

Senior Council of Wabash College

Majority Opinion on Freshman Pots
April 10, 2007

The Senior Council feels that the campus is too divided right now on the issue of freshman pots to take any action to stop the use of pots for any and all freshmen on campus who desire to wear them. The Council currently has no plans to incorporate freshman pots directly into the orientation program for next fall. Instead, it has passed a resolution to take preliminary steps to better regulate distribution of pots for next year if the campus desires to use them again. This includes the immediate action of **stopping the sale of pots in the bookstore.**

The Council heard testimony from a variety of groups on campus and has come to the following conclusions:

- The red-and-green pot is indeed the symbol of the freshman class as adopted by the Senior Council on September 12, 2006. This corresponds to the true tradition of the object as verified by historical record and the numerous alumni who wore the pot as freshmen.
- The red-and-green pot has also become a symbol of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and namely their freshman pledges, during the time that the entire freshman class did not participate.
- Since there are clearly two versions of the pot tradition, the Senior Council wants the fraternity and independent men to decide in the fall whether the pot will be available to all freshmen or **only** the Phi Delta Theta freshmen.
- The Senior Council recognizes and finds it encouraging for campus unity and tradition that current leaders among the independent men are interested in promoting not only the wearing of the pot, but proper use of the pot, to incoming independent freshmen.
- The Senior Council is committed to serving as the body that can effectively distribute freshman pots to independent men who desire to participate in the tradition. It is also committed to organizing talks by alumni like Dean Bambrey and Dr. Blix to pass on the history and tradition of the pot to the campus.
- If the Inter-Fraternity Council moves to continue using the pot in the fall, the Senior Council will request student government money to pay for those pots. Independent men who want to participate will receive a paid-for pot as well. Again, **pots will not be sold in the bookstore.**
- If the Inter-Fraternity Council moves against using the pot in the fall, **or moves only against the participation of independent men in the tradition**, the Senior Council **will not** support funding for nor promote the wearing of the pot. In this case, the Senior Council would want to see pots continued with Phi Delta Theta freshmen only, as per the later tradition.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Senior Council Chairman, Student Body President Jesse James '08 at jamesje@wabash.edu.