

THE DIPLOMAT

SPRING 2019 || ISSUE 1 || DELTA PHI EPSILON, EPSILON CHAPTER





DELTA PHI EPSILON

UC BERKELEY'S ONLY CO-ED PROFESSIONAL FOREIGN SERVICE AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FRATERNITY

OUR HISTORY

Delta Phi Epsilon is a Professional Foreign Service Fraternity founded on January 25, 1920, in Washington, D.C., at Georgetown University to promote good fellowship among people studying or engaged in foreign service. The Epsilon Chapter at UC Berkeley was opened on November 4, 1923 by 28 students.



WHAT WE STAND FOR

EXPLORE and prepare for all types of careers concerning international affairs.

EDUCATE and inform members of international relations by studying, sharing, and debating current events.

ENGAGE in the international community through charity and service.



WHO WE ARE

Delta Phi Epsilon is the only national co-ed professional foreign service and international relations fraternity.

Our membership comprises of individuals with a wide range of personal backgrounds, academic interests, and career trajectories but we are united by our passion about international affairs, shared commitment in serving the international community, and plan to pursue international careers.





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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Another semester has come and gone and a lot has changed since I started my first semester at Cal, yet some things have always remained the same. As we begin this year with a fresh start and hopefully classes that will raise my GPA, I am excited to welcome you to Delta Phi Epsilon. Our organization has supported our active members in many cases, whether they wanted to find a job or internship, connect with professors to work on research projects, or find a new passion in the field of international relations. So if you're at a rush event, or reading this letter from our Sproul table, I can guarantee you that you're heading in the right direction.

My first semester, Fall 2017, I found that Berkeley was a school too big, even too intimidating to take on myself. I scoured all the different organizations on Sproul, finally stumbling upon this one. I found myself attending the first rush event, standing at the edge of the room in the Moffitt classroom, feeling under qualified by the talent DPhiE brought that I almost did not rush. Yet, I pushed myself to submit an application, hoping to reach the standards that this organization has held itself up to. The rest? History.

Being a pledge for this fraternity was a challenging, yet rewarding experience. It allowed me to explore topics that I did not think exist, such as LGBT economics, carbon democracy, or cybersecurity. It provided me with a community that I looked for at Cal, giving me an excuse to postpone studying for midterms to go on adventures in the city or explore a different part of the world. It has given me an opportunity to improve my resume and cover letter writing skills to find distinguished internships and connect with our alumni network, helping me discover the global presence this organization has. DPhiE has provided me both the skills to succeed in my post-college career, and a home away from home. Yet surprisingly, through this organization, I have also discovered that my career path is not within diplomacy, but education.

So why am I still involved with DPhiE? My perspective on the field of international affairs has changed, but the reverence I have for this organization has not. Delta Phi Epsilon is many things. A place to develop your professional skills, leaders that push you beyond your academic boundaries, and a close group of peers to enjoy Disneyland with.



“DPHIE HAS PROVIDED ME BOTH THE SKILLS TO SUCCEED IN MY POST-COLLEGE CAREER AND A HOME AWAY FROM HOME.”

If I had to encapsulate this fraternity into one word, it would be adaptable, because whatever you want to get out of DPhiE, it can provide you with exactly that. It is so surreal to me that some of the members of this organization are graduating this semester. The old faces are going, but new faces will be coming and joining this wonderful organization. As these great changes are

happening, it may feel like something new, yet the caliber, camaraderie, and spirit of this organization remains strong.

For those transfer students, whether you have been here since fall or a recent spring admit, I can assure you that you will find a home in Berkeley. As a transfer student myself, I felt out of place, that my experience as a transfer somehow invalidated my potential as a Berkeley student. Now, with this being my fourth semester with dphie, one as a pledge and three on the executive committee, I cannot encourage a better organization to apply to than this one.

It is from these experiences and camaraderie that the executive committee in the Spring is focused on augmenting DPhiE's presence on campus while promoting the cohesion that thrives within this chapter and nationally. Our EVP Jean hopes to continue our tradition of inviting distinguished speakers from the field of diplomacy. Our accomplished PDVP Alexa hopes to tailor the needs of our actives and finding career opportunities in both the public and private sector while our FVP Farah hopes to make our fraternity more financially accessible.

I always tell myself that I do not know where my life would be if I didn't hit the submit button on my application. DPhiE has been such an important aspect of my college career, and for that reason I want to give everything back into it. For the rushees, I urge you to take the time to get to know our actives, ask them why they find DPhiE so special. If I couldn't convince you, maybe someone else will.

So whether you are here to expand your intellectual curiosities or to find someone to watch Avengers: Endgame with, Delta Phi Epsilon will be here to support your academic journey and beyond. Cheers to new beginnings, and hopefully, a new chapter in your books.

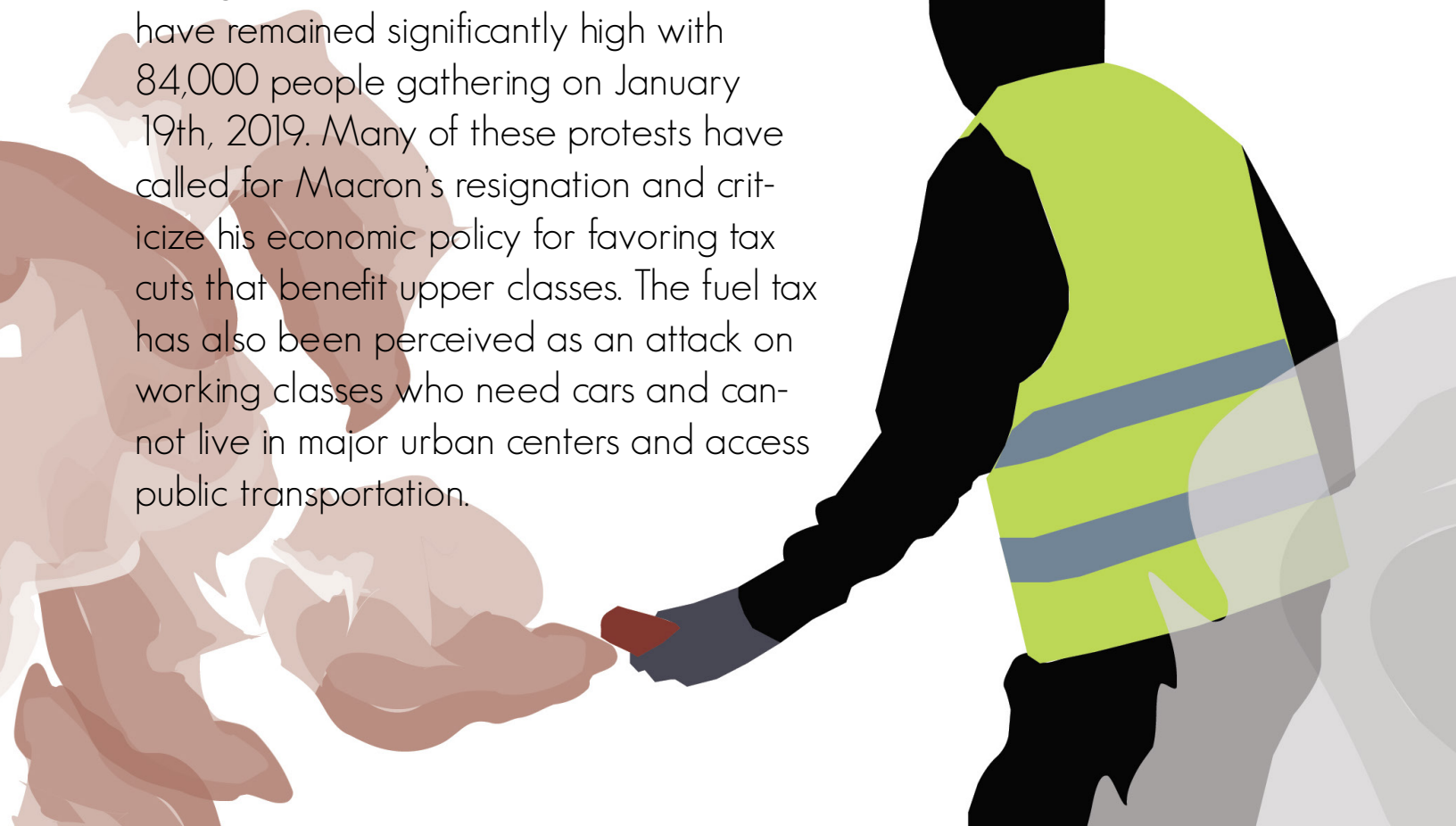
THE YELLOW VEST MOVEMENT

A SPREADING MESSAGE

BY CASSIDY CHILDS

After announcing plans to increase carbon and fuel taxes to curb climate change in November 2018, France's president Emmanuel Macron faced significant backlash and new social action, the 'Yellow Vest Movement'. The grassroots movement, whose symbol is the neon yellow traffic vests, seeks to represent the middle and working classes who have suffered from economic stagnation and high costs of living.

The first waves of protest on November 17th drew a crowd of 300,000 people throughout France, and these numbers have remained significantly high with 84,000 people gathering on January 19th, 2019. Many of these protests have called for Macron's resignation and criticize his economic policy for favoring tax cuts that benefit upper classes. The fuel tax has also been perceived as an attack on working classes who need cars and cannot live in major urban centers and access public transportation.



Yellow vests have been spotted in Spain, Israel, Iraq, Bulgaria, Taiwan, Canada, England and Egypt as a symbol criticizing the economic stagnation and the poor treatment of lower classes and rural peoples. However, the message of the yellow vests vary in each country from being anti-establishment, populist, nationalist, anti-social welfare, for minimum wage increases and neo-nazi among many others. Egypt recently banned the sale of yellow vests, while Spain increased police presence to repress any violent protests. The Yellow Vest Movement highlights major questions about climate change and the world's political and economic climate.

The protests are a visible reminder to think about who are the winners and losers of climate change, and the necessity of environmental policies that are not only effective, but economically pragmatic. Additionally, the spread of the movement is another reminder that populism and anti-establishment sentiments are on the rise around the world. Lastly, the Yellow Vest Movement is largely regarded as the voice for those unheard, which should make those around the world critically consider the popularity of this movement and why, at this moment, they are rallying together.



WORLD TRAVEL

DPHIE'S TRAVELS LAST SEMESTER



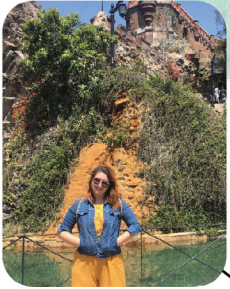
**TYLER,
KATHERINE,
AND
TOOBA**
Disneyland



AASTHA
Mexico



SARAH
Colombia



LILI
Chile



JOHNNY
Chile, Paraguay, Argentina

JONAH
Argentina



SOMI
South Korea

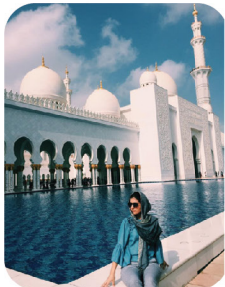
KEVIN
Taiwan



GERAINT
England



OLIVER AND MAYA
Spain



MAHSHAD
Jordan, Oman and UAE



FARAH
DRC and UAE



NICHOLETTE
American Samoa,
Samoa, Fiji and Tonga

**JORDAN, CASSIDY,
IRENE AND ABI**
Israel



EMERSYN
Australia and China

REFLECTIONS FROM PAST PLEDGES



KATHERINE ELIAS

POLITICAL SCIENCE/ ECONOMY

I initially struggled finding my place within Berkeley's huge student body, and getting to be part of DPhiE was truly a godsend. After one semester a lot of these people have become my closest friends, and it seems strange that 4 months ago I was asking for their names. I feel particularly lucky that this pledge class had so many freshmen, giving me a group of people that are witty, loyal, and always ready to challenge me in a political debate. We are known for "traveling in a pack," but I like to think of it as proof of our synergistic friendships with each other. At the same time, I look up to all the upperclassmen in my pledge class. I was struck by Jess's natural presence and leadership abilities, impressed (and occasionally amused) by Jonah's somehow deep knowledge about literally everything, and grateful for Summer's optimism that always made me smile. Of course, we couldn't have made it through without "Mom and Dad," who were most definitely the best pledge parents we could have asked for. Though they sometimes bickered like real parents, both Nicole and Lhiam made a huge effort to turn us into a family. Sunday brunch filled with Jess's Turkish canned cheese, Lhiam's omelets, Nicole's piano music, and Jonah's many delicious dishes made me look around and realize how lucky I was to have them. Thank you Nicole and Lhiam, and thank you pledges for a great semester together.

REFLECTIONS FROM PAST PLEDGES



SEAN O'CONNELL

ECONOMICS

Delta Phi Epsilon's pledge process helped me build a community of like-minded, driven individuals that allowed me to integrate into campus culture during my first semester at Berkeley. The fraternity emphasizes

both social and career-based activities throughout the pledging process in a way that challenges pledges to develop skills and networking tools to operate within the international affairs community but also provides ample room to socialize and work around personal schedules.

The excitement members of Delta Phi Epsilon expressed at getting to know individual pledges and the rigorous, but sustainable, nature of the coursework immediately made me feel like part of a larger community. The fraternity requires each new member complete a minimum number of one-on-one interviews with active members, and, while I was initially concerned I'd be struggling to meet the requirement, within days members were reaching out to me asking for interviews. That immediate sense of comradery is carried through in the fraternity's weekly meetings, social events, and pledge activities from early on in the semester.

The workload for the pledge process centers around computer-based assignments taking about one to two hours to complete. Additionally, each pledge chooses an international affairs topic and drafts a series of professional blog entries on the subject throughout the semester. While I didn't find the workload trivial, it was highly manageable, and again I found my pledge class's coordinators more than willing to be flexible about time conflicts.

REFLECTIONS FROM PAST PLEDGES

Overall, I'd describe Delta Phi Epsilon's pledge process as a unique entry into a group of people who are as passionate about pursuing careers in service as they are about making personal connections, and it was that professionally driven yet individually approachable nature of the fraternity that made my time as a pledge enjoyable.

IRENE YI

LINGUISTICS AND SOCIOLOGY



Thanks to our amazing pledge parents and siblings, I loved pledging this past semester. The material we covered was fascinating--from what's happening in Gaza to Machiavellian theory to CICIG to Rwanda and beyond, I learned so much about the world. I learned from the people, too. Every one of my pledge siblings had something to teach the rest of us, whether they knew it or not. I'm constantly inspired by their humility, passion, curiosity, kindness, humor, and friendship. Our pledge parents were more than just that title: they were our friends as well, and I greatly enjoyed getting to know them and spending time with them outside of pledge meetings. I'm also incredibly thankful for the chance to get to know all the actives--the most impressive yet most humble people I know. I can safely say that pledging gave me some of my best friends, who I hope will stay my best friends for a long, long time. It became clear very early on that this would be a group of people I could depend on, no matter what. Emersyn and I always talk about how we're grateful to have rushed as soon as we got to Berkeley and to have found such a wonderful community early on in our college lives.

VOICES FROM THE PAST

LAST SEMESTER'S SPEAKERS

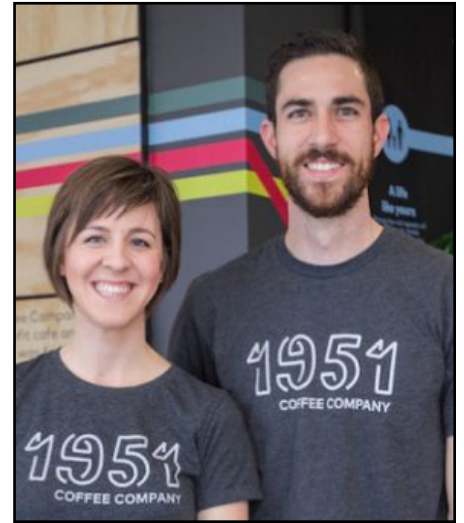


HERB BEHRSTOCK

Retired Senior Executive, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); President, United Nations Association, Northern California Division

DOUG HEWITT & RACHEL TABER

Cofounders of 1951 Coffee Co., which focuses on sustainably resettling refugees



ELIZA PESUIT

Executive Director at Global Glimpse, an international NGO that focuses on cultural exchanges between the United States and Latin America



STEVEN RAHMAN

Rapporteur for the InterAction Council, an NGO comprised of former heads of state and government; Chairman of Harvard Kennedy School's global alumni board



FAMILY

*May We Never Forget Each Other,
Nor Our Friendship Cease to Grow*



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SPRING 2019



TYLER SWARTOUT
PRESIDENT



JEAN LI
EXTERNAL VP



TOOBA WASI
INTERNAL VP



JESS R. PARRY
MEMBERSHIP VP



ABI MAGAT
MEMBERSHIP VP



FARAH NANJI
FINANCIAL VP



ALEXA JANE
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT VP



CASSIDY CHILDS
ADMINISTRATIVE VP

