



Chance Steven Clark Harmon
Kappa Kappa Psi
Southwest District Candidacy Packet
President

Letter of Intent

Brothers of the Southwest District,

My name is Chance Harmon, and I am currently the Vice President of Membership of the Zeta Beta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi. I have decided to run for the office of Southwest District President, to help bring my ideas of chapter cohesion, unity, and leadership onto a broader scale. I wish to lead the southwest district into becoming a shining beacon of brotherhood and striving for the highest.

I have been involved in the band atmosphere for as long as I can remember, and it has helped shape me into who I am as a person. Thus, I was so honored to have the honor and privilege of joining the Zeta Beta chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi in March of 2023. This organization has provided me with much support and helped me make some lifetime friendships that I would not have otherwise. I believe now it is my time to give back.

In my time in the brotherhood, communication, outreach, and culture have stood out to me as areas of importance for this organization. Thus, they are my platforms. I believe that by focusing on these areas, we will grow the brotherhood in numbers and spirit, and allow every single brother of the Southwest District to perpetually strive for the highest.

Outside of the fraternity, I serve in several paramount positions that have helped me develop a number of important skills that I can apply to the office of president. I currently serve as the principal clarinetist in the Howard Payne University Symphonic Band, Drum Major of the Yellow Jacket Marching Band, Assistant to the Director of Bands, and as Vice President of the Yellow Jacket Marching Band.

Specifically, the offices of Student Assistant to the Director of Bands, Vice President of the Yellow Jacket Band, and the office of Vice President of Membership have taught me time management and outreach, which I will apply to the task of preparing for district and assisting my fellow council members with their separate duties. The position of Drum Major has taught me how to lead in a manner that inspires my fellow band members and brothers, and has given me valuable outreach skills that I will apply on a wider scale at the district level.

I would love to answer any questions anyone may have regarding my stance and platform relating to this office.

AEA,

Chance Steven Clark Harmon

VPM, Zeta Beta Chapter

Howard Payne University

Fraternity/Band Resume

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Music Education

Expected: May 2026

Howard Payne University

CHAPTER EXPERIENCE

Initiated as part of the Spring 2023 Class

Vice President of Membership, Zeta Beta chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi **April 2023-Present**

- Assist the chapter in matters relating to recruitment and Membership Education
- Membership Education Coordinator
- Plan social recruiting events (including reservation of spaces, finances, etc)

Treasurer, Zeta Beta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi **April 2023-Present**

- Keep chapter funds secure
- Collect dues from active and newly initiated members
- Send dues to National HQ in a timely manner
- Complete university forms related to Credit Card requisitions, checks, and/or reimbursements

DISTRICT EXPERIENCE

SWD Convention

Lafayette, Louisiana

2023

Committee service

Nominations committee (Theta Kappa Proxy)

April 2023

Representative service

Chapter Delegate

April 2023

Theta Kappa Proxy Delegate

April 2023

Events at Other Chapters

1st Degree, Nu Delta

Spring 2024

2nd Degree, Nu Delta

Spring 2024

3rd Degree, Nu Delta

Spring 2024

BAND EXPERIENCE

HPU Yellow Jacket Marching Band	2022-Present
Clarinet/Drum Major	
HPU Symphonic Band	2022-Present
Principal Clarinetist	
HPU Jazz Band	2022-2024
Alto Sax	
Tenor Sax	
HPU Pep Band	2023-Present
Bass Guitar	

BAND LEADERSHIP

Drum Major, HPU Yellow Jacket Marching Band	2023-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assist the Director of Bands in rehearsals• Run rehearsals in the absence of the Director of Bands• Conduct the Band at events and act as the Marching Band's Representative	
Vice President, HPU Yellow Jacket Marching Band	2023-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schedule events such as "Recruitment night", and "Band-o-monium"• Ensuring the event spaces are reserved and ready• Work with the Band President and Director of Bands to aid in band recruitment on campus	
Student Assistant to the Director of Bands, All bands	2023-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribute music to ensembles• Ensure instruments are secure and issued out to ensemble members• Maintain a record of all ensemble participants• Ready rehearsal spaces for a variety of ensembles• Any other job that the Director of Bands sees fit	

Platform

Preparation

One of the President's main duties is planning district convention. I will use my skills in time management and multitasking to ensure that the requisite planning for district convention is done in a quick, efficient, and thorough manner.

- I would like to bring in speakers to lead workshops that focus on chapter recruitment and retention as brothers graduate. Through several conversations with chapters in the district, I have discovered that numbers, engagement, and communication are the main issues that we currently face in this post-COVID era.
- I will work closely with our district governors and my TBS counterpart to promote the district convention, and reach out to chapters to find new ways we can get more brothers into the convention and participate. I would like to promote what speakers and events will be at each district convention, and so that more people will be inclined to attend.
- Through my focus on communication, outreach, and culture, I will bolster the numbers of attendees at district convention. The more chapters are contacted and engaged with the district council, the more they will attend the convention.
- Through better engagement, we can assist chapters in manners related to awards and involvement on a national level, and help get our district members involved on a national scale.
- For chapters who do not struggle with numbers or retention, I would like to propose workshops that teach better music practices, ways to support other chapters in their surrounding areas, and help chapters learn how to better serve their local college and university band programs.

Communication

My time in this fraternity and in my other outside roles has shown me the necessity to have open channels of communication between all members of an organization. Better communication will yield an elevated standard, encouraging all members to strive for the highest.

- I wish to cultivate a high standard of communication between all parties in this fraternity, including the district council and chapters. I will work closely with our Vice President for Leadership Development, Member at Large, and Vice President of Programs to assist them in their roles and foster greater communication
- I wish to personally travel to other chapters in need and visit with them, and glean a better understanding of their needs and wants. Within reason, I would also like to encourage the rest of the district council members to do the same.
- I would like to incorporate a livestream "fireside chat" style with the members of the district council. (Note: This would not share a name of the "fire psi-de chat" that the

alumni association does, and I would like to discuss a name for this with my fellow council members.) This initiative would allow chapters to tune in and ask questions, or simply visit and get to know their district council members better. I would like this to happen once a month, and promoted via social media pages, so chapters may have time to prepare questions or topics to present. The chat will be moderated by council members to ensure topics are treated in an equal and respectful manner, and so that the chat can stay focused, yet relaxed.

Outreach

In our Post-COVID age, there is a struggle in getting brothers and chapters to events. My goal is to counteract this struggle, and increase participation in in-person events, encouraging all chapters to attend. Many chapters also struggle with meeting other chapters and attending their events, and I wish to amend this as well. Overall, I would like to foster a deeper and more open connections between chapters and the district council. Here is how I plan to foster this,

- I want to spearhead a movement wherein chapters go to other chapters and meet with them, with the district council providing recognition for the chapters that attend other chapter's events.
- As has been done in the past, I wish to split the district up amongst the other district council members, and give each member a "sub-district" to maintain and communicate with. Sub-districts will be based on the location of the university affiliation. This will spread the workload amongst the entire district council, and allow chapters to get to know their district council not simply as a face or a name, but as a real person, thus better allowing council members to encourage and assist chapters in their local endeavors.
- On a monthly period, district council members will have contacted every chapter in their subdistrict AT LEAST once, and the district council will then report their findings at the next district council meeting. After district convention, the district council will open a contact channel with the chapters within their subdistrict. This process of regular reporting will put less strain on the council as a whole, while also increasing overall accountability for their work. This process will allow the previous system of splitting the district up to have more accountability.

Culture

The Southwest District is an amazing place made up of an amazing group of people that reside within its chapters. However, we are all guilty of getting so caught up in our work and the business side of the fraternity we sometimes forget why we do what we do. Here's where and how I think we can improve this,

- I want to encourage my fellow council members to have fun. I do not want our positions to become laborious or a drag. The more we enjoy this position of service, the better we will perform, and the closer we will grow as a brotherhood. I plan to lead this ideal by

example. I wholeheartedly enjoy working alongside my fellow brothers to accomplish their goals and have fun doing so. While it is important to get a job done it is also imperative to enjoy doing it.

- I will include at least one event per council meeting, purely for fun, and will place this event in the middle of the meeting, between large projects. This will allow council members to decompress, relax, and then resume work with a refreshed mind and be better able to accomplish the task at hand
- I will continue to support an atmosphere and culture of musicianship. The Southwest District is reflective of many music styles, so let's use this to our advantage. If each chapter during their meetings, had a moment where they performed a small piece or excerpt of music for their fellow brothers, they would benefit and grow as musicians. We are in a music fraternity after all, so let's make music together.
- I would encourage chapters to share their musical achievements, and use the district council as a means to promote these successes.
- I will continue to cultivate a culture of service. I firmly believe we are in an age where bands are growing in taste, size, and talent. As a fraternity dedicated to supporting and promoting the college and university bands, we should capitalize on this, and use this period of growth to also grow our organization. This will help serve the fraternity and the band programs by promoting the band, and growing numbers in both factors.

March 13, 2024

To the Nominations Committee and Southwest District Governors of Kappa Kappa Psi,

It is my honor to be able to write this letter on behalf of Chance Harmon.

Chance is a student of mine at Howard Payne University. In addition to teaching Music History courses for the University, I also serve as the Director of Bands wherein, I have witnessed Chance's capabilities and leadership potential first-hand.

To begin, Chance is a conscientious student. He works hard and has an innate desire to succeed in all that he puts his hand to. With many irons in the fire, so-to-speak, (more on this later), he balances his responsibilities well and does so with a measure of poise and professionalism that goes beyond his years, even as a rising junior music education student.

Chance serves HPU in many different roles: Drum Major for the University Band, Band Vice-President, Vice-President of the Zeta Beta Chapter of KKY, and as the Student Assistant to myself to name a few. Additionally, Chance is active in both the Choir and Theatre programs on campus. In short, Chance has a huge heart for service.

Of all the interactions I have had with Chance, they have all been positive. As a natural encourager, he continually looks for opportunities to improve the lives of those around him. Chance also possesses a strong desire for growth as he places a great measure of value on the importance of seeking out new ways to both challenge and improve himself. This trait is evidenced by his involvement in a number of academic areas and interests beyond the requisite courses for his major.

In the role of Student Assistant, Chance manages inventory files, coordinates rehearsal logistics, and communicates with involved personnel, among other duties. As the Vice-President of the Band, Chance is in charge of our annual Recruitment program. In itself, Recruitment is quite an undertaking: one that not only helps preserve the storied history of our Band, but also, and perhaps more importantly, builds camaraderie amongst its membership.

Chance has been, and will continue to be, a great asset to our program. Therefore, I have no reservations, whatsoever, in recommending him to you for your consideration of his application for District office.

Should you have any questions and/or need any further clarification as to any of the above-mentioned items, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jonathan M. Kraemer, Ph.D.
Director of Bands/Assistant Professor of Music
Howard Payne University
(325) 649-8504 office
jkraemer@hputx.edu

Howard Payne University
Department of History and Government
Brownwood, Texas 76801

March 4, 2024

Kappa Kappa Psi
Southwest District

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter of recommendation for Chance Harmon who is seeking the position of Southwest District President for the coming academic year.

Chance is a very capable student academically and an outstanding student leader of the HPU Band as well as Zeta Beta Chapter of KKY. He has met or exceeded all expectations in several positions of leadership in the Zeta Beta chapter. In addition, as a member of the band he has performed beyond mere expectations, always striving for the highest.

I have no doubts concerning his assuming the duties of District President at the beginning of the academic year nor in fulfilling the many demands of the position. I sincerely support his candidacy for this important position of the Southwest district leadership team.

AEA,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert G. Mangrum" with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert G. Mangrum, Ph.D.
Coley Professor of American History
University Historian
Sponsor, Zeta Beta Chapter since 1985
Outstanding National Sponsor of KKY 1999

RGM:rgm

To the Governors and Council of the Southwest District,

Our Brother Chance Harmon has voiced his wishes to run for the position of Southwest District President. As a chapter, we believe that Brother Harmon would be an excellent fit for this position because of his innate leadership, administrative prowess, and unending passion.

From the beginning of his time at HPU, and even before, Chance has always found himself naturally in leadership positions. Before HPU, Chance quickly achieved the titles of Section Leader and soon after Drum Major, both of which he served wholeheartedly. During his time at HPU, Chance was selected for the position of Assistant to the Director of Bands which he earned from his immediate service to the band. Then in his sophomore year, through a rigorous audition process, was chosen as the Drum Major for the Yellow Jacket Marching Band. During this same year, Chance Harmon served as the Vice President of the Band. He has served all these positions with the same dedication and effort as each of them equally deserve.

As previously stated, Chance Harmon was selected as the Assistant to the Director of Bands. In this position he ensures the needs of multiple bands are met including but not limited to: Ensuring rehearsal spaces are prepared for various ensembles, Maintains the instrument storage and checkout for the School of Music, etc.... During the summer, Chance also serves as the Administrative Assistant for the HPU Band Leadership Camp. He ensures the files of all participants are properly filed and readily available, payments are properly made, and ensures the reservation of various facilities. Without Chance, the process of day-to-day operation would run significantly slower and with great strain to the Director of Bands.

Coffee is typically where we draw our energy from. When the day lulls, we search for that delicious elixir. Chance on the other hand has boundless energy. When a project is nearing its end and the energy of the chapter is diminishing, Chance always has enough energy to lead us on and get us to the end. (A quick word from Connor Benoist: I seriously don't understand where his energy comes from. He never stops. Like... Never.) Chance is always able to finish his projects and help those around him with his excess energy and helpful spirit.

Chance maintains the spirit of a lifelong student, always eager to learn something new and never afraid to ask for help. We love him and hope the district would choose his so that he may better show his love for the brotherhood on a grander scale. Thank you for your time. This has been Kappa Kappa Psi – Zeta Beta's official endorsement letter of Brother Chance Harmon.

AEA,

KKPsi - ZB

March 10th,2024

Dear to whom it may concern,

I write to you today about Chance Harmon, the vice president of the Zeta Beta chapter as well as the vice president of the Howard Payne University Band.

Chance Harmon became an official member of Howard Payne University and Zeta Beta in 2022 and had changed not only the program but also fixed and created relations with his sister chapter and other chapters in the southwest district.

As a sophomore brother Harmon was placed in the position of vice president for the university band which means that he had the responsibility of preparing our biggest event in the fall semester which is Recruitment Night. This event takes about three weeks or more to prepare as well as working with our newest members of the band. Brother Harmon worked many nights with the newest members to prepare them for this big event. The night involves a one-hour skit performed by the freshman, setting up the stations that the freshman will visit (i.e. station of love,music,memory, etc.) organizing a hide and seek in the town (with safety restrictions), finding who will prepare the dinner, bring alumni to share their stories of how it was to be in the band and communicate with the sister chapter on making the bandanas for our newest members. He did this event and got everything done on his own and it was one of the most successful ones we've had in years. During this event brother Harmon was still taking more than eighteen hours, practicing almost every day, and still doing his responsibilities to serve the band while taking care of his mental health.

Communication is one of brother Harmon's greatest qualities. Delta Upsilon and Zeta Beta had experienced a lull in communication, Brother Harmon had amended this by communicating with the sisters on a daily basis, when there was conflict, he made the effort to have a sit-down talk with all the sisters and brothers to talk it out like adults. He has never made us feel like we are less than them and instead are equals.

The members of the Tau Beta Sigma Delta Upsilon describe Chance Harmon this way. Vivian Owinyo, our newest member who has worked with him during recruitment night and in her membership process, has stated "He's really good at communicating important events and ideas with others. He is a busy person but still makes time to fully plan out events showing his dedication and hard work in band." Zena Hargrove the vice president of Delta Upsilon states "he answers in a timely manner, he's a good multitasker and good at explaining/elaborating events on what he is saying/point of making." Erin Montgomery a conditional member states "his organization is on point, and he handles conflict well."

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope this help gives you a view of Chance Harmon and you consider him heavily for the position of president

Leslie Ramirez #276

President of Tau Beta Sigma Delta Upsilon

MOTS, MLITB