



# University of Pittsburgh

*Division of Student Affairs  
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Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life*

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the work of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity in re-opening its Pi Sigma Chapter at the University of Pittsburgh. The Spring 2017 expansion was the last of four fraternity expansions strategically invited to commence at the University of Pittsburgh. Throughout my tenure as Coordinator of Fraternity & Sorority Life, I have seen six expansions and three reinstatements of both fraternities and sororities. The Pi Sigma expansion, however, stands unparalleled in terms of collegial partnership.

It was obvious from the onset of the expansion that Phi Gamma Delta was concerned about the longevity of its own chapter, as well as the appropriate "fit" for the University of Pittsburgh. The Headquarters staff members were very personable, and took the time to assess the campus climate. Using pre-site visits and consistent communication with me, Phi Gamma Delta adapted to Pitt—rather than expecting our campus to adapt to them.

The Fraternity provided two extremely professional Field Secretaries to lead the expansion. These young men were personable, receptive to feedback, and connected well with the undergraduate students. They invested in the Pitt experience by purchasing Pitt clothing, attending sporting events, and dressed appropriately when meeting potential student members and distinguished university staff and faculty.

They attracted unaffiliated student organization leaders, resident assistants, athletes, and men involved with ROTC. The colony is as diverse and eclectic as the national organization, and for that, the expansion team should be proud.

Phi Gamma Delta goes the extra mile to connect with Graduate Brothers in the area of its chapters and colonies, and a campus-based professional can always feel comfortable knowing that he or she will be supported by the headquarters when necessary.

The current men of the colony have already started planning and executing philanthropy, brotherhood, social, and service events. Most importantly, the students are *happy*. Phi Gamma Delta provided them with a space that makes this large campus seem more personal. For that, I am truly thankful.

As to Pi Sigma's success, posterity will be its only judge; yet, I possess a feeling of confidence knowing that Phi Gamma Delta's legacy is built on timeless tradition and intentional personal development.

I am confident that Phi Gamma Delta's expansion process is viewed just as positively at other campuses; however, should I be able to speak further on any of the aforementioned experiences, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to expand on these cheers and praises.

Interfraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew R. Richardson".

Matthew R. Richardson, Ed.D.  
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