

The Diamond

A publication of Lambda Sigma National Sophomore Honor Society



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President's Message

This year is speeding to a close. With selections as a high priority, it is also good to remember that regular programs should continue in order for the members of the chapter to remain involved. Having a special project at this time, which captures the interest of the group, would help end the year on a high note. Involving the freshmen, eligible for Lambda Sigma, would add another strong dimension.



Jane Price Harmon
National President

The national board was so impressed with the caliber of leadership, which we saw at the presidents' conference, so we are expecting this to be a banner year in reporting. The list of requirements for Honor Chapter is on the web, so be sure to check it out and gauge what you need to do. We love giving out well, deserved awards for Honor Chapter! The more the merrier! ♦

Honor Chapter Selection Criteria

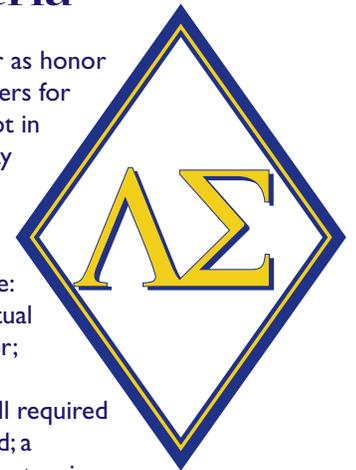
Lambda Sigma Society recognizes certain chapters each year as honor chapters. The national executive board selects these chapters for their general excellence and achievement. Chapters are not in competition against each other for this recognition, but may each achieve the recognition on the basis of individual chapter accomplishment.

Requirements these chapters must fulfill to be considered include: completion of all reports including the mid-year status report, ritual report, and annual reports by the president, treasurer, and advisor; completion of all rituals in accordance with chapter and national guidelines; submission of the Initiate List along with payment of all required fees; submission of an article to at least one issue of the Diamond; a minimum of \$50 contribution to the national scholarship fund; electronic submission and approval of the by-laws to national by November 1st; implementation of a chapter project consistent with the national service project, underprivileged and at-risk-youth; and attendance at the presidents' conference.

If all the above criteria are met, the national executive board will consider the chapter's service projects to the institution as well as the community.

All information to be used for consideration of honor chapter status must be submitted to the appropriate member of the national board by the deadlines. The final deadline for all monies due, initiate list, and annual reports is the end of the chapter's school year, or no later than June 1.

The national executive board meets each summer, usually in late June, and all decisions are made at that time. Both the president and the advisor are invited to submit materials along with their annual reports for the board to consider in making its decision. There is no limit on the number of honor chapters who may be recognized each year. ♦



Alumni Spotlight

For Dr. David Fardo, Beta chapter at Miami University 1997-98, his career path started in elementary school when, he entered and won math competitions, and in seventh grade decided he wanted to be an actuary after consulting the “Best Jobs in America” book.

Although he did fulfill that dream briefly, his love of academe, specifically research and teaching, eventually led him to the University of Kentucky where he is currently an assistant professor of biostatistics in the College of Public Health.

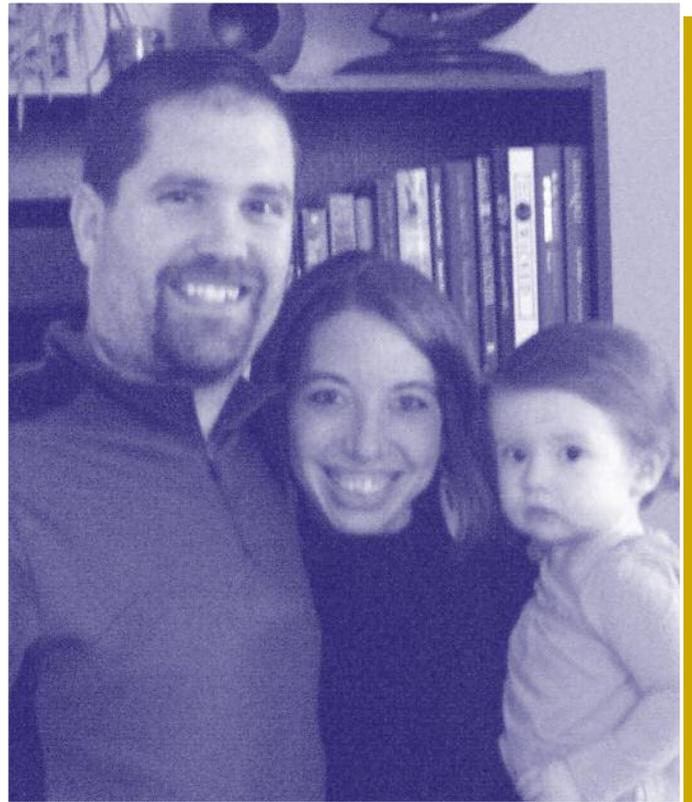
But for Fardo the journey has always been about mathematics. After high school he entered Miami University with a host of academic scholarships, and later graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in mathematics and statistics and minors in economics and Spanish. It was there that he served as treasurer of the Beta chapter of Lambda Sigma and began to understand where he wanted to go and what was important to him. “I came to understand that if I was too internally focused, I was not terribly productive. I needed to be of service at the same time,” he said.

He had been a model teen whose service with his church’s mission trips and his high school’s National Honor Society had instilled in him the importance of giving to others. So, at Miami it was natural that he would continue his sense of service. He worked with the service projects of Beta chapter and was an organizer for Kids Fest, a campus-wide service project sponsored by the Inter-fraternity Council. “It is important for everyone to volunteer; it’s important in anyone’s life,” he said.

Following his graduation from Miami, he continued to exemplify the ideals of Lambda Sigma. He did become an actuary... temporarily...but realized that his dream was to teach and do research on the college level. So, he quit his job in Chicago and returned to UK to pursue a master’s degree in statistics.

By this time he had married his high school sweetheart, Karen, and together they shared his journey to Harvard University where he continued his service, not only within the university’s School of Public Health, but also as a “beep” ball coach for the Association of Blind Citizens in Boston. He was also involved with the Ronald McDonald House in Boston...all while expanding his interest and influence in the field of statistical genetics. He was, in essence, a model student who was developing his scholarship as he continued his service. The honors and awards continued to reflect his balanced approach to life. At Harvard he received the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award. He had already been recognized with membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

He blended his experiences at Harvard with all his service and scholarly interests and came back home to the University of Kentucky in 2008. During this time, his research scholarship took him around the world to present data from the various studies he has done. Among his presentations are seminars at



Dr. David Fardo with wife, Karen, and daughter, Emily.

the American Society of Human Genetics in Hawaii and California and the International Congress of Human Genetics in Brisbane, Australia, among a long list of others.

Despite his intense interest and skill in research, he also has developed a love of teaching, due mainly to growing up in a college town with a father who is a college professor and a mother who “taught” as well in her real estate career. And despite the fact that he teaches only two graduate classes per semester because of his extensive research, he is quick to recall the satisfaction he experienced from teaching along the way. “I taught Intro to Statistics at UK,” he said, “and I also taught the service course for the MA in public health. During the summer of 2006 I was instructor for the Summer Preparatory Training Program in Probability & Operational Math at Harvard,” he continued. And his skill in the classroom has not gone unrecognized. He received a Certificate of Distinction in Teaching from Harvard, as well as the R. L. Anderson Teaching Award in the Department of Statistics at UK.

Today, he serves on capstone, thesis and dissertation committees at UK. He has the latest technology in his home which allows him to work there as well as on campus where as he analyzes data from complex research projects. “I have lots of DNA data on the genome-wide association study of hippocampal sclerosis a neuro degenerative disease,” he says of his most recent project.

With his meteoric rise in the relatively new field of biostatistics, he has remained a very humble scholar. Said one fellow student,

“He has always been grounded in what is important, and everyone likes him.” It seems he has cultivated the fourth Lambda Sigma goal of fellowship as well.

For Dr. David Fardo, however, it is family that keeps him focused as he explores and analyzes the data that may someday change the way we all live our lives. “I’m proud of the ‘Daddy/Daughter date nights at Chick-fil-a,” he said with a smile, “and the fact that the restaurant where we’ve been going has decided to make it a part of their marketing program.” The dates are a regular event for him and his daughter Hope, age three. Future dates will no doubt include younger daughter, Emily who is one year old.

Leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service...the four tenants of Lambda Sigma continue to play a role in the life of one alum, Dr. David Fardo – who has made the most of his experiences and stays focused on what is really important to him and his family. He is a sterling example just why these four tenants continue to guide our society after nearly 90 years.

Ron Wolfe
Executive Secretary ◆

National Scholarship Reminder

Applications for five \$500 scholarships are due May 1, 2012. Lambda Sigma chapters are invited to nominate one of their current members for these Lambda Sigma scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year. As you select this person, be certain that you use a fair and open process to choose someone who meets the national scholarship eligibility requirements. These include a second year student who has:

- ◆ maintained high scholastic standards
- ◆ made significant contributions to the chapter, university, and community
- ◆ demonstrated leadership ability

Contributions for the scholarships may be sent to Ron Wolfe, executive secretary, at the end of the year with your annual reports and fees. While larger donations are encouraged, a minimum donation of \$50 is required to be considered for honor chapter status.

Again, applications are due May 1, 2012. For more information contact mark.shotwell@sru.edu. ◆

James O’Dwyer Recipient of TeenNick HALO Award

For the past 3 years teens that are making this world a better place to live in have been honored for their dedication and service to others. Nick Cannon, host of “America’s Got Talent,” serves as chairman of TeenNick HALO Awards. He, along with Lady Gaga, Jessica Biel, David Beckham and Taylor Swift honored this year’s four recipients on November 6, 2011, at a televised, red carpet event in Los Angeles. Not only did the recipients get the recognition they deserve and the opportunity to celebrate with these celebrities, but they also each received ten thousand dollars to help pay for their college education.

James O’Dwyer, member of *Alpha Tau* chapter was one of the recipients of this prestigious award! A native of Georgia, O’Dwyer was sitting in his residence hall at the University of Alabama on April 27, 2011, when the deadly tornado hit Tuscaloosa, Alabama. While the tornado miraculously spared the campus destruction, it left a six-mile area across town devastated.

O’Dwyer decided that he would collect supplies to help those in need. Using the social media his word spread quickly and within hours his driveway was overflowing with donations. Due to the success of his drive, he was able to assist not only victims in Tuscaloosa but, also, in smaller surrounding towns. From this effort Magnolia Disaster Relief was started to help the small rural towns that were hit the hardest and helped the least.

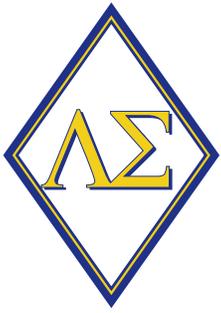


James O’Dwyer receives \$10,000 from Nick Cannon.



Taylor Swift presents an invitation to the HALO Awards to James O’Dwyer.

Today this relief effort continues, coordinating donations to affected areas and providing help for other disasters no matter how large or small. In the future he plans to create “hit kits” for small communities that will provide all the essentials needed in time of a disaster. ◆



Chapter News

Eta **Carnegie Mellon University**

At the beginning of fall semester Carnegie Mellon University's *Eta* chapter of Lambda Sigma wondered how they would leave an impact on the Pittsburgh campus. Fortunately to their advantage, there were a lot of people on campus who were passionate about service. To their disadvantage, there were so many mediums to express this passion that it was hard to get everyone in the same place.

The chapter's goal for the semester was to allow anyone on campus to engage in a service activity while having the multitude of service organizations in one place. The *Eta* chapter hosted a Simply Service Late Night in November. A Late Night at Carnegie Mellon is an event that happens between 9 pm and 1 am, which is open to the entire campus. Through much planning, the *Eta* chapter invited over 15 organizations on campus; including but not limited to greek organizations, cultural organizations and small service organizations. Each organization had their own service stand and represented a different charity and a different service activity. Some examples were making Christmas ornaments for a nearby children's center and making peanut and butter sandwiches for a nearby church. The special guest for the night was the *Alpha* chapter from the University of Pittsburgh who came and celebrated the night of service with the *Eta* chapter and the rest of the Carnegie Mellon community. There were also over ten acappella and dancing performances to keep the participants entertained throughout the night.

Over 300 people attended the late night and over seven hundred and fifty dollars

of goods were made and donated to over 15 different charities. It was a great night for Lambda Sigma and a greater night for serving the community!

Chi **Louisiana Tech University**

The Lambda Sigma chapter at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana, recently had club shirts printed for members and to sell to the student body. The chapter plans to sell these shirts as a fundraiser for future events.

Chi also participated in the annual Dawg Haul where student organizations help students move in their residence halls or apartments. The chapter plans on assisting with the Big Event next month. This event allows student organizations to perform acts of community service in and around the Ruston area. Also planned is a Doughnut Day during exam week where we will give away free doughnuts and coffee, or juice, to students who are on their way to their final exams.

Lauren Cheatwood **Secretary**



Chi T-shirt design



Omega members, Jessica Wade and Nick Popejoy, represented Lambda Sigma during Homecoming Week.

Omega **Honor Chapter** **Pittsburg State University**

The *Omega* chapter of Lambda Sigma began their service year with a busy Homecoming Week at Pittsburg State University. The weekend prior to Homecoming Week, the *Omega* chapter participated in their first service project of the year. The SWIPE Out Hunger movement to battle global hunger made its way to PSU and *Omega* Lambda Sigma members participated by measuring, filling, sealing, and labeling food packages to feed hungry people across the world. The chapter began their involvement in Homecoming Week by collecting clothing for students at local K-12 schools. The clothing drive was held during Convocation at the football stadium, and students and staff donated a total of 35 boxes of clothes as they entered. The clothing was donated to needy students at seven elementary schools, three junior high schools, and three high schools. The *Omega* chapter continued their involvement in Homecoming Week by participating in Gorilla Games, a team competition for campus organizations and Gorilla Art, an art competition in which a gorilla is painted with each organizations interpretation of the



Omega members participated in a Halloween party.

Homecoming Week theme. *Omega* chapter members, Nick Popejoy and Jessica Wade, proudly represented the chapter as candidates for Homecoming king and queen.

After a whirlwind Homecoming Week, the *Omega* chapter began planning a Halloween party for the Intensive English students attending PSU. The party consisted of a costume contest, games, music, and food. A total of 75 Intensive English students attended along with 25 Lambda Sigma members all in their best costumes.

The *Omega* chapter participated in two holiday service projects, Adopt a Family and Salvation Army bell ringing. During Adopt a Family, members went on a shopping trip to personally pick out presents for a local family in need while Salvation Army bell ringing offered students the opportunity to help raise money for the Salvation Army and their charity work. *Omega* chapter was honored as the top bell ringing organization on Pittsburg State's campus.



An Omega member wraps presents for a local family.

To help support their service projects, members of the *Omega* chapter sold programs and seatbacks to PSU fans at

every home football game during the semester. The chapter also helped organize graduates for fall Convocation to raise more money for service work.

The *Omega* chapter is currently beginning plans for their spring campus-wide talent show, Pitt State's Got Talent. The chapter is also planning on

participating in The Big Event, a campus-wide service project to thank the community for their support. To help keep with the national philanthropy, *Omega* chapter will also be participating in Rock and Bowl for Kids which benefits Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Crawford County. With passionate and talented members, the spring semester for the *Omega* chapter of Lambda Sigma is looking to be a busy to fulfilling one.

Sarah Poland
Editor

Alpha Gamma Honor Chapter Duquesne University

The *Alpha Gamma* chapter of Lambda Sigma at Duquesne University recently concluded a fruitful fall semester! *Alpha Gamma* managed and participated in various service projects to help enrich the lives of others.

In the month of October, *Alpha Gamma* designed on-campus campaigns to increase awareness of two important issues. The first, Turn Towers Pink, raised money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation by selling and hanging pink ribbons throughout Duquesne Towers Living and Learning Center. In addition, *Alpha Gamma* launched an awareness campaign against rape by providing Halloween tips for college students on the tables located in the Reverend Sean Hogan Dining Center.

Our projects in November involved giving back to our community. For Veteran's Day, *Alpha Gamma* sent handwritten letters to veterans, members of the armed services currently deployed, and those recovering from injuries. *Alpha Gamma* also participated in the Pittsburgh Beautification Project. Members volunteered to spend a Saturday morning raking leaves along a well-traveled path in the city.

In December, *Alpha Gamma* was extremely involved in the 2011 Pittsburgh Jingle Bell Run to support the Arthritis Foundation. Members of *Alpha Gamma* managed fundraising tables and sold paper jingle bells to raise money for the foundation. One Saturday in December a team of *Alpha Gamma* members, dubbed the Lambda Sigma Elves, participated in the event to help raise awareness.

Alpha Gamma has many upcoming service opportunities for the spring semester, including making Easter Baskets for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Children's Hospital, fundraising for Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, and participating in more Pittsburgh Beautification projects. We are looking forward to another fun and proactive semester!

Katie Bennett
Fundraising Chair

Professor of the Month Mugs Available

Blue ceramic mugs with the greek letters Lambda Sigma and "Excellence in Teaching" all in gold letters are available for \$7.50 each. Contact John Hauser, national vice president, to place your order. His contact information is listed on the last page of this newsletter. ♦

Alpha Delta Honor Chapter University of Southern Mississippi

During the fall semester at Southern Miss the members of the *Alpha Delta* chapter were busy leading several philanthropic events while also maintaining a high level of academic excellence. The chapter continues to maintain Lambda Sigma's ideals of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service.

From the very beginning, we set out with one goal: to do our absolute best in assisting the people of Hattiesburg as well as those on the campus of Southern Miss. To start, the chapter organized a care package project during midterms, which displayed to entering freshman our support for them and let them know about our chapter. The project also allowed us to raise funds for the chapter. Next, *Alpha Delta* became involved in an outreach project for the Mary Bethune Alternative School. We donated money, shopped for uniforms, and delivered them to the campus in need. Our members raised enough funding to purchase twenty polo shirts and nine belts.

In the past, members of our chapter were involved in USM's campus-wide Halloween Carnival. We chose to continue that tradition, set up a booth, and played horseshoes and darts with the children. The event was both fun and educational for everyone involved. Following the Halloween season, the chapter volunteered in *Lighting the Way*, a project designed to build a scholarship fund in the name of a deceased Southern Miss student. Lambda Sigma purchased and decorated a Christmas tree in the front of campus, which helped welcome the holidays.

As students work to close out their sophomore year, *Alpha Delta* has not slowed down yet. Our current project involves a detailed selection process for new members. Our chapter wants to be certain that those who succeed us will show the same amount of dedication to

service as we did. We are thrilled to see bright, new faces and look forward to the future of our chapter.

Tessa Willoughby
Editor

Alpha Epsilon Mansfield University

The *Alpha Epsilon* chapter at Mansfield University had a wonderful fall semester. The new members got to know each other while also helping the community.

The first community service project our chapter did was to go Trick or Treating for canned goods. We went with the honors group so that we could cover more ground and collect more cans. We collected over 200 cans and donated them to Haven which is a women's shelter.

The next service project *Alpha Epsilon* did was Santa's gift bag. This project allowed us to adopt children in the community whose parents could not afford to buy gifts for Christmas. Our chapter adopted three children and bought them presents.

The spring semester is going to be busy for *Alpha Epsilon*. We have many service projects and fundraisers planned. Also, this semester we will be promoting our name to the freshmen and the rest of the campus. We are planning to sponsor a dodge ball tournament and information/pizza party for eligible members. We will end the year with a banquet to induct the new members into the *Alpha Epsilon* chapter. We all are very excited about this semester and looking forward to the induction of the new members into our wonderful Lambda Sigma chapter.

Ellen Wareham
President



Alpha Eta Honor Chapter Penn State Erie – The Behrend Campus

The members of the *Alpha Eta* chapter at Penn State Behrend enjoyed an eventful first semester and are extremely excited for the upcoming service schedule. As the organization with the second highest number of service hours on campus, we are eager to uphold this ranking and strive to be even more involved.

We started the first semester by participating in the 25th Annual International Coastal Cleanup. Lambda Sigma, along with other organizations on campus, traveled to five different locations along Lake Erie to collect as much trash as possible. Along with the coastal cleanup, we also completed one of our Adopt-A-Highway cleanups, where we are responsible for keeping four on and off ramps free of garbage. Feeling sufficiently dirty from all of our trash collection, we opted to take a cleaner route by volunteering at the school's Career and Internship Fair, as well as the Open House for prospective students.

Our most interesting project of the first semester occurred during Behrend's Annual Hunger and Homelessness Week. Our members took part in Cardboard City, an event where organizations build cardboard structures all over campus and then must remain at the structure for a 24 hour time period. We made sure to decorate our Cardboard City with the letters and colors of Lambda Sigma before having five of our members brave the elements and spend a cold night trying to sleep within the structure. We managed to collect a large amount of food and clothing, as well as over a hundred dollars for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Erie.

We ended the semester by making Christmas cards for veterans and local nursing home residents. We also volunteered in numerous events such as Ornament Making and Breakfast with Santa at the local Children's Museum. For our final event of the semester, we volunteered at the Fall Commencement

Ceremony, where many Lambda Sigma alumni received their degrees and were sent into the work world.

Entering into the second semester, our main event will be the second annual Lambda Sigma Dodge Ball Tournament. Last year's members managed to recruit nearly 30 teams and raise over twelve hundred dollars for the Kanzius Cancer Research Foundation. Our goal for this year's tournament is to raise fifteen hundred dollars for the foundation and recruit even more teams.

Along with the Dodge Ball Tournament, our members will be volunteering at the Kids Café, which is a local afterschool program for children living below the poverty level. We will also be volunteering at other on campus events, as well as spending a day with Habitat for Humanity. We are looking forward to organizing and planning the membership events for the upcoming class of Lambda Sigma members. We hope that the new class will be energetic and ready to uphold the reputation that Lambda Sigma carries within the Behrend community.

Bryan Cryder
President

Alpha Theta Honor Chapter Slippery Rock University

Greetings from Lambda Sigma's *Alpha Theta* chapter at Slippery Rock University! Our group has been working hard all year to better ourselves, as well as our community, through service projects around campus. We are also extremely excited to continue our efforts during the spring semester.

Last semester our group participated in events around campus that focused on helping children in need. They included volunteering during Slippery Rock's Season's of Giving event, which helped homeless children, military families overseas, and those in local nursing homes. We also had a bake sale to fund buying Christmas gifts for a local child

who otherwise would have gone without.

One of our most exciting projects was traveling to Dayton, Ohio to help build a home for Habitat for Humanity. Our members graciously woke up very early on a Saturday morning and donated their time to help build a new home for a family. Despite the miserable weather and pouring down rain, members did not hesitate to grab a hammer and some nails and get to work.

We are back to work this semester coming up with new, exciting service projects. We already have plans to participate in Relay for Life as well as several other events around Slippery Rock.

Aleksandra Johnson
President

Alpha Iota Honor Chapter Mississippi State University

Students of the *Alpha Iota* chapter of Lambda Sigma are ready to take on a new semester filled with many service opportunities. Members are involved in various activities around campus such as greek organizations, student government, student recruitment, and various sports, but they still manage to make time to serve others. Our chapter ended the past semester with a fundraiser raising over one-thousand dollars. The fundraiser involved selling doughnuts to students across campus, rewarding both members of the chapter as well as those who supported us with their purchase.

Students have especially enjoyed getting involved in Project Aim, a mentoring program in the city of Starkville. Students meet once a week with children in local schools to provide guidance. Many members of our chapter often come to our biweekly chapter meetings telling stories of how rewarding the mentorship is. The mentors often get more out of the experience than do the children! Project Aim will continue

throughout the spring, allowing our members to invest time in mentoring many children in the area. The *Alpha Iota* chapter is involved in several other tutoring and teacher aid programs within the community.

As a chapter, this year we have written letters to troops overseas, collected toiletries for a local correctional facility, and helped serve dinner at the local soup kitchen. We have also visited a nearby nursing home and played games with the residents. These service opportunities have been a great way for our members to get to know each other as well as give back to our community in many different ways.

This spring we are excited to have the opportunity to go to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and work with Habitat for Humanity to help tornado victims that were affected last April. This chapter-wide event will provide lots of time to grow even closer while giving back to a great cause. This will be a very moving experience as members see the tornado damage first hand and devote a full day to helping rebuild in Tuscaloosa.

We are already gearing up for our new member selection. The interest meeting for the 2012-2013 members was held at the beginning of February, and we are excited to share our experiences with the future members of Lambda Sigma. Our new members will be initiated in March, and we can not wait to get to know them through selection this spring.

This is just a glimpse of what the *Alpha Iota* chapter of Lambda Sigma is doing at Mississippi State University. We are excited about another successful semester of service!



Alpha Kappa Georgia Institute of Technology

The *Alpha Kappa* chapter of Lambda Sigma at Georgia Tech is ready for another great semester of serving the community. We started our semester with a recap of the past year's key service projects and by brainstorming new ideas for projects as well.

Two exciting projects that the *Alpha Kappa* chapter participated in last semester were our Thanksgiving Give-A-Meal outreach project, as well as our Christmas service event, where we provided two children with gifts for the holidays. With both of these projects chapter members used several resources, including other on-campus organizations, to help make the service initiatives as successful as possible.

Our Thanksgiving Give-A-Meal outreach project involved providing meals for over 25 families in the Metro Atlanta Community. We partnered with Harper-Archer Middle School in Atlanta to help serve low-income families who were in need of assistance with purchasing their Thanksgiving Day meals. To ensure the success of our service initiative, as well as bring awareness to our fellow peers at Georgia Tech, we collaborated with several different organizations on campus to help raise money to provide the meals.

Another outreach project that the *Alpha Kappa* chapter planned was working with Hands On Atlanta to provide gifts for two young boys for their Christmas. Our chapter was able to provide both young boys with bicycles, helmets, and Hot Wheels cars.

For spring semester we have several project ideas that will give us the opportunity to continue making an impact in our community. We look forward to having a great semester at Georgia Tech and with Lambda Sigma!

Brooke Smith
Community Service Chair

Alpha Lambda D'Youville College

This year our chapter of Lambda Sigma is motivated to making a lasting difference in our community. We have been working hard throughout the fall semester in order to prepare for our future fundraisers. During our meetings, which occur every other week, all of our members give great input and are very helpful with important decisions that have to be made.

Alpha Lambda began the school year by coordinating the Freshman Move-In Day. Members of our chapter helped the students and their families get settled into college life. We answered any questions that they had and introduced them to Lambda Sigma. This helped us build new friendships with the students that were starting a new chapter in their lives.

Around Thanksgiving, for the second year in a row, our chapter donated food for Thanksgiving baskets that are made at our college. *Alpha Lambda* is extremely concerned with helping others and feeding the hungry in our area.

Another one of our annual fundraisers is our exam week survival pack. These packets contain food, drinks, and other small items to help the students living on campus survive the stressful final week of the semester. This fundraiser has always been one of our most successful and it did not fail this year.

In the upcoming months, our chapter is planning a March Madness Tournament, with some of the money going to a local charity, as well as a community clean-up day in our area.

Alpha Lambda is extremely excited to end the year on the right foot by helping others. We are excited to induct our new members in the spring and hand the torch to the future of our chapter.

Samantha Rowen
President



Alpha Mu Berry College

Hello from the eighth most beautiful campus in America! Berry College's *Alpha Mu* chapter of Lambda Sigma had a very busy and successful semester last fall. Each bimonthly meeting was spent planning and executing events that emphasized our commitment to the four pillars of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service.

Service opportunities that *Alpha Mu* participated in fall semester included the campus-wide Make A Difference Day, in which the members held a prize booth in a local children's carnival. Our members love the carnival setting, as we also made popcorn during our family weekend and founder's day, Marthapalooza Celebration. Twice a month, members volunteered at a Young Moms program babysitting the children of local young mothers for a night while the women participated in a support group. It is certainly a great break from studying to go and play peek-a-boo! And as if *Alpha Mu* was not committed enough, several people volunteered with Boys and Girls Club, the Rome Open Door Home, Alzheimer's Memory Walk, the End Hunger Now event through Wesley Ministries, Hospitality House Thrift Store, Dr. Santa Claus toy drive, and several local church programs.

The largest event the chapter sponsored was Dimes for Diabetes in November, the first ever Diabetes Awareness Week at Berry College. After planning for months in preparation for the week, each member was very enthusiastic to finally see the plans in action! Each day during the week, we held several tables in our student lobby during lunch hours educating students about the warning signs of diabetes, disproving



Alpha Mu president, Lauren Logan with Miss America 1999, Nicole Johnson.

common myths about the disease, and encouraging donations for the American Diabetes Association (ADA). We also sold shirts built around the idea of a Type 3, or a

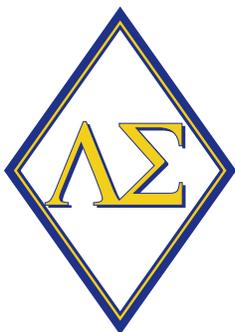


Miss America 1999 shares her crown.

person who knows and loves someone with diabetes. Half of the money collected from shirt sales was donated to the ADA. Our most publicized Dimes for Diabetes event was the arrival of Nicole Johnson, Miss America 1999. Ms. Johnson came and spoke to our campus and community about her own personal experiences with Type 1 diabetes, and how she manages the disease. We were so honored to have her, and the event was a complete success!

The winter break was a wonderful opportunity for us to rest and get excited about spring semester. We plan to host a Spread the Word to End the Word Rally to raise awareness of people with special needs. *Alpha Mu* also is continuing to volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club in hopes of taking a more active role in tutoring the children. Other weekly opportunities include the Young Mom's program, Open Door Home, and local church programs. Of course, we will also be planning our induction on March 18th!

Alpha Mu at Berry College has had an incredibly, wonderful year and we feel so thankful to have had the opportunities to host such meaningful events for our campus!



Alpha Tau Chapter members

Alpha Tau University of Alabama

Lambda Sigma is quickly becoming the premiere honor society at the University of Alabama. We are very active around campus, and never cease to lend a helping hand when we can. Whether it is working with Tuscaloosa's OnePlace, or Habitat for Humanity, we take great pride in representing The University of Alabama, and the city of Tuscaloosa.

This past fall, we were able to celebrate a very special event when James O'Dwyer, one of our members, received the Nickelodeon Teen Halo Award. After the horrific events of April 27, 2011, many students took the time to help our neighbors and aid in the relief efforts, but James took it a step further. He began collecting supplies to help the tornado victims in Tuscaloosa, and as his efforts began to increase, he was able to aid the smaller towns that were affected by the travesty. He started Magnolia Disaster Relief to target these rural towns that were hit very hard, but were receiving very little attention. Nine months later, he continues to work very hard with Magnolia Disaster Relief, and needless to say, we are all very proud of him!

We are looking forward to our service projects for this semester. We will be working with Mississippi State's chapter of Lambda Sigma to do a Habitat for Humanity build in Tuscaloosa. We are very excited for this upcoming event, and know that working with another chapter will be very beneficial.



Alpha Phi members dressed for a special occasion.

Alpha Phi Honor Chapter Ferrum College

The *Alpha Phi* chapter of Lambda Sigma is located at a small private school in Virginia named Ferrum College. The students from this college have joined together with local organizations in an effort to raise awareness, serve the community, and grow as individuals. One of our major service events of the fall semester was the chili tent at the Blue Ridge Folklife Festival on Ferrum's campus. Our chapter was able to work with a local chapter of the Lion's Club at the event. Our members helped by serving chili and refreshments, as well as helping with the set-up of the chili tent. The 2011 Folklife Festival had over 10,000 visitors and has been going strong for almost four decades. The festival is a unique display of what life is like in Appalachia. You can expect to find such events as mule jumping, horse pulling, banjo and fiddle workshops, coon dog races, etc. If anyone is interested in learning more, please visit www.blueridgefolklifestival.org.

Alpha Psi University of Toledo

The *Alpha Psi* chapter of Lambda Sigma at the University of Toledo is off to a great start in 2012. The membership selection process is underway, with a revised application and new methods for publicizing our organization. We hope to find outstanding students to continue what the class of 2011-2012 has accomplished.

One of our most popular fundraising event was Orange Crush, a Valentine's Day fundraiser where students purchased an orange pop for one dollar and left a note attached for their campus crush. The chapter was excited to see such a successful and fun event.

Our major fundraising event, the penny wars, is receiving community involvement from local businesses. It is a competitive event to see which business can raise the most money with funds raised donated to Food For Thought. This event, which started in February, will run throughout the remainder of the semester, ending in April.

Another major event that the *Alpha Psi* chapter will be participating in is the University of Toledo's Big Event, a community-wide service project that is a day devoted to giving back to the Toledo area. The event will be held on March 24th.

Involvement within the chapter continues to grow. The executive board and committees are working hard to keep the chapter on its successful path, promoting a true sense of leadership and service!

**Rebecca Wancata
Secretary**



Alpha Omega Westfield State University

The *Alpha Omega* chapter at Westfield State University was so excited to begin this year as new Lambda Sigma members! Westfield is a small, tight knit community school. Consequently, we were eager to use our shared values of leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service to make our school a better place to live and learn.

Since this has truly been a wild year of weather in Massachusetts, the first thing our chapter did was raise money for the American Red Cross of Western Mass. At our university's annual Family Day, we set up a booth and offered parents the opportunity to purchase care packages for their children. Through the funds raised from these care packages and many generous donations we were able to donate to the disaster relief efforts in our community and the surrounding towns.

Because our goal is to make an impact in our community, we also wanted to assist a local hospital. Noble Hospital in Westfield, Massachusetts, works to deliver the highest quality health care to the Westfield area and the surrounding communities. Our chapter hand-made sixteen, fleece knot blankets in a variety of fun colors and patterns. We had a great time working closely as a chapter to make these blankets. A few weeks later a small group of students went down to the hospital to donate the blankets in person. The blankets were

divided among the children and elderly of the hospital who are there on extended health stays.

During spring semester we are excited to, again, work with Noble Hospital on their annual 5K Race. We will also host a fundraiser at an off-campus restaurant, which will be an evening of fun and food! The *Alpha Omega* chapter is looking forward to recruiting new members to this wonderful organization and we wish everyone the best of luck in their spring semester!

Beta Delta Honor Chapter Middle Tennessee State University

Beta Delta Honor Chapter ended the fall semester with a packed schedule of events. We participated in two outside philanthropic events and two in-house donation drives. Our in-house drives consisted of a card-making project for our American soldiers. Each member made two cards with a special note inside each one and collected them all at a meeting to send to the soldiers fighting for our country. In November we participated in a Special Kids Angel Tree. We took a family of four – one little girl, one little boy, and two parents. With this drive we collected one hundred and forty dollars plus gifts from each of their wish lists.

Our outside philanthropic events were a day of service at Greenhouse Ministries

Diversity Statement

Inherent in the purposes and ideals of Lambda Sigma Society is the understanding of the importance of diversity within the organization in achieving its goals. To this end, the National Executive Board of Lambda Sigma Society encourages its member chapters to actively pursue candidates for membership who would broaden and strengthen the local chapters by providing diverse backgrounds. This diversity within the organization should serve to enhance the potential for leadership and service by acknowledging the wide range of students within the college or university and their potential to contribute to the goals of the society. ♦

and volunteering at a World Outreach Fall Festival. On our service day, we had 28 in attendance. We helped organize and restock their merchandise. At the Fall Festival we aided in setting up and taking down much of the event. We also assisted during the day, in the parking lot, keeping the facility clean, and helping in any way possible.

Beta Delta's spring semester is going to be a full one! We have already prepared many of our recruitment events. We are going to host information nights, and have information tables in our student union to spread awareness. We are excited to have our activities night, a night dedicated to teaching and showing our potential new members what Lambda Sigma is all about. We are going to have crafts, games, snacks, and lots of fun.

In terms of volunteering this semester, we have three days set aside for big philanthropic events. We are looking forward to participating in a Habitat for Humanity project in March. It will be a first experience with Habitat for Humanity for many members in our chapter. We are also going to be volunteering at a local pet shelter called PAWS. Many of our members have a love for animals and want to give back to them. Our third philanthropic event will be associated with the American Cancer Society. This project is still in the works. We are looking forward to participating in some more in-house donation drives, too.

Beta Delta Honor Chapter is trying to make a difference. We want to be helpful and known on and off campus. We want to make sure we are having fun while serving our community and making friends. With a busy semester ahead, we look forward to finding the perfect members to lead our chapter in the right direction with our values fresh in mind.

Erin Pettit
Editor/Secretary



Beta Epsilon Washington University

During the fall semester, the *Beta Epsilon* chapter was working on several concurrent projects. On Halloween day some of our members teamed up with the Campus Y to put on Safe Trick or Treat for St. Louis children around campus. Later, several members prepared and delivered meals on Thanksgiving for Angels' Arms, an organization that places children in foster homes. In addition, groups of members would periodically volunteer at Campus Kitchen, a student run organization that prepares and delivers meals to various soup kitchens and philanthropic organizations around St. Louis. Always trying to add some of our own flair to our service projects, one night in our version of "Iron Chef, Soup Edition," we organized into two groups to see whose soup reigned supreme – they were both very well received.

After a fun and fulfilling first semester the *Beta Epsilon* chapter jumped right into preparations for what looks to be a rewarding spring. In addition to revising our by-laws in order to ensure that the chapter continues to grow and flourish, we have our main service project and our annual Random Acts of Kindness Week just around the corner. The chapter decided that our service project this semester would be teaching at the Youth Learning Center. We teach two high school preparatory classes to 8th



Beta Epsilon members volunteering at Campus Kitchen.

graders, as well as an "Important Values" class (emphasizing qualities such as teamwork, communication, etc.) to younger children.

This year's Random Acts of Kindness Week promises to be full of inspiring events to invigorate and engage our campus community. Our activities will include a screening of Pay it Forward in one of the campus eateries, attaching candy and compliments to the underside of desks in lecture halls, giving compliments to students walking from the residence halls to main campus, and other fun and caring endeavors.

All in all, this year has been and promises to continue to be a rewarding experience for all our members and the friends that we make along the way. Best wishes from the *Beta Epsilon* chapter at Washington University and remember that a warm smile is the universal language of kindness.

Ben Zunkeler
Internal Vice-President



Beta Epsilon members at Halloween event.

Beta Zeta Honor Chapter Pace University – NYC Campus

The Lambda Sigma Beta Zeta chapter at Pace University-NYC Campus has organized multiple events on campus to support various causes near and dear to the hearts of the executive board and individual committees. Every member of our chapter has put their individual skills to good use whether it is culinary prowess for our numerous bake sales, or social networking to advertise the events. Everyone at the *Beta Zeta* chapter has worked hard to make Lambda Sigma an ever-present organization on campus.

Every year our Lambda Sigma chapter chooses several philanthropic organizations to serve as the center of our charity work. This year, a large focus has been on CARE, a humanitarian organization that combats poverty in 87 countries and has reached out to over 82 million people worldwide. In order to break the cycle of poverty among women and children, CARE places emphasis on women's self-sufficiency by providing necessities such as healthcare, education and emergency relief in times of crisis to those who need it most. Bake sales were also sponsored to raise money for CARE. We also held ribbon sales to help raise money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation in support of breast cancer awareness. In October, in support of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, we participated in a walk across the Brooklyn Bridge entitled "Out of the Darkness." With a growing military population, Pace University was recently named one of the most military friendly schools in the nation. In that spirit, we chose to support the Marine Corp's annual Toys for Tots Drive for American children whose families could not afford gifts this past year. Currently, we are in the process of brainstorming potential fundraisers for GEMS, a nonprofit organization to spread



Beta Zeta members participated in the annual Toys for Tots Drive sponsored by the Marine Corp.

awareness about the domestic sex trafficking trade in the United States. It also gives support to young women who have been victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. New York City is home to so many opportunities and different ways to leave the world a better place.

While a lot was accomplished this past semester, there is still much more work the *Beta Zeta* chapter in New York City can do in the spring!

Beta Kappa George Mason University

On October 22, 2011, the *Beta Kappa* chapter of Lambda Sigma at George Mason University participated in the Washington, D.C. branch of the National Walk for Autism. Our initial recruitment goal was to have five members participate in the Walk, but we were lucky enough to increase our numbers to nine by the day of the Walk. In addition to our member numbers, we hoped to raise at least two hundred dollars for the



Beta Kappa members participated in Washington D.C.'s National Walk for Autism.

cause. By the day of the Walk we were excited to present the Autism Speaks Foundation with four hundred and fifty five dollars. Our nine members spent the morning playing games with the children at the walk and getting other walkers involved in the pre-walk line dances. We then made the three-mile trek from the Capitol Building down and around the Washington Monument.

After the walk festivities concluded, those members who could remain downtown made our way to the World War II memorial where we spent some time site-seeing and bonding. Our extraordinary experience has influenced us to take part in the Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure scheduled for spring 2012. We hope to have even more participants, and raise more money for another worthy cause.

In addition the *Beta Kappa* chapter also participated in a canned food drive before the winter holidays and collected well over 200 cans, which were donated to a local food bank that was having troubles filling its shelves. This semester we also partnered with Children's Hospital of the Nation's Capital to make Valentine's Day cards for the patients. We also will be visiting a local retirement



Beta Kappa members relax after the Walk.

home to spend the day visiting the residents, and participating in activities with them. We are looking forward to a fabulous conclusion of our year as active Lambda Sigma members.

Beta Mu Alvernia University

At the beginning of our first year as a new chapter, we were faced with some challenges. We are proud to say that with the dedication and hard work of each member we have overcome those challenges. The success began when we agreed to create committees so that every member had a chance to be fully active and experience a leadership role. Our scholarship committee planned trips for the club to attend educational events such as the Reading Museum and Benjamin Franklin Institute. As for our service committee, they planned dates to attend and serve at the youth after-school program affiliated with our University to assist with homework and, also, to read to the students. Meanwhile the membership committee is preparing for the scheduled interactive events for the prospective incoming new Lambda Sigma Beta Mu members. We are extremely excited to continue our hard work and to have a well-prepared, example platform established for the next year members. This will allow them to continue to improve upon the foundation that we developed during Beta Mu's first year!

**Screta Ford
President**

**Shelby Hickox
Secretary**

Beta Gamma University of Pikeville

The 2011-2012 *Beta Gamma* chapter at the University of Pikeville has been determined to honor the Lambda Sigma traditions of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service through the involvement of it's members.

To start the year members of the *Beta Gamma* chapter began their first service project involving the Pike County Animal Shelter. While visiting the shelter members worked with groups of animals that were in extreme need of attention. Ultimately, the visit turned into a day of fun for everyone involved, as members walked dogs and played with the animals at the shelter. Following our first visit the members decided to extend our services to include a semester long donation drive. Boxes were placed around campus and filled with supplies needed for the shelter by the student body, as well as faculty and staff.

As a way to give back to the student body at the University of Pikeville, the *Beta Gamma* chapter sponsored a Halloween weekend with a horror movie, double feature showcasing Paranormal Activity 1 & 2. Both showings were free to the campus community while refreshments were sold and donations accepted to go towards more fellowship activities in the near future. With the movie night being such a big hit on campus, the *Beta Gamma* chapter hopes to be able to provide students with more movie night opportunities in upcoming weeks.

During spring semester our chapter has been spreading the traditions of leadership, fellowship, scholarship, and

service not only to our campus, but also to our neighboring communities. This year's Lambda Sigma members have created their own traditions of service to be carried on in years to come. We are anxious to see what the future holds for Lambda Sigma, as well as the entire University of Pikeville community.

**Merisa Ferrell
Corresponding Secretary**

Brochures Available

A limited number of brochures are available for chapter use in marketing Lambda Sigma Society to eligible first year students and the campus community. Contact Barbara Ross, national editor, to place your order. Her contact information is listed on the last page of this newsletter. ◆

Honor Cords Available

Many chapters are now providing honor cords for their graduating seniors to be worn at graduation. If you are interested in ordering these blue and gold cords, you may do so by contacting the following company:

Schoen Trimming and Cord Co., Inc.
at
[http://www.cordsandtassels.com/
products2.htm](http://www.cordsandtassels.com/products2.htm)
or
calling them at
212-255-3949. ◆



LAMBDA SIGMA SOCIETY MISSION STATEMENT

Lambda Sigma Society, a national honor society for second year students, is dedicated to the purpose of fostering leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service among its members as they promote the interests of the colleges and universities they represent. ◆

Upcoming Deadlines

MAY 1, 2012

Scholarship ApplicationMark Shotwell

JUNE 1, 2012

President's Report.....Ron Wolfe

Treasurer's Report

Advisor's Report

Initiate List

National Dues (\$40/member)

Convention Assessment (\$300)

Scholarship Donation (Minimum Donation \$50 for Honor Chapter Status)

All reports are to be submitted electronically. Reports are located on the website. ♦

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Alpha	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
Beta	Miami University	Oxford, OH
Epsilon	Allegheny College	Meadville, PA
Zeta	Muskingum University	New Concord, OH
Eta	Carnegie Mellon University	Pittsburgh, PA
Iota	University of Mississippi	University, MS
Lambda	Westminster College	New Wilmington, PA
Omicron	Northern Illinois University	DeKalb, IL
Pi	Auburn University	Auburn University, AL
Rho	Thiel College	Greenville, PA
Tau	University of Kansas	Lawrence, KS
Chi	Louisiana Tech University	Ruston, LA
Psi	Central Missouri State University	Warrensburg, MO
Omega	Pittsburg State University	Pittsburg, KS
Alpha Gamma	Duquesne University	Pittsburgh, PA
Alpha Delta	University of Southern Mississippi	Hattiesburg, MS
Alpha Epsilon	Mansfield University	Mansfield, PA
Alpha Zeta	Texas A & M University	College Station, TX
Alpha Eta	Penn State Erie – The Behrend College	Erie, PA
Alpha Theta	Slippery Rock University	Slippery Rock, PA
Alpha Iota	Mississippi State University	Mississippi State, MS
Alpha Kappa	Georgia Institute of Technology	Atlanta, GA
Alpha Lambda	D'Youville College	Buffalo, NY
Alpha Mu	Berry College	Mt. Berry, GA
Alpha Pi	Lawrence University	Appleton, WI
Alpha Sigma	Gannon University	Erie, PA
Alpha Tau	University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
Alpha Phi	Ferrum College	Ferrum, VA
Alpha Psi	University of Toledo	Toledo, OH
Alpha Omega	Westfield State College	Westfield, MA
Beta Gamma	University of Pikeville	Pikeville, KY
Beta Delta	Middle Tennessee State University	Murfreesboro, TN
Beta Epsilon	Washington University	St. Louis, MO
Beta Zeta	Pace University – NYC Campus	New York, NY
Beta Eta	Pace University – Pleasantville	Pleasantville, NY
Beta Theta	Urbana University	Urbana, OH
Beta Kappa	George Mason University	Fairfax, VA
Beta Lambda	University of North Carolina – Pembroke	Pembroke, NC
Beta Mu	Alvernia University	Reading, PA

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