



# THE MASK

SUMMER 2023

OF KAPPA PSI PHARMACEUTICAL FRATERNITY

## Rise to the Challenge

Two brothers share their stories.

*on page 4*

# State of the Fraternity



*Jason Milton, Grand Regent*

Wow! What a year it has been! Our GCC theme of ‘Rise to the Challenge’ has certainly served as a personal and professional motto for many of us as we meet and excel beyond barriers. We have seen, and continue to experience, many changes within the profession of pharmacy as well as in our universities and colleges/schools of pharmacy. Despite many challenges, obstacles, and difficulties, I am happy to report that the state of the Fraternity is... **OUTSTANDING!**

At the Grand Council Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, there was much discussion regarding uncertainties of our fraternal operations with the retirement of Executive Director Porter, the anticipated decline of membership, the need for updated technology resources and platforms, and concern for our financial viability. While our organization at large expressed some uneasiness with much of the anticipated changes, I never wavered in my expectation of success. In truth, Past Grand Regent/Interim Executive Director Askew and I have had discussions on how to approach such challenges over the last 10 years in anticipation that we would be presented with such impediments.

Over the last year, our Central Office staff have been remarkable. The overhaul to our Fraternity infrastructure has impacted our Central Office staff the greatest. We purchased and implemented new technology at The Central Office including hardware, financial software, and the Kappa Psi Member Portal. Our staff successfully managed these challenges while spring cleaning and organizing our headquarters as well as overseeing the digitization of our historical artifacts under the guidance of our Grand Historian. Our Fraternity is thankful to have Adrianna, Korin, and the crew supporting our membership and operations. Thank you!

Our intention is for The Central Office to maintain a physical presence at its current location for the remainder of the 2022–2024 term under the direction of Interim Executive Director Askew. We have implemented technology to allow for remote financial management and security to ensure appropriate guidance and involvement of the appropriate parties. I have complete faith in our current Central Office operations and we should all be proud of the work they’re


doing. We will continue to rely upon our excellent staff as we look to implement a learning management system in the spring.

Our fraternal landscape is changing with alterations in the profession, educational system, and the world around us, but we are finding new ways to maximize membership and operations. As we weather the expected membership decline, it’s important for us to work toward our common goals and build up our Fraternity. We should all take time to reaffirm our commitment to the Fraternity and review our oath and obligations. Politics have no role in our operations or how we function. We are here to hold one another up, develop each other, and ensure a viable future for those who may travel the path after us. Encourage one another in success and failure by doing your best to avoid self-serving behaviors in challenging times.

One way we affirm our commitment is through our many volunteer activities to our communities and to our Fraternity. Our organization has continued to have a great relationship with Reach Out and Read which has proved to be a wonderful partnership. Our Supervisors and committee chairs have accepted roles with expanded responsibilities as we divest some obligations and responsibilities from The Central Office and International Officers. Our volunteers have accepted these challenges in stride and have embraced the responsibilities that bring operations and structure closer to the chapter and Province level. We’re certainly nowhere close to done with this process, but we are making great advances.

Moving forward, we will continue to look at the big picture and recognize the benefit of allowing our organization to evolve. We must recognize the benefit of allowing a process to take shape. We cannot control every activity, function, charge, or event that relates to Fraternity operations. Along the way, we will continue to evaluate and re-evaluate each step we take to ensure we are proper stewards of the future of our organization. More changes will come with successes and failures, but rest assured we will continue to advance as we **RISE TO THE CHALLENGE!**

Honored to be your brother,

  
Jason Milton, Grand Regent

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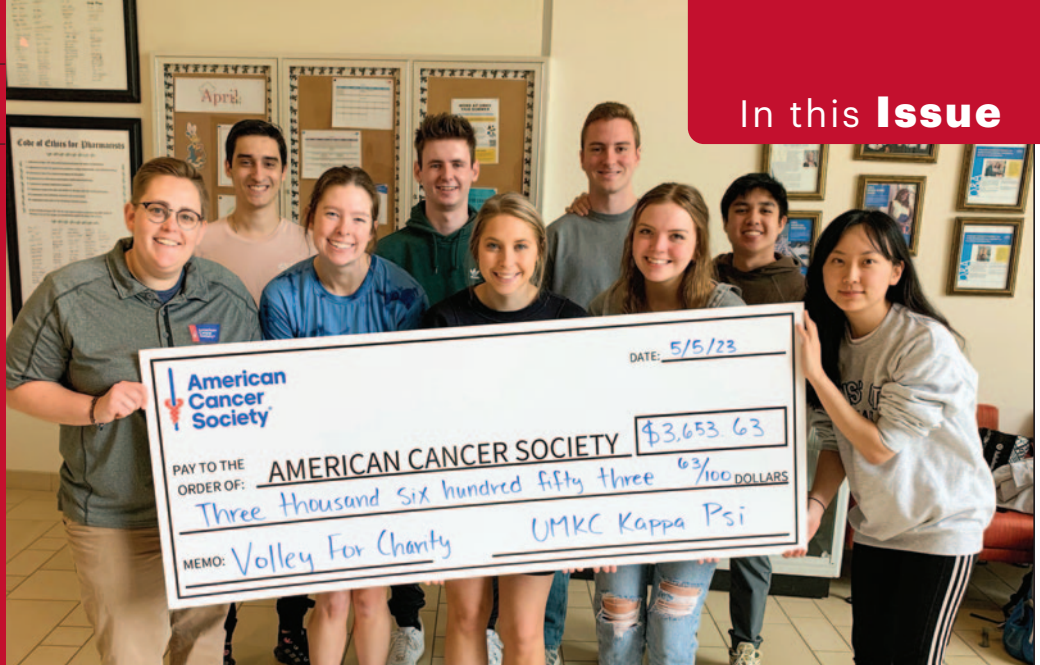
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### MASK Deadlines:

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### On the Cover:

Epsilon Theta Brother Macey Klosterman was in her dream residency when she was diagnosed with ER/PR-HER2+ breast cancer. In true Kappa Psi fashion, she rose to the challenge and did so without missing a beat. Read about her battle on page 4. Cover photo by Shari Klosterman, Macey's aunt.



Gamma Theta held their 20th Volley for Charity tournament in honor of Brother Wes McIntire, who passed away from cancer. The chapter raised \$3,653.63 for the American Cancer Society.

- 4 Brothers Unmasked**/We have two special features in this issue of brothers who faced the challenge of a cancer diagnosis. Macey Klosterman's story can be found on page 4 and Cameron Van Dyke's story starts on page 8.
- 13 Grand Agora**/The Fraternity mourns the passing of Past Grand Regent Patrick Wells.
- 14 2022–2013 Annual Report**/Find the annual report from The Central Office on the Fraternity's revenue and expenses for the year.
- 16 2022–2023 Philanthropy Committee Report**/The 99 Hands of Kappa Psi continue to make a difference in the lives of others!
- 30 2023 Leadership Symposium**/Brothers arrived from all corners to Oklahoma City for the first in-person Leadership Symposium since 2018.



Editor Van Dyke rings the bell after his last round of chemo. Read about his battle on page 8.

## Rising to the Challenge


Brothers,

As we continue to Rise to the Challenge, Brother Macey and I share the stories of our battles with cancer. Neither Macey nor I ever imagined being diagnosed with cancer, but we both rose to the challenge to fight for our lives. We both want to thank the brotherhood for all the encouraging messages, cards, and fundraisers on our behalf. The power of the Brotherhood was a beacon of light and strength during our difficult times.

This summer issue is also our Annual Report issue. Inside, we have the financial report from Interim Executive Director Askew and Collegiate Member at Large McWilliams recaps the Leadership Symposium. Grand Ritualist Johnson recaps all the amazing work our Brotherhood has done in his philanthropic report and we also recognize all the award winners of the last academic year.

I look forward to reconnecting with everyone at a Province assembly or the 61st GCC in Cleveland next summer.

Fraternally,

  
Cameron Van Dyke, Editor

# Cancer picked the wrong girl



**Macey Klosterman had the world by the tail.** She was an active 27-year-old brother of Epsilon Theta chapter at Sullivan University in Kentucky who had just graduated in June of 2022 with her Pharm.D. and had landed a dream residency at the University of Cincinnati Health Services.

Macey had a passion for patient advocacy and was driven and so excited to learn as much as she could from her clinical pharmacy residency at UC Health. When *THE MASK* staff asked Macey about what inspired her to become a pharmacist, she explained, "When I was a teenager, my mom had an issue when her prescribed anxiety medication (Xanax) was cut off cold turkey after 20 years instead of being tapered off appropriately." Macey explained that her mother had disturbing hallucinations, like waking her up in the middle of the night, thinking the house was on fire.

Or she would tell her that she didn't have to go to school anymore because they had won the lottery. Her mom had battled anxiety and depression, but this was not normal. As a teenager, Macey felt helpless. She was giving her mom rides to the behavioral health hospital and watching her suffer, suspicious that she was suffering from medication withdrawal, but was powerless to do much about it.

That fired a passion in her to learn all that she could about pharmaceuticals and it also fostered a passion for patient advocacy.

In December of 2021, Macey was trying to cram in the usual dentist and doctor check ups while on break and before she turned 26 and her student insurance (Medicaid) expired. She had completed her normal checkup with her gynecologist and the doctor offered to do a breast exam since she hadn't before. She felt a small lymph node area that felt larger on one side than the other and asked if Macey would like to have an ultrasound done since her aunt had breast cancer and she was considered high risk. Macey agreed and they got that scheduled a couple weeks later. The ultrasound just showed fibrous tissue in that area which is very common and not dangerous. However, the medical staff advised her that the ultrasound couldn't tell the full picture and asked if she would like to have an MRI since she was high risk. Macey agreed, but the MRI was scheduled 11 months later. She didn't know why it was scheduled so far down the road, but just figured it wasn't a great concern based on what they had found. Macey was heading off for her busy residency and thought there would be no way she could keep that appointment, but she kept the date on her schedule anyway.

The next several months flew by as Macey finished her accelerated pharmacy graduate program at Sullivan and started her busy residency at UC Health in Cincinnati, Ohio. By December 2022, she had completed rotations in trauma/surgery, infectious disease (under her residency program director Tara Harpenau), internal medicine, and ICU (under

her clinical coordinator Suzanne Van Fleet) and was in her research month. She and a group from UC Health headed to Las Vegas for the ASHP Midyear Conference where they presented their research results.

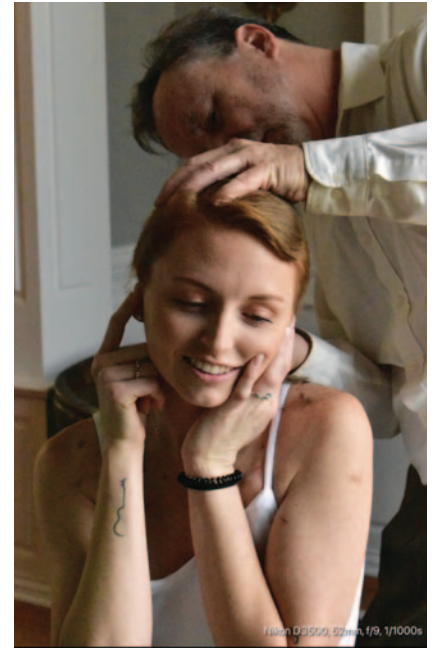
When *THE MASK* staff asked Macey if she had forgotten about the mammogram and MRI, she said actually by then, a small area had become palpable to her. It was not there during the ultrasound in December 2021 when originally checked. The area was hard but small like a marble and was very scary when she noticed it. She had checked and confirmed the MRI appointment was still scheduled for the afternoon of December 9 at the Norton Cancer Institute in Louisville.

She had a red-eye flight back from Midyear in Las Vegas on December 8 and fortuitously, UC Health had given her group of coresidents the next day off to recover. Because she had felt that little 'something,' Macey drove to Louisville to keep the MRI appointment. She had the MRI and immediately the doctor wanted a biopsy done.

The next day, Macey was back to work at UC Health and about to go into a team meeting when she got "the call." She was told she had ER/PR - HER2+ breast cancer. She said time stood still. She still remembers everything. She remembers being all alone in a great big hall as she looked out the window, dazed, and listened to the doctor explain her diagnosis. Her preceptor, ICU pharmacist Suzanne Van Fleet, got off the elevator and took one look at Macey's face and she knew. No words were needed. She embraced Macey and was there for her from then on.

The oncology group at Norton Cancer Institute in Louisville was on top of everything. They had four appointments already set up for her and a treatment plan in place. Macey went to all four appointments the next day. She had planned to proceed with that treatment when Tara Harpenau (RPD) and Monica Commins, director of pharmacy at UC Health, stepped in with a Plan B.

Tara knew that Macey's insurance was no longer in Kentucky. It was now through UC



*Macey's father, James Klosterman (a barber), and fiancée, Brother Enmarie Guzman, help Macey cut her long hair to donate before she began treatment. She said, "It was empowering to have control over that." Photos by Macey's aunt, Shari Klosterman.*

Health in Ohio. She ran the numbers and investigated the best oncology doctors in the UC system and then met with Macey to explain her options. Macey met with an oncologist at UC Health and he explained step by step what he would suggest as a treatment plan and why. He suggested infusion treatments of Paclitaxel for 18 weeks and then Trastuzumab/Pertuzumab for one year.

From there, things proceeded fast. Macey went home and researched everything very carefully before switching to the UC Health treatment plan. She wanted to work as much as possible during treatments and chose to feel 'crappy' all the time over being wiped out for a few days and then feeling better for a while. She would work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and then have infusion treatments on Wednesday.

Tara helped get everything lined up in Cincinnati. Macey started neoadjuvant chemo treatments on January 19, 2023, to shrink the tumor prior to surgery. She had a

bilateral mastectomy on July 13, 2023, to remove the cancerous tissue and prevent a possible recurrence.

When asked if she had side effects, Macey explained that she had some expected and some unexpected side effects. She said she was tired, but the exhaustion wasn't much different from being in residency and doing an accelerated grad program at Sullivan University. She was used to that. She also anticipated having hair loss. She wanted to donate her long, thick hair to a charity, so her father and her fiancée, Epsilon Theta Brother Enmarie Guzman, set up a donation party and cut her hair off before chemo treatments could take it. Macey said it was empowering to be able to choose that herself. What she didn't anticipate was also losing her fingernails, eyebrows and eyelashes. She laughed and said, "One doesn't appreciate their fingernails until you can't open a soda can, scratch things, or untie knots in your shoelaces."

She had a very frustrating bout of fake UTI symptoms, terrible nosebleeds 24 x 7, and she had trouble with blurred vision. Her ophthalmologist advised her to just wait out the vision impairment and thought it should clear in time. The fake UTI symptoms were maddening. No tests flagged for an infection, but the symptoms were 100% UTI. Macey received Paclitaxel weekly and Pertuzumab and Trastuzumab every three weeks through the port on her chest. When she received all three of those drugs together, she noticed the 'UTI' symptoms would start one week later.

The chemo treatments had shredded the fragile microfibrils in her nose and it would randomly start bleeding without being touched. Once Macey said she was in full garb and settled in the chemo IV room where she was checking the IV chemo meds. She thought she had a runny nose. Instead, she found it was a full-on nosebleed inside her mask and she had to abort, clean things up and start over again.

Macey said she was also surprised when she was advised to consider that she may not be able to have children after the chemo treatments. She was told that frozen embryos have a much better chance of survival than frozen eggs, so she and her now fiancée were advised to choose a sperm donor and harvest eggs prior to her treatment.

Macey's Paclitaxel treatments were done in May 2023 and she should finish all treatments this coming January. She had completed most of her residency rotations by the time her chemo treatments were in full swing. UC Health offered to create a non-traditional residency for her so she could go every other month and slow down her workload to focus on her health. The assignments and deadlines to finish her residency work were stressful. The slower path would eventually allow her to complete the residency. Or, they offered her another option: a full-time job as a clinical pharmacist. Macey was still missing her emergency department rotation and the electives she had chosen, which included heme/onc, psych, and cardiology. She chose to take the full-time position as she continued treatments.

## Research, focus, and resolve

*THE MASK* staff asked Macey how she kept her spirits up. She laughed and said she had been asked questions along that line before: "Why are you not crying?" Or "How do you stay so positive through all of this? Are you not scared?" She said it helped to research and then separate herself from the process and go all in, "I decided it is what it is and I'm going to do what I have to do." She felt she did not have time or energy for a pity party.

When we asked Macey if she felt the support of her Kappa Psi brothers, she gave a resounding, "Yes!" She said she didn't even know how everyone found out, but her fiancée is a chapter brother. She said Crystal Fiskratti, Sullivan University regent, helped to arrange a fundraiser and donations from Epsilon Theta chapter and the university. And, she said she was absolutely floored when she felt good enough to attend the Great Lakes Province Assembly, hosted by Upsilon chapter in Lexington, Kentucky, on April 1, 2023, and found that Brother John Bradford and the brothers at the assembly helped raise money for her and Editor Cameron Van Dyke. She walked into the ban-



*Macey rose to the challenge and took each day as it came. "I decided it is what it is and I'm going to do what I have to do." Little did she know that the process would teach her so much along the way.*

quet and was overwhelmed with love and support. Cameron, who was also battling cancer, was in the middle of treatments and attended virtually. (See his story on page 8.)

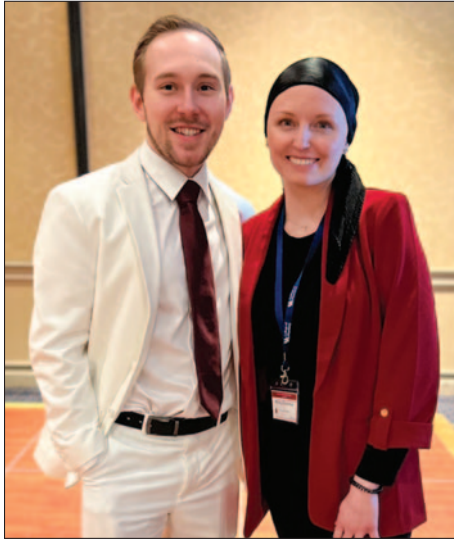
Macey commented that even though she had good insurance, thanks to the UC Health plan, the amount of unexpected expenses was daunting and she was so grateful for that support from her Kappa Psi brothers. She also received cards and messages from brothers from chapters around the Province.

## The ongoing fight

The battle isn't over. Macey said the reconstructive part of her surgery on July 13 went well, but she admitted the expansion of the muscle wall was an uncomfortable process. She took it in stride like everything else and focused on the important things. She has gotten used to it. She is in an innovative process of reconstruction that uses graft nerves for the resensation of nerve endings and feeling to the chest area. The simple fact of not feeling a body part, especially breasts, can be mentally inflicting. "It feels like hug-

ging someone with a cantaloupe in the way," Macey explained. "Imagine picking up your child to embrace them, but not being able to feel them." The healing power of a warm fuzzy hug is lost. Reconstructing a breast to actually look right, with nipples in place is not new, but the procedure called nerve transplant where a cadaver nerve is placed to try to regenerate the ability to feel is groundbreaking. Macey has had some twinges of feeling that she laughed about and says felt very odd, but that firing of the nerves makes her surgeon hopeful. He warned her that the process may take some time, but the regeneration seems to be working.

When *THE MASK* staff asked Macey about her overall thoughts and what she could pass on about this challenge that she's faced, she became very reflective. She has a passion for patient advocacy and admits although she would never have chosen this kind of a 'patient perspective residency,' the experience taught her so many things from the patient's experience that she could have never understood from a book. Actually liv-



*Macey with Brother Nate Oblizajek at GLP assembly in April. Nate is best friends with Macey's coresident, Adam Clemens, and although she had met him several times while with Adam, she didn't realize he was a brother until she looked over and saw him at the assembly!*

ing it is much more poignant. Navigating insurance costs and coverage, the wait time for authorization, the process of appointments and feeling firsthand the effects of the drugs was eye-opening. She said it was very "full immersion" to be sitting in the room getting chemo treatments with the very same patients whom she had been working up the drugs for the day before. It drove home the need to overthink everything and be very anal and OCD about every step of the pharmaceutical process. Her name was on that board as she was verifying treatment plans for patients. It was a heightened feeling of awareness to think, "It's YOU who you are verifying the chemo medications for." She wants to remember that feeling and verify every medication with the same attention to detail.

### **Armed with knowledge**

She reflected on how the whole diagnosis happened and was so grateful for her gynecologist who initially thought to suggest a mammogram. And, although she was initially put out by the 11-month wait time for the MRI, the way it lined up exactly with her day off and the fact that she had just noticed a bit of 'something else' in her breast made her keep that appointment. Had it been scheduled sooner, they may not have found anything yet or she may have canceled the

appointment. She is forever grateful to the UC Health team who stepped in to set up her coverage and worked with her so she could continue to work. She was very wistful about missing one of her last residency rotations, as it was in hematology oncology. She had been looking forward to the opportunity to teach her student during that heme/onc rotation. She felt that would be very rewarding. But, as she was sitting in the chair, taking some of her last rounds of chemo, that very student and her preceptor, the oncology pharmacist at UC Health-West Chester (and Kappa Psi brother), Sydney Elmore, came in. Macey felt a wave of regret ... that was supposed to be HER student. But, they finished talking with a patient and Sydney left to go back to the pharmacy. Her student stayed with Macey and she was able to teach her, literally from the inside, about her treatment side effects. She had a unique perspective, teaching as both the doctor and the patient.

Macey's battle has been frustrating at times and has made her wonder how those who aren't in the medical field navigate the obstacles. She was told she had aggressive breast cancer on December 14, 2022, but couldn't get insurance approved to start treatments until January 19, 2023. She had to wait more than a month for insurance to approve treatment. She was told over and over that her payment authorization was "in the review process," but instead a glitch in the system failed to get the paperwork into the queue. She has learned that too often patients trust the system and they don't realize they need to advocate for themselves. She would like to see something done to cut out the wait time for insurance approval because aggressive cancers don't wait.

Macey heard stories of frustration from the women in her support groups. A common worry was the cost of medication. Macey was prescribed medications that were very expensive and she knew some of them could be purchased for a fraction of the cost over the counter (nausea meds, etc.).

When asked if there was anything else she learned, Macey commented that wigs were surprisingly expensive. They could cost thousands of dollars for a good wig that didn't look fake. She was also surprised to learn that insurance doesn't cover the cost of wigs for children because children are young and considered "unimpressible" when it comes to feeling self-conscious. She found



*Beta Phi Brother Sydney Elmore joins Macey to ring the bell after her last Paclitaxel chemotherapy session.*

that hard to understand because she feels kids are extremely impressionable and very prone to being bullied, especially if they are without hair. She found a company called Wigs for Kids that gives kids who are dealing with hair loss wigs for free.

One thing is for sure, cancer picked the wrong girl to mess with. Macey Klosterman rose to the challenge and her battle with breast cancer has only served to strengthen her. She is now even more educated, armed, and fortified as she fights for others! ■

### **More reading:**

[www.wigsforkids.org/](http://www.wigsforkids.org/)  
[www.resensation.com/patient-stories/](http://www.resensation.com/patient-stories/)  
[www.komen.org/breast-cancer/screening/self-awareness/](http://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/screening/self-awareness/)

**Editor's Note:** Monica Commins' high school daughter, Kenley, was diagnosed with lymphoma a couple months after Monica helped Macey navigate her initial diagnosis. Monica was a rock of support for Macey. Kenley's story can be found under the hashtag: 'Kick it Kenley.'



The Linear accelerator (LINAC) used for radiation therapy looked like a set for a Star Wars movie.

# Cancer was silently stalking him



The radiation suit was appropriately dubbed the Darth Vader suit.

**At the beginning of December 2022,** MASK Editor Cameron Van Dyke had a sore throat, but he was extremely busy at the Giant Eagle pharmacy, as it was flu season and also the time of year when pharmacies are swamped with appointments for vaccina-

*The body becomes the battlefield and the greatest challenge is surviving the crossfire.*

tions. Cameron swung by an urgent care that was open late on his way home from work for a strep test. It didn't flag positive, but the swollen tonsils and sore throat symptoms were classic for strep, so he was prescribed a script of penicillin and methylprednisolone (under the brand name Medrol). Six days in, he was halfway through the penicillin and done with the steroid, but no better. He found another urgent care on his day off and stopped in for another strep test. This time it flagged positive, so he was started on a round of Augmentin. He finished his last dose of that on New Year's Eve.

January 18, 2023, his throat was no longer sore, but his tonsils and neck were still swollen. On his day off, he stopped by to see his regular doctor who ordered a CT scan. Little did Cameron know, but his doctor asked for the results to be read and sent to him immediately. Cameron had just walked in the door at home when his doctor called

and asked, "Can you come back to the office?" The doctor was unsure of what was on the scan but gave Cameron a shot of Clindamycin for infection and fast-tracked him to see an ENT.

The next day (Thursday, January 19, 2023), when Cameron was called back to the exam room at the ENT's office, he was braced for what he thought would be the worst diagnosis: an ulcerated tonsil that would require a tonsillectomy. After about a five-minute exam, the ENT said, "Well, I have good news and bad news. I think you have cancer of the tonsils and lymph nodes. The good news, it responds well to treatment." He explained that he suspected Cameron had tonsil cancer caused by HPV (human papillomavirus) and it could have been lurking in his body for years. The cancer may have been present for two to three years, but it wasn't bad enough for him to notice. The doctor explained that over the past decade, there has been at least a four- to five-fold increase in the number of



For almost two months, life revolved around trips to the hospital and back for chemo and radiation. Brother Van Dyke kept his spirits up with theme days and fun T-shirts. When he wore his Bon Jovi shirt for his halfway mark (“Whoa, we’re half way there; Oh-oh, livin’ on a prayer”) and the nurses learned it was his favorite band, they began to play Bon Jovi during his treatments.



Gamma Delta brothers purchased sweatshirts in solidarity and support.

oropharynx cancers found in the U.S. The oropharynx includes the tonsils and the base of the tongue. The increase in these cancers is a result of HPV infection.

The doctor said if Cameron didn’t mind, he could save time and do a biopsy that day. He was heading to the hospital and would personally drop it off at the lab to confirm what he suspected. He called his PAs and NPs in to feel around and take a good look at Cameron for training purposes. He was a perfect ‘Visual A.’ The ENT office set up a PET scan for 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Cameron walked back into the house after seeing the ENT and his wife, Brother Liz VanDyke, teased him, “When do you have

your tonsils out?” He handed her the paperwork and her jaw dropped.

Cameron scrambled to get someone to cover for his shift at work on Saturday for the PET scan and let scheduling know what was going on. Then, he and Liz went to dinner to try to figure out how to break the news to their family and take a look at their upcoming travel plans and life obligations. He called his mom, then had to repeat everything to his dad. Liz called her family and siblings. He called his younger brother. Repeating the story was mentally exhausting.

A follow-up appointment with his ENT confirmed his suspicions. It was Stage IV cancer. The PET scan showed the cancer was con-

tained to just the tonsils and lymph nodes on his right side. Cameron asked the doctor if he’d need to have his tonsils taken out and the doctor said there would be no need for that, as this type of cancer responds well to the treatments that are available. He was just fortunate to catch it when he did.

Fortunate, but his body was about to become the battlefield.

### Bracing for the battle

Things were whirling fast and there was so much to do in preparation for the treatments. Liz and Cameron had told their family and of course, Cameron let the Kappa Psi Executive Committee know. He called Grand Regent Jason Milton and then emailed everyone else on the IEC. The Winter 2023 MASK was in the middle of production and Jason asked if he wanted to take a leave of absence. But, Cameron felt working on the magazine would be something to look forward to.

He had so many more appointments in preparation for treatments than he expected. He’s grateful for the expert advice he had from his oncology team. The oncology team helped Cameron’s dentist fit him with fluoride trays. The fluoride would help replace the fluoride that was lost during treatment and help protect his teeth. He had a hearing test scheduled with an audiologist to check his baseline hearing ability. And, he met with



*Liz's cat, Gus, made it his job to stay by Cameron 24 x 7 while he was recovering from treatments.*

oncology to solidify the battle plan. It was decided that he would complete a seven-week regiment of Cisplatin and radiation. He would take the Cisplatin on Monday and then Monday through Friday have radiation treatments. He said he was tattooed with a series of dots that would help the nurses line him up in the Linear accelerator (LINAC) machine during radiation.

February 19, the day before he began treatment, Cameron and Liz put a post out on Facebook. People started checking in and he heard from Kappa Psi brothers from across the country and old elementary and middle school classmates whom he hadn't seen in 40 years. It was uplifting to know that friends and brothers were thinking of him and lifting him up in prayer.

### **Support through the fight**

February 20, a month after being diagnosed, Cameron started treatments at West Virginia University Medicine Wheeling Hospital, about 20 minutes from home. He went in daily, Monday through Friday. Liz was able to rearrange her schedule to take him on Mondays when he had chemo and

radiation. Kappa Psi Past Grand Regents Robert Mancini and Latha Radhakrishnan (both oncology pharmacists) were extremely helpful and supportive. He had called Robert when he was first diagnosed to hear from an expert what he was in for. Brother Mancini did not sugarcoat the realities of the battle Cameron faced. But he had good advice. Latha confirmed what Robert had said and encouraged Cameron to advocate for himself and make sure he got what he needed. Both Robert and Latha would check in weekly to see how Cameron was doing. Fellow ONU Brother Andrew Duska, a staff pharmacist at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, saw Cameron's name come up at the hospital as he filled prescriptions. Cameron had been his former GCD. Andrew greeted Cameron when he arrived for his first treatment and told his colleagues to give him VIP treatment. He checked in on Cameron regularly when he was at the hospital for treatments.

The Great Lakes Province brothers held a fundraiser and their support and love were felt and very much appreciated. He said Liz was his rock and was there through everything. He laughed and said probably his most

constant supporter was Liz's cat, Gus. Gus had always been Liz's cat and tolerated Cameron as a roommate, but when Cameron started treatments, he faithfully stayed by his side, day and night. One can't beat the healing power of napping with a cat!

He said the cards and notes helped as treatment progressed. After about nine days of treatment, his body began to feel the effects of the battle. By Thursday of each week, everything was hurting. Just 'being' was painful and it was easy to get depressed. He had no saliva and therefore couldn't eat solid foods. He couldn't swallow anything except soup and ice cream, but even that hurt. He lost 40 pounds. The more radiation he had, the more things hurt. Brushing his teeth was so painful that it made him cry. But, Cameron knew his work at the time was to grind through. He went to treatments and then slept with Gus by his side and let his body fight and try to repair.

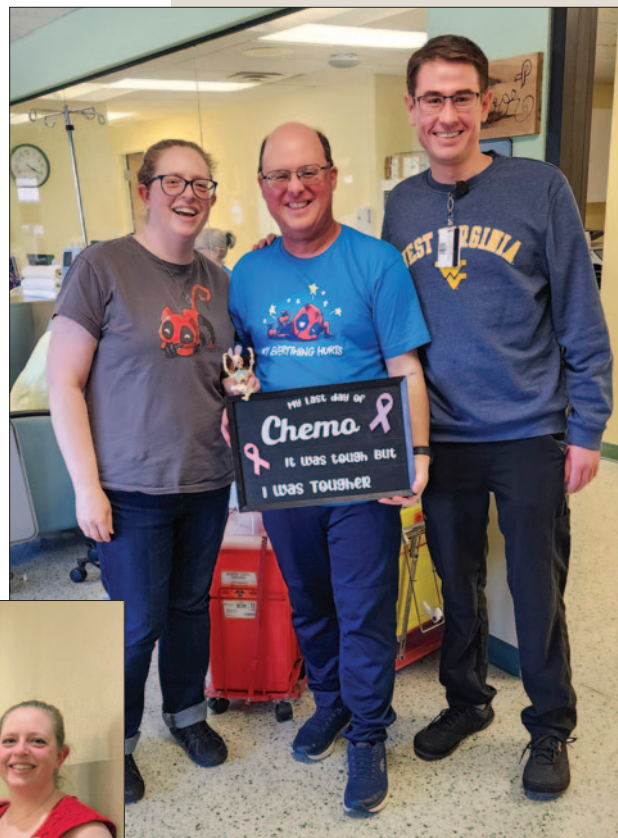
When asked if he had any unexpected side effects, he said he did. He had a very itchy rash that came up on Thursday night, after his first Monday chemo treatment. His oncologists told him to purchase Benadryl and over-the-counter hydrocortisone cream to control it. After the next treatment, his entire body was entirely covered with the rash. He itched miserably from head to toe. Latha and Robert suggested getting dexamethasone to fight the rash, but his insurance required him to use the Giant Eagle pharmacy in his network, and it closed by the time he could get there. He called his oncology triage line and they advised him to come to the ER. He was far too miserable to hold up through the wait at the busy ER, so instead he took more Benadryl and Famotidine (Pepcid) and powered through the night. The next morning, oncology gave him a prescription for dexamethasone to take for a couple days then take regularly Sunday through Tuesday around his chemo treatments. On Monday, his oncology team added Benadryl and Famotidine to the steroid, dexamethasone IV, in the treatments and that seemed to control the rash and itching.

### **In the trenches to the end**

Cameron had a progress meeting with his ENT on March 28. He had about a week and a half of treatments left. His ENT doctor was happy to see that the spot on his tonsils had cleared and the tonsils themselves had



Editor Cameron Van Dyke rings the bell twice, once after finishing chemo and the other at the end of radiation treatments. ONU Brother Andrew Duska (far right) was there to celebrate with him.



shrunk back down to their normal size. The finish line was in sight, with only one more chemo treatment and about eight more rounds of radiation!

Cameron's last treatment was April 3 and his last radiation treatment was April 7, on Good Friday. ONU Brother Andrew Duska joined him and Liz as he rang the bell.

It took at least a month, though, before he could eat solid foods. When Liz went to APhA, Latha and Robert sent him a food delivery of lobster bisque. Brothers Trisha and Chris Miller sent him a delivery of ice cream. He remembers being at a wedding with Liz four weeks post-treatment and the crab cakes served at dinner smelled delicious. It took him a while, but he was able to slowly eat one. It was almost two months before Cameron felt better and didn't need pain meds.

Cameron had not missed a spring Great Lakes Province Assembly since he was initiated in 1992. He was physically unable to be there for the GLP assembly on April 1, 2023, but the brothers got him into the meeting virtually and he sent in a prepared statement to be read to the brothers in attendance.

His first in-person Kappa Psi meeting after treatments was the Mountain East Province assembly April 14–15, 2023. Although it was great to be out with his brothers again, the weekend was a struggle. Cisplatin can affect one's hearing. He had not experienced a



Cameron enjoys the MEP assembly with John Pietkiewicz and Liz. (FYI: MASK production staff tried to color correct Editor Van Dyke's red face before learning it was not poor lighting, but instead, another side effect of the chemo!)

problem with that until the awards ceremony at the end of the assembly. Every clap and cheer felt like a dagger in his head.

By May 29, only six months after his diagnosis, Cameron was back behind the counter at Giant Eagle pharmacy. Within a week, he was fully back to his normal work routine. He has been able to counsel the wife of a patient who he noticed was taking the same treatments and who has the same cancer that he had, and his story has inspired a few older adults to get the Gardasil 9 vaccine.

We are happy to report that Cameron's CT scan right before this issue went to press shows everything is clear and Gus has gone back to being Liz's cat. ■

## Cancer from HPV on rise in men

From the MD Cancer Center at UT:

- Smoking rates have declined over the past two decades, and so have the rates of smoking-related throat cancer. But cancer of the middle throat—or oropharynx—is rising sharply. The reason: human papillomavirus (HPV).
- HPV-related throat cancer patients are usually non-smoking, white, heterosexual males in their 50s or 60s.
- Experts are not sure why HPV-related throat cancer mostly strikes white males who don't smoke. Women can also get the disease, but it's less common.

From the Mayo Clinic:

- There are more than 100 varieties of human papillomavirus (HPV).
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently approved the use of Gardasil 9 for males and females ages 9 to 45.

From the Minnesota Department of Health:

- HPV is common. More than 90 percent of sexually active men and 80 percent of sexually active women will be infected with HPV in their lifetime.

More reading:

<https://www.nomancampaign.org>  
<https://www.cancer.org>

# Past Grand Ritualist humbled by Hall of Fame honor

By Anne Marie H. Bergthold

*Posted 5/31/2023. Univ. of Pacific Newsroom*

Christopher Allen Woo '88, Pharm.D., FCPHA, can add another recognition to his list of commendations—induction into the California Pharmacy Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who set the gold standard for the practice of pharmacy.

“I am honored, humbled and still in a state of shock,” said Dr. Woo. “To be included within the ranks of leaders whom I personally met and knew of when I was a UOP student—people such as Don Floriddia [’71], Colleen Carter [’76], Charles Green [’68], Jeff Jellin [’74], Clark Gustafson [’66], Royce Friesen [’65], Ralph Saroyan [’64], Wilma Wong, Lee Meyer [’73], Michael Pastrick [’73] and Phil Oppenheimer—is incredible.”

His many accolades include Pharmacy Foundation of California president in 2006, California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) Pharmacist of the Year in 2005, CPhA president in 1999, and CPhA Distinguished New Practitioner of the Year in 1992.

Dr. Woo views engaging with professional organizations as an integral part of being a pharmacist.

“Being active and involved in the profession made me a better pharmacist, created a larger network of pharmacist colleagues and peers, and was just plain fun,” he said.

An enthusiastic San Diego Comic-Con attendee, he believes the message of the power of teamwork should not be limited to the pages of comic books. It is essential in the world of health care as well. Dr. Woo encourages his fellow pharmacists to become “informed, participatory and well-rounded,” for their professional growth and for the benefit of the patients they serve.

Since 2013, Dr. Woo has been an inspector for the California State Board of Pharmacy. Through this role, he carries out the Board’s mission of promoting the health and safety of Californians by pursuing the highest quality of pharmacist care and appropriate medication use.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, he took a leave to serve as a clinical volunteer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency at immunization sites in Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico and Virginia.

“It definitely expanded my worldview, and was rewarding at such an uncertain time,” he said.

Prior to his role as an inspector, Dr. Woo spent 25 years in various hospital and community practice sites. Of all the roles he has had within the pharmacy profession, the one he has found most fulfilling was serving as a preceptor. Empowering others to reach their potential is his superpower.

“There was nothing quite like precepting pharmacy rotation students, which I did for 23 years,” he said. “My single, personal, greatest preceptor victory came after I had a community pharmacy rotation student who had not completed the American Pharmacists Association immunization administration certificate program because she could not bring herself to stick someone with a needle. We discussed this issue over the course of the rotation and how it would affect her career as a pharmacist.”

When Dr. Woo interacted with the student several months later, he was delighted to



learn she had overcome her fears and was now able to immunize patients.

Dr. Woo remembers fondly his experiences as a student. Highlights of his time at Pacific include “get-togethers at the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity house on 236 West Stadium, studying in the Rotunda and making lifelong friends.”

His ideal vacation would be spent taking photos at Comic-Con or taking his wife Denise, son Johnathan, daughter Ashley, and granddaughter Rose, to Disneyland to experience the magic together.



# Kappa Psi loses a Leader and a Legend



*Past Grand Regent Patrick Wells is part of the Leaders and Legends panel at the 2015 Grand Council Convention.*



*Circa 1974. Brothers of Delta Theta chapter pose in front of the Texas Southern University School of Pharmacy with Brother Dean Patrick Wells (five from left, front row).*

*Delta Theta chapter brothers celebrate 40 years of brotherhood with their chapter founder, Brother Monsignor Patrick Wells (center in red) at the Cheesecake Factory in Houston, Texas.*

Brothers,

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Past Grand Regent Patrick Wells.

Dr. Patrick R. Wells, Ph.D. served Kappa Psi faithfully throughout the years. Initiated into Gamma Epsilon chapter, he served as Grand Regent from 1983 to 1987. Brother Wells earned his Master of Divinity degree and ministered to the needs of the coastal South Texas region. Brother Wells earned his bachelor's degree in pharmacy from Texas Southern University before successfully completing the requirements for his master's degree in pharmacology and his Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences.

From 1970–1990, he served as dean and professor at the College of Pharmacy at Texas Southern University. In the later years of his tenure, Brother Wells was ordained a permanent deacon in the Galveston-Houston Diocese. In 2001, Past Grand Regent Wells launched into his sailing ministry as chaplain aboard the MS Oosterdam and later aboard several celebrity cruise liners. In 2007, he received a citation of achievement from the Texas Board of Pharmacy for 50 years of service in the pharmacy education field. In 2009, Wells was named dean emeritus at the College of Pharmacology and Health Sciences. His dedication to pharmacy and Kappa Psi is unwavering as evidenced by his consistent and encouraging presence.

Brother Wells served our Fraternity with great distinction and humility. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family as our brother joins the Grand Agora.

In closing, I offer a quote from Past Grand Regent Palmieri, from the Weaver/Cournoyer History book:

“I have favorite memories of all of them, especially WR Smith, who made the Fraternity his life's work, and Pat Wells, who always took his role seriously but had the great ability to laugh at himself and sometimes, in a gentle, loving way, laughed at me.”

Jason O. Milton  
Grand Regent



## Kappa Psi Central Office and Financial Overview

Since the 60th Grand Council Convention, there have been significant changes in the operations of the Fraternity. Following GCC, the International Executive Committee (IEC) approved a new database management system to replace our current database. A rebuild of our database was required as the current system was at the end of its supported use. A new database and member management system was undertaken with ChapterSpot to build the Kappa Psi Portal. In the Portal, members manage their rosters, update their officers, manage their invoices, obtain references, and complete Kappa Psi forms, and education. The Portal build started in fall of 2022 and new features continue to be developed and rolled out. This is a significant change to our long-term processes and puts the chapters in control of their information while allowing them to see their roster and finances at any time.

Our move to the Kappa Psi Portal to manage our database has provided us updated membership numbers that are lower than the 5,500 expected collegiate members. At the start of the Portal transition in the spring 2023 semester, Kappa Psi had 5,291 collegiate members of record. Following reconciliation of the rosters and updating of graduating members, Kappa Psi currently has 4,530 collegiate brothers.

At the 60th Grand Council Convention, increased new member fees were approved along with increased dues for collegiates and alumni. In fall 2022, new member fees increased from a \$45 fee plus \$7 risk management fee to a \$75 new member fee. In spring 2023, graduate chapter dues increased from \$150 to \$200 and collegiate dues increased from \$20/semester/member to \$30/semester/member. The increased fees have helped offset operating losses seen in 2022 along with ongoing expense and revenue review.

### Notable Financial Items

- Google moved from offering free email accounts to requiring paid accounts for organizations in 2022.
  - o Kappa Psi purchases the lowest tier to provide consistent emails.
  - o Provided for each chapter, Central Office, International Executive Committee, Fraternity officials.
  - o Apps included in the Google Suite package include Gmail, Google Drive, calendar, docs, sheets, slides, meet, and forms.
  - o This is a new expense in 2022 of \$8,250.84 annually for Google Suite.
- Payroll costs have increased as we brought our office staff to market wages and provided a paid maternity leave.
- A review of expenses has brought about changes in our utilities, credit cards, and web services to lower costs.
  - o Utility costs have decreased 50% starting in March 2023.

- o Credit cards have been changed resulting in \$2,498.11 in savings so far in 2023.
- o Given the rollout of Portal, we are now able to remove our old website and invoicing processes. Starting this fall, these changes are expected to eliminate \$300-500/month in charges.

### Notable Revenue and Expenses

- *THE MASK*
  - o 2022 = \$45,253.52
  - o 2023 = \$38,005.41 YTD
- APhA Meeting
  - o 2022 = \$35,677.49
  - o 2023 = \$9,693.42
- Leadership Symposium 2023 = \$68,916
- ASHP Meeting
  - o 2022: \$9,043.67
  - o 2023: \$2,500 booth cost. Other costs pending
- Shipping – Kappa Psi only charges shipping for 2-day and overnight shipping
  - o 2022 = \$4,228.21
  - o 2023 = \$3,203 YTD
- Credit card fees
  - o 2022 = \$16,317.98
  - o 2023 = \$9,346.97 YTD
- Kappa Psi Marketplace is being developed with Affinity Marketplace. The marketplace will allow sales of items to members and support our brand.
- Alumni dues are voluntary and provide variable revenue
  - o 2022 = \$28,735.50
  - o 2023 = \$12,467 YTD

### Operating Accounts

2022 Finances:  
 Income = \$636,208.53  
 Expenses = \$724,875.81  
 Net Profit = -\$108,947.59



## 2023 Financials year to date

Income = \$292,607

Expenses = \$340,598

- Net Profit = -\$47,991
- Overdue invoices = \$79,196.40
  - o 351 overdue invoices (due more than 30 days old).
  - o New this fall is the ability of chapters to view these overdue balances in the Kappa Psi Portal.
- Total Operating Account Balance: \$391,873.17

## Certificates of Deposit

Kappa Psi has two CDs that are in the process of transitioning the Executive Director names allowing changes to be made at future maturity dates.

- CD1: Opened in 2000 with \$30,000. Current balance: \$42,043.78
- CD2: Opened in 2010 with \$25,000. Current balance: \$27,811.47

## Special Accounts and Funds

- Grand Council Convention (GCC) Fund

The GCC Fund is constitutionally required. This fund shall be used to pay the transportation expenses equivalent to the lowest tourist class, round trip airfare from the chapter location to the airport of the convention site for one delegate (not proxy) from each collegiate chapter, each member of the Executive Committee, and other members of the Grand Council designated by the Executive Committee. Remaining monies in the fund may be utilized to fund other portions of the Grand Council Convention.

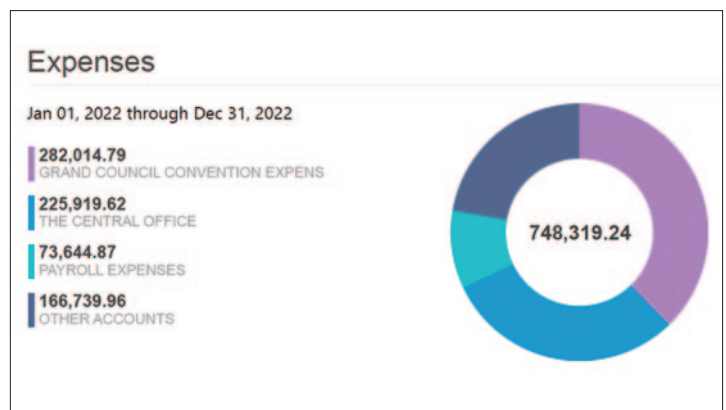
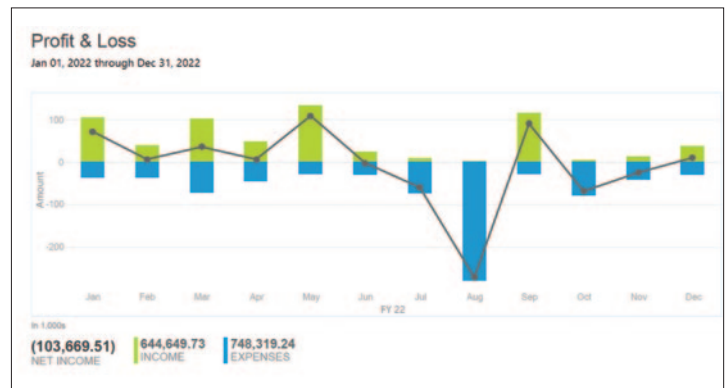
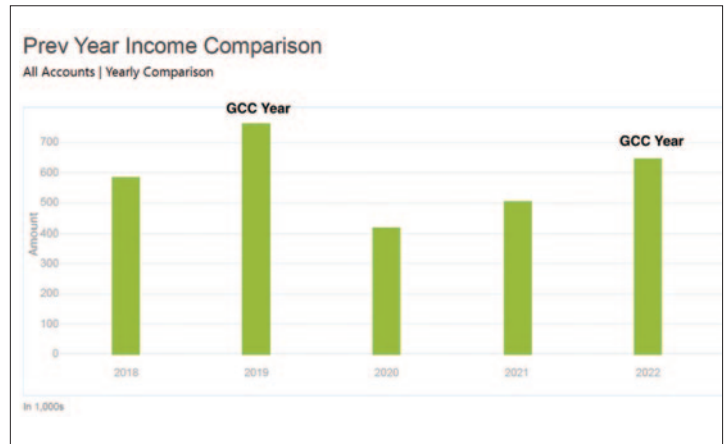
A portion of all new member fees, all collegiate dues, and all alumni dues are added to the fund as outlined in By-Law II – Dues and Assessments. No portion of graduate chapter dues are allocated to this fund.

- Current balance = \$192,269.94

## Risk Management Allocation

Collegiate members and graduate chapters are assessed an annual Risk Management Fee of up to \$7 per collegiate member and \$50 per graduate chapter. These fees are to be held in this fund and used solely for this purpose as outlined in By-Law II – Dues and Assessments. No portion of alumni dues are allocated to this fund.

- Current balance = \$31,382.77 (included in total operating balance)
- Cost of 2023–2024 insurance policies = \$30,764.00 (not including deductibles)
  - o Policy = \$25,764.00
  - o Insurance Broker = \$5,000.00



# Report from the Philanthropy Committee

The Philanthropy Committee has been excited to continue our work since GCC last summer. At the start of fall semester, the committee launched a new application and award process for the Kappa Psi Service Grants. For the 2022 cycle, five \$500 awards were awarded to chapters to fund projects within their local communities during the Third Annual Kappa Psi International Service Week. Unlike previous cycles, the recipient selection and fund disbursement were chosen via a random draw conducted by the International Executive Committee of all eligible submitted applications. With the new format, the committee received 20 total applications, which was a 33% increase in applications from the previous year. Congratulations and thanks again to Rho, Delta Lambda, Gamma Delta, Delta Tau, and Epsilon Beta for completing their new philanthropic projects during the Service Week.

Speaking of Service Week, the Philanthropy Committee was excited to host the Third Annual Kappa Psi International Service Week from October 2–8, 2022. Similar to the previous year, the Service Week activities were open to any philanthropy or service project in our chapters' communities. The committee loved to see the diversity and creativity in the events coordinated by our chapters during the week. Throughout the week, our brothers reported the following:

- 43 events completed by 27 chapters
- 433 brothers participated and donated a total of 798 hours of time. To put that into perspective, we average almost five brothers participating across the Fraternity in a Service Week activity every hour throughout the week!
- In support of Reach Out and Read, we had nine local book drives and donated \$493 through our online portal during the events.

We had a 15% increase in reported number of brothers participating this year and a 35% increase in reported brother-hours donated throughout the week! Due to our continued success, the committee is looking forward to hosting the Fourth Annual Kappa Psi International Service Week from October 1–7, 2023. Please stay tuned for coverage of that in the next edition of *THE MASK*.

To close out the fall semester, the Philanthropy Committee once again partnered with Reach Out and Read for Giving Tuesday, which is a global day of giving back on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving (November 29, 2022, this past year). For 2022, Reach Out and Read made a special decision to donate one copy of *I Am Enough* by Grace Byers (a multicultural book of hope, unity, and the celebration of kindness) for every \$10 raised. Thus, they set a goal of raising \$25,000 to give 2,500 children and families a copy of *I Am Enough*. Once again, our brothers stepped up in a huge way to help our friends at Reach Out and



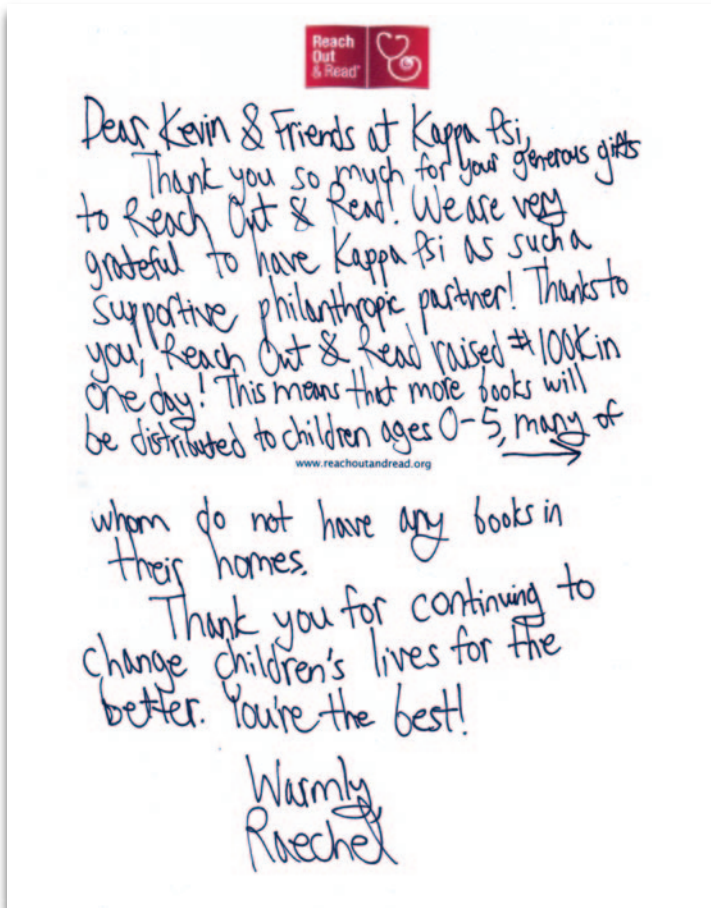
*Zeta Beta brothers torture their professors, including their GCD Drew Lambert at the annual Spicy Wing/Ramen Challenge fundraiser for Reach Out and Read.*

Read not only meet, but greatly surpass their goal. Kappa Psi brothers donated \$1,688 via 58 donors during Giving Tuesday, and Reach Out and Read raised a total of \$80,316 dollars and donated more than 8,000 copies of *I Am Enough* to the children and families they serve.

Finally, to mark the end of their fiscal year, Reach Out and Read hosted another 24-hour, year-end challenge, and the Philanthropy Committee was happy to work with our Kappa Psi brothers to help make this giving challenge a success. This year, Reach Out and Read chose the ambitious goal of raising \$50,000 during a 24-hour event on June 29–30, 2023, with every gift being matched, dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 for a total impact of #100KinONEday. Over the 24-hour challenge, our brothers raised \$6,464.31! Because our donations were matched dollar-for-dollar, that's a total impact of \$12,928.62 in only 24 hours, helping Reach Out and Read hit their \$100K goal with a total of \$112,135.75 raised during the challenge. To break that down, Kappa Psi (plus our matched donations) accounted for 11.5% of the total amount raised during the challenge! At the conclusion of this challenge, our brothers have raised/donated more than \$16,600 to Reach Out and Read via our <https://give.reachoutandread.org/kappapsi> website since the 60th GCC last July.

Brothers, thank you again for your continued love and support for our partners at Reach Out and Read and for your dedication to serving your local communities through philanthropy. We have been truly humbled by the generosity, outpouring of support, and the collective pursuit of High Ideals across the Fraternity.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelsey E. Johnson  
2022–2024 Philanthropy Committee Chair



LA Grad regent Kevin Tran receives a heartwarming thank you card from Reach Out and Read.



Zeta Upsilon's faculty and student spelling bee was a success, with 60 books collected for Reach Out and Read. Vice regent Brianna Correia and regent Elleigh Shepherd pose with this year's winner of the spelling bee.



ABOVE: Beta Omega brothers collect donations from The Salvation Army.



Beta Upsilon brothers host several events to raise awareness and donations for Reach Out and Read, such as the Kappa Psi Book Drive and Pie a Kappa, which made a major comeback to the Butler University's campus. Students couldn't resist the opportunity to pie professors and brothers with whipped cream, all to raise money for Reach Out and Read.

LEFT: Gainesville Grad brothers support Gamma Sigma at their annual golf tournament that raised \$3,500 for the Children's Miracle Network.

## Collegiate Awards 2023

### Advocacy

Awarded to a collegiate chapter that has demonstrated efforts to advance the profession of pharmacy through advocacy.

#### Epsilon Eta

Epsilon Eta chapter has made significant efforts to advocate for the advancement of the pharmacy profession through research, mental health awareness, and CV reviews, among others. At the 60th GCC, brothers presented a poster on 'Evaluating the Use of Cannabinoid Therapy in Sleep Disorders.' This research-driven presentation provided evidence-based information from meta-analyses and observational studies, shedding light on the potential of cannabinoid therapeutics in treating various sleep disorders. By presenting their findings at national conference, they are able to reach a wider audience and influence the practice of pharmacy on a national level.

In addition, Epsilon Eta brothers organized various awareness campaigns to promote the profession of pharmacy and its contributions to patient care. They held an immunization campaign that was organized in collaboration with local pharmacies, aimed to raise awareness about the importance of vaccinations and increase access to immunizations in the community.

For mental health awareness, Epsilon Eta brothers collaborated with the University of Florida (UF) pharmacy students to organize a panel discussion aimed to raise awareness about mental health challenges that pharmacy students face. They also provided resources and support for those in need.

Epsilon Eta's brothers also held a question and answer session with Florida International University (FIU) to provide guidance and answer questions of potential pharmacy students.

Epsilon Eta collaborated with Phi Lambda Sigma to conduct CV reviews for fellow students. The constructive feedback on CVs helps students enhance their chances of success in their future endeavors.

To promote academic achievement, brothers hosted seven different exam reviews for first-year pharmacy students along with tutoring brothers to not only help ensure academic success but also promote the importance of academic excellence in the field of pharmacy.



Delta Omicron brothers volunteer at Wilkes University's campus-wide BIG event where they helped package supplemental food boxes for senior citizens at the CEO Weinberg Food Bank. They packaged over 440 boxes that got distributed to those in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area!

### Chapter Leadership Award

Awarded to a collegiate chapter whose actions or activities demonstrate or promote leadership at their school or college of pharmacy.

#### Delta Omicron

If you are walking through the halls of Wilkes University's Nesbitt School of Pharmacy on any given day, you will see Kappa Psi brotherhood wearing our letters, sporting their scarlet red and cadet gray, and acting in accordance with our values—Industry, Sobriety, Fellowship, and High Ideals. There is a distinct feeling one gets when interacting with a Delta Omicron brother. They act with integrity, no matter the circumstance.

This past year, Delta Omicron brothers held executive board president positions in organizations such as the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Industry Pharmacists Organization, Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group, Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association, Pharmacy Senate, Phi Lambda Sigma, and SNPhA. Numerous brothers also held other leadership positions in organizations within the school. Every pharmacy organization had at least one Kappa Psi brother leading the group as an executive board member and several organizations were run almost exclusively by Kappa Psi brothers. Both PPA and

SNPhA's executive boards were made up entirely of Kappa Psi brothers!

Delta Omicron's regent, Julie Maddage, also served as president of Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society. As Phi Lambda Sigma president, Julie served as an example of leadership qualities within a pharmacy student and instilled the value of leading by example into the chapter this year.

Delta Omicron brothers also got involved in leading on the national level, choosing to serve on national committees for student pharmacist organizations. Brother Cole Wenner served as the chair of the Student Pharmacist Committee for the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy. In this position, Cole helped make decisions that impacted every student chapter of AMCP nationwide. Cole has helped other brothers become involved with and obtain positions on the AMCP Student Pharmacist Committee in order to develop their leadership skills.

Delta Omicron brothers are also leading as student pharmacists at the state level. Jamie Harpel served as chair of the Student Advisory Board for the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association, and Kayla Gerenza served as corresponding secretary. In the fall and spring, brothers from Delta Omicron attended PPA's annual and mid-year conferences, where four brothers gave presentations.

## Innovation in Recruitment

Awarded to a collegiate chapter whose new member programming was innovative and represented the ideals of the Fraternity

### *Gamma Delta*

Fostering a welcoming environment for both potential new members and pledges is an essential mission for Gamma Delta chapter. Rush runs from August–September, during which brothers hold five events. The chapter requires potential new members to attend at least three events (or have valid excuses sent in 24 hours prior to the event). They also require brothers to attend three events or have valid excuses to be eligible to vote on rushees and pledges.

During 2022 rush, Gamma Delta held an informational meeting, a volleyball and popsicles event, Project Linus, Painting Canvases, ice cream and yard games, and a professional development activity. During the professional activity, brothers lead small group conversations with rushees about topics like resume and CV building, interview skills, professional dress, tips for classes and IPPE experiences. Rushees rotated through each station.

At the conclusion of rush, the chapter invites those who meet the attendance requirements to a formal interview with all of the brothers. From there, potential new members are selected.

Pledges have weekly one-hour meetings to learn about Kappa Psi. They are given weekly quizzes and asked to maintain an 80% average. To help the pledges get to know one another, they are assigned a fellow pledge to buy gifts for each week (in a Secret Santa-like fashion). Each pledge gives and gets a small gift (\$1 or less value) or note to foster fellowship. Chapter brothers are required to attend at least one pledge meeting to get to know the pledges.

Pledges are asked to complete 60 interviews of pledge class members or faculty and campus brothers. If spread out through pledging, this equates to seven interviews per week. The pledges host a social for brothers and organize a fundraiser for Reach Out and Read. The pledges come up with their own event and brothers provide help where needed.

The chapter has two pledge retreats for the new members. During the first pledge retreat, pledges are given their nicknames and the second is the Big/Little Reveal.

## Member Spotlight Awards

Meet the seven brothers who were honored for their outstanding work within the Fraternity:

### **Gabriel Vivas Casanova** (*Beta Omega*)

Beta Omega cabinets unanimously voted that Brother Casanova should be awarded for his efforts. Gabriel has built this chapter almost single-handedly and has surrounded himself with brothers who understand his vision for the future of the chapter and who are willing to see it through. He led the chapter through the difficult pandemic while also skillfully mediating between Beta Omega alumni and the collegiate brothers. He is a stern, but flexible leader and unmatched in his dedication to Kappa Psi. Gabriel managed to organize a program that focused on allowing the less fortunate in Philadelphia to have access to basic living materials such as food, water, and hygiene materials. He has partnered with Jenna's Blessing Bags to allow brothers to help their organization to reach a part of the population that most would never consider helping. Jenna was a young woman who initially ran the program despite physical and mental backlash from some of the community that she was helping. Today, with the help of Jenna's mother and Gabriel, the partnership has blossomed. Jenna's mother says none of her other partners has made as much impact as Gabriel. The chapter works with them twice a semester to gather materials, package boxes, and distribute the materials to the homeless population of Philadelphia. Gabriel also organized the first-ever Beta Omega award ceremony to recognize the hard work of brothers. Before Gabriel the chapter did not have the best relationship with the school, but that changed almost overnight after Gabriel became regent. Through his efforts, Beta Omega chapter is now the first group of students that faculty reach out to if they are in need of help with projects or research. Beta Omega chapter is the only fraternity that works in conjunction with the Temple Pharmaceutical Alumni Association. This is mostly due to the relationship between Beta Omega alumni in the association and the drive, led by Gabriel, to give back to the school.

### **Hannah Pham** (*Zeta Beta*)

Zeta Beta brothers stated that from the moment Hannah joined Kappa Psi, she has dedicated herself to reviving their chapter. Their membership had dwindled with three

brothers initiated in 2020 and no brothers initiated in 2021. The graduating class of 2020 included four P3s and five P4s. If no one was initiated this past year, the likelihood of Zeta Beta's survival would be minimal. Hannah led a strong team with determination and initiated four new brothers this past year, all of who are dedicated to the continual improvements of the chapter.

Hannah received many compliments from faculty and students alike on how the events she's hosted, with the help of her Zeta Beta brothers, have rejuvenated and awakened the school from its COVID sleep. Events like Pie a Kappa Psi & Special Faculty Guests and a healthy competition between classes and faculty on who could donate the most clothes and canned goods to the Bangor Homeless Shelter brought the school together. Even the Valentine's Carnation Grams put smiles on the faces of the most stressed faculty and students! Hannah organized two notable events this year: repainting and doing some interior decorating for a room in the Bangor Homeless Shelter with brothers through their "Adopt-A-Room" project, and she contacted companies and gathered enough supplies for 167 health/sex kits, which was three times the amount she put together with Kappa Psi last year. She is so dedicated to the chapter that she made time for every Kappa Psi meeting, even as a P4 who was busy with full-time rotations that were located all over Maine and part-time jobs. She was present during every pledge event.

Hannah puts in her all in everything she does. She juggles her school life, personal life, and Kappa Psi. She has the power to make people move and feel inspired.

### **Kimberly Yoo** (*Delta Omicron*)

Kimberly Yoo has shown extraordinary commitment to Delta Omicron chapter and to the Fraternity as a whole. She embodies everything that it means to be a brother and is a role model for everyone in her chapter.

Kim is always willing to help underclassmen or students in her class by answering any questions they may have throughout their journey in the pharmacy program. Along with this, Kim promotes the profession of pharmacy through her active leadership roles, and by advocating for the profession. Her career goals are centered around attaining leadership positions so she can truly make a positive impact on patient care and pharmacy as a whole.

Kim encourages her chapter brothers to step out of their comfort zones, whether

# 2023 KAPPA PSI AWARDS

that be running for an executive board position in Kappa Psi or for any other pharmacy organization, she challenges all to grow within the realm of pharmacy and show what the brothers of the chapter are truly capable of.

Kim has gone above and beyond for every brother in her chapter. She makes a point to ensure that everyone is always included and feels supported in each task they take on. Kim always shows up. She managed to make it to most pledging events to show the pledges what it means to be a brother in Kappa Psi.

## **Rachel Dittrich (Delta Tau)**

Delta Tau brothers say Rachel Dittrich is the most accomplished brother of their chapter and probably one of the most accomplished in the nation. Aside from being a huge pharmacy advocate on her social media platform, Rachel has received countless awards for her contributions to pharmacy. She has served as president of the Drug Awareness Advocacy Team, chapter secretary, Phi Lambda Sigma secretary, Student Alliance Vice President of Policy, PacWest Province Historian, and APhA-ASP National Policy Standing Committee member—just to name a few of her positions during the 2022–2023 year.

She attends every Province that she can and has even been to a Northwest Winter Province assembly.

She has won the Outstanding Professionalism Award and Distinguished Pharmacy Advocacy Award as a P2 from Roseman University. From NVSHP, she won the Pharmacy Intern of the Year Award. From APhA Foundation, she received the Samuel Kalman Scholarship and served as a delegate to the APhA-ASP. Right before graduating, Rachel received the Founder's Award from Roseman University for her outstanding contribution to the school.

Rachel is the face of Roseman University, appearing in several advertisements on social media for the college. She is an expert in time management and is extremely organized in life.

## **Cole McDonough (Zeta Epsilon)**

Cole has served in numerous leadership roles, most importantly as Zeta Epsilon regent. His contributions to Kappa Psi have been nothing short of exceptional, and he has truly carried the chapter on his back.

Cole has a natural ability to inspire and motivate those around him. His positive attitude and unwavering dedication to Kappa Psi have been instrumental in the success of the chapter.

One of Cole's greatest strengths is his ability to communicate effectively. He has a way of connecting with people and making them feel heard. This skill has been invaluable in his role as a leader of the chapter. He has been able to build strong relationships with his chapter brothers and is able to effectively communicate the chapter's goals and objectives.

Cole has organized and led numerous events that have had a positive impact on the community. His passion for giving back to the community has been contagious, and other brothers have followed his lead.

Cole excels in his ability to lead by example. He has always been willing to roll up his sleeves and get his hands dirty. Whether it's organizing an event, fundraising, or simply helping out a brother, Cole has always been there to lend a hand. He is a hard worker who has put in countless hours to ensure the success of the chapter.

## **Bosun Alayoku (Epsilon Eta)**

Despite the challenges of managing his responsibilities as a fourth-year regent while also completing clinical rotations, Bosun has consistently demonstrated his commitment to excellence and to the values of Kappa Psi.

Bosun's leadership within the organization has been exemplary. As the first fourth-year regent in Epsilon Eta's history, he has taken on significant responsibilities and managed them with grace and professionalism. His work in various committees has been outstanding, and his efforts have made a significant impact on the chapter.

In addition to his leadership, Bosun's commitment to service has been commendable. He is actively involved in various community service projects, demonstrating his dedication to addressing the unique healthcare needs of underserved populations. His involvement in health fairs, patient education programs, and medication management services has helped to make a real difference in the lives of those he has served.

Bosun is a role model for academic excellence and encouraging his peers to achieve their full potential. His contributions to scholarship initiatives have been notable, and his dedication to team building fosters a strong sense of community in the chapter.

Despite his many responsibilities, Bosun has also taken the time to keep Epsilon Eta's culture and tradition alive. His positive personality and adaptiveness have allowed him to connect with brothers from all walks of life, and he works hard to ensure the chapter remains welcoming and inclusive.

## **Andrew Engley (Beta Pi)**

Andrew pledged his first year of pharmacy school and his genuine effort to be involved and get to know others always has made him stand out. He served as the philanthropy officer for the 2022–2023 academic year and worked hard to build community partnerships with outreach and humanitarian groups in Spokane. He asked what events brothers would be most interested in participating in and made sure to coordinate several of those events in the year. The two events that brothers look forward to the most are Second Harvest, where brothers help package surplus food for charities, and Blessing under the Bridge, which is a local charity that provides food and supplies to shelters in Spokane.

Andrew also encouraged brothers to participate in the St. Jude Push-Ups month challenge to raise money for St. Jude. He deserves the most recognition for the Tools for School drive he held in February as he stood by the donation box in the main building on campus during lunches and talked to anybody who was passing by. Andrew also laid the foundation for a fundraiser 5K run for the campus. He spent a significant amount of time meeting with faculty and staff on campus to figure out the logistics of holding a campus fun run. He passed on what he was working on to the next officer to allow for more time to build up the event before it gets held. He now serves as regent of Beta Pi chapter.

## **Philanthropy Awards**

### **Reach Out and Read Impact Award**

#### *Epsilon Omega*

Awarded to the collegiate chapter whose participation with Reach Out and Read was creative, unique, and helps the organization achieve their mission.

### **Community Impact Award**

#### *Delta Tau*

Awarded to the collegiate chapter whose participation in local philanthropy was creative, unique, and impactful.

## Graduate Awards 2023

### Philanthropy Award

#### *Jacksonville Graduate*

The brothers of Jacksonville Grad recruited more than 100 volunteers to support their operation, including collegiate brothers from Zeta Gamma, Epsilon Mu, and Epsilon Eta. Their mission was to deliver Christmas presents to children who were in a difficult family dynamic situation which made it challenging for caregivers to provide for their family's needs. An event that started in 2019 had grown substantially, including over 2,000 volunteer hours, \$8,000 and 400 toy donations from the community, and enough support to provide more than 800 children with presents and need-based items which successfully surpassed their 2021 numbers of presents for 614 children and 214 families.

### Best Graduate Professional Event

#### *Arizona Graduate*

The brothers of Arizona Grad hosted a five-part hybrid seminar series that helped educate and prepare future pharmacists for residency. The series saw anywhere from 3-15 brothers in each session, which covered everything from preparing a curriculum vitae, letters of recommendations and intent, preparation for ASHP Midyear, PhORCAS, mock interviews, matching, and preparation for the second phase of the match. The event was open to all pharmacy students, but out of the three P4 students who attended every session, two of these members were matched to their program of choice.



Jax Grad brothers recruit more than 100 volunteers to help set up for their annual philanthropy, Santa Claus is Coming to Baker County.

### The Family Inclusion Award

#### *D.C. Graduate*

The brothers of Arizona Grad held their first D.C. Grad Cookout. The brothers identified a simple, but effective means to produce an enjoyable escape from the bustling city life for their brothers and families in a private environment with no overhead cost required. Brothers were able to support and provide multiple family activities, including coloring, games, and family photos for the 20 attendees. The chapter has decided to make this an annual event, which will serve as a capstone to their year, allowing for the brothers to be recognized for their contributions to the chapter and the Fraternity.

### The Mentorship Award

#### *Jacksonville Graduate*

The brothers of Jacksonville Grad coordinated with the Executive Committee of Zeta Gamma to determine the chapter's goals for the upcoming year. To support the chapter, they worked together to develop a series of three events which the graduate brothers supported, including a pharmacist career panel during Rush Week in August 2022, a mock interview and CV review panel in November 2022, and finally a rotations readiness webinar in May of 2023. Each of these events helped to meet the chapter's goals by maintaining the positive image of Zeta Gamma on campus, assisted with recruitment and retention of brothers, provided a bridge between collegiate and graduate brothers, and aided in the mentoring and professional growth of students and future pharmacists.

## GCD of the Year Gary Van Riper 50 years of service!



We would like to recognize **Brother Gary Van Riper**, Gamma Kappa, as the GCD of the Year. Gary reached the 50-year mark of service as a GCD!

## Grand Council Deputy Certificate of Excellence for 2023

*Shelby Landau, Epsilon Eta*  
*Johnny Yoko-Uzomah, Delta Kappa*  
*Alana Whitaker, Delta Tau*  
*Matthew Lacroix, Beta Epsilon*  
*Julie Akers, Beta Pi*  
*Jordan Khail, Gamma Phi*  
*Brianna Galvin, Delta Omicron*  
*Sujal Patel, Gamma Psi*  
*Shannon Usztoz, Zeta Gamma*  
*Need Pradas, Gamma Nu*

# The Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Foundation

## 2022-23 Scholarship Winners

**Northern Plains Province 99er's Scholarship** (\$2,000):

Dionna Shine, Zeta Gamma  
University of Florida-Jacksonville



Dionna Shine  
Zeta Gamma



Katherine Kreusel  
Beta Rho



Josuah Tilus  
Delta Upsilon



Quynh Nguyen  
Beta Xi

**Grossomanides Family Scholarship** (\$2,000):

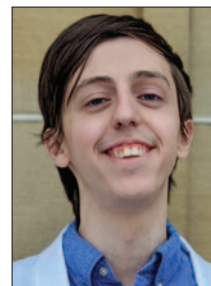
Angeleki Zecopoulos, Iota  
Medical University South Carolina



Candy Lu  
Upsilon



Ruth Adeyemi  
Zeta Gamma



Braidon Lape  
Beta Kappa



Julie Maddage  
Delta Omicron

**Reisetter Scholarship** (\$2,000):

Katherine Kreusel, Beta Rho  
University of Mississippi

**Pfizer Scholarship** (\$1,000):

Josuah Tilus, Delta Upsilon  
Palm Beach Atlantic University

**Rathi Family Scholarship** (\$1,000):

Quynh Nguyen, Beta Xi  
University of North Carolina

**Wall Family Scholarship** (\$1,000):

Candy (Emily) Lu, Upsilon  
University of Kentucky

**Foundation Scholarships** (\$1,000):

Ruth Adeyemi, Zeta Gamma  
University of Florida-Jacksonville

Braidon Lape, Beta Kappa  
University of Pittsburgh

Julie Maddage, Delta Omicron  
Wilkes University

Elizabeth Mensing, Beta Chi  
Drake University

Zach Nunemaker, Delta Zeta  
University of Iowa

Morgan Vincent, Zeta Upsilon  
Union University

Gabriel Vivas Casanova, Beta Omega  
Temple University



Zach Nunemaker  
Delta Zeta



Morgan Vincent  
Zeta Upsilon



Gabriel Vivas Casanova  
Beta Omega

One of the initial goals of the Kappa Psi Foundation was to develop a scholarship program to help deserving Kappa Psi brothers complete their pharmacy education. This goal was first realized in 1995 when two scholarships were awarded in the amount of \$500 each.

The Foundation now contributes \$12-14K in scholarships every year to deserving collegiate brothers. In order to continue this meaningful tradition, the Foundation needs the support of all of our graduate brothers! Please consider making a contribution to the Foundation at <http://www.kappapsifdn.org/donate.php>.

# 2023 Kappa Psi Chapter Roll Call

## Atlantic Province

**College chapters:** Theta, Beta Xi, Gamma Xi, Gamma Phi, Gamma Psi, Delta Lambda, Epsilon Delta, Epsilon Zeta, Zeta Xi, Zeta Rho

**Graduate chapters:** Athens Grad, Atlanta Grad, Buies Creek Grad, Charlotte Grad, Georgia Grad, North Carolina Grad, South Carolina Grad, South Carolina Upstate Grad, Virginia Grad

## Great Lakes Province

**College chapters:** Xi, Upsilon, Beta Lambda, Beta Phi, Gamma Delta, Gamma Chi, Epsilon Theta, Zeta Epsilon, Zeta Omega, Mu Omicron Pi

**Graduate chapters:** Ada Grad, Central Michigan Grad, Cincinnati Grad, Cleveland Grad, Columbus Grad, Detroit Grad, Kentucky Grad, Toledo Grad

## Gulf Coast Province

**College chapters:** Psi, Beta Rho, Gamma Zeta, Gamma Omega, Delta Gamma, Delta Eta, Epsilon Kappa, Epsilon Lambda, Zeta Upsilon

**Graduate chapters:** Auburn Grad, Louisiana Grad, Tennessee Grad

## Mid-America Province

**College chapters:** Pi, Rho, Chi, Beta Upsilon, Gamma Theta, Gamma Pi, Delta Nu, Epsilon Rho, Epsilon Upsilon, Epsilon Omega, Zeta Mu

**Graduate chapters:** Illinois Grad, Indiana Grad, Kansas City Grad, St. Louis Grad

## Mountain East Province

**College chapters:** Sigma, Beta Eta, Beta Kappa, Delta Epsilon, Delta Kappa, Delta Xi, Epsilon Nu, Epsilon Omicron, Zeta Kappa

**Graduate chapters:** Buffalo Grad, District of Columbia Grad, Laurel Highlands Grad, Maryland Grad, Maryland Eastern Shore Grad, Northern Virginia Grad, Pittsburgh Grad, West Virginia Grad



The newest brothers of Zeta Lambda chapter.

## Northeast Province

**College chapters:** Beta Epsilon, Beta Omega, Gamma Lambda, Delta Omicron, Delta Chi, Zeta Beta, Zeta Zeta, Zeta Iota, Zeta Pi

**Graduate chapters:** Albany Grad, Boston Grad, Connecticut Grad, Harrisburg Grad, Maine Grad, New York Grad, Pocono Grad, Providence Grad

## Northern Plains Province

**College chapters:** Epsilon, Beta Nu, Beta Sigma, Beta Chi, Beta Psi, Gamma Epsilon, Gamma Kappa, Delta Zeta, Delta Psi, Zeta Theta

**Graduate chapters:** Iowa Grad, Minnesota Grad, Nebraska Grad, North Dakota Grad, South Dakota Grad, Wisconsin Grad

## Northwest Province

**College chapters:** Beta Omicron, Beta Pi, Gamma Eta, Delta Mu, Epsilon Xi, Epsilon Pi, Epsilon Chi, Zeta Omicron

**Graduate chapters:** Idaho Grad, Montana Grad, Palouse Grad, Portland Grad, Seattle Grad, Utah Grad, Vancouver Grad

## Pacific West Province

**College chapters:** Beta Gamma, Gamma Nu, Gamma Upsilon, Delta Sigma, Delta Tau, Delta Phi, Epsilon Gamma, Epsilon Iota, Epsilon Psi, Zeta Sigma, Zeta Tau, Zeta Chi

**Graduate chapters:** Anaheim Grad, Arizona Grad, Hawaii Grad, Los Angeles Grad, Nevada Grad, Pacific Grad, Pomona Grad, San Diego Grad, San Francisco Grad

## Southeast Province

**College chapters:** Iota, Gamma Sigma, Delta Iota, Delta Rho, Delta Upsilon, Delta Omega, Epsilon Eta, Epsilon Mu, Zeta Gamma, Zeta Delta, Zeta Phi

**Graduate chapters:** Charleston Grad, Gainesville Grad, Jacksonville Grad, Orlando Grad, Savannah Grad, SE Florida/Bahamas Grad, Tampa Grad

## Southwest Province

**College chapters:** Gamma Omicron, Gamma Rho, Delta Beta, Delta Delta, Delta Theta, Delta Pi, Epsilon Beta, Epsilon Epsilon, Epsilon Tau, Zeta Eta, Zeta Lambda, Eta Beta

**Graduate chapters:** Dallas/Fort Worth Grad, Denver Grad, Houston Grad, New Mexico Grad, San Antonio Grad, Southwestern Grad, Texas Grad



Arizona Grad brothers enjoy time together at the AzPA convention.

# 2022-2023 FELLOWSHIP



St. Louis Grad brothers reconnect at the Mid-America Province assembly in Rockford. (L-R): John Odwyer, John Goodman, Dawn Lafleur, Steve Platou, and Steve Wagner.



LA Grad brothers . . . better than FRIENDS, they are brothers!



Pittsburgh Grad Brothers Dan Yarabinec and Alexis Gaggini volunteer at the Rush to Crush Cancer event in Pittsburgh.

RIGHT: Epsilon Iota brothers at the chapter's Sweet Retreat

BELOW: Zeta Phi's Jersey Reveal.



RIGHT: DFW Grad Brothers Elizabeth Nkwocha, Nelly Ayen, Ganiat Animashawun, and Chinedu Diokpa enjoy their Founders Day social at Bowlounge.





ABOVE: Delta Sigma brothers represent Kappa Psi at the TriFrat barbecue.

LEFT: Pacific Grad brothers gather for fellowship at the Pacific Grad/Gamma Nu Luau!



Iowa Grad Brothers Zach Russell, Jen Cardines, Adam Gregg, Brian Reisetter, Kelly Gulbrandson and Ally Strobel have fun at the NPP assembly.



LEFT: Zeta Beta P4s represent Kappa Psi at ASHP's Midyear conference in poster sessions and fellowship meetings, as well as stopped by the Kappa Psi booth! (L-R): Chris Miller, Saswat Kabisatpathy, Chidubem Ifeji, Jahmal Williams, Hannah Pham, Rafael Paganoni, and Kelsey Johnson.

# 2022-2023 INDUSTRY, HIGH IDEALS



Gamma Sigma Brother Kelly Bishop and Isabella Ico enjoy a Short Study Abroad in Italy!



Brothers from Beta Upsilon advocate for the profession at the Indiana Pharmacy Association's Legislative Day. L-R: Kevin Leffers, Justin Bridges, Courtney Fella, Alex Schweczyk, Fran Hudson, Anna Sharshon, Megan MacLean, Lucy Sherlock, Andra Raibulet, Angie Neddeau, Brian Cottingim, Emma Hocking, Emily Nailor, Audrey Madura, and Abby Miller.



Tampa Grad Brothers Dr. Christine Heng and Dr. Drew Austin with Epsilon Eta Brother Misline Dominique at the SEP Leadership Retreat in Orlando.

Epsilon Mu chapter presents awards to Brothers (L-R) Shefa Ali, Brother of the Year; Nekira Frelix, Exemplary Leadership; Matthew Doenges, Exemplary Industry; Shelby Figueroa, Exemplary High Ideals; and Alexis Kovacs, Exemplary Sobriety and Fellowship. We are so proud of our chapters as they recognize brothers for truly embodying the four pillars of Kappa Psi.





Dr. Morgan Alvah conducts a discussion at SEP Leadership Retreat with SEP Chaplain Josuah Tilus and SEP Vice Satrap Dr. Stefan Cevallos. Morgan recently stepped up as the co-GCD for Delta Upsilon.

LEFT: Epsilon Beta Brothers (L-R) Mary Rose O'Campo and Janet Thongkam embrace Turkish culture at a mosque during their study abroad.

BELOW: Southeast brothers enjoy networking at the NEP assembly.



Beta Psi Brothers (L-R) Caroline Paley, Cindy Lund, and Maddy Szubert attend the DPH-3 Pinning Ceremony commemorating their transition into DPH-4 year and the start of their APPEs.



Gamma Lambda brothers attend the NEP assembly. There, they are able to engage in open table discussions and connect with fellow brothers across other Northeast chapters of Kappa Psi!

# 2022-2023 SOBRIETY. SO PTBYB!



Chapters celebrate milestones together. Congratulations to Zeta Chi brothers celebrating their new white coats!



RIGHT: Epsilon Kappa brothers gather for a pic after graduation.



Epsilon Theta brothers celebrate excellence at their Grad Dinner at the Kentucky Grad house for graduating P3 brothers!



Tampa Grad Brother Dr. Zach Usztko is smiles after finishing the 15K Gate River Run in Jacksonville, Florida.



Iota alumnus Dr. David Shirley receives the Kenneth R. Couch Distinguished Mentor Award from SCPHA.



Iota GCD Dr. Kristy Brittain receives the South Carolina Pharmacist of the Year Award from SCPHA.



Winners of the self-care challenge at the APA convention are Gamma Zeta brothers, Gulf Coast Historian Kim Uribe, and former regent Justin Williams.



ABOVE: Tampa Grad and Past SEP Satrap Dr. Cesar Redaja participated in the Wheel of Fortune game show. Here he appears with host Pat Sajak. Photo Credit: Wheel of Fortune.

LEFT: Zeta Beta's GCD Drew Lambert is a published author!

LEFT: Kappa Psi Leadership Symposium: Brothers Bria Sutton, Tyson Troung, Brett Guillet, Madalyn Dankocsik, Samantha Horne, Evan Johnson, and Josh Pha are Leadership Ambassadors.

# KAPPA PSI LEADERSHIP

by Dylan McWilliams  
Collegiate Member-at-Large

**From June 29–July 1, 2023, Kappa Psi brothers from all corners arrived in Oklahoma City (OKC), Oklahoma, for the Kappa Psi Leadership Symposium. This was the first in-person symposium since the global coronavirus pandemic, with the last in-person symposium being held in 2018 in Fort Worth, Texas. As brothers arrived, there was excitement filling the city with the opportunity and anticipation to meet new brothers, create lifelong connections, and become better leaders within Kappa Psi. The successful event was planned and chaired by Matt Lacroix.**



After settling in at the Hotel Skirvin, the symposium kicked off with the opening reception meet and greet where brothers bonded over a bountiful buffet of hors d'oeuvres. With brothers having spent the majority of their day traveling into OKC, it was great to feel the energy in the room with brothers networking, exchanging ideas, and sharing their Kappa Psi experiences. Along with the collegiate brothers, presenting graduate brothers including Interim Executive Director and Past Grand Regent Askew, Grand Vice Regent Miller, and Grand Counselor Nardolillo spent the evening mingling with one another. Many of the speakers were past participants of the symposium so the stories of past symposiums filled the room. This is when the additional excitement about the weekend began.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Matt Kresl, clinical and MTM pharmacist at Allina Health, kicked off the weekend Friday morning engaging attendees early in discussing his book *Searching for Goldilocks* and how leaders need to find the “just right” in all scenarios. Dr. Kresl shared how being able to find this sweet spot as a leader can not only be beneficial within the profession, but it can be beneficial in one's own life. This keynote was the perfect opportunity for the brothers to reflect upon their own lives and see how they can improve and better themselves to get to that “just right” spot in their personal and professional lives.

Following the engaging keynote presentation, Dr. Julie Akers, associate dean for external relations and an associate professor at the Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, discussed the importance of advocacy and how it can advance our profession. She utilized Dr. Kresl's keynote address in her topic by explaining the importance of speaking up and knowing what to say and when to say it. She showed how important it is to advocate and what we have been able to accomplish through advocating for the profession in the past.

After lunch, Grand Counselor Nardolillo, Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, spoke to attendees about the importance of understanding personal and institutional bias. He noted that these biases take time to be noticed within ourselves and to be able to effectively eliminate those biases from our leadership style. Concluding the first day, Dr. Jordan Ballou, clinical associate professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy & Outcomes Sciences and the Kennedy Pharmacy Innovation Center at the University of South Carolina, spoke about advocating for our patients. She taught the attendees how to advocate for their patients and explained the importance behind it.

The sessions on day 1 were truly vital to the growth of the future leaders of Kappa Psi and the profession of pharmacy. Throughout the day, attendees were engaged as groups were provided with topics and ideas to start meaningful discussions. This allowed brothers to learn from each other's experiences. Seeing everyone interact with each other and bond all day Friday fostered the ideal of fellowship. By the end of Friday's sessions, there were multiple group chats being formed which was a testament to the networking and bonding brothers had with each other in just a mere 24 hours!

Friday rounded out with a banquet that included a great dinner and even better



# SYMPOSIUM



conversation. Brothers received their recognition certificates and leadership pins that they will showcase at future Kappa Psi events. The banquet and recognition were a great way to end a long day of learning, but the fellowship didn't stop there. During dinner, attendees continued networking by making plans to explore OKC together after the conclusion of the symposium.

To kickoff the last day of the symposium, Grand Vice Regent Miller, director of pharmacy compliance, quality and preparedness at Giant Eagle, engaged brothers Saturday morning about the importance of advocating for themselves. This was a very helpful session as the attendees learned about promoting themselves, their patients and their profession. The final presenter of the symposium, Dr. Matt Lacroix, director of accreditation and assessment at the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, led a discussion with the brothers about effective leadership by knowing the goal of each task being completed. This session tied together everything the brothers had learned over the weekend about becoming a stronger leader.

There were true bonds of friendship and brotherhood that were formed during the 2023 Leadership Symposium that will stand for years to come. The growth of the attendees was amazing to see as each rose to the challenge in bettering, not only themselves but each other. Seeing the passion of leadership and engagement in the eyes of the attendees leaving the three-day symposium was enlightening and inspiring. I look forward to witnessing how this experience for these brothers not only helps Kappa Psi grow but helps these brothers lead in the profession. The success of this unique event with the bonds formed, knowledge gained, and memories created truly makes me Proud to be your Brother. ■





The Central Office  
Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity  
2060 North Collins Ste 128  
Richardson, Texas 75080



# Mark your calendars!

Join Kappa Psi brothers from around the world for an amazing week of Brotherhood.

Immerse yourself in the vibrant heart of the Midwest and explore the many sites close to the host hotel, the Renaissance Cleveland.

Watch for more information at [www.kappapsi.org](http://www.kappapsi.org)

