

Pre-Conclave Journal

Sigma Theta Epsilon
National Conclave of Chapters
April 11-13, 2008

St. Louis, Missouri

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**This document compiled by the National Secretary
March 2008**

Introduction

Greetings Brothers!

I look forward to seeing you soon in St. Louis.

The purpose of this journal is to better prepare delegates and brothers for our national business meeting. So, if you are a delegate, please read this document very carefully and discuss its contents with your chapters BEFORE your arrival in St. Louis.

It would also be useful to review our national constitution before arrival. Please note that amendments to the constitution can originate in only two ways. 1. A suggested amendment can be placed on the agenda by the National Board for approval by the Conclave. 2. Two thirds of the chapters can petition to have an amendment placed on the agenda. In order to facilitate business, and to make the most of our limited time together, the board has drawn up the business agenda for this conclave.

The items are included in this publication and have already been posted to the Sigma Theta Epsilon Bulletin Boards. Feel free to read the discussions there and familiarize yourself with these matters before arriving at Conclave.

As noted in the preliminary schedule, we will use one of our business sessions to provide a series of less structured interactions between the National Board and the actives. We have heard many suggestions and concerns from you as individuals but would like to have a “group discussion” on some of the challenges and opportunities facing us as a national brotherhood. Topics include fraternity practices and rituals, programming and the ever popular “communication and reporting”. For this to work it is essential that delegates are prepared to act informed and with reasonable speed in the first business session.

Recall the Code of Conduct for the Ritual states: "Brothers are to proceed with an attitude that denotes respect for the event, attire that denotes respect for the event." Therefore *Shirt and Tie are the minimum requirement for rituals without exception.*

Your brothers await you in St. Louis. See you there!

Philo,

David K. Burden
National Secretary

Preliminary Schedule

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 11

10 PM National Board Meeting (National Officers only) Location TBA

Saturday, April 12

8:00-8:45 AM Breakfast*

8:45 Devotions*/ Praise and Worship* (National VP)

9:00-9:45 Opening Ritual-Roll of Chapters

9:45-10:00 Break

10:00 Business I

Officer reports, National Budget, Q&A

Agenda Items I-III

12:30-1:45 LUNCH on your own.

1:45-4:00 Business II:

The “Business II” time slot will be filled this year by a series of presentations, forums and workshops. The specific number of presentations, forums, and workshops to be presented will depend on the amount of time given to each of them. Each session should last approximately fifteen minutes.

The topics to potentially be covered include:

Conclave Hotels (what is most important to have in a hotel)

Communication Issues (How can we communicate better)

STE Database (How to use it properly)**

Web 2.0 and the Fraternity (How do we move forward with the tools available to us)

Relearning the grip and the motto and other often misused fraternity secrets

The basics of running a meeting and how to set up the altar

In addition, there will be one session of more intimate settings, featuring a breakout session with each national officer. Each national officer will present something to the chapters related to their office, to help move the fraternity forward.

4:30-6:30 PM Love Feast* (possibly followed by a brothers-only ritual)

7:00 PM Dinner* _____ Details, location and directions to be distributed upon arrival.

Sunday, April 13

8-10 AM Breakfast, Devotional, Praise and Worship, Introduction to the 2008-2009 theme the B:WM raffle drawing, and prayers for the road.*

*Denotes open to the general public.

**Each President should bring the following for the database session:

First and Last name, email, pledge class, status for every Pledge, Active, Associate in the chapter. Also please bring an officer list.

Business Items

Agenda Item I. Beta Delta Probation

In November 2007 the National Board acting under the authority given it by Article 8 of the National Constitution placed the Beta Delta chapter on probation for one year. The letter of probation and a follow up appear as appendix II.

The national officers recognize that limited progress has been made in this matter but recommend that the probation continue until November. The chapter was not put on probation for one minor misstep, but for a variety of concerns including financial obligations, neglect of national fraternity meetings, reporting of chapter activities et c. Probation is a measured response and is the least severe punishment that the board could have imposed. If the chapter continues to make the improvements observed thus far, the probation will expire in November 2008 and full rights will be automatically restored at that time.

However, the National Board notes the following.

As of March 24, the National Treasurer reports that the chapter has paid national dues from last year, but has not made any payments for dues from the 2007-2008 school year.

As one term of probation, the chapter was required to regularly submit minutes of its meetings and notify nationals before rituals were to take place. As of March 24, the National Secretary has received the minutes of two meetings.

Not only does the National Board recommend that probation NOT be lifted, it further warns that if the items that motivated the probation are not resolved and the terms of the probation pursued with greater alacrity, it may choose to further extend the probation. To lift this probation without resolving these issues is to dishonor the efforts made by chapters that have made greater efforts to fulfill their obligations to the national brotherhood.

Agenda Item II Pledge and Colony Regulations.

The National board proposes the following amendments to the National Constitution to more clearly demark the roles of the National President and National Pledgemaster regarding expansion and pledging duties.

Part 1

Quote:

Article 4: Section 1: A.

6. Be responsible for the promotion and the expansion of the fraternity.

Part 2

Quote:

Article 4: Section 1: E

1. Supervise the pledging of Pledge Colonies by serving as the Pledgemaster or appointing an alumnus to so serve.

Part 3

Quote:

Article 7: Expansion

Section 1: The National Board shall have the authority to establish a process by which a group of men may become a new Chapter. The group shall be named according to the college or university at which the group is located.

Part 4

Quote:

The National Board will be overhauling section 7 of the Standard to bring it closer to actual practice, and to address some situations that have shown up recently.

Agenda Item III- Standard Revision Conclave and Fall Gathering Logistics

The national board recommends the following revisions to the standard in order to facilitate conclave planning.

1.04

A. Slate of Locations for the National Conclave of Chapters

(1) The National Board shall present a slate of cities for the next National Conclave of Chapters at the beginning of each Conclave.

(2) The National Conclave of Chapters may add cities to this slate by a majority vote.

B. Fall Gathering

(1) Any chapter that wishes to host a Fall Gathering shall make its intention known to the National Board before a deadline to be set forth by the National Secretary.

(2) The National Board will determine the number of Regions for the ensuing Fall Gathering and select the host chapters.

(3) The National Board shall present the chosen host chapters to the Conclave of Chapters.

(4) All other chapters shall inform the National Board which Fall Gathering host it will travel to before the closure of the Conclave of Chapters. Each chapter's destination must be approved by the National Board.

(5) The National Board will decide to which location each of the national officers will travel.



Sigma Theta Epsilon

National Christian Fraternity

Office of the National President

March 17, 2008

Brothers,

I am unfortunately unable to attend Conclave this year due family matters. My 95 year old grandfather passed away on Good Friday. Living in New York I do not have the opportunities I once had to visit my family on a regular basis as I once had. At this time I am still waiting for some information that will allow me to finish and provide a complete report. I will make sure that my report will be ready and distributed at Conclave in my absence.

I hope you all have a successful and productive Conclave and look forward to talking with all of you in the near future. Enjoy St. Louis, I think that you will find that even though the hotel arrangements took a little longer than usual this year it was well worth the wait.

Philo,

Chad A. Burdette

National President
Sigma Theta Epsilon
president@sigmatheta.org

Sigma Theta Epsilon, National Christian Fraternity, Inc.

Chad Burdette, National President
39 Dempster St. Ravena, NY 12143
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National Vice President

The year of 2007-2008 has seen many progresses and accomplishments in the office of the National Vice President. At Conclave 2008, I announced the program theme for the coming year, which would be “made for love”, and gave the key scripture verse for the theme, which was Micah 6:8. Continuing work in this area, I constructed a national program book featuring four tools for implementing the program theme into the everyday life of the brothers of Sigma Theta Epsilon. The program book remains the #1 accomplishment of this office in the past year.

In addition to the program book, I also introduced and produced information for a national service project. As a national service project, we adopted Blood:Water Mission as a national charity to raise money for, and set a goal of \$5000 organization wide, to be reached by December 31, 2008. I prepared and distributed information on B:WM, and have helped the National Board brainstorm ideas for projects we can facilitate to help raise money towards the national goal. In addition, I have begun research on a possible organization to raise money for as the next national service project.

Additionally, I created and maintained a blog site dedicated to information about the Office of the National Vice President and to post devotionals (or as I call them, discussionals). As a part of this, I pledged to write a discussional for each day of Lent, hoping to draw the brotherhood to more focus as we journey towards the cross. It is my belief that the format of a blog allows for more interaction between the author and the readers, as well as more direct feedback on thoughts, programs, and devotionals.

I also attended Officer Advance in Cincinnati, where I helped brainstorm projects and foci for the coming year. In addition, I traveled to Marion, IN to meet with the National Secretary to help with the transition of that office, and I have worked alongside the National Pledgemaster to try to further efforts between the two offices, including the creation of a standard pledge bible study. I also attended Fall Gathering at Epsilon, where I debuted the program book, the national service project, lead a sample activity from the program book, and helped facilitate an open-forum discussion.

Two goals from last year that are still being worked on are 1) to help organize inter-chapter events to facilitate more fellowship and 2) to use existing tools to help with the refinement of our brotherhood into Christian men and leaders. In addition to continuing the efforts put forth this year, I plan on working twice as hard in the coming year to incorporate these two goals. I attended STE bowl at Beta Gamma and saw first-hand, once again, how amazing it is when chapters come together for a single event, and my hunger to see more events of this type increased. Additionally, I have been reading through several books and researching other authors to attempt to incorporate a book study into the national programming in the next year. I would ask for patience in accomplishing these goals, and that you remember there is a reason we are given two-year terms.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tyler A. Betts

National Secretary

National Secretary Report 2007-2008
David K. Burden

Dear Brothers,

Since my election to this office last spring, I have spent a great deal of time simply familiarizing myself with the workings of this office and the reporting system. Like many of you, I am becoming increasingly aware of the difficulties that local officers are experiencing in gaining access to the correct areas of the STEdb in order to maintain adequate communications with nationals. I have started a discussion on this in the chapter presidents' section of the bulletin boards and am engaged in an ongoing discussion with the national officers and the national IT director as to how to find ways to make this system more user friendly. I invite your feedback and suggestions on this very important matter.

The majority of the time that I have dedicated directly to this office has been spent ensuring that incoming officers are included in the appropriate sections of the STEbb, database and distribution lists. In addition, I have been engaged in ongoing discussions with the rest of the national board in terms of strategic planning for this office and the national body. To that end, I also attended the Officer advance last summer and Fall Gathering. I have been unable to visit chapters nearly as much as I wish, but was able to attend a "Hog Roast" event at Epsilon Chapter last fall.

Much of this year has been spent identifying needs for this office. My goals for next year are drawn from these observations. If during this year I appeared to have been inaccessible to you, I apologize. I hope that this year we will be able to work together to meet the needs of the chapters and the nationals.

To that end, I am establishing the following goals for my office.

1. Work with the National Treasurer to resolve the shingle situation. (I am unable to issue new shingles as the stock that we have contains the old name "National Christian Service Fraternity.") We have been unable to find a supplier that is able to reproduce the type and quality of shingle. I apologize for the delay on this item and commit to working to resolve it.
2. Work with the National IT director in providing manuals or FAQ sections on the STEdb that will make reporting more user friendly or identifying a reporting mechanism that addresses the needs and concerns raised by the chapters. Your participation in the listening session in Business II will be a great help in this.
3. Revive the Philoi! Your participation is *crucial* in this regard. I sent this to chapters and officers a while ago

Any submissions for a Spring Edition of the Philoi would be greatly appreciated. The theme for this year is a free association on the idea of Innovation. Some of your chapters have used the "innovation" report form online and have had some really neat projects. Would you consider taking the time to write this up in news form and sharing this with your brothers? The "subplot" of the issue is taken from Joel 2:28

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.

What are your (or your chapter's) dreams and visions for STE- locally, nationally? What do you desire us to become? How will we get there? If applicable, how does your innovation move us closer to that?

Anyone from your chapter can submit this. Delegate this to an "up and coming" officer if you feel the need. Don't just pass the buck, but if you feel it's appropriate, feel free to involve emerging leaders in this opportunity to speak to the entire national brotherhood.

NATIONAL OFFICERS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO
SUBMIT DREAMS OR INNOVATIONS.

A few of you responded, but we need much more! Please consider getting a submission from your chapter by **April 30**. This may become a late Spring/Early summer project, but I believe that it's vital that we begin to see what our brothers are doing and thinking on a regular basis and not just at national meetings.

4. Thoroughly review and update the roll of actives.
5. Establish better personal contacts with chapters.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve you and sincerely request your help in these efforts. The results will benefit us all.

Philoi,
David K. Burden
National Secretary
secretary@sigmatheta.org

National Treasurer

Yearly Report

The office has been rather slow this year. After I made the offer to help chapters with fundraising ideas and such, I was not contacted with any requests. I have been accused in the past of only contacting chapters when I wanted money, so I tried this year to not do that. I contacted a few chapters just to see how they were doing. Unfortunately, almost none of the chapters have paid their dues. So over the next year I will be contacting all chapters more often, to see how they are doing, and sometimes to ask for money, or numbers. As some of you may have noticed, Conclave took an enormous amount of work to plan this year, and we actually had to enlist a non-profit organization to help us find what we did. This next year, I plan on starting the planning in late summer, and leading the search instead of just letting each officer who wanted to just call random hotels. Hopefully we will be able to announce the hotel a bit earlier than this year.

As I stated last year, it looks like this coming year is my last year as National Treasurer. Please prayerfully consider someone to replace me over the next year, so that I can start working with that person before the election to show them the ropes, and maybe even have them help with next years Conclave planning (not necessarily the hotel search) so that they can understand the amount of work that goes into it. Right now, I don't believe that I will be running for any other office. With possibly three children by that time, I think I will have my hands full enough with my family, job and church to be an effective officer.

Note: Budget appears as Appendix I

National Pledgemaster

Brothers,

Welcome to St. Louis. It is with great joy that I welcome you to the 2008 National Conclave of Chapters. St. Louis holds a special place in my heart as it was here I was elected to my first term as National Vice President five years ago. This year also marks my 15th year as a member of this Brotherhood and I am excited to see all of you and celebrate!

Over past year, my major task was to overhaul the National Pledge Program Materials, specifically the National Pledge Manual, National Pledgemaster's Handbook, and the National Pledge test. This was an involved process of reviewing all previous materials and ensuring a thorough edit process to bring all materials in line with current policy. I hope that you have found these new materials easy to use and welcome any feedback. In addition I have attempted to serve the Brotherhood with diligence in other areas including:

- Researching new ideas for a Brand Development for National Identity through our documents, traditions and rituals.
- Attending Fall Gathering, STE Bowl and other Chapter Functions
- Hosting the National Officer Advance for a second time
- Addressing chapter concerns as the needed.
- Assisting other Officers and Chapter Presidents as needed
- Serving as steBB moderator
- Designing visual identity materials for National Documents and presentations

Another task (that is still in final review) that I am happy to announce is my authoring of a new National Resource called "The Kyrios". The name of the document is based on the Greek word for "gentleman." Based on the 2005 National Program book, this handbook will serve as an extension of the National Pledge Program, to refine actives and alumni alike in their daily life. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

May God bless our time together as we unite as a Brotherhood nationally. I hope that this

Weekend finds you meeting new brothers and making new friendships!

In the true spirit of Philoi,

Shannon Wagers

National Pledgemaster

Sigma Theta Epsilon

National Christian Fraternity

Alumni Secretary

Spring 2008 Report

This year has been one of learning for me, as I have seen what I like and what I think needs some work with the alumni system in Sigma Theta. On the plus side I have been working with two groups to organize alumni associations (the ECAA and SWONKY) and now have a template constitution for other alumni associations. Thus the not so subliminal hint, if you want to start an alumni association email alumni@sigmatheta.org and we will get started post haste.

Additionally I have decided as the alumni secretary that I would like more complete contact information on Brothers as they leave the active membership of our brotherhood. I have decided that we will be going to a paper form that gives me not only names, but more complete address and email information. These will be distributed at conclave, along with envelopes to mail them to me. In addition I will be starting an alumni facebook group that will serve solely as a contact hub to reconnect brothers to those they were active with and to keep current with what nationals and the chapters are doing. To do this I need the chapters to let me know what they have going on, Delta has been keeping me current with their alumni newsletter, and I would like others to keep me in the loop as well, just talk to me or email the above email address.

Finally, I have been honored to serve the fraternity in the capacity of Alumni Secretary this year, and look forward to applying the lessons that I have learned to better facilitate communication in the future.

Allen Merricle

National Alumni Secretary

Chapter Reports

Alpha Gamma

During the first semester we had four church visits including The Way of Holiness, St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, and two to First United Methodist Church. We have also been holding successful business meetings every week. In addition to this our advisor (Phil Shipley) has had the brothers of Alpha Gamma over to his house for fun and food a couple of times. During the year we have had many social events (where the brothers meet and have fun playing games with a bible study in the middle); also we have done many community service projects like wood chips on a playground, visiting the elderly, the crop walk, and on April 6th we are participating in the Relay for Life. This semester we are also visiting churches, including First United Methodist Church, St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, and March 30th we will be visiting the Episcopal Church nearby. Our brothers have been regularly attending the Chapel service on campus every Tuesday. We have also had our formal recently with the sisters of Kappa Phi, the Christian sorority on campus. In addition we will be having composite pictures taken on Thursday March 27. We also plan on handing out Bibles to the community.

Paul Kennedy,
Alpha Gamma President

Current Membership Numbers:
Active: 10; Associate: 3; Inactive: 3; Pledge: 2

Delta

MUC Box 1275
1972 Clark Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601
President: Derek Mason

Thus far, Delta chapter has had an excellent year. In the past few years, Delta has been taking big steps forward toward more service and a larger and tighter network of brothers. We are averaging a different service project once every two weeks, and we have had significant participation in the projects. In November we started by helping to set up and serve a Thanksgiving dinner to underprivileged families in our surrounding community, and we just recently helped our Admissions office write notes to prospective students who are interested in participating in any religious groups in college. Other projects we undertook were raising money for Community Harvest, an organization that rescues food from vendors who would otherwise throw it away; helping to make fleece blankets for families in our community; and many of our brothers helped out with a local youth group. We are planning to raise money and walk for Relay for Life in April, and we are also planning to participate in United Way's Youth Day of Caring, in which we participated last year.

One of our brothers is heading a Sunday night service in the chapel on campus, and some of the brothers have been attending this service. We held an open house at the beginning of the current semester, where we had time to meet anyone interested in our organization and enjoy each other's company. We have recently put together a retreat where all of the brothers traveled to an off-campus location and shared a night of brotherhood and bonding. Our social activities have dramatically increased in the past year, and we are hoping to keep that going. To name only a few social events, we have had movie nights, football in the Quad, Frisbee in the Quad, bowling, and we had an enjoyable game of Capture the Flag. We are also continuing the tradition of "Monday night dinners." But far more importantly, as most brothers would agree, the event that most of us look forward to is our STE Formal, which we hold every December. This year's formal was an absolute blast! We drove off-campus to Canton to enjoy a formal dinner, and after we finished there, we traveled back to Alliance to our formal dance at Sleepy Hollow Country Club.

We DKR'ed two brothers last semester, Travis Duncan and Anthony Barkett, and we miss both of them greatly. As of now, Delta has 19 active brothers, 4 pledges, and 2 inactive brothers. We have a large class that will be DKR'ed at the end of the semester, and we are excited to spread our name around campus next year in hopes of filling the roles that these outstanding brothers will leave.

I wish everyone great success in the coming year, and God Bless.

Derek Mason, President

Epsilon

Major Events:

Welcome Fest/1st Week Party
Homecoming / Hog Roast
Brotherhood Hike
Ada Music Feast
Tacky Sweater Christmas Party
Ice Bowl: Disc Golf Tournament
Alumni Banquet / Fall Pledge Activation
STE/KP Semi Formals
Brotherhood Ski Trip
STE Bowl

The 2007-2008 school year has thus far, been another great year for the Epsilon Chapter. We have held many successful events this year including our ONU Homecoming service project in which we were hired by the university to help with the logistics of homecoming and in turn were able to donate \$500 to North West Ohio Flood Relief efforts. We also held our annual Hog Roast during the homecoming festivities and were thus able to turn a significant profit, which was the first in many years. This past year the brotherhood has been focused more on inreach and as a result has carried out some new events aimed solely at development within the brotherhood. These new events included a brotherhood hike and ski trip, which were great opportunities for the brothers to grow closer together in fellowship and faith. Furthermore, the brotherhood has focused this past year in creating greater alumni relations, which resulted in a revamped Alumni Banquet. This was coordinated so as to coincide with the activation of our fall pledges so that our alumni would have the opportunity to participate in the ritual. However, the event was basically snowed out resulting in poor attendance. The brotherhood continues to focus on these initiatives of inreach and alumni development and thus have more upcoming events to help us grow in these areas including another alumni event and our annual trip to camp Otterbein for service and fun.

36 Actives
5 Associates
0 Inactive
10 Pledges

Beta Beta

The Beta Beta Chapter has 11 active members and have struggled through the Rush period with no success. Although we have had a mass emailing of all freshman and sophomore men in the university was met with little response of interest in joining the fraternity. We continually struggle with other Campus Ministries like Campus Crusade, that hinder our ability to gain membership. We have been trying to put our “rivalries” aside and make contacts with other Christian Ministries on campus including getting involved with Greek Life which will at least increase our networking and visibility around campus.

After a couple of successful social events, including a Super Bowl Party, the fellowship within the fraternity continues to grow. Our new Chaplain has been leading a successful Bible Study on Matthew that is open to people outside the fraternity. The brotherhood has also been in contact with Alumni and invited them to a social event that was a game and movie night. As a service project we wrote personal letters to soldiers thanking them for their service. The Brotherhood is also planning on doing Relay For Life when it comes to our campus.

Todd Killmeyer,
President

Beta Gamma

Spring Quarter 2007

The Formal last spring was our biggest event which took place at the benchmark in Kentucky. We had a good turn out of about 70 people and we raise a little money auctioning off brothers for services such as cooking and fixing computers. We had a Red River Gorge trip planned last spring but we could not get enough brothers who were able to make it, so the trip fell through. The party we had was a western theme. It really did not go very well. We averaged around 20 to 30 people over the course of the night. This is much lower than any party we have had in the past. There were a few brothers last year that watched the show Hero's so one brother invited people over his house for Hero's followed by a bible study. This was open to anyone and was a fairly successful bible study. Our spring rush consisted of a Passover dinner on Monday, Capture the Flag in UC's design and architecture building. This is better known as Daapture the Flag. On Wednesday we had a cookout, Thursday was a movie night and Friday we had a pizza lunch, with the evening set aside for a Passover service. The Rush did not result in any pledges. We had a table set up for the spring student activity fair. On Mondays we had game nights that were hosted by one of our alumni. They were always well attended by both brothers and non-brothers. We had games such as Munchkin and Risk.

Summer Quarter 2007:

The only thing that happened in the summer was the student activity fair. We had brothers at the tables while it was going and got a few names but they did not show any interest once school started. Nothing else went on since most brothers had gone home.

Fall Quarter 2007:

This past Fall we played intramural flag football with our team consisting of brothers and guys from another Christian organization. We had our annual thanksgiving dinner in mid November. We had a decent turnout. We raised \$700 for St. Francis serif through ticket sales and \$360 for Victoria through selling pumpkin pies. Victoria is the daughter of one of our alpha class members and she was having some health problems. For Halloween we went around local neighborhoods and collected can food for a local food pantry. We also had a movie night that had a very good turnout. We watched Rudy and Monsters INC. For our fall rush we had a cookout on Monday, Daapture the flag on Tuesday, Test of Manliness on Wednesday, Game night on Thursday and bowling on Friday. From this rush we received three pledges one or whom depledged. We had SMOTS the weekend before finals and had a good turnout. That SMOTS went very well and was a great time to grow closer to each other.

Winter Quarter 2008:

Rush in the winter consisted of Daapture the flag, Dinner & Bible study, Wallie Ball, Game night. We received two pledges from this rush. We had our annual STE Bowl against the epsilon chapter. It was a well played game by both sides and we may have lost by a couple points. This quarter we decided not to have a party but instead have multiple smaller events such as bowling and poker night.

Actives: 12

Associates: 5

Inactives: 0

Pledges: 2

Beta Delta

First off, I would like to say that it has been an honor to serve as president of the Beta Delta chapter of Sigma Theta Epsilon. From my very first semester as a pledge in spring 2005 to my role today as president I have seen tremendous change and growth within the chapter. Yes we have had our rocky moments but we always come out of them stronger than ever. The office of president has in itself been an experience; Christopher Espinosa Graduated and his successor Raymond Luna was only in office for one semester. It was a confusing time for us because many of our “Old School” guys graduated and there were many things that we had to learn on our own. However, we kept the faith and strived to continue to be the best organization on campus, we are beginning to see the fruits of our labor.

Beta Delta continues to raise the bar on campus as far as student involvement. Our Brothers serve as Resident Assistants, Campus Ministers, are involved in the Student Government Association, University Programming Council, Campus Activities, Student Orientation Leaders, Tour Guides, Alliance Club, Lions Club, Art Student League, PROP (a high school retreat program), and much more. We serve as model students and maintain high standards. We are cited by faculty and staff as being the role models on campus, representations of faith and spirituality, and dedicated to the mission of Our Lady of the Lake University.

At Beta Delta our goal it to live out the beatitudes in the three aspects of religious, service and social; *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."* We focus on the needs of children and value education, therefore we continue to do our long-term service projects at St. John Berchman Church and School. Additionally we strive for our other service projects to include helping the homeless, the needy, and the poor.

Beta Delta continues to strive for growth and improvement. Last semester we had 10 top quality pledges cross over into our brotherhood as well as a brand new sweetheart! This semester they are proving their quality by volunteering for leadership roles, and taking initiative all our activities. Our alumni continue to be involved by attending meetings, service projects, and leading devotionals. We are once again launching a website and its going to be amazing (sigmasbd.org). We are always asking the campus “what can we do?” at their requests we are working hand in hand with the vice president of the university to host a university social, as well as devotionals and other religious events to include a love feast and an informal discussion panel to discuss the churches stance on issues of sex, abortion, immigration, gay rights and much more.

Regrettably, Beta Delta was unable to send a delegate to Fall Gathering and was placed on probation, however this has only motivated us to bring a record number of delegates (for our chapter) to Conclave and to prove to nationals that we are an integral part of Sigma Theta Epsilon and that our chapter is here to stay.

Overall the future of Beta Delta looks promising. With Gods graces we will continue to be the best fraternity on campus, and we will continue to lead the way. Our socials will always be fun and enriching, our service projects will always serve Gods will and our faith will continue to grow and strengthen.

With the love of God, and the faith of Beta Delta,

PHILOI.

Beta Epsilon

The overall goal of this semester was to refocus ourselves on the pursuit of the Lord, personally and corporately. Our internal focus has been on unity, discipleship, and accountability. In order to accomplish this, we've established accountability groups, which have had moderate success. We've started to get the ball rolling on a sort of "all-campus" prayer and worship event that has been dubbed "BUnited." We'd like to see unity on the level of our Chapter, but we also want to start planting the seeds of unity among campus organizations as this campus is very divided in terms of organizations functioning as a body. My personal vision for Beta Epsilon chapter is to see a group of men who pursue Jesus with their lifestyles... men who live and lead like Apostles and who speak like Prophets.

One thing we've realized is that many of the elected positions are very poorly defined and outlined. We're in the process of examining our By-Laws to make potential changes next semester. Each position is going to provide input on how best to prepare the person who will come into that position next. When all is said and done, we'll end up with a sort of "handbook" for each position so that the transition of power is smoother... unlike the last one.

A few of the things we've done/are doing:

- Our annual Car Show is planned for May 3rd.
- We've updated and refined our website (which now rocks... www.ste-bu.com)
- We're working on putting together a DVD of some sort to use for Rush, as well as to send out to Alumni.
- We're refining our Pledge/Big Brother process.
- Establishing working relationships with other Christian organizations.
- Looking at ways to raise funds as well as to multiply our existing savings... We're looking at the long-term.
- Host a few parties and a cookout
- Relay for Life and other service projects
- Establish accountability groups
- Chapter retreat
- On-going Bible studies
- Developing "handbooks" or guide for each of the officers

- Re-examining our vision and purpose for here at Bradley

Overall, this semester will be a sort of refining process while next semester will be a sort of surge once we've begun to get many of the snags worked out. We're really refining the leadership roles and focusing on having well-equipped leaders... putting together some way to truly train and raise up Christian leaders. We've been doing many of the "normal" spring events, like Relay for Life and miscellaneous service projects and parties, while focusing primarily on refining the internal so that next semester, with the internal snags out of the way and things functioning more like a healthy body, with all parts working together, we can focus on impact through our events and services.

Beta Eta

This past year, the Beta Eta chapter of Sigma Theta Epsilon has made great gains as a brotherhood. Current, the ball is rolling and we are well into the semester and semester activities. Planning is also already begun for the summer and fall semester. There are a few things regarding this past year that I would like to mention.

First, Beta Eta each semester for the past couple has hit record numbers. We currently have fifteen active brothers, and we will have sixteen after the loss of actives due to DKR and gaining of new pledges. This is a new generation for Beta Eta. All of the current founding fathers have graduated and moved on, and it has been the goal of this new generation of brothers to grow the brotherhood. We have been successful so far and continue to grow. Secondly, with growth comes need for leadership and direction. Therefore the current group of officers have stepped up to the task and have shown strong leadership over the past couple months. Along with this, many goals are being set as we continue to believe that Sigma Theta Epsilon can and will have a larger role on campus than it has had in the past.

This semester has been an exciting one for us. To date, we have had many projects. As far as social projects go, we had a winter retreat to Snowshoe Ski Resort this February. This was a chance for the brothers to enjoy a relaxing weekend of fellowship before the first round of exams hit. During the retreat, we also held a three-part devotional series led by our chaplain Matthew Cox. We had ten brothers attend, and are looking forward to the possibility of making this a tradition.

Also this semester, we have hit the recruiting trail hard. We spent much time recruiting and hosting Meet the Brothers events to try to create a buzz around campus. This was successful seeing as we had a record nine guys show up to our information session earlier this year. Although we only have three pledges of those nine, we are continuing to work out the kinks in our recruitment process so that we will see more retention with interested guys. A few other social events have been getting together to play some cards and games. We have also gotten together to play dodgeball a couple evenings. For Kappa Phi Sunday, we all attended there services and were recognized by Wesley United Methodist Church in town for the service projects we have been doing.

As far as service is concerned, we spent a day this past February working with Habitat for Humanity here in town. During that time, we did a lot of painting and cabinetry. This project was a great way for us to begin our semester. Coming up, we have our annual Alternative Spring Break in which we will be headed to Washington DC to work with various social organizations and groups in the area to serve the homeless. This is always an exciting trip, and we try to include a few other organizations in it. Therefore we have nineteen people headed to DC in a couple days to begin this project.

For religious projects, we have held many devotions and devotional series throughout the past couple weeks. We have also started holding once-a-month prayer breakfasts. This is a chance for the guys to get together for a time of prayer for the fraternity and one another over breakfast. The most recent one was held at Ihop here in town.

We are excited also about the rest of our semester, as we have a lot planned and a lot to look forward to. Some of the events that will finish off the semester for us are our

DC trip, camping trip, Conclave, Relay for Life, prayer breakfasts and devotions, 32-team dodgeball tournament for American Cancer Association, formal dinner, and end-of-semester cookout. We are looking forward to these events and the continued planning and success of the Beta Eta Chapter here at West Virginia.

BETA ZETA

Northeast Oklahoma State University, Tahlequah, OK

Activities:

Weekly Men's Bible Study

Participated in Campus Ministries

Kappa Phi/Sigma Theta Semi Formal

Kappa Phi/Sigma Theta scavenger hunt

Small Event (A campus wide service project)

Movie nights

Brother Game night Playing Halo 3

Spent time at the local women's Shelter watching the children.

Attended campus sporting events as a Brotherhood activity.

Participated in a number of small community service activities.

Between now and conclave we are scheduled to lead CCF, one of the campus ministries at NSU. This year our brotherhood has been focusing on growing, but not just in numbers as a brotherhood.

We are more focused on growing to become better Christian Men and by doing this we are helping a few of the Campus Ministries out in their leadership. A few of our brothers have taken part in leadership in Campus Christian Fellowship, also we been close contact with the new Wesley foundation director on our campus helping him out any way we can.

We are still working within our brotherhood to keep growing in the area of accountability. At the end of the semester we will be holding new officer elections where we will take time to reflect on what activities worked in the past year and what activities didn't work. We will go through this process to help our brothers grow and not stumble as they become the new face of the Beta Zeta Chapter of Sigma Theta Epsilon.

Current Membership Numbers:

10 Actives

1 Associates

2 Inactives

2 Pledges

Beta Kappa

The 2007-2008 academic year started off chaotic to say the least. Our brother, Brian Schoffstall, was planning to be our president this year. Well, God had different plans for us. God was leading Brian away from Missouri Valley, and to make a long story short, he is now in the Navy. Because of this new situation, we were left with no president to start the year. We needed someone to quickly step up and lead us, so God led me, Jordan Williams, to take the responsibility. Because this was so unexpected and I wasn't very experienced, I have had to learn as I go with both the positives and the negatives.

We began the year with three pledges. They were Austin LaRue, Bradford Scott, and Micah Peterson. In the beginning of the pledge ship, we had a mixer with our Christian sorority on campus, Gamma Alpha Lambda. This event was a hide-and-go-seek competition in which the loser had to make breakfast for the other. We won of course, but our pledges were man enough to step up and serve the girls. Some other events that we had as a fraternity are the gallon challenge, gospels on the quad, a 12 hour prayer, and a weekend retreat. The pledge ship went great, and we had a great first semester. Alex Foote de-pledged, and Patrick Harden and Bernard Rhono became in-actives. Brandon Stiko was a graduate in December.

The spring semester has been good so far. We started off with three pledges, Michael Lippincott (Spadorick), Chris Hutchins, and James Hoyt. We had a very big event for Easter. Mike Mitchell was inspired to re-enact the crucifixion on campus. Our fraternity and other various organizations were involved. It turned out to be one of the biggest and most successful religious events ever to happen on our campus. We have had many other small social, service, and religious events this year. We are now planning to finish up the pledge ship and the year for the fraternity.

Our current members are Jordan Williams, Kris Scoville, Mike Mitchell, Austin LaRue, Micah Peterson, Bradford Scott, Dwayne Duskin, Archie Burrows, Samuel Njuguna, James Justus, Travis Moore, and Jerad Hollingsworth. Our advisor is Dr. Mills. We inducted a new sweetheart, Ashley Graham, and an honorary member, Pastor Mark Gooden. Eric Alexander became an in-active this semester. James Hoyt is going to de-pledge. We will have three spring graduates, James Justus, Samuel Njuguna, and Archie Burrows.

I know it looks bad that there have been so many in-actives and de-pledges this year. But, I truly am happy about it and believe that it is God's purpose and plan for us. We have had problems of commitment and being a member of the fraternity for the wrong reasons. We also are going to have some members transfer to a different college next year so our numbers will suffer. But, like I said I think it's great and God's plan for us. The eight guys that we are probably going to have will be the perfect for this organization, and I am excited to see what we will do next year. Well, I look forward to seeing you all at Conclave. Coming with me will be Kris and Mike. Philoi

In Christ,

Jordan Williams, Beta Kappa Chapter President

Inactive chapters:

Beta Theta (Ohio University)

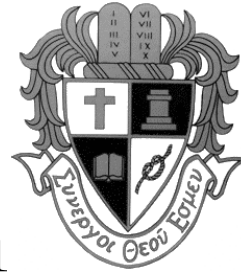
Beta Iota (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Sigma Theta Epsilon
 244 S. Hanover St
 Minster, OH 45865

Fiscal Year 2009 Budget (June 2008 - May 2009)

Income	Current Dues:	42
Dues		\$8,106
Conclave Income		\$3,515
Donations		\$300
Sales		\$100
National Clothing Store		\$100
Timothy Grant Income *		\$300
Activation Fees		\$300
Total Income		\$12,721
Expenses		
T&E Budgets		\$3,500
President	\$1,000	
V.Pres	\$500	
Secretary	\$500	
Treasurer	\$500	
Pledgemaster	\$500	
Alumni Secretary	\$500	
Publications		\$600
Alumni	\$600	
Expansion Travel		\$500
President	\$500	
Conclave		\$6,866
Hotel	\$4,041	
Dinner	\$1,125	
T-Shirts	\$750	
Travel Assistance	\$950	
Fall Gathering		\$300
Officer Advance		\$150
I.T. Expenses		\$150
Bank Fees		\$40
Ceremonial		\$75
Misc		\$250
Timothy Grant Payout *		\$300
Total Expenses		\$12,731
Net Profit/ (Loss)		(\$10)

* If not enough income, then no Payout.



Sigma Theta Epsilon

National Christian Service Fraternity

Office of the National President

November 14, 2007

To the Brothers of the Beta Delta Chapter:

This letter is to inform you that the Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Epsilon has been placed on probation by the National Board effective November 14, 2007. This action has been taken for the following reasons:

- Failure to pay National Dues since Fall semester 2006
- Failure to send a representative to Fall Gathering 2007
- Failure to maintain an overall acceptable level of accountability to the National Organization

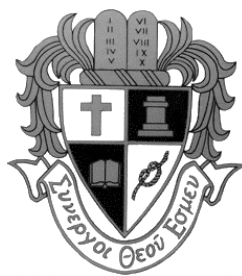
The chapter is now under the governance of the National Board who will be working with the chapter to improve the effectiveness of your chapter operations and relation to the National Organization. In the coming months the National Board will be in contact with the chapter as a means of solving the stated reasons.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter. The National Board is willing to work with the chapter in solving these issues. We believe that the Beta Delta Chapter is an essential part of our brotherhood and want to help get you back to the place where this probation can be lifted.

Philoii,

Chad A. Burdette

National President
Sigma Theta Epsilon
president@sigmatheta.org



Sigma Theta Epsilon

National Christian Service Fraternity

Office of the National President

December 5, 2007

To the Brothers of the Beta Delta Chapter:

This letter is to inform you that the National Board has invoked the authority given it by Section Eight of the National Constitution to place the Beta Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Epsilon on probation effective November 14, 2007. This probation will continue until August 31, 2008, at which time the Board will vote to lift or extend probation depending on the chapter's progress in resolving the concerns indicated below.

This action has been taken for the following reasons:

- Failure to pay National Dues since Fall semester 2006
- Failure to send a representative to Fall Gathering 2007
- Failure to maintain an overall acceptable level of accountability to the National Organization

The chapter is now under the governance of the National Board who will be working with the chapter to improve the effectiveness of your chapter operations and relation to the National Organization. In the coming months the National Board will be in contact with the chapter to hear your plans on resolving these concerns.

As part of the governance by the National Board, please understand that chapter functions now will require much more oversight. This includes, but is not limited to monthly submission of financial records and cash flow reports to the National Treasurer and submission of the minutes of chapter meetings to the National President and National Secretary within five days of such meetings. In addition, the approval of the National Board is now required prior to performing any rituals such as pledge initiation, activations or Degrees of the Knotted Rope. Please submit all such requests at least two weeks prior to the proposed date to the National President.

Please also note that probation includes the reduction of the chapter's vote at the subsequent National Conclave to one delegate.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter. The National Board is willing to work with the chapter in solving these issues. We believe that the Beta Delta Chapter is an essential part of our brotherhood and want to help get the chapter back to the place where this probation can be lifted.

Please also note that the chapter can make a case for the lifting of probation at the National Conclave of Chapters as specified in Article Eight of the National Constitution. However an appeal's chances of success will likely hinge on resolution of the concerns specified by the National Board.

I would like to talk to you concerning this matter as soon as possible.

Philo,

Chad A. Burdette

National President
Sigma Theta Epsilon
president@sigmatheta.org

Chapter Presidents

This is the most current information that has been reported to nationals. Please use it to coordinate carpools or for other correspondence. If you discover incorrect information or wish to add information for a more comprehensive list to be distributed at conclave, contact the National Secretary at secretary@sigmatheta.org

Alpha Gamma

Paul Kennedy
kennedy_pa@wvwc.edu

Delta

Derek Mason:
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(Summer)
167 South Union Ave.
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Beta Gamma

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summer contact: same

Beta Delta

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or
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Beta Epsilon

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Beta Eta

S. Derek Hardin
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40 Crescent Heights
Morgantown, WV 26505

Beta Zeta

John Mason
1004 N. Jones Ave.
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National Officers

President

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Vice President

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National Vice President
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614.562.9414 (mobile) (Preferred)
419.420.8042 (home/office)
board name: Icious

Secretary

National Secretary
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home 765 664 4924
board username dburden

Treasurer

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244 S. Hanover St.
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treasurer@sigmatheta.org
alex@johnsoax.com
419-234-4281 (cell) Preferred
815-609-1139 (home) Last resort
board name: johnsoax

Pledgemaster

Shannon Wagers
National Pledgemaster
6489 Hampshire Trail
Liberty Township, OH 45044
Home: 513 777-2211 (preferred)
Mobile: 513 919 5729
board name: sdwagers
pledgemaster@sigmatheta.org

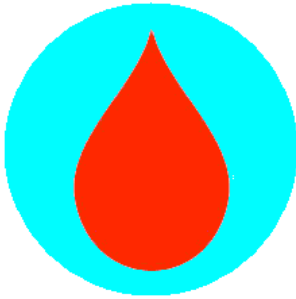
Alumni Secretary

Allen Merricle
606 Ogden Ct Apt 201
Oxford, OH 45056
419 302 2097 cell
alumni@sigmatheta.org
board username Allen Merricle

Appointed Positions:

National Historian
Aaron Aldridge
historian@sigmatheta.org
board username: aldridge

Information Technology
Josh Parsell
infotech@sigmatheta.org
board username: parseLJC



**Sigma Theta Epsilon
National Christian Fraternity
Raffle to Benefit Blood:Water Mission**

“To extend our service projects through programs of action to meet unfilled human needs”



At Conclave 2008, the National Board of Sigma Theta Epsilon is conducting a raffle to benefit the National Service Project, Blood:Water Mission. Every registered attendee will be given one ticket automatically for attending Conclave. Additional tickets may be purchased from National Vice President Tyler Betts for one dollar each, or six tickets for five dollars.

The raffle will be conducted Sunday morning during devotion. You must be present to win. A person may win more than one time.

Prizes include:

T-Shirts with next year program theme and logo

T-Shirts from Conclaves past

T-Shirts from another ministry's Blood:Water Mission benefit

CD with original music recorded and produced to raise money for Blood:Water Mission