

Interview with Alpha Gamma Delta's, Marga Hempel  
09/25/2017

Niani: Is it okay if I record this?

Marga: Yeah, of course – 5 seconds

Niani: what was your rushing experience like?

Marga: Ah well, my freshman year when I went through rush, I thought it was a lot of fun. I liked going to the houses and seeing the dances and I just smiled all the time and I liked to answer the questions

Niani: what were the questions?

Marga: uh like, what's your major? What did you do over the summer? What did you do in high school? Kinda basic questions to get you to know someone right away like for the first couple of rounds and then like they're supposed to be more in-depth as you go along the process (57 seconds)

Niani: was it intimidating?

Marga: I don't really remember feeling intimidated. I didn't really know what to expect but I just I thought it was a lot of fun so I really didn't feel like nervous about answering questions in a certain way. **I didn't know anything really about any of the houses on campus** (1:11)  
So, I wasn't trying to like impress one over the other.

Niani: because you didn't know the difference?

Marga: I mean I knew a couple of them from where like kids in my high school were in them. So, I knew like I probably not gonna end up in the one, because I didn't really like them back then not gonna like them now (1:24) that kinda thing but yeah..

### **Laughing**

Niani: what is your life like living in the house?

Marga: Life living in the house is wonderful. I love living here. I want to live here again next year. So that's exciting. a normal day, I get up, there's like 20 people who say good morning to you.

Niani: laughs\* that is v nice nice

Marga: I don't really like saying good morning to people. So, it's definitely an adjustment to have to be nice (1:54) because I don't want to sound like I'm mean. Everyone says good morning to you. I'm like "oh my god Marga just say it." I tell myself in my head "just say good morning, its not gonna hurt you" but I really hate saying it. So, that's been an experience I'm growing as a person living in this house and then there's so many people that ask you how your day is. if you had an interview or something they ask you about that. That's always nice. Come home to like positive energy.

Niani: yeah, that's great. Do you guys like reconvene after college or is this like strictly a college thing? (2:32)

Marga: Well I know that like my grand-big. So, like when you join the house you get a "big" and you become the "little" and then your big has a big and it keeps going. So my grand-bigs and great-grand-bigs I know that there's like a group of them that are still friends and one actually lived in Cali but came out here and is living with another one in the Chicago-land area. SO, I'd say just like from the older girls I've seen a lot of them do have like groups of friends, not the entire chapter that they're still talking to but just a few of the friends that they had been living with throughout the years and they still stay in connection with them. So, hopefully something like that happens.

Niani: Cool. So you guys don't meet for like service or anything like that after college is over?

Marga: I don't think so. There's probably like a reunion. We did have something like our international day where we had alum come out and have like food with us. And just kinda get together. Talk to the new girls but it wasn't like anything super big. There wasn't that many of them. So, there are opportunities they do come together. Alums. But...

Niani: not often?

Marga: I don't think there's like anything specific where every year like a reunion or something like that.

Niani: what do you wish was different about your rushing experience? Or living in the house? Or anything? (3:54)

Marga: umm well its definitely a stressful process on both ends I'd say. Obviously, when you're going through it your first time, like going to all the houses, it's very busy and I think they do the best that they can with the time that they're given. Like, PHC when they make all the schedules and stuff like that

Niani: who is PHC?

Marga: Panhellenic Council. They kinda set up everything for like the sororities and the rules and things like that. How recruitment is run. The whole process basically is put together by them. They're people in the group community who are on the PHC. So, that's just something else that they get involved in but I don't really think that if it was more casual. There's a lot of stuff that PHC makes that's very formal. There are things that you have to wear and things you have to say. You can't say certain things and you have to say certain things.

Niani: what would be an example you can say and cannot say?

Marga: you can't really talk about bars and stuff. Drinking and going out. which A lot of people do. People don't have to do it if you don't want to. A lot of people do that in college. People want to know what are your social events like. Some girls strictly want to be in a sorority because they want to like go out and party and that kind of thing. And that's really

not something we're allowed to talk about in the beginning until they're like joining the house. Not that I feel like we should be talking about that all the time cus that's not what the sorority is about but definitely there are some things you're just like stay away from discussing the topic. Like frats and boys and parties

Niani: So, the story that I am writing is about the differences in predominantly white Sororities. Predominantly black and so on and so forth. Um so do in white sororities. DO you guys host parties or is it just the fraternities?

Marga: We don't host any parties. I don't think we're allowed to.

Niani: Do any sororities host parties?

Marga: well like, parties with like alcohol? No.

Niani: oh okay. I mean like party like a typical college frat party

Marga: It would not happen here. we do have like get togethers where we have like a study party like our new girls come over. We have a senior house so we can go there and do it but there's no alcohol even allowed in this house and I know at some other houses may not follow those rules but that's okay. So really only at the frat houses and bars.