

HOUSTON FELLOWSHIP AND BROTHERHOOD

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On Thursday, February 13, 2020, over 20 alumni gathered together in Houston, TX, for an alumni reception hosted by the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation. Six different Sig Tau chapters were represented, including members from the Epsilon Phi Chapter at Alabama, Gamma Phi Chapter at Southern Indiana, Epsilon Zeta Chapter at Embry-Riddle, and the Delta Epsilon Chapter at Texas State.

A 2000 initiate of the Delta Epsilon Chapter, brother Jarrod Turley, Texas State, was in attendance, and he said that being in a Fraternity was not a part of his plan when he was an undergraduate.

"I didn't become a member of Sig Tau until later in college as I transferred from a junior college to Texas State. At first, I was not a fraternity guy. I was anti-fraternity of sorts, but I had some friends growing up that decided to join Sig Tau. I started hanging out with them, and I saw that Sig Tau was not your stereotypical fraternity experience," Turley said. "I saw how diverse the chapter was and how the guys were all doing good things. Looking back on it, my entire life has been impacted because of Sig Tau."

Also in attendance was Major Gifts Officer Michael Priolo, Buffalo. This was the first alumni

event Michael had attended and was very excited to hear the stories of so many brothers in the area.

"The Houston Alumni Reception was a great first event for me as we set the vision of what we want these to look like in the future. It was engaging, and provided our alumni in the Houston area the ability to network, make social connections, and to tell their Sig Tau story," Priolo said.

Those echos of success were heard from multiple alumni, including Brother Turley.

"The reception was casual and informal. It was a cash bar, the food was good, and it was the perfect experience to meet new Sig Taus, and to catch-up with old chapter brothers. I've always stayed close to Sig Tau, either through my alumni association or as a donor, and this is just another way for me to stay connected."



THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SIG TAU THIS MONTH

1

SEE WHO IS ATTENDING

Interested in seeing the brothers who have registered for the Centennial Celebration at Grand Conclave Kansas City? Make sure to check out the new attendee list feature on sigtau.org.

2

FELLOWSHIP DAY

This month, on Fellowship Day, Brothers across the country gathered to give back to our local communities. Fellowship Day - celebrated on February 28 - is the day Sig Tau dedicates to celebrate our Founding during the school year.

3

JOIN THE HQ TEAM AS AN INTERN

Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters is now accepting applications for the Grand Conclave Kansas City Intern position. This is a volunteer opportunity responsible for assisting in the execution of the Centennial Celebration at Grand Conclave Kansas City this June.



GAMMA CHI WINNING TRADITION DURING WINTER CARNIVAL

Could you imagine spending days upon days, even weeks, outside in the middle of winter, with an average high temperature of 22 degrees, making statues out of ice and snow? While this might not seem like the most thrilling time for everyone, the brothers of the Gamma Chi Chapter at Michigan Tech. look forward to this moment every January. Winter Carnival, as it has come to be known by around campus, is a multi-day festival that is filled with games and competitions including, snow volleyball, curling, snowboarding, human-dog sled race, and the most time consuming of them all.... statue.

"When we return from winter break, we immediately begin to build our statue," said Michigan Tech. Chapter President Seth Jensen-Younk.

This year, the chapter partnered with Alpha Gamma Delta to build around the theme "pre-historic." Building out an entire scene takes time, preparation, and dedication. Once the chapter is notified of the theme, brothers begin to draw out potential ideas and turn those into reality.

"Each brother involved works 8 hours a week, and we start the Monday after the holiday break. The night before judging, everyone works all night to put it together," Jensen-Younk said.

There hard work and dedication paid off as they placed first in the co-ed division of statue, and third overall. With the pre-historic theme, the chapter decided to build a towering 15-foot tall woolly mammoth, two smaller woolly mammoths, and saber-tooth tigers, with the tigers getting ready to strike.

"Working on statue is hard, and it's no secret all of the events are a ton of work, but it is a ton of fun to step back and see the end product when you are done. It is something we take a lot of pride in, and it is a fun way to socialize with the campus and our community," Jensen-Younk said.

BROTHERHOOD



INTERNS OPEN UP



Over the last few summers, the Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters Intern experience has helped undergraduates hone their skills and excel in a professional environment. We asked three previous conference/summer interns (Austin Coffey-Moore, Fitchburg State; Aleks Hudson, Purdue; and Brent Levy, Cincinnati) about their experience and how they have benefited from it.

Q: What led you to apply for the position?

ACM: For me, as soon as I heard about being an intern, I hopped on it right away, I had never been to a conclave before and being able to see it from the other side of things interested me. The idea of networking and making connections - it got me the experience of networking with those who were higher up.

AH: Last year, I was hoping to get more involved with something, and most of the internships I was looking at were only looking at juniors and seniors. I was a sophomore and was super involved in the chapter, and I thought it was too good of an experience to pass up.

BL: When I first applied for a summer internship at Headquarters in 2017, I applied so that I could mainly gain experience. Also, so I could see how Sig Tau was run behind the scenes. I was interested in learning more about the business side of how a national fraternity was run. At the end of that summer, I knew that I wanted to come back and intern at HQ again. So, for the following two summers, I applied to be an intern at Grand Conclave Phoenix, and for the summer of 2019.

Q: What did you learn from your time as a Headquarters Intern?

ACM: I think something I learned is how much work goes into the summer conference and how much detail goes into it running smoothly. Everyone is so different, from staff to volunteers to interns, but everyone works so hard and has a common bond to make Sig Tau the best it can be and to make the summer conference unforgettable.

AH: I learned a lot about professional work culture and how to conduct myself in a professional business. I learned a lot about how HQ operates and how things are done there. It is an interesting perspective to have as an undergrad. I got to learn so much about a conference and what goes into it. I never thought I would be interested in that, but now it really interests me. I'm actually looking at graduate programs where I can focus on nonprofit management.

BL: Each time I was a Headquarters Intern, I learned more than the time before. I learned more about Sig Tau nationally and got a deeper appreciation for our brotherhood. I learned what it takes to work in a post-college setting. I learned to prioritize my projects and get them completed on time.

Q: How has your experience helped you in your collegiate/professional career?

ACM: It really gave me a huge sense of professionalism. The business meetings, the formal side of things, it taught me to hold myself to a higher standard. It developed my career skills for time management, balancing things well, and being able to work with other people to accomplish a task together.

AH: It gave me the experience in the professional world that has helped me with interviewing and talking with people in various industries. As a student, it's impacted how I view things and how to make an impact on the chapter level.

BL: When I first started as an intern at Headquarters, I knew only the basics of working in the communications field. I didn't have firsthand experience working in communications. I can confidently say that with all the skills and knowledge I have now, I'll be able to grow my professional career in communications. I was able to run and get elected as Director of Education & Wellness because of my experiences with Sig Tau nationally. I took what I learned and was able to apply it to the classes I was taking. I found what I was learning in my classes relatable because I used the knowledge from my time as an intern.

Q: What advice would you give to those who are thinking about applying?

ACM: I would say apply and take in every aspect of the experience if you get it. Time goes by fast, but being able to learn and go to a conclave is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Put yourself out there and step out of your comfort zone to learn, grow, and network.

AH: Do it! Everyone that was a part of the experience was wonderful. I was able to meet so many new people, and I was able to work with so many alumni, and that was amazing to be able to do.

BL: I would tell anyone who is thinking about applying not to hesitate. Working for Headquarters was the most rewarding and amazing experience of my life. You will gain a deeper love for Sig Tau that you didn't think was possible. Being a Headquarters Intern will set you up for future successes in your life, professionally and personally.