

# The Fraternity and Sorority Connection

Fall 2025

## From the Fraternity & Sorority Advisor

Fall Semester has been a whirlwind of activity. The Student Activities Office shined brightly, as usual, even with some staff changes and vacancies. For Fraternity & Sorority Life, we welcomed a new Graduate Advisor, Maddie Johnson, who is studying Data Science. Maddie worked with Panhellenic Council and Dance Marathon, and she'll continue doing that into Spring.

Recruitment was a bit different this year. With how early Labor Day fell this year, our recruitment timeframe was pushed up. Our chapters had to work harder to be ready, and the amount of time left for recruiting after we completed the structured processes was longer.

Alpha Sigma Alpha and Sigma Sigma Sigma celebrated milestone reunions this semester, with a number of alumni returning to campus for the gathering. It is always great to see folks come back! If you have a milestone reunion to plan, please be sure to reach out to me, as our office and the university can provide resources and assistance in the planning process that many groups are unaware of!

We've wrapped up the semester with elections and have begun transitioning our new student leaders into their roles. We look forward to helping them make their big ideas a reality.



*Student Leaders elected as Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council Officers or Chapter Presidents for 2026 gathered for a retreat in December.*



*Stacy (Sanborn) Foreman, Anita (Lee) Karnatz, and Sandy (Alison) Bentley (L to R in ASA Letters Photo), founding members of the Alpha Sigma Alpha Chapter, returned for their celebration, and they stopped by for a "Sitting With Stomper" photo opp while they were here!*



*New members who participated in structured recruitment gather before the Bid Day Reveal Celebration.*



*Fall 2025 Graduates were recognized at the final All-Greek meeting of the semester.*



## Alumni Volunteer Spotlight

This quarter's Alumni Volunteer Spotlight is on Randy Reichert, a 1979 graduate and alumnus of Phi Delta Theta.

*How have you given, of your time, talent, and/or treasure, back to your chapter or the community?*

I'm very involved with the local Minnesota State University, Mankato, Phi Delta Theta chapter. I have spent many years on the House Corporation managing the fraternity house maintenance and improvements. I'm currently involved as a Mentor for an Active Member of the chapter.

I spent 6 years as a member of the University's Alumni Association and finished my involvement as Board President for a few years.

About 10 years ago my wife, Ann, and I started the Reichert Family Scholarship.

This scholarship offers a couple active members of PDT to receive assistance toward their education.

*Why do you give back?*

It has been very rewarding to get to know today's college student. I've enjoyed giving back to both my fraternity as well as Minnesota State University, Mankato. Both have been very important parts of my family's life.

*What advice would you give to other alums looking to re-engage with their organizations or our community?*

The University as well as your Greek Organizations would love your support. There are many ways to help. I learned during my business career the importance of giving back. Everyone has something to offer whether it be time, talents or treasure. Or, even better, some of each.



*Randy Reichert '79, Phi Delta Theta*

## Council and Chapter Updates

### Interfraternity Council

#### Riley Regan, 2025 IFC President

This semester as IFC President tested our council in ways we never anticipated, yet through every challenge and triumph, we remained steadfast in our commitment to the fraternity community.

We began the semester with ambitious goals and fresh energy. One of our proudest achievements was the U-Lead Diversity Panel, an initiative that brought together diverse voices and perspectives from across our community. The event fostered meaningful dialogue and demonstrated our council's commitment to inclusivity and growth. Seeing chapters engage thoughtfully with these important conversations reminded us why this work matters and showcased the best of what Greek Life can offer.

However, the semester also brought unexpected adversity. When one of our chapter houses experienced a fire, we faced a crisis that demanded immediate action and unwavering support. This incident tested not only our emergency response protocols but also our ability to rally as a community during a frightening and uncertain time. We worked closely with university administration, the affected chapter, and other stakeholders to ensure everyone's safety and began the recovery process. It was a stark reminder of the serious responsibilities we shoulder as leaders.

Adding to these challenges, we experienced significant turnover within our council. Transitions in leadership can create instability, and we felt those growing pains acutely. New members needed onboarding, institutional knowledge had to be preserved and transferred, and we had to maintain momentum on ongoing initiatives despite shifting personnel. There were moments when continuity felt fragile.

Through it all, our guiding principle remained simple: stay consistent and always do our best. We showed up to every meeting, followed through on every commitment, and maintained open lines of communication even when circumstances made it difficult. We didn't let the fire derail our programming, and we didn't let council turnover compromise our standards. Instead, we adapted, supported one another, and kept our focus on serving the chapters that depend on us.

This semester taught me that leadership isn't about perfecting every situation. It's about maintaining composure when things don't go as planned. It's about steadiness in the face of crisis and resilience through transition. Our council may have faced ups and downs, but we never wavered in our dedication to this community. That consistency, that commitment to always doing our best regardless of circumstances, is what I'm most proud of as I reflect on this semester.



*2025 IFC President Riley Regan*

## Panhellenic Council

### Kaylee Plahn, PHC President

Before classes started, we were able to meet with other Student Activities organizations at our Fall retreat. During Welcome Week, we worked with the Student Events Team to pull off events like Galactic Bingo. We introduced a new schedule into our partially structured recruitment process, which took place in the first two weeks of the semester. During the week of Homecoming, our council participated in events like the medallion hunt, CSU cookout, and the lip sync battle, where two of our FSL organizations took first place. Throughout the semester, we recognized different awareness weeks such as National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, and National Hazing Prevention Week. We held the annual U-Lead conference, where we worked with IFC to introduce a new diversity panel. We celebrated our fall semester graduates at All Greek and wrapped up the night with a Mavathon fundraiser at Applebees. At the end of the semester, we moved into elections for the incoming council, who will be recognized at our installation ceremony.



2025 PHC President Kaylee Plahn

## Alpha Chi Omega

### [Instagram Page](#)

This semester we had a great time together with formal recruitment, sisterhoods, socials, and elevating our awareness for how to support survivors of domestic violence. We started off the semester with formal recruitment and were able to initiate seven wonderful members through this process. We hosted fun sisterhoods this semester such as an apple orchard sisterhood, and making self-care baskets for the Committee Against Domestic Abuse in Mankato. We also had socials with other organizations on campus such as Friendsgiving with Phi Delta Theta and a card making social with Letters of Love on campus. In addition to this, we hosted a headquarters representative on campus who was able to help further educate the chapter on how we can be better supporters of those who experience domestic violence. We further raised awareness and funds for CADA through hosting two philanthropies this semester, a haunted house philanthropy with Sigma Nu and a donut philanthropy. In all, we had a great semester together and we cannot wait to see what new possibilities come with the upcoming executive board this next term.



Alpha Chi Omega at the Backyard Bash recruitment event.

## Alpha Sigma Alpha

### [Chapter Website](#)

This semester has been one to remember! This fall, we welcomed eleven new members into our chapter through initiation. These new members have already begun to actively participate in chapter activities and contribute to our shared goals.

This year marked a significant milestone for our chapter as we celebrated our 30th anniversary – with 60+ alumni present. This milestone is a testament to the enduring values of our sorority and its positive impact on the lives of our members and the university community.

In the spirit of service, our chapter organized a "Dinner for Heroes" event, providing a spaghetti dinner for the EMTs at Mayo. This initiative allowed our members to express their gratitude and support for these essential community members.

We are proud to announce that our chapter has received the Aspire Award from Alpha Sigma Alpha Nationals. This award recognizes our chapter's dedication to upholding the values of Alpha Sigma Alpha and our commitment to excellence in all areas of sorority life.

Overall, the Fall semester has been a period of significant growth and achievement for the Alpha Sigma Alpha chapter. Our members have demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence, community service, and leadership development. We wish you all a happy holiday season!



Members of the Active Chapter Table at MavFest during recruitment season



Members of ASA Gather for their anniversary celebration in November.



## Gamma Phi Beta

### [Instagram Page](#)

We started the fall with recruitment and welcomed nine amazing new members into our chapter. We also spent a weekend together in Okoboji for our sisterhood retreat, and a major highlight early on was winning the Homecoming Lip Sync battle with Sigma Nu.

October brought I-Week and our Big Little Reveal, which was so meaningful for our new members. We also had our Pumpkin Patch social with Tri Sigma and volunteered at both Rake the Town and the CSU Haunted House. Another highlight for us was our Family Weekend tailgate, where we got to spend time with our own families and grow our connections to our sisters' families.

In November, we continued our service work by doing Adopt-a-Highway with AXO and hosting our annual Moonball fundraiser. We hosted our alumnae brunch, and it was so special getting to meet and spend time with women who have paved the way for us. Lastly, we held our Moonball fundraiser with all of the proceeds supporting Girls on the Run.

We're also excited to share that Sydney Trautman will be our next chapter president of Gamma Phi Beta. We can't wait to see all that she accomplishes and the leadership she'll bring to the chapter!



*Gamma Phi Beta members after our annual Moonball Fundraiser*

## Sigma Sigma Sigma

### [Linktree Information](#)

We had a busy semester!! We had a successful recruitment and got eight wonderful new members, and had initiation for them in early November! We got to celebrate 35 years of Epsilon Rho, and had so much fun celebrating with our alumnae. We had so much fun participating in Homecoming with Phi Kappa Psi, and we got 3rd place in lip sync! We also hosted our first parents weekend in a couple of years and had so much fun showing our parents everything about what our sisterhood means to us! We started the night at the Loose Moose and did a raffle where we raised \$600 for the March of Dimes, and we ended the night at a Maverick hockey game! We ended the semester with a formal and loved being able to spend time with each other before going home for Thanksgiving and Winter Break! We are looking forward to being back with each other in January!



*Members of Sigma Sigma Sigma gathering for the 35th year anniversary of Epsilon Rho!*

## Lambda Chi Alpha

### [Alumni/Active Member Facebook Page](#)

We had a successful fall semester, we initiated six new members into our brotherhood and are excited to see them grow in the chapter. We also had our pumpkin smash event and raised money for charity along with doing other community service events. Our intramural football team did extremely well and won the championship game, winning the champion title.



*Members of Lambda Chi Alpha after a ceremony with their Fall 2025 Associate Member class.*

## Phi Delta Theta

### [Instagram Page](#)

Phi Delta Theta had a very productive and exciting semester. We kicked things off with an excellent turnout of alumni at our Homecoming festivities, which included our annual golf tournament and tailgate. Early in the semester, we welcomed a strong new member class of eight motivated men who are eager to contribute to the growth and success of the chapter in the years ahead. We also hosted our annual Car Smash fundraiser benefiting ALS research, raising \$1,000 for the Liv Like Lou Foundation. In addition, we celebrated one new Iron Phi, Mark Davison, who personally raised \$1,400. Looking ahead to the spring, our goal is to become an official Iron Phi Chapter, and we kindly ask our alumni for their continued support as our active members pursue Iron Phi status. Our chapter currently has 23 active members, and we plan to grow to a total of 35 active members next semester. Our recruitment team is energized and ready to bring in another strong class for Phi Delta Theta. Thank you for your continued support. We are truly lucky to have such a strong and dedicated base that helps us strive to become the greatest version of ourselves.



*Members of Phi Delta Theta after pinning in our new members as phikeia earlier in the semester.*



## Phi Kappa Psi

### [Instagram Page](#)

This semester has tested the strength and resilience of the brothers of Phi Kappa Psi more than ever before. Early in the term, our chapter house was severely damaged in a fire that was later determined to be caused by an arsonist. The incident created significant disruption and uncertainty, but it also showed how deeply committed our members are to one another. Brothers immediately stepped up to ensure everyone had safe housing, helped secure belongings, and worked closely with university officials, housing partners, and alumni as the investigation and recovery process began. Although the situation has been challenging, we continue to move forward with determination and unity.

Despite dealing with the aftermath of the fire, our chapter remained strongly committed to service and philanthropy. A key focus this semester was our involvement with the Hunters Fund, an organization dedicated to raising awareness about the dangers of distracted driving and honoring the life of Hunter, whose story has impacted many in our community. Our brothers volunteered at multiple tabling events to educate students about safe driving practices, share resources, and encourage meaningful conversations that promote awareness and prevention.

In addition to education and outreach, we also worked hard to help raise money for the Hunters Fund. Through tabling, campus engagement, and social media outreach, our chapter collected donations and collaborated with other student organizations to amplify our impact. Thanks to the dedication and teamwork of our members, we were able to contribute funds that will directly support the mission of the Hunters Fund and help further its reach.

This semester has reminded us that adversity can strengthen a brotherhood. While the arson incident created unexpected challenges, it also reinforced our commitment to our values and to supporting the community around us. As we continue rebuilding both physically and organizationally we remain proud of the perseverance, compassion, and leadership our brothers have shown.

The gentlemen of Phi Kappa Psi will continue moving forward with purpose, service, and unity. We are deeply grateful for the support of alumni, campus partners, and our fellow Greek organizations, and we look ahead to the rest of the year with optimism and determination.



*The Gentlemen of Phi Kappa Psi hanging out*

## Sigma Chi

### [Instagram Page](#)

The Fall semester was a strong and productive season for Sigma Chi, marked by brotherhood, campus involvement, philanthropy, recruitment success, and organizational development. Throughout the semester, the chapter focused on strengthening internal operations while hosting events that aligned with Sigma Chi's core values of friendship, justice, and learning.

**Brotherhood & Chapter Engagement:** Hosted multiple brotherhood events to strengthen relationships among members, including casual hangouts, chapter dinners, game nights, and weekend activities.

**Integrated new associate members** into the chapter culture through mentorship, education sessions, and bonding activities.

**Improved chapter communication and transparency** through consistent meetings, updates, and officer coordination.

**Campus Presence & Community Involvement:** Maintained a strong presence in Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL).

**Participated in major campus events**, including the All FSL Social, Homecoming activities, service projects, and student-led initiatives.

**Increased collaboration** with other Greek organizations through mixers and co-sponsored events.



*Members of Sigma Chi at Gamma Phi's Moonball event*

## Sigma Nu

### [Facebook Page](#)

### [Instagram Page](#)

This semester, we initiated six new members into our chapter! We were very busy with events like Homecoming week, where we took 1st place in the lip-sync competition! We hosted new fundraisers this year that included a banquet-style show dinner and a live band concert! And our annual haunted house philanthropy raised upwards of \$1,800 for CADA in partnership with Alpha Chi Omega! We also had a ton of fun volunteering with United Way, VINE Faith in Action, Clearwater Farms, and maintained our Stomper's Bookcase initiative, providing books to children in select local laundromats. Our brothers continue to push the standard of what is possible with fraternity and can't wait to continue this into the future!



*Members of Sigma Nu with the new Fall 2025 Pinned in Candidates*

## New Leadership Selected

Beginning in late October, chapters and governing councils held elections to choose new leadership for the 2026 calendar year.

Those elected include:

Interfraternity Council President: Logan Melby, Phi Kappa Psi

Panhellenic Council President: Shelby Roerick, Alpha Sigma Alpha

### Sorority Chapter Presidents

Sydney Claseman, Alpha Sigma Alpha

Kaitlyn Shaffer, Alpha Chi Omega

Sydney Trautman, Gamma Phi Beta

Joanscott Hunter, Sigma Sigma Sigma

### Fraternity Chapter Presidents

Cole Johnson, Lambda Chi Alpha

Mark Davison, Phi Delta Theta

Jack Stender, Phi Kappa Psi

James Lunde, Sigma Chi

Cody Kaslow, Sigma Nu

Nolan Brooks, Tau Kappa Epsilon

*2026 Governing Council and Chapter Presidents were recognized at an Installation Ceremony in early December.*



## Support the Marie Bruce Scholarship

This award, the highest honor a member of our community can receive, is named after Marie Bruce, our university's former Dean of Women. She was instrumental in developing Fraternity & Sorority Life here. Recipients of this award have been benefitting from an endowment that was established at the time of Ms. Bruce's death.

Additional support is needed in order to continue awarding the scholarship beyond the couple of years. As you consider your charitable giving, whether routine giving, or ways to make an impact with any IRA required minimum distributions, please consider a gift to the Marie Bruce fund, which is administered by the Minnesota State University, Mankato Foundation. Gifts may be made online at <https://link.mnsu.edu/advfsl>, or they may be sent to:

Minnesota State University, Mankato Foundation

126 Alumni Foundation Center

Mankato, MN 56001

Please reference the Marie Bruce Scholarship when making your gift. There is an immediate need for contributions that can be awarded from the fund annually for the next 2-5 years. We would love to be able to increase this award to \$2000 and be able to present it to one man and one woman perpetually. In order to reach that level, the scholarship endowment must increase by \$80,000-\$85,000. If you are interested in discussing a larger gift or pledge that would allow us to get closer to finally making this scholarship a permanent one, please contact John Bulcock, Assistant Director of Student Activities for Fraternity & Sorority Life, at [john.bulcock@mnsu.edu](mailto:john.bulcock@mnsu.edu) or 507-389-6076.

Support the Marie Bruce Scholarship Today!

[Click here to donate.](#)

