

# Kappa Kappa Psi

## Southwest District Convention 2024



Minutes | Final Officer Reports |  
Committee Reports

**April 5-7, 2024**  
**Wichita Falls, Texas**

National Headquarters - Stillwater Station  
P.O. Box 849 Stillwater, OK 74076  
Telephone (405) 372-2333  
Fax (405) 372-2363  
[www.kkytbs.org](http://www.kkytbs.org)  
[www.kkpsi.org](http://www.kkpsi.org)

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## **Opening Session | Saturday, April 6th @ 8:30 AM CST**

### **1. Call to Order @ 8:37 AM**

- a. “Welcome to the 2024 Southwest District Convention of Kappa Kappa Psi, I now call this First Session to order!”

### **2. Introduction of Council and Governors**

- a. Davis Vaughn - SWD President
- b. Gabe Sanders - SWD Vice President for Leadership Development
- c. Araci Garcia - SWD Secretary/Treasurer
- d. Edgar Canales - SWD Member-at-Large
- e. Kadeem Sabari - SWD Governor
- f. Lizzi Pineiro - SWD Governor
- g. Andy Melvin - SWD Governor

### **3. Delegate Roll Call**

- a. Seat all Delegates
  - i. Random Seating for the 2024 SWD Convention will begin with Zeta Xi.
  - ii. Random Seating for the 2025 SWD Convention will begin with Gamma Sigma

### **4. Accepting the Minutes of the 2023 SWD Convention**

- a. Motion to accept the 2023 SWD Convention Minutes
  - i. Motion - Theta Beta
  - ii. Second - Beta Alpha
  - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass

### **5. Final Officer Reports**

- a. Member-at-Large Summary and Charges
  - i. Motion to accept Edgar Canales’s Final Officer Report as read
    1. Motion - Lambda
    2. Second - Beta Gamma
    3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- b. Secretary/Treasurer Summary and Charges
  - i. Motion to accept Araci Garcia’s Final Officer Report as read
    1. Motion - Epsilon Delta
    2. Second - Gamma Sigma
    3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- c. Vice President for Leadership Development Summary and Charges
  - i. Motion to accept Gabe Sanders’s Final Officer Report as read
    1. Motion - Alpha Omicron
    2. Second - Theta Kappa
    3. Pass/Fail - Pass

### **6. National Council Town Hall**

### **7. Founder’s Circle Keynote: Nic Rorrer**

- a. “Welcome to our Keynote Speaker, Nic Rorrer, National Vice President for Membership and Expansion for Kappa Kappa Psi!”

### **8. Announcements**

### **9. Recess until Saturday, April 6 @ 3:45 PM**

## **Separate Session #2 | Saturday, April 6th @ 3:45 PM CST**

- 1. Call to Order @ 3:57 PM**
- 2. Delegate Roll Call**
- 1. Report of the Ways and Means Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Gamma Theta
    - ii. Second - Iota Upsilon
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - b. Motion to Adopt the 2024-2025 Budget
    - i. Motion - Zeta Gamma
    - ii. Second - Eta Xi
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 2. Report of the Chapter Leadership Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Mu Tau
    - ii. Second - Gamma Phi
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 3. Report of the Nominations Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Eta Xi
    - ii. Second - Delta
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 4. Report of the Spirit and Recognition Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Nu Delta
    - ii. Second - Zeta Zeta
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 5. Report of the Jurisdiction Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Delta Psi
    - ii. Second - Eta Nu
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 6. Announcements**
  - a. Singing the Hymn at Banquet: Despite what your chapter traditions are, District and National Conventions are a time and place for us to come together as one, so please do not do anything that is going to make you look like a fool, distract from our most sacred tradition as an organization, or slow our tempo down.
- 7. Recess until Sunday, April 7th @ 8:00 AM**

## **Separate Session #3 | Sunday, April 7th @ 8:00 AM CST**

- 1. Call to Order: @ 8:06 AM**
- 2. Review Amendments of the Jurisdiction Committee**
  - a. Motion to adopt the Proposed Changes
    - i. Motion - Beta Gamma
    - ii. Second - Theta Phi
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - b. Motion to adopt New Preamble
    - i. Motion - Eta Xi
    - ii. Second - Beta Lambda
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - c. Motion to adopt
    - i. Gamma Zeta
    - ii. Delta Sigma
    - iii. Pass
  - d. Motion to adopt
    - i. Epsilon Epsilon
    - ii. Zeta Zeta
    - iii. Pass
  - e. Motion to adopt
    - i. Delta Sigma
    - ii. Zeta Xi
    - iii. Pass
  - f. Motion to Adopt
    - i. Motion - Eta Nu
    - ii. Second - Theta Phi
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 3. Final Officer Reports**
  - a. President Summary and Charges
    - i. Motion to accept Davis Vaughn's Final Officer Report as read
      1. Motion - Lambda
      2. Second - Alpha Chi
      3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 4. Recess called at 8:50 AM, resumed at 9:00**
- 5. District Officer Elections**
  - a. Delegate Roll Call
    - i. "We will now do a delegate roll call."
  - b. President
    - i. Slated Candidate: Chance Harmon, Zeta Beta
    - ii. Nominations from the Floor
      1. Gabe Sanders, Alpha Omicron
    - iii. Election Procedure
      1. 1:30 Minutes Speech from each candidate
      2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
    - iv. Counting Votes

1. Elected Individual: Gabe Sanders, Alpha Omicron
- c. Andy the Armadillo, presented by the Spirit and Recognition Committee, will be passed to the Lambda Chapter at the University of Arkansas.
- d. Vice President for Leadership Development
  - i. Slated Candidate: Alivia Holiman, Lambda
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    1. None from the Floor
  - iii. Chapter Percentage was awarded to the following:
    1. Zeta Beta & Delta Alpha
  - iv. Chapter Participation was awarded to the following:
    1. Alpha Omicron
  - v. Counting Votes
    1. Elected Individual: Alivia Holiman, Lambda
- e. Vice President for Programs
  - i. Slated Candidate: Bella Eneff, Alpha
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    1. None from the Floor
  - iii. Chapter Distance Award was awarded to the following:
    1. Alpha Omicron
  - iv. Delegate Distance Award was awarded to the following:
    1. Alpha Chi
  - v. Counting Votes
    1. Elected Individual: Bella Eneff, Alpha
- f. Secretary/Treasurer
  - i. Slated Candidate: No Slate
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    1. Chance Harmon, Zeta Beta
  - iii. Vote by Acclamation by Placard
    1. Elected Individual: Chance Harmon, Zeta Beta
- g. Member-at-Large
  - i. Slated Candidate: Hunter Olden, Delta
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    1. Robert Lujan, Gamma Iota
  - iii. Election Procedure
    1. 1:30 Minute Speech from each candidate
    2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
  - iv. Counting Votes
    1. Elected Individual: Hunter Olden, Delta
- h. National Announcements
 

Welcome to the 2024-2025 SWD Council!

  - i. President: Gabe Sanders, Alpha Omicron
  - ii. Vice President for Leadership Development: Alivia Holiman, Lambda
  - iii. Vice President for Programs: Bella Eneff, Alpha
  - iv. Secretary/Treasurer: Chance Harmon, Zeta Beta
  - v. Member-At-Large: Hunter Olden, Delta

- 6. District Officer Installation**
  - a. Will happen via Zoom at a later date
- 7. Adjourn @ 10:43 AM**
  - a. Motion - Theta Kappa
  - b. Second - Alpha Omicron
  - c. Pass/Fail - Pass

## **Appendix A: Final Officer Report - Member-at-Large - Edgar Canales**

Brothers of the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,

Thank you for your continued faith and support throughout these past three years. I am extremely humbled knowing that each of your chapters was willing to give me an opportunity to serve the Southwest District.

When reflecting on the experience of joining our chapters, each of us has a distinct moment during recruitment or the membership education process where everything just falls into place. For me, that moment happened at the 2020 Louisiana Area Workshop. As a timid freshman, I embarked on a road trip to the event as the sole membership candidate, accompanied by then Southwest District President Garret Gardenhire. It was during this workshop that I had the opportunity to interact with district leadership and gain a deeper understanding of the values and responsibilities associated with being a Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi.

The following year, I made the decision to submit a packet for the position of Member-at-Large. I vividly recall the moment on March 28, 2021, when the announcement came that I had been elected. Relief flooded through me as I quickly turned off my camera during the Zoom meeting to compose myself. In fact, I was so overwhelmed by relief that I completely forgot about the installation process. When the realization struck, I crossed my room in panic to retrieve my full suit and tie, which had been discarded to the side as I transitioned into comfortable clothing during my moments of celebration. After scrambling to get ready, I promptly turned on my camera, unmuted my microphone, and, still out of breath, recited my oath to serve my Brothers.

This story is about how day one began. I now stand here honored to still be here on day 1,106 out of 1,107 days I will have served on the Southwest District Council. During my time here, I encountered some of the most genuine Brotherhood and met amazing individuals. I encountered failure and setbacks, as well as had periods of growth.

My overall goals for the year were to have an increased social media presence, redesign the award logos in collaboration with the efforts to update our district awards, and complete the Southwest District Almanac. This term, the Southwest District pages had over 205 posts on the feed. Additionally, many chapters were able to do story takeovers or have photos and videos reposted on our accounts. During my term, I collaborated closely with the governors to design the logos for our awards as part of a crucial overhaul of our award system. My hope is for each of you to view this effort and experience a sense of pride for our district. Lastly, I have been working to be able to finally present the Southwest District Almanac. This document is a collection of data, history, and photos that tell the story of the Southwest District. Countless hours of research and data collection went into this task, and I can proudly say that I should be able to release a final product by June 1. While I wish I could have presented a physical product to you all today, I am proud of countless hours spent to get to this point.

To the 2024-2025 Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Member-at-Large, I charge the following:



- Distribute the Southwest District Almanac file to chapters upon its completion and determine if it is a reasonable next step to offer the document as a printed book
- Curate diverse content, including graphics, photographs, and video updates, for the Southwest District
- Ensure timely planning by scheduling or having all monthly posts in progress by the first of each month
- Maintain regular communication with Tau Beta Sigma and coordinate regular, joint posts
- Improve the system for selecting and notifying chapters that they have been selected for a takeover on our social media accounts
- Don't hesitate to seek assistance. You are part of a team consisting of four other council members and three Governors. Reach out to them for feedback, advice, or any questions. Contact me for clarifications or guidance whenever needed.

Serving the Southwest District has been a privilege and an honor that has left a lasting impact on my time in Kappa Kappa Psi.

To all those who have accompanied me on this journey, Your unwavering love and support have been my guiding light. Whether you've been a chapter member by my side from the beginning or a newfound Brother whom I've only just met today, I deeply appreciate your presence in my story.

To Araci Garcia,

Thank you for always being such a dependable member of this team. I have never worked with somebody that has been able to be so quick and effective in regards to their ability to navigate and edit the website. Your presence on this council always lightens up the mood and brings joy to each meeting.

To Gabe Sanders,

I knew you had potential the moment I had my first interaction with you. I am so glad I was able to see that your work ethic matched your enthusiasm. Your work was integral to the success of this team. If there is anybody here that can do it all, it is you. I hope you recognize how much you were able to accomplish.

To Davis Vaughn,

Let it be known that I that you ignored all of my initial attempts to get you to run for SWD VPM. I'm not sure when you finally caved in to the idea, but I am glad I was able to have you on board for these last two terms. Your ability to be anybody's friend and advocate after meeting them once will never cease to amaze me. It is this ability to engage with those around you, in addition to your passion and unwavering commitment that has made you the successful person you are today. Never lose this spirit, for it is what makes you uniquely Davis.

To Kadeem Sabari,

I hope you remember me as the one district officer that was able to beat you at in the Women's March Madness Bracket Challenge. In all seriousness however, you are what this Southwest

District Governor team needed. You have managed to build an environment that allowed me to feel comfortable being myself and you show genuine care like no other person has ever shown me. I aspire to one day, be as comforting and loving as you.

To Lizzi Pineiro,

I know I promised you that I would not be writing this report at 2 am, but I just had to give you a reason to get on to me one last time. I still stand by the fact that you are the scariest person on this team. However, you are the one person I can always depend on to push me and I attribute a majority of my personal growth over the past few years to you. My greatest successes in this organization have been because I have learned from you.

To Andy Melvin,

I do not think you realize the extent that you inspire me to be a better Brother. I hope that I can one day attain the level of fraternal knowledge you have. It is because of you that I continue to seek opportunities to serve. During my time on this council, there has never been a moment where I felt as if I could not depend on you. Thank you for always providing the perspective that seems to be needed in any situation. In your words from my first term as Member-at-Large, Go “Hogs, but more importantly - Beat Texas.”

To the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,

Thank you. You have made my tenure on the Southwest District Council rewarding and fulfilling.

It has been an honor and a privilege. AEA

Fraternally Submitted

Edgar Canales

Lambda Chapter President

Southwest District Member-at-Large

## **Appendix B: Final Officer Report - Secretary/Treasurer - Araci Garcia**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

It’s nice to finally see y’all in person! I would like to share with you all some thoughts I have had these final couple of days of being a District Officer. I never expected to be here. I never expected a position on the District Council to become a reality to a member who was barely initiated into this amazing Fraternity less than a year ago. I did not expect to run for Secretary/Treasurer so early on into my time of being a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi. Lastly, I never expected to receive this position due to a school event conflicting with 2022’s SWDC and not being able to attend. If you had told Membership Candidate Araci that she would become a District Officer, she would have told you, “Give it a couple of years and I will believe you!”

Flashing back a couple of years, it was Spring 2022. I was a Membership Candidate reviewing the second lesson of the Road to Wisdom: Our Service Matters. This chapter went over our chapter's history, including past National and District Officers. My Guiding Spirit let us know that Epsilon Delta only had one National Officer, Toni Camacho who was SWD Vice President and Governor, and one District Officer, Jennifer Larsen, who was also SWD Secretary/Treasurer. I wondered why, compared to other chapters I heard about, our chapter had so little National and District leadership. From that day on, I knew I wanted to become an officer of the Southwest District

Spring 2023 rolls around and I notice the district is calling for brothers to run for Southwest District Officer positions. I expressed interest to my chapter president at the time and he got in contact with Dino, the SWDAA Board of Directors at the time, who really pushed me to do it. I wanted to wait a year to put myself out there but Dino didn't let up and pushed me to go outside of my comfort zone, and I am so glad he did. I remember there was a point I didn't even know I would have the opportunity to run because I had a university event where I was a clinician for flutists around South Texas. At this point, it seemed like District Office wasn't in the cards for me. I was ok with it and just hoped next year I could attend convention and throw my hat in the ring for District Office again. Much to my surprise, I had brothers from my chapter, my chapter sponsor, and other brothers that merely heard about me through my campaigns and advocated for me. I was able to Zoom into elections and was selected to have the honor to serve as this amazing district's Secretary/Treasurer!

Throughout my time in office, I made it my goal to represent and put out Epsilon Delta's name, as well as other smaller chapters like my own, and aim to develop a better version of myself in any capacity possible. I can gladly say standing in front of all you that I feel I have accomplished these goals. I have experienced and learned a different side of this Fraternity that has helped me grow in many aspects. I met and connected with brothers I would not have had the pleasure of meeting. I saw the power of the Southwest in the return of in-person Area Workshops and other district affairs. And now, forever etched in the history of this Fraternity and District, Epsilon Delta will have another officer to add to the roster to look back for years to come. I hope my time this year has enriched this district and this Fraternity in some small way. Whether it be a small chapter being represented in our district, my work alongside this amazing council, or even this speech itself.

And now Southwest District, here are my charges:

The charges for the 2023-2024 Secretary/Treasurer were as follows:

- Become familiar with the workings of the website in order to upload documents (i.e. minutes, events, and others) in a timely manner.
- Complete all documents assigned to you within one week of receiving them.
- Review the 2023 Ways And Means Report with the 2023-2024 Ways and Means Committee.
- Prepare the 2024-2025 Ways and Mean Report in a timely manner.

- Take advantage of the avenues for growth and the immense privilege you receive by serving in this office, the greatest of which being the opportunity to learn from and interact with brothers from across the Southwest every single day.

My charges for the 2024-2025 Secretary/Treasurer are as follows:

- Explore and learn with the workings of the website in order to best upload documents (i.e. minutes, events, and others) in an easily accessible and digestible manner for the district.
- Try to set aside an amount of dedicated time to complete all assignments given to you in a timely manner.
- Create an expense report of all District allocations and expenses to keep track of all monies used.
- Prepare and present the 2024-2025 Ways and Mean Report in a timely manner.
- Get creative with building a system to connect the council in an organized way.

My charges for the 2024-2025 District Council are as follows:

- Create and establish a line of communication for the council and the chapters of the Southwest to best stay connected. This will make contacting chapters about National and District business much easier if you build this relationship early on.
- Do not be afraid to admit when you cannot accomplish something without help. Your governors and other council members are here for you and can help you in any way necessary to get the job done. You are a team, use each other to help each other.
- Connect with other District members, whether it be past officers of the Southwest or meeting officers from other districts. Learn from each other and share your experiences to better serve the District.
- If you believe you are becoming overwhelmed with your responsibilities, remember that you can do it. You have built-in support systems in your council as well as out of it. You all pledged to maintain and do the work needed for this when taking your office, do not forget this. It can be easy to forget when we are stressed but you must hold strong and communicate this to your council members.
- 
- Spend time with your council members in any means possible. I wish I had more time to hang out with my council members and you will feel the time. A simple talk about everyone's day before a meeting makes a difference.

My charges for the 2024-2025 Southwest District are as follows:

- Communicate with your district council for anything and everything. I loved receiving emails from chapters who wanted guidance on budgeting or even simply wanted to get to know me. I wish we received more outreach to get to know you all better. Talk to them, I guarantee it'll make their day.
- Use social media as a platform for the district to know what is going on with your chapters and see the incredible work you are doing. My favorite thing to see on my Instagram is chapters having socials, doing service projects, and sharing their love for their band program. Be as active as possible with your social media so anyone in the district sees and recognizes your efforts.

- Do not ever stop striving for the highest. Whether it be in your personal life, your fraternal relationships, or professional endeavors; keep going. The best thing we can do for ourselves is to never let up, no matter how long and arduous the journey may be. We, the brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi and of the Southwest District, swore to this fraternity to continue the betterment of our band programs and ourselves. Continue the great work, Southwest!

I now would like to take this time to thank some very important people:

*To the Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Council,*

Congratulations to your new and outgoing council! You all set the standard for the sisters of Tau Beta Sigma with your overwhelming work and support to create greater bands in the District. Though I have had fewer interactions with you all compared to this council, I have enjoyed every moment with each and every one of you and it has been a pleasure to work together. I wish you all only the best in all of your future endeavors.

*To my counterpart Aurora,*

Thank you for all the work you have done for the Southwest District sisters of Tau Beta Sigma. You were joined in later into the term and worked as if you were there from the beginning! The Southwest website and the District Marketplace would not have been as great as it was without your help and contributions. I hope to see you continuing that work in your future projects.

*To Edgar,*

You have created such an incredible platform for the Southwest District and your work does not go unnoticed! I have seen the many sleepless nights you have had to work for this district, although you don't go to sleep until 6 AM on a regular day. It has been amazing getting to hear your stories and working alongside you.

*To Cyrus,*

You were one of the first people who talked to me once I released my candidacy campaign. Dino and you were such a big impact on my campaign that you will never understand and I thank you for that. I watched your senior recital from a livestream and thought it was amazing! Continue the great work and I hope to see you in person one day.

*To Gabe,*

You were one of the second people who reached out to me after I announced my candidacy. You have always been a fun and generous person who brings joy to those around. I could not have asked for a better co-chair and a better officer to work with. I hope to see you again soon and cannot wait to see the work you do!

*To Davis,*

To my zoom buddy, I knew we would both end up on this council after only a couple of minutes of speaking to each other in a break out room. It has been amazing to see all the work you do and the energy you bring to every meeting. I wish you the best of luck after graduation and it has been a pleasure to work with you.

*To Andy,*

Thank you so much for helping me and guiding me through the Spirit and Recognition Committee. You were an amazing advisor and taught me a lot about the District I didn't even know about before. I hope to hold as much knowledge about the Southwest District and life in general at some point in my life.

*To Kadeem,*

Thank you for always bringing the energy to every meeting and showing me that business can be fun. You helped me so much with my organizational skills and I do not know how you do what you do still to this point. May I be as energetic and positive as you as I continue my journey.

*To Lizzi,*

Thank you for pushing my skills and understanding of Kappa Kappa Psi. I felt like I always bothered you with all of my questions but you always ensured me that it was ok and you were here to help. I hope I can be as collected and confident as you in the future.

*To Dino,*

Without you pushing me, I would not be here speaking to everyone today. If I had listened to myself and not gone through with this, I would not have the experiences and friends I have today. I greatly appreciate and respect you as a person and one day hope to be in your shoes.

*To the Epsilon Delta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi,*

I also would not be here without you all. If it weren't for you all pushing me to try something new and break out of my bubble, I would not have met the amazing people I know now. Thank you for trusting me to represent you all and I hope I have made you all proud.

*To the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,*

J's Up and AEA!

Fraternally Yours,

Araci Garcia

Epsilon Delta Chapter

2023-2024 Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer

## **Appendix C: Final Officer Report - Vice President of Leadership Development- Gabe Sanders**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

Well, let's kick this off with a dose of honesty—I was never the brainiac who nabbed the valedictorian spot, nor was I blessed with magical speech-giving powers to address such a sizable crowd. So, hey, this is pretty cool, right? Given that this could be my final hurrah in front of you delightful brothers, I reckon I should turn up the heat and make this moment count. What a fantastically wildly radically weird year it has been. Thinking all the way back, I vividly recall the experience of sitting as the proxy for the Gamma Sigma chapter at the 2022 Southwest District Convention in Arkansas shortly after my initiation into Kappa Kappa Psi. It was there that I witnessed the vibrant tapestry of the Spicy Southwest unfold before my eyes. Amongst the gathering of brothers, I observed a kaleidoscope of personalities: some loud, some proud, some marching around, and others quite tired from their long journeys, yet all bound together by a unique and profound love for each other. It was within this dynamic environment that my affection for our District blossomed, nurtured by the diverse cultures and energies of every chapter. Inspired by the camaraderie and unity I witnessed, I felt compelled to leave my own mark, driven by the collective spirit of our fraternity. You. But then I thought to myself, "There's no way in 'bad word' I could end up on that council stage." I was just the humble assistant to the VPM position, with no dazzling achievements to my name. The idea of being elected seemed like nothing more than a dream, yet somehow, against all odds, it came true. And let me tell you, not once have I looked back with regret!

Now, not to get overly sentimental or anything, but...I really want to express my deepest gratitude from the bottom of my heart. Thank you for being my big, wonderfully weird family. It's been an absolute joy to interact with you, learn from you, and share meaningful experiences together. I've come to realize that the word "ordinary" just doesn't quite mesh with people like us or a district like ours. We're the dreamers, the visionaries, the vibrant works of art brought to life. Each of us is like a current merging into a mighty stream that propels our district forward. And you know what? I truly believe that the most beautiful masterpiece in our fraternity is none other than the brothers who call it home. So, thank you for being different. Thank you for reaching beyond the highest bars. And most of all, thank you for just being yourselves! Never lose sight of the unique qualities that make you wonderfly you!

So, here's a little wisdom nugget for you, straight from the depths of my brain: "The more you seek to find, the more you find the need to learn." And hey, feel free to quote me on that anytime, no charge! This term has been like a pair of glasses that widened my perspective in so many ways. As I delved deeper into my connection with the Southwest District, I discovered layers upon layers of uniqueness. No two chapters are carbon copies of each other; sure, we share common values, but our practices vary like the colors of the wind (Song from the Disney animated classic Pocahontas). Some chapters are big, some small, and some are tucked away in the middle of nowhere, while others are just a metaphorical skip and a hop away. This diversity challenged me to step up my leadership game and develop new styles to cater to the distinct

needs of our wonderfully diverse chapters. It's like the world suddenly expanded beyond the borders of Lubbock, even though, as head coach Joey Mcguire would say, it's all West Texas! During my term, the main focus was on rekindling the essence of in-person connections among our brothers. And let me tell you, it was quite the ride! We kicked things off with a bang by revamping our District Leadership Conference, now sporting a fresh new look (Thanks Edgar!). The planning process was a shining example of teamwork at its finest. Working hand in hand with the governors and fellow council members, we pushed the boundaries of advertising and collaborated with TBS's council to create unforgettable joint experiences for both our brothers and sisters. I'm thrilled to report that our efforts paid off. Attendees left with smiles on their faces and a wealth of knowledge to share with their chapters, enriching not only their own leadership skills but also those of their fellow chapter members. One of the highlights of my term was the switch from virtual workshops to in-person area workshops. Witnessing brothers come together, forging connections, and learning from one another was truly inspiring. I had an absolute blast experiencing different parts of our district firsthand, and a special shout out to the Delta chapter for introducing me to the magnificent Ranch Burger – my calorie intake will never be the same again! Initially, I had planned to bring one or two area workshop opportunities to the Southwest District, but thanks to the overwhelming support of each and every one of you brothers who attended, we successfully delivered three awesome area workshops. From the bottom of my heart, thank you! None of this would have been possible without your enthusiasm and dedication. Here's to many more memorable experiences together!

Now, I will read the charges I was given by the previous VPM:

- Plan your events way ahead of time, so you will have ample time to iron out any details you may need to figure out still. This will also mean you have more time to advertise and reach out to brothers throughout the district.
- Reach out to as many chapter VPMs as you possibly can, and learn about them. Advise them. Be someone they can trust with the best or worst of the happenings of their position.
- Bring back in-person area workshops. These are especially difficult to plan, and really have to be done in advance, but can be extremely rewarding when they come to fruition. Find interested host chapters and see if you can program some incredible workshops for brothers in certain areas around the district.
- Especially at the National Convention, find other District VPMs from around the country and learn from them. Every district does things differently, but some may have tips on logistics of planning a workshop, or how to cater well to the needs of your specific district.
- Finally, have fun! Enjoy your time in the position, because it will be gone before you know it. Soak up every bit of knowledge and spirit you can from this experience.

My charges are Thus:

For the Southwest District Council:

- Remember that teamwork makes the dream work! Each of you brings unique strengths to the table, so collaborate closely to ensure no one falls behind and you all reach the finish line together. You're stronger as a team than you are as individuals!



- Governors are invaluable resources, so don't hesitate to tap into their knowledge and expertise. Keeping them in the loop not only makes your life easier but also fosters stronger communication and collaboration across the board.

For the incoming Vice President for Leadership Development:

- Prioritize what you can realistically commit to before saying yes. While it's tempting to take on every opportunity that comes your way, remember not to stack your plate too high. Maintaining a healthy work-life balance is crucial for long-term success.
- Lean on your governor team and council members for support when needed. You may hold a leadership position, but that doesn't mean you have to go it alone. Asking for help is not a sign of weakness; it's a smart move that benefits everyone.
- Stay ahead of the game by planning ahead. Getting a head start allows you more time to refine your events and ensures you're not scrambling at the last minute. Your future self will thank you for the extra preparation!

For the Brothers of the Southwest District:

- Keep on rocking and stay true to yourselves! Your unique contributions make our fraternity stronger and more vibrant.
- Also, paperwork may not be the most exciting part of being a Brother, but it's important. So, don't forget to dot your i's and cross your t's!

It would be wrong of me not to express gratitude to those who supported me during my tenure in office. Their encouragement further fueled my dedication to serve to the best of my abilities.

To the TBS Council and Governor team:

- Thank you for never ending support in helping us build brighter tomorrows together. Its amazing what brothers and sisters can accomplish together and I thank you for your commitment to joint relations!

To my counterparts Faith and Natalie:

- Faith, although time was brief, your passion for planning events shined through the swiftness of time. Thank you for your help with DLC and kicking off our initiative of building in person opportunities! Natalie, learning on the fly, your ideas for area workshops bloomed from the moment you stepped into office. We weathered some planning storms but you never lost your cool. Thank you for bringing your unique vision to the district, you were a great teammate to work with!

To the National Council and Staff:

- Thank you for providing wisdom and resources to help me find my way. Connecting me with other district council members to collaborate helped generate new ideas for manning my office. Whether it was TarShae with his joyful personality or Bang being the chancellor of ranch dressing you have made an impact on my term and I thank you all!

To the Governors:

- Lizzi: Your prior knowledge of holding the SWD VPM position helped me gather a solid footing at the start and helped me in times of need. Thank you for the reminders and comments, you always pushed me to be better and I believe I have become better because of that. Thank you. Also, the Nutmeg cameos during Council meetings were always a fun treat!
- Andy: In the beginning, I never got a solid read on you, I could never figure out if you liked me or tolerated me. Nevertheless, as the year went on I got to know you better and your large love for our district. Your level headedness and deep knowledge of our District's history helped tremendously during my term. Thank you for your wisdom and support. We will have to grab a Ranch Burger sometime!
- Kadeem: New guy on the block but no less of a governor. Your attitude, jokes, and personality never ceases to spark joy in my heart. You always brought a positive light to the party, always looking at the glass half full rather than half empty. You helped me through road bumps both district and personal, always having an ear talk off and sound advice to soothe the soul. Thank you for all of your help and being not only a governor but a friend. I will always stop, ask myself, then commit.

To the Council:

- Cyrus: Just a hop skip and away was Alpha Psi, I remember meeting Cyrus for the first time in person at Palo Duro canyon for a super cool Alpha Psi Alpha Omicron epic collab. We spent practically the whole trip talking about our future visions for the District and hoping to serve on council together. I will never forget the support we gave each other and dedication to service Cyrus emitted. I wish nothing but the best for your future!
- Araci: Such a calm and nice person. I don't think you have a mean bone in your body. You have a heart for collaboration and that makes working with you an absolute joy. Absolute bestie of a co-chair and just an overall rad person. Thank you for all that you've done and all you will continue to do! The future is bright for you!
- Edgar: Edgar Canales, Guardian of the night, the sleepless hero that requires no rest! Also just a really sweet caring individual. Honestly, from the stories I've heard, I don't know how you do it. Working into the dead of night to produce amazing graphics, breathtaking videos, and professional logos, your work has graphically moved mountains. Having served on council for three years you always had answers to my questions. You never refused to help, whether it was making a logo for DLC or making countdown posts for area workshops, you helped me be successful. Thank you for being a killer friend and I hope you go on to do great things.
- Davis: Davis was at the beginning of it all if he remembers it or not. I remember shortly after the 2022 SWD Convention calling him outside my door asking for advice when I was running for Assistant VPM at my chapter. I would call on him again when I expressed interest in running for this office. I would call on him again when I got the position. And I would call on him again whenever I needed help. Davis served as a pillar

of support, a kind individual who saw the world as a stage and never stopped performing. Thank you for everything Davis, you played a part in developing my leadership style and can't even begin to thank you. But i'll do it again, Thank you. We will also have to grab a Ranch Burger Sometime!

To the Alpha Omicron Chapter:

- AO! This is the group that got me into this amazing organization. The group that I have shared countless hours with and the brothers that have supported me from the beginning. Y'all put smiles on my face and encourage me to be the best version of myself everyday. Thank y'all from the bottom of my heart for being the greatest motley crew and accepting me for who I am!

To Stephanie:

- Steph was not a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi when I met her. Just another Goin' Band trumpet player that despised the scorching Lubbock sun, constantly wearing her bucket hats and soccer mom shades. Steph was there from the beginning of my journey running for this office, from the anxiety of the night before my platform to the phone call accounting I had won the position. From the long nights drafting up RTW lesson plans and constructing area workshops to the sighs of relief and celebrations of completion. She witnessed it all, she knew the love and passion I had for you all, the district, the fraternity and supported me in endless ways that will take me a while to thank her for. She just was initiated last night and I'm ecstatic to now call her a brother. Steph, thank you from the bottom of my heart, for your endless unwavering support, I love you dearly.

To the Brothers of the Southwest District:

- Thank you for being my big extraordinary family! You all never cease to amaze me in regards to what you can accomplish. Your uniqueness is your gift, polish it, and let it shine for all to see. I am incredibly honored to have been elected by you all to serve as your Southwest District Vice President for Leadership Development and I hope I've made you proud. Continue to shine on and per one of my favorite quotes from Dr. Sues "So...be your name Buxbaum or Bixby or Bray or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea, You're off the Great Places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So...get on your way!"

AEA and Wreck 'Em Tech, Fraternaly Submitted,  
Gabe Sanders

Alpha Omicron Chapter - Texas Tech University  
Southwest District Vice President for Leadership Development 2023-2024

## **Appendix D: Final Officer Report - President - Davis Vaughn**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

I want to first express my deepest gratitude for every one of you for making the trek to be here in Wichita Falls for the 2024 Southwest District Convention. Since this convention was kind of my baby, I

was continually worried that I would show up for it and no one would be here. You all finding the time, the valuable time, to show up and show out in all of your incredible spirit and energy is inspiring. You have made me so very happy :).

When contemplating how I could possibly encapsulate my past two years on SWD council, or really my past five years in Kappa Kappa Psi, I found it difficult to choose a starting place. When I began throwing around the idea of being in a fraternity, it felt like the LAST thing I'd want to do is join a silly band fraternity. The brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi were very intentional about coming to me and explaining what the brotherhood was, while at the same time explaining that they appreciated everything that I do and that they would love me regardless of if I joined or not. The brothers took a chance on me in giving me a bid anyway, and I felt a sincere warmth in my heart for this organization and the people in it. I decided to give them a chance since they gave me a chance.

My 3rd degree was supposed to happen in late March of 2020. Pandemic womp womp. In such a tumultuous time, Kappa Kappa Psi was my solace in that trying time. As I continued to explore the brotherhood through time, I had ups and downs, lefts and rights, but overall incredible experiences which I would remember for the rest of my life. As Edgar has alluded to before, I never wanted to join the District Council. It was like pulling teeth for him to convince me to join. Ultimately, I did, and I have never experienced such a worthwhile thing in my life. Not only did it help me develop myself as a brother, and develop skills I could use in a job and in life, but I felt like learning more about different people throughout the district would be a fantastic way to spend my time.

The role of District President has been a unique challenge for me. Having to spearhead planning an entire convention has been an absolute pleasure, and has taught me so many lessons which I will remember for the rest of my life. On top of that, managing a team and figuring out what drives people to be the best they can be has been really fun to explore. Ultimately, the time has flown by this year not because I have been bored and not because I've been frustrated. Quite the opposite, actually. It's flown by because of the immense amount of fun I have had with these awe-inspiring individuals. Performing our tasks at a high level has made me so happy to invest my time in these people and these projects.

In my term, we have planned an incredible convention in one of the most central locations we could find in the entire district, we have held monthly council meetings to talk about the progress we have made over the past month, we have held intermittent events to spark interest in the SWD. This council has found great success in doing complex tasks at a very high level

However, from me, the real heart and soul of this office were the connections I made with brothers and sisters along the way

My charges from the 2022-2023 Southwest District President were thus:

- Plan ahead and plan early. District Convention may seem like forever from now, but those 12 months will fly by before you know it.
- Trust in your council and support their initiatives at every opportunity possible.
- Be honest and open with your council. It is okay to admit you need time to think or to take a step back for a bit.
- Take time for yourself and enjoy every moment, because it will fly by.
- Always be sure to ask questions, every question helps lead to success.

My charges to the 2024-2025 Southwest District President are:

- Be a kind, encouraging soul to your council and always ensure you have their best interests at heart.
- Document all of your work that you do in your office and reflect on different things you do, how they succeeded and how they can be improved.
- Hold your council members accountable and ask them what their goals are and when they want to accomplish them by, so you can assist them in sticking to their plan. When you or they inevitably falter, see it as an opportunity for growth.
- Try hard to pace yourself with your duties. The District President has a lot of long-term responsibilities, so ensure that you set deadlines for yourself and accomplish different tasks over a long period of time.
- Build trust with those you work with, whether it be council members, governors, or chapter members, so you can maintain open communication and build social capital.

Now, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize some of the amazing people who made my life fulfilling throughout this entire process. I am standing here today because of them.

*To the TBS Council and Governors:* Your ability to find success in all you do and keep a level head in times of uncertainty is admirable. You represent very well what it means to be a sister of Tau Beta Sigma. Johnn, you and I have consistently been on the same wavelength throughout this whole year, and it's been an absolute pleasure planning this convention with you.

*To the Lambda Chapter:* Thank you for being the people who I can always go to after a long, hard day, where I know that a simple board game night might make any day perfect, and who continue to support my crazy endeavors every day. Though I won't be with you much longer, I will cherish you all for the rest of my life.

*To Cyrus:* Your constant drive to want to do better, and to not strive for perfection but instead growth is admirable. Thank you for always being yourself in everything you do.

*To Andy:* Your endless wealth of knowledge and graceful way of conveying advice are an asset to this council. I know I said this in last year's report, but I always look forward to you telling us about all of the fun things you are eating at any point in time. Your matter-of-factness about all you do is hilarious, and the goodness in your heart is ever-present. Thank you for an unforgettable two years.

*To Kadeem:* Hey baby! You became a governor this year, and though you're still somewhat figuring things out, your drive for this position has been really fun to observe! Though the council has continuously labeled you as "The Vibes Guy", you are so much more than that. You are caring, affirming, and your love for others is evident in all you do (especially when it comes out in unsolicited fashion tips.) You're going to continue to inspire the Southwest District for years to come.

*To Lizzi:* Your commitment to helping me not only become a better district president, but also to remind me that these things we learn here will set us up for a successful and worthwhile future. You have also been an amazing person to share things about my Music Education life with, as you totally understand the whole process innately! I remember when I was first on council, I thought you were kind of a tough nut to crack, but now, I see you in a whole new light. Thank you for your hyperorganized documents and beautifully made spreadsheets, but thank you more for the person you are in the time in-between spreadsheet creation. Thank you for everything. (PS, I am sorry for my 70 Chrome tabs I keep open constantly)

*To Araci:* From the time I met you about one year ago over Zoom when we were both stuck in a waiting room while we waited anxiously to give our district officer schpeels, I've known your pure heart well. I know you'd never hurt a fly and you are always graceful in all that you do. I can't express my gratitude for you enough. Your work never goes unnoticed.

*To Gabe:* It seems like ages since you first came to me for membership advice over the phone when you were first running for your position at the local level. It has seemed kismet that even today, we are helping guide one another through our crazy lives we have both chosen. I have zero doubt in my mind that the world has beautiful things in store for you. I also have zero doubt in your ability to recognize the good in the world, and in those people around you. I hope you continue to keep in touch after I am gone.

*To Edgar:* Go hogs! *Pig emoji* Look out for the amazing final officer report of brotherly embuement *dolphin emoji* You'll find that *cake emoji* I have some cool things *devil face emoji* to say *two hearts emoji*. Love, ChatGPT. It's really the emojis that give away the chatgpt of it all isn't it? But being real, Edgar, you've been with me from the very beginning. You've seen my at my best, and you've definitely seen me at my worst. But all the while you've been a friend, a continuous facet of my life which I will forever be grateful for. I cannot thank you enough for inspiring me to join this phenomenal team, and I cannot thank you enough for being a caring and considerate friend through all of it. I love you, man. I hope you go to sleep early tonight (2AM) in celebration of all you've done in your tenure.

*To the Southwest District:* Thank you so much for the unbelievable year we've had. Thank you for coming along on this wild ride we call Kappa Kappa Psi, and thank you for your consistent and unwavering support. It isn't always easy to make new friends and learn about their stories, but I think we've done it this weekend. The future is wide open for you, both *in* the fraternity and out of it. I hope each one of you spends your time doing things you love, and I am beyond thankful for getting to be here with you today, since your time is so precious. You have the capacity to do whatever you set your mind to. Try fiercely to accomplish your goals however you may elect to do them, and never back down from a challenge getting in your way. Again, to quote my final officer report from last year, thank you for being wonderfully, unabashedly you. The fraternity is better with you in it.

AEA and Go Hogs  
Fraternally Submitted,  
Davis Vaughn, President of the Southwest District  
Lambda Chapter  
Kappa Kappa Psi

## **Appendix E: Spirit and Recognition Committee Report**

Brothers of the Southwest District

The 2023-2024 Spirit and Recognition Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the Report of the 2023 Committee
- Evaluate and recommend any changes to the Spirit & Recognition Committee duties to the Jurisdiction Committee
- Review individual award applications, discuss, and select recipients
- Discuss the recipient of our Southwest District traditional awards: Andy the Armadillo and the Spirit Drum
- Calculate the recipients of the Chapter Distance Award (number of attendees times the distance), Delegate Distance Award (furthest distance of a chapter delegate), Chapter Percentage Award (largest percentage of active members attending convention), and Chapter Participation Award (largest number of attendees).

The Spirit and Recognitions Committee met 3 times virtually prior to convention. The meetings of the Spirit and Recognitions Committee commenced with a warm introduction of its members, setting the tone for collaborative engagement and camaraderie. Following this, the committee delved into a thorough consideration of the past year's report, meticulously examining achievements, challenges, and areas for improvement. This reflective process served as a foundation for shaping the committee's goals and strategies moving forward. Additionally, the members carefully reviewed the charter for the 2023 committee, outlining its scope, responsibilities, and objectives. This comprehensive discussion ensured alignment with the overarching mission of the committee while fostering a sense of purpose and unity among its members.

Following our review of the past year's report and charter, the Spirit and Recognitions Committee shifted its focus to examining the awards themselves, including iconic honors such as Andy the Armadillo and the Spirit Drum as well as reviewing applications for our Kappa Kappa Psi Cornerstone Award and Joint Relation award. During the meeting, attendees discussed the significance of Andy the Armadillo and the Spirit Drum, aiming to refine their roles within our fraternity. Specific instructions were outlined for chapters regarding both icons, including providing new clothing for Andy, discussing social media strategies (to be further deliberated by governors), and ensuring their presence at the next District Convention. Criteria were established for selecting recipients of these honors, with the committee deciding criteria for Andy the Armadillo based on chapter participation and social media presence, while chapters would decide Spirit Drum criteria, emphasizing socialization and energy at events. Additionally, attendees engaged in discussions about the Cornerstone and Outstanding Joint Relations Awards, although no submissions were made at this time. The Cornerstone Award recognizes exceptional

service to band programs and communities by brothers, while the Outstanding Joint Relations Award acknowledges sisters dedicated to fostering strong relations between Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. These discussions were aimed at fostering a heightened spirit at the Southwest Convention and ensuring greater participation and recognition within our fraternity.

In addition to refining guidelines for awards such as Andy the Armadillo and the Spirit Drum, the Spirit and Recognitions Committee recognized the importance of boosting visibility and engagement through enhanced marketing efforts. Understanding that effective promotion is key to encouraging participation and recognition, the committee brainstormed innovative marketing strategies to elevate awareness of these prestigious awards. By leveraging various platforms and channels, including social media, newsletters, and targeted outreach campaigns, the committee aimed to amplify the reach of these awards and inspire greater involvement from chapters and individuals alike. Through strategic marketing initiatives, the committee sought to spotlight the significance of these honors and cultivate a culture of appreciation and recognition within the fraternity.

**Our Charges to the 2024-2025 Spirit and Recognition Committee are as follows:**

- Review the Report of the 2023-2024 Committee
- Evaluate and recommend any changes to the Spirit & Recognition Committee duties to the Jurisdiction Committee
- Review individual award applications, discuss, and select recipients
- Discuss the recipient of our Southwest District traditional awards: Andy the Armadillo and the Spirit Drum
- Calculate the recipients of the Chapter Distance Award (number of attendees times the distance), Delegate Distance Award (furthest distance of a chapter delegate), Chapter Percentage Award (largest percentage of active members attending convention), and Chapter Participation Award (largest number of attendees).
- Promote awards applications sooner and more often

**Charges to the Southwest District President:**

- Encourage better attendance and participation in committee work in advance of the 2025 District Convention

**Charges to the Southwest District:**

- a. Apply for awards! If you need assistance don't be scared to reach out to other brothers! We would be more than glad to showcase your chapter's work!

Thank you to our committee members:

Bryan Young - Delta

Alivia Holman - Lambda

Hope Pearson - Epsilon Chi

Helah Rivera - Zeta Gamma

Noah McClay - Zeta Zeta



Poetry Davis - Eta Nu  
Brandin Castillo - Mu Tau  
Andy Melvin - Governor (Advisor)

Your diligence and adaptability doesn't go unnoticed (lol finding a good time to meet with you guys was HARD) but we done gone and got it done. A special thank you to Andy for providing more insight as to what we can do to go ahead and focus more on what we can do to enhance this committee in the future.

Fraternally Submitted,

Gabe Sanders SWD VPLD & Araci Garcia SWD Sec-Treas  
2023-2024 Spirit and Recognition Committee Chairs

**Appendix F: Ways and Means Committee Report**  
Committee Chair:

Araci Garcia - SWD Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Advisors:

Kadeem Sabari - SWD Governor

Andy Melvin - SWD Governor

Lizzi Pineiro - SWD Governor

Committee Members:

Davis Vaughn - SWD President

Gabe Sanders - SWD Vice President for Leadership Development

Edgar Canales - SWD Member-at-Large

The 2024 Ways and Means Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2023 Ways and Means Committee Report.
- Present an overview of the 2023-2024 District Account.
- Determine if any line item in the budget needs to be adjusted.
- Create and present a budget of the 2024-2025 District Account.

The District Council and I reviewed the 2023 Committee Report and then discussed the proposed budget from the year.

2024-2025 Proposed Budget

Spring Allotment 2023	\$791.00
Fall Allotment 2023	\$2,353.00
Carry-Over Balance from 2022-2023	\$23,062.13

Estimated Total Revenues	\$3,144.00
District Officer Budgets	
President	\$500
VPLD	\$500
VPP	\$500
Secretary/Treasurer	\$500
M-A-L	\$500
Office Expenses	
Office and mail (supplies for area workshop, winter council, and convention)	\$200
District Awards and Honorary Fees	\$500
Other	
Unassigned Funds	\$300
Grants	
Chapter Assistance Grant for National Convention Travel	\$3,000
Estimated Total Expenses	\$6,500

Charges to the 2024-2025 Ways and Means Committee are as follows:

- Review the 2024 Ways and Means Committee Report.
- Present an overview of the 2024-2025 District Account.
- Determine if any line item in the budget needs to be adjusted.
- Create and present a budget of the 2025-2026 District Account.

Charges to 2024-2025 Secretary/Treasurer:

- Update the allotments when they are made available for the 2024-2025 Year.

Charge to 2024-2025 District Council:

- Continue to use the Shared Drive for all financial and general documentation to allow the committee access to information pertaining to the budget.

Thank you so much to the District Council, for helping me with all the questions and assisting in filling out/preparing the Budget. It has been a pleasure working with you all.

Fraternally Submitted,

Araci Garcia

2023-2024 Ways and Means Committee Chair

## **Appendix G: Chapter Leadership Committee Report**

Brothers of the Southwest District:

The 2024 Chapter Leadership Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the Report of the 2023 Chapter Leadership Committee
- Review the list of questions linked in the report
- Review all Applications for the D.O Wiley Award to ensure all applicants are eligible for consideration
- Organize a schedule for Applicant Chapter Presentations
- Review the Applying Chapters and their Presentations to deliberate on the 2024 D.O. Wiley Recipient
- Have the Chapters only turn in one Electronic Copy of the Application instead of paper copies at the time of Convention
- Ensure there is a working document for chapters to use vs a lengthy Google Form Application; that way their work can be done over time instead of one sitting
- Recommend any changes to the D. O. Wiley Selection Process to the Jurisdiction Committee

The Chapter Leadership Committee met virtually five times prior to convention. In these meetings, we reviewed the list of potential questions provided by the 2023 Chapter Leadership Committee. After deliberation, it was decided that each applying chapter would be asked the following questions after their virtual presentation:

1. Why do you deserve the D.O. Wiley?
2. What pillar do you believe your chapter struggles with and what are you doing to strengthen it?
3. Where has your chapter experienced the most growth and how does that impact the future?
4. What is a characteristic that makes your chapter unique?

As a committee, we then thoroughly reviewed the chapter applications and discussed our feelings of each prior to their presentations. After a weeks times, the applying chapters gave a virtual presentation to our committee. Each chapter held themselves very nicely in these presentations and showed us the best they had to offer. It was extremely evident how proud each chapter was of their accomplishments and the wonderful ways in which our chapters of the Southwest District strive to uphold each of our pillars. Following more review and discussion, we decided winners of each of the awards: The D.O. Wiley Award, The Service Pillar Award, The Brotherhood Pillar Award, The Musicianship Pillar Award, and the Leadership Pillar Award.

The Award Winners were as follows:

D.O. Wiley - Delta Chapter  
Service - Theta Phi  
Brotherhood - Iota Upsilon

Musicianship - Zeta Kappa  
Leadership - Lambda

I would like to personally thank the members of this year's Chapter Leadership Committee. Your commitment to this committee and willingness to take time out of your busy schedule to meet weekly was not overlooked. I would not have been able to do the applying chapters justice without all of your hard work.

- Alex Ginter- Delta Sigma
- Jared Melseth- Eta Xi
- JaRon Cook- Delta Alpha

Charges to the 2024-2025 Southwest District Chapter Leadership Committee:

- Review the Report of the 2024 Chapter Leadership Committee
- Review all Applications for the D.O Wiley Award and Pillar Awards to ensure all applicants are eligible for consideration
- Organize a schedule for Applicant Chapter Presentations
- Review the Applying Chapters and their Presentations to deliberate on the 2025 D.O. Wiley Recipient and Pillar Award Recipients
- Ensure the addition of a data question in the application that requires chapters to state the amount of current active members in order for the committee to more easily compare the applicants
- Work with the Southwest District Governor team to implement either an overall page limit or word count per question to ensure ease of application review
- Include the specific wording of 'formal presentation' in the initial email to applying chapters so that the expectations are clear
- Recommend any changes to the D. O. Wiley Selection Process to the Jurisdiction Committee

Lastly, I would like to thank the advisor of this committee, Brother Kadeem Sabari, Southwest District Governor. Your constant help and guidance was much appreciated by myself and this year's Chapter Leadership Committee. We truly could not have run as smoothly without you!

Fraternally Submitted,  
Michaela Kleyle  
2024 Chapter Leadership Committee Chair  
Theta Nu Chapter, Northwestern State University

## **Appendix H: Nominations Committee Report**

The 2023-2024 Nominations Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2022-2023 Nominations Committee Report.
- Review candidate packets and videos prior to first committee meeting.
- Come up with a list of general questions in the first meeting as well as think of specific questions for candidates and/or the officer position, and as a group come up with criteria of what would be a positive recommendation for the district.

- Prepare a slate of one candidate for each for each position that the committee feels would benefit the district most. If the committee feels that no one candidate is most qualified, then the committee can announce “no slate” for any or all offices.
- Recommend any changes to the nominations/election process to the jurisdiction committee as needed

We began by reviewing the 2022-2023 Nominations Committee Report and Charges. We continued our business by reviewing the candidates who submitted applications and determining if they were eligible as per the requirements laid out in the constitution. The committee determined that the following candidates were eligible to run for district office:

Bella Eneff of the Alpha Chapter  
 Hunter Olden of the Delta Chapter  
 Alivia Holiman of the Lambda Chapter  
 Brett Ramirez of the Alpha Omicron Chapter  
 Gabe Sanders of the Alpha Omicron Chapter  
 Robert Lujan of the Gamma Iota Chapter  
 Chance Harmon of the Zeta Beta Chapter

Once all candidates were deemed eligible to run for office, the committee set up an interview schedule for the candidates. During these interviews, each candidate was asked questions from a list of questions specific to office and non-specific to the offices predetermined by the committee.

#### Non-Specific Office Questions

1. Are you interested in serving in another office if slated? If so, which ones?
2. If elected, how would you ideally collaborate with other members of the district council?
3. Individual accountability is an important aspect of being a district officer and fulfilling your responsibilities. Can you describe a scenario where you struggled to hold yourself accountable? How did your practices change in response to that?

#### President

1. What are some qualities from past presidents that you would like to uphold/change?
2. What is the greatest challenge you foresee as the District President? How do you plan to overcome that?
3. How will you coordinate with the TBS President to plan the 2025 District Convention?
4. What are some improvements and/or ideas you would like to implement at the 2025 District Convention?

#### Vice President of Leadership Development

1. What logistical factors should be considered when planning the District Leadership Conference and Spring District Workshops? Can you describe a rough timeline?

2. Have you been to an in-person event? If so, what did you like/what would you improve?
3. How would you make in-person events more accessible for people to attend?

#### Vice President of Programs

1. How would you expand the scope of the District Service Project beyond its current state?
2. How would you gather more content for the New ALTO through chapter submissions?
3. How can you streamline the award application process to make it easier for chapters/individuals to apply?

#### Secretary/Treasurer

1. Could you explain how to access the District Council meeting minutes?
2. How will you maintain records of district finances?
3. How do you intend to send written correspondence to the chapters of the SWD? What will they entail?

#### Member-At-Large

1. How would you bridge the gap between chapters and the district council?
2. How could you promote chapters to connect with each other?
3. What ideas do you have for creating engaging content for chapters and individuals on our social media pages?
4. What have you seen from other district or national social media pages that you like or would want to improve upon?

Each candidate received 30 minutes of time to introduce themselves and answer all questions given.

Following the conclusion of the final interview the committee then discussed each candidate in depth. After much deliberation, the nominations committee was able to come to a final decision on our official recommendation for the district. The option to slate an office as “no slate” is available if the committee feels that no one candidate is most qualified.

The 2023-2024 Nominations Committee is pleased to present our Final Recommendations for the 2024-2025 District Council:

- President: Chance Harmon
- Vice President of Leadership Development: Alivia Holiman
- Vice President of Programs: Bella Eneff
- Secretary-Treasurer: No Slate
- Member at Large: Hunter Olden

The Nominations Committee would like to thank all the candidates for their interest in running for the district office and all their hard work. We would like to charge the 2024-2025 Nominations Committee with the following:

- Review the 2023-2024 Nominations Committee Report.
- Review candidate packets and interview recordings.
- Come up with a list of general questions, as well as specific questions for the candidates and/or the officer positions and come up with criteria of what would be a positive recommendation for the district.
- Prepare a slate of one candidate for each position that the committee feels would benefit the district most. If the committee feels that no one candidate is most qualified, then the committee can announce “no slate” for any or all offices.
- Recommend any changes to the nominations/election process to the jurisdiction committee as needed

The 2023-2024 Nominations Committee was filled by the following:

Endurance Badejo, chair – Beta Sigma  
 Lizzi Pineiro, advisor – Gamma Phi, SWD Governor  
 Aleksandr Johnson – Theta Pi  
 Khloe Jowers - Beta Alpha  
 Ashley Ligon – Epsilon Beta  
 Elise Poche – Rho

## **Appendix I: Jurisdiction Committee Report**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

This year, the 2024 Southwest District Jurisdiction Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the Report of the 2023 Jurisdiction Committee.
- Continue to review the effectiveness of the implementation of the two different documents.
- Continue to monitor the Policy Guide to ensure the policies align with the current National guidelines and District operations

Leading up to this year’s convention, the following occurred

- The committee reviewed the report of the 2023 Jurisdiction Committee.
- Committee members were assigned areas of the Constitution and Policy Guide.
- Committee members reviewed their assigned sections and suggested changes to be reviewed at our meeting.
- The committee met online and discussed the need to update language in our Constitution and Policy Guide to better reflect current procedures.

During the committee meeting time, we discussed updating our Preamble to better fall in line with the National Constitution as well as other district constitutions. Additionally, we discussed updating the list of standing committees and updating the requirements for the New ALTO to better reflect the vision of the Southwest District moving forward. For the Policy Guide, we agreed to recommend changes to the New ALTO, the listed awards, and the standing committees.

I would now like to take a moment to thank the members of the committee for their work on these recommendations for the Southwest District:

- Connor Benoist (Zeta Beta)
- Keommi Bond (Nu Delta)
- Logan Boyd (Gamma Sigma)
- Fella Carrillo (Zeta Kappa)
- Mauricio Pena (Alpha Omicron)
- Carson Reedy (Alpha)
- Emmanuel Rodriguez (Gamma Zeta)
- Liz Wilson (Delta Chi)
- Jake January (Advisor)

Throughout our deliberations aimed at refining our District's governance and operational efficiency, we aimed for our objective to be the upholding of the constitution's integrity while introducing essential editorial and clarity enhancements. It's important for all of us to understand that although we possess the authority to propose great changes, our primary concern is preserving the Constitution's relevance and functionality without fundamentally altering its core principle. While successfully achieving this objective, we also recognized the importance of recommending procedural amendments to the Southwest District, ensuring that the constitution aligns with our current practices. Many of these changes in practice transpired gradually over the years or arose from a lack of interest and engagement, creating the need for amendments to better reflect current practices.

Our charges to the 2025 Jurisdiction Committee are the following

- Review the report of the 2024 Jurisdiction Committee.
- Review the Constitution and Policy Guide for inconsistent language use or unnecessarily lengthy descriptions.
- Review the Constitution and Policy Guide to ensure terms are clearly defined.
- Continue to foster open lines of communication with the Southwest District Governors to ensure that the amendments implemented to the District Publication and Award processes are effective.

Fraternally Submitted,

Edgar Canales  
2024 Jurisdiction Committee Chair  
Lambda Chapter, University of Arkansas

**Given these discussions, here are our proposed changes to better align with current National and Southwest District operations:**

### **Southwest District Constitution, Preamble**

Old Content

- Be it known: that to fulfill the Purposes of Kappa Kappa Psi, to promote the ideals of the Fraternity, and to help our fellows to do the same, the Brothers of the Southwest District, in accordance with the Kappa Kappa Psi National Constitution, do hereby establish this Southwest District Constitution.



#### New Content

- Be it known that Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Fraternity for College Bandmembers, is an organization operating exclusively in the field of the college and university bands, and for the following several purposes:
  - 1. To promote the existence and welfare of the college and university bands and to cultivate at large a wholesome respect for their activities and achievements.
  - 2. To honor outstanding bandmembers through privilege of membership extended as a reward for technical achievement and appreciation for the best in music.
  - 3. To stimulate campus leadership and promulgate an uncompromising respect through the medium of the college band for gracious conduct, good taste and unswerving loyalty.
  - 4. To foster a close relationship between college bands and promote a high average of attainment by the performance of good music and selection of worthwhile projects.
  - 5. To provide a pleasant and helpful social experience for all engaged in college band work and to cooperate with other musical organizations in any manner consistent with the purposes of the institution at which chapters are located.

#### Rationale

- Alignment with the National Constitution & reflects the structure of other district constitutions

### **Southwest District Constitution, Article VII**

#### Old Content

- 7.03 “Standing Committees”
  - The standing committees of the District shall be Chapter Leadership, History and Traditions, Joint Action, Jurisdiction, Membership, Nominations, Spirit and Recognition, and Ways and Means.

#### New Content

- 7.03 “Standing Committees”
  - The standing committees of the District shall be Chapter Leadership, Jurisdiction, Nominations, Spirit and Recognition, and Ways and Means.

#### Rationale

- Reflects updated practice
  - No recent need for History & Traditions, Joint Action
  - Road to Wisdom implementation took away responsibilities from the District Membership Committee

### **Southwest District Constitution, Article VIII**

#### Old Content

- 8.01 District Publication

- The Southwest District shall publish a newsletter, which shall be called The New ALTO. The New ALTO shall be published in an electronic format by a staff appointed by the Southwest District Councils of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. Policies regarding The New ALTO shall be made by the joint District Officers with the advice of the District and the approval of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and the Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s).

New Content

- 8.01 District Publication
  - The Southwest District shall publish a newsletter, which shall be called The New ALTO. The New ALTO shall be published in an electronic format. Policies regarding The New ALTO shall be made by the joint District Officers with the advice of the District and the approval of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and the Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s).

Rationale

- Reflects updated practice

**Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 3**

Old Content

- 3.5 The District Member-at-Large shall be an able representative of the active and associate student members at all times. The Member-at-Large shall serve as the District Historian and shall represent the District to the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association, Southwest District Alumni Association, and any local alumni associations within the District. The Member-at-Large shall oversee District traditions, create the District scrapbook, and promote the District through approved social media channels.

New Content

- 3.5 The District Member-at-Large shall be an able representative of the active and associate student members at all times. The Member-at-Large shall serve as the District Historian and shall represent the District to the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association, Southwest District Alumni Association, and any local alumni associations within the District. The Member-at-Large shall oversee District traditions, and promote the District through approved social media channels.

Rationale

- The Practice is outdated, and maintaining a physical scrapbook is no longer a practical or effective means of documenting District activities. Obtaining submissions from chapters for the scrapbook has proven to be challenging in previous years, indicating a lack of engagement or interest in this tradition.
- By eliminating this responsibility, the Member-at-Large can focus their efforts on more relevant and impactful tasks, such as overseeing District traditions and promoting engagement through modern platforms like social media. This adjustment ensures that the role remains relevant and aligned with the evolving needs and practices of the District.

### **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 3**

#### Old Content

- 3.6 Each District Officer shall be required to submit an article or letter for publication in each issue of the New ALTO related to their activities in the performance of their respective duties.

#### New Content

- 3.6 Each District Officer shall be required to submit an article or letter for publication in the New ALTO once per term, related to their activities in the performance of their respective duties.

#### Rationale

- Updated New ALTO structure, shift to the monthly updated newsletter rather than a semester-long project

### **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 8**

#### Recommendation

- Remove the sections on History & Traditions, Joint Action, and Membership

#### Rationale

- Reflects recommended changes to Article VIII as suggested above

## **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 9**

### Recommendation

- Remove 9.2
  - The Kappa Kappa Psi Vice President for Programs and the Tau Beta Sigma Vice President of Special Projects, with the approval of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s), shall select qualified members to serve in the following positions: formatting and design editor, Kappa Kappa Psi copy editor, Tau Beta Sigma copy editor, and a public relations officer. These members shall be active or associate members in good standing. The joint District Councils shall create any application processes and may require application materials that they deem necessary, such as cover letters, portfolios, letters of recommendation, or any other materials.
  
- Remove 9.3
  - The copy editors shall consist of one individual from Kappa Kappa Psi and one individual from Tau Beta Sigma. They will be responsible for receiving and editing article submissions, as well as other miscellaneous items pertinent to the content of The New ALTO.
  
- Remove 9.4
  - The formatting and design editor shall be responsible for the overall design and format of the New ALTO publications.
  
- Remove 9.5
  - The public relations officer shall be responsible for the following:
    - Advertising of The New ALTO on social media platforms and ensuring that knowledge and details about The New ALTO are well-known and readily available to all members of each chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma across the Southwest District.
    - Working with the Southwest District Councils to ensure maintenance and timely publication of The New ALTO on the Southwest District website.
  
- Remove 9.7
  - Each New ALTO should consist of at least ten (10) pages of written submissions and five (5) pages of miscellaneous submissions. Should the total number of pages not reach these totals, publication of a New ALTO may be deferred to be combined with the next scheduled issue with the approval of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s).

### Rationale

- The updated format to the New ALTO makes these positions irrelevant

## **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 9**

### Old Content

- 9.6 The New ALTO shall be published twice per academic year. Publication dates shall be November 15 and April 1. Extensions of up to two (2) weeks to allow for a later publication date may be granted by the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s). The Vice President for Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi and the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma shall set deadline dates for submission of articles, and shall also, with the assistance from the public relations officer, inform all chapters of the district at least six weeks in advance of the submission deadlines

### New Content

- 9.6 The New ALTO shall be published monthly during the academic year. Extensions of up to one week for later publication dates may be granted by the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s). The Vice President for Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi and the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma shall set deadline dates for submission of articles.

## **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 10**

### Add to 10.4

- The Delegate Distance Award shall be given to the delegate representing the chapter that has traveled the furthest distance to attend District Convention. The recipient of this award shall be determined following the most direct route from the location of their respective chapter to the convention venue.

### Rationale

- To recognize chapters that sent a member to represent them at a district event and its done at NatCon! (we just want to have more opportunities to recognize our chapters and their efforts)

## **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 10**

### Remove 10.6

- Each Southwest District Chapter is eligible to apply for the Steven C. Nelson History Award by fulfilling the following three (3) criteria. A list of all chapters that meet these criteria will be determined by the District Council, who will in turn notify the district of chapters that meet these requirements. Chapters need not be present at convention to receive this award.
  - Submit an article to either the fall or spring edition of The New ALTO
  - Submit a standardized and updated Chapter History Form
  - Submit materials to the Southwest District Scrapbook

### Remove 10.7

- Each Southwest District Chapter fulfilling the following criteria will receive a Superior Achievement Award at the regular District Convention. These criteria will be reviewed by the District Council who will then notify the district of the chapters that meet these criteria. A chapter need not be present at District Convention to receive this award.
  - 1. Complete on-time transaction of the Chapter Summary Report for the previous year
  - 2. Complete on-time transaction of the Chapter Personnel Report for the current year
  - 3. Complete on-time transaction of the Fall Activity Report for the current year
  - 4. Complete on-time transaction of any Membership Candidate Registration forms submitted between District Conventions
  - 5. Complete on-time transaction of any Initiate Registration forms submitted between District Conventions
  - 6. Clear all financial obligations to National Headquarters by January 1
  - 7. Be in good standing with the Fraternity for the entirety of the time period between the close of the previous year's District Convention and the close of the current year's District Convention
  - 8. Submit a Southwest District Chapter Delegate/Proxy Form no later than two (2) weeks prior to a regularly-scheduled District Convention
  - Criteria 1 through 5 shall be determined by the status listed in the Online Membership Reporting System.

## **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 10**

### Old Content

- Each Southwest District Chapter fulfilling the following criteria shall be eligible to apply for any of the Four Pillars Awards at District Convention.
  - 1. Complete on-time transaction of the Chapter Summary Report for the previous year
  - 2. Complete on-time transaction of the Chapter Personnel Report for the current year
  - 3. Complete on-time transaction of the Fall Activity Report for the current year
  - 4. Complete on-time transaction of any Membership Candidate Registration forms submitted between District Conventions
  - 5. Complete on-time transaction of any Initiate Registration forms submitted between District Conventions
  - 6. Clear all financial obligations to National Headquarters by January 1
  - 7. Be in good standing with the Fraternity for the entirety of the time period between the close of the previous year's District Convention and the close of the current year's District Convention

- 8. Submit a Southwest District Chapter Delegate/Proxy Form no later than two (2) weeks prior to a regularly-scheduled District Convention

Criteria 1 through 5 shall be determined by the status listed in the Online Membership Reporting System.

- Each chapter wishing to apply must electronically submit its Southwest District Awards Application to the District President and Governors no later than two (2) weeks prior to convention. The District President and Governors shall be responsible for distributing applications to the appropriate committee members.

Completed applications shall include the following materials:

- Cover sheet
- Table of contents
- Completed Fact Sheet/Questionnaire
- Completed application sections for all awards for which the chapter is applying
- Recommendation letters from the Chapter Sponsor and the Director of Bands (if Sponsor and DOB are the same person, one letter will suffice)
- Other pertinent information such as pictures, projects, summaries, articles, completed applications for other awards and honors, additional recommendation letters, etc.

Failure to abide by these rules and criteria will render the chapter ineligible for consideration for any of the Four Pillars Awards.

- The Four Pillars Awards are described as follows:
  - 1. Leadership
    - This award shall recognize a chapter that takes initiative in developing future leaders, current leadership in its band program and the campus at large, and involvement in district and national programs. Only one chapter may be chosen to receive this award.
  - 2. Musicianship
    - This award shall recognize a chapter that has the greatest impact on their community or college/university band program through music throughout the year. Only one chapter may be chosen to receive this award.
  - 3. Brotherhood
    - This award shall recognize a chapter that best exemplifies a spirit of unity through a positive atmosphere and fostering fellowship and quality of active members. Only one chapter may be chosen to receive this award.
  - 4. Service
    - This award shall recognize a chapter that best exemplifies the Fraternity's purposes by selection of worthwhile service projects and the level of impact on the chapter's college or university band program. Only one chapter may be chosen to receive this award.

A chapter may only receive one of the Four Pillars Awards at any District Convention. The Spirit and Recognition Committee is not obligated to select a winner for each award if the Committee finds there is not a deserving chapter.

New Content

- “...” Criteria 1 through 5 shall be determined by the status listed in OPUS. “...”

#### Old Content

- Each Southwest District Chapter fulfilling the following criteria shall be eligible to apply for the D.O. Wiley Award at District Convention.
  - 1. Complete on-time transaction of the Chapter Summary Report for the previous year
  - 2. Complete on-time transaction of the Chapter Personnel Report for the current year
  - 3. Complete on-time transaction of the Fall Activity Report for the current year
  - 4. Complete on-time transaction of any Membership Candidate Registration forms submitted between District Conventions
  - 5. Complete on-time transaction of any Initiate Registration forms submitted between District Conventions
  - 6. Clear all financial obligations to National Headquarters by January 1
  - 7. Be in good standing with the Fraternity for the entirety of the time period between the close of the previous year’s District Convention and the close of the current year’s District Convention
  - 8. Submit a Southwest District Chapter Delegate/Proxy Form no later than two (2) weeks prior to a regularly-scheduled District Convention

Criteria 1 through 5 shall be determined by the status listed in the Online Membership Reporting System.

Each chapter wishing to apply must electronically submit its Southwest District Awards Application to the District President and Governors no later than two (2) weeks prior to convention. The District President and Governors shall be responsible for distributing applications to the appropriate committee members.

- Completed applications shall include the following materials:
  - Cover sheet
  - Table of contents
  - Completed Fact Sheet/Questionnaire
  - Completed application sections for all awards for which the chapter is applying
  - Recommendation letters from the Chapter Sponsor and the Director of Bands (if Sponsor and DOB are the same person, one letter will suffice)
  - Other pertinent information such as pictures, projects, summaries, articles, completed applications for other awards and honors, additional recommendation letters, etc.

Each chapter seeking the award shall give a presentation of no more than five (5) minutes and will entertain questions from the Chapter Leadership Committee for an additional five (5) minutes. Each Chapter will be allowed a total of three Brothers to present for the Committee. No PowerPoint presentations will be allowed.

Failure to abide by these rules and criteria will render the chapter ineligible for consideration for the D.O. Wiley Award.

#### New Content

- “...” Criteria 1 through 5 shall be determined by the status listed in OPUS. “...”



- Each chapter seeking the award shall give a presentation of no more than five (5) minutes and will entertain questions from the Chapter Leadership Committee for an additional five (5) minutes. Each Chapter will be allowed a total of three Brothers to present for the Committee.

Rationale

- Updated practices for the D.O. Wiley and Four Pillar Awards
- Allow for online presentations

**Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 11**

Remove 11.2

- The Joint Action Committee shall have a maximum of \$1200, to be split evenly between Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, to be used in any of the following manners:
  - A guest conductor, artist, or music education speaker for District Convention to be selected by the host chapters (which must be included in the bid with budgeted amount) or at the discretion of the District Councils.
  - A cash gift made to a middle school or high school music program local to the District Convention host chapter that is in need of monetary support.

Remove 11.3

- The General Service Grant shall be awarded to a select submitted proposal. All grant proposals will be due by the end of the Opening Joint Session and shall be reviewed by the Joint Action Committee. Grants must have final approval by Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Counselor(s). Additional requirements will include a follow-up article describing the use of the grant in any Southwest District and/or national publication. The submitted proposal must include:
  - Application form.
  - Current chapter budget and status of chapter account.
  - An essay detailing the proposed service project/use of the money requested and how it may affect the community.
  - A letter of recommendation from the Director of Bands and/or Sponsor.

The amount of the General Service Grant will not exceed the amount of available Joint Action Committee funds provided by the previous convention's JAC fees. If budgeted funds are not used, the Joint Action Committee may redistribute funds as they see fit. This redistribution will not affect the standing budget of  $\frac{1}{3}$  (one-third) to each JAC program for the following year. The Joint Action Committee General Service Grant can be used to cover service projects that could include, but could not be used for the sole purpose of, travel in direct relation to the completion of the project. The allocation of JAC grant funds is at the discretion of the of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s). Applications made for the General Service Grant outside of District Convention shall be reviewed by the District Councils and any funds shall be allocated at the discretion of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s).

Rationale

- Reflects updated practice

**Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 11**

Remove 12.1

- The Southwest District Spirit Drum shall be passed from chapter to chapter within the District. The chapter currently in possession of the Drum shall determine its next host at the District Convention. A chapter in possession of the Drum shall submit an article regarding its whereabouts to The New ALTO

#### Rationale

- Retiring the Spirit Drum after years of service due to the inability to continue care and maintenance

### **Southwest District Policy Guide, Section 12**

#### Old Content

- The official mascot of the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi shall be Andy the Armadillo. He shall stand for service, duty, and loyalty, and as an example of our commitment to band programs and the Southwest District. He shall visit all the chapters throughout the District updating the District on each chapter's activities and progress.

Andy's length of stay with a chapter shall be from District Convention to District Convention. The chapter currently in possession of Andy will decide on the next chapter to receive him.

Andy must submit an article to each edition of The New ALTO published during his stay with a chapter telling everyone of his activities and whereabouts.

Andy must wear an "official" shirt or uniform of the school (or band) that previously hosted him. This shirt/uniform must be worn at all times until Andy moves on to another school. The old shirt/uniform will then be sent to the District Officers to be placed in the District Archives located at the National Headquarters.

#### New Content

- The official mascot of the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi shall be Andy the Armadillo. He shall stand for service, duty, and loyalty, and as an example of our commitment to band programs and the Southwest District. He shall visit all the chapters throughout the District updating the District on each chapter's activities and progress.

Andy's length of stay with a chapter shall be from District Convention to District Convention. The chapter currently in possession of Andy will decide on the next chapter to receive him.

Andy must submit one article each semester to The New ALTO published during his stay with a chapter telling everyone of his activities and whereabouts.

Andy must wear an "official" shirt or uniform of the program that is currently hosting him. This shirt/uniform must be worn at all times until Andy moves on to another school.

#### Rationale

- Updating New ALTO requirements
- Changing shirt to better fit transition into environment
- Updating practice on sending shirts to District Officers/NHQ

## **Appendix J: Final Governor Report - Kadeem Sabari**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

I had always dreamed of having the opportunity to serve the students of Kappa Kappa Psi, but I never imagined that it would not be within my home district of the Southeast. Life is never a straightforward path and sometimes the twists and turns can be scary as you may never know what lies ahead. I say all that to say “thank you”! Thank you for embracing a stranger from the Southeast District who just happened to find himself in Texas! The Brotherhood of this organization is truly unmatched and I cannot wait to see what the future holds for us!

As a Governor, I was fortunate enough to attend the District Leadership Conference and all of the Area Workshops. Thank you to the hosts of each of those events as you helped play a major role in getting the Southwest back on the road. Thank you to all of our presenters as well for volunteering your time to provide engaging workshops for the students of the district. We were able to set a great foundation for the future and I hope to see more of you next year!

Being able to serve alongside some phenomenal individuals has made this journey of mine even more special! We accomplished a lot, but made sure to have plenty of fun along the way. Even at the expense of our March Madness brackets.

Edgar - “If the Hogs have taught me anything, it’s not over til it’s over” and as the seasoned vet of our group, your time on the Southwest District Council has to an end. I’m so proud of you for getting into law school and taking the necessary steps in your life to ensure that your transition will be seamless. This next journey of yours will be one for the ages, but fear not as I will still be around every March to offer some bracket competition. As promised, you win this round, but the war is just beginning.

Araci - Your passion for this organization is so refreshing! Thank you for being an inspiration to your chapter and those around you because it serves as a reminder that there are great leaders in every corner of the District. Keep being that example because you never know who may be looking up to you!

Cyrus - Thank you for providing a vision to bring the Brothers of the Southwest District together! Fellowship is an integral part of the organization and your love for your fellow comrades is so genuine. Keep up the great work as you move forward in school and in life! I’m sure our paths will cross again in the future!

Gabe - Remember that a win is still a win and to keep your head up! You had one of the toughest tasks this year in working to bring back in-person programming for the Southwest District and were successful in doing so. Be proud of yourself and the work that you were able to accomplish because you have set a great example for the future! Through laughs and tough conversations, I’m excited to see what your future holds for you!

Davis - Such a gentle soul. You’re always looking for the positive in each person and situation. Thank you for leading the District with heart and being such an encouraging leader to all. Your future students are going to be so lucky to have you as their teacher. Never lose that side of you as the students need that more than anything!

This council will always hold a special place in my heart as my first! Please know that I will always be in your corner and my phone almost never leaves my side! I'm always a quick call or text away if you ever need anything or just want to chat about life!

To Andy and Lizzi, a huge "thank you" to helping me navigate this transition, especially since I was still in grad school when I started. Nobody can truly be prepared for the amount of emails that we receive on a daily basis, but you were always ready to provide a helping hand when life got overwhelming. You also gave me a chance to stand on my own as a leader in my own right. We had a year of frustration and trials, but also a year of success, laughter, and many long zoom nights! Here's to another year!

There were a lot of firsts for me this year, but I truly would not change anything about it. There's a lesson in everything and sometimes they come in unconventional ways. Onward and upward, Southwest District!

AEA!

Fraternally Submitted,

Kadeem Sabari  
Southwest District Governor  
Life Member - Zeta Chi Chapter

## **Appendix K: Final Governor Report - Lizzi Pineiro**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

I hope you enjoyed this wonderful weekend in Wichita Falls! This would not have been possible without the host chapters, Alpha Omicron, so big thank you to them.

From this year, there were a lot of successes we achieved together! We were able to award nearly \$3000 in Chapter Assistance Grants to 5 chapters to attend national convention, bring back in-person events such as DLC and Area Workshops, revamp the awards application and The New ALTO, and complete the most on-time paperwork SWD has seen since the pandemic! Your district officers are definitely ones who took the lead on most of these, so we couldn't have done it without them!

For officers thank you's:

Davis, I told you last year "Keep that spark! We need your light!" and you haven't failed us. Like we've joked about, I am glad you are seeing the cynicism of adulthood, but I know you'll be better off than me because you have an energy that is infectious! I am excited to see where this crazy world takes you!

Gabe, thank you for bringing in-person Area Workshops back! Because of you, the district is on its way to connecting again. You have a big future ahead so keep working hard towards your goals!

Araci, thank you for always being willing to learn something new! Thank you for staying organized and keeping our documents in order! I look forward to see what you accomplish in your future!

Edgar, I am so glad we got three full years of hassling you to sleep! I have loved getting to know you these last three years and seeing your work come to life. I am excited that you get to continue your journey at University of Arkansas - take advantage of every opportunity you can get! Best of luck!

Andy and Kadeem, I've really loved getting to know our new team functions! I don't think I've ever been on a team that can uplift each other, advise each other, check the sass of each other, and *still* have fun and genuinely like each other. I'm glad we are on a great path together to success.

Let's keep the momentum we've built this year and flourish the next year ahead!

Forever Striving,  
Lizzi Pineiro  
SWD Governor  
Life Member of the Gamma Phi Chapter

## **Appendix L: Final Governor Report - Andy Melvin**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

At the end of the 2022-2023 SWD year, I charged myself with the following:

- Reprioritize my fraternal commitments following the 2023 National Convention and step down as Chair of the Chapter Operations Committee
- Aid the District Council in planning a return to in-person programming
- Respond to communication in a timely manner
- Serve as a positive mentor and role model for the 2023 - 2024 SWD Council

Over the course of the 2023-2024 year, our Council held monthly ZOOM meetings on the second Sunday evening of each Month. As we moved closer to the District Convention, this increased to bi-weekly, and then weekly, in March leading up to the big event in 2024. As this term included the summer of an odd numbered year, we were fortunate to attend both the National Leadership Conference and the National Convention in Orlando, FL, in July. We also held our annual Winter Council Meeting in Wichita Falls, Texas, which included a convention site visit and tour, over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend in January.

One of the highlights of this year was a return to in-person district programming. These events began with the District Leadership Conference, held at the University of North Texas, in August, with a focus on chapter officer-specific resources. Thank you to the Xi Beta chapter for hosting this event on your campus. This Spring, we hosted three District Workshops: the Oklahoma Area workshop at the University of Oklahoma; the West Texas / New Mexico Area workshop at Texas Tech University; and the Arkansas Area workshop at the University of Southern Arkansas. I personally attended the workshops in Norman and in Lubbock, and would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the joint Delta chapters, as well as the Alpha Omicron chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Beta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma, for their hospitality and effort to provide a friendly atmosphere, the required space, and recommendations for places to eat while we were in town.

.Over the course of the 2021-2023 biennium, I determined that I needed to scale back my involvement in many things, as my work/life balance, and other commitments, were becoming overwhelming to manage.

I felt that I wasn't giving the proper attention to the roles in which I was participating. After careful reflection, I determined that I needed to step down from the Chapter Operations Committee. I am proud of the work that our team accomplished, and that our hard work is reflected in officer training resources the fraternity will be able to use and build upon for years to come. However, my real passion and interest lies in student-facing roles, and I wanted my remaining time and involvement on the leadership team to be spent in the governor role.

Serving the college band community alongside 7 special individuals has truly been a privilege. We have accomplished a lot, shared many experiences, and had plenty of laughs along the way.

Edgar, there's a quote attributed to you that you've probably heard before. In life, three things are certain: death, taxes, and Edgar Canales is going to be on the Southwest District Council. I've been in this role for six years now, and you've been a part of our team for half of that time during your three terms. It is going to be strange not having you around next year. Good luck as you graduate and begin your journey into law school. Please keep beating Texas.

Araci, it has been many moons since we have had a member of the council come from the Rio Grande Valley, and I was very excited to see your materials in my inbox last year. Even before you began your role with us, seeing your passion in recharging the Epsilon Delta chapter, albeit at a distance, was inspiring. Your chapter is fortunate to have someone set the example that you did for them, and we were fortunate at the district level that you shared this spirit with us.

Cyrus, it was great to get to know you over the summer and during the fall semester. You have grown so much since we first met you in 2022 and I am excited to see the things that you'll continue to do; your ceiling is high. The SWD Discord is a platform we'll be able to continue using and building on; thank you so much for providing the vision to create this. I hope we'll see you around again, soon.

Gabe, on the same note, it has also been many moons since we've had a district officer from AO. When I was active, two of my favorite brothers that I met from other places were Austin Kelso and Conner Davis, who were AO officers at the time. It's kind of cool to see that, even though ten years have passed since then, the brothers at Texas Tech are continuing to recruit brothers with a similar contagious energy. You had arguably the toughest task of all of the District Officers this year in generating a return to in-person programming with our workshops, and the fact that we had four on campus events was, in my opinion, our team's biggest win this year. You should be proud of your effort here, because we now have a foundation that future officer teams can build from again.

Davis, as we approached each of our council meetings this year, I looked forward to the positive attitude and outlook you were going to bring to our business. No matter how bad a day or week I'd had, or what was going on outside of the community, I knew that I could count on you to keep things light, upbeat, and feeling good. Having a front row seat to see you grow through your term this year has been such a great experience. Your future students, no matter where you settle or what you're teaching, are going to be lucky to take heart in those feelings, too.

Lizzi and Kadeem, I couldn't think of two better people to rant, rave, make messes, or clean up messes with. We've been through a lot this year and had a lot of fun along the way. I've enjoyed the time we've spent together, both in person, on the computer, and in a whole slew of inboxes. I look up to each of you in so many ways, and I am excited to continue to learn from you both as I enter my final year of service here (for a while, at least).

I charge myself with the following for the 2024-2025 term:

- Be more hands-on in ensuring chapters are receiving communication from the District
- Keep a positive attitude and provide feedback and leadership in a manner that is encouraging and growth / outcome-driven
- Respond to communication in a timely manner
- Have fun!

Respectfully submitted,

AEA

Andy Melvin  
Southwest District Governor  
Life Member - Delta Chapter