

State of Alpha Sigma Kappa – Women in Technical Studies

Date: January 2021

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National Board of Directors

Atisha Morrison, National Director of Administration

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I have thought a lot about how to address you all during the State of the Organization. Do I point out the obvious? Start with a cheery, hopeful tone about the beginning of the end due to the vaccine? Do I just strictly talk about the business the National Board of Directors have accomplished this past year?

I would be inauthentic to not point out the grief and suffering 2020 brought us as individuals, as Chapters and as a National Organization. We grieved our National Convention, we grieved watching so many events and recruitments be canceled or brought online, we grieved watching Chapters lose their light because they were so sick of being inside, sick of being away from each other. We as a National Board have dealt with our own grief making hard decisions for the Organization, dealing with the pandemic in our personal lives, and worrying about the longevity of what our Founders and Members have built.

Reading through the Chapter reports brought back those feelings of grief, reading about low morale, concerns of engagement, and how to move forward with an ever-unknown future. I was also reminded of the resiliency our Chapters and Organization had for all of the curve balls and new procedures. I remember sitting in one of the emergency operations centers for COVID-19 during the early days as an infectious disease epidemiologist for the state of Texas worrying about our Chapters, worrying about what would happen; these chapter reports remind me that we buckled in, we found ways to connect, recruit, and stick to supporting our Sisters in STEAM. We made the effort to reach out and lean into the discomfort of all of this. And for that, we as individuals, as Chapters and this Organization will be better. We are so aware that the landscape of Greek Life, university campuses, and the world are changing for the better. So let's remember this resiliency and flexibility for the times that are coming.

My home Active Chapter, Theta Active, wrote this in their Chapter report- "but some of the best friendship building moments come out of the unplanned and unexpected". Even though this was about the small, social interactions that I so miss, greeting someone before a gym class, small talk with a barista, meeting people at concerts, I would like to think that we also can build the best versions of ourselves when we are confronted with the unplanned and unexpected. I hope that you all have found some new part of you, new hobby, that was a beautiful byproduct of this global mess.

From all of us on the National Board of Directors; we see you, we hear you, and we love you all. We can do this.

Kellee Hartjen, National Director of Expansion

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It's been an odd, but incredibly successful year for expansion for the National Organization so far! I encourage you to read through the updates from our two wonderful Colonies, Pi at the Boston University and Rho at University of South Florida. Both of these groups have had a year of tremendous growth and have shown so much dedication to fostering Alpha Sigma Kappa sisterhood, even in a virtual environment. Both groups completed their Colony Education and passed their Colony exams due to the hard work of our Expansion Representatives - Misty Lam (Founder Nu Chapter) and Stephanie Huizar (Alpha Class Lambda Chapter).

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Our interest group at Florida Gulf Coast University has continued to recruit and is working hard to get their Colony petition to the NBoD in the spring. Overall, we have also continued to receive a steady stream of inquiries about what it takes to bring Alpha Sigma Kappa to campuses around the country. The virtual setting and uncertainty of when in-person campus visits and ceremonies will still be tough to navigate in 2021, but I'm excited for everything to come!

Renee Layoun, National Director of Finance

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Hi Members! I think we can all agree this year was extremely unconventional and required all of us to test our patience, resilience, and trust. We faced new challenges every month of 2020 both in our own lives and within ASK. Thank you all for your flexibility while we were learning how to navigate in such unorthodox spaces. I'm proud of all the work you were able to accomplish within your Chapters as well. I know Sisterhood was difficult, especially over Zoom, but thank you for finding creative ways to stay connected!

It's hard to believe my first term as National Director of Finance is already over, and I'm grateful to be elected again to help continue the financial strength of our growing organization. As discussed at the 2020 Convention, we will conduct a financial audit in early 2021. Any Alumnae interested in participating, please reach out! After the audit, my goal is to work with Members to further develop a financial strategy for our Organization to present at the 2022 Convention. We lost some financial momentum in 2020 in terms of Chapter finances, but I understand everyone had full plates. Throughout 2021, my goal is to improve our process for dues and insurance payments to make it more sustainable with our growing number of Chapters. Our Organization has a lot of opportunity for change with our size, and it will take all of us to make it better!

Morgan Bixby, National Director of Operations

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While I recognize that 2020 was a very hard year for our Members, many great things happened across our Chapters and within our National Organization. At Convention this past July we added the Leadership Consultant positions to our National structure and took on our first 5 official LCs who have been working with our Active Chapters since. We also added an SOP for a formalized continuous education program that was piloted last academic year which Chapters are adapting to quite nicely. I also attempted an informal webinar series that was met with some success and will be looking at how that could be adapted in the future should it be determined to be something the Organization wishes to continue.

Looking forward to 2021, I will be continuing with my goal of working on some big picture Chapter and Member level programming and support. I have plans to continue exploring different webinar/ presentation opportunities for both our collegiate and alumnae members. The Leadership Consultants and I will be working with the Active Chapters through the first half of this year to adapt their bylaws and other local documents as they transition to the new Executive Board standard structure this spring. Part of the motivation behind transitioning to a larger and more structured Executive Board than Chapters have been required to have in the past is to create better and more sustainable avenues for inter-Chapter communication which has been a request over the past few years.

Optimistically, I hope 2021 can be a better year for our Chapters and individual Members. No matter what happens, please continue to reach out to your Leadership Consultant and me with any questions or when looking for some extra support.

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Tara Naber, National Director of Records

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Sisters,

Well, this year is one for the books.

The membership certificate backlog is still being worked on, and I hope to report that it will be complete during 2021 Convention. Again, thank you to chapter leadership who have provided us with additional information and forms over the last year to fill in gaps in our recordkeeping.

Maintaining our National records including all of the various chapter deliverables continued! We implemented interim forms and non-standard operations in order to allow for chapters to continue recruiting and bringing new members into the Organization. After everything came to a standstill in the spring, our 13 chapters added almost 90 new members through the interim process that was finalized in the fall. Based on the timeliness of submittals at the time I am writing this, you would not think that our chapters experienced such disruption in their academic lives in 2020. I want to recognize that they have adjusted and have handled the frustrating circumstances of the past year very well.

We have up to date National documents and forms available through Google Drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aFxbPn42dCejsFybX_iR1crAWAaqLT1G?usp=sharing and our website includes our governing documents, here: <https://ask-wits.com/national-governing-documents/>.

I am also very proud of our members and my sisters on the NBoD for pulling off what I feel was a smooth virtual 2020 Convention. I missed meeting people I usually only send emails to, catching up with sisters I have known for years, and just enjoying some travel. I am absolutely looking forward to safely seeing sisters again, and I know it will be worth the wait. To all the other introverts who, like me, learned that we are not immune to cabin fever – I see you. To all the extroverts – I did not appreciate the extent of your social needs until last year, and I will not forget that any time soon.

Know that we are here for all of you, and I personally give you permission to take care of yourself. I know my priorities have shifted over the past year, and I can only imagine how yours may have shifted, too.

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Chapter Reports

Alpha Active

We seemed to have a relatively smooth semester in terms of chapter health. We were excited about the number of candidates that we were able to recruit despite the online semester. We introduced a slightly different structure to our meetings and reserved one meeting per month for an optional bonding event. Members of chapter seemed to enjoy the break in our schedule. We also continued to have the first 5 minutes of each meeting be a time for members to chat with one another and feedback was positive. This semester we focused on making our chapter more inclusive and accessible both in shifting our chapter culture (no longer using the term “sister” or gendered language) and through some bylaw changes. Members seemed to embrace these changes and hope to make similar changes at the National level.

We did have some challenges with Members meeting the attendance requirements and Members had to use bonus points to remain in good standing. There was also an increase in the number of unexcused absences from previous semesters. We hope to continue to strengthen our bonds between Chapter Members though we are operating online. We also hope to continue to update our bylaws and other Chapter documents. Currently, we have 29 Active Members.

Alpha Alumnae

We successfully were re-instated as a 501(c)3 with the IRS as of August 2020! Despite the challenges with the current COVID pandemic, we found other ways to connect not only with Alpha Alumnae, but also with members from different Chapters. Social media and virtual happy hours were some ways Sisters were able to connect despite not being able to see each other in person. We also had the Alpha Active Chapter reach out to us to get an email list for Alumnae to keep connected. We are receiving newsletters from them about what they have been doing all semester.

Beta Active

This semester, the chapter didn't have any big drama or rumors circulating through it. The lack of drama and rumors helped make the semester much more peaceful and enjoyable for everyone. We had a minor communication issue with the Candidate educator and the VP or recruitment, but it was fixed easily and without dragging unnecessary members into it. The chapter did experience some general mental health issues, and a lot of members felt isolated from other ASK members because they weren't being seen in person as often. Various members expressed a desire to go around after chapter and give updates on their lives. That is something that will be implemented this coming semester in hopes that it will make members feel connected again.

Moving forward, we are hoping to prioritize mental and physical health of our Sisters, focus on Sisterhood bonding in the Chapter, increase professional development opportunities, improve the virtual recruitment process, and keep members safe from COVID. Currently, we have 42 Active Members.

Beta Alumnae

We're still working on our communication, but have at least had both of our scheduled Fall and Spring meetings this past year. Fall meeting was held with 4 alumnae and one future alum online due to COVID-19. We discussed unfilled secretary position and handed out Academic scholarship to the Active Chapter

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(back on normal scholarship schedule). Previous budget and new budget were approved. A few virtual alum hangouts were had. We are looking forward to providing more information to the Chapter on the budget and budget goals as well as transitioning finances to a national bank instead of a local chain in Texas. We would also like to work on Sisterhood between the Alumnae Chapter and the Alumnae Chapter and Active Chapter. Currently, we have 6 Professional Members.

Epsilon Active

We had 3 Interim Active Members this semester that are excited to be a part of ASK. The Interim Active Members have been highly active in ASK. This fall semester started with setbacks to our Chapter sisterhood. We have struggled to rebuild trust after this incident, and it will continue to be a goal of our exec team to mend our Chapter sisterhood in the upcoming semesters. The goal to address these challenges include finding new ways to get sisters to communicate with those outside of their family or their typical friend group. We will also be coming up with new and voluntary events for sisters to get to know each other better and build trust. These goals to build back up our sisterhood also align with increasing our overall Chapter health. This past semester has been an extreme for just about everyone. We hope to find ways to get sisters excited and reengaged in Chapter activities to increase our Chapter's mental health during these unprecedented times. As we wrapped up the semester, elections ran smoothly, and many qualified Candidates ran for each position. We had to say goodbye and good luck to 4 Members joining the Alumnae Chapter.

Looking forward, we hope to find healthy ways to encourage attendance and participation in non-required events. We want to promote healthy sisterhood through events, Chapter meetings and reaching out to one another. We also will continue to work on having our own Chapter facility close to campus. In addition, we will work with the Sorority and Fraternity Engagement Office and the Collegiate Panhellenic Council to join primary recruitment and become more established and recognized on campus. Currently, we have 32 Active Members.

Epsilon Alumnae

Some of our successes were involvement in the National Organization at the director, committee, and foundation level. We also continue to have many professional alumnae, a strong presence at Convention, and being able to offer assistance to the Active Chapter. Some of the challenges include no Alumnae Ceremonies to meet new sisters, having to cancel our five-year retreat and no events with the Active Chapter. Currently, we have 16 Professional Members.

Zeta Active

The Chapter is currently focused on increasing numbers and supporting current members. We were happy to recruit a Candidate during the pandemic. We have been able to host nine events such as trivia night, crown crafting, bakery night, coffee meet and greet, pet show and tell, and guided meditation. In the future, we are hoping to have a larger turn out for recruitment events and at least recruit 5 more Candidates. Currently, we have 7 Active Members.

Zeta Alumnae

Alum Sisterhood and Chapter Health have been well. The Chapter has experienced an increase in the amount of general participation and professional/pre-professional alum interest. We had a successful virtual Chapter meeting and have adapted to plan other Alum events that can be done virtually. We have been working to add more seasonal/regularly scheduled Alum

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events as well as making events virtual for now, so that we can provide more Sisterhood opportunities. We are looking forward to increasing professional/pre-professional Alumnae, participating in a philanthropy event, and revising our bylaws. Currently, we have 7 Professional Members.

Eta Active

This semester, we maintained membership numbers, had regular meetings and attempted to continue business as usual. We have continued rose, bud and thorn at the beginning of each meeting. We struggled with attendance since all meetings were online and no in-person socials were allowed.

We are looking forward to editing our bylaws since it has been two years since they were last reviewed. Currently, we have 12 Active Members.

Theta Active

We had exceptionally good attendance this semester. We had fewer sisters having to make up recruitment events. We also had virtually perfect Chapter attendance. It was very encouraging that people still wanted to show up even when we couldn't do things we normally do and that everyone still wanted that connection. We planned in more time before each Chapter. Obviously, this semester has been unprecedented and its much harder to maintain Sisterhood and a feeling of connection when we cannot physically do so many of the things that help to build Sisterhood. We did our best to plan out interactions and socializing with Sisters, but some of the best friendship building moments come out of the unplanned and unexpected.

We are looking forward to increasing relations with our new Alumnae Chapter. We would like to do more events with them and really build up that connection so Sisters can have a smooth transition to Alumna status and feel like they have a consistent support system. We would also like to improve relations with our leadership consultant and Nationals. Currently, we have 17 Active Sisters.

Theta Alum

We released the first Chapter newsletter over the summer. We also planned and held our first retreat. This was virtual due to the pandemic, but we hope to have these at a destination in the future. We also have had almost monthly virtual hangouts. Some of the challenges have included the pandemic and hitting our Sisters quite hard. We have had trouble planning events due to the time zone differences for some of our Sisters. Participation and communication also deteriorated towards the end of the year, possibly because of COVID-19 related mental/emotional hardship or women are no longer interested in virtual hangouts. Currently, there are 7 Professional Members.

Iota Active

The communication between E-Board Members, Committee heads, and general Members improved drastically this semester. Given the circumstances, communication was a key aspect in making things run smoothly. The beginning of the semester was a little rough because so much was still unknown, but eventually communication became a lot easier for everyone. Even though most of our events were online we still had great turnout. Being online is definitely not the same as being in person, but still holding events rather than canceling them all gave Sisters something to look forward to.

We are hoping to bring in at least five Candidates this Spring in addition to plan chapter events regarding COVID guidelines. We want to make sure that paperwork and anything that

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has to be done is filled out by the time of the event. We also hop to work on bringing the Chapter in person next semester if possible. We have 19 Active Members.

Iota Alumnae

This past semester we were successful in increasing alumnae participating in events with the Iota Active Chapter. One of the challenges we faced was having to interfere with the Iota Active Chapter to help solve some communication issues. To move forward, we will look for options within our own documents and the National Documents to create a plan of action to better handle these situations in the future. Currently, there are 16 Professional Members.

Kappa Active

This semester was okay. It was a learning curve. Most sisters are upset that we cannot do anything in person. The first third to a quarter of the semester, not a lot happened because everyone was trying to figure out what was happening and how to transition to classes. Recruitment went well. I don't think our Chapter was expecting that many people, but it all worked well. Morale is down though. Once we started doing more social events, it got a little better but there is still something missing.

We are looking forward to recruiting more folks and getting our name out around campus more. We also are looking forward to connecting with other groups on campus and other Chapters. Overall, we would like to improve morale in the Chapter. Currently, we have 27 Active Members.

Lambda Active

We have naturally had some issues with our Chapter health due to the current pandemic. It is much more difficult for sisters to stay close as we are unable to see each other in person and many sisters are not currently living in Chicago. However, this has in some ways been good for us as there was more demand for online events, leading to increased contact between many sisters. There are several sisters who have come to nearly all events and have been able to remain active and involved members, but this leads some of the sisters who are more introverted to be left a bit behind as online interactions can be difficult and awkward. We hope to encourage those members to be more involved and vocal in the coming quarter. We will be increasing the number of sisterhood events this quarter to improve our chapter health.

We have taken on one of our largest classes this quarter with the Zeta class, and they all are very valued members of our sisterhood. Several of them have taken on leadership positions and they all seem to be close. Their transition into the Chapter has been as smooth as it can be considering that all Chapter operations have been held online and will be for the foreseeable future. We hope that they will be able to help the next incoming class transition as they were the first to be brought on through a fully online recruitment. Currently, we have 13 Active Members.

Mu Active

This semester, although we were online, we were able to still recruit and initiate six new Members and start the development of a new speaker series. Our new Members have said that our rush process was as involved as possible in our circumstance. They still believed they belong with our organization although the process was not as personal or involved as previous semesters. For our speaker series, we have reached out to the Alumnae and professors in our community. We have had interest and plan to reconnect in the beginning of the new semester to set out dates for the series to take place.

This past year, the Abolish Greek Life movement has made our chapter

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take a step back and assess why we are here and on campus. Due to this movement, we have lost one Member. We have also lost interest in joining due to this issue. We believe that it is because our presence is not known as much as those sororities that are Panhellenic. In the coming semesters, we need to push our advertisement and spread awareness of our inclusive sorority. Currently, we have 24 Active Members.

Nu Active

This semester was great. We held our first virtual rush which brought in a great new Epsilon class. They have been interactive and fit well with everyone in the sorority thus far. Everyone has been supporting one another through these difficult times and we have all enjoyed every moment we have seeing each other virtually as it allows for us to refuel our social meters. Looking forward to keeping this up with the sisters who decide to come back and be active. We made progress on communication within our chapter and maintaining a good relationship with one another even throughout this time. We were struggling last semester due to the hurricanes and the pandemic.

We are looking forward to furthering our bond with one another especially since a huge portion of our Sisters are graduating this upcoming semester. We want to provide more comfort throughout the hard times we are still facing and maintain a good environment for our sisters. We also want to make sure the next Executive Board is prepared as much as possible and to have a smooth transition. Currently, we have 24 Active Members.

Xi Active

Our main priority relating to chapter health during Fall Quarter was to maintain participation in online meetings and events. We had good turnout to the general meetings and saw about as many girls coming to online meetings as in person meetings. One of the main challenges we experienced with Chapter health this quarter was getting people to attend online events outside of general meetings. Most of the events consisted of mainly officers and a few active sisters. One of the ways we are hoping to increase attendance at events is to do a “Battle of the Classes” type event where sisters can earn points for their class by attending events. We are also hopeful that more sisters will attend events this coming quarter because we are having Winter rush. This will incentivize Actives to come to events to meet the PNMs.

We had two main goals this quarter which were keep engagement and attendance at events and meeting despite everything being online. Social events had better attendance than others and events with the better turnout were recruitment-oriented game night. Our main goal for Winter Quarter is to have a successful online rush. We are hoping to have about 12 new sisters join our Chapter. We have a full rush schedule planned and are hoping to boost attendance to rush events by using social media. Currently, we have 33 Active Members.

Omicron Active

This semester, we were able to maintain weekly Chapter meetings and hold some Sisterhood events including a virtual retreat. We were not able to meet in person but kept Sisters in touch. There were challenges with not meeting in person, as this is such a different format. We were not prepared enough to do our recruitment events this semester which we had planned on. We are better prepared to hold virtual recruitment next semester and are working on finding new ways to connect even if it is not in person. We are also working on maintaining our successful officer transitions.

We were able to have some events such as the ASK Olympics where there were weekly events with small groups to bond and compete for a prize. We also had game nights, watch parties, and participated in two philanthropy events: Mikah’s Backpack and DEM Philanthropy

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Event. We are looking forward to a successful virtual recruitment this next semester and hoping to grow before the Founding Class graduates. Currently, we have 37 Active Members.

Pi Colony

After the most recent election, we saw an increase in participation and sisterhood. Although we've had a really emotionally draining few months, the remaining members are still enthusiastic and optimistic about what is to come. The current leadership will continue to do everything in their power to keep moving forward and improving Colony health. The Colony has continued to host events such as a resume workshop, winter clothing drive for Chelsea Community Connections, Among Us game night, Secret Santa, as well as participating in BU's club fair and UMOJA's (BU's Black Student Union) Black Lives Matter fundraiser.

In the next semester, we are looking forward to recruiting our Beta Class, adding graduate programs to the list of acceptable majors, reformatting the Executive Board positions and descriptions, incorporate faculty advisor's role into the Colony and adding a diversity and inclusion officer. Currently, we have 24 Members.

Rho Colony

Our first semester as a Colony has been successful despite the pandemic. Recruitment was held online and involved all members in the process. Twelve potential new members were extended bids and all accepted and have continued through new member education. Financially, we have been successful because all members paid their dues and we have started a bank account at the USF Credit Union. A scholastic event was held this semester to promote academic success. As part of our publicity, we participated in the Welcome Back Jam, a virtual organization fair, and we have also maintained a social media presence that is consistently growing. We have had many virtual social events, including game nights, a murder mystery event, and events where the Founders and Alpha class could get to know each other.

In pursuing philanthropic efforts, we have participated in two main events, first the week long social media campaign in partnership with Feeding Tampa Bay and second the holiday shirt sale. The shirt sale raised \$82.50 for our national philanthropy, Donors Choose. While all these events fostered sisterhood, we also had a sisterhood night with a ballet class led by Sabrina Downing, the colony's sisterhood chair, where many sisters gathered virtually to support each other in the lesson and learn basic ballet. Currently, we have 27 Members.

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National Foundation Update

Upcoming Events

2021 National Scholarship Essay Deadline

Date: May 1, 2021

Time: 11:59pm CDT

2021 National Scholarship Committee Meeting

Date: June 27, 2021 – Tentative

Time: TBD

2021 Alpha Sigma Kappa Educational Foundation National Meeting

Date: July 24, 2021

Time: TBD

Announcements

2021 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

As announced in January, the essay topic for the 2021 ASK National Scholarship is "Supporting Sisters/Fellow Members." Essays are due **May 1st by 11:59pm** Central time. Please submit your scholarship essay using the Scholarship tab at www.askwits.com/scholarships/.

Note: This scholarship is open to ASK active student members only - must be active by scholarship deadline.

WEBSITE UPDATES

Our website www.askwits.org has undergone and is currently undergoing updates. Please bear with us during the construction period. Please let us know if you have any comments.

Also, please like us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for more up-to-date information.

ANNUAL MEETING

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Our annual meeting will be held Saturday, July 24, 2021. The time will be announced soon. A conference call line will be available for all to join. Only professional alum members carry a vote.

Elections will be held for the following positions: Treasurer, and one Advisory Board Member (National Scholarship Co-Chair). Please send questions and nominations to ask.educational.foundation@gmail.com by July 1, 2021. Note: you must be a professional alum member to hold a position.

DONATIONS

Help us to provide scholarships within our organization. Please visit www.askwits.org/donate/ for information on how to donate. All donations are tax deductible and provide financial assistance to Active Members of Alpha Sigma Kappa - Women in Technical studies. Every donation counts!

#GivingTuesday

This year we actively took part in the social media campaign #GivingTuesday and had great success. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped us exceed our goal! Keep us in mind for next year on November 30, 2021.

Volunteer Opportunity

Want to get involved? ANY ASK Alumna, regardless of your professional status, can be a part of our 2021 National Scholarship Committee. The time requirement is very minimal. Email us at ask.educational.foundation@gmail.com if you are interested.

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National Standing and Goal Committee Reports

If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please see <https://ask-wits.com/chairs-committees/> for more information.

Exploratory Committee

Over the past few months, the Exploratory Committee has been looking at the current NBoD structure to identify any changes to best fit the organization. We have sent surveys out to each of the board members as well as looked at other organizations. In the next few weeks, be on the lookout for an invite to a roundtable where we will seek everyone's input on the NBoD structure. If you are interested in joining the committee, please reach out to us!

Document Review Committee

The committee posted and completed a survey about technical majors. The survey had over 200 responses and was reviewed during the November meeting. After comparing this to the Excel sheet the National Board of Directors uses to check for class requirements, majors have been selected of what will be added. We have also worked on developing the language needed to update the Constitution. We also are working on updating the spreadsheet for it to be filled out by chapter's when they are requesting a new major.

Over the next quarter, we are hoping to work on checks and balances for the National Organization as well as the process and procedures for resigning from a position. We will also be working on impeachment paperwork/development of a procedure. There will also be guidelines for what the BOD does in this kind of situation as well.

Traditions Committee

Traditions committee is continuing to work on the Symphony and Chants documents. We also have begun working on a national initiation gift for members to receive on their initiation date this spring. If you would like to assist this committee or have any thoughts on these documents, please reach out to Eliza at schumereliza@gmail.com.

Trademark and Copyright Committee

The committee is slated to meet at the beginning of the new year to file the trademarks for the crest and letters. After this, a meeting will be held to start drafting policy and guidelines for trademarks and set priorities for the remainder of 2021.

Newsletter Committee

The committee has started to transition to a co-chair structure with a plan for a full committee transition. The committee was able to assess the delegate survey on the future of the newsletter as well as gather information for the next issues. The Winter issue will be distributed January 2021. In the future, the committee is hoping to set a timeline for 2021 submission and distribution deadlines, compose a Spring issue, recruit more committee members and create page templates.

Emergency Response Committee

The committee will meet in January and is still looking to recruit members to the committee!

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National Donors Choose Committee

The committee met on November 7 to discuss event and to begin writing a proposal for the event. The committee is interested in contacting Chapters for feedback on the proposal over the next several months.

Awards Committee

Nominations for Sister awards will open this month! Be on the look out for an announcement on the National Facebook page and information sent out to Chapters through Chapter emails.

Website Committee

The committee continues to work on suggestions and improvements from the National Board of Directors, updating current content linking our social media pages for the public and prospective members to view. Significant progress was made in updating pages and content.

Professional Development Committee

The committee is meeting to discuss and plan potential plans for an industry and graduate school panel for interested Sisters.

2021 Convention Update

The committee has reviewed the results of the survey sent out to the National Organization and past Convention attendees gauging interest and feelings regarding the upcoming National Convention in Chicago, IL. The committee is working closely with the National Board of Directors to start planning Convention with COVID-19 safety being the priority.