

AKA IN THE SIDE AKA

January & February 2019



CLARK-THOMPSON  
PRESIDENTS' ACADEMY



& Officers' Institute

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brothers,

What is the value of my membership? This is not a question I have had to think about for years. When I joined I knew my membership was going to provide me a brotherhood experience, a social experience, and hopefully a network of support for the rest of my life. Buzz words and phrases such as “personal/professional development, leadership opportunities, and social IQ” became a thing after I joined. They referred to benefits we were realizing as members. The benefits were always there but we were just learning how to promote them. Fraternity was the only show around that provided those things so it was an easy benefit to equate to a value of membership. Fast forward two decades later and those words/phrases are everywhere. Opportunities related to those concepts can be found on campus, in the community, and online. With those things being offered elsewhere it leaves the question of “what is the value of Fraternity membership now?”

The answer to the question will be different for every member and every chapter. We do provide value and we need to get better at expressing that. We provide Brotherhood. I cringe when people tell me that because normally it is a cop out to not being able to really answer the question. So if we use that answer we need to be more descriptive. I will share my opinion of what Brotherhood is today. Brotherhood provides an environment where young men can connect with each other in a safe setting. Brotherhood provides a live in opportunity similar to family structures. Brotherhood provides emotional and physical support to each other. Brotherhood provides a standard, normalcy or a visible path in a very chaotic world. It provides us a structured social setting. It provides us with Ideals we can relate to and work together to try to achieve.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Inside AKL. As you look through it I hope you see Brotherhood as I have described above.



Fraternally,

Jeremy Slivinski,  
Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director



## WHO WE ARE

InsideAKL is a monthly, educational publication by the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, for undergraduates and alumni. Brothers and friends are encouraged to submit news, articles and photographs of chapter events, philanthropy and service projects as well as other notable achievements. Correspondence can be submitted using the link below.

[Online Event/Article Submission Form](#)

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### *Statistics*

Active Chapters & Colonies: 40  
Undergraduates: 1,500+  
Alumni: 25,000+

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# Leadership Weekend

## 2019 Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute

The 2019 Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute was hosted January 11th through the 13th in Carmel, Indiana. This annual event has grown over recent years from leadership training for chapter and colony presidents to include specific tracts for additional officers.

Presidents covered a plethora of information ranging from an AKL Year in Review, Communicating in a Social Media Age, Risk Management Best Practices, Mental Health and Being Your Brother's Keeper, and more.

Risk Managers shared some programming with Presidents, but also had specific programming focused on Judicial Board Best Practices, Risky Social Media Behavior, and How to Confront Your Brother.

Recruitment Chairs went through Recruitment Bootcamp, hosted again by Tom Healy, CEO of LaunchPoint. Many thanks to the volunteers who gave their weekend to assist Recruitment Chairs in developing

actions plans, calendars, and specific goals.

Representatives from OmegaFi gave Treasurers a weekend-long in-depth review of how to use the online program and billing system. As well as tips for how to create a budget and how to effectively collect dues from members.

When asked about their favorite memory of the 2019 Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute, attendees generally shared the same notion. Brotherhood.

Cameron Simmons, VP of External Affairs from Beta Tau Chapter at SIUE said "My favorite part of Presidents' Academy was seeing brothers from various backgrounds and from across the nation come together under the same Five Ideals."

David Marques, Chapter President from Beta Chi Chapter at George Mason University continued, "Learning from other leaders from across the



*(From Left to Right) National Headquarters Staff alongside volunteers Tim Mallory (Gamma Chapter, University of Illinois), Tony Viviano (Beta Tau Chapter, SIUE), Sam Friday (Sigma Alpha Mu), Hayley Rimmel (Alpha Sigma Alpha), and Tom Healy (LaunchPoint.)*

nation really widened my view to the different methods of leading a chapter to success."

The weekend ended with a performance of Ritual run by chapter Presidents' with assistance from National Chaplain Eric Breese. Two members from Alpha Omicron Colony at University of Colorado

Boulder were initiated at the National Ritual Event.

Continue to work hard this year gentlemen! Set goals and check in regularly to make sure you're on track to meet them. Know your allies and know when to ask for help, we're all in this together.



(Left) Kansas brotherhood across chapters! (From Left to Right) Tyler Frontzak (Iota Chapter, Kansas State University), Martin Salazar (Lambda Chapter, Emporia State University), Gabe Diaz-Serrano (Lambda Chapter, Emporia State University), Eli Stewart (Lambda Chapter, Emporia State University), Dakota Taylor (Lambda Chapter, Emporia State University), Cody Waggoner (Iota Chapter, Kansas State University)

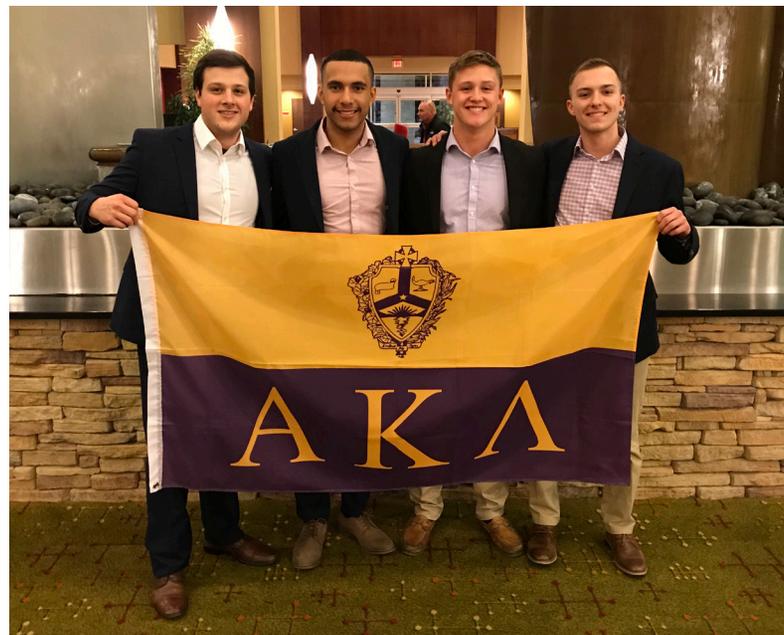


(Above) Representatives of Beta Chi Chapter at George Mason University Kyle Wingrove, Jake Butt, Tristan McGuire, and David Marques.

(Right) Representatives of Beta Tau Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (From Left to Right) Chris Dietz, Juan Diaz, Cameron Simmons, and Trevor Corey.

**"The best thing I learned from Presidents Academy was how to conduct a more productive chapter overall, involving everyone. Also, how to better hold brothers accountable for their actions."**

**- Cameron Simmons,  
Beta Tau VP External Affairs**



**"Going to Presidents' Academy this winter really helped me find myself as a leader and as a brother. I'm excited to bring to the chapter the structural skills needed to make our chapter better prepared and more efficient."**

**- David Marques,  
Beta Chi Chapter President**

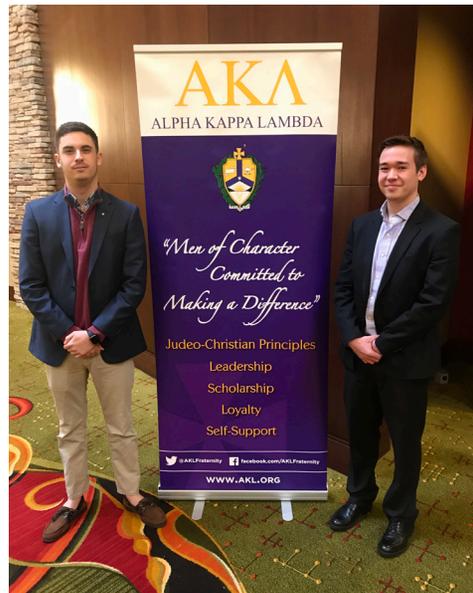


(Left) Representatives of Gamma Upsilon Chapter at Saginaw Valley State University (From Left to Right) Jake Gaudinier, Marc Dean, Austin Spaetzel, and Jaemes Chouinard.

**"I learned a lot about how to more effectively run my chapter, and my favorite part of the weekend was being able to work with other chapters, meet other brothers, and find new ways to solve problems in the future!"**

**– Jaemes Chouinard, Gamma Upsilon President**

(Right) Representatives of Gamma Sigma Chapter at Old Dominion University (From Left to Right) Justin Banks and Andrew Sponaule.



(Below) Representatives of Chi Chapter at California University of Pennsylvania (From Left to Right) Cameron Fleming, Jordan Vecchiolla, Nick Setto, and Brett Kusniar.



# Justin Banks

## **National Executive Council Undergraduate Member**

*At the 2019 Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute, Justin Banks, a member of the Gamma Sigma Chapter at Old Dominion University in Virginia, was elected as the National Executive Council's Undergraduate Member. InsideAKL caught up with Justin to learn more about his fraternity experience and why he ran for this role.*

### **What are you studying at Old Dominion University? Tell us more about your college experience.**

"I am majoring in political science with a concentration in public law and minoring in engineering management. My college experience has been exhilarating due to my time in my chapter. I been given the opportunity to travel to the Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute three times, once as my chapter's treasurer and twice as my chapter's president. Additionally, I was gifted with the chance to travel outside of the country for the first time to attend Conclave 2018 in the Bahamas.

Outside of the chapter I received the opportunity to begin an internship at a shipyard in Norfolk, VA last summer. While at the shipyard I served as an assistant to a superintendent and was placed in charge of repair contracts ranging from \$500,000 to \$25 Million. It was a great experience and I am scheduled to return in May."

### **Why did you join AKL at ODU?**

"I joined AKL because they offered me something no other chapter could, the opportunity to build a chapter and become a founding father of the now Gamma Sigma Chapter. I felt an immediate connection to the members of The Old Dominion Colony and knew that AKL was where I belonged."

### **You were a colony member when the Gamma Sigma Chapter was chartered, what was that like?**

"I joined the semester before we chartered so I only caught the final preparations, but it was very special. Having the members accept me

and give me the chance to assist in creating something bigger than myself was a great way to start off my college career! I even got to plan our chartering ceremony with the former president as a freshmen."

### **What leadership roles have you held in your chapter and on campus?**

"I've held a multitude of positions in my chapter, I've served as our IFC Delegate, Recruitment Chair, filled a half term vacancy for Social Chair, Vice President of Finance, and I am currently in my second term as Chapter President. Outside of the chapter I was the Marketing Director for ODU's Homecoming Organization and I am currently serving as the Vice President of ODU's Homecoming Organization."

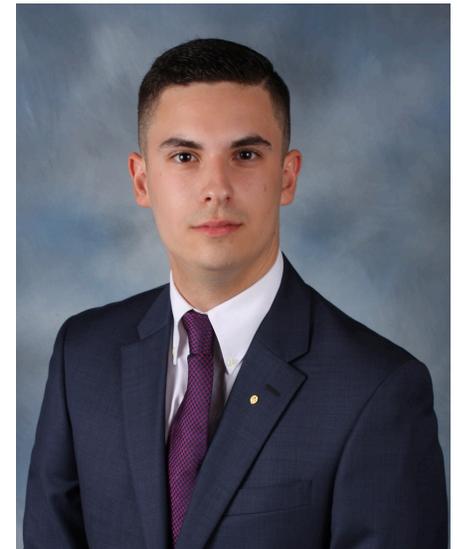
### **Why did you choose to run for the NEC Undergraduate position?**

"I choose to run for the NEC Undergraduate position because I appreciate everything our fraternity has done for me and I want to give back. I have a few role models from my chapter that I credit for many of my success and my drive, Will Wirt (Class of 2017) and Alan Haber (Class of 2018) taught me that you have to work hard, push yourself and keep

moving forward. Without those guys to look up to I probably wouldn't have ran for an officer position, let alone NEC Undergrad. I've served my own chapter brothers and now I get to serve and represent all of my brothers nationally and that is very humbling!"

### **What are you most looking forward to while on the NEC?**

"I'm most looking forward to learning about fraternity operations on the national scale. One of my biggest goals is to be able to charter at least one of our colonies, I remember how proud I felt on Gamma Sigma's chartering day. I would like to be able to spread that same feeling of joy and accomplishment to other colony members."



## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES



*(Top Left) Psi Chapter at Iowa State University celebrated their local Founders' Day and 58 years with undergraduate members, alumni, and friends.*

*(Bottom Left & Center) Mu Chapter at The Ohio State University hosted "Alpha Kappa Lambda" a battle of the bands competition that raised money for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.*

*(Bottom Right) Alpha Kappa Lambda's newest Colony at the University of Virginia held it's first pinning ceremony on Friday February 8th in Charlottesville, Virginia.*



# Going for the Gold

## Gamma Delta Chapter Celebrates College Night Win

*“Are you a Purple or a Gold?”* That’s the question you’ll be asked by University of Montevallo students and alumni in the weeks leading up to College Night. Once a year the campus is split into two teams represented by the school colors. This annual tradition is known as “the crest of the wave of college spirit,” and coincides with Homecoming celebrations.

Gamma Delta Chapter has a long history competing on the Gold Side, including past Gold Side Leaders including Ryan Howard who led last season, and Andy Heaton current NEC Director.

The 2019 season marked the centennial anniversary of College Night, making it the longest running homecoming tradition in America. “Because of this, the stakes were higher and the victory meant that much more for Gold Side” said Kyle McCune, Gamma Delta Chapter President. This year also marked the third consecutive win for Gold Side and AKL!

The two sides compete in various sports and other activities leading up to the main event, best described as competitive musical theater. “Each side puts on a play that is completely run by the student body” said Kyle. “From the script and the choreography, to the orchestral accompaniment and costumes. Everything is controlled by the students.”

One sporting event Gold Side excels at is Ultimate Frisbee. Kyle said “Ultimate Frisbee has always been something that we do for fun so when the sport was added to the College Night experience, we ran with the opportunity.” This year AKL and Gold Side won the game 15 - 6. Since the addition of the event, Gold Side has never lost a game.

This year, Gamma Delta Alumni Jeff Walker was awarded the 2019 Young Achiever’s Award for his work in preserving the ongoing tradition of College Night. InsideAKL reached out to Jeff to learn more about his participation in College Night.



*Gold Side and AKL brother celebrate another Ultimate Frisbee win.*

### Any College Night memories?

“My parents both attended Montevallo and participated in College Night. They started taking me to College Night when I was about 5 years old and I haven’t missed one since. So my first memories of the event are special ones that made me fall in love with the tradition.”

“One great memory as a student is that so many brothers were involved in College Night every year. Every year that I was there, AKLs were elected as Gold Leaders and also served in

a variety of other roles. It was great to work on this tradition with brothers because working towards a common goal really helped us bond together.”

### What is College Night to you?

“College Night is the nation’s most unique homecoming tradition and gives every student on campus the opportunity to be involved. It consists of theatre productions, athletics, cheerleading, music, and more.”

*Article continued on next page...*

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## Chapter & Alumni Spotlight Continued

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"I made many of my best friends through participating in College Night, so it still means a great deal to me today."

### **What was your experience like on Gold Side and as Side Leader?**

"I participated on the Gold Side for 4 years. I wrote the show 3 years (2006-2008), directed the show in 2007, and was Gold Leader in 2008."

"Being a College Night Leader is a huge honor and a huge responsibility. You're not only tasked with producing a musical, but with ensuring that this tradition that started in 1919 continues to thrive. It was the most rewarding experience of my college career, as I was able to develop lasting friendships and was able to develop leadership skills, as well."

### **How does it feel to receive the 2019 Young Achiever's Award?**

"Receiving the Young Achiever's Award is an incredible honor. First,

I'm happy to receive any award that still has "young" in the title! But on a more serious note, I'm so grateful to be recognized by an institution that I care so deeply about. That recognition came in part because of my work on "College Night: A Centennial Celebration," a coffee table book that chronicles the 100-year history of our homecoming tradition. I spent the better part of 2 years researching and writing the book. The result was a 250 page book with photographs, stories, and memories that will preserve institutional memory of College Night."

### **Were You involved on campus or in AKL in any additional roles?**

"I served Alpha Kappa Lambda as secretary for two years and was recruitment chair for the Interfraternity Council. Also on campus, I served in the Student Government Association, Orientation Leaders, and Justice Council."

Congratulations again to Jeff Walker and Gamma Delta Chapter!

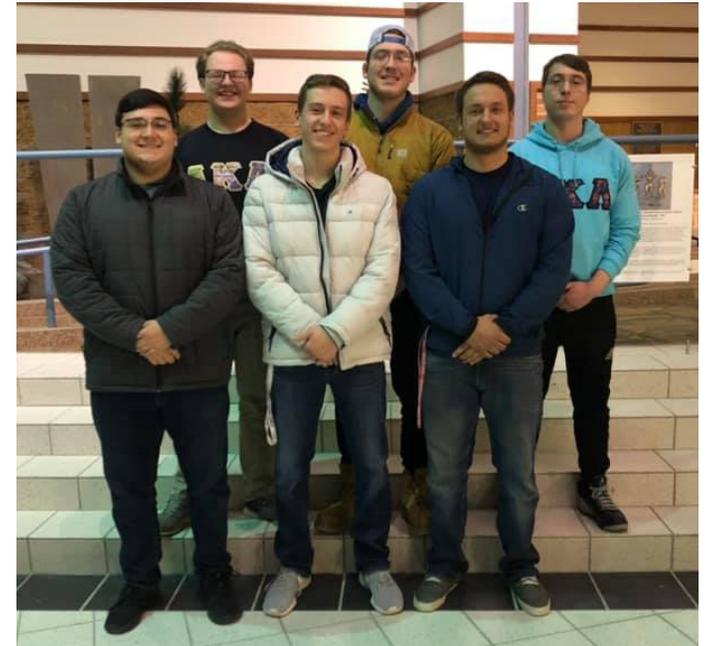


*Jeff Walker, Gamma Delta Alumni and University of Montevallo's 2019 Young Achiever's Award Winner.*

**"It was great to work on this tradition with brothers because working towards a common goal really helped us bond together. I'm so grateful to be recognized by an institution that I care so deeply about."**

**– Jeff Walker**

# CHAPTER ACTIVITIES



*(Top Left) Beta Tau Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville hosted their 6th annual "Cutest Couple" benefiting These Hands Don't Hurt and local St. Louis women's shelters.*

*(Top Right) Gamma Upsilon Chapter at Saginaw Valley State University welcome three new members (front row) with mentee/mentor pairings.*

*(Bottom Left) Alpha Phi Chapter Brothers from the University of Idaho on a ski trip to Tamarak.*

*(Bottom Right) Gamma Kappa Chapter at Fairleigh Dickinson University welcome their newest members to the brotherhood.*

# Recruitment 365

## *Even if formal recruitment has ended*

on your University's campus, Alpha Kappa Lambda are big proponents of recruiting 365 days a year. A successful business doesn't wait to recruit a new hire until it needs to replace an outgoing employee or are ready to grow a division. That business is continually on the lookout for potential candidates for when the moment is right to make a job offer.

Fraternity recruitment should be looked at the same way. Formal recruitment is not the only time to give out bids. Every event your chapter has is an opportunity to introduce potential new members to Alpha Kappa Lambda. Even on summer and winter breaks, brothers can meet potential new members and get to know them. After all, recruitment into fraternity should be an extension of friendship.

The easiest way to turn a friendship into a bid into Alpha Kappa Lambda is through the "Five Steps of Recruitment."

## Five Steps of Recruitment

**1) Meet him:** In class, on campus, a referral from a friend, etc. Start by inviting men you already know who aren't in a fraternity to your events.

**2) Make him your friend:** Look for common interests, hang out, study together, would you be friends?

**3) Introduce him to your friends:** These friends are your brothers. If you know a PNM plays a certain sport/has a hobby your brother does, introduce them. By this point, we haven't even talked about fraternity, we've been meeting new people.

**4) Introduce him to your fraternity:** After meeting your brothers, introduce the PNM to AKL's history, national philanthropy, the events you have, etc.

**5) Ask him to join:** Give him 2-3 days to decide then follow up, if you give a PNM a week or more to decide chances are they will decline the bid.

## Recruitment is the lifeblood of fraternity.

## Common Objections & How to Respond

### "I want to make my grades first."

- Introduce potential new members to the chapter's scholarship plan and academic standards for membership, including GPA requirements.
- Make him aware that Scholarship is one of our Five Ideals.
- Be sincere communicating that academic support is the reason that fraternities sustain themselves.

### "I can't afford to join a fraternity."

- Whether your chapter is housed or brothers live together, analyze comparative costs between AKL and other forms of living. Explain the benefits of fraternity living compared to residence hall life.
- Be upfront that joining a fraternity is a financial commitment. Ensure all potential new members are aware of all dues and fees.

### "I want to see other houses first."

- Ask potential new members for specifics on what they are looking to gain from their college and fraternity experiences, emphasize those areas your chapter excels in.
- Encourage prospects to visit other fraternities, do not talk down of other fraternities. Share your story why you joined AKL.

### "I'll have to talk to my parents first."

- Acknowledge it is good to inform parents of making such decisions.
- Offer to answer any questions parents have via email or phone call. If you have a Parent's Club, or a parent member of your Corporate Board, have them contact the potential new members' parents.

# National Fraternity Employment Opportunity

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**Position:** House Director and Chapter Support Specialist

**Location:** University of Kansas, Lawrence Kansas

**Description:** This position lives with and provides direct support to the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda's Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas. It is a full-time position with two areas of concentration, house operations and chapter management support. Specific duties include but are not limited to:

- Advise and support undergraduate house manager in his duties.
- Advise and support the collection and administration of house leases.
- Advise and support the undergraduate treasurer in the chapter's financial operations.
- Advise and support the local housing corporation and alumni advisory group.
- Monitor chapter property and activities.
- Advise and support all areas of general chapter operations.
- Act as a liaison and contact for the between the chapter and University, the chapter and National Headquarters and the chapter and Alumni.

**Qualifications:** A minimum of a Bachelor degree is required. Experience either working with or being a member of a Fraternity or Sorority if preferred. Strong communication skills and presentation skills are required. Knowledge of OmegaFi financial services is preferred.



**Other Notes:** The position is through the National Fraternity Headquarters. Training will be provided both in Carmel, Indiana and at the chapter property. Other duties may be assigned in support of the National Fraternity during the summer or over other breaks in the academic calendar.

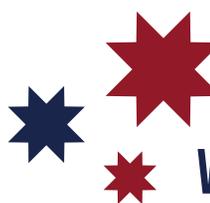
**Compensation:**

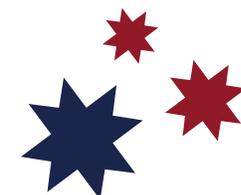
- Salary comparable to a full-time entry level position in higher education.
- Room and board during the Academic year.
- Healthcare benefits are offered.
- Retirement benefits are offered after the first year.
- Potential use of company vehicle.
- Generous paid vacation time off and extended paid holiday time.

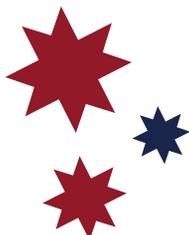
**For more information or to apply please visit [www.AKL.org](http://www.AKL.org) for the job posting, email [info@akl.org](mailto:info@akl.org) or call (317) 564 - 8003**

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