cannot drink alcohol, and was looking for a well-rounded Greek Life experience where he could surround himself with fellow campus leaders. He chose SigEp.

SigEp National decided that Brother B is not worthy of membership in SigEp.

Brother C '19

Brother C is an Engineering Sciences and Economics double major. Brother C has a **3.93/4.00** cumulative GPA (**4.00 double major GPA**), has received the **Philip R. Jackson Engineering Sciences Prize**, and is a **Rufus Choate Scholar**. Brother C is currently conducting research on the use of plasmonic nanosensors for early pancreatic cancer detection and prognosis as a

James O. Freedman Presidential Scholar. On campus, Brother C is a **Co-President of the International Business Council**, a Midfielder on the **Dartmouth Men's Club Soccer Team** and a **Portfolio Manager in the Dartmouth Investment & Philanthropy Program (DIPP)**, responsible for overseeing a \$450,000 portfolio and philanthropic decisions.

SigEp National decided that Brother C is not worthy of membership in SigEp.

Brother D '19

Brother D is an Economics major, with minors in Human Centered Design and Anthropology. Brother D has a **3.92/4.00** cumulative GPA and was awarded the undergraduate **Dean's Emerging Leader Award** his Freshman year. Brother D moved into the SigEp chapter house the first term he was eligible and served the chapter in a variety of roles: he was serving as the full year **President** at the time of his expulsion in the membership review, and previously served as the **17X President** and full-year **House Manager**. Alongside newly the appointed chapter counselor (a Dartmouth staff member in the Wellness Center), this brother created a series of "Brotherhood Development Day" panels that take place each term and encourage brothers to think more deeply about their college experience, what healthy masculinity looks like, and how participation in Greek life can improve their college experience. Outside of SigEp, Brother D works as an **EMT for Dartmouth EMS** and is active in the Dartmouth Outing Club, where he has held a variety of leadership roles.

SigEp National decided that Brother D was not deserving of membership in SigEp.

Brother E '20

Brother E is a Government major, with a minor in Human Centered Design. Brother E has a **3.62/4.00** cumulative GPA and has received **two faculty citations for academic excellence**. Brother E is a sophomore and was looking forward to running for an ExComm position and living in the house for the summer. Outside of SigEp, Brother E is a researcher at the Nelson A. Rockefeller Center and works for a start-up. Brother E also **has his own non-profit organization** that supports children and families in poverty-stricken areas of Cambodia. He also recently became a member of the **Nelson A. Rockefeller's Management and Leadership Development Program**. This past summer, Brother E worked for a large nonprofit that provides affordable housing, where he raised over \$450,000 for the organization. Brother E is also an avid runner and is a member of the **Dartmouth Running Club** and the **Dartmouth Triathlon Team** and ran his first marathon this past December in Hawaii.

SigEp National decided that Brother E is not worthy of membership in SigEp.

Additional details on Reason #2: Results reflect a startling decline in diversity

Throughout this process SigEp National and cooperating alumni have overlooked a key element of the brotherhood – its diversity and inclusion. SigEp NH Alpha was once home for 102 brothers where many identified as minority, non-white, or multi-racial. This review has crafted a more homogeneous membership with very few of these members. The demographic composition of the new membership appears to be out of sync with the sense of access, diversity, and inclusion that SigEp and Dartmouth College have long valued.

We have two pieces of evidence to support this claim:

1. We analyzed the results of the membership review based on the demographics of the brothers who applied for membership. The pool of 63 applicants was composed of about 60% white brothers, who were granted readmission at a rate of **about 40%**. In contrast, non-white applicants were invited back to SigEp at less than half the rate of white brothers, at **under 20%**.
2. We also surveyed the brothers who participated in the membership review for demographic information. Of the 63 who took part, we received 36 responses, including 11 brothers who were offered readmission and 25 who were not. **Of the 11 survey responses from brothers offered readmission, only 3 (27%) identify as individuals of a marginalized identity (person of color, LGBTQ+, etc.). By contrast, of the 25 survey respondents who were rejected, 18 (72%) identify as individuals of a marginalized identity.**

This is extremely troubling.

Reducing the diversity of the brotherhood is in direct opposition to Dartmouth and SigEp NH Alpha's aim to foster inclusivity. We value including individuals of different races, ethnicities, sexual identities, religious views, and socioeconomic backgrounds. This diversity has enriched our own SigEp experiences, and we are distressed by the results of the membership review.