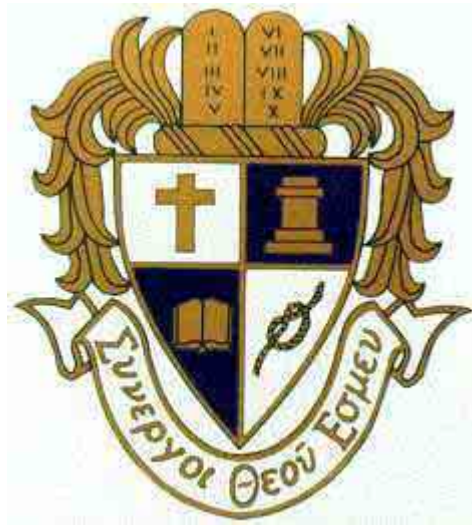


Sigma Theta Epsilon



Spring Conclave 2002

Nashville, TN

April 12-14

CONCLAVE 2002 Agenda

Friday 4-12: Arrive

Saturday 4-13:

8:30: Devotion

9:30: Business I (Officer and Chapter reports, Officer Elections)

11:00: Housing Corp. Meeting

12:00: Lunch (on own)

1:30: Business II (New Business)

4:00: Cabinet Meeting

5:30: Rituals (Officer Installation, Love Feast, Initiation if necessary)

6:30: Dinner

8:00: Free time

Sunday 4-14:

9:00: Devotion

9:30: Head home

**THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE, AND WILL
LIKELY CHANGE**

CONCLAVE RULES OF ORDER

(To be Adopted at Business Meeting)

- I. Officer and Chapter Reports
 - A. Reports shall be limited to 6 minutes
 - 1. Reports can be read or presented orally
 - 2. The 6 minutes includes questions and discussion from the floor
 - B. Presentation and discussion of the Budget shall be limited to 12 minutes, which includes amendments to the Budget and concludes with a motion to accept

- II. Elections
 - A. Nominations**
 - 1. Opened by presiding officer
 - 2. Closed by motion to close
 - B. Candidate Speeches – 2 minutes for each candidate
 - C. Questions for Candidates
 - 1. The time period for questions shall be the sum total of 5 minutes per candidate
 - 2. Each individual response shall be limited to 2 minutes
 - D. Call for vote – may come earlier with a motion to vote
 - E. Candidate leaves the room
 - F. Discussion
 - 1. Limited to 5 minutes
 - 2. No individual may speak for more than 1 minute without relinquishing the floor
 - G. Vote

- III. Business Items
 - A. Proposal – unlimited time to read written proposal
 - B. Authorship Speech – 3 minute authorship speech
 - C. Questions for Clarification – 5 minutes for questions to author
 - D. Discussion of Proposal
 - 1. Limited to 10 minutes
 - 2. No individual may speak for more than 2 minutes without relinquishing the floor
 - E. Amendments
 - 1. Authorship speech – 2 minutes
 - 2. Discussion – 5 minutes (includes questions to author)
 - F. Vote

These rules of order may be superceded at the discretion of the presiding officer or by a motion from the floor (i.e. “I move to extend discussion ____ minutes”) and consensus.

Business and Elections

Officer Elections

Nominations

President: Chad Burdette
Secretary: Joshua Parsell, Scott Reinshagen
Finance: Chris Long

Votes of Confidence

Vice President: Charles Neff
Expansion: Craig Guido
Historian: David Kohl
Alumni: Dan Roberts

New Business

Infrastructure Bill:

- Creation of a Networked National Database
- Creation of a Residential Database (subset of nat'l db)
- Use of social security #s as unique identifiers
- Funding from national dues for Housing Corp.
- Schedule for purchasing networked PC terminals for each house
- Produce pledge jerseys on a national level
- Schedule for purchasing automated e-commerce system for pledge jerseys and jewelry

It is proposed to amend or add the following Article/Sections to read:

National Constitution

Article V **Officers**

Section One: **The national officers shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Financial Director, Expansion Director, Alumni Director, Historian, and Information Technology Director**

National By-Laws

Article I Duties of the National Officers

Section Eight: The **National Information Technology Director** shall:

- A. Be of active status for at least two (2) years or alumni status.
- B. Maintain the National Website, sigmatheta.org, as a central, consistent, and easily navigatable resource for information as follows:

- Work with the Secretary to publish all publicly-available information, including but not limited to: our Purpose, Philosophy, National Constitution, contact information for the National Cabinet, and links to local chapters' websites.
 - Assist the Secretary with electronic publication of The Standard, The Philoi, and any other communication or documents.
 - Assist the Alumni Director with electronic publication of Alumni Newsletters.
 - Assist the Historian with electronic publication of National and local chapter historical archives.
 - Assist the Expansion Director with developing a resource page for students interested in starting a chapter at their institution.
 - Work with the Financial Director to allow online credit card donations to the fraternity.
 - Set up/maintain national officers' email addresses.
 - Set up a secure site for Cabinet members for distribution of confidential communication and documents.
 - Set up secure access for all verified brothers (Active and Alumni) to a National Contact Database.
 - Set up a discussion board or forum to promote community on a national level among brothers, alumni, and others.
 - Co-ordinate with the STE Housing Corporation to develop a website for communication among the Board of Directors, local Stewards, and residents.
 - Guide the local chapters in the development of their own webpages.
 - Invite feedback from site visitors to allow for continuous site improvement and expansion of usability and usefulness.
- C. Oversee any purchases of software or hardware for use by national officers in conjunction with their responsibilities.
 - D. Develop an information policy to govern the types of information which may be published online and any restrictions thereon, for both nationals and the local chapters, to be approved by the Conclave.
 - E. Review the website annually and present a detailed report to the Conclave covering site traffic, status of ongoing and future projects, and revenue produced directly by the website.
 - F. Appoint assistants and form committees as necessary for the delegation of the duties of this office utilizing interested and capable Active and Alumni members.
 - G. Carry on correspondence pertaining to this office.
 - H. Work under the direction of the National Cabinet, which may amend any action by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Article II **Officer Elections**

Section One: National Officers.

- A. The President, Secretary, Financial Director and Information Technology Director shall be elected on the even-numbered years by the National Conclave of Chapters and shall serve a term of two (2) years starting upon initiation at Conclave and continuing until their successors are installed.

Discussion:

Direction of Fraternity

Expansion

Pledging

Report of the National President

2002 marks my tenth year with Sigma Theta Epsilon, from that first semester when we began to organize the Beta Beta Chapter at Miami, to the last several years as National President. It has been a decade full of experiences I never expected, experiences I never would have had without Sigma Theta Epsilon. Helping found the Beta Beta Chapter was the highlight of my college career, and my service with Nationals has had a profound effect on my professional career. I believe I have attended every Conclave or Fall Gathering since the spring of '92, and it is always a pleasure to see old friends and make new ones at our national meetings.

This is my last term as President, as I am not running for re-election this year. I have a new job as an assistant prosecutor and my first child is due in August. I have not been able to dedicate as much time as I should to this office. But aside from that, it is time for a break. Sigma Theta Epsilon has had a tremendously positive impact on my life, and I look forward to the time down the road when I again take an active roll in the fraternity. For now, however, I will just enjoying reading the alumni newsletter.

That said, let me recap the year so far. It has been a calm year overall. Our second year of regional Fall Gatherings went well. I attended the West Fall Gathering at Beta Delta, as did Beta Alpha and representatives from Northeastern State University in Oklahoma. It was enjoyed by all. I gather East Fall Gathering went well as well, although not all chapters were represented.

The major issue post-Fall Gathering was the initiation of a temporary club at Northeastern. We had expected to conduct the ritual either in December prior to Christmas break or in January after the break. However, due to scheduling conflicts and poor planning, the ritual did not take place. As I write this report, we are planning to initiate the group at Conclave. I understand how difficult this process has been for the Northeastern group, and I appreciate their patience. I look forward to the date when they become a chapter of Sigma Theta Epsilon.

While I'm looking forward, let me take this opportunity to stress once again several goals I have for the fraternity. One of our problems has always been long range planning (that, and communication, the perennial concern). I believe that the future of the fraternity is bright, and that Sigma Theta Epsilon fulfills a neglected niche on today's college campuses. Our fraternity fulfills fellowship, Christian education, and leadership development not being met by other organizations. However, to continue to fulfill those needs, the fraternity needs a strong expansion vision, strong National leadership, and greater National support. We have discussed expansion at length, but it is time to actively pursue chapters at select universities, not just wait for interest to be expressed. We need to get chapters more involved in the National organization so that tomorrow's leaders develop and understand of and passion for Nationals. And finally, Nationals needs to develop better services for our local chapters, specifically Christian education programs. The National organization has long be hampered by the lack of time available to our national officers, which is why I have long campaigned for a full- or part-time staff person. While that is still not financially feasible, I hope that with alumni support that can become a reality in the near future. All it takes is a determination and commitment by our chapters and alumni to see it happen. All of this is easy to say as I leave office, and of course I wish I had accomplished more as National President. Still, I hope to see these goals be achieved by new leadership, and am committed to help in any way possible. It has been a pleasure to be associated with Sigma Theta Epsilon, and I hope I returned as much to the fraternity as I have received from it.

In Christ,
Aaron Aldridge
National President

Officer Report
from the office of the
National Vice-President

submitted March 30, 2002

This has been a fairly uneventful year for the office of the National Vice-President. Since Fall Gathering I have been moved from secure location to secure location, organizing Sigma Theta's "shadow government" in case conspiratorial elements outside the fraternity move-in to disrupt our intra-fraternal communications and chain-of-command. In all seriousness, most of December and January were taken-up with my paperwork for ordination. I apologize for any lapses in communication during that time.

By the suggestion of several chapters last year, I have prepared Bible study packets for each chapter instead of monthly devotionals. I hope that these studies will assist the chapter chaplains in their work.

Also, as national parliamentarian, I have developed a proposed "Rules of Order" for our national business meetings. I hope that this will help keep our meetings on track so that we can enjoy more fellowship time together as a national body.

I invite us all to continue to pray for the work of our fraternity and the mission of Jesus Christ in our fractured and hurting world.

Faithfully submitted,

Charles Neff

Report of the National Secretary

The past year has been a busy year for both with my duties as the National Secretary and starting my graduate work at West Virginia University. At first it was overwhelming but I have adapted and been able to find a way to devote my time to both important tasks. This year my focus has been on keeping the lines of communication open between the nationals and the local chapters. One way that I have accomplished this has been through the use of America Online's Instant Messenger. Those of you who also use this program probably know that I am constantly online and accessible by IM because I use it to bug, harass, and find out what is happening with those on the other end. I think and encourage those of you who do not use this service to give it a try so that the national cabinet can keep in touch on a regular basis.

I attended the East Fall Gathering at West Virginia Wesleyan. It was nice to see everyone there from the different chapters and I am sure that everyone had a good time playing floor hockey. I also worked on setting up Conclave (hopefully you are reading this in your hotel room or in the meeting room as opposed to some dark alley in Nashville due to being moved from the Clarion which is closed due to repairs). I have also been doing some stuff concerning the alumni of the Alpha Gamma. It all started back in November when I was attending an alumni reception I had the opportunity to met Vaughn Michael, the founding father of the Alpha Gamma chapter and since then I have been working on updating the alumni listserv. So all in all it has been a very productive year for the office of the National Secretary.

Philo,

Chad A. Burdette



Sigma Theta Epsilon National Christian Service Fraternity

Office of the National Financial Director
8662 Devonshire Ct. #101
Manassas, VA 20110

April 1, 2002

Conclave of Chapters
Annual Report

Greetings, Brothers!

It has been a tremendous honor to hold this office for the past two years. I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to take part in the business of keeping things running on a national level and supporting the function of the local chapters. It was also good to get to know so many brothers from across the country.

The financial state of the fraternity is good. We can expect to bring in a lot more in dues revenue this year than we budgeted for (which means we are growing!), but it will not quite make up for some other anticipated income areas, which are down. Spending was also down in some areas, fortunately. Depending on final officer expenses and the bill from Conclave, we should end up somewhere close to breaking even. It is difficult to predict with so many numbers not in yet, but things will be clearer by the time I can present the numbers at Conclave. At any rate, there is no need to panic!

While some chapters have been exemplary at making prompt payments of their national dues, others have lagged behind. Most of those chapters were able to bring their accounts up to date right before Conclave, for which I am very grateful. I hope the local presidents and treasurers will make an effort to improve in this area for the sake of my successor as National Financial Director. ☺

All in all, it has been a pleasure to serve my brothers in this office. Thank you for serving God faithfully on your local campuses.

In Him,

Joshua Parsell
National Financial Director

Expansion Director Conclave 2002 Report

Brothers after a year in this position I can honestly say **it is a challenge**. I will say that I have learned and gained much about our brotherhood over the past year. I hope that I can take what I have learned this year will help me better fulfill my position with the fraternity in years to come. With that said, here is what has happened over the past year.

Upon becoming Expansion Director I began to check the position's e-mail immediately, and Mark was right... There are a lot of e-mails. After sorting and replying to many many many e-mails from people interested in starting a chapter at many many many schools all over the United States, one seemed to emerge as a group of guys that seemed to be getting things together. These guys were from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma (and hopefully there are conclave presently). Justin Dillard became the immediate leader of the group and we began communicating. Some of the guys from NSU came to our West Fall Gathering in San Antonio where they got to meet and learn some about us.

After Fall Gathering the men from Tahlequah were interested in becoming a chapter of our National Fraternity. We started to set a series of dates on which we planned to make a trip to NSU to get the ball rolling and initiate them as a temporary club of STE. After setting two dates and them falling through because of personal time constraints with us on the national officers side and some confusion all together. We decided that our best bet was to do this at conclave (Thus, why I hope that the guys from NSU are at conclave). But since we were unable to get out to Tahlequah to do the ritual, we decided to help the guy with their trip to Conclave. We did this by subsidizing part of the cost of coming to Nashville and Conclave.

As for the pledge manual, either one of two things is/has happened. I either have them in hand here at conclave or they will be printed shortly after and be prepared for your Fall Pledging next semester. Because of the cost they will be nothing overly special, but it will be something a little more organized. But they will be coming soon!

For the next year...the main objective is to get the guys from NSU a charter. And as always I will be checking the e-mail and look for prospects for a new schools.

Respectfully submitted, God Bless, & Philoi,

Craig H. Guido

Report for the Office of National Alumni Director

I most definitely regret to inform those who do not already know that my planned marriage over last summer did not take place. This event has definitely impacted my life on many levels, and has ramifications with which I am still dealing. That event has not, however, detracted from my attempts to put together mailings. I have examined the database files with addresses, and everything seems to be in order. However, there has been something of a dearth of information suitable for mailing. With the conclave reports and summaries, I should finally be able to send a mailing that I do not feel is a waste of the fraternity's money. By the time of Conclave I will have with me for distribution and approval a projected newsletter with only Conclave summaries left to insert. I plan to send a second newsletter, probably around the time of New Year, if there is enough material to send (this will be the newsletter which specifically asks for donations, so if there is a time that seems better, we should discuss when to send it instead). The year has otherwise gone well for me, and, since I will be requiring you to look over the newsletter and think critically about it, I shall leave you with a short report.

Alumni Director,
Dan Roberts

Alpha Gamma Chapter

The year has found Alpha Gamma still standing and even slowly plodding forward. We currently have a pledge class of seven undergoing the process of learning the ways of Sigma Theta Epsilon, and from the looks of them the future holds interesting things for our chapter. This fall we held our second annual Chill & Grill, once again featuring Craig Guido, and although attendance was not as high as hoped, timing had much to do with it so we are going to take another stab at it. We still play floor hockey weekly on Thursday nights, but the devotion has been moved to Tuesday night when we watch movies on the big screen or play video games. We take a break in the middle for the devotion and then resume whatever activity we were engaged in. Wednesday dinner has been designated Brother Dinner Night, when we eat as a group intentionally rather than out of convenience and habit. Fall also found us on a spiritual journey hiking in the woods, and the activity was met with great acclaim so it is likely to become an annual if not bi-annual event. On the service wing we have sponsored bingo for the local retirement and assisted living home, continued our support of Buckhannon's Parish House, guarded the AIDS quilt, and several brothers have become involved with a group of young children, "Disciple Club," with whom they help along in their faith lives as well as have lots of fun with at meetings. We elected an excellent group of officers to serve and so far they have gone above and beyond their duties. As the semester comes to a close, I am happy to know that despite the large number of seniors leaving us that Alpha Gamma will survive and perhaps begin to grow again. With every brother having amazing ideas every five seconds (and even a few plausible ones a week), I look to returning in the fall with excitement and apprehension to see what they have thought of over the summer. At a time when our campus is turning against fraternities, I am glad to say that we are still strong and above reproach. When things start happening all at once God is usually up to something so it is with anticipation I wait to see what the future has in store for your brothers here in Alpha Gamma....

~ Zachary S. Borovicka, BBB
President, Alpha Gamma Chapter

Delta Chapter

The Delta Chapter has had a wonderful year and has seen God do some amazing things. For the past few years we have struggled to rebuild after losing many brothers to graduation. We have also not been as active in terms of service as we would like to be. However, in the fall we were blessed with the addition of ten new brothers, which more than doubled our number of brothers prior to initiation. We now have a total of 16 brothers as two have gone inactive, but many more have stepped up to take on leadership roles. It has truly been wonderful.

We also were blessed to be able to assist Habitat for Humanity in our area on at least two or three occasions. We have all been involved on individual levels in other campus outreach opportunities, thereby positively representing Sigma Theta Epsilon. We have recently initiated a plan to take some pressure off the social and service chairs, to boost our social involvement and fellowship and our commitment to service in the community. This is simply to put into effect, social and service committees rather than having a single person in charge. This is something that, until this semester, we have not had the luxury of doing. Included in our plans for this semester are service projects to a dance at a retirement community, more Habitat for Humanity, a national youth service day when we will help clean up some of the city parks and an escort service from fraternity parties in order to serve the campus and show Christ's love. We have also assisted with the fundraising for an all-day Christian outreach concert that was held in the middle of campus April 6, 2002 from 2:00pm to 10:00 pm.

One other wonderful addition is that of our sweetheart, who has served and encouraged us for these two semesters. She has done so with letters, candy and just her presence on campus. We were very blessed with this new addition. We have had the opportunity to honor her, as she has been the center of much gratitude, and sometimes embarrassment. Our prayer for the year is that the incoming freshmen will be open and willing to join us in our ministry and fellowship, and that God will rise up leaders to take all our campus ministries to the next level of outreach to God's glory. These things he has been faithful to in the past and will no doubt be faithful to in years to come.

God's Blessings on all your work in Christ,

Adam Anderson
Delta Chapter President

Beta Alpha Chapter

This last year has been very busy for the Beta Alpha Chapter. We came off a great 2000-2001 year and were excited to get back into the swing of things. We had a strong pledge class of six guys in the fall and they have become great brothers. We participated in many of the on-campus activities sponsored by the school. One such activity was the Shack-A-Thon. We build a shack out of boxes and duct tape and had to stay in it over night. We had about twelve brothers involved in that. We also did a few community service projects such as working with the Salvation Army and making 60 dozen cookies for Ciros prison ministry.

We currently have 39 members and we are going strong. In January, we passed an amendment to our by-laws, which will now allow us to bill brothers' dues to the school account. This will make it much easier to take care of dues throughout the semester.

Homecoming went great even though we did not place. I hope that we will do better next year. About 25 different brothers participated in the different events. We will also participate in Spring Sing, which is sponsored on my Blue Key. We were second last year but I feel that we will get first this year. We have a great group setting up the event. We look forward to next year and having another big pledge class. We will be graduation about 12 seniors this year and we are very proud of their participation with Sigma Theta Epsilon.

Philo,

Brian Phillips
Beta Alpha President

Beta Beta Chapter

Brothers, it is an honor to address you today regarding our chapter of our shared fraternity. This has been an odd semester for us at Miami, mostly because we are without pledges this semester. What would seem a curse we have seen as blessing to us; we have used this time to gather together and be strengthened as brothers. This has brought about strife within our brotherhood, but from this strife has come a semester of growth. We know who we are and we are growing together into a strong brotherhood.

We have been active in each other's walks with the formation of small groups for accountability and prayer; this gives brothers the chance to share their lives with brothers they would not normally see. Our religious projects have been very fruitful and never fail to challenge brothers and to bind us closer.

This brotherhood looks forward to the coming year, the impact we will make for God in the hearts of men, and the ways we will serve our campus

James Orr
Beta Beta President

Beta Gamma Chapter

Dear Brothers in Christ,

At the very beginning of the year we decided to try something that we had never done before, but should have been doing all along. It had never crossed our minds before to pray during our fraternity parties. Many ministries and churches do this during services or large events where they know spiritual warfare is happening and we decided to take this idea and apply it to our party. We had just recently converted an extra room on our third floor into our Christian resource library, and during the party we had brothers and other Christian friends sign up for 30-minute shifts of prayer throughout the entire night. The result was an amazing party where people had more fun and spiritual conversations ran rampant. We now have prayer on the third floor at every party, because we want God to be the center of our ministry.

That wasn't the only new thing that we did that party. In an effort to connect with those that come to our party better, we held a raffle. Yet on the raffle tickets, people had a chance to give us their contact info and receive updates. We gave people the opportunity to be emailed about our next service project or social event, or to receive information about upcoming rush events. We also included the option for women attending the party to find out about the Alpha Delta Chi, the Christian sorority's rush events.

Another new event we tried was an outdoor movie theater night, where we built a 12'x16' movie screen and hung it from the roof of the house. It was the following weekend after the Back to School party, in an effort to do follow-up on new freshman and build relationships with people. We watched Goonies and Ghostbusters, and the event was a success. We pulled out every piece of furniture in our house that people could sit on to accommodate all the people.

This school year has been a time for us to really expand and try new things. Another area we've added to our ministry here is our open co-ed Bible Study, Explorers, led by John Wentz, the campus minister of University Christian Church (UCC). The Bible study is based around the question, "If you could ask God one question that you know he would answer, what would it be?" We found that we were coming in contact with people who weren't connected to any other campus ministry and we wanted to provide for them. Several of those who came to the Explorers Bible Study found out about it through the raffle tickets at the party. At the end of the fall quarter one of the friends of a fraternity brother came to know Christ through that study and a Campus Crusade retreat. Much to our surprise, the Explorers Bible study has also been the catalyst for a new campus ministry, called Focus. It's a church-based ministry through UCC with a vision to see students that live in the surrounding UC community come to know Christ and to be multi-racial Christian ministry.

Fall quarter we were blessed with eight new pledges, yet we only had one pledge winter quarter. This is largely in part to us not being as intentional about building new relationships with guys, but has really challenged us to examine our ministry and ourselves. I feel that we've definitely grown from that and I'm excited to see what we do to pass the vision of our ministry to potential brothers. We also were able to be recognized at the Homecoming game since I was elected to a position on the homecoming court and ultimately as Homecoming King Runner-up. So the fraternity was able to represent the various Christian groups on campus and get our name out in front of the University.

This coming spring and fall quarters we will be looking at further defining and refining our purpose and mission as a Christian fraternity here on campus. We really desire to see the brothers be built up and trained as true men of God. We just started a Bible study this quarter that is lead by a local church elder that has a heart for discipling future lay leaders of the church. We will be focusing on building close bonds between the brothers as well as close bonds with other campus ministries and fraternities. Please pray for our ministry here at UC, that God would bless our efforts and would lead us in the direction that would make this fraternity truly effective in fulfilling His purpose for us.

In Christ,

Isaac Woodby
Beta Gamma Chapter

Beta Epsilon Chapter

The year has been busy since the last time we were able to make it to a Conclave. We have expanded our chapter with 6 new pledges and have finally chosen a Sweetheart to support us. A pastor from Northwoods Church in Peoria has been our Advisor for some time now and gave us some very good advice on how to define ourselves. This semester has been a time of hard work as we have tried to define our mission, vision, and values in order to have a more cohesive understanding of the work God would have us do on Bradley's campus. In order to better understand ourselves and each other we are going to Camp David, which is a team building and spiritual building camp in Colorado run in part by our Advisor. We also ratified our Constitution after several of our members worked very hard last semester to revise it. In reaching out to the community around us we continue to send members to Common Place to help tutor kids. We have recently taken advantage of volunteering opportunities at a local hospital. On campus we took part in Bradley's Homecoming again by building a float for the parade. We won second place in the float competition which was worth \$250. Also, our social chairman coordinated four parties at our house for the whole campus. At the last one we had a good deal of advertising around campus and there were a large number of non-Christians at our party. All in all it has been a busy year full of hard work, but we feel confident that now is the time to move forward to fulfill our mission and vision.

Michael Orr
Beta Delta President