



# Alpha Tau Zeta

F R A T E R N I T Y

T O W N S H E N D

153 E. 14th Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43201 Phone: 614.294.3147 Fax: 614.294.6818 www.atzalumni.org

April 4, 2007

Chad Harris  
Executive Director  
FarmHouse Fraternity, Inc.

Travis Park  
Chairman of Expansion Efforts  
FarmHouse International Board of Directors

Bryce Freeman  
President  
FarmHouse International Board of Directors

Dear Chad, Bryce, Travis and brothers of FarmHouse Fraternity,

Although Ohio State did not bring home the national college football championship at the beginning of 2008, this year has been a great continuation of our ongoing discussion of merging our two great fraternities on The Ohio State University campus. I'd like to again thank you all for the time and commitment you have given the Brothers of Alpha Tau Zeta Fraternity since our discussions began in the Fall of 2006. It has been a pleasure working with all of you. I look forward to our continued discussions throughout the evaluation of the proposed merger by both fraternities.

Our active chapter members have participated in the FH Leadership Conferences in Kansas City and in Lexington, Kentucky. The feedback from both conferences has been very positive. In addition, the visits by FarmHouse Fraternity Executive Director Chad Harris have been very helpful for both ATZ alumni and active chapter members. His leadership in the organization has been highly regarded and recognized by all ATZ members.

In February, the Brothers of Alpha Tau Zeta gathered for our annual meeting at the Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark, Ohio and held a very productive discussion about the proposed merger. We appreciate the participation of FH International Board President Bryce Freeman in our program. His presence was a great addition in again showcasing the high caliber of individuals in the FH brotherhood and was very well received by all ATZ members. At the conclusion of our annual meeting there was an overwhelming majority of those alumni and active members present that were in favor of continuing to move forward toward a final vote of all members on the merger.

## **Mission:**

Building a brotherhood that provides support for members, shapes leaders, and promotes  
a positive impact upon society

The Brothers of ATZ collectively agreed upon a timeline for making a final decision on the proposed merger. This timeframe includes mailing a final ballot with information on the merger to all ATZ alumni and actives during the week of April 7, 2008. We will be requesting all final ballots be returned to the ATZ National Board by Friday, May 16. Both the ATZ National and Townshend Alumni Boards will then meet on Saturday, May 17 to tally votes for making the final decision on the merger.

Before mailing the final vote packet, several issues were raised during the annual meeting discussion that we would like to ask for further consideration of the FH International Board to include its' response in our material.

After considering the many strengths of both organizations we collectively agreed upon a few basic assumptions in making a decision on the proposed merger. The first is that FarmHouse International Fraternity provides excellent programs for member development, has an international reputation along with many networking opportunities, a superior insurance coverage program at a reasonable cost, and full-time personnel for chapter and alumni association support.

The second assumption is that ATZ at Ohio State provides a chapter of excellent men of character residing in the pride of alumni owned chapter housing, a strongly supported alumni network, along with an impeccable reputation and 110 year history in the state of Ohio.

Each entity brings elements to the table that the other needs to be successful. Working together we can achieve our goals faster and at a more reasonable cost of capital and manpower. Therefore, we must use the best aspects of each to promote the new organization:

Alpha Tau Zeta (or ATZ)  
A Chapter of  
FarmHouse International Fraternity

The following points were discussed during our annual meeting. The support from those members present at the annual meeting was prefaced by explaining to ATZ members that the ATZ National Board would present these additional considerations to the FH International Board. Therefore, in order to garner overwhelming support from the ATZ alumni and active chapter member for the proposed merger we ask the FH International Board to agree upon the following items in addition to those previously discussed in prior correspondence between ATZ and FH that has been summarized in the attached document – "ATZ-FarmHouse Merger"

- Promotion of the new chapter will include representations of the chapter crest (ATZ) and the national crest (FarmHouse) in order to preserve the rich history of both organizations.
- Members of the new chapter will wear the FarmHouse International pin and additionally, will be permitted to wear the ATZ chapter pin should they desire.
- If possible, new member certificates should be adorned with both the FarmHouse crest and the ATZ chapter crest.

- All Ohio-based FarmHouse alumni wishing to be a part of the promotion and support of the new chapter will be made associate members of the local ATZ Chapter Alumni Association with full rights and privileges.
- If desired, an Ohio-based alumnus of FarmHouse International will be appointed, as a non-voting member, to the local ATZ Chapter Alumni Association Board for a standard 3 year term.
- Farmhouse International will provide funds for the promotion of the new chapter in statewide media during the initial year of existence.
- FarmHouse International will partner financially with ATZ, on an ongoing basis, to promote the chapter on campus, at the Ohio State FFA Convention, with local FFA chapters throughout the state, and at other events deemed appropriate by the mutual decision of the Local and International Boards.
- Upon becoming a chapter of FarmHouse International, ATZ requests a grant from the FarmHouse Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 for technological upgrades and remodeling of educational portions of the Chapter house.
- FarmHouse initiation fee for current ATZ actives should be waived, in the same manner the initiation fee is waived for Townsend Chapter alumni joining the FH Alumni Association.

We believe that these items are necessary to combine the strengths of both organizations into the premier agriculturally based fraternity on The Ohio State University campus. I hope that you all are excited about this opportunity and agree with these final considerations. The ATZ alumni and active members believe that, upon final overwhelming support from our members, these final issues are an important part of establishing a strong FH chapter at OSU.

Thank you again for all of your efforts throughout the proposed merger discussions between FH and ATZ actives and alumni. I look forward to our continued dialogue, as we work toward a final decision whether to merger ATZ with FH. I look forward to seeing you all in Columbus for your quarterly meeting April 3, 4, and 5.

Fraternally,



Antonio C. Fiore, Esq.  
President  
National ATZ Board