

THE OREGON HUMANITIES CENTER  
PRESENTS:

*The Media in 20th Century America:  
Whose Side Are They On?*

a public lecture by

PETER A. BROWN

Chief Political Writer for the Scripps-Howard News Service

7:30 p.m. Monday, October 2, 1989  
Erb Memorial Union Gumwood Room

*This lecture, free and open to the public, is the first in the 1989-90 Autzen Lectures in the Humanities and the Professions series entitled "Morals and the Media: Information, Entertainment, and Manipulation." The lecture will be followed by a reception.*



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Photo by Martin Thiel

The Theta Chi Academic Fraternity will stress achievement and University involvement this year to receive support from its alumni organization.

**Fraternity emphasizes academics**

By Polly Campbell  
Emerald Reporter

The Theta Chi fraternity just isn't called Theta Chi anymore. The brick structure at 1125 E. 19th Ave. that houses the brothers of the fraternity hasn't changed, nor has the address of the house that has been a part of the University Greek system for more than 60 years. What has changed is the name of the fraternity and the focus of its members.

Theta Chi has officially become the Theta Chi Academic

Fraternity. The change evolved this summer when the fire marshall inspected the fraternity and compiled a list of necessary repairs that had to be made in order to keep the fraternity open, said Darin Linnman, vice president of the house.

In order to make the required repairs, the members of the fraternity asked the Theta Chi Alumni organization for support.

"When the issue came up, we had to decide if we wanted to continue the fraternity under the same structure and the emphasis on partying," said Dwight Purdy, alumni adviser and legal counselor for the fraternity.

It was decided that a change would be made to shift the focus and the mentality of the fraternity members to scholarship as well as campus and community involvement, Purdy said.

"Theta Chi is still a part of the Theta Chi fraternity system and the Greek system, but we felt a need to set it aside from the rest to stress excellence in scholarship and participation. We wanted to get away from the socialization aspect and start emphasizing involvement," he said.

Although changing the name of the fraternity is a symbolic

gesture, Purdy said drastic changes have already been made to promote a better academic atmosphere.

One of those changes was to remove all the members who had below a 2.5 grade point average, Linnman said.

"As a part of the Greek system, we are trying to make a distinction in our house and move in a direction that the entire Greek system is moving into," Linnman said.

Calling themselves an academic fraternity may give them positive recognition on campus, but internal changes must be made to improve their grades, said Shelley Sutherland, Greek adviser.

"While not as obvious as changing the name on the door, changes in other chapters are also being made," Sutherland said. "A lot of chapters have academics as one of their top five priorities."

"Our desire is to start out with a corps group of men interested in academic achievement and University involvement," Purdy said.

"In any case everybody will watch to see what happens and consider it carefully," Sutherland said.

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