

INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY OF DELTA SIGMA PI, INC.
MINUTES
51st GRAND CHAPTER CONGRESS
AUGUST 17-19, 2017
NEW ORLEANS, LA

The 51st Grand Chapter Congress of the International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi, Inc. was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2017, by Grand President Onuka Ibe at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Present and in person at this meeting were the following members of the Board of Directors:

Onuka Ibe (<i>Iota Nu</i>)	Grand President
Mark A. Chiacchiari (<i>Beta Nu</i>)	Past Grand President
Kelly J. Rabin (<i>Alpha Iota</i>)	Vice President-Finance
Jodi L. Schoh (<i>Kappa Upsilon</i>)	North Central Provincial Vice President
Patricia A. Smith (<i>Theta Kappa</i>)	Northeastern Provincial Vice President
Henry K. McDaniel (<i>Nu Xi</i>)	South Central Provincial Vice President
Janene W. Markuske (<i>Theta Sigma</i>)	Southern Provincial Vice President
Patrick A. Bonfrisco (<i>Lambda Sigma</i>)	Western Provincial Vice President
Chad A. Robinson (<i>Theta Tau</i>)	Collegian of the Year – 2015 (leaves Board effective August 19)
Jennifer Huynh (<i>Gamma Upsilon</i>)	Collegian of the Year – 2016
Olivia Joan Malice (<i>Iota Mu</i>)	Collegian of the Year – 2017 (on Board effective August 19)
William C. Schilling (<i>Alpha Delta</i>)	Executive Director

Regional Vice Presidents seated among the delegates included:

Lisa Brown (<i>Kappa Mu</i>)	Bay Area Regional Vice President
Joshua Panwala (<i>Mu Tau</i>)*	Capital Regional Vice President
Jessica M. Anderson (<i>Iota Sigma</i>)	Central Regional Vice President
Holly N. Vernon (<i>Eta Kappa</i>)	Central Gulf Regional Vice President
Alexandra Warrick (<i>Iota Sigma</i>)	Desert Mountain Regional Vice President
Monica J. Ramey (<i>Omicron Tau</i>)	East Central Regional Vice President
Thomas B. Calloway (<i>Mu Pi</i>)	Eastern Regional Vice President
Jacqueline Torres Napalan (<i>Lambda Phi</i>)*	Empire Regional Vice President
Jeanette L. Buie (<i>Iota Omicron</i>)	Gateway Regional Vice President
Nicole Orlando (<i>Kappa Upsilon</i>)	Great Lakes Regional Vice President
Jillian E. Gartner (<i>Alpha Iota</i>)	Great Plains Regional Vice President
Susan S. Lackey (<i>Nu Omicron</i>)	Gulf South Regional Vice President
Musanna Al-Muntasir (<i>Iota Psi</i>)	Gulf Western Regional Vice President
Erin R. Lee (<i>Zeta Theta</i>)	Mid-South Regional Vice President
R. Nicole Moeller (<i>Kappa Omicron</i>)	Midwestern Regional Vice President
Daniel J. Collins (<i>Xi Phi</i>)	New England Regional Vice President
Richard M. Garber (<i>Alpha Pi</i>)	Niagara Regional Vice President
Cory P. Stopka (<i>Theta Tau</i>)	North Central Regional Vice President
Jen P. Lee (<i>Lambda Sigma</i>)	Pacific Coast Regional Vice President
Kristyn Lyn Koller (<i>Mu Rho</i>)	Rocky Mountain Regional Vice President
Crystal A. Justice (<i>Lambda Mu</i>)	Sierra Nevada Regional Vice President
Christopher M. Sands (<i>Gamma Lambda</i>)	South Atlantic Regional Vice President
Erica J. Kolsrud (<i>Epsilon</i>)	South Pacific Regional Vice President
Carrie Sagel Burns (<i>Alpha Tau</i>)	Southeastern Regional Vice President
Kevin L. Gore (<i>Nu Xi</i>)	Southwestern Regional Vice President
Mark R. Wernette (<i>Epsilon Zeta</i>)	Tornado Alley Regional Vice President

*Partially missing throughout Congress due to personal matters

Absent Regional Vice Presidents were:

Opeola Oyeladun Bukola (<i>Beta Eta</i>)	Atlantic Coast Regional Vice President
Charisse N. Welborn (<i>Delta Rho</i>)	Huron Regional Vice President
Karin Olivo (<i>Omicron Pi</i>)	Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President
Catherine R. Leslie (<i>Gamma Psi</i>)	Pacific Northwest Regional Vice President
Kristen Kralik (<i>Theta Pi</i>)	Steel Valley Regional Vice President

Also in attendance were the following members of the Central Office Staff:

Dale M. Clark (<i>Kappa Nu</i>)	Director of Chapter & Expansion Services
Shanda R. Gray (<i>Kappa Omicron</i>)	Associate Executive Director: Education and Events, Executive Vice President of the Leadership Foundation
Jeremy S. Levine (<i>Pi Tau</i>)	Director of Information and Operational Services
Chandler M. Loveday (<i>Epsilon Xi</i>)	Educational & Leadership Consultant
Joseph M. Shaver (<i>Iota Nu</i>)	Operational Services Specialist
Brittany M. Shearer	Operations and Events Coordinator
Jeanna M. Tipton (<i>Cincinnati</i>)	Director of Finance and Administration
Heather A. Troyer (<i>Alpha Chi</i>)	Director of Member Services
Jeffrey M. Winther (<i>Lambda Xi</i>)	Educational & Leadership Consultant

Ibe presided as Chairman of the Congress, per policy. Other positions were as follows: Meagan L. Hagerty (*Eta Rho*), Parliamentarian; Norman Kromberg (*Alpha Delta*), Credentials Committee Chair; Randy L. Hultz (*Iota Nu*), Chancellor; Nominations Committee Chair, Chiacchiari; and Recording Secretary, Schilling.

The first order of business was the opening Ritual, followed by the initiation of National Honorary Initiate Alden J. McDonald, Jr., President and CEO of Liberty Bank and Trust Company.

Ibe then offered a welcome to the Congress. The Delta Sigma Pi Memorial Service was conducted in memory of all brothers who passed away since the last Grand Chapter Congress. Specifically memorialized were these brothers: Bill Arnold, *Alpha Nu*; Jordan Atilano, *Zeta Omega*; Glen Cary, *Beta Upsilon*; James Connellan, *Alpha Omega*; Jim Deaton, *Beta Epsilon*, Golden Council member; Blake Duckers, *Pi Omega*; Sherry Flood, *Kappa Xi*, Golden Council member; Jerome Gemine, *Lambda Psi*; Geoffrey Getson, *Theta Sigma*; Michelle Hodnett Zavala, *Beta Upsilon*; Bob Hughes, *Beta Nu*, 2001 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient; Gabrielle Ives, *Upsilon*; Brent Elizabeth King, *Alpha Lambda*; Shawn Leven, *Kappa Omicron*; Paul Matia, *Theta Lambda*; Judith McDonald, *Beta Gamma*; Richard Schrader, *Kappa Psi*; Walter Schratz, *Lambda*, 2012 Career Achievement Award Recipient; Tom Sheely, *Epsilon Kappa*, Golden Council member; Glenn Smith, *Alpha Delta*; Richard “Nick” Steinkrauss, *Delta Psi*, 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Golden Council member and Trustee Emeritus; Kevin Woods, *Iota Pi*; and Benno Wymar, *Alpha Eta*.

Ibe then introduced the Board of Directors and Regional Vice Presidents, the Trustees and Trustee Emeriti of the Delta Sigma Pi Leadership Foundation, National Committee Chairs, Past Grand Presidents attending the Grand Chapter Congress, Golden Council Members, Lifetime and Career Achievement Award honorees, Faculty Members, Chapter Advisors, District Directors, National and Provincial Committee members, host committee attendees, members of the Central Office Staff and colony members.

At this time, Ibe relinquished the chair to Chancellor Hultz, who introduced Credentials Chair Kromberg. Kromberg then presented the Roll Call of Delegates and the report of the Credentials Committee. He announced 246 delegates were confirmed with 236 present and eligible to vote. Kansas City moved to

adopt the roll of voting delegates and to accept the report of the Credentials Committee. The motion was seconded by Tau Upsilon and adopted.

At this time, Hultz introduced Parliamentarian Hagerty to present the report of the Rules and Resolutions Committee. Iota Lambda moved to adopt the Proposed Standing Rules for the 51st Grand Chapter Congress as presented. The motion was seconded by Mu Psi.

Iota Psi moved to amend the Proposed Standing Rules, Policy 11, Section E.4. to state “an abstention by a seated delegate will not be counted as either a ‘yes’ or a ‘no’ vote. It will be counted as a ‘non-vote’ on any Resolution, Bylaw Amendment or Ritual proposal.” The motion to amend was seconded by Omicron Pi and was adopted.

The main motion to adopt the Standing Rules, as amended was adopted.

Beta Nu then moved to adopt the agenda for Old Business—which was a referral from the 2015 Grand Chapter to the Board to review Part I of the Initiation Ceremony and present proposals to the 2017 Grand Chapter—as presented by Hagerty. The motion was seconded by Nu Tau and approved.

Upsilon Pi moved to adopt the agenda for New Business as presented by Hagerty. The motion was seconded by Rho Phi and approved. The proposed Bylaw Amendments will be considered in this order: Ritual Proposal #1, Ritual Proposal #3, Ritual Proposal #2, Ritual Proposal #4, Amendment #1, Amendment #2, Resolution #1, and last, Amendment #3.

Gamma Iota moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 50th Grand Chapter Congress and to approve the minutes as distributed. Seconded by Lincoln/Greater Nebraska and approved.

Columbia (SC) moved to receive the printed Official Reports as distributed to the delegates. Lambda Psi seconded and the motion was adopted.

Hultz then introduced Ibe to present the “State of the Organization” report to the Grand Chapter. Organizational Development Committee Chair Wendy Eilers (*Epsilon Omega*) supported Ibe’s presentation with additional information on the Fraternity’s Strategic Priorities. (This report and those of the Vice Presidents, Committee Chairs and others are contained in these proceedings.)

Iota Nu moved to receive the report of the Grand President. The motion was seconded by Gamma Phi and approved.

Katie Magoon, Chair of the Leadership Foundation, was invited to say a few words on behalf of the Foundation.

Hultz recessed the meeting at 11:37 a.m., reconvening at 2:15 p.m.

A new delegate count was taken by Credentials Chair Kromberg and he certified 234 delegates present and voting.

At this time, Chiacchiari presented the report of the Nominations Committee.

The following nominations were received after July 1, 2017:

1. Bay Area Regional Vice President
Name: Ello Lucille Johns

2. Eastern Regional Vice President
Name: Jennifer McCanty
3. Midwestern Regional Vice President
Name: R. Nicole Moeller
4. Steel Valley Regional Vice President
Name: Jason Ewing
5. Steel Valley Regional Vice President
Name: Jeffrey N. Lasky
6. Niagara Regional Vice President
Name: Richard M. Garber

The following nominations were withdrawn:

1. Atlantic Coast Regional Vice President
Name: Ted Moore
2. Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President
Name: Marlena Jones
3. Atlantic Coast Regional Vice President
Name: Kristen Kralik
4. Pacific Coast Regional Vice President
Name: Whitney C. Massey

Jacksonville moved to receive the report of the Nominations Committee. The motion was seconded by Pi Sigma and approved.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

Chancellor Hultz then noted the only item of Old Business was a referral from the 2015 Grand Chapter to the Board to review Part I of the Initiation Ceremony and present proposals to the 2017 Grand Chapter. Due to Ritual, he moved the Congress into Executive Session and non-brothers left the room. Grand President Ibe and Task Group Chair Claire Sammon Roberts (*Delta Omicron*) reported on the action of the Board concerning this referral, which resulted in the various other Ritual Proposals.

Chancellor Hultz then moved into the Ritual Proposals. These minutes are purposely vague in places to honor the secrecy of Ritual. Refer to the "Confidential 51st Grand Chapter Congress Ritual Proposals" for additional specifics.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Ritual Proposal #1** (proposed by the Ritual Review Team): To update the Honorary Initiation by inserting the preamble to the bylaws, adding a series of principles the initiate must agree to (similar to in the collegiate initiation), and removes the word "neophyte". The motion made by Iota Pi and was seconded by Los Angeles.

Ritual Proposal #1 was then **adopted** by approval of over 3/4 of the delegates.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Ritual Proposal #3** (proposed by Ritual Review Team): Removes the questions and combines elements of Part I into an enhanced Part II ceremony led off by the Head Master repeating the preamble to our bylaws. The motion was made by Tau Omega and seconded by Cleveland-Akron. After debate expired, motion by Gamma Epsilon, second by Beta Eta, to extend debate by 10 minutes was adopted.

Ritual Proposal #3 then failed.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Ritual Proposal #2** (proposed by Ritual Review Team): Includes additional instructions on the procedures and performance of the Ritual, adds the preamble to the Head Master speaking parts, eliminates examination of the pledges, and adds language around core concepts that will be expanded upon in Part II. The motion was made by Sigma Chi and seconded by Gamma Xi.

Theta Pi moved, Nu Rho second, to amend the main motion by adding back three questions that had been removed. The motion to amend failed.

After debate expired, motion by Omicron Sigma, Beta Zeta second, to extend debate 10 minutes failed.

Ritual Proposal #2 then failed.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Ritual Proposal #4** (proposed by Ritual Review Team): Extend gender-neutral language changes previously adopted by the Grand Chapter to our private ceremonies. The motion was made by Iota Psi and seconded by Beta Omega.

Ritual Proposal #4 then failed.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Bylaw Amendment #1** (proposed by Board of Directors): Amend Bylaw Article XII Membership and Initiation, Section 17 to remove Inactive Status procedure details from Bylaws. The motion was made by Iota Mu and seconded by New Orleans-Crescent City.

Bylaw Amendment #1 was then **adopted** by approval of over 2/3 of the delegates.

Article XII, Section 17 of the Bylaws will now read:

Section 17. Inactive Status --- Although attendance and participation are duties and obligations of membership, a collegiate brother in good standing may request inactive status in times of extreme circumstances. The Board of Directors shall establish guidelines for these circumstances and for such a request. Requests are not automatically granted and do not terminate membership.

The Chancellor then noted **Bylaw Amendment #2** was reference only, as its intent is addressed in Resolution #1, discussed next.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Resolution #1** (proposed by Board of Directors): To assemble resources to conduct a comprehensive review of the member selection bylaws and any related policies, and to recommend action by the 2019 Grand Chapter Congress. The motion was made by Sigma Phi and seconded by Chicago.

Resolution #1 was then **adopted** as follows:

Whereas Article XII, Section 11 of Delta Sigma Pi's bylaws specify the requirements for the election of pledges, and

Whereas the current requirements stipulated in bylaws were last amended on August 19, 1999, and

Whereas, the Gamma Upsilon Chapter has dutifully demonstrated that the current requirements can be interpreted multiple ways, resulting in inconsistent membership voting practices within Delta Sigma Pi's collegiate chapters, and

Whereas, the Gamma Upsilon Chapter has also dutifully noted that Delta Sigma Pi's current laws are silent regarding the acceptability of and requirements for conducting membership votes electronically, and

Whereas the Beta Epsilon Chapter has dutifully demonstrated that there is inconsistent interpretation of the bylaws stipulation that no individual will be considered for membership more than three times, and

Whereas the Gamma Upsilon Chapter, Beta Epsilon Chapter, and the Delta Sigma Pi Board of Directors wish to work together to resolve the aforementioned issues and others that may yet be identified,

Be it resolved that this 51st Grand Chapter instructs the Board of Directors, in cooperation with our chapters, especially Gamma Upsilon and Beta Epsilon, to assess the bylaws and policies regarding membership voting and report back to the Grand Chapter by its 52nd meeting with any recommendations and proposed actions that provide: greater voting consistency amongst our chapters, guidance regarding electronic voting, and the necessary clarity regarding any other matters that arise in the natural course of conducting this review.

The Chancellor brought to the floor **Bylaw Amendment #3** (proposed by South Central Province): To amend Bylaws Article XII Membership and Initiation, Section 11, Election of Pledges to remove ambiguity regarding a prospective pledge being rejected three times. The motion was made by Phi Chi and seconded by Alpha Omega.

Kappa Pi moved, Omicron Pi second, to amend the main motion to strike the word "in" and replace with "for" in the following sentence: "... ~~in~~ FOR three separate pledge classes". The motion to amend was approved.

Bylaw Amendment #3 was then **adopted as amended** by approval of over 2/3 of the delegates.

Article XII, Section 11 of the Bylaws will now read:

Section 11. Election of Pledges --- Except as provided hereinafter, no person shall be initiated into this Fraternity except through a Collegiate Chapter and by a secret vote of the members of said chapter, in good standing, constituting a quorum present at a regularly called meeting as may be defined by the Bylaws of the chapter and the Laws of this Fraternity. All elections to pledgeship in this Fraternity shall be by secret ballot. To ensure against mistake, should twenty percent (20%) of the members present and voting, or five (5), whichever is greater, negative votes appear in the ballot box on the name of a prospective pledge, a second ballot shall be immediately taken. If twenty per cent (20%) of the members present and voting, or five (5), whichever is greater, negative votes appear in the ballot box on the second ballot, the prospective pledge shall be considered rejected. Before any ballot is cast, the ballot box, if

used, shall be shown to the President, the Senior Vice President, and the Vice President-Chapter Operations, who shall severally vouch for the emptiness of the same. All qualified members of the chapter present shall vote. Failure to vote shall be construed as a favorable vote for the candidate. After all such members have voted, the ballot shall be declared closed, the same inspected, and the votes counted by the President, Senior Vice President and the Vice President-Chapter Operations. The declaration of these officers announcing the vote favorable or unfavorable to election shall be final. Should the name of the same prospective pledge be proposed and rejected for three separate pledge classes, the same prospective pledge shall never be proposed again in that chapter. The votes concerning prospective pledges described herein must be held before the individuals in question are formally accepted as pledges. Should the prospective pledge receive a favorable election, but be unable to accept pledgship, an election must be held in any subsequent academic term in which the prospective pledge's name is proposed again.

Hultz made a final call for nominations from the floor and any withdrawals.

The following nominations were taken from the floor:

1. Steel Valley Regional Vice President
Name: Arnel Balcita

The following nominations were withdrawn:

1. Mid-South Regional Vice President
Name: Cody Cox

Nu Sigma moved, Nu Pi second, to receive this supplemental report of the Nominations Committee.
Approved.

Chancellor Hultz recessed the meeting at 3:58 p.m.

Friday, August 18, 2017

Chancellor Hultz reconvened the Grand Chapter at 8:05 a.m., Friday, August 18. Schilling made announcements. Nominations Chair Chiacchiari noted no further nominations or withdrawals were received by the deadline.

Credentials Chair Kromberg certified 221 delegates present and voting.

St. Louis moved to close nominations, second by Gamma Upsilon. Motion carried.

Iota Sigma then moved to reconsider **Ritual Proposal #2**, second by Omicron Sigma. The motion to reconsider failed.

Iota Sigma then moved a Resolution that the Board be directed to use its emergency powers to remove questioning from Part I of the collegiate member initiation. Second by Kappa Pi.

During debate on the Resolution, Fort Worth Cowtown moved to exclude two late arriving delegates who the Credentials Chair had seated. Mu Pi second. Motion to exclude was ruled out of order by the Chancellor.

A motion by Fort Worth Cowtown to postpone indefinitely the Resolution died for lack of second.

A motion by Fort Worth Cowtown for the previous question died for lack of a second.

A motion by Omicron Chi, second by Omicron Sigma, to extend debate also failed.

The main motion on a Resolution for the Board to use emergency powers to remove questioning from Ritual then **failed**.

Credentials Chair Kromberg noted there were 221 seated delegates, with two abstaining, for 219 active voters.

Ibe then presented charters to members from Upsilon Omega and Phi Chi. He also welcomed new alumni chapters Colorado Springs, Grand Rapids (MI), Greensboro (NC), Jersey City-New Jersey Area, Kingsville (TX) and San Francisco Bay Area.

The meeting was then recessed at 9:15 a.m., after which caucuses for Grand President and Vice President-Finance were held.

Saturday, August 19, 2017

Chancellor Hultz reconvened the Grand Chapter at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 19. Schilling made several announcements.

Kromberg gave a supplementary credentials report and certified 230 voting delegates on the floor. No more delegates were allowed to be seated after 8:46 a.m.

Omicron Sigma moved to reconsider **Ritual Proposal #4**, concerning gender neutral language. Motion seconded by Orange County. The motion to reconsider approved.

The second vote on **Ritual Proposal #4** then **failed**. Chancellor Hultz noted of the 230 delegates, 7 abstained.

New Business was thus concluded.

ELECTIONS

At this time the following elections for Fraternity office were held, with the results as shown below. Many testimonials were also presented at this time. (Refer to the Testimonial Addendum.)

Grand President

Candidates:

Jodi L. Schoh

Patricia A. Smith

Elected: Smith

Vice President-Finance

Candidates:

Corey D. Polton

Kelly J. Rabin

Elected: Rabin

Vice President, North Central Province

Candidates:

Jillian E. Gartner

Cory P. Stopka

Elected: Stopka

Vice President, Northeastern Province

Candidates:

Daniel J. Collins

Mary L. Miracle

Elected: Collins

Vice President, South Central Province

Candidates:

Kevin L. Gore

Mark R. Wernette

Elected: Wernette

Vice President, Southern Province

Candidates:

Carrie Sagel Burns

W. Michael Sinclair

Elected: Sagel Burns

Vice President-Western Province

Candidates:

Trey Hernandez

Crystal A. Justice

Nicolas J. Rizzi

Elected: Justice

Atlantic Coast Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Trina L. Kirk

Elected by acclamation: Kirk

Bay Area Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Ello Lucille Johns

Elected by acclamation: Johns

Capital Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Monica Monroe

Elected by acclamation: Monroe

Central Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Jessica M. Anderson

Pablo A. Portillo

Elected: No candidate received a majority. A special election will be held.

Central Gulf Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Holly N. Vernon

Elected by acclamation: Vernon

Desert Mountain Regional Vice President

Candidates:

David Pratt

Elected by acclamation: Pratt

East Central Regional Vice President

Candidates:

James E. Kuhn

Elected by acclamation: Kuhn

Eastern Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Jennifer McCanty

Elected by acclamation: McCanty

Empire Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Jacqueline Torres Napalan

Elected by acclamation: Napalan

Gateway Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Matthew M. Hudson

Elected by acclamation: Hudson

Great Lakes Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Nicole Orlando

Elected by acclamation: Orlando

Great Plains Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Elise L. Pelto

Elected by acclamation: Pelto

Gulf South Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Megan LeBouef

Elected by acclamation: LeBouef

Gulf Western Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Musanna Al-Muntasir

Elected by acclamation: Al-Muntasir

Huron Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Xavier Carr

Kevin D. Finley

Anna M. Trenshaw

Elected: Finley

Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Aimee S. King

Elected by acclamation: King

Mid-South Regional Vice President

Candidates:

None

Elected: No election held.

Midwestern Regional Vice President

Candidates:

R. Nicole Moeller

Elected by acclamation: Moeller

New England Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Daniel G. DelPiano

Elected by acclamation: DelPiano

Niagara Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Richard M. Garber

Elected by acclamation: Garber

North Central Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Mark E. Dorn

Danielle Gohman

Elected: Dorn

Pacific Coast Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Jen P. Lee

Elected by acclamation: Lee

Pacific Northwest Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Morgan Conklin

Elected by acclamation: Conklin

Rocky Mountain Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Kristyn Lyn Koller

Elected by acclamation: Koller

Sierra Nevada Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Cody Heimerdinger

Mar Hoyos

Elected: Heimerdinger

South Atlantic Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Gabriella Del Carmen Leto

Elyse I. Perez

Elected: Leto

South Pacific Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Erica J. Kolsrud

Elected by acclamation: Kolsrud

Southeastern Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Meghan L. Hill

Elected by acclamation: Hill

Southwestern Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Joshua T. Robinson

Allan D. Schuster, Jr.

Elected: Robinson

Steel Valley Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Arnel Balcita

Jason Ewing

Jeffrey N. Lasky

Elected: Ewing

Tornado Alley Regional Vice President

Candidates:

Jennifer Mayes

Elected by acclamation: Mayes

TESTIMONIALS (See Addendum)

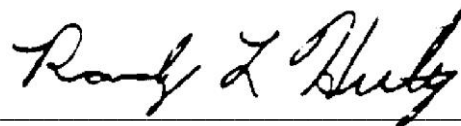
Ibe and Chiacchiari then presented thanks and testimonials of service to Grand Officers, staff, committee chairs and others.

Additional testimonials were presented by many members. (Refer to Testimonial Addendum).

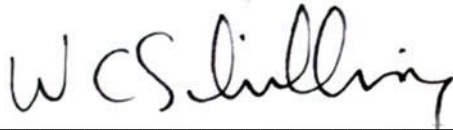
At the conclusion of the testimonials, Schilling made announcements. Hultz then asked non-brothers to leave the room and Chiacchiari conducted the ritualistic installation of all new national officers. New Grand President Patricia A. Smith made remarks, conducted the closing Ritual, and adjourned the 51st Grand Chapter at 11:45 a.m. after a motion by Theta Kappa, Delta Pi second, was approved by consensus.



Onuka Ibe, Grand President



Randy Hultz, Congress Chancellor



William C. Schilling, Executive Director and
Recording Secretary

TESTIMONIAL ADDENDUM

Meagan Hagerty then offered the following Testimonial:

Would anyone in the room who has been positively impacted by Amy Briggs please rise.

Whereas Brother Amy Briggs has been a dedicated member of our fraternity for almost 25 years, having served in a number of leadership roles, including as North Central Provincial Vice President, and

Whereas Amy Briggs has missed only one other Grand Chapter Congress, while serving as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army, and

Whereas Brother Briggs is not with us again at this Grand Chapter Congress as she accepted a posting in Japan in support of our military, and

Whereas many of us have followed Amy's recent adventures via the pictures she is posting on Facebook while she "works" in Japan, and

Whereas Amy has made a HUGE impact on the lives of many Brothers in the North Central Province and beyond, demonstrated in part by those of us know standing, and

Whereas we know that Amy is here with us in spirit this week, but we her friends and brothers know that having her with us in spirit is just not enough,

Be it hereby resolved that Brother Amy Briggs know that Grand Chapter Congress is not the same without her and we look forward to having her with us in Atlanta for the 52nd Grand Chapter Congress.

Samantha Bishop of Detroit-Motown Alumni Chapter then offered the following Testimonial:

My name is Sam Bishop and I currently serve as the district director for The Gamma Theta chapter at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. I've served in this role for two years now and I want to briefly share the story of this outstanding chapter. When I began as the DD, the chapter was precariously placed at a point where the graduating class was going to leave the chapter with 1 active member for Fall 2016. To top it off, this brother had been initiated only one semester prior. With the support of the central office staff, the chapter went into receivership and initiated eight members in the next school year. While still small, Gamma Theta is mighty. We will continue to fight.

I'd like to take a chance to thank a large number of people. Thank you to Carmella McDermott, the lone brother, and Nicole Middleton who is representing the chapter here at congress. Thanks to receiver Sam Meyer and chapter advisor Derric Williams. Thank you to Central Office Staff including Dale Clark and Aly Rouen for visiting and those who have helped remotely including Joe Shaver. Thank you to local alumni who supported including Leon Niles and Xavier Carr who are here this weekend. Thank you to brothers from surrounding chapters who helped with recruiting events. Thank you to the board for your support and thank you to this fraternity as a whole for supporting this small but mighty chapter. We're not going down without a fight.

Henry McDaniel, South Central Provincial Vice President, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, I have deeply enjoyed the honor of being the South Central Provincial Vice President,

Whereas, I had the honor to work with Gilbert Landras, Jason Campagna, Kevin Weber, Avery Moore, Kim Patillo, Shayna Johnson, Jackie Shaw (Soetmelk) in prior terms,

Whereas, I have gotten to serve with Nicole (Renee) Moeller, Jeanette Buie, Mark Wernette, Kevin Gore, Mus Al-Muntasir, and Susan Lackey during this biennium,

Whereas, I have had the honor of having multiple committee chairs throughout my tenure,

Whereas, the RVPs have selected Direct Directors to aid in the collegiate chapters,

Whereas, the collegiate chapters have selected fantastic chapter officers,

Be it known on the 19th day of August, 2017 that I, Henry McDaniel, would like to thank the entire South Central Leadership team and chapters for their dedication to furthering our brotherhood and ensuring this Grand Chapter of Congress in our home province is a success, that I could not have been nearly this successful without your help. I am proud of the success we have made as a province. I am humbly thankful for the opportunity to have led our province for the last 5.5 years.

Kevin Gore, on behalf of the Regional Vice Presidents of the South Central Province, then offered the following Testimonial:

The RVP's of the South Central Province have a testimonial for the outgoing South Central PVP.

Whereas, the RVP's goal is to make Henry cry.

Whereas, Henry has been an amazing leader by empowering his RVP's and unifying the province in a way that we have not seen in a long time.

Whereas, not only did Henry bring together an amazing team but a great group of friends.

Whereas, we, the RVP's of the South Central Province, would like to share some stories of our work with Henry.

Henry, you have been an incredible PVP! I have never regretted the coaxing and prodding you did to get me to agree to running for RVP-not once, but twice. Little did I know at that time you were actually looking for a New Orleans grandmother to lead you to all you can eat seafood. You became not only my PVP boss, but a good friend. I will never have to worry about missing you though, because I know you and Kris will eventually set your GPS to NOLA—Love you, both!

Henry, not only are we brothers of DSP, we are also chapter brothers of Nu Xi. I remember meeting you the first time and was impressed by what I knew you could accomplish in the short time we first talked.

Sharing the leadership of the South Central Province has been my greatest privilege and greatest honor. I worked with my mentor, my confidant, and, most importantly my closest friend. Thank you for all you do, all you have done, and don't think you are off the hook....at all...ever! God bless and god speed to you and the first lady of the Province, Kris.

Henry, not only have you been an incredible PVP to us, but a great friend to me. I remember voting for you by affirmation while I was in college. I remember you on your knees, in the dirt, in a vineyard begging me to run for RVP. Little did you know that I had already agreed to run for RVP. I just wanted to see if you would do it. I am going to miss my flying, car riding, napping in the back seat buddy to and from Fraternity events. You will always be welcomed to man-spread into my plane seat. You are never going to get rid of me and I will never get rid of you. I have a list of things I have volun-told you for. Love you and Kris bunches.

Henry, I have loved getting to know you on a personal level these past few years and I hope we continue to make memories. Our camping/kayaking trip this past July was awesome and the laughs we all shared were priceless. Thank you for welcoming me into your home. Looking forward to working with you in the future.

Henry, I have always known that you had my back even before I became RVP. You are the teddy bear of a brother who is probably more likely to cry than I am and that is saying something. Whether it was meeting in Columbia to plan MARS in a bar, or taking a train across the state to sit with me through a frustrating meeting, you have been there. You have even been there in one of my darkest hours when you gave me a shoulder to cry on and a push in the direction of someone less likely to cry than me. I will always be grateful I got to meet you, work with you, and most importantly call you my friend.

And, Whereas, we would all like to remind the Grand Chapter Congress that our favorite saying will always be....He's married?.....to a woman?!?!

Carley Haro of Orange County Alumni Chapter then offered the following Testimonial:

As you all know, Patrick Bonfrisco has served as the Western Provincial Vice President for the past four years but what you may not know is that at the same time, he also helped install new chapters like Upsilon Chi, Tau Omega, Sigma Phi, Upsilon Phi and Tau Chi....and those are only the ones he helped while PVP.

He also served as an interim RVP and a District Director.

Plus, he served on the executive committee for the Orange County Alumni Chapter during those four years and of course more years before that.

Patrick has been a mentor to many people, myself included. He has gone above and beyond. I could go on and on about all the things he has done for this fraternity but then we'd be here for a very long time.

Instead, the members of the Orange County Alumni Chapter would like to thank Brother Bonfrisco for his service to the Fraternity and acknowledge that OCAC wouldn't be outstanding without him. So Patrick, even though it's sad that you will no longer be a member of the board, those of us in Orange County are really looking forward to having your full attention again. We are really needy. We might not be able to fly you all over the Western Province, but we will be sure to have enough events and create more executive positions to keep you just as busy. Plus, we'll be sure to brag to the rest of the province about how we have you back. Thank you Mr. Provincial Vice Princess, we love you.

Nathan Sou of Pi Sigma Chapter then offered the following Testimonial:

Congratulations on 10 years this coming May, Pi Sigma!!!!

The North Central Provincial Leadership Team then offered the following Testimonial:

Brother, friend, leader, mentor, flashmob queen, choreographed dancer extraordinaire, and North Central PVP - these are just a few ways to describe Jodi Schoh.

Thank you for being such a strong leader for the North Central Province. You've led us to success in more ways than we can express in this testimonial and we are honored to have served the Fraternity under your leadership. Thank you for always being there for us at all hours, day and night to make sure we had what we needed to serve our regions.

Thank you for everything you've done to better us individually and also as an entire Fraternity. We love you and wish you the best of luck continuing to serve the Fraternity for years to come.

Janene Markuske, Southern Provincial Vice President, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, Brother Ashley Bernstein has served as the Southern Provincial Community Service Chair from 2013 through 2017,

And

Whereas, Brother Bernstein attended all of the LEADs over the four years as chair even though she lived in Texas for the last two years.

And

Whereas, Brother Bernstein collected 296 pairs of blue jeans for a recycling program but then had to figure out how to FedEx them,

And

Whereas, Brother Bernstein collected over a thousand pounds of pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House but sometimes forgot to take them out of her car for months at a time,

And

Whereas, Brother Bernstein has always said yes or volunteered anytime something needed to be done in our province or at Grand Chapter Congress,

Be it resolved that the next Southern Provincial Community Service Chair has big shoes to fill as Brother Bernstein has embodied all of the qualities that any Provincial Vice President would want in a chair.

Henry McDaniel, on behalf of the Board of Directors, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, Onuka Ibe has served as the 36th Grand President of Delta Sigma Pi,

And

Whereas, his vision for the President's Academy has been set in motion,

And

Whereas, he helped to set Delta Sigma Pi on a path for the future by leading the board pass a strategic plan,

And

Whereas, you can now recite the ritual book forwards and backwards,

And

Whereas, you have the world's cutest baby,

And

Whereas, you have hid the gray better than our last Grand President,

And

Whereas, you have set a new standard by being our first African American Grand President,

And

Whereas, this Board of Directors wants to show its appreciation for your service,

Be it resolved that this 51st Grand Chapter Congress stand and recognize Onuka Ibe for the past four years of service as our Grand President.

Janene Markuske, Southern Provincial Vice President, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, Brothers Carrie Burns, Holly Vernon, Erin Lee, Chris Sands, Karin Olivo, and Opeola Bukola served as the Regional Vice Presidents of the Southern Province during the 2015-2017 biennium,

And

Whereas, Brother Ollie Moses served as an honorary member of the leadership team,

And

Whereas, canine honorary members Zuko, Nala, and Mars provided hours of snuggles and entertainment at team meetings at the yacht club,

And

Whereas, sometimes fraternity matters were discussed during Bachelorette episodes much to Chris's chagrin,

Be it resolved that annual team meetings will still occur at the yacht club in Florida. Provincial Vice President Janene Markuske appreciates the dedication, hard work, and friendship of her team.

Paul Carpinella, on behalf of the Boston Alumni Chapter, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas Richard “Nick” Steinkrauss touched the lives of so many brothers with a strong example of brotherhood, mentorship, and most importantly love. We the brothers of the Boston Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, and the many more brothers you impacted throughout your 35+ years of service say thank you Nick. As a final tribute to Nick, we ask that as you return to campus or other fraternal activities, that you always strive to help others realize the benefits of membership and the deep love of a good friend.

Ellie Pelto, on behalf of the Great Plains Region leaders, then offered the following Testimonial:

Jillian Gartner has served as the RVP for the Great Plains Region for 3 years, and we could not let her move on without sending her a thank you! Jillian, you've been our fearless leader, our brother, and our friend. We're sad that you're leaving us to move to Minnesota, but we know you're moving on to great things! We'll never forget the fun times, like playing Minute to Win It and doing the "Making Pancakes" dance. No matter the outcome of your election, we know you'll continue to be helpful, friendly, brotherly, and a true Hufflepuff. Thank you so much for your time as our leader.

Henry McDaniel, on behalf of the Board of Directors, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, he joined Delta Sigma Pi as a Beta Nu

Whereas, he joined the Board of Directors as National COY in 1999

Whereas, he has demonstrated an unending dedication to this Fraternity

Whereas, he became gray during this time due to all of us

Whereas, he created lasting friendships and relationships with us all

Whereas, he has made a significant impact on our Fraternity these past 18 years

Whereas, many members have never known a time without Mark on the board

Whereas, his wisdom, passion, friendship and guidance will be missed

Therefore, the Board of Directors would like to thank Mark Chiacchiari on his continued dedication to the progress to Delta Sigma Pi and wish him time for family and faith in his new found retirement.

Janene Markuske, on behalf of the Board of Directors, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, Brett Faubion, Danny Gaines, Sparky Graves, Adam Katch, Alex Kinnamon, Alexandra Land, Rechenna Lo, Ashley McCormick, Ellie Pelto, Holly Pyper, Allan Schuster, Jackie Soetmelk, and Claire Roberts have all been members of the Ritual Task Force for the 2015-2017 biennium,

And

Whereas, Brother Claire Roberts has served as the task force chair,

And

Whereas, the committee has spent an immeasurable number of hours reviewing old ritual books, speaking to alumni and collegiate brothers about their experiences, educating members on proper ritual, and reporting findings to the National Board or Directors,

And

Whereas, the committee will no longer need to search dictionaries and thesauruses for the perfect words to replace "man" and "fellow man" with words like "professional" and "humanity",

And

Whereas, the delegates of the 2017 Grand Chapter did not pass three of the four recommendations,

Be it resolved that the National Board of Directors and entire Fraternity appreciate Brother Roberts' and her task force's time and dedication for this tremendous task. Their legacy will continue to be remembered for years to come.

Regional Vice Presidents of the Southern Province then offered the following Testimonial:

The Southern Province would like to thank Janene Markuske for dealing with the trials, tribulations and awesomeness that is SoPro.

Crystal Justice, on behalf of the Regional Vice Presidents of the Western Province, then offered the following Testimonial:

On behalf of the RVPs in the Western Province, we would like to thank Jedi Master Patrick Bonfrisco for his leadership, dedication, and service over the past four years. Patrick we have watched you grow and become the great Jedi and we never thought we were gonna have to give you up. But the time has come for you to return to the DD world. Just know the next leadership team is never gonna let you down. While you never gonna run around the whole Province in one year in your personal Millennium Falcon, try not to altogether desert us for Tatoone. Though it will be sad to not work together against Darth Vader, he promised that we were never gonna make you cry and never gonna say goodbye. So, we look forward to continuing to work with you to better the Fraternity world in whatever your future roles may be. We leave you with this Jedi phrase "Do. Or do not. There is no try." And remember, we are never going to tell a lie and hurt you...or ask a question about the HUB!

Alex Warrick, Desert Mountain Regional Vice President, then offered the following Testimonial:

Good morning brothers.

Whereas, I have had the honor of serving DSP in both the Central and Desert Mountain regions consecutively in the past 4 years,

Whereas, I have had a great team to work with in both provinces- the #LadyProvince and Princess Province,

Whereas, I want to thank any and all brothers with whom I have had the honor of volunteering and have helped me along the way: Jodi Schoh, Hannah Hoes, Jillian Gartner, Kirstie Gill,

Whitney DR, Patrick Bonfrisco, Lisa Brown, Cat Leslie, Jen Lee, Crystal Justice, Erica Kolsrud, Kristen Koller.

As much grief I have been given about moving to the West, I want to share with you this one thing (get your phone out Lisa)::

Kevin Weber then offered the following Testimonial:

This a story of the first time I saw the heart of Henry and how much this organization means to him.

I will always have a special bond with Henry so a few words if you permit, will paint a picture you soon won't forget.

Starting as RVPs around the same time, it made us almost one of a kind. We had some fun and made some jokes, of the same mindset, our regions must grow. Always looking towards the bigger and better things. We looked to the stars of what they may bring. The one fateful day we met in the middle, unbeknownst to the chapters since we knew little. We looked to the stars and the solution did come, we developed MARS with little to none. Scraping together what we had. A date we found which did work, in between a football schedule we were glad,. We had a lot of fun during the planning phase, laughing many times along the way. It went off without a hitch with a lot of alumni support and some Chipotle chips. The collegiates learned much that day as we prevailed. We came together as two regions, we were better for it from that day. Henry, as my brother and friend, always knew we'd be there till the end. This concludes the tale of our ship to the stars and now you know the story of MARS.

I believe I speak on behalf of all the brothers who helped out and took part in our event, we couldn't have done it without them and we are both truly grateful for all the support.

Nathan Louis of the St. Louis Alumni Chapter then offered the following Testimonial:

Jeanette,

You have received your silver helmet this year and, while that shows your tenure to this organization, it could never capture everything you mean to us. Thank you for serving dutifully as RVP and thank you, from the bottom of our hearts for becoming our friend, mentor, shoulder to cry on, and leader. We love you and look forward to sharing many more memories together. - Gateway Region Alumni and Collegiate Brothers

Patrick Bonfrisco, Western Provincial Vice President, then offered the following Testimonial:

WHEREAS, the Western Province gave me the best gift I could have ever asked for by electing an outstanding group of Regional Vice Presidents at the 2015 Grand Chapter Congress

And

WHEREAS, our leadership team was anything but gender neutral as I spent the past two years overwhelmingly outnumbered by seven female RVPs

And

WHEREAS, inspired by the North Central Province, formerly nicknamed "The Lady Province," I have endeavored for the past two years to determine an appropriate nickname for this leadership team

And FINALLY

WHEREAS, these seven amazing RVPs have bonded so much over the past two years that they now have inside jokes that I don't even begin to understand, and I often find them huddled in the corner whispering to one another as they plot my ultimate demise.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT from this day forward Lisa Brown, Alex Warrick, Jen Lee, Cat Leslie, Kristyn Koller, Crystal Justice and Eric Kolsrud shall hereby be known as THE WHISPER SISTERS.

Shane Borden of the Atlanta Alumni Chapter then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, every street is named Peachtree, the brothers of the Atlanta Alumni Chapter, winners of the 2017 southern provincial professional activities and Outstanding Chapter awards, want to welcome you to the 52nd Grand Chapter Congress in Atlanta, Georgia August 14-18, 2019...home of Coca-Cola, Chick Fil A, Atlanta Braves, Atlanta United, Georgia Aquarium, College Football Hall of Fame, Center for Civil and Human Rights and the Atlanta Falcons!! See you in two years.

The Northeastern Province then offered the following Testimonial:

Tricia, you have supported the Northeastern Province the last 4 years, you have taught us how to grow as leaders and have provided your support, dedication and leadership. Thank you for welcoming us into your home, let us love your dog and take us to some great places to eat. You have been a great friend, role model and most importantly a great brother. Best of luck in your next adventure with the fraternity. We love you.

Mark Chiacchiari, Past Grand President, then offered the following Testimonial:

Whereas, Brother Michelle Chiacchiari has supported Delta Sigma Pi through her support of her generally unpredictable and often annoying husband Brother Mark Chiacchiari for 19 years,

And

Whereas, Michelle, who was still a college student when she started dating Brother Mark Chiacchiari, frequently asked the pledges of the Theta Pi Chapter to spell their National Collegian of the Year's name despite her husband's objections,

And

Whereas, Michelle patiently and calmly enjoyed her first Grand Chapter Congress despite her wedding with Mark two weeks prior to their wedding,

And

Whereas, Michelle has become the loving mother of two dividends, Aurelia and Olivia,

And

Whereas, Michelle has sacrificed for Delta Sigma Pi by becoming a single mother for over 100 weekends the past eight years so that Mark can serve the Fraternity as the Grand President and Past Grand President,

And

Whereas, on many of those weekends, when Mark returned home from a Deltasig event and passed out on the couch, Michelle referred to Mark as ""useless"",

Be it resolved by this 51st Grand Chapter Congress that Brother Michelle Chiacchiari repay her husband's unpredictable and often annoying behavior and that this 51st Grand Chapter Congress formally declares Brother Michelle, Aurelia and Olivia "unsung heroes of Delta Sigma Pi" for their behind the scenes and often unnoticed sacrifices.