



The Diamond

A PUBLICATION OF LAMBDA SIGMA HONOR SOCIETY
SPRING 2024 EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past week the Beta Delta chapter at Middle Tennessee State University, which I have advised for over 15 years now, held their initiation for next year's class of Lambda Sigma members. The initiation was held in a small venue called the Tom Jackson Building where it has been held for most of my years as chapter advisor. Fun fact: the Tom Jackson Building was one of the original three buildings on our campus and started as the dining hall way back in 1911.

The venue is unspectacular, but quaint as a historical landmark. The seating area is rather small, so we hold the initiation for members and initiates only. And given the age, flames are strictly forbidden which changes the end of the initiation script for our chapter a little. But over the past dozen or so years it has been the Beta Delta tradition to hold initiation in this unique campus building despite opportunities to go elsewhere... and I love that.

Every year I ask the chapter where they want to hold initiation, and they always want to do what they did the year before. Even though the members change every year, there is always a desire to keep up the traditions of the organization. As the chapter advisor I am the one who gets the most enjoyment out of this because I get to see it over the course of a long career, and that's just one of the great parts of being an advisor.

The advisor is such a crucial part of the success of a Lambda Sigma chapter. They know the history and traditions of the group, they help develop young leaders year after year, and they make sure the group is making a meaningful impact on their campuses. It's a joy as an advisor to see so many different students come through since the entire group changes annually, and to see what the personality of each year's group will bring.

Lambda Sigma has been blessed by so many great chapter advisors over the years, and we can't show enough appreciation for the time, efforts, and energy they put into their chapters. So from one chapter advisor to another, thank you for all that you do and I hope you are as blessed by these student leaders as I am year after year!



Tyler Henson

National President



INCOMING MEMBERS SHINE

Lambda - Westminster College

By Rachel Brady

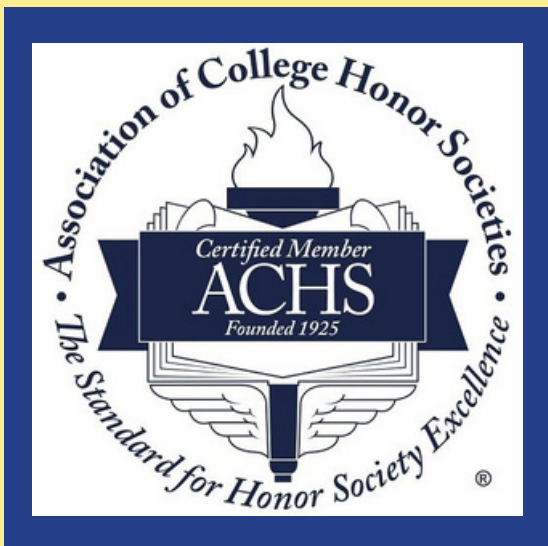
As the Lambda chapter prepares for the Gift of Choice, it has become increasingly obvious that the potential members are quality candidates that will help the chapter flourish while embodying the pillars that Lambda Sigma represents. The candidates were interviewed and had brought some amazing service ideas to the table, ones that they excelled at in high school and could be implemented well at Westminster College. We strongly encouraged the candidates to apply for leadership positions; many were already comfortable with providing guidance through theater productions, sports teams, and high school buddy systems for younger students. Their feats of leadership were described in their essays eloquently, noting their ability to communicate efficiently as well as being able to share about themselves, even in describing struggles.

Although these students are first-year college students, not only are they adapting to the changes of life, but they are finding success in other student organizations like Student Government Association, collegiate athletics, and Greek life organizations. I trust that as they accept their invitations to join the Lambda chapter of Lambda Sigma, they will coordinate novel and necessary service for members to engage with the community, lead their peers skillfully and confidently, engage in fellowship to become closer with the members, and display scholarship by maintaining exemplary academic status.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Lambda Sigma Honor Society and the National Board stands by and affirms its commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism. Diversity and inclusivity serve to enhance the potential for leadership and service by acknowledging the wide range of students within the institutions and their potential to contribute to the goals of the Society.

Lambda Sigma Honor Society does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, biological sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, or veteran status in its membership, volunteer leadership, programs, and activities. Individual chapters will also not discriminate in their membership selection processes and should exhaust opportunities to engage in inclusive practices in all aspects of the chapter's recruitment, selection, and chapter activities.



Member of ACHS since 1981



"LEAF" IT TO EPSILON

By Brayden Devinney

Allegheny College

Last fall, the Epsilon chapter of Lambda Sigma at Allegheny College undertook a commendable endeavor: the revitalization of Meadville's historic Market House. Recognizing the significance of this landmark to our local community, we dedicated ourselves to the task of clearing fallen leaves that had accumulated around its premises.

The Market House, steeped in historical significance and serving as a focal point for commerce and culture in Meadville, had become obscured by a blanket of autumn leaves. Understanding the importance of preserving its grandeur, we assembled a team of volunteers equipped with the necessary tools and a shared commitment to service.

In a collaborative effort characterized by professionalism and camaraderie, Lambda Sigma members diligently cleared the grounds surrounding the Market House. Our collective endeavor not only restored the visual appeal of this cherished institution but also reaffirmed our dedication to community stewardship.

As we worked tirelessly amidst the backdrop of Meadville's autumn landscape, the transformative impact of our efforts became increasingly evident. With each leaf cleared, the Market House emerged from its seasonal disguise, symbolizing the resilience and unity of our community.

Our involvement in this initiative extends beyond mere leaf removal; it underscores our steadfast commitment to civic engagement and the preservation of local heritage. By actively participating in the upkeep of our surroundings, we endeavor to foster a sense of pride and ownership within our community.



ALPHA PSI AND SUNDAES

By Roshan Sirole



University of Toledo

This semester has been nothing short of remarkable! It commenced with an enthusiastic burst of energy as we united to craft heartfelt cards for the children at a nearby Children's Hospital in celebration of Valentine's Day. Witnessing the smiles on the faces of those children as we presented them with our handmade tokens of love was genuinely heartwarming. Since that memorable gathering, our meetings have been marked by valuable sessions on professional development, including comprehensive discussions on crafting and formatting impeccable resumes. As summer rapidly approaches, the significance of securing jobs and internships to fortify our resumes upon graduation becomes increasingly evident.

Moreover, our involvement in various service initiatives with UToledo Bridge has been deeply impactful. This organization is dedicated to preparing and distributing PB&J sandwiches to the homeless, affording us the opportunity to directly witness the positive change we can effectuate in our community.

One of our standout events was the philanthropic affair, Lambda Sigma Sundaes, where we hosted a delightful evening centered around crafting one's own sundae. Through ticket sales to friends and supporters, we managed to raise an impressive sum of over \$250. The event was not only successful in fundraising but also served as a memorable bonding experience for all involved.



As members of the executive team, our focus has now shifted towards the imminent initiation of the new class of Lambda Sigma, scheduled to take place in less than a month. The process of selection and interviews is underway as we endeavor to curate a cohort of 35 promising individuals. In retrospect, this semester has been a testament to the power of collective effort and community engagement. From spreading joy to children in hospitals to aiding the less fortunate through service initiatives and fundraising endeavors, each experience has left an undeniable mark on our hearts and reaffirmed our commitment to making a positive difference in the world. As we look forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, we do so with a renewed sense of purpose and camaraderie.

Mission Statement

Lambda Sigma Honor Society, a national honor society for second-year undergraduate students, is dedicated to the purpose of fostering leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service. Our mission is to enable members to realize their fullest potential by connecting individual achievement with a life-long commitment to serving others while promoting and advancing the goals and interests of the colleges and universities they represent.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Alpha Mu

Berry College

By Arden Koch

Since joining Lambda Sigma, it has allowed me to be able to become more involved within the Rome Community. From helping to build beds to working in a community garden, there are endless ways to help give back to our college and local town. However, of all of these great acts of service, none has come beyond the Dining Hall Solutionaries. The Solutionaries are a newly formed service group that tackles the issue of food waste that comes with providing a common buffet style to college students. Although the amazing spread of food is always a warm welcome after a long day of classes, the issue arises of what to do with all of the leftover food. Students have come together to form a community group that takes leftover produce to local farms in the area where livestock are able to enjoy the otherwise wasted food. There are several pick-ups throughout the day that allow for volunteers to be able to serve multiple times a day or at different points of the week to make sure both community service and academic goals are met. In addition, a joint group with the Solutionaries help with packaging the leftover meats and other perishables. These volunteers come together at the end of each meal switch and put all of the leftover products into to-go boxes. These boxes then go to local homeless shelters in order to provide meals around Rome. Together these community service projects have allowed Berry and its students to give back in a way that many have not thought of before.

Excellence in Teaching Mugs

Blue ceramic coffee mugs with the Greek letters Lambda Sigma and "Excellence in Teaching" are available for \$7.50 each. Contact Neal Edman to place your order. His contact information is on the website and on the last page of The Diamond.



Beta Xi

Jackson State University

By Jada Fulton

Beta Xi at Jackson State University held an interest meeting on Monday, February 19, 2024. The interest meeting gave prospective applicants insight into our honor society. We discussed the organization's mission and shared the gift of knowledge and our four pillars: promoting leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service. In addition, we addressed historical details such as the founders and development of the chapter, along with the experiences each of us had while serving. We also shared the roles of chapter officers and how students can join Beta Xi and start their college leadership journey. Our goal is to help new members reach their maximum potential by connecting our personal campus success to attainment of the four pillars.

COMMUNITY I M P A C T

continued

Alpha Delta

*University of
Southern Mississippi*

By Mads Muraoka

This semester has been one of both change and preparation for Alpha Delta. We have navigated an advisor transition while also preparing to welcome new members. We are very excited to see all that our new advisor will bring to this organization. He has come and spoken to our members about his inspiring sophomore year experience, and all of our members are excited to have him to guide us. We are also very excited to meet all of the new scholars welcome into Lambda Sigma in just a few weeks. Our president, vice president, rituals chair, and membership chair are preparing to hold interviews soon, and they cannot wait to meet all of the potential members. For Valentine's Day, our members had a great time writing cards for the Institute of Disabilities Studies on the University of Southern Mississippi's campus. Now, we are gearing up to make poster boards to encourage participants in the university's Children's Center 5k.



Beta Mu

Alvernia University

By The Diamond Committee

As we stated in our last entry, we attended a community service project, labeled "Fall Clean-up." We all had lots of fun and enjoyed helping the community around us. Our group was designated to rake leaves, which was tiring. However, this experience was extremely rewarding, to see how nice a job we did in cleaning the area of leaves, to make the area safer for attendees. Our organization, along with Circle K, collected 142 books and donated them to local organizations. The children's books were donated to the Reading area elementary schools. The other books were donated to Opportunity House. Our organization paired with Friends of Animals and created greeting cards for Christmas. The chapter started the search for new members for the coming year, which is an exciting and exhilarating process. We cannot wait to see who will be joining the Lambda Sigma family.

Our chapter is planning another community service project, which will occur at a local horse farm on April 20th. We are also planning another fundraising initiative for our organization, which will be a corn hole tournament. Our society chapter has planned an induction ceremony on April 28th. We will formally pass our positions onto them, as well as present awards to current members and designated the "Professor of the Year." This professor is chosen by the chapter and by their effect on the students' campus experience. The professor we chose is an immensely helpful and fantastic person, who made learning Anatomy and Physiology interesting and useful. We are all very thankful for his contribution to our college education.

Reflecting on this year reminds us how far we have come. We became part of a community and scholarly organization, which has changed our lives forever. We have gained a greater appreciation for the world around us and are thankful for the opportunities we have been given, being a part of this organization. We will always carry the skills and gratitude our participation has given us.

A SCHOLAR'S MERIT: SYNTHESIZING INTELLECT AND SERVICE

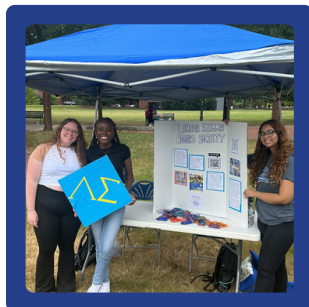
By Ethan Estes

Beta Delta - Middle Tennessee State University

The French Enlightenment philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau posed the question, in *Emile*, "What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?" Rousseau often questioned if society had moved toward intellectual progress at the expense of moral consciousness. If he could see first-hand the work of the Middle Tennessee State University chapter of Lambda Sigma, however, he would soon discover that the two, intellect and morality, are not incompatible. Indeed, while the Beta Delta chapter features exceptional scholars across diverse disciplines, from biology to business, nursing to animation, and political science, it is also defined by the kindness and commitment to service of those same members.

This commitment is attested to by the variety of activities and causes the members of Beta Delta have devoted their time to in fall 2023 and the beginning of spring 2024. In September, we partnered with MTSU Counseling Services to promote mental health outreach and enhance access to vital university resources. In October, we joined forces with the June Anderson Center for Women, spearheading a bra and clothing drive to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month and aid victims of domestic abuse. So pronounced is the commitment to service of Beta Delta members, however, that our endeavors did not end there. The chapter has since organized a holiday toy-drive in concert with the Make-a-Wish foundation, worked on houses with Habitat for Humanity, and dedicated time to writing letters for veterans in November. As we venture into spring, our resolve remains unwavering. Already, we have raised money for the American Heart Association in February, hosted a drive for the MTSU food pantry, and volunteered to help with Relay for Life, and we remain undeterred.

Thus, while the Beta Delta chapter of Lambda Sigma is composed of some of the brightest scholars the university has to offer, this intelligence in no way precludes a capacity for great kindness. Our members embody scholarship in their commitment to their studies but, in the spirit of Lambda Sigma, take their moral prerogatives a step further by acting as servant leaders in the Murfreesboro community. And doubtless, leadership, too, is an essential quality for our members' continued success in orchestrating highly impactful service events. Another essential pillar of Lambda Sigma, fellowship, goes without saying for our chapter. Not only have we fostered important connections with the community, but through our shared service and regular hosting of social events, we have ensured that the bonds cultivated between us are as strong as our kindness for others. In essence, the Beta Delta chapter of Lambda Sigma challenges conventional notions of scholarly merit. While academic achievement and hard work are important, true fulfillment lies in leveraging our intellect to stimulate moral service and forge meaningful connections. The convergence of intellect and service then becomes not an incongruity, separate paths destined never to meet, but a practical reality which leaves an indelible mark on our community and beyond.



GETTING OUR NAME OUT THERE

Zeta

Muskingum University

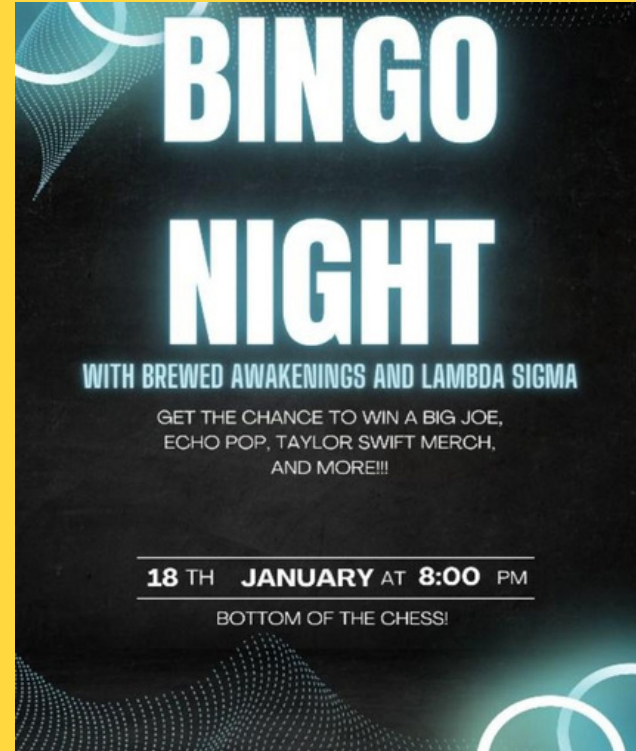
By Julia Zalmanek

Muskingum University has a small chapter of Lambda Sigma members, but each of our members holds the values of Lambda Sigma near and dear to their hearts. This past year we have worked extremely hard to have our name recognizable by other organizations on campus. We as a collective group sat through the virtual leadership session, set up a table at Muskingum's involvement fair, hosted a hot chocolate event where students and faculty members could come and get free hot chocolate and candy canes before Christmas break, and hosted our annual Brewed event in partnership with Brewed Awakenings on Campus. Brewed Awakenings is an organization at Muskingum that hosts events every Thursday as a way for different groups and organization to come together. They provide drinks such as coffee and tea along with different games for the students to play. At this event, we played bingo and had some amazing prizes that the students loved. We took this as an opportunity to explain to the student body about Lambda Sigma and we encouraged first-year students to submit applications later in the semester.

The current executive board of Lambda Sigma also wants to ensure the future of our chapter. With that being said, we created a detailed plan on hosting a campus-wide canned food drive to donate to our local Salvation Army for future Lambda Sigma members. The plan includes getting campus-wide participation by making it a friendly competition between the students and the faculty here at Muskingum. This way it encourages all individuals at Muskingum to participate--because who doesn't like a little competition?!

Our chapter of Lambda Sigma will also be hosting our annual Mental Health Walk at the end of the semester before finals week. We plan on having tables for different on-campus organizations to set up and bring coloring books, chalk, candy, and more. This year, we are also having Campus Recreation provide yard games, as well as the Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department to provide more information and opportunities to the students.

Our chapter has worked extremely hard this past year to not only get our name recognized on campus, but to ensure that the future of Lambda Sigma is strong, and that each incoming member understands our values and aligns with them to keep the presence of Lambda Sigma strong on campus.



BETA PI BUILDS BEDS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Jacksonville State University



The Jacksonville State University chapter of Lambda Sigma spent our academic year raising money for our bed building event. Over the course of several fundraisers, we raised \$4,709.28 dollars. We accomplished this by hosting spirit nights at McDonald's and Texas Roadhouse. We also sold game day pins during football season and popcorn through the app "Double Good." Other services for the community included hosting clothing and shoe drives to donate to various shelters in the area. We also spent one of our meetings making dog toys out of old t-shirts to donate to a local animal shelter.

We collaborated with Sleep in Heavenly Peace to host our main service event. Heavenly Peace is a volunteer-led organization that builds beds and delivers them to children in need. The AL-Gadsden chapter has been active for 5 years. They were the 2nd chapter to be established in Alabama. They serve 9 counties and deliver beds to 77 different zip codes. So far, they have helped build over 4,000 beds for kids. This is the 4th year that our chapter of Lambda Sigma has collaborated with them. Currently over 900 kids are on the waiting list for a bed. By hosting this bed drive, Beta Pi accomplished an invaluable service for the community.

On March 23rd during spring break, we all met on campus for the big event. Heavenly Peace provided all volunteers with breakfast from Jacks. The volunteers included not only members of Lambda Sigma, but locals from Jacksonville. We also had several Greek Life organizations join us including Alpha Xi Delta, Phi Mu, Zeta Tau Alpha, and Pike. All volunteers were assigned different roles in the assembly of the beds. The different stations included sawing, sanding, drill press, slate rail assembly, slate rail install, headboard building, quality control, and lastly branding which gives the bed with the Heavenly Peace logo. All volunteers were provided with the necessary PPE such as gloves, hearing protection, and safety goggles. Together, we built 60 beds in two and a half hours. We all agreed that we felt accomplished after that day because each bed that we built had a name on it.

By Grace Shelton



MEMBERS MEETING CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

Omega - Pittsburg State University

By Alexandra Robinson

A college student living by Lambda Sigma's values would be expected to look a certain way. They would strive to be a positive influence on campus. They'd engage in activities demonstrating leadership, whether it be by organizing events, leading student groups, or taking initiative in their studies. They would prioritize academic excellence, maintain a strong GPA and seek out learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. They would build meaningful connections with fellow students, collaborating, supporting, and uplifting one another. They would participate in social events, networking, and community-building activities, and embrace a spirit of giving back. Henceforth, volunteering their time and skills to benefit their college or university community, and engaging in service projects, community outreach, philanthropic efforts, and more.

Remember, Lambda Sigma is not just about recognition—it's a call to serve throughout your college career, and different Lambda Sigma members serve in different ways.

At Pittsburg State University, one member who recognized and fulfilled a need founded an agricultural club on our rural campus. It began in the spring of 2023 and has grown to over twenty members. It's hosted events such as an agricultural opportunities panel, a farm visit, and a trip to the western farm show in Kansas City. The club exemplifies the values associated with Lambda Sigma, thanks to the club's founder and president, Lambda Sigma member Joseph Marten.

In addition to all of the marvelous things the membership of Lambda Sigma has been up to, the organization is finding unique ways to spread positivity through campus. For Leap Day, the chapter decided to make frogs on a log. Positive affirmations will be written onto plastic leapfrogs affixed to a tootsie roll. They brighten the day of many PSU students by delivering them a sweet treat. This is just one of the many examples of the positive difference being made by Lambda Sigma at Pittsburg State University.

GRADUATION HONOR CORDS

Many chapters provide honor cords to their graduating seniors or make them available for purchase to be worn at graduation. Chapters should verify that these are approved to be worn at their institution's graduation ceremony. For purchasing inquiries, please contact:



Schoen Trimming and Cord Co., Inc.

<http://www.cordsandtassels.com/product/double-honor-cord/>

or call (212) 255-3949

SEMESTER RE-CAP WITH RHO

Thiel College

By James Cromwell Young

The 2023-24 members of the Rho chapter had a very successful school year so far. To end our fall semester, we held a fundraiser to help aid us in upcoming events. Students and faculty paid to tape one of our members to a wall. Although he did not stick by the end of the event, it was a great way to raise money while also bringing together the Thiel community.

Part of that profit went to an angel tree event that we did before winter break. We received Christmas wish lists from children in need through Thiel's psychology department. Together we went out and bought clothes, toys, necessities, and other items for the children. By the end of our shopping excursion, we had full shopping carts and bright smiles.

Going into our spring semester, we wanted to show appreciation to our professors. We voted on professors of the month, and we honored them with a mug filled with their favorite candies.

As we approached the end of our academic year, our ritualist ensured that the Lambda Sigma Rho chapter legacy would live on. They, along with our members, created posters, reached out to underclassmen, and spoke to classes to spread the word of Lambda Sigma. It is for that reason that we were able to induct nearly 20 new members for next year's class, all representatives of our four pillars.

As the new class comes in, we know our work is not done. The current class will unite with the future class to participate in our bi-annual roadside clean up. From this, we hope to leave the future class with our passion for service and commitment to helping others. As the 2023-24 Rho chapter class of Lambda Sigma makes way for the new wave, we fully plan to continue in our service, leadership, fellowship, and scholarship.



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Liaison chapters are listed under the corresponding board member's name

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Epsilon	Allegheny College - Meadville, PA
Zeta	Muskingum University - New Concord, OH
Iota	University of Mississippi - Oxford, MS
Lambda	Westminster College - New Wilmington, PA
Mu	Eastern Kentucky University - Richmond, KY
Omicron	Northern Illinois University - DeKalb, IL
Pi	Auburn University - Auburn, AL
Rho	Thiel College - Greenville, PA
Chi	Louisiana Tech University - Ruston, LA
Omega	Pittsburg State University - Pittsburg, KS
Alpha Delta	University of Southern Mississippi - Hattiesburg, MS
Alpha Eta	Penn State Behrend - Erie, PA
Alpha Theta	Slippery Rock University - Slippery Rock, PA
Alpha Iota	Mississippi State University - Starkville, MS
Alpha Kappa	Georgia Institute of Technology - Atlanta, GA
Alpha Mu	Berry College Mt. - Berry, GA
Alpha Pi	Lawrence University - Appleton, WI
Alpha Tau	University of Alabama - Tuscaloosa, AL
Alpha Psi	University of Toledo - Toledo, OH
Alpha Omega	Westfield State University - Westfield, MA
Beta Delta	Middle Tennessee State University - Murfreesboro, TN
Beta Epsilon	Washington University - St. Louis, MO
Beta Eta	Pace University-Pleasantville - Pleasantville, NY
Beta Kappa	George Mason University - Fairfax, VA
Beta Lambda	University of North Carolina at Pembroke - Pembroke, NC
Beta Mu	Alvernia University - Reading, PA
Beta Xi	Jackson State University - Jackson, MS
Beta Pi	Jacksonville State University - Jacksonville, AL

Upcoming Deadlines

May 1

Scholarship Application

June 1

President's Report
Advisor's Report
Treasurer's Report
Initiate List & Dues

