

Alpha Lambda Delta Chapter Update



March 2010

Spring is here! You might not know when you're out and about and see the parades of parkas, feel the whipping wind, or hear the freezing forecasts, but we know it here in Macon, Georgia - new membership orders are rolling in, and it's becoming more and more evident that our chapters are getting ready for an amazing spring initiation season!

In this update, you'll find information about the Alpha and Delta awards, and ensuring your chapter's eligibility; some quick FYI's about our initiation ceremony; some very important information regarding the Trow Scholarships and the new Stemler Study Abroad Scholarships; and even more reason for your chapter to apply for the 2010 Order of the Torch Awards!

FYI & FAQ:

Initiations

It's not only one of the most important programs an Alpha Lambda Delta chapter can host during the year, it's also one of the most visible. Here are three of our most Frequently-asked questions regarding the ALD initiation:

The Ritual includes an announcement of the number of active chapters of ALD - how many are there?

There are currently 261 active chapters of Alpha Lambda Delta.

The Ritual has speaking parts for two advisors - but we only have one advisor! What do I do?

When there's only one advisor, the advisor reads both parts. If you're short an officer, the chapter president can "pinch-hit" as needed.

If we do this by the book, it's going to take us three hours to get through the ceremony - can we make a few changes?

*Absolutely! The important thing is that the ceremony remain both engaging and meaningful - make it a ceremony that works for **your** campus!*

Stay in the running: *Just a few simple steps can help ensure that your chapter is eligible for all chapter awards*

Each year, National ALD is proud to announce the winners of the Alpha and Delta Membership Awards. We're also proud to announce the winners of the annual Order of the Torch Award (see p. 3). In order for us to evaluate each chapter's membership and determine the winners of these prestigious awards, however, we need a little help from you!

The annual Alpha and Delta Membership Awards are presented to chapters based on their yield (percentage of invited members who accept membership) and on their increase in membership, respectively. Both awards are presented at three levels: Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

As a quick reminder, the Alpha Awards are presented to chapters whose yield is 70 (bronze), 80 (silver), or 90% (gold). The Delta Awards are presented for membership increases of 10 (bronze), 25 (silver), or 50% (gold).

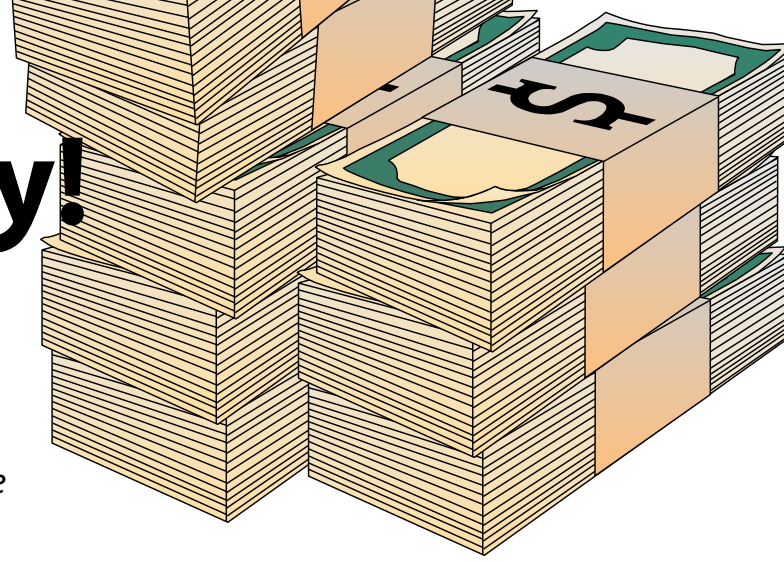
In order to be considered for the Alpha and Delta Membership Awards, you must report the actual number of students invited to join the Society when you order your membership certificates.

The easiest way to ensure that your chapter is reporting this information is to use the online Membership Order Form (<http://www.nationalald.org/ALD2005/memorder.htm>). This form **requires** you to input the number of invited students before you're allowed to submit the form - so it's easy to remember to do so!

Additionally, it is **vital** that your chapter file an annual report **by May 1**. The form only takes a few moments to complete and is always available online at <http://www.nationalald.org/ALD2005/annrep.htm>. This isn't just National ALD asking for info - it's a federal tax requirement. The form really only takes a few minutes to fill out and is **absolutely necessary** - without that information, we cannot file your chapter's tax forms, and your chapter will be contacted by and required to file additional paperwork by the IRS.

Chapters that do not file their annual reports by the May 1 deadline will not be considered for Chapter Membership Awards or the Order of the Torch. It only takes a few minutes to provide us with this information and keep in the running for the recognition your chapter deserves!

Big Money!



*Between the Jo Anne J. Trow Scholarships and the new James G. Stemler Study Abroad Scholarships, National ALD has **\$65,000** ready to go out to our outstanding members - make sure your students are part of the competition!*

Each year, National ALD is proud to announce the winners of the Jo Anne J. Trow Undergraduate Scholarships. The students who receive these prestigious awards don't just get \$1,000-\$3,000 in direct financial aid, they get the recognition as being one of the top students in an organization composed entirely of top students!

This year, we'll be especially proud to announce the winners of the first-ever James G. Stemler Study Abroad Scholarships, and to start doing our part to help tomorrow's students become better citizens of not just these United States, but also the world at large.

In 2010, ALD will be awarding 35 Trow Scholarships of \$1,000-\$3,000 to outstanding ALD sophomores, with the monies provided to offset the cost of their junior year of study.

The James G. Stemler Study Abroad Scholarships will take the form of ten

\$1,000 awards, to be presented to Alpha Lambda Delta undergraduate members inducted before January 1, 2010. The award money must be used to offset the expense of a credit-earning study abroad program with an accredited, US-based institution.

These two scholarship programs can be incredibly valuable to your chap-

ter's members. Please take just a few moments to look over the important guidelines below, and encourage your members to apply today!

Applications are available for download at:

<http://www.nationalald.org/documents.htm>

IMPORTANT!

- All applications must be **postmarked** to the National Office by **April 1**.
- Chapter deadlines should be set to allow time for reviewing the applications and posting the applications to the Nat'l Office by the April 1 deadline.
- **All applications must be reviewed by the local chapter**, and must be accompanied by a letter of endorsement from the chapter.
- Applications sent in by individuals without a chapter's endorsement **will not be considered**.

How many can we send?

This is one of the most commonly-asked questions regarding the Trow Scholarship program: How many applicants may each chapter submit to the national competition? The criteria are identical for both the Trow and Stemler Scholarship programs, and are based on the **total number of new initiates installed by your chapter in the previous academic year**.

1-150 new members:

1 applicant
per program

151-300 new members:

2 applicants
per program

301+ new members:

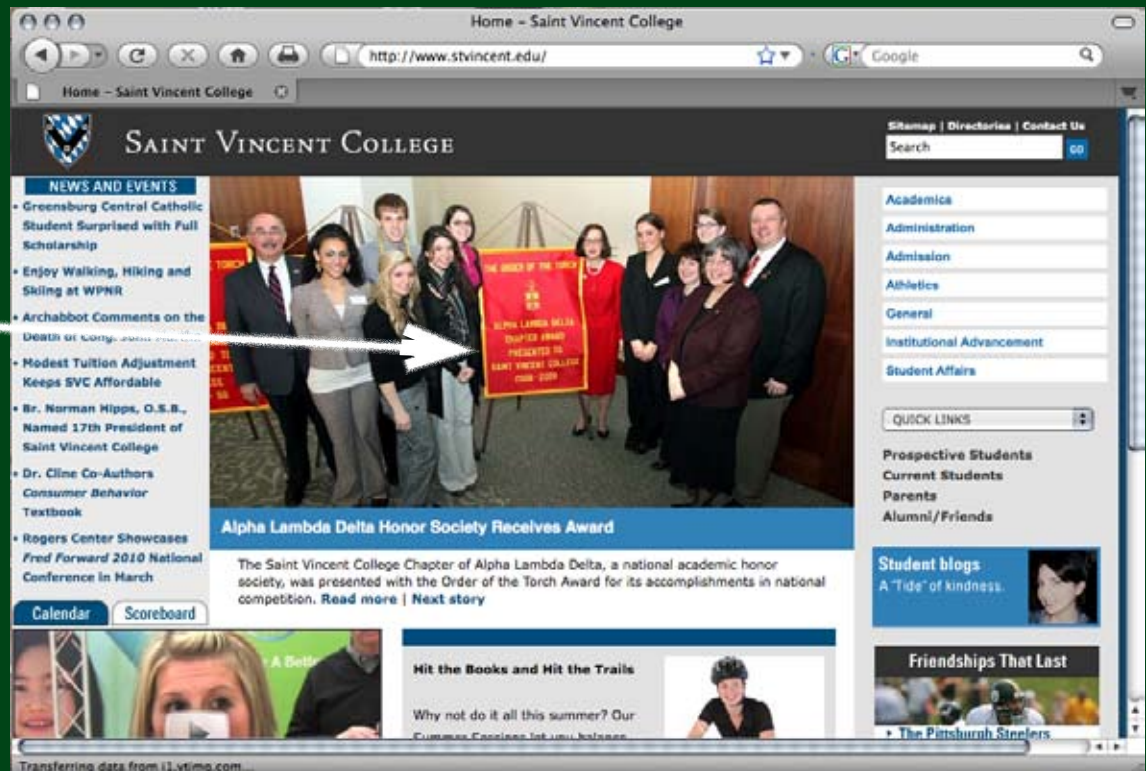
3 applicants
per program

All chapter advisors will receive an e-mail on March 1 confirming the number of applicants the chapter may submit.

The Order of the Torch:

This could be YOUR chapter!

The St. Vincent College chapter (at right) was a recipient of the Order of the Torch award in 2010 - and the school was so proud, they put the chapter's win on the front page of the school's website!



Recognition of success is the basic tenet of Alpha Lambda Delta's mission - recognizing those students who have excelled in their first year of collegiate study. Recognition is something we all crave and something we all appreciate. It's the driving force behind Alpha Lambda Delta, and - for the over 260 chapters of ALD nationwide, it's absolutely vital.

Being recognized on campus is important for an Alpha Lambda Delta chapter: students who recognize the organization are more likely to join when they receive an invitation, administrators are more likely to help out with events and programs when they recognize the group and its accomplishments - and everyone in the chapter feels a rush of pride when the chapter as a whole is acknowledged as one of the best in the nation.

The Order of the Torch is ALD's annual award for the top chapters in the nation. Each year, up to five chapters are selected for this prestigious award based on their members' involvement, the quality of their programming and service to the campus, the communication within the chapter, and the overall quality of the presentation.

To apply, chapters submit a scrapbook which contains photos, letters, programs, handouts, e-mail printouts, or any other documents that showcase the chapter's successes in all of the above areas. These scrapbooks are reviewed by a committee of the National Council, and the five winners are selected and approved by the Council as a whole. Each of the winning chapters then arranges for an award ceremony - and a representative from National ALD attends each ceremony!

Winning the Order of the Torch is a great way to get your chapter recognized - both on the national stage and in the local campus community. What better way to show the students, faculty, and staff of your school that your chapter is helping the campus than by accepting an award that acknowledges your chapter is one of the best in the nation?

If you're interested in applying for the Order of the Torch, prepare your chapter's scrapbook - and make one color copy. Mail both the scrapbook and the copy to National ALD (address below) and accept your place as one of the best amongst all of the best!

To apply, prepare your scrapbook and a full-color copy, and mail them to:

*Alpha Lambda Delta
328 Orange Street
Macon, GA 31201*

*Applications must be RECEIVED
in Macon by*

May 1