

*Sigma Phi Epsilon Collection (AR212)*



Monmouth College Archives

Hewes Library  
Monmouth, Illinois  
2016

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## Sigma Phi Epsilon Collection

### **Descriptive Summary**

Title: Sigma Phi Epsilon Collection

Creator: Various and Unknown

Dates: 1948 - present

Extent: 15 containers, 16.3 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository: Monmouth College Archives, Monmouth, Illinois

Abstract: This collection contains various items relating to the Illinois Gamma – Residential Learning Community Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Monmouth College. In it, there are newsletters, newspaper articles, composite pictures, chapter records, meeting minutes, scrapbooks, articles of incorporation, photographs, and more.

### **Administrative Information**

Cite as: Sigma Phi Epsilon Collection, Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois.

Provenance:

Processed by: (2013) Carina Moschello

(2016) Samuel Elliot Dummer

Separations: FF009.002 - FF009.015

Access: Obtained by completing a Request for Research Materials Form at the Hewes Library Circulation Desk. Materials are generally pulled once daily during the school year.

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full responsibility to abide by laws of privacy, copyright and literary rights which may be involved with use of materials from the Monmouth College Archives.

### **Historical/Biographical Background**

Nationally founded in 1901 at Richmond College, in Richmond Virginia, the Illinois Gamma Residential Learning Community chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon was founded at Monmouth College on May 22, 1948. Illinois Gamma can trace its roots back to three other Monmouth College fraternities. Tau Lambda Phi (1907) merged with Pi Rho Phi in 1910, and in 1930 Pi Rho Phi merged with the national fraternity Theta Upsilon Omega.

In 1938, the national fraternities Theta Upsilon Omega and Sigma Phi Epsilon merged. However, the Monmouth College chapter of Theta Upsilon Omega was not active, and so was not automatically merged. Ten years later, a group of students reactivated the T.U.O. chapter, and received their charter from SigEp national headquarters in 1948.

One of the most notable alumni of Sigma Phi Epsilon was Harold “Red” Poling who was at one point the President and Chief Financial Officer of Ford Motor Company. Poling Hall, the former Carnegie Library, and current Administration building, is named in his honor.

In 1991, the National fraternity adopted the “Balanced Man” program as an alternate to the former “Pledging” model. The Illinois Gamma chapter quickly adopted this new program, becoming one of the first chapters to do so in the nation. In 2001, the Illinois Gamma chapter became the third in the nation to adopt the RLC – Residential Learning Community – designation. This means that the chapter actively encourages and promotes learning and personal development outside of the traditional classroom. In 2015, the national fraternity became the first fraternity in the nation to abolish the pledging model entirely from an undergraduate vote. Now, all chapters must operate under the Balanced Man Program – something the Illinois Gamma Chapter has been doing for years.

Since their founding, the ideals of Sigma Phi Epsilon have continued to build “balanced men,” as is their motto. Through academics, community service, and much more, Sigma Phi Epsilon has helped to add to the rich character of Monmouth College.



## **Container List**

The first box (AR212.001) contains documents related to Sigma Phi Epsilon. The other five boxes are housed in the flat files(FF009).

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder (if applicable)</u></b>	<b><u>Contents</u></b>
1 (AR212.001)		
	Miscellaneous - 1	Newspaper articles. Certificates. Monmouth College Alumni Magazine. Other miscellany.
	Miscellaneous - 2	Fliers. Rosters. <i>Scholarship</i> booklet. SPE national articles. Other miscellany.
	Newsletters 1959-1975	Various editions of <i>Straight from the Heart</i> , the local chapter newsletter. 1959-1975.
	Newsletters 1976-2002	Various editions of <i>Straight from the Heart</i> , the local chapter newsletter. 1976-2002.
	Other Chapter Addresses	A cut-and-pasted list of other chapters from around the country. Sourced from the Sigma Phi Epsilon Directory .
	General Correspondences	Letters/cards to/from the chapter.
	Loose Photos	Miscellaneous photos circa late 60's
2 (FF009.002)		Alumni Information Cards (from 1960's).
3 (FF009.003)		Scrapbook (late 80's, early 90's).
4 (FF009.004)		Miscellaneous photographs (late 40's – 90's). Also includes loose composite photos.
5 (FF009.005)		Miscellaneous large group photographs. Copies of composites.

6 (FF009.006)	Journal	<p>Various issues.</p> <p>Sigma Phi Epsilon Journal various issues '52 - '54.</p> <p>Record book, Oct. 15, 1957-Nov. 3, 1963.</p> <p>Recordbook, Sept. 24, 1950-March 11, 1957.</p>
7 (FF009.007)		<p>Recordbook, May 22, 1948 - Sept. 24, 1950.</p> <p>Guestbook, 1948-1955.</p> <p><i>The SigEp Glee Club Vinyl Record</i>, 33 1/3 rpm.</p>
8 (FF009.008)		<i>1970 Illinois Gamma Pledge Class Scrap Book.</i>
9 (FF009.009)		<p><i>ΣΦΕ: A History of the Illinois Gamma Chapter in Words and Pictures... 1985 ~</i> Compiled by Brad Nahrstadt March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1986.</p> <p>(Brad Nahrstadt signature on back of front cover, on bottom right-hand corner, under grey paper).</p>
10 (FF009.010)		<p><i>Pledge Manual: Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity</i> (National Fraternity. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. February, 1956).</p> <p><i>Supplementary Pledge Manual: Illinois Gamma</i> (Local Chapter. 1<sup>st</sup> ed. May, 1951).</p> <p><i>Corporate Records</i> (Founding documents of chapter, including first draft of local by-laws, articles of incorporation from the state of Illinois, etc. 1948-late 50's).</p>
11 (FF009.011)		Recordbook. Chapter meeting minutes. March 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1961 – May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 1966.
12 (FF009.012)		Recordbook. Chapter meeting minutes. September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1966 – November 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1970.
13 (FF009.013)		"Recordbook" (loose leaf papers). Chapter meeting minutes. February 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1988 – April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1990 (last dated record, more after)
14 (FF009.014)		<p>Large Scrapbook. (Created from three previous scrapbooks, 1919-1948, 1948-1955, 1956-1961.</p> <p>Compiled and created by Jim Stevens (newspaper</p>

clipping with whole story on last page, pg 127).  
Former front and back cover may be found in box  
FF009.015)

15 (FF009.015)

Large wooden covers from scrapbook (housed  
separately in box FF009.014)