

SAGA MONTHLY

SIGMA TAU GAMMA FRATERNITY

NOBLE MAN INSTITUTE SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SIG TAU

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Imagine your chapter president informing you that he registered you for a new member program through Sig Tau. He insists that you will have fun, but you're still apprehensive. Later that next month, you arrive to a wooded area to stay in a cabin for two nights with 50 plus men from the around the country you have never met. Sounds like the start of a spooky season movie marathon.

However, this is not a scary movie setting; this is Noble Man Institute. This is a time you will meet other men, just like you, who just started their lifelong journey in Sig Tau. This is the weekend you will be challenged and encouraged by your brothers as you try a new ropes course. This is the time to sit with other at a campfire and dive deeper into what makes you a noble gentleman. This is Noble Man Institute, a weekend filled with brotherhood, leadership development, Sig Tau history, and inspiring alumni panel, and personal growth.

Noble Man Institute is a member's first opportunity to meet brothers from around the country, experience a national leadership program, and discover the lifelong brotherhood of Sigma Tau Gamma. Centering around the Principles, Noble Man brings together alumni and undergraduate members to develop leadership skills, expand knowledge of the fraternity, and facilitate team building.

Since its inception in 2016, the retreat-based format is hosted in a camp setting, utilizes large and small group settings, is facilitated by the peers of attendees, includes ropes challenge courses, family-style meals, an evening campfire and alumni panel. After this experience, members return to campus with a better understanding of their leadership style and a stronger and deeper connection to the fraternity. Attendees develop a vision for themselves and their fraternity and will use that vision, along with their newly honed leadership skills, to help move their chapter forward and make a difference on their campus and community.

Our organization depends on the brothers of the future. This is why Noble Man Institute is designed specifically for the newest members of Sig Tau – the future leaders of our chapters and campuses. Noble Man Institute challenges our members to live courageously and harness their nobility to lead others.

Sigma Tau Gamma would not be able to provide undergraduate members with educational leadership programming such as Noble Man Institute without the generous and loyal support of those who give their time, talent, and treasure to the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation. Because of generous donors, Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation is able to provide funding for the 2019 Noble Man Institute.

"I have grown incredibly as a gentleman because of Sigma Tau Gamma. This institute has spearheaded this growth by giving me direction, motivation, and ideas to bring back to [my chapter]."

– **Chip Sattler, Ohio State**

"Out of all of the experiences I have had as a Sig Tau, Noble Man Institute is consistently the one I gain the most value from and feel like I serve the most purpose at. This is my third year attending, and second straight serving as an undergraduate facilitator. I am inspired to stay active [in Sigma Tau Gamma] after I graduate in May [2019] because of events like this."

– **Jake Armuth, Purdue**

"The skills our brothers learn here significantly impact them and they will become better leaders of our fraternity. As a facilitator, it is my hope that this information being taught to our newest Sig Taus will change their own chapters and our organization for the better. I have learned so much from this program, as both a facilitator and program attendee."

– **Nate Patterson, Colorado State**

THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SIG TAU THIS MONTH

1

CENTENNIAL REGISTRATION

During the month of November, registration will be available for Grand Conclave Kansas City and the Centennial Celebration.

2

TWO NEW CHAPTERS

The Eta Mu Associate Chapter was installed at the University of Kansas on October 18, and the Eta Nu Associate Chapter was installed at the University of Wisconsin on October 25.

3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Fraternity's Board of Directors met in Indianapolis, Indiana October 24–27.



SAGA MONTHLY

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SIGTAU.ORG

FROM DELTA TAU, TO THE RADIO BOOTH, FOOTBALL FIELD, AND ADMINISTRATION



Chad Smith, Indiana State, is making headlines in his home state of Indiana, as the Athletic Director of Pendleton Heights High School. Pendleton Heights is one of a few area schools offering free admission for high school students with a valid school ID for all high school athletic events. We caught up with Smith this month to learn more about the noble man that makes him the brother, athletic director, educator, and Sig Tau that he is today.

“Joining Sig Tau was the greatest decision of my life. Everything that has happened to me is a direct result of me being a Sig Tau!”

- Chad Smith, *Indiana State*





1. WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE LIKE WHEN YOU DECIDED TO JOIN SIG TAU?

Initially, I had no desire to join a fraternity. Quite frankly, I thought joining a fraternity was just not my style. I had a negative attitude towards the whole idea. By the time I realized I was in the process of joining a few days later, it was too late to go back. **After being an athlete my entire life, I was missing that feeling of “team” and camaraderie and I felt like Sig Tau could fill that void.**

2. WHAT PATH LED YOU TO THE CAREER AND LIFE YOU HAVE NOW?

After getting my degree in Radio-TV-Film at Indiana State in 2003, I took a long look at how I could make my degree work and possibly contribute to high school students. Because I had such a high desire to coach football and because of my loyalty to him, my high school football coach gave me an opportunity to come home and coach. Little did I know I was starting a 13-year coaching career. I packed my belongings and moved back to Pendleton, Indiana with no money and no job. I began substitute teaching as I was becoming a licensed teacher. I was fortunate to have timing on my side and a teaching position at our high school radio station opened up. I was in that position for seven years and really enjoyed the work. After putting myself in position to become the next head football coach at our high school, another curve ball was sent my way. My superintendent asked me if I had any feelings about being the next Athletic Director. After thinking long and hard and help from my family, I felt like in the role of AD I would be able to make a bigger impact on our youth. After four years as the Pendleton Heights AD, I can say it was the right decision. I am one of the few people in this world that gets up every day excited to go to work and truly love what I do.

Along the way, I met my wonderful wife Sara who is also an Indiana State University graduate. She teaches 3rd grade and because of her I get to do this job to the best of my ability. She also has helped me become a better teacher as well. We are blessed to have two kids, Madelyn (11) and Grayson (4).

I hope that after serving as a chapter president and the president of the Delta Tau Alumni Association for seven years, others consider me an asset to our fraternity and someone with knowledge to handle a multitude of situations that come about in a fraternity atmosphere. I am always willing to lend an ear and lord knows I have no problem giving honest answers, which is a blessing and a curse!

3. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT THE WORK YOU DO AS AN ATHLETIC DIRECTOR?

Without a doubt my favorite part is seeing student-athletes enjoy success after they have worked hard to achieve it. I also enjoy being able to teach them on how to handle both success and failure.

4. CAN YOU SPEAK TO THE PRINCIPLES AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT IN REGARD TO YOUR EXPERIENCE?

I can say that I firmly believe in the Principles of Sigma Tau Gamma. There is no question that as a college student, people are at a point their life where they can make critical decisions that can change the course of their life. I always based my decisions on the Principles and there is no question that I have benefited by doing so. **I know that I am a better leader of peers, better leader of students, better father, and better husband because of my Sig Tau experience.**

5. IT'S BEEN ABOUT 20 YEARS SINCE YOU WERE INITIATED, WHAT DOES THE SIG TAU BROTHERHOOD MEAN TO YOU NOW? HAS THIS CHANGED SINCE YOUR COLLEGIATE YEARS?

For me, there is no question that the meaning of brotherhood has changed over time. In college, I feel like the term “brotherhood” probably gets over-used and I don't think you really learn the meaning of brotherhood until life away from the daily activity of your chapter. As my brothers and I have aged, we don't see each other on a daily basis. Sometimes it is months between visits and sometimes years. I feel like I truly value the time when we are together more now than when I did as a student. **My brothers now have truly become a part of my family.** We are at each others weddings, family member funerals, and births of children.

