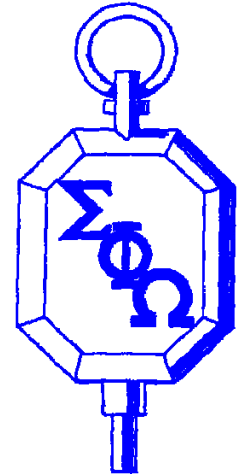


## Sigma Phi Omega Delta Gamma Chapter

### Fall 2007 Newsletter

#### Spring – Fall 2007 Recap

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The Delta Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Omega at UNC-Greensboro was privileged to welcome hundreds of aging professionals and students to the second annual UNCG Aging is Good Business Summit on April 11, 2007. This year's summit focused on "Innovative Choices for Residential Living Styles of Boomers Coming of Age" and SPO members contributed to the day's success by helping with registration, table decorations, vendor set-up and acting as hosts.

The Summit geared SPO volunteers up for an action-packed three days assisting at the Southern Gerontology Society's 27<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, "Improving Elders' Lives: A Collaborative Enterprise," held at the Downtown Marriott in Greensboro April 11-14, 2007. SPO members did everything from set-up and helping with local arrangements to facilitating a SPO student roundtable discussion, hosting a student reception, participating in poster session and helping on clean up.

The Gamma Delta Chapter closed 2006-07 at the Greensboro Memory Walk benefiting the Alzheimer's Association on June 2, 2007. SPO team members donned new UNCG Gerontology t-shirts and enjoyed walking the downtown Greensboro route for a good cause!

Fall 2007 SPO proceedings began in early August after the UNCG Gerontology Program's annual orientation. New officers were elected for 2007-08: Catharine Sutherland, President; Christine Shaffer, President-Elect; Margaret Rakestraw, Secretary; and Burgin Ross and Mike Morris, Publicity Coordinators.

During the Fall semester, Gamma Delta SPO members have gathered to learn about "The Practicalities of Practicums" at UNCG on September 7 and "Conference Planning 101" at the Green Bean Coffee House on October 17. The chapter will invite gerontology students and faculty to end the semester with them at "Aging on Tap," a casual brainstorming session to develop future SPO projects at Backstreets Tavern on November 7.

#### Spring 2008 events are planned with dates TBA:

- **"The Truth About Aging: A Hands-On Experience"**

Spring 2008 \* Details TBA \* Greensboro

UNCG students and members of the Triad community are invited to attend an aging sensitivity training conducted by Dean Burgess, director of the Northwest Piedmont Triad Area Agency on Aging.

Participants will experience firsthand some of the potential physical challenges of aging (such as changes in finger dexterity, vision, and hearing); will consider the importance of age-friendly environments; and will

discuss societal issues related to growing older including stereotypes, ageism in and out of the workplace, and the demographic statistics of aging in our region.

- **Careers in Aging Week**

April 13 – 19, 2008 \* UNCG EUC & UNCG Library \*

The Gamma Delta Chapter of SPO will create an innovative “Careers in Aging Week” display in the UNCG Library to educate students, professors, and the campus community about the wide range of professional opportunities available in the rapidly growing field of aging. SPO members will also sponsor a table in the Elliot University Center at certain times during the week to provide information (and candy ☺) and talk with students about aging career prospects.

- **Aging is Good Business Summit: Silver Technologies**

Wednesday, April 9, 2008 \* Cone Ballroom, EUC, UNCG

SPO Gamma Delta members will joyfully contribute their talents and expertise on the day of UNCG's third annual “Aging is Good Business Summit” to make sure the event is another resounding success! SPO efforts in years past have included everything from helping at the registration table to artfully arranging floral centerpieces to assisting vendors setting up their booths. The yearly Summit provides an excellent opportunity for SPO members and all gerontology students to volunteer in their field of interest; engage in professional networking; and take advantage of a full day of enriching presentations by national leaders in the world of aging research and practice.

- **2008 Memory Walk**

Date, Time, & Location TBA

All SPO members and UNCG gerontology students are encouraged to lace up their walking shoes and join the team for the annual Memory Walk! In addition to boosting awareness of rising numbers of adults and family caregivers facing the challenge of Alzheimers' disease worldwide, the event raises money and support for the Alzheimers' Association. SPO members will walk as a team wearing official UNCG Gerontology t-shirts.

- **2008 Older Adult Driver Education co-sponsored with AARP** Date, Time, & Location TBA