

Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity

Professional in the Chemical Sciences

Office of the

GRAND
MASTER OF CEREMONIES



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July 2, 2018

Grand Master of Ceremonies' biennial report: This report will encompass the time from August 2016 through July 2018.

This biennium has been full of ups and downs for the Fraternity. The number of new chapters installed has been remarkable, but that excitement has been curbed by the many serious issues that arose in 2017. The scheduled review of the Ritual is now complete, and there have been eight new chapters of Alpha Chi Sigma installed since August of 2016, with one reactivation and two more that have been approved by a vote of active subordinate chapters.

Ritual Committee

The Ritual Committee put in many hours of work reviewing our Initiation Ritual and the Professional Induction Ceremony for any necessary changes and making the changes that it felt were most needed. The Ritual Committee has utilized the Slack business team messaging platform to discuss potential Ritual changes and plan committee meetings throughout 2017 and 2018. Slack is a secure electronic platform that allows for quick communication and provides the security needed to safeguard our Ritual discussions. Though there have been multiple disruptions in the National Office that resulted in a later start than originally planned, the committee has successfully completed revisions to the Initiation ritual and the Professional Induction Ceremony. 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. After the holiday break, the Chair of the committee, Sean Pawlowski (Gamma Upsilon 2006) and I presented these to the Supreme Council for their input in January 2018. Following the Winter SC meeting, the Ritual Committee finalized the proposed changes and will present them to the Grand Chapter at the 54th Biennial Conclave in July 2018. In addition to the Chair, Sean Pawlowski, 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!

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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 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.

Delta Lambda – The Installation of the Delta Lambda Chapter at the University of California was held on April 21, 2018. The celebration GMA Jonathan Wenzel presided over the ceremony, with GPA Helen Webster participating and GCA Kip Nalley serving as master of ceremonies in my stead.

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Delta Nu – The Installation of the Delta Nu Chapter at the Northern Illinois University was held on April 28, 2018 in the Heritage Room of the Holmes Student Center. This Installation was attended by many collegiate and professional Brothers, including several from outside the district. Due to health and other personal problems, the GMA, GPA, and GMC were unable to attend. GPA Helen Webster presided over the ceremony with help from DCs from other districts.

Delta Mu – The Installation of the Delta Mu Chapter at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan was held on June 2 at Brick Street restaurant in Grand Blanc, Michigan. The event was wonderful, with many Brothers giving stories from throughout the chapter's formation. These stories of the ties of friendship among our Brothers are always my favorite part of the Installation ceremonies, and the Delta Mu Brothers from both A and B section had many. 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. The GMA's speech was especially poignant, as he is a faculty member at Kettering and was close to many of the Brothers at the new chapter.

Delta Xi – The University of Tampa Colony of the Delta Gamma Chapter became the Delta Xi Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity on May 15, 2018. The Installation of the Delta Xi Chapter at FAMU in Tallahassee, Florida will be held in the Fall of 2018.

Delta Omicron – The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) Colony of Gamma Beta Chapter became the Delta Omicron Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity on May 15th, 2018. The Installation of the Delta Omicron Chapter at FAMU in Tallahassee, Florida will be held in the Fall of 2018.

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 in 2017 to include a main Award of \$2,500 and three Honorable Mention prizes of \$500 each. The selection committee was chaired by Michael Clager (Gamma Iota 1993). 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). Brother Justin Pratt (Delta Delta 2012) was selected as the 2018 Alpha Chi Sigma Scholar. The Brothers selected for Honorable Mention awards for 2018 were: Allison Surma (Alpha Beta 2015), Stephen Robert Shepherd (Pi 2016), and Chloe Cheng (Beta Gamma 2016).

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

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prior to July 2018. Examples of the Alpha Chi Sigma's continued use of these has been gathered, and submitted for renewal.

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, the current staff are working through Wyvern Pin applications as they arrive.

Conclusion: As I said at the beginning of this report, this biennium has seen both highs and lows. Fantastic growth and magnificent achievement by our members has been tempered by the serious issues that have plagued the National Office and other events that have overshadowed many of the plans that we had at the outset of the biennium. Two thousand seventeen was a trying year for the Supreme Council and all of Alpha Chi Sigma, but it is my opinion that we are recovering well. I have been honored to serve the Fraternity as GMC this biennium. The Supreme Council have sought to make the best decisions possible with the information that we had at the time in order to best serve the Fraternity, and we have corrected many of the practices that allowed the troubles of 2017 to occur. I believe that these changes will make Alpha Chi Sigma more resilient in the long run and will make the Fraternity better able to respond to any future challenges..

Respectfully submitted.

Yours in the Double Bond,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JSE', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Jason S. Ellis, Delta1997
Grand Master of Ceremonies
Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity