FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—Last evening the Columbia Panhellenic voted to invite Alpha Omicron Pi to colonize in 2013 and Gamma Phi Beta to colonize no sooner than 2015.

We believe that both organizations demonstrated a commitment to diversity and inclusiveness, a focus on the development of women as a whole, a strong support system for new chapters, dedication to philanthropic endeavors and posses a shared respect for their history. Both organizations will expand the Panhellenic community in the New York City area and offer diverse options for potential members.

We are excited to invite Alpha Omicron Pi to recolonize their Alpha Chapter because of their strong support from the large body of alumnae in the area. We were impressed by their dedication to being a Panhellenic partner and intentional plans to learn about both campuses. Alpha Omicron Pi demonstrated eagerness and sincerity when expressing their desire to re-colonize and welcomed community attendance at their chartering events. Their philanthropic focus on arthritis is different yet complimentary to what currently exists. Alpha Omicron Pi will begin their recolonization efforts in spring 2013. We believe the excitement will help ensure their immediate success and provide long lasting momentum for the second organization.

We are excited to invite Gamma Phi Beta to recolonize their Iota Chapter because of their strong holistic program offerings for collegians and alumnae. We were impressed by their commitment to personal development in women and building strong girls through their philanthropic mission. Gamma Phi Beta demonstrated an intentional focus on life-long membership and ethical behavior. The opportunity to re-colonize is a clear priority for the organization. Gamma Phi Beta will begin their recolonization efforts no sooner than Spring 2015.

Alpha Omicron Pi and Gamma Phi Beta have both accepted their invitations.