



REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

Impacts More Students Than Any

Seven sessions and more than 300 participants - all for a price tag of less than \$20,000. The Chi Phi Regional Leadership Alliance (“RLA”) program has an impact on more chapters and students than every other leadership program offered by the Fraternity. It’s also one of the most cost-effective programs offered.



LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

Other Chi Phi Leadership Program

Thanks to hundreds of donors who support the Chi Phi Educational Trust each year, the Trust provides approximately \$10,000 to cover half the cost of the values-based leadership training program. The National Fraternity pays the other half of the cost using revenue from the dues undergradu-

ates pay to the national office. With these funds, Chi Phi organizes six different sessions across the country.

Each Regional Leadership Academy program is day and a half long event hosted by a particular Chi Phi chapter beginning Saturday morning and concluding Sunday afternoon.

This past year, Chi Phi held RLAs at Texas A&M, UNC-Chapel Hill, West Georgia, the University of Denver and the University of Florida in February and at the University of Rhode Island last November.



Impacting Students & Chapters

Every Chi Phi chapter is expected to send at least 10% of its membership to one of the RLA sessions. In 2008-09, more than 300 students participated in the RLA program. Sixty-seven took advantage of the November 2008 RLA in the Northeast.

"It's no surprise to see that those chapters who send the most students or who host an RLA are those who consistently win awards from the national office and from their college or university year after year," said Godwin. "RLAs definitely have a positive impact on Chi Phi."

The RLA evaluations echo Godwin's comments. Students appreciate and are learning from the RLA. Although the Spring 2009 evaluations are not complete, the students attending the November 2008 session showed an overall satisfaction ranking of 4.15 out of 5.

So many students are able to learn and experience the RLA thanks to the great partnership between the Chi Phi Fraternity, the Chi Phi Educational Trust

and hundreds of alumni, parents, undergraduates, friends and corporate partners who contribute to Chi Phi each year.

"The primary purpose of the Chi Phi Educational Trust is to provide values-based training and educational experiences for Chi Phi Brothers," said Educational Trust Chairman Dan Dozer, Iota 1965. "We get the biggest bang for our buck when we help fund the RLA program - approximately \$33 per student participant and a much larger impact when you think about how those students go back to their own chapter and make changes for the better. It's one of Chi Phi's best programs, and we're fortunate our donors allow us to support and continue it with their gifts to the Trust."

Host Chapters Compete

"Chapters vigorously compete each year to serve as a host chapter," said Director of Leadership Education Kim Godwin, Delta Zeta Sorority. "You wouldn't think they would open their chapter house or campus up to the national staff and brothers from across the country, but they do. Our host chapters recognize the value and benefit their chapter gains by exposing all of their members to the RLA program."

Host chapters provide at least two meals for the participants using funds from their own chapter budgets. They also find housing for each participant.

"When we were a host chapter," explained Chapter Alpha Nathan Lester, "we had Chi Phi's everywhere in the house. It was great to have so many others Chi Phi Brothers around, we had a great time."

In addition to the camaraderie that RLA participants experience living with and learning from other Chi Phi brothers from different chapters, students also gain a better appreciation for the national scope of Chi Phi.

"I realized that Chi Phi is a lot more than just a fraternity at my campus," said Jonathon Townsend, a 2009 participant at the Alpha-Alpha RLA session. "When you spend the weekend with Chi Phis from across the state and further away, you really begin to appreciate how special it is to be part of a brotherhood with members across the country."



Values-Based Education That Works

Regional Leadership Alliances are a lot more than just spending time with other Chi Phi brothers, however. The curriculum is well-developed and implemented with the help of local and national experts.

Although there is a slight variation from one RLA session to the next, the weekend training session typically runs from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and consists of sessions related to Chapter Finances, New Member Education, Officer Responsibilities and Transition, Academic Success, Risk Management, Business Etiquette, Parliamentary Procedure and more.

In addition to these group sessions, there is a special “Alpha Academy” of activities where the Chapter Alphas in attendance work on issues and receive specialized training for the unique role they play in the chapter and life of Chi Phi.

The formal Saturday program concludes when the members of each chapter in attendance work with their fellow chapter members to develop specific goals for their chapter using the Chi Phi teaching model.

Saturday evening provides an opportunity for the participants to have some free time and take in the sights of their host campus.

“It’s always interesting,” said Godwin, Director of Leadership Education. “While a lot of participants certainly do hit the town for some fun on Saturday evening, there’s almost always a group at every session that spends the night continuing to meet, discuss and work on strategies for improving their chapter.”

No matter how participants choose to spend their Saturday evening, things begin early on Sunday morning. The Sunday morning session is an entire half-day focused on either recruitment or Ritual training. The recruitment half-day event is facilitated by Phired Up Productions. (see related article on page 9)

“Recruitment and Ritual are what

keep Chi Phi alive,” said Godwin. “If we don’t recruit new members - the right new members - we won’t grow. If we don’t learn and practice some time focusing on our Ritual, we lose the tie that binds us all together. Based on the feedback and needs of the chapters attending a session, we decide to devote all of Sunday morning to one of these critical activities.”

2008-09 Regional Leadership Academy Schedule

The chapters below hosted a Regional Leadership Academy:

Chapter	Date
Rho Iota Kappa Colony University of Rhode Island	November 7 - 9
Theta Zeta Texas A&M	February 6 - 8
Alpha-Alpha UNC-Chapel Hill	February 13 - 15
Alpha Zeta University of West Georgia	February 20 - 22
Mu Zeta University of Denver	February 27 - March 1
Theta Delta University of Florida	February 27 - March 1