

# The Diamond

A publication of Lambda Sigma National Sophomore Honor Society



## President's Message

**A**lpha Kappa chapter was thrilled to host the national convention in Atlanta! I'm sure the delegates who attended are responsible for bringing a day of rain to our sun-drenched city which is in its third year of a serious drought.

A recurring theme at the meetings was how important advisors are to the well being of the chapter. Each group should have at least one "hands-on" advisor if you have either one, two or three people working with the chapter. This means someone who regularly attends the meetings and works closely with the president and executive board.



The chapter can survive a year with an advisor who has the attitude of, "Just drop by if you need me," but if the group has a weak president, the chapter will begin a downward spiral. At the round table discussion on Saturday, we thought of many ways to find an active advisor. Your board correspondent is a great resource for more ideas. It is critical that you have someone who can provide the continuity for the chapter since it is a one year commitment for the students.

Again, Georgia Tech loved hosting the national convention, and hope everyone was able to experience a bit of Atlanta and our campus. ♦

## Congratulations – Lambda Sigma Honor Chapters

**H**onor chapters are selected by the national executive board for excellence and achievement. Requirements these chapters must fulfill to be considered include: completion of annual reports by the president, treasurer, and advisor; completion of all rituals in accordance with chapter and national guidelines; correspondence with board correspondents; submission of an article to at least one issue of the *Diamond*; evidence of campus and community service, minimum contribution of at least \$50.00 to the national scholarship fund; approved by-laws on file with national, and attendance at the national convention.

Congratulations to the following chapters on receiving this high honor during the 07-08 year!

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Alpha        | University of Pittsburg                  |
| Epsilon      | Allegheny College                        |
| Zeta         | Muskingham College                       |
| Eta          | Carnegie Mellon University               |
| Iota         | University of Mississippi                |
| Lambda       | Westminster College                      |
| Omicron      | Northern Illinois University             |
| Rho          | Thiel College                            |
| Omega        | Pittsburg State University               |
| Alpha Gamma  | Duquesne University                      |
| Alpha Delta  | University of Southern Mississippi       |
| Alpha Zeta   | Texas A & M University                   |
| Alpha Eta    | Penn State Erie – The Behrend College    |
| Alpha Theta  | Slippery Rock University                 |
| Alpha Iota   | Mississippi State University             |
| Alpha Kappa  | Georgia Institute of Technology          |
| Alpha Lambda | D'Youville College                       |
| Alpha Mu     | Berry College                            |
| Alpha Pi     | Lawrence University                      |
| Alpha Sigma  | Gannon University                        |
| Alpha Tau    | University of Alabama                    |
| Beta Eta     | Pace University – Pleasantville Campus ♦ |

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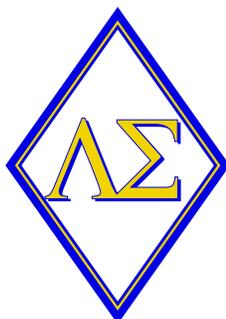
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## Gift of Honor Announced



Karen Smith

Karen Smith was announced as the recipient of the 2008 Gift of Honor, at the national Lambda Sigma convention at Georgia Tech University this past October. This is the highest honor given by Lambda Sigma and Smith is our ninth recipient. Smith served Lambda Sigma in many ways, as a national board member, as the advisor for two chapters, and as the person that was instrumental in having the *Beta Gamma* chapter installed at Pikeville College. Smith served as the chapter advisor to the *Zeta* chapter at Muskingham College before moving to Pikeville, KY, where her husband became the president of Pikeville College. It did not take her long to coordinate plans for the installation of a Lambda Sigma chapter on this campus. In March of 1998 Smith along with the dean of students met with students interested in chartering a Lambda Sigma chapter. In the fall at the 1998 national convention the *Beta Gamma* chapter was installed with her husband being initiated as an honorary member. Smith served on the national board from 1995-2003 as an administrative advisor, then recording secretary, and finally as the convention liaison. Her presence made a difference both as an advisor and on the national board and she will be remembered by many students as well as the nation board! ♦

## Ruth Knights Outstanding Advisor Award



Kelly Brennan

The Ruth Knights Outstanding Advisor this year was announced at the national convention at Georgia Tech in October. The year's recipient is Kelly Brennan who has advised the *Alpha Tau* chapter at the University of Alabama for seven years. Brennan attended the University of Alabama receiving three degrees from this institution – a bachelor degree in history, a master degree in counseling and a doctorate degree in higher education administration. During the time she served as advisor, the *Alpha Tau* chapter hosted the presidents' conference in 2000. She also has served as advisor to Omicron Delta Kappa since 2006. Brennan received the University's Penny Allen award in 2005 for her leadership in developing students as scholars and professionals.

After working at Alabama for the past 18 years Brennan has taken a new position as the chief enrollment officer for Mount Sinai School of Medicine & Graduate School of Biological Sciences. She states, "Although I will miss the day to day interaction with undergraduate students, particularly with my Lambda Sigma students, I look forward to the new challenges my new role provides and will eagerly watch for Lambda Sigma applicants to Mount Sinai's medical school!" ♦

## Scholarship Donation Challenge

Listed below are chapters who donated to the scholarship fund last year at the level indicated. These chapters challenge all other chapters to make contributions during the 2008-2009 school year. Minimum scholarship donations of \$50 are required to be considered for honor chapter status. Congratulations to these chapters! ♦

**\$250 ♦ Diamond Level**  
Rho

**\$150 - \$249 ♦ Gold Level**  
Alpha Zeta

**\$100 - \$149 ♦ Blue Level**  
Alpha Gamma • Alpha Delta • Alpha Eta  
Alpha Pi • Alpha Tau • Beta Eta

## 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. ♦

# Chapter Presidents Convene in Georgia

This year the Lambda Sigma presidents traveled south for a dose of southern hospitality at Georgia Tech University in Atlanta Georgia. The *Alpha Kappa* chapter welcomed all delegates on October 17th for a weekend of learning, sharing, and fun at the 2008 national Lambda Sigma convention.

Friday night began with the welcome from the *Alpha Kappa* chapter followed by a motivational talk on the six Characteristics of Leadership by a former Lambda Sigma member, Chris Young. Young currently serves as the Director of Protocol for the State of Georgia. Ice breakers then followed before the delegates ventured into downtown Atlanta for dinner. The night concluded with the delegates coming back together to complete a service project for City of Refuge. Sack lunches were prepared by all the delegates and were delivered on Saturday morning.

Saturday morning began with a light breakfast and an opening session including roll call. After introductions of the national board members the delegates met with their board correspondents to discuss the following topics: prospective members, rituals, scholarships, reports, web-site resources, by-laws, *The Diamond*, and any other topic of interest. The delegates then reconvened as a group to hear discussions on honor chapter status, the national treasurer's report, and how the process of electing the new student representative would occur. Then

nominations were taken for this position and delegates had an opportunity to submit issues that they would like to discuss in the afternoon session.

After lunch in downtown Atlanta, delegates returned to discuss the issues submitted earlier. Then the prospective student representatives gave brief speeches before the election occurred. Optional tours of Georgia Tech University were provided by the *Alpha Kappa* members at the conclusion of the afternoon session. It was announced that the result of the election would be revealed at the closing banquet.

one last chance to relax with their new friends at the end of a work filled weekend and say goodbye to these friends they had made.

Sunday morning came early for most delegates as they departed for the airport to take them back to their respective chapters with many new ideas to implement on their campuses. A well deserved thanks to the *Alpha Kappa* chapter under the leadership of Hari Gopal as president and Jane Harmon as advisor for an outstanding national convention! ♦

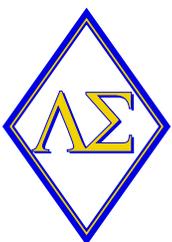
The national convention banquet was held Saturday evening. Mr. Miller Templeton, a retired administrator from Georgia Tech, gave a powerful and motivating speech on the eleven concepts of becoming a strong leader. At the conclusion of the banquet Jane Harmon announced the selection of Logan Matthew from *Pi* chapter at Auburn University as the new student representative. He will serve a two-year term on the national board.



Student representatives – Logan Matthew, Sara Hannah and Sam Rigotti.



After a quick change of clothes the delegates then had



# National Scholarship Recipients

The scholarship recipients for the 2008-2009 year are: Ashley Vokral from Lawrence University, John Yocca Scholarship; Natasha Kassim from Westminster College, Pat Watt Scholarship; Jaclyn Kopel from Pace University – NYC Campus, Emily Taylor Scholarship; and Jennifer Kulp from Miami University, Thrysa Amos Scholarship; and Ryan Worbs from Muskingum College, National Board Scholarship.

While pursuing a degree in natural sciences interdisciplinary (biology-chemistry), **Ashley Vokral** has maintained a 3.70 grade point average. At Lawrence



Ashley Vokral

University she served as the volunteer committee chair. In addition she is one of the founding members of a service group called C.A.D.Y., in which local elementary students are brought on campus once a term for a day of science, math, nutrition, art, and literature allowing the children to be exposed to a liberal arts education. Vokral is also a member of the American Medical Student Association, advocacy choir for Students War Against Hunger and Poverty, and president of Circle K. Dedicated to scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service she has organized and participated in many campus and community events including over 50 community volunteer events. Currently she is participating in Lawrence's study abroad program in London. Upon graduating Vokral plans on attending medical school where she hopes to earn a medical degree and specialize in surgery for pediatrics. Eventually she would like to participate in the Doctors without Borders Program in Africa working with AIDS patients.

**Natasha Kassim** has maintained a 4.0 grade point average while pursuing a

double major in biochemistry and political science at Westminster College. She served as the chapter president of *Lambda* chapter while being active in a variety of campus activities. She is currently president of Circle K International, vice-president of Model United Nations, and vice-president of the Sierra Student Coalition. She is also a member of the Honors Program, Kappa Delta Sorority, the Chemistry Club, Student Government Association, Mortar Board Honor Society, and Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society. Kassim has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Top Ten Freshmen Award, the 2007 CRC Chemistry Achievement Award, and the Freeman Organic Chemistry Award. This past summer she did organic synthesis research at Ohio State University as part of the Research Experience for Undergraduates Program. After graduation she plans to attend medical school specializing in pediatric oncology.



Natasha Kassim

**Jaclyn Kopel**, has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and service during her first two years at Pace University. She has maintained a 4.0 grade point average while pursuing a double major in adolescent education and history. Kopel served as the service coordinator for Lambda Sigma, but has been involved with service since she was in elementary school. She continues to participate and organize numerous service events. Most of these events involve working with or helping children, the homeless, battered women, and disaster victims. She has worked with many of the New York City's hospitals and shelters. This past year she also worked with the United Nations to help stop human trafficking. Kopel is also involved on campus with various



Jaclyn Kopel

educational organizations, as well as with the student newspaper as a writer. One of her poems was recently selected for exhibition at the World Trade Center Tribute Center in Lower Manhattan. This honor is particularly significant as Kopel has lived in Lower Manhattan all her life and had her life forever changed as a result of the September 11th tragedy. After completing her education, Kopel's goal is to teach history in the New York City public school system. She aspires to become an inspirational teacher who both connects and motivates her students. She states, "I want to be able to give back to the system that gave so much to me."

**Jennifer Kulp's** involvement at Miami University exemplifies the four pillars of Lambda Sigma – leadership, scholarship, service, and fellowship. While pursuing a major in zoology she has maintained a 3.88 grade point average. She is also involved in the Honors Program, Pre-Vet Club, Tae Kwon Do Club, while serving as the Lambda Sigma vice president of service and chair of the service committee. As indicated by these positions service is a very important part of Kulp and what is important to her. Besides the many local volunteer work she has organized and been involved in, she has participated in two alternative spring break programs. The first program took her to Mississippi to help rebuild homes for people affected by Katrina and the next one to New York city where she helped with the Ronald McDonald House, Meals-on-Wheels and helped with the clean-up of various city parks. As the chapter president states, "Jennifer's dedication to Lambda Sigma events was perhaps her best attribute. Our entire chapter agrees that she represents everything a Lambda Sigma member should possess and more. She brings all the pillars of Lambda Sigma to every meeting, event, and furthermore, to her everyday life as a college student." After graduating Kulp plans to attend veterinary school.

A junior majoring in history, **Ryan Worbs** has maintained a 3.96 grade point average at Muskingum College. He has been involved in a number of activities, several of which he holds leadership positions. This includes serving as a resident assistant, treasurer

of the French Club, and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa. Worbs, also, serves in Lambda Sigma as the chair of the social committee and the induction committee. His commitment to service is reflected in his many volunteer activities through Lambda Sigma, his church, and 4H activities. As stated in a letter of recommendation, "Ryan Worbs consistently displays the qualities that make him the portrait of an ideal student and exemplary human being: reliability, a strong sense of priorities, altruism not motivated by self-interest, a keen desire to learn about the world whether it is close to home or far away, past or present." Ryan's ambition is to attend graduate school and pursue a Ph.D. in history upon graduating. Eventually he hopes to teach history and political science at a university. ♦

## Lambda Sigma Member with Former President

In April of 2008, former President Bill Clinton visited Allegheny College to campaign on behalf of his wife, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton.

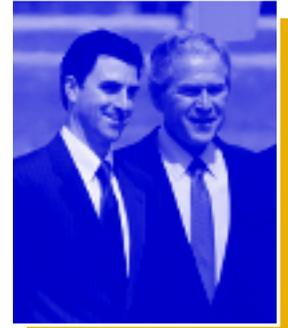
He gave a speech to an excited and impassioned crowd outside of the Alumni Center. As the president of the College Democrats and an organizer for the Clinton campaign on Allegheny's campus, Sam Rigotti was selected to deliver a speech introducing the former president. Rigotti currently serves as a student representative on the Lambda Sigma national board. ♦



Former President Clinton with Sam Rigotti, national student representative.

## Former Lambda Sigma Member Honored

A former Lambda Sigma member from the Alpha Delta chapter has been honored for his service to the Desire Street Academy in New Orleans. He has been involved in community service from his days as a Lambda Sigma member in 1989 to the seven weeks he spent in India in 1999 working to develop child daycare centers, to his current work with Desire Street Academy. The following article appeared in the Southern Miss Alumni Association magazine, the *Talon*, spring 2008 issue:



Randy Raggio and President George W. Bush.

Southern Miss alumnus Randy Raggio '91 has been honored with the President's Volunteer Service Award for his volunteer service with Desire Street Academy. Launched in New Orleans in 2002, Desire Street Academy strives to empower young men physically, academically, spiritually, and socially and to equip them for success in life. Raggio is an academic tutor for remedial math and the ACT college entrance exam preparation for the organization. In addition, he helped prepare a marketing plan for Desire Street Academy and has worked with its advisory committee on publicity and fundraising. The President's Volunteer Service Award was created at the president of the United States' direction by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The award is available to youth ages 14 and under who have completed 50 or more hours of volunteer service, to individuals 15 and older who have completed 100 or more hours, and to families or groups who have completed 200 or more hours. Raggio, pictured at left with President Bush, is currently an assistant professor at Louisiana State University. He earned his undergraduate degree in management information systems from Southern Miss, an MBA with a concentration in marketing from Vanderbilt University and a doctorate in marketing from Ohio State University. Raggio's professional marketing experience includes time as the marketing director for toy company, Kidpower. He has produced more than 13 commercials for products that have aired on national cable television and has appeared on QVC three times. In 1998, he was appointed to the Toy Manufacturers of America Blue Ribbon Communications Panel. Additionally, Raggio worked with Andersen Consulting (now Accenture) before leaving the firm to start his own company. Raggio's work extends far beyond the world of business and profit. In 1999, he spent seven weeks in India helping to develop daycare centers for children in the slums of Mumbai. In 2006, he founded and directed the "Louisiana Thanks You!" campaign to help the people of Louisiana express their gratitude for the overwhelmingly generous response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Born and raised in Mandeville, La., Raggio now resides in Baton Rouge, La., with his wife Noel and their children, Jenna and Jack.

James Coll  
Assistant Director for Communications  
Southern Miss Alumni Association ♦

For more information about Lambda Sigma,  
visit us online at  
[www.lambdasigma.org](http://www.lambdasigma.org)



**Lambda  
Honor Chapter  
Westminster College**

Lambda chapter here! We have had a great start to our Lambda Sigma season this semester and we are looking forward to a fun and productive year! Our members, officers, and advisors are working hard and cooperating to make this a successful year, and we already have so much planned for this semester alone.

Our chapter holds bimonthly meetings complete with fellowship games so our members, and our advisors, can get to know each other better. Through our meetings and service projects we have created strong friendships that have greatly helped our organization on campus.

This semester has been a busy and exciting one full of projects for our chapter. We helped to decorate for our school's homecoming by placing balloons around campus. We cleaned up around the campus and other areas in the community for Make a Difference Day. Visits are scheduled at the local nursing home in our town where our members will play games and spend time with the residents. We will donate money to the Alternative Gift Market to sponsor learning for children in underprivileged countries and buy presents for deprived children for our Angel Giving Tree this Christmas. We will also host card making parties to make holiday cards for American soldiers in Iraq and nursing home residents during the holidays. And that's just this semester!

For our fundraiser, we are conducting the "Give a Hug" campaign where students can send a "hug" (Huggie drink) to fellow students through the campus mail system in time for our school's Fall Fest. We expect this fundraiser to be a huge success and brighten our peers' days with "hugs" through the mail.

# Chapter News

We are already preparing for spring semester's activities as well! We are in the process of possibly adding interviews to our selection procedure and discussing the requirements. Our chapter has also enforced a point system that has proved effective through meeting and event attendance.

We are off to a great start and we are extremely excited to represent this year's Lambda Sigma Honor Society on the Westminster campus! We wish all of our fellow chapters good luck and success for this year as well!

**Sarah Kehr  
Vice President**

**Omicron  
Honor Chapter  
Northern Illinois University**

The *Omicron* chapter has had an exciting first semester, and we are looking forward to what is to come.

As our year has progressed, we have kept a busy schedule, and got right to business on move-in weekend. As members of Team NIU, we helped new freshman carry their belongings and move into their residence halls. In conjunction with move-in days, we also served as ushers at the Class of 2012 Academic Convocation. This is one of the only times where all members of the class of 2012 will be together in one place. As ushers, we were able to invoke some Huskie spirit into our new classmates and show them what being part of NIU is all about.

We have also started our major service project for the year, which involves ushering the performances of the School of Theatre and Dance. Over the course of the year, we will usher over fifty nights of performances, involving collecting ticket stubs, distributing programs, and assisting people to their seats. Our



*Omicron chapter.*

chapter has been ushering these performances for over 50 years, and is looking forward to serving 50 more.

During the month of October, the *Omicron* chapter was represented well during Northern's homecoming week. Our chapter placed second in the recycled boat race, where we constructed a boat that holds at least two people and is built of at least 70% recyclable material. In addition, we participated in the powderpuff football game, banner competition and homecoming parade. Throughout the week we displayed our pride for both NIU and Lambda Sigma, and represented our organization well.

As we enter the holiday season, we need to remember that although we may be fortunate and have a decent amount of assets, there are others who are less fortunate than us, who have very little. To this end, our chapter will be participating in Toys for Tots, helping to bring some cheer to area children and making their day a little brighter.

As we close out the fall semester, we are looking forward to starting the selections process and instilling the principles of leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service in our current freshman.

**Tyler McDowall  
Public Relations Officer**



## **Pi** **Auburn University**

Fifty members of the current sophomore class of Auburn University were inducted into the *Pi* chapter of Lambda Sigma on April 22, 2008, at the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center. Prior to the initiation service, the new members were treated to a banquet-style dinner and became better acquainted with their fellow members in a round-table setting.

The new members bring varying backgrounds to Lambda Sigma and, therefore, represent all aspects of Auburn University. There are biomedical sciences majors, engineering majors, education majors and liberal arts majors. There are members from the different branches and programs within the Student Government Association, the University Honors College and Congress, other national honor societies, and even a college president.

Regardless of their diverse interests and concerns, Lambda Sigma at Auburn University has become an avenue for its members to gather accurate information on the happenings around their campus. The dean of students, Dr. Johnny Green, and the student government association president, Lauren Hayes, have spoken with the group during its bimonthly meetings to keep Lambda Sigma members current on university projects and events. Also, through Lambda Sigma, students have been able to ask their own questions regarding issues important to them, as student leaders, to these university officials.

Though Lambda Sigma meetings have become a time for receiving information, they remain loyal to another of the three pillars, service. The service committee within *Pi* chapter is responsible for planning philanthropic projects and events for the entire chapter to participate, providing at least one opportunity each month for its members to give back to the university, the local Auburn-Opelika area and the state of Alabama. For the month of September, *Pi* chapter collected a box of canned goods for the Southeastern Conference Food Drive and already has

plans to participate in the annual Beat Bama Food Drive in late November. To fund these projects, the fund-raising committee organized a Krispy Kreme Doughnut sale with a minimum goal of 500 sold boxes.

Former Auburn University president, Dr. Ralph Brown Draughon, once stated, "Owing much to the past, Auburn's greater debt is ever to the future." Since then, these words have become part of the Auburn story. The *Pi* chapter follows the same ideology. Our learned lessons guide us to serve others. Though the year is still young, we have accomplished much and look forward to another active semester.

**Sarah Elizabeth Darby**  
**Editor**

## **Rho** **Honor Chapter** **Thiel College**

The four aspirations of Lambda Sigma: service, fellowship, leadership, and scholarship, have been the objectives of the *Rho* chapter at Thiel College of Greenville, Pennsylvania, for many years, and this group is no exception. We began our work very early in the semester so that our presence in our school and community could make the greatest impression.

Our first activity as a group was freshmen move-in day. Our society came to school four days before the majority of the campus student body in order to provide the incoming freshmen with our assistance in carrying their belongings to their rooms. Beyond working our muscles by carrying mini-fridges and televisions up flights of stairs, we were able to lend advice on how to make the best of freshman year. This service was very rewarding because we were able to aid our peers with the transition from home to the hectic world of college life, and we were able to bond as a group as well as a student body.

Soon after the start of classes, we began having our bi-weekly meetings to organize the projects we were to

commit to this year. The projects started with a Teacher Appreciation vote. We understand that our professors are the means to our intellectual betterment; therefore, by holding a campus-wide vote we began honoring the professors on campus for their hard work and efforts on a monthly basis. We will continue to recognize the Professor of the Month for the remainder of the year.

In October, we organized a T-Shirt sale for charity. We sent order forms to every student, faculty, and staff member ensuring their support for the project. We had a great turn-out with a profit of four dollars per shirt sold. With the money raised, we sent donations to the World Wildlife Fund and the Greenville Public Library to help out on a global and local level. Also during October, we participated in the first of our two Highway Cleanup days this year. We put on our orange vests and gloves before walking the length of our adopted highways picking up trash that polluted the beautiful Pennsylvania scenery. On Halloween, we set aside our own candy bags and went door to door requesting spare change to be donated to support UNICEF, an organization that aids children in need worldwide.

This year leadership has been a hot topic considering the presidential election in November. As a society based off the principles of leadership, our group put up flyers around campus advertising the importance of voting and voicing one's beliefs during the election.

The rest of the year has very promising prospects and is sure to be excitement filled. We have made arrangements to make blankets out of fleece to donate to the local Good Shepherd branch and are aiding our college's effort to go "green." We are arranging visits to St. Paul's Home, our local nursing home, to visit with the residents and possibly make decorations for the building. We have many fun fundraising projects ahead of us like an Orange Crush sale for Valentine's Day and raffles for gas cards before the holiday breaks.

The *Rho* chapter is proud to say that the values of Lambda Sigma are a part of us. Our service has deepened our hearts,

our fellowship has enriched us beyond expectations, our leadership has offered us opportunities unimaginable, and our scholarship will enlighten us for a lifetime.

**Alivia Lapcevic**  
**Vice President**

## **Alpha Gamma Honor Chapter Duquesne University**

Last spring, the members of the 2007-2008 Lambda Sigma chapter at Duquesne University inducted fifty new freshmen into the organization who would form the 2008-2009 group. The process started with the *Gift of Acquaintance*, which was an informal meeting that explained the application process and the purpose of the organization. Next was the *Gift of Colors*, in which current members surprised the new inductees with acceptance letters and gold and royal blue balloons. After that, both current and new members gathered at a local restaurant and the new members accepted their invitation to join the organization. This is known as the *Ceremony of Choice*. Before the new members could be inducted into the organization, the *Gift of Knowledge* took place. They were given a handbook which contained all of the vital information about Lambda Sigma and were tested on it. Finally, the new members were inducted into the society at a banquet called the *Gift of Fellowship*. The new officers were also inducted at this time. From this point on, the new members were in complete control of the organization.

When we all came back to school from summer break, we knew it was time to get organized and get involved with the



*Alpha Gamma chapter.*



*Welcome Back Luau for new members of Alpha Gamma.*

organization. To start the year, the officers planned a welcome back luau for the members. It was really a time for all of the members to get to know each other, since they would be working together all year. We planned different icebreakers so that everyone could familiarize themselves with each other, such as speed dating, three truths and a lie, and human knot.

After this, we started having meetings every other Wednesday with the entire chapter. At these meetings we discuss fundraising, service and social events, and anything else that comes up. Each Lambda Sigma member is required to complete twelve hours of community service, four of which can be fulfilled outside of the organization. In addition, the members are required to complete three social hours.

Community service is one of the main purposes of the organization. At these meetings, our dedicated service chairs present the chapter with service projects that they have organized. Some of the major community projects that we have planned for this fall are walking dogs at the Humane Society, cookie decorating for children at Gilda's Club, window painting at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and helping at the area's soup kitchens and pantries. Also, we are having both a canned food drive and a teddy bear drive for the Children's Hospital. We really like to help out on campus too. We have plans to help with Duquesne's Light Up Night and are hosting a kettle for the Salvation Army on campus sometime in December.

Fellowship is another key goal of Lambda Sigma. Social activities within the organization are very important. Our social chairs have planned a number of different event in which the members



*Alpha Gamma members walking dogs for the Humane Society.*

can get together and have fun. Some of these activities include bingo nights, movie nights, and chapter lunches and dinners.

Scholarship is a third purpose of the group. Before the members were even considered for Lambda Sigma, they had to have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Each member must maintain this GPA throughout their time in the organization. Academics are very important to Lambda Sigma.

Overall, our chapter of Lambda Sigma is off to a great start for the year. We have many great service projects organized that will make a difference in the community. Our social events help us to build strong relationships within the group. As a result, we have fun with the projects and have the satisfaction of giving back to the community. We do all of these things while keeping our grades up. I have faith that our chapter of Lambda Sigma at Duquesne University is going to have an extremely successful year.

**Natalie Vogt**  
**Secretary**

## **Alpha Epsilon Mansfield University**

The *Alpha Epsilon* chapter at Mansfield University is dedicated to having an outstanding fall and spring semester. We most look forward to bringing our group closer together while having lots of fun. We have several activities planned that will allow our chapter to get involved in the community and on campus.

This year, our campus has been stressing

diversity. Our chapter has been invited to participate in a panel discussion on diversity. After the discussion, the Fall Festival begins. The Fall Festival is a time to have fun and increase awareness about our club on campus. We will be competing in fun activities such as a mummy race and a scarecrow building contest.

Some of the other activities we are looking forward to doing is visiting a nearby nursing home to play bingo and have a sing-a-long.

As a college student several hours away from home, there is nothing more that brightens my day than receiving mail. One of our fundraisers is to send out baskets of goodies for a particular holiday. We send letters to parents asking them to buy the basket of goodies. We then deliver the baskets to students' residence hall rooms. Not only does this make money for us, it makes a holiday away from home much easier to bare!

For fun, we want to take a group trip. Unfortunately, we have yet to decide a destination, but we have until spring to decide.

As the semester comes to a close, we all have high hopes that this will be a great year. We look forward to continuing to reach out to our school and community as a group in ways we could not do alone as an individual.

**Katie Martin**  
Treasurer

### **Alpha Eta Honor Chapter Penn State Erie – The Behrend College**

With the induction of Lambda Sigma's new members came anxiety. Anxiety of how the pieces of the puzzle were going to fall into place. However, it was not long before the individuals that were selected transformed into one unit, the *Alpha Eta* chapter. The *Alpha Eta* chapter of Lambda Sigma started very strong this fall semester of the 2008-2009 academic year. Our members instantly became involved and formed the foundation that

will provide success and service for the duration of our involvement with Lambda Sigma.

Our first service event was the Job Fair that Penn State Behrend hosts every year. There were over one-hundred and fifty companies that attended, looking to give the students at Behrend an opportunity in the future. Our job was to help these companies set up their booths and help the event run as smooth as possible. The Job Fair was a huge success and our help was greatly appreciated. We also had a gorge clean-up in an effort to maintain Behrend's image. Service projects such as these help our campus life grow and become an enjoyable place for students and faculty.

Other service projects planned for this year include a campus cleanup, an Open House which will consist of a lot of the same work as the Job Fair, Operation Christmas Child, and a variety of fundraisers. Operation Christmas Child is a project directed toward the many unfortunate children in an effort to provide them with some gifts to make their holiday one to remember.

For the past several years, the *Alpha Eta* chapter has taken great pride in the Adopt a Highway service project. Every year we go to Interstate 90 and bag all of the litter scattered along the sides of exit 32. This service is definitely beneficial because the highways are often over looked and begin to look filthy and unmaintained. These service projects are just a few of the many that will be carried out to hold Lambda Sigma's generous tradition.

Lambda Sigma is much stronger than just an ordinary society. It is not only an organization with a title, but with character. The character of every individual contributes to a powerful and productive society, whose actions impact several communities. As anticipated, we look forward to our continuation of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service as we continue our journey throughout our sophomore year and beyond.

**Drew Ference**  
Vice President

### **Alpha Kappa Honor Chapter Georgia Institute of Technology**

As in previous years, the *Alpha Kappa* chapter has been active around Atlanta displaying the tenants of leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service. In an important year, when Georgia Tech hosted the Lambda Sigma national convention, the Tech members have been quite determined to represent their chapter to the best of their ability. Every member participated in making the convention memorable.

Our first step in creating unity between the members was to hold a team oriented retreat beginning with a day of service projects sponsored by Team Buzz and ending at Centennial Park in downtown Atlanta with fun-filled group activities and plenty of food. We have continued to work with Team Buzz in service related activities, and our service chairs, Adam Snow and Samantha Osteen, have added projects such as adopt-a-park, food for the homeless and work at City of Refuge, an organization that helps less fortunate Atlanta residents.

**Joaquin Reyes**  
Editor

### **Alpha Sigma Honor Chapter Gannon University**

The *Alpha Sigma* chapter of Lambda Sigma started the semester on a great note. The new officers are dedicated and enthusiastic about getting involved in several service projects, and the members already have several service hours under their belts!

Even before the first general assembly meeting, the officers were out spreading the word about what kind of honor society Lambda Sigma is. The officers set up an informational booth at the annual freshman clubs and organizations fair. As the new freshman walked from booth to booth deciding which clubs and committees they were interested in

joining, the officers explained that they could have the opportunity to join Lambda Sigma at the end of the year if they met certain requirements.



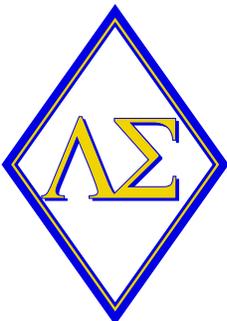
*Alpha Sigma Give Day.*

Current members have already participated in several service projects. One of these service projects was called "Give Day," and it took place in early September. Students dedicated a Saturday to cleaning up the community around Gannon University. Even though the sky threatened rain, downtown Erie got a face-lift as members picked up trash along the streets and weeded public parks, making Erie an even more beautiful place to attend college and to live.

Toward the end of October Lambda Sigma members participated in a food drive called "Golden Harvest." They traveled door to door, knocking and asking for donations for local food pantries. With Thanksgiving not far away, they wanted to dedicate their time to help those who are less fortunate to be able to enjoy a nice Thanksgiving meal.

The year is going well, and our members are just getting started! Everyone is enthusiastic and cannot wait to lend a helping hand when needed!

**Ann Bartman**  
Editor



## **Alpha Phi Ferrum College**

The 2008 members of Ferrum College Lambda Sigma, *Alpha Phi* chapter, are off to an auspicious start. Full of momentum, the group has already participated in such events as the annual Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods. Other events planned include a new campus event, Sobriety Day.

Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods is an annual event that gets the whole community involved. We sent Ferrum College clubs and organizations as teams into the community on Halloween to collect food for local food pantries. This year we involved 600 new freshmen with organizations and clubs on campus by encouraging them to sign up as a team member with one of these groups. By becoming acquainted with these Ferrum organizations, the freshmen are more likely to assimilate into the college life through exposure to their options and contribution to a good cause. Last year, our efforts were so successful that we overwhelmed the St. James center, our local food pantry. Consequently, this year's project donated to five food pantries!

This year's *Alpha Phi* is in the process of launching a website that will be up and running by next semester. This website will be developed with the intent to inform the Ferrum College community about Lambda Sigma, upcoming events, how to sign-up for upcoming events through specific clubs, about former members, and how to become a member. One of the pages will be a page dedicated to Kari Botkin and the 2007-2008 members of Lambda Sigma. This group, led by Kari, brought our chapter of Lambda Sigma from probationary status to good standing. We, as a club, are incredibly grateful for all of their hard work and dedication. A member from last year's chapter, G.W. Frith, has agreed to help us this year and is responsible for getting the site up and running. G.W. is still showing a dedication to all that the club represents.

Lambda Sigma has shown significant promise for the 2008-2009 academic

year with two other projects. The first is the brain child of the current Lambda Sigma president, Jeremiah Cook, and is called Sobriety Day. Sobriety Day, as Jeremiah has named it, will bring awareness to the problem of collegiate underage drinking and promote a non-intoxicated alternative. Lambda Sigma plans to sponsor one of the many events that will occur in this campus-wide awareness event; we picked car bashing against drunk driving. We plan to charge for this event and donate the proceeds to a local group such as MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving. All of the day's activities will be followed by a DJ party which will also be a sober event.

The other community service event we have planned is in coordination with the 35th annual Folk Life Festival to be held on our campus. Lambda Sigma members will be assisting the Ferrum Lion's Club by working in shifts to serve chili at this event which not only helps bring awareness to Franklin County's beautiful and unique history, but also provides a familiarity with Ferrum College's campus and students. We will all work together to make this event a success.

As a group, this year's members of Lambda Sigma are excited about what we have accomplished and what is to come. We are motivated to give back to the community that supports us and our campus through our past, present, and future activities.

## **Alpha Omega Westfield State College**

It all started with a knock on our doors. The former members handed us our "gift of color" t-shirts, explaining that we had been accepted into the Lambda Sigma Society. As the rest of the campus curiously wondered why such a large number of students had matching blue and gold tie-dyed shirts, we knew what these shirts represented. They were a symbol of our dedication and bond to each other and the community.

As our sophomore year began, so did our excitement to organize and plan the events to come. We have been able to

plan three significant service projects for the upcoming year, and we are still in the process of preparing even more. On October 26th all of the members participated in the Rays of Hope Walk, which benefits breast cancer research, with intentions of raising as much money as possible. For our winter project, we are planning what we call the Cinderella Project. We will be collecting as many donated prom dresses as possible and we will sell them to the community for a very low price. This enables all girls to be able to afford a beautiful dress for their prom. All the money that we raise will be donated to a local charity. Our spring project is called Family Fitness Day. This event will take place at Stanley Park for all local residents who would like to compete in some field day fun, free of charge. We will, however, be asking for donations that will go directly to the local children's library.

Although community service is an important part of Lambda Sigma, we feel that a close knit bond with each other is just as important. To help us all open up to one another, we had a game night. From Mad Gab to Twister, we were able to connect and create lasting friendships.

It was a great way to start the year and we hope to become closer as a Lambda Sigma family. With a strong bond, inspiring projects, and dedication, we know that we will be able to make a lasting impact on our community.

**Megan Millette**  
Editor/President

## Beta Zeta Pace University – New York Campus

Recently, the Lambda Sigma members at Pace New York City have been hearing alot about the devastations that Hurricane Ike caused. Hence, we decided to hold a bake sale and raise some much needed aide to the affected victims.

As you know, Hurricane Ike was the third most destructive hurricane to ever hit the United States. There was over \$31.5 billion worth of assets. Despite early warnings, residents, who had safely fled, returned to ruined homes and

neighborhoods. Reconstructions are in progress but it will take years and millions of dollars to restore the damaged areas. Unfortunately, the media did not give enough coverage on the bleak condition of these victims. In consequence, their situations went unnoticed by their own fellow citizens.

Identifying such problem, the members of Pace New York's Lambda Sigma organized a bake sale. Upon hearing the reason for our fundraiser, many of our students and faculty members were willing to donate their good will. At the end of our two-day bake sale, we raised almost \$200 in proceeds of Hurricane Ike!

It is, indeed, a much needed sweetness for the bitter events that these victims overcame.



## Installation at George Mason University

In the spring of 2008, two staff members of George Mason University discovered they were both members of Lambda Sigma. Recognizing the benefits of Lambda Sigma to the undergraduate experience, they wanted to provide that same opportunity at George Mason University. Dr. Mark Kidd, associate dean for university life, was a honorary member and advisor for the Iota chapter at the University of Mississippi. Jude Butch, assistant director

of student activities and student governance, was a member of the Alpha Theta chapter at Slippery Rock University. Together they petitioned the national board of Lambda Sigma for permission to establish a chapter at George Mason. The petition was approved on June 27, 2008. As the 58th chapter of the society, the Beta Kappa chapter was installed on October 3, 2008. During the installation ceremony John Hauser, national vice president, presented the charter to the

university's president, Dr. Alan Merten, who was also initiated as an honorary member of the charter class. Following the presentation of the charter, the Gift of Fellowship was conducted with 42 charter members initiated. Dr. Kidd and Mr. Butch were introduced as the advisors to the chapter. ♦



New members of Beta Kappa chapter.



Dr. Alan Merten, the University President, receiving the charter from John Hauser, national Lambda Sigma vice president.

# Upcoming Deadlines

**NOVEMBER 1, 2008**

**By-Laws**.....Mary Ellen Moriarty

**JANUARY 31, 2009**

**Report on Rituals**.....Neil Edman

**Diamond Article**.....Barbara Ross

**Mid-Year Status Report**.....Ron Wolfe

**MAY 1, 2009**

**Scholarship Application** .....Mark Shotwell

**JUNE 1, 2009**

**President's Report**.....Ron Wolfe

**Treasurer's Report**

**Advisor's Report**

**National Dues** (\$40/member)

**Convention Assessment** (\$300)

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

**Initiate Form** (with dues and convention assessment)

All reports and *The Diamond* article are to be submitted electronically. Reports are located on the website. The Initiate List must be typed and mailed in with the dues and convention assessment. ♦

## Lambda Sigma Chapter Roster

Alpha	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
Beta	Miami University	Oxford, OH
Epsilon	Allegheny College	Meadville, PA
Zeta	Muskingum College	New Concord, OH
Eta	Carnegie Mellon University	Pittsburgh, PA
Iota	University of Mississippi	University, MS
Lambda	Westminster College	New Wilmington, PA
Mu	Eastern Kentucky University	Richmond, KY
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	Pikeville College	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 Iota	Texas A & M University – Kingsville	Kingsville, TX

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