

YON CLARION BELL

MU CHAPTER OF DELTA KAPPA EPSILON AT COLGATE UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 1985

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SHOULD WE TAKE FURTHER ACTION?

THE EXECUTIVES OF YOUR ALUMNI CORPORATION, ALONG WITH OTHER ALUMNI WHO HAVE BECOME INVOLVED RECENTLY, HAVE UNANIMOUSLY CONCLUDED THAT THE DEKE UNDERGRADUATES HAVE BEEN TREATED IN AN ARBITRARY, DISCRIMINATORY AND UNFAIR MANNER BY THE UNIVERSITY.

AS A RESULT WE HAVE SOUGHT LEGAL COUNSEL CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE CAUSES OF ACTION WE MIGHT HAVE FLOWING FROM THE ACTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

HAVING NOW RECEIVED THAT LEGAL OPINION OUR PRELIMINARY VIEW IS TO PROCEED WITH AN ACTION OR ACTIONS AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY. HOWEVER, WE WILL NOT DO SO UNTIL WE HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECENT COURT PROCEEDINGS AT WHICH CERTAIN UNDERGRADUATES TRIED TO OBTAIN A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY'S SANCTION TO CLOSE THE DKE HOUSE. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL IN THAT ACTION.

WE INVITE YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

PHILIP J. WOLFENDEN, PRESIDENT, 416 665-5960(O), 416
827-7029(H)
ROBERT L. BLACKMORE, VICE PRESIDENT, 315 824-2452
PETER M. TODEBUSH, VICE PRESIDENT, 312 341-9057(O), 312
381-6028(H)
G. FRED COLVIN, SECRETARY-TREASURER, 313 284-2791

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF SANCTIONS

THE SANCTIONS ASSESSED BY THE UNIVERSITY REQUIRE THE PARTICULAR ATTENTION OF THE ALUMNI BECAUSE OF THEIR FINANCIAL RAMIFICATIONS.

EVEN WITH NO ONE LIVING IN THE HOUSE DURING THIS SPRING TERM 1985 \$34,500 WILL BE NEEDED TO COVER DEBT SERVICE, TAXES, INSURANCE, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS, ETC.

FOR THE '85-'86 SCHOOL YEAR (SEPTEMBER '85 - JUNE '86) WE WILL HAVE ONLY ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE MEN LIVING AND EATING IN THE HOUSE. SOPHOMORES NORMALLY ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT HALF OF OUR TENANTS, BUT WITH NO OPPORTUNITY TO PLEDGE A CLASS THIS YEAR, THERE WILL BE ONLY SENIORS AND JUNIORS. THIS WILL RESULT IN A NET SHORTFALL OF \$23,500 FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR '85-'86. ADD THE \$34,500 FOR THE CURRENT SPRING TERM AND YOU WILL SEE THAT IN ADDITION TO THE VERY PUNITIVE SANCTIONS ASSESSED BY THE UNIVERSITY THEY HAVE PENALIZED US A TOTAL OF \$58,000 FINANCIALLY.

WE CURRENTLY HAVE \$8,000 AVAILABLE FROM OUR LINE OF CREDIT AND \$7,000 IN OUR CHECKING ACCOUNT LEAVING A NET SHORTFALL OF \$43,000 BY THE END OF THE '85-'86 SCHOOL YEAR.

OBVIOUSLY WE NEED THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF OUR ALUMNI. PLEASE SEND TODAY YOUR TAX EXEMPT CONTRIBUTION PAYABLE TO THE MU OF DKE FOUNDATION, 2440 SEVENTEENTH STREET, WYANDOTTE, MI 48192.

SOME ALUMNI HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY INTEND TO SEND TO DKE, FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS, CONTRIBUTIONS THEY WOULD HAVE SENT TO THE UNIVERSITY. NORMALLY, WE DO SUPPLY THE UNIVERSITY LIVING AND DINING FACILITIES FOR AT LEAST FIFTY-FIVE MEN.

IF YOU INTEND TO WRITE TO PRESIDENT LANGDON AND/OR THE UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES ABOUT THE DEKE SANCTIONS YOU MIGHT REMIND THEM OF THE FINANCIAL PENALTY WHICH IT IS DOUBTED THEY EVEN CONSIDERED IN MAKING THEIR DECISION.



**Magna
International
Inc.**

Philip J. Wolfenden
Vice-President Human Resources and Labour Relations Counsel

January 15, 1985

Mr. George D. Langdon Jr., President
Colgate University
Hamilton, New York 13346

bcc: Fred Colvin

Dear President Langdon:

Re: Immediate Action Plan of the DKE Alumni Corporation and Undergraduates

We understand that a document containing certain preliminary findings of Dean Moynihan's investigation will be distributed to you, and in turn by you to the Board of Trustees at the meeting scheduled for Friday January 18, 1985. We would respectfully ask you to consider the following points while reviewing these preliminary findings and possible sanctions:

1. The university does not and cannot presently have the best evidence available on the incident with the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity House. As a result of 4 DKE members being charged with criminal offences, lawyers have advised them not to make any oral or written statements until after their court cases are concluded. We are satisfied that the DKE's who have been charged and other witnesses will fully cooperate with the university and its security staff following the conclusion of those cases.
2. As you are aware, the DKE Alumni Corporation officers have met with the Dean of Students and his staff to discuss these preliminary findings. We were also severely hampered in our ability to completely respond to the preliminary findings as a result of the above described circumstances. However, one thing is clear. There will be significant differences between those findings contained in the preliminary report which we reviewed with Dean Moynihan on Saturday January 12, 1985, and the statements of the DKE's who were directly involved in the situation.
3. We believe the appropriate course of conduct for the university to take is to await the outcome of the court hearings, then give the DKE members an opportunity to fully respond to the allegations against them, and only then to decide whether individuals should be taken before the judicial board and/or whether action should be taken against the House in all the circumstances. In any case, serious consideration should be given to the actions already taken by the DKE Alumni Corporation and the undergraduates.

Mr. George D. Langdon Jr.

January 15, 1985

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4. An important matter which has fuelled this situation is the very serious damage that has been inflicted on the DKE Temple on 3 occasions during this academic year. Desecration of this shrine is taken very seriously by both Alumni and undergraduates alike, and was a primary contributor to the unfortunate incidents described in the preliminary findings. In our continuing efforts to assist the university and its security staff, the DKE Alumni Corporation has posted a \$1,000.00 reward for information leading to the conviction of those individuals involved in damaging the Temple.

Unfortunately, such instances of damage have dramatically increased over the past few years, yet very little action has been taken by the Town or university to discover the culprits until recently. The most recent incident which the undergraduates believe was carried out by the Phi Delt's has yet to have been solved despite Mr. Holcomb's continuing efforts over the past 1 1/2 months. It is significant for you to note however, that on November 30th, 1984, an individual living in Phi Delt, who is not a Phi Delt member, made oral statements to the DKE undergraduates incriminating the Phi Delt's in the Temple painting incident. It is in this environment that the subsequent incidents took place.

THE DKE ACTION PLAN

The Alumni Corporation and the undergraduate leadership have moved swiftly since the beginning of December to deal with behaviour on the part of certain individual members of the House which we found unacceptable, and which could taint the role model reputation which DKE has enjoyed recently within the Colgate community.

1. The Alumni Corporation executives have been in constant contact with the undergraduate leadership since the beginning of December and additionally, have made 4 trips to Hamilton in a strong effort to provide guidance and support for the undergraduates during this difficult period.
2. The Alumni Corporation and undergraduates have placed a statement of policy and direction in the Colgate newspapers, a copy of which is attached. Basically this statement makes it clear that neither the Alumni Corporation nor the undergraduates will tolerate certain kinds of behaviour and that DKE wants to be a positive contributing factor in the Colgate community.

Mr. George D. Langdon Jr.

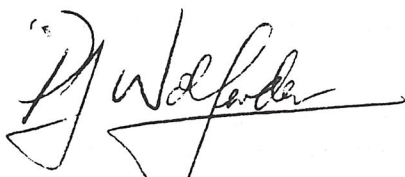
January 15, 1985

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3. A careful review of each and every individual undergraduate member was made with the intent of determining whether that individual should and would be permitted to continue living within our fraternity house which believes in the above-mentioned policy.
4. Following this review, 8 individuals were expelled from the DKE House. This means in addition to their not living in the facility they would not be permitted to participate in any of its activities. Depending on the results of our continuing investigations and other information which may be supplied by the university, further individuals may be expelled from the fraternity.
5. The rushing program has been significantly modified over that of 1984, most importantly with the implementation of formal rush nights which will put the emphasis on education and eliminate the use of alcoholic beverages.
6. A mature Colgate alumnus who is a DKE, has been hired by the Alumni Corporation and will move into the House at the commencement of the Spring semester. In addition to taking over responsibility for on-site management of the House and its finances, this individual will be our eyes and ears in Hamilton, New York.

Other action is being carefully considered at this time, but has been temporarily put on hold until we are more fully aware of what action, if any the university is considering. I encourage you to contact myself or any of the other Alumni Corporation executives should you wish any clarification of the above points.

Sincerely,



Philip J. Wolfenden
President
DKE Alumni Corporation

GORDON P. LOVELL
EDGEWATER ARMS APT. 10 C
3600 GALT OCEAN DRIVE
FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA. 33308

January 22, 1985

E. Garret Bewkes, Jr., President
University Corp.
Colgate University
Hamilton, NY 13346

Dear Garret:

I have learned that at the January 18, 1985 Colgate Trustees meeting, the Trustees approved an administration recommendation to severely penalize the Mu Chapter of DKE Fraternity.

While admittedly I do not know all the facts, I want you and the other trustees to know that I do not condone brawling and destruction of property. I feel that those who commit such acts should be punished. The actions approved by the Colgate Trustees leave me with the following feelings and reactions.

1. It was not a democratic action, accused were not represented in person. Innocent members of the fraternity, who had nothing to do with charges were penalized.

2. It, in effect, places the fraternity in severe financial straits by immediately wiping out all sources of revenue.

3. Ignore the destruction and desecration of Deke property that the University and Interfraternity Council have done nothing about for years, and which has grown progressively more serious and frequent in the last several years.

4. Reinforces the feeling that the Administration is Anti Greek. This feeling which I reported last summer has been denied by Pres. Langdon. Nevertheless, the feeling exists and can do more to destroy "The Spirit That Is Colgate" than anything since the difference of opinion over post season football. In the long run, may separate important alumni supporters.

5. Is a complete over-reaction to minority complaints and encouraged by those to whom DKE has been held up as a model. Administrative position was authored largely by the Dean of Students who has a reputation of being Anti-Greek and who chaired the Ad-hoc Committee which formulated the recently adopted and criticized rules covering Colgate Fraternities and Sororities.

6. Leaves approximately 25-40 Brothers returning to Hamilton from break with no acceptable place to live. I understand families are being advised 1/22/85 of the situation.

GORDON P. LOVELL
EDGEWATER ARMS APT. 10 C
3600 GALT OCEAN DRIVE
FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA. 33308

E. G. Bewkes, Jr.

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January 22, 1985

7. Student reaction could result in additional underground activity and destruction of property.

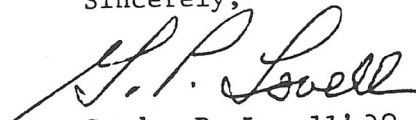
I am aware and have supported the interest that the DKE Trustees have devoted to improving the physical academic, moral and social environment of the fraternity. I also know that since the Fall of 1984, they have met many times with the Brothers and members of the College Administration. As a Deke Alumnus, I feel my association with Colgate Dekes did more for me in college and the business world than any other single college experience, thus my continuing interest in the Fraternity system at Colgate.

Feeling as I do and wishing to obtain as many facts as possible, I have asked the Trustees of DKE to furnish me their side of the situation and respectfully request the Trustees of Colgate to furnish me a copy of the premeeting material on this subject along with a copy of the minutes of the Jan. 18, 1985 Trustees meeting.

With this material, I will try to determine how active I wish to remain in the affairs of Colgate University. In the meanwhile I am adjusting my affairs to square one.

Will you be kind enough to see that the copies of this letter are distributed to the other Trustees whose addresses I do not have.

Sincerely,



Gordon P. Lovell '32

CC: Colgate Trustees
Mu of Delta Kappa Epsilon Trustees
George Langdon, President Colgate
Ronald Joyce, Director of Development
Scott Meiklejon, Director of Alumni Affairs
for distribution to officers and members
of the Alumni Corp.

C O P Y

JANUARY 21, 1985

PRESIDENT GEORGE LANGDON
COLGATE UNIVERSITY
HAMILTON, NY 13346

DEAR PRESIDENT LANGDON:

I WRITE YOU CONCERNING THE RECENT SANCTIONS IMPOSED UPON THE DELTA KAPPA EPSILON FRATERNITY AND UPON ITS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS.

I DO NOT AND CANNOT IN ANY WAY DEFEND OR CONDONE THE INCIDENTS WHICH INCURRED THE NECESSITY OF ACTION TO DISCIPLINE THE DKE FRATERNITY. I SIMPLY WISH TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL AMAZEMENT AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE POLITICAL AND UNPROFESSIONAL MANNER IN WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION OF COLGATE UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN AND IS HANDLING THE SITUATION.

ALTHOUGH THERE IS ABUNDANT EVIDENCE OF SLOPPINESS, INDECISION AND INCOMPETENCE, I, AS A SERIOUS STUDENT MAJORING IN HISTORY AND ENGLISH, WORKING ARDENTLY TO GET INTO A RESPECTABLE LAW SCHOOL AND PURSUING A CAREER(AND DOING VERY WELL AT COLGATE), AM TERRIBLY CONFUSED AND DISILLUSIONED BY THE LATE JANUARY DECISION TO MOVE ALL ALL THE INDIVIDUALS OUT OF THE DELTA KAPPA EPSILON FRATERNITY IN TEN DAYS, JUST BEFORE THE IMPORTANT SPRING SEMESTER.

I REALIZE THAT WHAT OCCURRED BETWEEN PHI DELTA THETA AND DKE MUST BE LOOKED UPON WITH MANIFEST CONCERN AND THAT PUNISHMENT TO THE HOUSES AND INDIVIDUALS WILL TAKE PLACE. BUT, MR. LANGDON, HOW CAN YOU REMOVE US FROM OUR HOUSE WITH SUCH LIMITED TIME UNTIL THE SPRING TO FIND HOUSING AND NOT PROVIDE US WITH ADEQUATE HOUSING FROM COLGATE. FURTHERMORE, THE ABSURD LATENESS OF THE DECISION DOES NOT LEAVE THE ALTERNATIVE OF ATTENDING ANOTHER UNIVERSITY FOR THE SPRING OF 1985, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, I'VE CHECKED! ALSO, I AM ATTEMPTING TO COMPLETE A LONG HISTORY PAPER AND SEMINAR PRESENTATION FOR A PROFESSOR, TRYING TO LOCATE HOUSING IN OR EVEN AROUND HAMILTON(THERE IS PRESENTLY LITTLE OR NONE AFFORDABLE TO STUDENTS), AND NOW MUST CANCEL INTERVIEWS AND NEGATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIPS IN NEW YORK CITY.

IS THIS FAIR? IS THIS JUSTICE AND EDUCATION FOR A STUDENT WHO HAS DONE DEDICATED WORK, MADE THE DEAN'S LIST, AND HAPPENED TO LIVE IN THE DKE FRATERNITY HOUSE BUT WAS IN NO WAY SHAPE OR FORM INVOLVED IN ANY INCIDENTS THIS, OR ANY OTHER SEMESTER, TO BE PULLED OUT OF A SINGLE ROOM AND FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, ACADEMICALLY, MENTALLY AND CAREER-WISE HARASSED? IF YOU CAN JUSTIFY THIS AS FAIR PUNISHMENT, YOU HAVE SERIOUSLY DISILLUSIONED ME WITH COLGATE.

I LOVE COLGATE AND WISH TO REMAIN AND GRADUATE PROUDLY AND TO PURSUE A SUCCESSFUL CAREER. BUT THIS MALICIOUS SANCTION SERIOUSLY ALIENATES ME FROM COLGATE. I REALIZE DISCIPLINE IS IN ORDER, BUT CAN'T IT BE CONSTRUCTIVE: AIMING AT BETTERING PEOPLE, INSTITUTIONS AND THE ATMOSPHERE HERE IN HAMILTON RATHER THAN SCARRING ACADEMICS, CAREERS, COLLEGE EXPERIENCES AND ALIENATING AND HARASSING THOSE WHO SERIOUSLY CARE ABOUT THEIR LIVES AND THEIR CURRENT TANGENCY WITH COLGATE UNIVERSITY?

I HOPE I HAVE MADE SOME HONEST SENSE AND POINTED OUT SOME CONSTRUCTIVE CONSIDERATIONS. I AM VERY SINCERE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION

SINCERELY,

ERNEST Z. BOWER, IV '87