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Tri Delta Closes Penn State Chapter

December 4, 2009 – ARLINGTON, TEXAS – In early November, Delta Delta Delta (Tri Delta) was alerted to alleged hazing and risk management violations involving the Alpha Phi chapter of Tri Delta at Penn State. Tri Delta’s Executive Board placed the chapter on immediate investigative probation on November 5, 2009. Upon confirming that members of the chapter participated in behavior that violated the Penn State Code of Conduct and Tri Delta Policy, Tri Delta’s Executive Board swiftly voted to withdraw the charter of its Alpha Phi chapter, effective December 4, 2009.

“We absolutely will not tolerate a chapter culture that includes hazing and risky behavior, and would rather have no chapter at a university than a chapter that doesn’t believe in and uphold our values,” said Jackye Clark, fraternity president of Delta Delta Delta. “While our board made this decision with a heavy heart, especially given the 62-year history of this chapter on the Penn State campus, we are confident that this is the right course of action to protect the members themselves and the standards of our organization overall.”

Clark continued, “The Executive Board appreciates the many accomplished alumnae from this chapter and their contributions since the chapter’s founding in 1947. We have high hopes that we will be able to return to Penn State in the future to re-open a chapter with a foundation centered on the high ideals and standards that Tri Delta has come to be known for across North America.”

Tri Delta’s first priority is to safeguard the health and well-being of all its members while ensuring that members have a meaningful and values-based sorority experience. If a chapter at any time demonstrates that it is unable or unwilling to uphold the values or policies of Tri Delta, the organization can and will intervene.

Tri Delta members of the chapter who have violated Tri Delta’s Obligations of Membership will be held accountable via individual sanctions, which may include permanent removal from

membership. Active members in good standing will have the opportunity to continue membership as an unaffiliated collegiate member of Tri Delta. New members who have not been initiated will be released from their membership in Tri Delta and National Panhellenic Conference policies allow them to join another sorority if they so choose.

About Tri Delta

Having initiated more than 200,000 women since its founding in 1888, Tri Delta is a leader among social Greek organizations through its passion for progress and visionary thinking. Through partnerships with nationally recognized organizations like St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, award-winning publications like The Trident, and innovative collegiate and alumnae initiatives, Tri Delta is committed to leveraging our timeless values to revitalize the sorority experience. For more information, please visit www.tridelta.org or call 817-633-8001.

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