

Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity

Professional in Chemistry

Office of the
GRAND
MASTER ALCHEMIST



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Biennial Report of the Grand Master Alchemist June 4, 2012

Overview

With the help of many talented and dedicated individuals, we have accomplished much this biennium. We devised and implemented a plan to establish Alcohol Awareness Training at our Collegiate Chapters, increased our number of collegiate chapters by four and professional chapters by one, worked with our standing and ad hoc committees to address issues such as social media guidelines and the role of professional representatives in the Fraternity, conducted a review of our constitution and by-laws and participated in the International Year of Chemistry. We also began development of a model by-laws reference document for our chapters and are in the process of collecting outreach program information from our chapters to share on our website.

Alcohol Awareness Training

In January, we reported that the majority of universities where we have chapters offer alcohol education programs free of charge. While we could develop and offer a national program, it was determined that utilizing local resources would be more effective. Those resources are more familiar with local laws and university policies. They also have years of experience with administering their alcohol education/awareness programs. A list of the programs at each university was prepared and targeted materials were provided to the chapters, chapter advisors and district counselors. The DCs were tasked with helping their chapters determine a plan for meeting this obligation. The training will eventually become part of the requirements for a star chapter award, however we are taking this first academic year to work any bugs out of the system. Feedback and results from the program will be discussed at conclave.

Video History Project

The goal of this project is to capture the fraternal experiences of some of our Brothers in an interview format so that we could share those experiences with as many people as possible. Gary Anderson has completed interviews with Howie Jonte and Colonel William Myers. We hope to complete 2 or 3 more interviews with Order of Altotus members this year. Additionally, as the video files are quite lengthy, we have placed a request on the volunteer board of the Fraternity's website for a video editor so that we can share excerpts of the interviews.

Expansion

We saw some significant growth with 4 new collegiate chapters and 1 professional chapter. Gamma Chi chapter (Longwood University, VA), Gamma Psi chapter (University of Toledo, OH), Gamma Omega chapter (Widener University, PA), Delta Alpha chapter (University of Rhode Island, RI) and New Jersey Professional Chapter have all joined the fraternity this biennium.

SC/DC Meeting June 2011

In lieu of having an SC only meeting for summer 2011, an SC/DC meeting was held. In addition to conducting the regular supreme council business, the purpose of this meeting was to introduce and discuss our new alcohol awareness training plans and to help continue the development of our District Counselors, their DC Committees, and their Chapters. Additional topics included the expansion process, ritual, officer transitions, professional chapters, talking to chapters about risk management, and the challenges of being a new district counselor.

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Committees

Constitution and By-laws

In 2011, I asked Grand Parliamentarian John Adams, OA to lead a committee to review our constitution and our by-laws. The goals of the committee were to identify any inconsistencies or misplaced sections, prepare legislation (if applicable) prior to conclave and to generate thought and discussion on fraternity policies. This committee fulfilled their charge and provided some recommendations for changes to the constitution and by-laws documents. The Supreme Council concurred with those recommendations and legislation to adopt those changes has been submitted for the Grand Chapter to consider at conclave.

Leadership Development

Unfortunately we did not work much with the leadership development committee this biennium. We did, however provide some leadership development in the form of training at the SC/DC meeting in June 2011.

Nominations

The Nominations Committee continues to find many qualified candidates for our elected officers. The Nominations Committee has finalized the slate of nominees for the Supreme Council elections to be conducted in July 2012 and is currently working on candidates for the fall Professional Representatives election.

Social Media Guidelines

The SC received, reviewed and distributed guidelines developed by this committee, chaired by Eric Haas. The guidelines provide tips on how to represent Alpha Chi Sigma while using twitter, facebook, etc.

External Relations

Gary Anderson, OA continues to represent the Fraternity at the Chemical Heritage Foundation.

Conclave

Alpha Theta at the University of Iowa is hosting the 51st Biennial Conclave. I had the opportunity to visit the University of Iowa campus several times this year. I am very impressed with both the Committee and the Chapter. The University of Iowa is located in Iowa City and has a beautiful campus. It is also compact and well suited to host a Conclave.

It has truly been my honor to serve the Fraternity this biennium, I look forward to seeing it continue to grow and prosper.

Yours in the double bond,

Jennifer Showerman, *Zeta 1992*
Grand Master Alchemist