



Delta Kappa Alpha

National Honorary Cinema Fraternity

ALPHA CHAPTER

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

UNIVERSITY PARK

LOS ANGELES 7, CALIFORNIA

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March 28, 1956

Dr. Robert O. Hall
Cinema Department
University of Southern California
University Park
Los Angeles 7, California

Dear Dr. Hall,

The Executive Council of Alpha Chapter, Delta Kappa Alpha, in plenary session and at the request of its membership, has prepared a series of questions, objectives and plans to submit to the faculty of the Cinema Department for study and comment.

After careful consideration and study of these questions and objectives by us they have been incorporated into the attached digest for submission to you. It is our desire that you present them to the faculty of the Cinema Department at the first faculty staff meeting following receipt by you.

As previously requested by me, the Committee shall be present at the appointed time of 11:15 A.M., Monday April 2, 1956 to discuss these with you. At this time we shall also be glad to answer any questions you may have regarding them.

As indicated in the attached enclosure we have scheduled one of the leaders of the theatrical film industry to give a talk, that we feel to be of great importance, to Delta Kappa Alpha members and faculty of the Cinema Department. We are therefore extending an urgent invitation to you and the faculty to attend this talk at 8:00 P.M., Friday April 6, 1956 in Room 110.

Sincerely,

DELTA KAPPA ALPHA

Herbert A. Thurman

Herbert A. Thurman
President, Alpha Chapter

HAT:rlp

Enc.

1. An established divergence of stated interests and objectives in film production, among students of the Cinema Department, has prompted the Executive Council of Alpha Chapter, Delta Kappa Alpha to request a concrete and definite statement from the Cinema Department on certain pertinent questions. Acknowledging the established classes, as announced in the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences Bulletin of the University, it is in the interest of members of Delta Kappa Alpha that the Executive Council submits the following questions:

a. What is the academic objective of the Cinema Department of U. S. C?

b. What is the policy of the Cinema Department regarding education in this objective as related to the theatrical and non-theatrical film industry?

c. What steps has the Department taken to meet this established objective and policy in regard to:

- (1) General curriculum.
- (2) Allied and specific classes.
- (3) Symposiums.
- (4) Guest lecturers and speakers.
- (5) Seminars.
- (6) Graduate level studies.

d. What relations have been, or are being, actively established with the film production industry?

- (1) For mutual assistance and exchange of techniques.
- (2) Access to their facilities.
- (3) Participation by industry leaders.
- (4) Endowments and scholarships.

e. Acknowledging that an academic institution is neither a placement agency or bureau, what affiliations have been established with the film producing industry to assist graduates and students to enter the field of film production?

2. With the preceding questions in mind, the Alpha Chapter, Delta Kappa Alpha is establishing the following immediate and long range objectives:

a. Immediate objectives.

- (1) Re-establishment at U. S. C., and strengthening, of the national office of Delta Kappa Alpha.
- (2) Establishment of semi-monthly symposiums.
- (3) Establishing a mutuality with the theatrical and non-theatrical film industry.
- (4) Invitation to industry leaders, from the theatrical and non-theatrical film production fields, as guest speakers.

b. Long range objectives.

- (1) Establishment, through the national office of Delta Kappa Alpha, of a placement service for members of Delta Kappa Alpha for the theatrical and non-theatrical film production studios.
- (2) Educational tours of studios and their facilities.
- (3) Procurement of endowments and scholarships.
- Sutton* (4) Participation in commercial film production for observation and study of techniques.
- (5) To acquire recognition from guilds, unions, associations and academies.
- (6) Realizing the impact of television broadcasting on film production, it is planned to integrate the science and technique of television film production into Delta Kappa Alpha activities.

3. Concurrent with the immediate objectives of Delta Kappa Alpha, it is presently giving impetus to its goals by scheduling a symposium series beginning April 6, 1956 to which the faculty of the Cinema Department is urgently invited to attend.

4. Along with these objectives and plans of Delta Kappa Alpha, it is expected that the Cinema Department faculty will participate fully in these activities. Delta Kappa Alpha, as a representative group of the Cinema Department student body, feels quite strongly that equal emphasis should be given to studies in both areas of film production. Specifically the theatrical and non-theatrical film industry. The Executive Council also feels that not enough emphasis has been given to these objectives in the past and expects the faculty of the Cinema Department to give the greatest possible consideration to the eventual implementation of these objectives into the curriculum.