The ladies of the Zeta Rho Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma had another amazing semester Check out what we have been up to this fall!
The Zeta Rho Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma is proud to present this semester’s chapter newsletter. We hope that this will keep our alumnae, family, and friends updated with the accomplishments of our chapter and the sisters who make us such a remarkable group of young women. This has become a valuable tradition of communication and celebration of the ladies of Zeta Rho and those who support us as sisters of Kappa Kappa Gamma at Colgate University.
Wow, the semester flew by; I cannot believe that the Fall 2014 semester is already over! It was truly a great one. On September 14, we welcomed 66 wonderful new women into Zeta Rho and have had a blast getting to know them. I can already see the positive impact that this new class has made on our sisterhood and look forward to witnessing future contributions. While we certainly focused on integrating our new sisters into the chapter, Zeta Rho still found time to give back and involve ourselves in the community. In late September, we co-sponsored the Make a Wish 5K on campus to raise money for the Make a Wish Foundation. On October 21, Zeta Rho donated a copy of *Bunny Cakes* to each student in two local Head Start classrooms in honor of Read for the Record. We also held a brunch during Parent’s Weekend to show off our home and our amazing chef Jehn’s talents! In November, we hosted a delightful Professor’s Tea at our house to engage with Colgate faculty outside the classroom. Zeta Rho sisters laced up their sneakers and headed outside into the snow to play some Kappa Kickball. While we hoped for better weather during this event, we were still able to raise over $700 for Breast Cancer Awareness! Kappa sisters lead the Make a Wish, Head Start, and Breast Cancer Awareness on-campus student groups and Zeta Rho was honored to support all of their positive endeavors. We were also fortunate enough to sponsor a Rose McGill Holiday Drive for a Kappa sister named Pat. Participating in this program reminded us of the enduring bonds of sisterhood and we hope to make this an annual endeavor!

This wonderful Fall 2014 semester was truly a chapter-wide effort and every member contributes to Zeta Rho’s success. I would like to thank all of our Chapter Advisors for all of the support that they provided. Naomi, Kylie, Michelle, Andrea, and Liane – you are all amazing! In addition, I want to recognize all of the hard work that our fabulous Chapter Council put in to keep Zeta Rho running smoothly. I am still in shock that my time as Chapter President is coming to a close and am extremely grateful for the opportunity to lead a chapter as special as Zeta Rho. I know that wonderful things lie ahead for Zeta Rho and look forward to witnessing them in action!

Loyally,

Katharine
The fall semester was a very successful one regarding Zeta Rho’s commitment to academic excellence. On average, Kappa Kappa Gamma had an impressive GPA of 3.45, well above the university and all-Greek average! In November, Zeta Rho hosted its biannual Professor’s Tea meant to foster relations with Colgate faculty. Over 25 professors stopped by for an afternoon of tea and good company, as the ladies of Zeta Rho were lighted for their academic success and community involvement.

For the first time, the chapter also elected a six-woman committee for the upcoming academic year to further promote academic excellence throughout our chapter. We have high expectations for the next semester and know Zeta Rho will continue its streak of academic excellence.
This past semester was an exciting one for the Zeta Rho chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma. We accomplished many of our philanthropy goals and reached out in new ways to the community. We held our annual Kappa Kickball tournament, with the funds we raised this year going towards Breast Cancer awareness. This is a cause that is close to our hearts as several of our sisters have been affected in some way by the devastating illness. We also decided to co-sponsor the event with the brothers of Theta Chi as this cause was close to their hearts as well. Despite the snowy day, our sisters came out in support of the cause and played some great games of kickball and bundled up while drinking some hot chocolate! To raise money for Reading is Fundamental and the Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation, we paired with our local boutique Steph, and 10% of the proceeds of all merchandise that Kappas bought for several days went towards these two causes. The third highlight of our fall semester was the book drive we held for both Reading is Fundamental and Liberty Kids. Literacy is imperative to the future of our nation, and Zeta Rho as a chapter is passionate about the cause. We have many goals for our future, and the most pressing is a desire to contribute more directly to the Hamilton community. We have begun to create ties with local causes and organizations apart from Colgate, and are excited about the development of a future relationship with the members of the Hamilton community at large.
One of the best parts of our sisterhood is our worldwide connection. Many of our sisters travel abroad during their junior year. Although we miss them terribly when they are away, the experiences and stories they share are amazing. Zeta Rho’s global perspective is something that makes our chapter unique.

Here are some of the places our sisters traveled to this past semester!

**Barcelona, Spain:** Melanie Silverman

**Cape Town, South Africa:** Hannah Jones, Molly McKennan

**Copenhagen, Denmark:** Molly Fox

**Havana, Cuba:** Natalie Carpenter

**Dublin, Ireland:** Mackenzie Burr, Rachel Neuman

**Edinburgh, Scotland:** Jen Shelton

**Florence, Italy:** Kayce D’Onofrio, Mackenzie Hargrave, Olivia Zucosky

**Istanbul, Turkey:** Natalie Fine

**London, England:** Cara Catalane, Victoria Gullen, Madison McClure

**Madrid, Spain:** Sharlene Disla, Ariana Martin

**Paris, France:** Grace Berkery

**Rome, Italy:** Breanna Giovannelli, Caroline Errico

**Sydney, Australia:** Natalie Abrams

**Vienna, Austria:** Annie Schein, Hannah Loiacono
I was lucky enough to spend my Fall 2014 semester as an exchange student at the University of Havana in Havana, Cuba. I was pretty ignorant about the island nation before I arrived there, and initially I was held back by fears of such a dramatic lifestyle change, but I just knew there was something special for me to experience in Cuba.

I’m so glad that I took the risk. My program was small, only three students, and we shared a home with a different program of an additional four Americans. Our house was much more comfortable than I had imagined, and it was owned by an incredible family. Even though I wasn’t living in a home stay and they weren’t technically my host family, I became so close to them and they had a positive influence on my experience.

The best word to describe Havana’s appearance is crumbling. Buildings, streets, and sidewalks; things are constantly falling apart. But this doesn’t have any effect on the city’s energy. I think this is because the majority of the citizens have never known anything different. The Caribbean weather is (almost) always pleasant, music is always blasting from someplace, and people always seem to just be enjoying themselves.

My experience at the University was a huge cultural shock. Professors may or may not show up for class that day, the class time might get changed, and don’t even get me started on the headache of trying to find the necessary textbooks! Despite their often confusingly laid-back approach, my professors were all so nice and were excited about the opportunity to teach an American student. I learned about Cuban history, literature, and philosophy.

The most amazing part of my semester was the culmination. On December 17, 2014, President Barrack Obama and President Raul Castro took historic steps to normalize relations between their nations. I heard a rumor that Castro was going to make an announcement that day, but never expected it to be such an important one. I sat down in front of the TV with a fellow American and the father of our family as President Castro delivered the news to Cuba.

Now that Cuba is more accessible to Americans, I hope the island will be easier to understand. It is a unique place with a lot to offer and I had a great experience studying abroad there!
This semester Kappa worked very hard to regulate water and energy consumption, and reduce waste by composting and recycling. Through this effort, the members of the sorority became educated on the proper foods to throw in the “Kappa Kompost,” the different types of plastics that can be recycled in Madison County, and lastly, the benefits of unplugging electronics when they are not in use. Zeta Rho used this knowledge and put it into practice during the Broad Street Challenge, and energy and waste reduction competition, in October and November.

Additionally, we worked hard to reduce the consumption of white paper coffee cups through the use of sustainable, reusable coffee mugs. Lessening the use of paper cups proved to be challenging, rewarding. For example, one chilly afternoon, Katie Fell, a Zeta Rho senior, went to the Kappa kitchen to make tea before her Swinging Gates a capella rehearsal. Instead of taking the easy way out and using a paper cup, cardboard sleeve, and plastic top to house her tea, she made the quick trip home to retrieve her reusable mug. This action set the precedent for the rest of the members in the sorority.

Moreover, we participated in Meatless Mondays throughout the semester and will be reinstating this venture in the Spring Semester with Meat-Free Fridays. Many members were particularly driven to continue with the reduction of meat from our menu after learning that it takes 468 gallons of water to make one pound of chicken and only 216 gallons of water to make one pound of soybeans. Jehn, our amazing chef, works very hard to compost pre-consumer foods and to recycle plastic, cardboard, and metal containers. Jehn also prepares innovative, healthy, and environmentally friendly meals.

We are all looking forward to continuing our sustainable practices in this coming semester and hope to work on more environmentally friendly projects as well!
SOCCER

The 2014 Women’s Soccer Program had a very successful fall season. Zeta Rho’s very own Lauren D’Amico, Caroline Parsons, Morgan Davis, and Ginny Whitman were crucial members of the team. The biggest contributing factors were the strong team dynamic and leadership that took place on and off the field by the dedicated senior class. Every team member brought something unique to the field and worked hard for each other, knowing it would be reciprocated. The team mentality throughout the season was to focus on team strengths and implement its dominant style of play upon opponents.

The team ended with a final record of 14-3-2, with a Patriot League record of 7-1-1. Highlights of the season include a huge win over in-state rival Syracuse and two comeback victories against Cornell and Holy Cross. At the end of the regular season conference play, Colgate clinched the top spot and hosted the Patriot League Tournament. The team suffered a devastating loss to second-ranked Boston University in the finals. High hopes remained, as Colgate’s RPI rankings could have allotted an at-large bid to compete in the NCAA tournament. The team watched the NCAA Tournament Selection Show eagerly awaiting “Colgate” to appear in the bracket. Unfortunately, Colgate did not earn a spot in the tournament – the highest ranked team in NCAA history ever to not receive a bid. Though disappointed in the committee’s decision, the young team will use this as motivation to train even harder this spring and into the fall to prove that it is deserving of the Patriot League Championship.

FIELD HOCKEY

The 2014-2015 field hockey team offered Kappa seven new members this past fall. The team was led by five Kappa seniors and two juniors – all of whom held impactful starting positions. The Lady Raiders led the Patriot League for the first half of the season, going undefeated in their first three league games after a huge 1-0 upset over Lafayette. The last time the team had beat Lafayette was in 2005 so this win gave them the momentum to push through to Patriot League tournament. There they went up against the number one seed, Bucknell. Although the team left empty handed the team had never been such a tight knit group. Having arrived weeks early to train and prepare for the season, the girls participated in the Outdoor Education ropes course for an afternoon of team building experience. The team continues their hard work and training to prepare for the Fall 2015 season throughout this spring.

CONFERENCE AWARDS (Field Hockey)

First Team All-Patriot League – Eliana Brown
Second Team All-Patriot League – Amanda DiDomizio and Rebecca Libutti

(Patriot League Championship Recognition)
All-Tournament Team – Amanda DiDomizio and Rebecca Libutti
Our fall semester has been full of great events and memories! We hope you have enjoyed our Fall 2014 newsletter! We look forward to reporting more updates and newsletters next semester!

Loyally,

Zeta Rho, KKG

Want to hear more about the Zeta Rho Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma?

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