

# The Fraternity and Sorority Connection



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO  
FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

SPRING 2022

## FROM THE FRATERNITY & SORORITY ADVISOR

Fall semester was a mixed bag of observing Covid-19 guidelines while creating Maverick memories at Fraternity and Sorority Life recruitment events, Welcome Week, and Homecoming. By the time Spring Break was completed, facial masks came off which felt liberating. Spring was in the air as Fraternity and Sorority Life was able to host in-person socials, alumni events, new member recruitment, philanthropies, and Greek Week without restrictions.

The last two years, Covid-19 had a significant impact on the Fraternity and Sorority Life Community. We were unable to travel to national conferences, had to rethink how we were going to engage chapters, and reconsider how we recruited new members. The pandemic affected our students on campus, in the classroom, and the overall collegiate experience. This was particularly evident in membership.

Currently, membership is down. Since the beginning of the pandemic, recruitment of new members was challenging. Our community has historically hovered around 500+ members; we are currently at 350+. Student leaders on IFC and PHC are working diligently to change direction and discover new opportunities to connect with incoming Mavericks. This will impact marketing, outreach, and innovation. Chapters this summer will need to focus on prospective new members. One blessing is Orientation will return to select in-person events. Making recruitment a priority will benefit chapters moving forward. This effort will take leadership and engagement from the entire Fraternity and Sorority Community, particularly when

classes resume in August 2022. While membership may take a few years to rebuild, Fraternity and Sorority Life is committed to the charge.

Mavericks take pride in being student-centered. A heart-felt appreciation goes out to student leadership during Covid-19. They have whole-heartedly embraced change and pivoted with us as Fraternity and Sorority Life became more creative in finding solutions to ever-changing situations. We are excited to rise to the challenge and prepare for a post-Covid campus this summer and into the next academic year.



Fraternally,  
Gregory T. Wilkins  
Interim Advisor for Fraternity & Sorority Life  
Associate Director  
Centennial Student Union & Student Activities



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 61 FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE UNDERGRADUATES

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At the annual Fraternity & Sorority Life Awards banquet, held on Sunday, April 10, the following organizations, community members, and alumni were recognized for achievements and contributions, and they were presented with awards.

**2021 John & Kristy Buck Leadership Scholarship for Alpha Chi Omega and Phi Kappa Psi**

- Joey Casey Phi Kappa Psi
- Skylar Samples Alpha Chi Omega

**2021 Reichert Family Leadership Scholarship for Phi Delta Theta**

- Tyler Lorbeski

**2021 Stephen C. Jensen Scholarship for Phi Delta Theta**

- Ryan DeRoo
- Roman Newinski

At the annual Fraternity & Sorority Life Awards banquet, held on Sunday, April 10, the following organizations, community members, and alumni were recognized for achievements and contributions, and they were presented with awards.

2021  
Interfraternity Council  
Executive Officer of the Year  
MAX MAHONEY  
President of Interfraternity Council

2021  
Panhellenic Council  
Executive Officer of the Year  
LAUREN WOJACK  
Vice President of Community Service and Philanthropy

2021  
Interfraternity Council  
Chapter President of the Year  
JOSEPH CASEY  
Phi Kappa Psi

2021  
Panhellenic Council  
Chapter President of the Year  
LISBETH MAGDALENO-GARCIA  
Sigma Sigma Sigma

2021  
Fraternity Scholar of the Year  
SAMUEL URE  
Sigma Nu

2021  
Sorority Scholar of the Year  
ALEXA LACHER  
Gamma Phi Beta

2021  
Vawracz Award for Community Service  
VICTORIA SCHULMEISTER  
Sigma Sigma Sigma

2021  
Marie Bruce  
Sorority Woman of the Year  
LISBETH MAGDALENO-GARCIA  
Sigma Sigma Sigma

2021  
Marie Bruce  
Fraternity Man of the Year  
JACK WHEELER  
Sigma Chi

2021  
Rissa Amen-Reif Award  
for Advocacy and Awareness  
ABI SAHA  
Sigma Chi

2021  
Rissa Amen-Reif Award  
for Advocacy and Awareness  
HANNA JACK  
Gamma Phi Beta

2021  
Outstanding Fraternity New Member  
KADEEN SCHAFFER  
Sigma Nu

2021  
Outstanding Sorority New Member  
JULIA PLAYER  
Sigma Sigma Sigma

2021  
Outstanding Alumnus Volunteer Award  
NATALIE TURKOWSKI  
Gamma Phi Beta

2021  
Order of Omega  
Faculty/Staff Member of the Year  
KAREN ANDERSON  
Assistant Director of Community Engagement

2021  
Public Relations & Marketing Award  
ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

2021  
Most Improved Chapter Award  
SIGMA CHI

2022  
Greek Week  
1st PLACE –Sigma Sigma Sigma

2022  
Greek Week  
2nd PLACE – Sigma Nu

2022  
Greek Week  
3rd PLACE – Alpha Sigma Alpha

2021  
Panhellenic Council  
Chapter of the Year  
ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA

2021  
Interfraternity Council  
Chapter of the Year  
SIGMA NU

**Chapter Achievement Awards**

Alpha Chi Omega Sorority  
For achievement in the areas of  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement

For achievement with honors in the area of  
Community Service & Philanthropy  
Recruitment & Retention  
Risk Management  
Scholarship

Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority  
For achievement in the areas of  
Scholarship  
For achievement with honors in the areas of  
Campus Involvement  
Community Service & Philanthropy  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement  
Member Education & Development  
Risk Management

Gamma Phi Beta Sorority  
For achievement in the area of  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement  
Member Education & Development  
For achievement with honors in the areas of  
Community Service & Philanthropy  
Recruitment & Retention  
Risk Management  
Scholarship

Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority  
For achievement in the areas of  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement  
Member Education & Development  
Recruitment & Retention  
Scholarship  
For achievement with honors in the area of  
Community Service & Philanthropy  
Risk Management

Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity  
For achievement in the areas of  
Campus Involvement  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement  
Recruitment & Retention  
Risk Management  
For achievement with honors in the area of  
Community Service & Philanthropy

Sigma Nu Fraternity  
For achievement in the areas of  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement  
Scholarship

For achievement with honors in the areas of  
Campus Involvement  
Community Service & Philanthropy  
Member Education & Development  
Recruitment & Retention  
Risk Management

Sigma Chi Fraternity  
For achievement in the areas of  
Community Service & Philanthropy  
Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement  
Recruitment & Retention  
For achievement with honors in the area of  
Campus Involvement

**PANHELLENIC COUNCIL & INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL**

**Lauren Wojack, President**  
lauren.wojack@mnsu.edu

**Tim Tuchek**  
timothy.tuchek@mnsu.edu

As the Semester comes to a close, Fraternity and Sorority Life continue to work hard for the surrounding community and their respected philanthropies. Over the past few months, our chapters raised over \$10,000 between Shakes and Fries, Live Streams for Saint Jude's, BINGO for CADA, Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, and Moonball tournament for Girls on the Run. Also, we totaled over 1,200 hours of Community Service in our local community. We also hosted our annual Mavathon, Dance Marathon event where we had more participation and donations than the previous year, we are hoping to continue to grow our philanthropic pursuits in years to come. Fall is a very busy time for Fraternity and Sorority Life as Formal Recruitment ramps up and we prepare to welcome many new faces into our community. We are excited to see how much our community and impact grow as we return to normalcy.

**ALPHA CHI OMEGA SORORITY**

**Kayla Dorshack, President**  
kayla.dorshack@mnsu.edu

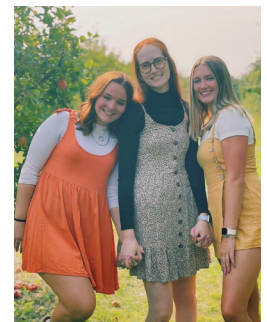


Alpha Chi Omega continues to thrive even through tough times. This past semester we were able to transfer over to some of our events being held in person, including our philanthropy event for CADA (the Committee Against Domestic Abuse). We are excited to continue hosting sisterhoods, socials and growing our chapter. We are excited for the fall and are looking forward to recruitment.

**ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA SORORITY**

**Abigail Johnson, President**  
abigail.johnson.6@my.anokaramsey.edu

Alpha Sigma Alpha Zeta Kappa chapter has had a successful 2021-2022 school year. At the awards banquet, we received the Chapter of the Year award for the year 2021 for the second year in a row! We hit our quota through formal recruitment in the fall and had 6 more members join informally later that semester. Looking into the new school year we plan to continue our recruitment efforts as well as diversify our chapter through required diversity equity and inclusion events. We are looking forward to expanding and starting up our baked potato fundraiser again. All in all, we hope that next year we will be able to strengthen our bonds as sisters and continue to be active members of our community.



**LADIES OF ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA**

## GAMMA PHI BETA SORORITY

Molly Nhean, President  
[molly.nhean@mnsu.edu](mailto:molly.nhean@mnsu.edu)

We held our annual moonball event this past spring and were able to raise \$1,000 for our local girls on the run organization. We are also extremely proud to have had three of our members on the panhellenic council for the year of 2022! One goal we have for next year is to continue to personally grow as a chapter. With COVID-19 restrictions being lifted we want to better our sisterhood, making sure we can be the 'best' gamma phi beta woman we can't Minnesota State Mankato and our community!



MEMBERS AT FORMAL

## LAMBDA CHI ALPHA FRATERNITY

Jonny Bodell, President  
[jonny.bodell@mnsu.edu](mailto:jonny.bodell@mnsu.edu)

This year Lambda Chi Alpha has initiated 5 new members into our brotherhood. We as a group have been able to get a new chapter house which is very exciting and have had many fun brotherhoods together. Bag drop for our philanthropy feeding America went well.



BIG BUSINESS AHEAD. #CHOPSONTOP

## PHI DELTA THETA FRATERNITY

Roman Newinski, President  
[roman.newinski@mnsu.edu](mailto:roman.newinski@mnsu.edu)

This last year Phi Delta Theta was able to recruit 8 amazing men into the chapter, almost doubling the size of our chapter during these difficult times. We have also been able to volunteer all over the community, at events like a benefit for a local man who was recently diagnosed with ALS, the homecoming parade and concert. In the fall we were able to raise close \$1,000 for our philanthropy, Livetikelou. We are looking forward to the future of the chapter and to see what our new recruits will do and how far they will go.



PHI DELTS GATHER FOR THEIR ANNUAL FOUNDER'S DAY EVENT.

## PHI KAPPA PSI FRATERNITY

Joey Casey, President  
[joseph.casey@mnsu.edu](mailto:joseph.casey@mnsu.edu)

Our chapter was able to raise over \$1600 during the academic year to support the Big Brother, Big Sister Program at the YMCA. We were able to initiate our first spring class since the start of the pandemic. We also had the great honor of winning the 2021 Homecoming trophy. One of our goals for the upcoming academic year is to secure funding for chapter house improvement projects, such as refinishing our floors.



BROTHERS OF PHI KAPPA PSI SHOWING OUR SUPPORT FOR OUR SPORT PARTNERS, THE WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM.

## TAU KAPPA EPSILON FRATERNITY

Tyler Schernbeck, President  
[tyler.schernbeck@mnsu.edu](mailto:tyler.schernbeck@mnsu.edu)

Over the last year, Tau Kappa Epsilon has had some awesome accomplishments. Some of our bigger ones are Kiwanis Overnight Security, our 24 hour Stream for St Jude, and the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics. For Kawanis we had over 880 volunteer hours, we raised over \$700 for St Jude, and over \$700 for the Special Olympics.



## SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY

Jack Wheeler President  
[Jack.wheeler@mnsu.edu](mailto:Jack.wheeler@mnsu.edu)

The Kappa Tau chapter has had a packed spring semester. Not only did we revitalize our Philanthropy, Flapjack Feast, but we also visited the University of North Dakota chapter for our annual Province retreat. We also welcomed our new sweetheart, Lauren Wojack, followed by the initiation of 2 new members. We are optimistic about fall recruitment and keeping in contact with our alumni.



MEMBERS AT THE NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER FOR THE ANNUAL PROVINCE RETREAT.

## SIGMA NU FRATERNITY

Keegan Gilbert, President  
[keegan.gilbert@mnsu.edu](mailto:keegan.gilbert@mnsu.edu)

The men of the Lambda Delta chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity have achieved many goals set forth this past year. This fall semester we pinned in the largest candidate class amongst all the fraternities with 12 exemplary gentlemen and have continued this strong recruitment this spring semester by having our biggest spring class yet with another 9 exemplary gentlemen wanting to become candidates of Sigma Nu. Another big accomplishment of ours is our strength of brotherhood over the course of this past year. In that, we have made it a key factor where we need to lean on each other in times of trouble, like dealing with stress from school, work, life, etc. by having bi-weekly brotherhoods like taco night, Sunday night football, unity circle, etc. we believe that this has made us bigger and better men by openly expressing our feelings and emotions with one another, especially through hard times. Although one cannot cover all of our achievements and accomplishments, we are proud of where our chapter is headed, one of our goals for next year is to continue these accomplishments of strong recruitment of gentlemen that exemplify Sigma Nu values, are close with the community, close with campus involvement, and continue strengthening our bonds in brotherhood and academics. All of which can be upheld by our 2022 president Keegan Gilbert a Senior aviation major.



SIGMA NU'S GREEK WEEK CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA.

## SIGMA SIGMA SIGMA SORORITY

Emma Knutson, President  
[emma.knutson@mnsu.edu](mailto:emma.knutson@mnsu.edu)

Through the Spring 2022 semester, Tri Sigma has done many things to be excited about! We raised over \$1200 during our cookbook and duck raffle philanthropy event for March of Dimes. We initiated 5 members who we all love and are excited to see grow in this chapter. We held our first formal post COVID and it was a ton of fun dancing together and giving awards to each member of Tri Sigma. We also recently attended the Gala for the 2021 academic year! We are happy to announce that we won Greek Week 2022, Lisbeth Magdaleno-Garcia won the 2021 Sorority Chapter President of the Year and the 2021 Marie Bruce Sorority Woman of the Year, Julia Player won the 2021 Outstanding New Member Award, and Victoria Schulmeister won the 2021 Vawracz Award for Community Service. We have had a great semester so far and can't wait for the fall!



OUR NEWLY INITIATED PLEDGE CLASS! EMMA REIBEL, RACHEL WALL, DELIA STOECKEL, AND SOFIA MELENDEZ (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT)

MEMBERS OF TAU KAPPA EPSILON DOING THEIR ANNUAL HIGHWAY CLEAN UP COMMUNITY PROJECT.

## YOUR GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

### Fraternity and Sorority Life Community

#### Mission Statement

The Fraternities and Sororities at Minnesota State University, Mankato take pride in serving the University and the greater Mankato area. We are a community of campus leaders committed to excellence in scholarship and to promoting dynamic personal growth of members, focusing on the development of experiential leadership, and the fostering of lasting relationships.

### Fraternity and Sorority Life Community Core Values

- Leadership
- Friendship
- Scholarship
- Service



MINNESOTA STATE  
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FRATERNITY &  
SORORITY LIFE



Membership in Phi Delta Theta and the Minnesota State Fraternity and Sorority Community, completely changed my life. I built lifelong relationships with my brothers and community members that I will cherish forever. Various positions within my chapter, as well as on the Interfraternity Council, helped me apply knowledge and skills acquired from classes right into the real world – something not many other organizations on campus can provide. Being a fraternity man has helped me grow as a leader and an individual. I've been able to learn about myself and challenge myself in ways I would've never thought possible.

Being named a recipient of the Marie Bruce Fraternity Man of the Year Award was a huge honor. Not only did the scholarship provide additional support to furthering myself academically, it also provided motivation for me to continue to working toward becoming the greatest version of myself – both in the classroom and in the fraternity.

*Brett Marshall, 2019 Graduate and Marie Bruce Fraternity Man of the Year Award and Scholarship Recipient*

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