

Ala Carte Fraternity

Brotherhood is a two way street; if you want its benefits, you must live up to its obligations. Too many members believe that they can “go inactive” and split the two. They wish to renege on their obligations to the Fraternity but still want to take advantage of its benefits. Like a cafeteria, they want to pick only those things they are interested in: intramurals, parties, hanging out at the house, whatever. They usually acquiesce to token payments for some of the the chapter’s direct, out-of-pocket expenses, but these are only the marginal costs. That should be okay, they argue, because they are, after all, “brothers.” I strongly disagree. They aren’t acting like brothers at all. They are leaving the rest of the brothers with the responsibility of taking care of all the things that make possible the activities these “brothers” want to have available on demand. It isn’t fair; it isn’t brotherly. Some older members argue that they have paid dues long enough and it is now time for younger brothers to “carry them.” This only causes the dues for the younger brothers to be higher than they need to be. The older members need to realize that the dues they paid last year went to pay for last year's activities. Nothing was put away from prior dues to cover them for a free ride in the future. It's a "pay as you go" proposition.

A brother has two choices as a student, remain active and accept the obligations along with the benefits or go inactive and forego both. That means not representing the chapter in any way, not attending chapter meetings, not attending social events, not living in the house, etc. If Delta Chi is a true priority in their lives they will support it. If they aren't willing to support it then that says where Delta Chi is in their priority list.