

Kappa Kappa Psi

Southwest District Convention 2025



Minutes | Final Officer Reports | Committee Reports

March 28-30, 2025
Midwest City, Oklahoma

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Opening Session | Saturday, March 29th @ 9:00 AM CST

- 1. Call to Order @ 9:01 AM**
 - a. “Welcome to the 2025 Southwest District Convention of Kappa Kappa Psi, I now call this First Session to order at 9:01 AM!”
- 2. Introduction of Council and Governors**
 - a. Aleks Johnson - SWD President
 - b. Bella Eneff - SWD Vice President for Programs
 - c. Chance Harmon - SWD Secretary/Treasurer
 - d. Hunter Olden - 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 2025 SWD Convention will begin with Gamma Sigma
 - ii. Random Seating for the 2026 SWD Convention will begin with Iota Sigma
- 4. Accepting the Minutes of the 2024 SWD Convention**
 - a. Motion to accept the 2024 SWD Convention Minutes
 - i. Motion - Lambda Kappa
 - ii. Second - Gamma Sigma
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 5. National Council Town Hall**
 - a. “I now call forward Bang Co, National President to introduce the National Council Town Hall”
- 6. Announcements**
- 7. Recess until Saturday, March 29 @ 2:45 PM**

Separate Session #2 | Saturday, March 8th @ 2:45 PM CST

1. Call to Order @ 2:46 PM

2. Delegate Roll Call

3. Final Officer Reports

- a. Member-at-Large Summary and Charges
 - i. Motion to accept Hunter Olden's Final Officer Report as read
 1. Motion - Delta
 2. Second - Gamma Theta
 3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- b. Secretary/Treasurer Summary and Charges
 - i. Motion to accept Chance Harmon's Final Officer Report as read
 1. Motion - Zeta Beta
 2. Second - Theta Phi
 3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- c. Vice President for Programs Summary and Charges
 - i. Motion to accept Bella Eneff's Final Officer Report as read
 1. Motion - Alpha
 2. Second - Theta Kappa
 3. Pass/Fail - Pass

4. Report of the Ways and Means Committee

- a. Motion to Accept the Report
 - i. Motion - Gamma Iota
 - ii. Second - Delta Sigma
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- b. Motion to Adopt the 2025-2026 Budget
 - i. Motion - Gamma Iota
 - ii. Second - Delta Sigma
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass

5. Report of the Chapter Leadership Committee

- a. Motion to Accept the Report
 - i. Motion - Zeta Beta
 - ii. Second - Gamma Sigma
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass

6. Report of the Nominations Committee

- a. Motion to Accept the Report
 - i. Motion - Gamma Iota
 - ii. Second - Zeta Kappa
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass

7. Announcements

- a. Governor Announcement: Singing the Hymn at Banquet
 - i. "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."

8. Recess until Sunday, March 9th @ 9:00 AM

Separate Session #3 | Sunday, March 9th @ 9:00 AM CST

- 1. Call to Order: @ 9:00 AM**
- 2. Report of the Spirit and Recognition Committee**
 - a. Motion to Accept the Report
 - i. Motion - Rho
 - ii. Second - Alpha
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 3. Report of the Jurisdiction Committee**
 - a. Motion to Accept the Report
 - i. Motion - Gamma Sigma
 - ii. Second - Zeta Zeta
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 4. Review Amendments of the Jurisdiction Committee**
 - a. Motion to adopt Section 3.5 of the Policy Guide (Member at Large), Section 4.4 of the Policy Guide (Election of Officers), and Section 9.4 of the Policy Guide (New ALTO)
 - i. Motion - Lambda
 - ii. Second - Zeta Xi
 - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 5. Final Officer Reports**
 - a. President Summary and Charges
 - i. Motion to accept Aleks Johnson's Final Officer Report as read
 1. Motion - Theta Phi
 2. Second - Zeta Beta
 3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 6. Governor Reports**
 - i. Motion to accept
 1. Motion - Delta
 2. Second - Gamma Phi
 3. Pass - Pass
- 7. Recess called at 8:38 AM, resumed at 9:43 AM**
- 8. District Officer Elections**
 - a. Delegate Roll Call
 - i. "We will now do a delegate roll call."
 - b. President
 - i. Slated Candidate: Tyler Slough
 - ii. Nominations from the Floor
 1. None
 - iii. Election Procedure
 1. 2 Minute speech 3 minute questions and answer
 - iv. Counting Votes
 1. Elected Individual: Tyler Slough
 - c. Andy the Armadillo, presented by the Lambda Chapter, will be passed to the Iota Upsilon chapter
 - d. Vice President for Leadership Development
 - i. Slated Candidate: No Slate

- ii. Nominations from the Floor
 - 1. Samantha Whitaker
- iii. Chapter Percentage was awarded to the following:
 - 1. Zeta Beta chapter
- iv. Chapter Participation was awarded to the following:
 - 1. Delta chapter
- v. Counting Votes
 - 1. Elected Individual: Samantha Whitaker
- e. Vice President for Programs
 - i. Slated Candidate: Roman Beames
 - ii. Nominations from the Floor
 - 1. None
 - iii. Chapter Distance Award was awarded to the following:
 - 1. Rho chapter
 - iv. Delegate Distance Award was awarded to the following:
 - 1. Rho chapter
 - v. Counting Votes
 - 1. Elected Individual: Roman Beames
- f. Secretary/Treasurer
 - i. Slated Candidate: Caitlyn Colca
 - ii. Nominations from the Floor
 - 1. None
 - iii. Counting Votes
 - 1. Elected Individual: Caitlyn Colca
- g. Member-at-Large
 - i. Slated Candidate: Jessica Pearce
 - ii. Nominations from the Floor
 - 1. None
 - iii. Counting Votes
 - 1. Elected Individual: Jessica Pearce
- h. National Announcements

Welcome to the 2025-2026 SWD Council!

 - i. President: Tyler Slough
 - ii. Vice President for Leadership Development: Samantha Whitaker
 - iii. Vice President for Programs: Roman Beames
 - iv. Secretary/Treasurer: Caitlyn Colca
 - v. Member-At-Large: Jessica Pearce

9. Announcements

10. District Officer Installation

11. Adjourn @ 11:01 AM

- a. Motion - Zeta Kappa
- b. Second - Gamma Phi
- c. Pass/Fail - Pass

Appendix A: Final Officer Report - Member-at-Large - Hunter Olden

Brothers of the Southwest District,

It has truly been an honor to serve you all this year. Thank you for supporting me and allowing me to serve you all. I have seen so much growth happening in our chapters and I myself have grown as a person by serving in this position. I am truly grateful to have been allowed to step out of my comfort zone to meet brothers from chapters that I have never interacted with before, to expand on my technical knowledge and skills, and to cultivate a strong bond with my fellow council members and the Governors.

As I have reflected on my journey in Kappa Kappa Psi up to this point, I am incredibly grateful for all the experiences I have been able to participate in. The journey to being on this council began at the National Convention in 2023 in Orlando where I had the opportunity to meet with so many brothers and sisters across the country. I attended this convention with brothers that I had served on Delta exec with and brothers who were the next executive leaders. We spent several nights talking about how to take the lessons we were learning back to our chapter. I spent time listening and becoming inspired on how to get more involved with Kappa Kappa Psi. This started my journey, it encouraged me to get to know how other chapters work, to share stories of who we are and why we do what we do. Serving as the Southwest District Member at Large has been my greatest honor and my leadership journey will not end here.

That being said, I had quite a few goals for this year, last year I was charged with the following:

- To curate diverse content, including graphics, photographs, and video updates, for the Southwest District
- To ensure timely planning by scheduling or having all monthly posts in progress by the first of each month
- To maintain regular communication with Tau Beta Sigma and coordinate regular, joint posts
- To 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.

And a charge from myself:

- To inspire others to want to run for district council, from any and all chapters, not just my own.

Here's what we accomplished this year,

- We published 175 posts on Instagram in the last year to highlight chapters, our history, and district/national programming as well as deadlines every month.
 - 47 chapters were highlighted over the entire year on the social medias through the New Alto features, award winning chapters, or celebratory graphics
- We revived the Southwest District Discord from 40 members to 176 since last convention
- There were 15 Instagram story takeovers from August to January throughout the football season featuring various conferences, levels of division, and band/chapter traditions; these were planned weeks in advance.
- We took huge strides in district event attendance and interaction between chapters that showed resilience in our growth in the post-Covid era.
- In the various forms of the District Council that we've experienced this year, we became a strong team leaning on one another for support and cheering each other on as we balanced all our roles simultaneously.
 - Admittedly, I may have asked the governors a question or three every other day but at least I was never afraid to ask for help from the adultier adults or my fellow council members.
- And we proudly have many candidates running for each SWD Council position this year, all of which will be fantastic leaders.

To the 2025-2026 Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Member-at-Large, I charge the following:

- Create a consistent posting calendar and schedule posts for timely planning.
- Celebrate the stories of the chapters within our district, their history is our history.
- Dedicate time into connecting with your chapters on a personal level and maintain frequent communication with them throughout the year.
- Coordinate with the VPP to distribute the New ALTO in a better format.
- Foster frequent communication with your TBS counterpart and collaborate often early on!

This role is what you make of it and it has been worth every tedious late night Canva editing session. Thank you Southwest for allowing me to serve you all, it has left an everlasting impression on my life.

To the Delta Chapter,

Thank you for supporting me in my entire district journey from the day I announced my candidacy to this final weekend on the job. All 100 something of you have made a profound difference in my life. Thank you for believing in me, pushing me to go for a new leadership plane, and experiencing the road with me from National Convention to the Arkansas workshop. I

hope that I made District an exciting experience and that you all will continue to strive higher as leaders and brothers.

To Chance Harmon,

If there are two things I can expect from you, it's that you will always be a listening ear and you will always have a Dr. Pepper in hand. Thank you for your hard work and dedication not only to the district but the Zeta Beta chapter. Your diligence as a brother is unwaveringly strong and I am immensely proud to watch you accomplish all that you do. You are a beacon of light and I cannot wait to see what amazing things you accomplish in the future.

To Bella Eneff,

I did not know that the girl with the funny lil mustache septum piercing at the 2023 National Convention would someday be one of my closest pals let alone that I would serve on a district council with her. But I would not have it any other way, from hanging out at the zoo to sharing silly things about our day, I am so grateful to have spent this term serving alongside you. Talking to you every single day since last April has truly made my day a little brighter and better.

To Aleks Johnson,

I knew from our first interaction that you'd hit the ground running and excel and whatever you put your mind and poured hard work into. Truly, you have faced every challenge head on with a resilience that is unmatched and unwavering. From productivity phone calls, to packing into a Louisiana hotel room with seven people, to sharing about imposter syndrome, there is not a single moment in which I did not enjoy serving with you. Your work was integral to a successful workshop season and has led to the inspiration of dozens of leaders. Thank you for being my brother, my friend, and a confidant during this term. In your words, shooters shoot.

To Kadeem Sabari,

Well, four firings from President Co later, and you're still here and batting for all four of us. Thank you for being so welcoming and encouraging as I and the other officers figured out our rhythms to be successful. I knew that if I was having a rough day, I could always depend on you to be quick with support or a joke to make me feel better. I promise I will not send you any more emails at 10 PM or 4 AM now. I aspire to lead with grace and fearlessness like you do.

To Lizzi Pineiro,

I'm not sure you realize how much I look up to you and aspire to be a fraction of the leader that you are. I have learned so much from you during my time in this role. I knew I could always talk to you about anything from how to handle criticism to how to parent my cat. Thank you for helping me grow as a brother and leader. I deeply appreciate that we could match each other's

energy in both serious and silly mode throughout my term. It is through our relationship that I am inspired to continue pursuing leadership roles in my professional and fraternal life.

To Andy Melvin,

It seems quite fitting that I address you last. My journey to this leadership role began with learning about your time in the Delta Chapter at an Olive Garden in Orlando and asking you how to get more involved with Kappa Kappa Psi. I have learned quite a lot about Kappa Kappa Psi from you and you have inspired and encouraged me to strive higher throughout this year. There are not many people in this world that have saved me and/or my friends from not only one vehicular breakdown but two, but Andy Melvin is on that list. You have shown me what brotherhood looks like beyond graduation which is far less daunting than it was before. Thank you for your many years of service, the district will not be quite the same without you. I will surely think of you every time I eat a vegetable.

To the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,

Thank you once again for believing in me and giving me an opportunity to strive higher. I am infinitely better because of this experience. I encourage you all to get involved and go to as many district and national events as you can as an active brother.

Fraternally submitted, AEA

Hunter Olden

Southwest District Member at Large

Delta Chapter

Appendix B: Final Officer Report - Secretary/Treasurer - Chance Harmon

Brothers of the Southwest District,

I will be honest, preparing something like this is not my strong suit. However, I am honored to stand before all of you, my brothers, one last time as your Secretary/Treasurer. When I first ran for office in 2024, Secretary/Treasurer was not the office I had in mind, however I am a firm believer in things happening for a reason, and I am happy and honored to have been elected into this position by my fellow brothers.

My goals going into this term were as follows: Clean up extraneous materials on the website to keep it clean, focused, and useful, keep the website consistently updated, maintain an accurate record of minutes. The website was a particular challenge for me, as website maintenance and the like are not my strong suits. But with a great deal of help from my fellow council members, and the governors, I feel I was able to accomplish my goals for this term.

The charges as the 2024-2025 Secretary/Treasurer were 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 2025-2026 Secretary/Treasurer are as follows:

- Maintain a running budget throughout the year, and keep it updated as expenses occur
- Work with your governor and council team to effectively relay convention information in a timely manner utilizing listserv.
- Familiarize yourself with the website early on, so your later duties will run smoothly so you do not get bogged down in the uploading of documents.
- Prepare the 2025-2026 Ways and Means Report as soon as possible, so you may work easier with your governors and council members to catch any unpredicted problems early on.

My charges for the 2025-2026 Southwest District Council are as follows:

- Find an effective, individual path of communication between you and each of your chapters early in your term, so further communication will come easier regarding chapter activities and deadlines.
- Find time outside of meetings to foster brotherhood between yourselves and enjoy your time on this council.
- Do not hesitate to reach out to your fellow council members and governors. They are here to help you, and no one wants to see you fail. Rely on their assistance and guidance whenever it is necessary.

My charges for the 2025-2026 Southwest district are as follows:

- Assist your council members in communication with you. Find a common medium between you and your council members that you can all communicate on effectively and frequently.
- Continue to watch social media for district wide updates and events
- Continue to strive for the highest and serve your fellow brothers and band members to your fullest ability.

And now, some short notes for my fellow officers and governors.

To Kadeem,

Kadeem you have brought such a fun energy to our team and I have wholly enjoyed your company throughout this term. Your reminders to us to reach out before we start drowning because you can't swim was always a funny yet helpful reminder that we can rely on you and the governors for help. Thank you for your hours you spent assisting me in learning the website as we tried to navigate that nightmare together.

To Andy,

First off, I most likely have not had something green this morning, so I'll make sure to eat something green later just for you Andy. In all seriousness, thank you for providing a stable, consistent outlook throughout this crazy term. Your calmness even when we had numerous changes in offices was refreshing amongst the chaos. Thank you for that.

To Lizzi,

Thank you for keeping this council in check and being patient with me when I keep forgetting to put files into the shared drive. Your direction and drive has kept this council in line and on task throughout our many unexpected issues through this term. It is much appreciated.

To Hunter,

Hunter your work on the social media and communication front is astounding. The way you were able to keep the district engaged as much as you could through social media is something that should be admired and future Members-At-Large should study and take notes on. Thank you for your frequent check ins with me just to make sure I was doing okay, it doesn't go unnoticed.

To Aleks,

Man what an interesting term you've had. I remember our first meeting last year during convention in Wichita Falls well and fondly, and I'm so happy you were able to join our team, albeit later. You brought to the table a fun and unfiltered presence that fit right into this team. You had many hats put in your lap this term, but I don't think anyone else could do it as you did, and I hope after this term you get some well deserved rest.

To Bella,

The tallest member of us all, and my fellow music major on the council. Thank you for your dedication and hard work throughout your entire term. The way you were able to take up a position that was left vacant at the end of last year and come out swinging with the New ALTO was insane to watch and something you should be very proud of. I thoroughly enjoyed our TMEA shenanigans, even when we were freezing at Prost Haus on the riverwalk in San Antonio.

To Zeta Beta

Y'all are something. And I wouldn't have it any other way. Your support throughout my term, and your willingness to step up to the plate as a small chapter and put Zeta Beta to the forefront is something I am so proud of y'all for. I am honored to say I am from the Zeta Beta chapter.

AEA,

Chance Harmon

2024-2025 Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer

Zeta Beta Chapter

Appendix C: Final Officer Report - Vice President For Programs- Bella Eneff

Brothers of the Southwest District,

Thank you for having entrusted me with the Vice President for Programs position throughout the 2024-2025 school year. It has been an honor to serve the district throughout this year. Initially I did not run for VPP, and I was unable to attend District Convention due to my Junior Recital. Being elected for this position was entirely out of left field for me, so I am eternally grateful for this responsibility to have been laid in my hands.

The first District Convention I went to was in Arkansas right after I was freshly initiated into KKPsi. I still needed active brothers to remind me of what the knock was and what our secret password was in order to get into anything ritual-related. Seeing the amount of brothers in attendance at this convention was super impactful, but I did not give running for an officer position a second thought until National Convention 2023. At this, I got to talk to Davis Vaughn, and he told me about some of his district officer experience. Over the next school year, he reached out to me about serving on committees or going to different SWD events and encouraged me to reach out to Gabe Sanders. After many, many emails and questions, I decided to full send and run for council.

During the dress rehearsal for my recital, I got a text from Lizzi Pinero that said, “You’ve been slated for VPP.” Which was not a position I had really looked into. That afternoon was dedicated to learning about this position. The governors were big guides as I began; they were very patient with my limited ideas going in.

The 2023-2024 year ended without someone as VPP; there was no final report to go off of. However, Lizzi wrote a transition letter that included some charges and advice for this position:

- Stay consistent in monthly communications regarding the New ALTO.
- Aim to feature every chapter in the New ALTO.
- Start the New ALTO in advance and continuously work on it throughout the month.
- Communicate with KKPsi Council, specifically the President, to ensure the New ALTO aligns with council goals.
- Open communication with all awards-eligible chapters the month before convention.
- To update chapters on their individual eligibility and future requirement deadlines.

Once elected, I came up with two ideas for the New ALTO: make it more applicable to non-executive team brothers and celebrate what it used to be while continuing to standardize what it is now. This led Mykaela and me to create the ALTOgether Insight along with creating a vision for a New ALTO recap.

The ALTOgether may need some adjusting. It worked best when Mykaela and I found individuals to reach out to rather than when we just let it be. However, much of the New ALTO is designed to be reminders for chapter executive teams. It is worth either adjusting or replacing it with something that enables more people to benefit from this publication. This form asked members of the district to share

what they wanted to see on the New ALTO. There were many requests to add more pictures and to share history highlights. This document does get crowded, however; potentially uplifting chapters that were chartered within that month or creating new segments could be some ideas to look into.

The first New ALTO Recap is a compilation of chapter features throughout the year. The KKPsi side will also be highlighting award-winning chapters/individuals and impactful ALTOgether responses by brothers, along with connecting each feature to a pillar. Mykaela and I's goal with having a post-convention/school year publication is to uplift the New ALTO's history as a publication created by a team of Brother/Sister submissions sent out once a year. I don't think this needs to be as daunting as what creating the New ALTO used to be. However, there is still room to expand upon and improve this.

When it comes to pestering people about the New ALTO, I have found it works best to email two weeks in advance and then to send a follow-up text message to fellow officers. Be assertive with your deadlines. You're not a jerk for saying, "Hey, I need this back by today!" For features, not all chapters update their Instagram pages. However, most chapters typically do things throughout the school year. When finding chapters to feature, I have found it worked best to text a chapter executive asking for a picture of anything their chapter has done throughout the semester. This was much more successful for me than emails and Instagram stalking and also led to interesting conversations with brothers I would not have otherwise talked to.

Award applications were fully redone before I entered this position (thank you, Governors!) However, it is still up to the VPP to advertise awards and to give updates to awards-eligible chapters. I sent a general email to all eligible chapters after each wave of paperwork deadlines passed; I also sent updates as soon as applications went out and sent a reminder a week before the due date. Make sure these are advertised well in advance, clearly and consistently. It would be really unfortunate if a chapter that was on top of everything all year didn't submit an application due to poor advertising.

The Joint Service Project had some pitfalls. Mykaela and I had "a concept of a plan" going into Winter Council. This included two general layouts, school options, and a pitch for governors and councilors. We ended up opening this for area workshops. If you want to do this in the future, I would advise working with all parties necessary before winter council.

One of the coolest aspects of your job is corresponding with individual chapters. This year, each district officer contacted 8-10 chapters at least twice a month. I gained some new friends from this, and this helped my home chapter to build relationships with other chapters. Find a way to personify yourself in addition to the people you're talking to. I sent my chapters a picture of my cat every time they followed a request, such as turning in the FAR on time, and wished them happy holidays. There are other ways to do this; it is easier and more to do if you actually have a connection with your chapter.

The charges I have for the 2025-2026 Southwest District Vice President for Programs are:

- Be assertive in your deadline requests. It is okay to encourage people to do their job in the timeline that works best for you to do your job.

- Continue to find ways to make the New ALTO relevant to non-executive members. Branch out beyond deadlines and reminders.
- Create an end-of-term publication of the New ALTO to some capacity.
- Set the joint service project up for success, starting with area workshops.
- Keep up the trajectory of getting awards information out in advance. Stay in touch with Awards-eligible chapters.
- Enjoy the process; get close with your council peers, make connections with your chapters, and have a good time.

I have truly learned so much through being in this position. It has been an honor to serve in this position and to be a part of the district officer team in general.

To Alpha, thank you for your goofy support going into this. Making Bella heads was a funny bit. Thanks for putting up with the constant “please fill out the ALTOgether” reminders and for letting me give you all district updates each week.

To Mykaela, it is so cool to have had you as my counterpart. You are one of the most driven and involved people I know. I am so thankful for all the times we worked together over coffee and for the accountability that was upheld between the two of us. Thank you for running with and adding to different little ideas I had, and good luck with your future endeavors.

To Gabe Sanders, you were my biggest contact when I decided to run for council. Thank you for all the questions answered, all the proofreading, and the encouragement you gave me. You set us up for success at the beginning of your term, and the groundwork you laid out is appreciated.

To Alivia, you have brought so much light into my life with your friendship. Thank you for the weekly “how are you all doing?” texts and the random updates that pushed the council together.

To Aleks, the minute someone from one of my chapters was elected, I was hyped. Thank you for living up to this hype and for taking a huge risk in terms of being thrown into not one but two positions. I have greatly enjoyed the immediate companionship you have shared with the officer team.

To Chance, it is so fun having another music major on the team. From talking about our shared scheduling issues to meeting up at TMEA (and conducting together!), getting to work with you has been so fun. I admire your willingness to always be Chance Harmon, your drive, and the way you’re always down to see if you can make scheduling anything work. I wish you the best of luck in completing your degree.

To Hunter, it feels like it has been FOREVER since we went to the zoo together. I adore you and the work you have done. You have left big shoes to fill, and I hope you truly feel accomplished. Thank you for being my venting buddy, for turning my rectangular newsletter into a square post once a month, and for the shared joy in word games.

To Andy, I thought I was going to have to beef with you for having gone to OU. You made that actually impossible through your weather awareness texts, vegetable reminders, and safe travel wishes that were all extended to me, Alpha, and even OSU's horn studio. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to learn about your excitement for Chili's and getting to nerd out over french horn things with you.

To Kadeem, I am so glad to have experienced the energy you bring into life in general. Getting to work with you is truly so fun. You have a way of saying it how it is without it simply being harsh. I feel things just get done around you, and it's never tedious.

To Lizzi, thank you for having an answer to literally everything. Teaching questions, New ALTO needs, and I'm sure I've asked you general questions too. I admire the way you have the ability to be terrifying despite that not being you. Is this what a middle school band does to a person? I truly have learned so much from you this year, especially in terms of maintaining accountability. I am very glad to have connected with you over enjoying Young the Giant and Percy Jackson and having similar career interests.

To the SWD, thank you for entrusting the random person who did not attend SWDCon to serve as your Vice President for Programs. It has been a blessing and an honor.

Fraternally submitted and AEA,

Bella Eneff

Alpha Chapter

Southwest District Vice President for Programs 2024-2025

Appendix D: Final Officer Report - President - Aleks Johnson

First, I want to start by letting everyone know that I promised Hunter and my chapter I wouldn't cry—because if I did, they'd never let me live it down. So, fingers crossed I make it through.

My journey with this organization started before I even realized it. My high school band director was a brother at a nearby university, but I wasn't really aware of the fraternity until I attended band camp at Henderson the following summer. I saw the incredible efforts of the counselors—the way they worked tirelessly to make sure every kid not only had fun but felt included. That stuck with me. Year after year, I kept attending band camps, and every time, I was in awe of the brothers' dedication.

So, when I finally stepped foot on Henderson's campus as a student, I knew I wanted to join. I wanted to give back. In Spring 2022, I became a membership candidate, and from there, my journey took off. I served as treasurer, and for the past two years, I've had the absolute honor of serving as chapter president.

Theta Phi, thank you. The impact each of you has had on me is beyond words. Never stop striving for the highest.

I have to admit, I never thought a district office was in the cards for me. Between working two jobs and balancing my responsibilities to my chapter and my brothers in Sigma Tau Gamma who despite not really understanding Kappa Kappa Psi or what we do still supported me, I always told myself I was too busy. But when the opportunity to run for office came up, I knew I had to go for it.

I still remember stepping away from work last October to sit in my car for an interest meeting. And I've told this story many times, but I will *never* forget nearly passing out when I got the email from Andy. Looking back, it's funny knowing that I had actually interviewed every single one of the current council members while serving on the nominations committee for the last two conventions. I want to thank everyone in the district for this opportunity. It has changed me in so many ways. Getting to meet everyone and all of these experiences is something that I will hold dear for the rest of my life.

I know I've already thanked a few people, but there are still a few more I need to recognize.

First, Chance—I will never not find it funny how, despite my city-boy style and your rough-and-rugged cowboy look, we get along so well. Your never-ending dedication—not just to your chapter but to everyone around you—is something I have the utmost respect for.

Second, Bella. For those who don't know, I'm not exactly the most proficient player in any ensemble. In contrast, Bella is an insanely talented and disciplined horn player, so to say I was intimidated when we first met is an understatement. But she is also one of the most personable, welcoming people I've ever known. I'll never forget all of us crammed into Chance's Bronco, laughing and joking the whole ride back to the hotel during the winter council meeting.

And last up on the council—Hunter. First, shoutout to Pepper! Hunter was always on my tail, making sure I got my stuff done. The countless jokes, the multiple-hour-long phone calls as we worked to serve the

district (and keep ourselves sane) will definitely be missed. And after Thursday's performance, I don't think anyone will ever want to hear us sing karaoke again.

As for the governors—you all are nonstop. The way you balance everything while being as knowledgeable and dedicated as you are is truly incredible. You're rock stars, and you deserve endless appreciation for everything you do—not just for us, but for the entire district.

Andy, you always crack me up. Despite your serious exterior, you're always down to have fun. Never change.

Lizzi, I have way too many stories to fit into this speech, but I still laugh about you calling my final exam an "exploded Gameboy" or telling me that Barrett and I speak the same language after having just one conversation with him.

And lastly, Kadeem—the diva himself. The man who promised to make sure I buy pants that actually fit and upgrade my wardrobe for the corporate world. You never fail to make us laugh, support us when we need it, and kick us in the butt when that's needed. Thank you for everything you do.

During my time in office, I've had the honor of serving as both Vice President for Leadership Development and President—so this may be a bit of a mixed bag.

I planned three successful area workshops that impacted approximately 150 brothers and sisters. I also had the opportunity to represent the Southwest District on the Student Advisory Committee. I was charged with being kind to my council, documenting my work and reflecting on it, holding my council members accountable, pacing myself with my duties, and—most importantly—building trust with those I worked alongside.

To the next president, I charge you:

- Work in tandem with your TBS counterpart and establish open, effective communication across the council. This is vital for the success of all council members.
- Support and bond with your council—be there for them when they need you.
- Hold them accountable when necessary but ensure they know you are there to support them.
- Pace yourself. Set not only feasible goals but also a realistic timeline to achieve them. Many responsibilities in this role are long-term, and planning ahead will be key to your success.
- And lastly, but most importantly—take care of yourself. Find a balance between work and fun, because there's only so much stress any situation truly requires. When you need guidance or just need to talk, don't hesitate to reach out to the governors or fellow council members. It will make you more effective and help you grow in this role.

One last thank you—to the district, the governors, my fellow council members, my brothers of Sigma Tau Gamma, and of course, Theta Phi. Without your support I would not be who I am today and I will carry that with me for the rest of my life.

Fraternally submitted,
Aleksandr Johnson
2024-2025 Southwest District President

Appendix E: Spirit and Recognition Committee Report

Brothers of the Southwest District,

The 2024-2025 Spirit and Recognition Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2023-2024 Spirit & Recognition Committee Report.
- Review Individual Award applications, discuss, and select recipients.
- Discuss the recipient of our Southwest District traditional award: Andy the Armadillo.
- At convention, 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).
- Evaluate and recommend any changes to the Spirit and Recognition Committee duties to the Jurisdiction Committee.

The Spirit and Recognition Committee met three times prior to Southwest District Convention. The members of this year's committee were willing to strategize together, happy to break up tasks, and enthusiastic about the process. In these meetings we reviewed our charges and we discussed the differences between what makes a good brother versus what stands out as a great brother. This led to some very insightful discussion within our committee meetings and set the tone as we carefully reviewed applications.

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

- Review the Report of the 2024-2025 Committee
- Review individual award applications, discuss, and select recipients
- Discuss the recipient of our Southwest District traditional award, Andy the Armadillo
- 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).
- Continue with persistent award promotions.

Charges to the Southwest District:

- a. Take the chance to highlight wonderful individuals within your chapter. Uplift your brothers and apply for awards!

Thank you to our committee members:

Sarah Johnson - Alpha

Chris Andrade - Beta Sigma

Georgia Lamont - Delta

DeMarion Hayes - Delta Alpha

ShaMaurian Lindsey - Epsilon Chi

Morgan Phillippe - Gamma Theta
Bryce Bailey - Theta Phi
Tyler Slough - Zeta Kappa
Noah McClay - Zeta Zeta
Ari Wright - Chapter Field Representative (Advisor)

Thank you all for the time you volunteered and for your willingness to serve the Southwest District. It was wonderful getting to meet each of you.

Fraternally Submitted,

Bella Eneff - SWD VPP
2024-2025 Spirit and Recognition Committee Chair

Appendix F: Ways and Means Committee Report

Committee Chair:

Chance Harmon - SWD Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Advisors:

Kadeem Sabari - SWD Governor

Andy Melvin - SWD Governor

Lizzi Pineiro - SWD Governor

Committee Members:

Aleks Johnson - SWD President

Bella Eneff - SWD Vice President for Programs

Hunter Olden - SWD Member-at-Large

To the Brothers of the Southwest District,

The 2025 Ways and Means Committee was charged with the following:

- 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

The District Council and I reviewed the 2024 Committee Report and then discussed the proposed budget from the year.

2025-2026 Proposed Budget

Spring Allotment 2024	\$1,678.43
Fall Allotment 2024	\$4,670.00
Estimated Total Revenues	\$6,348.43
District Officer Budgets	
President	\$500
VPLD	\$500
VPP	\$500
Secretary/Treasurer	\$500
M-A-L	\$500
Office Expenses	
District Awards and Honorary Fees	\$500
Other	
Unassigned Funds	\$500
Grants	
Chapter Assistance Grant for National Convention Travel	\$3,000
Estimated Total Expenses	\$6,500

Charges to the 2025-2026 Ways and Means Committee are as follows:

- Review the 2025 Ways and Means Committee Report.
- Present an overview of the 2025-2026 District Account.
- Determine if any line item in the budget needs to be adjusted.
- Create and present a budget of the 2026-2027 District Account.

Charges to 2025-2026 Secretary/Treasurer:

- Update the allotments when they are made available for the 2025-2026 Year.

Charge to 2025-2026 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.

A huge thank you to the District Council, for turning in all requisitions in a timely manner and your patience as I figured out this system in the early months.

Fraternally Submitted,

Chance Harmon

2024-2025 Ways and Means Committee Chair

Appendix G: Chapter Leadership Committee Report

Brothers of the Southwest District:

The 2025 Chapter Leadership Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2023-2024 Chapter Leadership Committee Report.
- Review all applications for the D.O Wiley Award and Pillar Awards to ensure all applicants are eligible for consideration.
- Include the specific wording of “formal presentation” in the initial email for scheduling presentation times so that the expectations are clear (Note from Kadeem: "strongly encourage" the use of a slideshow as supporting materials).
- Organize a schedule for chapter presentations.
- Review the applying chapters and their presentations to deliberate on the 2025 D.O. Wiley Award and Pillar Awards recipients.
- Recommend any changes to the award selection process to the Jurisdiction Committee.

The Chapter Leadership Committee met virtually four times prior to convention. In these meetings, we reviewed the list of potential questions provided by the 2024 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 took time to carefully review all of the applications prior to the interviews to get a background feel of all the individual chapters and their individual qualities. Following which came their presentation of five minutes showcasing the best that these chapters have to offer to their communities, the organization and themselves as brothers. These interviews were filled with passion for the fraternity and passion for the love of the bond. After these interviews, with careful deliberation, we decided on the winners of the following awards: The D.O. Wiley Award, The Service Pillar Award, The Brotherhood Pillar Award, The Musicianship Pillar Award, and the Leadership Pillar Award. Without discrediting another chapter’s hard work but honoring a going above and beyond expectations and going against the norm.

The Award Winners were as follows:

D.O. Wiley - Lambda
Service - Epsilon Delta
Brotherhood - Zeta Zeta
Musicianship - Alpha
Leadership - Zeta Beta

I would like to personally thank the members of this year's Chapter Leadership Committee. There was extra time and energy put aside to help add to this vision of giving chapters a reason to strive for the highest. I'm extremely honored to have been able to meet and work in such a comforting environment even though we are only virtual.

- Turner Sugg- Theta Nu
- Diego Velazquez- Beta Alpha

Charges to the 2025-2026 Southwest District Chapter Leadership Committee:

- Review the Report of the 2025 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 2026 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 requirement of formal powerpoint or visual presentation to ensure the equal and adequate platform for all chapters to showcase their attributes.
- Include the wording of “formal presentation” to ensure that the members of the applying chapters understand the conduct and essence to be carried with each meeting.
- 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 consistency and hard work definitely is one to be recognized and appreciated. The time spent towards bettering this fraternity is highly noted and will definitely be worth it in the end.

Fraternally Submitted,
Malik Norwood- Barber
2025 Chapter Leadership Committee Chair
Gamma Omega Chapter, Texas Southern University

Appendix H: Nominations Committee Report

Brothers of the Southwest District,

Charges to the 2024-2025 Nominations Committee were as follows:

- Review the [2023-2024 Nominations Committee Report](#).
- 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.
- Review candidate packets, hold interviews, and review interview recordings (if absent).
- Hold a discussion and prepare a slate of one candidate for each position that the committee feels would benefit the Southwest 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 2023-2024 Nominations Committee Report and Charges. From there, we updated the list of general and office-specific questions, and we determined criteria for an ideal candidate for each office. Once the packets were received, we reviewed the candidates who submitted applications. Per the requirements laid out in the constitution, the following candidates were eligible to run for district office:

Caitlyn Colca of the Beta Sigma Chapter
Jessica Pearce of the Alpha Chapter
Roman Beames of the Delta Chapter
Samantha Whitaker of the Zeta Beta Chapter
Tyler Slough of the Zeta Kappa Chapter

After initial review of the packets, the committee decided on at most one extra question or point of clarification for each candidate specific to the platform they presented. The committee then set up an interview schedule for the candidates for the weekend before convention. During these interviews, each candidate was asked all of the general questions and all of the questions specific to the office they were running for, as well as the one additional question/point of clarification. As seen in question 1 of the general questions, the candidates had the opportunity to clarify if they would be interested in serving in another office; however, the committee did not ask questions specific to any other offices they were interested in.

Proposed criteria:

President: demonstrates example(s) of leadership, teamwork, and/or accomplishing a project

VPLD: shows knowledge of what leadership ideas chapters want to learn about and ability to complete a project

VPP: interested in engaging chapters across the District and TBS and shows communication skills/ideas

Secretary/Treasurer: demonstrates bookkeeping skills, experience in writing/budgeting, and self-organized

Member-At-Large: shows communication and engagement ideas for social media and flexibility to learn how to work with website

General 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.
 - a. Can you describe a scenario where you struggled to hold yourself accountable? How did your practices change in response to that?
 - b. What is one way you show accountability in your day to day life?

President

1. What is the greatest challenge you foresee as the District President? How do you plan to overcome that?
2. How will you coordinate with the TBS President to plan the 2026 District Convention?
3. What are some improvements and/or ideas you would like to implement at the 2026 District Convention?
4. How would you describe your style of leadership, and how will it be effective for leading the District Council?

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. What ideas do you have for the District Service Project?
2. Can you describe a rough timeline for the District Service Project? How will you ensure that the District Service Project is executed completely, even after you exit office?
3. How would you gather more content for the New ALTO through chapter submissions?

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?
4. How have previous experiences helped prepare you for the responsibilities of this position?

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 platforms?

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. Throughout the interview process, the committee discussed each candidate in depth. After deliberation, the committee came to a final decision on our official recommendation for the Southwest District.

The 2024-2025 Nominations Committee is pleased to present our Final Recommendations for the 2025-2026 District Council:

- President: Tyler Slough
- Vice President of Leadership Development: no slate
- Vice President of Programs: Roman Beames
- Secretary/Treasurer: Caitlyn Colca
- Member-at-Large: Jessica Pearce

The Nominations Committee would like to thank all the candidates for their interest in running for district office. Your willingness to serve and your commitment to our community are admirable. I would also like to express my gratitude to the committee for their dedication and consistency. Even with a small committee and tight schedule, we pulled through!

The charges to the 2025-2026 Nominations Committee are as follows:

- Review the 2024-2025 Nominations Committee Report.
- Review candidate packets and attend all interviews. If attendance is not possible, review all interview recordings.
- Update the list of general questions and specific questions for each officer position. After reviewing the packets, determine if any clarification questions are needed for each candidate.
- Come up with specific 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 2024-2025 Nominations Committee was filed by the following:

Sachi Barnaby, chair – Gamma Iota
Lizzi Pineiro, advisor – Gamma Phi, SWD Governor
Belinda Bubb – Delta Sigma
Matthew Fussell – Theta Nu
Barrett Henderson – Theta Phi

Fraternally Submitted,

Sachi Barnaby
2025 Nominations Committee Chair
Gamma Iota Chapter, University of New Mexico

Appendix I: Jurisdiction Committee Report

Brothers of the Southwest District,

This year, the 2025 Southwest District Jurisdiction Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2024 Jurisdiction Committee Report.
- 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.

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

- The committee reviewed the report of the 2024 Jurisdiction Committee.
- Committee members were assigned to three areas of the 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 Policy Guide to better reflect current procedures.

This year, during our meetings, we examined the Policy language and how it could be more clearly defined to better suit the Southwest District's roles. We also reviewed three different Policy Guide changes and discussed how to improve them for the future. Following this report, we will propose three amendments.

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:

- Caitlyn Colca - Beta Sigma
- Mason Dronet - Delta
- Ashley Ligon - Epsilon Beta
- Jimmy Paredes - Theta Phi
- Samantha Whitaker - Zeta Beta
- Daniel Iheme - Zeta Kappa
- Dominic Aquila- Delta
- Andy Melvin (SWD Governer)

Throughout our meetings, we made sure to keep true to the foundation of Kappa Kappa Psi while ensuring the language within the Policy Guide stayed clear and concise. Our goal was to take any possible revisions and make them reflect what the current Governors and SWD need going forward for the good of the order.

Our charges to the 2026 Jurisdiction Committee are the following

- Review the report of the 2025 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 and policy changes implemented to the District Publication and Award processes are effective.

Fraternally Submitted,

Lawson Smith
 2025 Jurisdiction Committee Chair
 Alpha Chapter, Oklahoma State University

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

- **Section 3.5 of the Policy Guide (Member at Large)**

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, and promote the District through approved social media channels.

New Content: “The Member-at-Large shall serve as the District Historian, oversee District traditions, and promote the District through approved social media channels.”

Rationale: These relationships are maintained through the National Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Governors now following the restructure of the national leadership team and expectations at District events. It is no longer a core function of the Member at Large role.

- **Section 4.4 of the Policy Guide (Election of Officers)**

Old Content: All candidates for District Office must submit an electronic version of their approved packet to the chair and advisor(s) of the Nominations Committee, who shall then be responsible for distributing the packet to the remaining committee members. The Committee shall review the packets to ensure candidates meet the eligibility requirements to serve as a District Officer and shall report on the eligibility of candidates to the District in advance of the Election. All candidates approved by the Nominations Committee shall be interviewed by the Committee; following the conclusion of all interviews, the Committee shall report a proposed slate of Officers to the District prior to the final regularly-scheduled separate business session of the District Convention, with no more than one candidate slated for each Office. All candidates slated for an Office are automatically nominated for election; additional candidates who have been approved by the Nominations Committee may be nominated from

the floor by a seated delegate once the election process has begun. A motion to accept or adopt the slate as proposed by the Nominations Committee may be made; if unanimously approved, such motions shall elect all slated candidates to their respective Office. Such motions shall also result in any Offices recommended “no slate” being left vacant, to be filled by the application process after the conclusion of District Convention. If such a motion is made and is not unanimous, normal election procedure as outlined in the District Constitution shall commence for each Office.

New Content: All candidates for District Office must submit an electronic version of their approved packet to the chair and advisor(s) of the Nominations Committee, who shall then be responsible for distributing the packet to the remaining committee members. The Committee shall review the packets to ensure candidates meet the eligibility requirements to serve as a District Officer and shall report on the eligibility of candidates to the District in advance of the Election. All candidates approved by the Nominations Committee shall be interviewed by the Committee; following the conclusion of all interviews, the Committee shall report a proposed slate of Officers to the District prior to the final regularly-scheduled separate business session of the District Convention, with no more than one candidate slated for each Office. All candidates slated for an Office are automatically nominated for election; additional candidates who have been approved by the Nominations Committee **and have completed the prior steps including an original packet that has been reviewed by the governors, and a formal interview**, may be nominated from the floor by a seated delegate once the election process has begun. A motion to accept or adopt the slate as proposed by the Nominations Committee may be made; if unanimously approved, such motions shall elect all slated candidates to their respective Office. Such motions shall also result in any Offices recommended “no slate” being left vacant, to be filled by the application process after the conclusion of District Convention. If such a motion is made and is not unanimous, normal election procedure as outlined in the District Constitution shall commence for each Office.

Rationale: Officer candidates must complete the entire nominations committee process to be considered eligible for nomination to an office from the floor at District Convention. This includes packet submission and review as well as their interview with the committee.

Section 9.4 of the Policy Guide (New ALTO)

Old Content: The Southwest District shall maintain a common e-mail address for submissions to The New ALTO.

New Content: The Southwest District Vice-President of Programs email shall be maintained for submissions to the New ALTO.

Appendix J: Final Governor Report - Kadeem Sabari

Brothers of the Southwest District,

What a year it's been! Thank you to those who were able to join us here in Midwest City, OK for the 2025 Southwest District Convention!

You, the students, are the heartbeat of our organization! There are many great connections and friendships to make, however, they'll only be available to you if you take advantage of the opportunities presented. The Southwest District is slowly making its way back to its prime, however, I want more of you all to join us for the ride! To those who have already hopped on the train, thank you for your energy, leadership, and engagement – please encourage your Brothers to do the same. There is always room for more and it's fun on this side of the tracks!

To our District Officers:

Thank you for hanging in there! This year was nothing short of a rollercoaster, but I'm so proud of you all. You leaned on each other during the hard times, laughed with each other during the fun times, and most importantly celebrated each other through your fraternal and personal successes. Know that you have a friend in me and keep in touch!

Hunter - You are a bonafide rockstar! You have absolutely excelled in this role and have set the bar tremendously high for those to come after you! Your dedication to this organization and work ethic should be an inspiration to your peers. I know others did not get to see you in your role as closely as we did, but I hope they appreciate the work that you put in to serve the Southwest District.

Chance - I still have yet to figure out how you do everything that you commit yourself to on top of your District Council responsibilities. You took on the challenge of tackling the devil that is Wordpress and learned many new skills along the way. Thank you for showing up as your authentic self and bringing a sense of balance to your Council. Always remember that it's Ke\$ha and not Keisha.

Bella - Your energy was so appreciated on this council! I always knew that if Bella was showing up that she would have a wild story to tell us! You have such a creative sunshine that is needed in a world that is bleak for so many! Never lose that spark as I know it'll take you far in your music career!

Aleks - Spelling may not be your strong suit, but that doesn't matter when you have a heart of gold! You really came into chaos and handled it beautifully. I'm so glad you gave us a second thought when the opportunity presented itself because we are pretty fun, if I do say so myself. Keep your head up, keep your integrity

To my Governor Team:

Lizzi - Thank you for being such an inspiration to our students and keeping us adults on track and on target. I'm still not sure how you manage to keep track of literally everything, but I hope that you sprinkle some of that magic on me!

Andy - The real adult in every room you walk in! Thank you for being a friend, leader, and inspiration. Who would've guessed we would be Governors together after meeting almost ten years ago! I know you won't be far, but I'll still miss you!

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 almost Oklahoma City! This would not have been possible without the host chapters, Delta, so big thank you to them.

From this year, there were a lot of successes we achieved together! Revamping social media, diving deeper in the Discord, making award eligibility a priority, invigorating the New ALTO, publishing minutes on time, hosting DLC and three Area Workshops with great turnouts, and planning a fun convention. 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:

Hunter, I am so glad YOU were the person who stepped into this role. This position has been watered down a bit over the past couple years and I have loved seeing you pour your heart and talent into revitalizing the Instagram. Many individuals have brought to me that they have really enjoyed the polls in the Discord and the random discussions from those and that shows your impact! You are overflowing with potential and I'm so excited to see where you go.

Bella, You are such a bundle of energy and I love your quirks and personality! The idea of the ALTOgether Insight is GENIUS and we would have never thought of it. You have brought professionalism and drive into this position that was very much needed and thoroughly appreciated. I am so excited to see where your music endeavors take you and would love to keep in touch as you potentially enter the crazy world of teaching middle school band.

Chance, I have always been impressed by you and your ability to be purely, authentically you. I know the role of Secretary/Treasurer is more lackluster than people realize, but you have done well and added so much to this council! Thank you for always taking my blunt requests with grace lol! You bring a calmness and a light in the world of leadership and I know you are destined for a bright future.

Aleks, You have jumped into this car that was going 40 mph and have shown you have the adaptability. Not many people have that quality, and can do it with the humor and humility you have, so you are unique and capable. Your willingness to learn, get down to the nitty-gritty, drive to connect people, and all with being true to yourself is admirable. I am thankful you took a chance on council and hoped you enjoyed your time! Best of luck with your journey!

Additional thank you's:

Kadeem, You are a firecracker of joy and realness! Your personality and abilities were much needed to add to our Governor trio and you add a great spark of SED flair that the SWD needs.

Andy, You are so humble and kind, but also knowledgeable and professional. I am so glad our friendship has grown so much in the last five years! I wish you the best and that there's many green veggies and delicious Cafe Kacao French toast in your future.

Last thing I want to leave you with is a quote a Buddhist monk shared with me during my trip to India. "Slow down. Pay attention. Do good work. Love your neighbors. Love your place. Stay in your place. Settle for less, enjoy it more."

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

Appendix L: Final Governor Report - Andy Melvin

Brothers-

Welcome to my home! It is so exciting to have everyone in Oklahoma City for Southwest District Convention. Spring can be a turbulent time in our neck of the woods, so I am glad mother nature has graced us with nice weather during our 48 hours together.

During the 2024-2025 year, we have continued to prioritize the growth and resurgence of our in-person meetings as we are still looking to regain the momentum lost during COVID. I am pleased to share that between our District Leadership Conference last July and the three Area Workshops held this Spring, over 130 brothers from 15 different chapters participated in these events. This more than doubles our total from the 2023-2024 year, and I can't wait to see what the next council does to improve these and build on them more. Special "thank yous" are due to: Dr. Doug Stotter at the University of Texas at Arlington; The Epsilon Beta chapter at the University of Central Arkansas; the Gamma Omega chapter at Texas Southern University; and the Epsilon Theta chapter at the University of Louisiana - Monroe. Thanks for being great hosts for us! I am grateful that I was able to attend and experience each of these events, except the Louisiana Area Workshop, in person as a part of my duties.

Personally, this year has offered many opportunities for personal reflection and adventures filled with high highs and low lows. After taking several months off, I began a new job in September, and it has been everything that I hoped it would be and more. I've traveled to a few new places (including my 49th state!), made several new friends, and been re-inspired and energized about my potential and my future. The district council, through all of this rapid change and adjustment, has provided a consistent community of support, as well as a laugh and a distraction when I needed one.

Hunter, you have done an amazing job this year as our Member at Large. You work so hard, are so creative, and have brought so much to this Council. From taking the District Discord to a whole new level, to creating almost daily posts to share on social media promoting our events, and sharing consistent cat updates, you have truly been the pulse of our team. I feel so fortunate to have spent my first and last year as Governor alongside Delta brothers - you and Hannah Cheeseman were both absolute home runs with what you brought to the district, and our chapters and our bands are better for your involvement. Now that you won't be an officer anymore, please use the extra time to take your car to the shop for routine maintenance!

Chance, it was so nice not to be the only redhead on the team this year! The work that you have done to help rebuild Zeta Beta is inspiring, and your energy is contagious. I am thankful for the extra time that we got to spend together at Winter Council and getting to know you better. I appreciate your sincerity and how much you care for those within your sphere of influence - it is clear that those around you have found a safe place in your leadership and in your friendship. Thanks for taking a "Chance" on the District level this year (yes, I still have the graphics).

Bella, the amount of interests we have in common has definitely helped me to overcome my feelings about your choice of institution at which you seek “higher learning”. I’ve been waiting for a while now to be able to nerd out with someone about Sarah Willis and all things low horn. I also can watch the weather on TV in peace for the rest of my life knowing that I have appeased the Alpha chapter with my choice of preferred meteorologist (I was very worried for about 45 seconds). Thanks for being such a great advocate for participation in our district programs, for your work on the New ALTO and our awards, and for bringing so much positivity to our group. You’re going to kick butt at your recital in a couple of weeks.

Aleks, when we opened VPLD applications in October, the whole council was hopeful we’d find someone like you - and we did. I know you got 1000% more than you signed up for during your roughly 5 months here, but you have exceeded every possible expectation we could’ve set for you. You came into your roles eager and ready to help, with a solid work ethic that helped bring cohesion to the team, the relationships, and the tasks at hand, and you will go far in life. Most importantly, thanks for letting us “keep it real” with you this spring. I hope after convention that the water park lets you off work long enough to catch up on your gaming - you’ve definitely earned it.

To Kadeem and Lizzi, thanks for just being you. I cannot imagine going through the last twelve months with any other people on the face of the planet than you all. I appreciate the seriousness, the foolishness, the good times, the bad times, and everything in between. You both do so much to positively impact the students, the bands, and our organization. I want to be more like both of you.

Now, as this convention comes to a close, I hope you’ll set your sights on joining us in Lexington this Summer for National Convention. Kappa Kappa Psi offers no greater opportunities for personal development and resources to help your band and chapter than what is available at this event. I hope to see you there!

Respectfully submitted,

AEA

Andy Melvin
Southwest District Governor
Kappa Kappa Psi - National Honorary Band Fraternity