Becoming Alpha Phi: The New sorority on Campus

Rush is an essential part of many freshmen first year experience yet only 41% of the female student body are members of greek life. Nearly two years ago many students showed mixed feelings about the announcement for an additional two sororities to colonize at Ole Miss due to the growing popularity. Out of Alpha Gamma Delta, Delta Zeta, Alpha Phi and Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Delta Pi and Alpha Phi were chosen by Greek life delegates and advisors. Founded in 1872 at Syracuse University, Alpha Phi has nearly 170 collegiate chapters in the United States and over 222,000 members.

 A year after Alpha Delta Pi shared their sisterhood with Ole Miss with many great successes, Alpha Phi would begin their own journey with around 700 girls taking interest in becoming a founding sister. Courtney Pflug, a fourth year student, explained her experience in becoming a founding sister. “Going through Alpha Phi recruitment this fall was something that I will never forget. I never went through formal recruitment so I wasn’t sure what to expect. The whole process was very rewarding and I am so proud of how our chapter is turning out. We can truly make it into our own!” Sophomore Bella Whaley also has a very similar take on becoming a member of Alpha Phi. “We get to set and create the traditions for our sorority, which is so much fun! We create our own bylaws, take part in leadership positions, recruit girls year long, and create an image for ourselves that sets up apart from every other sorority. Along with us being a brand new sorority for the Ole Miss campus we also get to build a new sorority house!” Alpha Phi has seemed to bring a positive experience of originality to those who have become members, no matter the age or background.

 Michele Dalon took on the role of a Consultant for the organization shortly after graduating from LSU. In this position Dalon become an enthusiast for the women of Alpha Phi while undertaking every detail that would help in the progress of establishing the colonization, whether it was finding women that held the standards of Alpha Phi to organizing bid day and chapter meetings. “Sometimes, it's hard to believe that this chapter is new! The bond that these girls already share is absolutely incredible” Dalon remarked. “We are so thankful to have the Ole Miss Greek community supporting us during the colonization process. We will break ground this coming spring semester. The construction will begin very soon, which is exciting! The house will be done by fall of 2017.” Allowing so many young women to take a hands-on role in the progress and success of its journey, Alpha Phi shows the power individuality and what it means to be a part of the “Ivy League”.