

Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity

Professional in the Chemical Sciences

Office of the

GRAND
MASTER OF CEREMONIES



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Grand Master of Ceremonies' annual report: This report will encompass the time from August 2016 through December 2017.

It has been an exciting time to serve as the Grand Master of Ceremonies. While the fraternity has been confronted with a number of challenges in 2017, the past year has also seen amazing growth. The scheduled review of the Ritual is almost complete, and there have been five new chapters of Alpha Chi Sigma installed this since August of 2016, along with one reactivation.

Ritual Committee

The Ritual Committee has been hard at work reviewing our Initiation Ritual and the Professional Induction Ceremony for any necessary changes. The Ritual Committee has utilized the Slack business team messaging platform to discuss potential Ritual changes and plan committee meetings throughout the year. Slack is a secure electronic platform that allows for quick communication and provides the security needed to safeguard our Ritual discussions. Though the disruptions in the National Office resulted in a later start than originally planned, in addition to the Slack discussions the Ritual Committee also met by conference call at 2-3 week intervals from July through October of 2017 to discuss the Ritual in detail and generate a list of proposed changes. These are currently being compiled by the Chair of the committee, Sean Pawlowski (Gamma Upsilon 2006), to be presented to the Supreme Council for their input in January 2018. The Ritual Committee will finalize the proposed changes soon thereafter and present them to the Grand Chapter at the 54th Biennial Conclave in July 2018. I would also like to thank PR Hannah Bowman (Beta Nu 2006) for spearheading the subcommittee working on the PIC.

Installations and Rechartering

Delta Zeta – The installation of the Delta Zeta Chapter at Christopher Newport University was held on December 3, 2016 prior to the winter Supreme Council meeting. The Delta Zeta Brothers planned a very nice lunch event, which was held in the DSU Ballroom. Several collegiate and professional Brothers were in attendance to help welcome the new chapter, and the event was live streamed via Facebook. Gary Anderson represented the Order of Altotus. GMA Jonathan Wenzel presided over the ceremony, with GPA Helen Webster and GCA Kip Nalley participating and GMC Jason Ellis serving as master of ceremonies. Thank you Delta Zeta for making my first installation go so smoothly!

Delta Eta – The installation of the Delta Eta Chapter at the University of New Orleans was held on April 1, 2017. The Delta Eta Brothers put together a wonderful event, which was held at the University of New Orleans University Center Atchafalaya Room and livestreamed via Facebook. GMA Jonathan Wenzel presided over the ceremony, with GPA Helen

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Webster and GCA Kip Nalley participating and GMC Jason Ellis serving as master of ceremonies.

Delta Theta – The installation of the Delta Theta Chapter at Albion College was held on April 23, 2017. The installation was held at Schuler’s Restaurant in Marshall, MI and livestreamed via Facebook. The Delta Theta Brothers organized a fantastic celebration of their new chapter. There were a number of Brothers, family members, and alumni present to help the new Chapter celebrate. GMA Jonathan Wenzel presided over the ceremony, with GPA Helen Webster and GCA Kip Nalley participating and GMC Jason Ellis serving as master of ceremonies.

Alpha Gamma Rechartering – While the Supreme Council voted to reactivate Alpha Gamma Chapter at the University of Kentucky on their centennial on April 21, 2017, the rechartering celebration was held on September 30, 2017 in the Terrace Ballroom of the Griffon Gate Marriott Hotel. There were many collegiate and professional Brothers in attendance. GMA Jonathan Wenzel presided over the ceremony, with GPA Helen Webster participating and GCA Kip Nalley serving as master of ceremonies in my stead.

Delta Iota – The installation of the Delta Iota Chapter at Thomas Jefferson University East Falls Campus (formerly the University of Philadelphia) was held on October 7, 2017. The event organized by the Delta Iota Chapter was held in the Kanbar Performance Space and was attended by several alumni who shared wonderful stories of their time at the growing chapter. Unfortunately, there was a technical issue that prevented us from livestreaming this installation. GCA Kip Nalley presided over the ceremony and GMC Jason Ellis served as master of ceremonies.

Delta Kappa – The installation of the Delta Kappa Chapter at the University of Richmond was held on December 2, 2018. The Delta Kappa Brothers pushed through some last minute scheduling difficulties to put on a great event. It’s especially remarkable because it was the day after their Initiation and right before finals. This installation, too, was streamed live via Facebook. GMA Jonathan Wenzel presided over the ceremony, with GPA Helen Webster and GCA Kip Nalley participating and GMC Jason Ellis serving as master of ceremonies.

Welcome (or welcome back) and congratulations to you all!

Alpha Chi Sigma Scholar Committee

The awards given through the Alpha Chi Sigma Scholar Award Program changed for 2017 to include a main Award of \$2,500 and three Honorable Mention prizes of \$500 each. The selection committee, chaired by Michael Clager (Gamma Iota 1993), received 14 nomination packets for consideration. Brother Anthony Tabet (Beta 2013) was selected as the 2017 Alpha Chi Sigma Scholar. The Brothers selected for Honorable Mention awards were: Whi-Inh (Shirley) Bae (Beta Mu 2015), Michael Sims (Beta Iota 2014), and Iman Daryaei (Beta Tau 2012). Announcements

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requesting nominations for the 2018 Award have been sent out, and the Awardee and Honorable Mentions will be selected in Spring 2018.

Trademarks

In June 2017, we were notified that it was time to once again file declarations of continued use to maintain the Fraternity's registered trademarks for the coat of arms, badge, and stylized letters prior to July 2018. Examples of the Alpha Chi Sigma's continued use of these has been gathered, and we will be working to renew the trademarks in early 2018.

Science Outreach (Wyvern Pin) Program

No changes were made to the Science Outreach Program in 2017, and participation by our Brothers remains strong. However, due to the issues in the National Office many Brothers have had to wait a significant amount of time to receive their Wyvern Pins. This was unavoidable, since there were several other items of higher priority for most of the year. Now that the NO is fully staffed and operations are stabilizing, I am confident that the current office staff will work through the backlog.

Conclusion: This year has seen extremes in the Fraternity. Fantastic growth and wonderful achievement by our members has been tempered by the serious issues that have plagued the National Office. It has been a trying year for the Supreme Council and all of Alpha Chi Sigma, but it is my opinion that things are on the upswing. I have been honored to serve the Fraternity as GMC this biennium. We have served the Fraternity to the best of our abilities, and we have corrected many of the problems that allowed the troubles of 2017 to occur. I believe that these changes will make Alpha Chi Sigma more resilient in the long run. From my standpoint as GMC, the remainder of the biennium will be busy. The Ritual revision is in its final stages, the trademark renewal will be completed, and there should be a handful of new chapter installations in early 2018.

Respectfully submitted.

Yours in the Double Bond,

Dr. Jason S. Ellis, Delta1997
Grand Master of Ceremonies
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