

Instructors set up shop at Delta Gamma house

A political science teacher and an English instructor have set up shop in Delta Gamma sorority this semester.

Lucy Comstock, a Delta Gamma alumna, is the English instructor.

"Last May, during the strike, a lot of girls in the house were complaining about the faculty not knowing students as people," said Comstock.

After talking with Delta Gamma president Deb Way and vice president Roni Haggart, Comstock decided to keep regular hours in the house, using an office the sorority overhauled for the purpose.

Comstock now spends Wednesday afternoons in the office. "We're still feeling each other out," she said of her relationship with the girls. "They aren't used to it yet. Some of them may think you have to be intellectual to talk with a faculty member."

"This isn't so," continued Comstock. "I'm trying to show that faculty and students can talk on a one-to-one basis."

George Perry, assistant professor of political science, read that the DG's were looking for faculty members to work in their house in an Arts and Sciences memorandum. He now has office hours in the house on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

In addition, Perry has held some of his class meetings in the house. "Fraternities and sororities need to be more open to the general public," said Perry. "They should be less exclusive and formidable in appearance."

Perry's classes do not meet at the house on a permanent schedule now, but Perry said that such meetings might be an eventual possibility.

Haggart said part of the idea for the experiment came from the Centennial College model. "The whole University is moving towards live-in learning," she said. "We think that Greek houses could make ideal learning communities."

Marge Whelan, Delta Gamma sophomore, thinks the informality of Perry's sorority-based meetings is their main attraction. "We can sit around here, drink coffee, and just talk," she said. "It's not like trudging over to Oldfather Hall and sitting in a classroom."

Jean Steinheider agrees. "I've just sat in on some of the meetings and it's really great how everybody gets in on the discussion."

Perry's appeal is not restricted to political science majors either, according to Laurie Schock. "I'm an English major and he's a science fiction nut," she said. "We get along fine."

The Delta Gamma experimenting to the girls. But English instructor Comstock noted that some faculty members think it's all "a bunch of nonsense."

"It's new, and no one can guarantee results yet," said Comstock. "But if it's important to the kids it's worth trying."



Assistant professor of political science . . . George Perry spends Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in a sorority house. He enjoys the opportunity to talk informally with Kathy Abrams and Barb Allen.

Theta Sig holds pr workshop

Theta Sigma Phi will sponsor a publicity workshop Oct. 20, 4:30 p.m. in the Union. All campus organizations and living units are invited to send delegates.

Representatives from the University public relations office, program office and The Nebraskan will discuss how to get publicity for an organization. Registration will be taken at the door.

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