

Minnesota Alpha Quarterly



OVERVIEW OF THE WINTER 2014 ISSUE

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A Letter From Our Eminent Archon

Dear Alumni, Family & Friends,

The brothers of 1815 University Ave. are beginning a new semester once again. It can be bittersweet realizing how quickly the past Fall semester has flown by. However, it was an incredible semester to be a Golden Gopher and an even better one to be a brother of Minnesota Alpha. We now focus on generating yet another successful year in 2014, a journey in which we hope all our brothers will join.

This was one of the best years Minnesota Alpha has ever had when it comes to recruitment. We currently have 31 new members that are beginning their second semester with us. Never sacrificing quality for quantity, we believe that each one of them will be a great addition to our brotherhood. They will be initiated in February at the Levere Memorial Temple in Evanston, Illinois.

Our initiative of leasing beds in the 17th Avenue Residence Hall, the newest University of Minnesota housing facility, has also been a great success. Here we are able to provide housing to 26 of our brothers in our own wing of the building, which is located merely a block from our chapter house. This brings our combined total number of “live-in” members to 71!

We were also very fortunate to host Province Tau Leadership School this year. This event brings together brothers from SAE chapters across the Midwest for

a day of guest speakers and leadership sessions followed by a banquet dinner in the evening. Minnesota Alpha was awarded Province Tau’s Chapter Achievement award at the banquet, which marks the sixth time in eleven years that we’ve won this honor. This experience was especially memorable due to the fact that our Eminent Supreme Archon, Brad Cohen, attended our province leadership school and presented the award to our chapter.

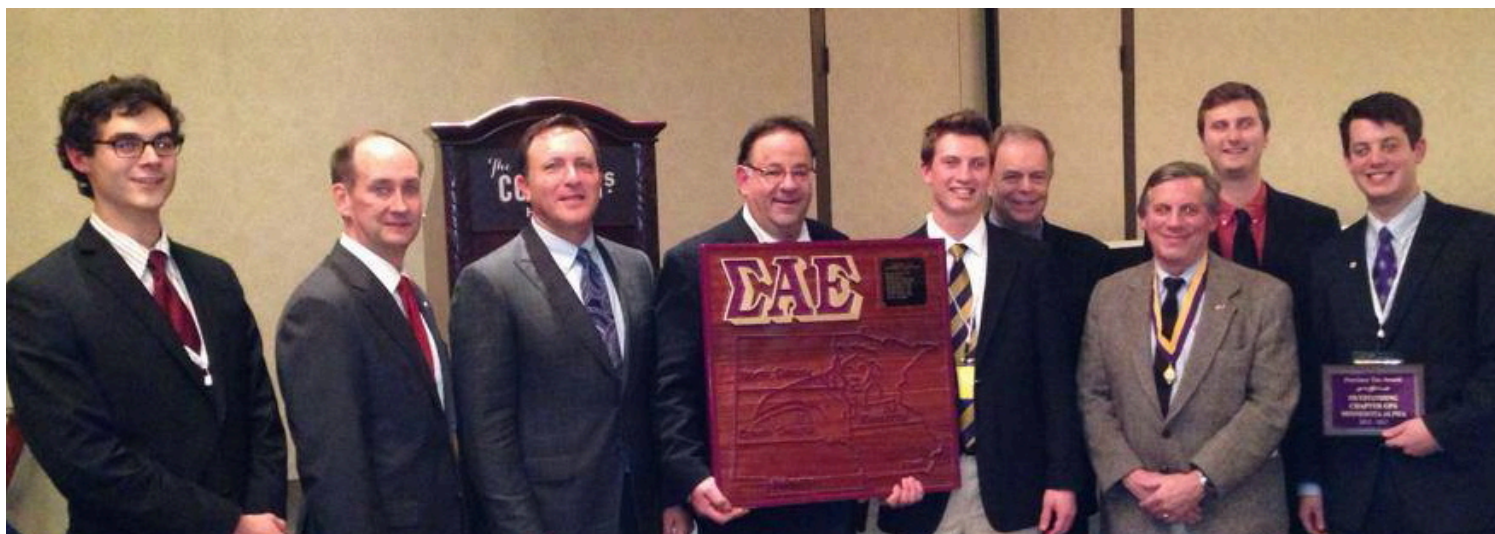
Minnesota Alpha has many exciting events to look forward to this semester. Our annual Jail-N-Bail philanthropy event, initiation at the Temple, and Spring Jam are just a few of the things on the calendar and we’re excited to see what else the semester has in store for us.

It is thanks to you, our alumni that we continue to operate and excel as a chapter and we are very grateful for your continued support. As always, we welcome and encourage you all to visit the chapter house at any time.

Phi Alpha,

Brad Otto
Eminent Archon





Province Tau Leadership School

During the first weekend of November, Minnesota Alpha was privileged to host the Province Tau Leadership School for the first time in 11 years. Our gathering brought together 360+ undergraduates from campuses across the upper-Midwest. The event took months of planning by the members of the chapter, but ran very smoothly.

We were fortunate to have two members of our Supreme Council join us for the weekend, including our Eminent Supreme Archon Bradley M. Cohen. ESA Cohen joined our chapter for dinner and spirited our members with the message of making the most of our four years in the house; he is a dynamic speaker and the effect of his presence was great among all SAEs in attendance.

During the leadership school, we had speakers touch on a variety of topics from ritual to risk management. The faculty was partially made up of alumnus from Minnesota Alpha including: Peter Kenefick ('78), Peter Georgantones ('84), Mike Walters ('77), and Tom Johnson ('74). There were also SAE national members and employees in attendance. All

undergraduates took away a message they could relay to their home chapters.

The day concluded with a banquet at the newly-renovated Commons Hotel. After a wonderful dinner, a birthday cake was presented to alum Tom Devine ('75), he said it was the most people he has ever had at his birthday. Like Tom, Minnesota Alpha took the cake by winning the Province Tau Most Outstanding Chapter Award. Our hard work and dedication over the past year paid off as we brought home the top honor as the host chapter.

There were many praises of our chapter and the event from all of those in attendance. Our chapter truly had a wonderful time hosting all of the SAEs and putting together a great program. We thank all of those that helped make this event possible.

Kenny Devine ('15) & Adam Coontz ('15)
Province Tau Leadership School Chairmen

CHECK OUT THE NEW
UMNSAE.COM

OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS,
WE HAVE WORKED WITH
CLIKZY DESIGN TO RENOVATE
OUR WEBSITE,

UMNSAE.COM

WE ARE PROUD TO SAY THAT
IN THE LAST WEEK, THE
PROJECT HAS COME TO ITS
CONCLUSION. FEEL FREE TO
VISIT THE SITE IF YOU NEED TO
CONTACT US OR SEE WHAT
THE CHAPTER IS UP TO THE
REST OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

ALSO, ALUMNI ARE
ENCOURAGED TO VISIT THE
SITE AND SUBMIT CONTACT
INFORMATION TO KEEP IN
TOUCH.

Looking Back: An Alumni Reflection

By: Mitch Sherman

Writing this Topo is easily the hardest assignment that I've had to do in my four years as an undergrad. No other assignment I have ever done has evoked such a mixture of emotions. As I sit down here at my last Monday night meeting as an active member of this chapter, the emotions of excitement, sadness, fear, belonging, and brotherhood all course through me. It's an odd mixture and it provokes a weird feeling. Many brothers take this opportunity to list amazing memories, poke fun at brothers, crack jokes, or talk about their collegiate experience. I truly believe that at the end of the day, these wonderful memories and experiences are not brotherhood...they only facilitate brotherhood.

This house has taught me one of life's greatest truths: It is not what you know, it is who you know. At the culmination of my time here, I cannot tell you how true that statement is. Lucky for all of you, you made the best decision you can make by joining this house, ensuring that you are surrounding yourself by the most amazing people you will meet. You have all been endowed with a precious gift. Out of 30,000 undergraduates at the University of Minnesota, only around 100 of us have been given this opportunity, meaning that we are not a part of the 1%, we are in the elite and fortunate .3%, do not take this for granted.

As I look around this room, I see a bunch of eager, young brothers waiting to leave their mark on this chapter, older brothers who are currently or have already greatly impacted this house, and the marks on the walls of 1815 of those who have come before us. Life is not easy and anyone who tells you differently is lying. Life is a bitch and she will present you with your fair share of loss, regret, and sadness. It's not all bad though, what comes with these lows are moments where you feel elation, happiness, and achievement. What I have realized while in this house is that there is nobody else I would rather share life's crazy ups and downs with. You are my brothers and that is what brotherhood is to me.

What's funny is that I tell you not take this for granted and I feel like a hypocrite. I can honestly say that I did not give this house 100%, especially my first two years, and I have a number of regrets. I do not regret holding the positions of rush chair and treasurer, or how I performed in them. I do regret not coming over every chance I got. I regret living out sophomore year. I regret missing both formals freshman year. I regret letting a girlfriend dictate aspects of my life. I regret not giving you my all earlier and getting to know you all as well as I could when you were so willing to do the same for me.

But, I can also honestly say that I have given this house 110% over the last 6 weeks, and that is what makes these regrets so very clear. The last few weeks have probably been the best of my life, and I can only attribute that to the amazing people in this basement. I just wish I had come over at every opportunity throughout my first



couple of years, but late is so much better than never. I also know that none of you held it against me, each time I came over I was greeted with the grip and a smile. That's brotherhood to me. I would say that it is difficult to make it four years without regretting anything, but I encourage each of you to do everything in your power to limit them.

I do not mean to say I did not have an amazing time in the house. I have been unfairly fortunate to be a part of something so great with such great people. When the rush team sits down with each potential new member to bid them, instead of a bid card, they should extend a silver platter with golden ticket perched upon it because this house is truly the ticket to a better life. The parties are better here, the weekdays are better here, every lunch, every dinner, every Sunday morning and Monday night is better here. Take it from me. If you really want to embrace everything that life and your college experience have to offer, every one of you must make sure to grab this opportunity and hold it close to your heart. Take every relationship, dive in, and protect them. Girlfriends come and go. The importance of grades fades after you graduate. But just like the flames of the phoenix, the relationships and bonds made here burn with intensity forever. I have had an absolutely amazing time here so as I am sad to leave, this moment makes me happy because I know it is not the end, it is just the beginning of another chapter of life. A chapter that I am eager to share with as many of you as will let me. You are all my brothers for life, I love all of you, and that is what brotherhood is to me.

Phi Alpha,

Mitch Sherman (*13)



MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

MINNESOTA ALPHA IS
LOOKING FOR ALUMNI
PARTICIPANTS TO JUMP
START OUR
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.

EMAIL US AT:

MOOTY011@UMN.EDU

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN BECOMING A
MENTOR FOR AN
UNDERGRADUATE
MEMBER!

Scholarship Fund

A lot of older brother's (pre-1983) like me may not even know of this Scholarship Fund. The Minnesota Alpha Chapter of SAE has been able to offer academic scholarships and grade incentive awards for current active members due to the generous contributions of Minnesota Alpha SAE alumni. A scholarship fund was established in 1983 with an endowment from Jim Peterson (ESA) and the principal is invested by the SAE Foundation in Evanston, Illinois.

The academic awards are separated into "named awards," which are usually scholarships and "grade incentive awards." The current named awards include, "Denslow, Peterson, True Gentleman, Dutch Cragun, and Philanthropy awards. The academic awards are for GPA's above 3.0 with more money for each higher GPA level.

The current balance in the Fund is around \$750,000. Minnesota Alpha is in the top Five national ranking in Minerva's Realm. Each year up to 5% of the principal is made available for academic awards to active members. So we are dividing up about \$35,000 a year into all of these various awards. If you would like to have an award named after you, please donate specifically to this fund when you are donating to SAE National. This Fund directly supports Minnesota Alpha undergraduates. It has been my privilege to administer this fund for the last 10 years taking over for Jim Rothenberg. If you have any questions about the fund, contact Brother Tom Johnson at tom@railmet.com.

In the Bonds,

Thomas E. Johnson, P. E.

UMN Graduate from 1974

Recruitment Update

The Fall 2013 rush effort at 1815 was a success. We added 31 outstanding new members to our chapter who will be initiated in February. About half of these 31 pledges were able to move in to our reserved rooms at the new University Avenue dorm. This made for a unique experience for our freshmen, as they were able to form an even stronger bond by living together during their pledge semester.

We have started our Spring 2014 recruitment process and will formally pledge our new members in early February. If you would like to get in contact with the rush team or know someone who may be interested in Greek life at the U of M please contact us as soon as possible. We look forward to adding more gentlemen to our already great chapter!

Phi Alpha,

Kevin Gust, William Kelly, Blake Hallenberg & Ryan Nixon

Pledge Semester Reflection

Pledge semester is an exciting time for any young college student planning on going Greek. My truly unforgettable experience pledging Sigma Alpha Epsilon is one I will never regret. I came into my pledge semester knowing little of the fraternity or what it stood for. Having an older brother as an active member caused many of my fellow pledges to turn to me for answers to a seemingly endless amount of questions, none of which I know the answers to. As our pledge class learned together what it meant to be a True Gentlemen and the names of our eight founding fathers, we each learned that we had just as much to offer to SAE as it had to offer us.

The new members were all shocked by the magnitude of this fraternity when we were lucky enough to be the host chapter for this year's Providence Tau Leadership School. Being able to see how much time and effort Sigma Alpha Epsilon Alumni put into maintaining this organization gives me the utmost excitement to hold leadership positions within my chapter.

I came into pledge semester not knowing one member of my class before our first rush event but can now confidently say that I have 30 new best friends that I'll be in touch with my whole life. I know I can speak on behalf of my pledge class in saying that our pledge semester was one of the more exciting and memorable periods of our lives and that each of us is counting down the days to our initiation into this remarkable organization.

Sincerely,
Alex Otto



CONTACT THE RUSH CHAIRMEN

KEVIN GUST

Sophomore from Minneapolis
Majoring in Finance & Minor
in Spanish

Email: gustx070@umn.edu

WILLIAM KELLY

Sophomore from Edina
Majoring in Economics

Email: kell1168@umn.edu

BLAKE HALLENBERG

Sophomore from Plymouth
Majoring in Finance

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RYAN NIXON

Sophomore from Eden Prairie
Majoring in Economics

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LOOK TO PAGE 10 FOR
THE FULL LIST OF
FALL 2013 MEMBERS



Minnesota Alpha attends the Texas Bowl

Jail 'n Bail

In just a few short months Minnesota Alpha will team up with Special Olympics Minnesota and the University of Minnesota Police Department to put on our annual Jail 'n Bail fundraising event!

This year the event will be on April 16th held outside of Northrop Auditorium from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.! We are always looking for individuals/groups/companies to sponsor the event, if you have any questions regarding the event please contact us! We will put out more information as the event nears and remember all proceeds go to Special Olympics!

Sponsorship Levels

Commissioner - \$1000 or more
 Chief - \$500-\$999
 Sergeant - \$250-\$499
 Detective - Less than \$250



Monday Night Meetings

Monday night meetings & dinners are beginning once again! We always save extra spots at the table for any alumni that wish to see the house and converse with the active chapter- so please come on by and say hello!

If you would like to schedule a Monday night dinner with a few other brothers, simply contact us and we will find a date that works!

Lewis Wheeler & William Mooty
 mooty011@umn.edu



Max Dearborn

What year in school are you?
Senior

What is your major?
Kinesiology

What is your favorite hobby?
Reading books and playing sports

What's your favorite fraternity meal?
Turkey on Cran

What is your favorite memory from college thus far?
The entire week of Spring Jam my sophomore year

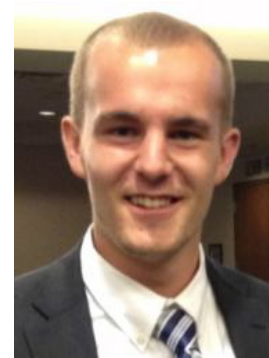
Why did you join SAE?
I saw SAE as an incredible opportunity to be around a lot of people with common interests as myself. As a more reserved and shy person, SAE was hugely instrumental in my acclimation to college as a whole.

What positions have you held?
Risk Manager, Continuing Education chair, Health Advocate, Parent's Day Chair, Intramural Chair

What's your favorite part of being in the house?
Never having a dull moment for the past three and a half years.

What has been the biggest lesson you've learned from the fraternity?
How to be comfortable in your own skin. College has frequently forced me to live outside my comfort zone and I couldn't be happier about that.

Who was your role model as a pledge and why?
As a pledge, I remember looking up to two people in particular, Ryan Hamilton and Alex Windjue. They were both upperclassmen when I joined SAE, but both made an effort to reach out to me and be friendly. That meant a great deal to me as a freshman that didn't have many connections to the house coming into college. Ryan was always one of the friendliest people in the house and taught me to do whatever makes you happy. Alex was someone that was greatly respected throughout the house and I remember really wanting to emulate the moral character that he had.



Michael Schwab

What year in school are you?
Junior

What is your major?
Biochemistry

What is your favorite hobby?
Snowboarding

What's your favorite fraternity meal?
French Dip Sandwich

What is your favorite memory from college thus far?
Living in the chapter house for the first time

Why did you join SAE?
I wanted to be a part of something bigger in college and get to know a lot of good friends

What positions have you held?
Brotherhood Chairman

What's your favorite part of being in the house?
Having over a hundred good friends that are always around. There's always someone to talk to or hang out with.

What has been the biggest lesson you've learned from the fraternity?
You get out of it what you put into it.

Who was your role model as a pledge and why?
Our executive council. They were good leaders in the house and were able to guide me in becoming a true gentleman.

What advice do you have for future potential members?
Get involved in house positions, be outgoing, and get to know as many people as possible.

Member Highlight



Timmy Carr

What year in school are you?

Sophomore

What is your major?

Finance and Management Information Systems

What is your favorite hobby?

A favorite hobby of mine is to go out on my boat during the summer. I love going to my cabin and doing any water activities, from skiing to wake surfing to swimming.

What's your favorite fraternity meal?

There is nothing better than coming down on a Friday morning to a freshly cooked omelet with some bacon and a little fruit on the side.

What is your favorite memory from college thus far?

My favorite memory of college was probably when the Gophers basketball team beat number 1 ranked Indiana in late February of last year. It was an awesome game! After the game, everyone went out on the porch and celebrated.

Why did you join SAE?

With a few relatives who had already been members, I received a call to join some guys for dinner during the summer heading into my freshman year. After a few dinners, where I met a couple of the guys in the house and learned about the opportunities SAE provides, I received my bid. I quickly accepted because of the people I had met and the potential opportunities I saw through SAE, whether it was friendships, leadership, or connections. Joining was not a very difficult decision for me at all, but it has proven to be one of the best decisions I have ever made.

What positions have you held?

After the coming semester, I will have held Vice President, House Manager, Continuing Education Chairman, Parent's Day Chairman, and Eminent Herald (ritual leader)

What's your favorite part of being in the house?

The best part of being a member is the ability to meet and grow close to over a hundred guys. The weekends are always fun, but the time spent just messing around watching tv or hanging out in someone's room during the week is my favorite part. I live with 43 of my best friends. Not many people can say that. I also know groups of guys in every grade as well as plenty of alumni. I would never have had that opportunity without joining SAE, and for that, I am thankful.

What has been the biggest lesson you've learned from the fraternity?

The biggest lesson I've learned throughout my time in the house is to rely on others. There is never a time where you need to face something alone, you always have support. It is much easier to accomplish something in a group rather than alone.

Who was your role model as a pledge and why?

My role model during my time as a pledge was Will Mooty. He was president at the time and also happens to be my cousin. Will was extremely respected throughout the entire house, and he always provided fantastic advice and support. He was someone that anyone could come to and trust.

What advice do you have for future potential members?

The best advice I can give to potential new members is to go in with an open mind to everything. The time you spend here could be some of the best four years of your life, but the friendships you form here could last you a lifetime. Get involved with SAE early and often, and I promise you will get out of SAE more than tenfold what you put in.

Member Highlight



Blake Johnson

What year in school are you?

Freshman

What is your major?

Undecided

What is your favorite hobby?

Anything outdoors. Two of my favorites are gardening and cycling. Last year I attended my first watermelon patch and hope to increase operations at least threefold this coming season. I also put about 1200 miles on my '96 Trek.

What's your favorite fraternity meal?

I'm a big fan of the BBQ pulled chicken/pork. Can't beat a classic.

What is your favorite memory from college thus far?

Probably participating in the Homecoming cheer. It was nice to be out there representing the house and there's nothing wrong with some early exposure to KKG girls.

Why did you join SAE?

I initially joined because I knew it'd be a way to meet friends at such a massive university. But, now I'd say I joined because of the strong sense of brotherhood we have in our chapters. I have a bunch of guys I can count on. 25 years from now when I have three kids and some gray hairs, I know I'll still be watching football and eating junk food with friends I met in MN Alpha.

What positions have you held?

This semester I'm holding my first position: Continuing Education Chairman.

What's your favorite part of being in the house?

It's a small thing, but I love relaxing in the TV room with some brothers. There's something special about always being able to convene there for a few laughs.

What has been the biggest lesson you've learned from the fraternity?

Responsibility. I've always been the absent-minded type, but I really learned the importance of timeliness and doing things the right way.

Who was your role model as a pledge and why?

I really look up to Brad Otto. His professionalism is ever-present and he gives 110% to our chapter everyday. It was pretty clear that Brad Cohen was very impressed with Brad during the Tau Leadership conference.

What advice do you have for future potential members?

I'd say use the interviewing process to its fullest extent. Go out there and give thoughtful interviews because most of the older guys really care if you give them something to work with. There is a lot to be learned from an engaging interview, and it offers you a chance to befriend an older brother.



Fall Pledge Class

MIKE GASLIN	HOLY FAMILY	SOPHOMORE
BRIAN BAKER	EDINA	SOPHOMORE
COLTON STEBBINS	EDEN PRAIRIE	SOPHOMORE
ZACH LEIRDAHL	HOLY FAMILY	SOPHOMORE
ROSS LUEDTKE	ORONO	FRESHMAN
ALEX JOHNSON	ST.THOMAS ACADEMY	FRESHMAN
TOMMY CONLEY	ST.THOMAS ACADEMY	FRESHMAN
ALEX GROSS	ORONO	FRESHMAN
DANNY HINUEBER	EDINA	FRESHMAN
ALEX OTTO	OSSEO	FRESHMAN
JOHN SULLIVAN	EDEN PRAIRIE	FRESHMAN
DANNY WILLSON	ORONO	FRESHMAN
MITCH MILLER	ORONO	FRESHMAN
TONY GERGEN	CRETIN-DERHAM HALL	FRESHMAN
QUINN SULLIVAN	CRETIN-DERHAM HALL	FRESHMAN
KEVIN LARPENTEUR	CRETIN-DERHAM HALL	FRESHMAN
ZACH GROCHOWSKI	ORONO	FRESHMAN
BLAKE JOHNSON	EDINA	FRESHMAN
CHARLIE MILLER	EDINA	FRESHMAN
NICK SCHROEDER	ORONO	FRESHMAN
MATT HALVERSON	WAYZATA	SOPHOMORE
JAKE HAHN	WAYZATA	FRESHMAN
MICHAEL SERWA	EDEN PRAIRIE	FRESHMAN
NICK JANSSEN	BLOOMINGTON JEFFERSON	FRESHMAN
SAM DELOSH	MINNETONKA	FRESHMAN
MATT MAPLE	MINNETONKA	FRESHMAN
TY MORGAN	MINNETONKA	FRESHMAN
ALEX ZITON	ST.THOMAS ACADEMY	FRESHMAN
RYAN BLAKE	CRETIN-DERHAM HALL	FRESHMAN
NICK MACINTOSH	HOLY FAMILY	SOPHOMORE
JOE HEDRICK	BLOOMINGTON JEFFERSON	FRESHMAN

Thank You For Reading



To any and all that remain on this list of recipients, we thank you. Without all of you, our fraternity simply ceases to be. As Freshmen, we would not be welcomed into a family. As Seniors, we would not have the privilege to leave a legacy with hundreds of new brothers and everlasting memories. This fraternity means more to us than we could ever explain in text, as follows our gratitude for our Alumni & our Families. Thank you.

*Sincerely,
The Gentlemen of Sigma Alpha Epsilon*

THANKSFORREADING & PHI ALPHA

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE
ISSUE OR ANY NEWS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REACH US AT:
MOOTY011@UMN.EDU