Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity President-Elect and Board of Directors Candidate 2022 – 2024 Term

Jeremiah King, Missouri S&T Alpha Omega Chapter



1. Over the past decade, Sig Tau has taken many steps to build a strong foundation for a successful future. What action(s) by the Fraternity in recent years do you believe is (are) the most critical to it building a strong, successful future? What are the implications of that action? Explain why.

Response: I believe the emphasis on programming (Webb Academy, National Meetings, Noble Man Institute, etc.) for the Undergraduates is the most critical to building a strong, successful future. Without the Undergraduates, the Fraternity would not be where it is today. While every Chapter is unique in their own way, the Fraternity's programming is what ties them all together. For example, regardless of time of year for RUSH that a campus may dictate, recruitment of potential members does not change. Once the potential members become associate members, they are associate members of Sig Tau, not just a single Chapter. This continues to active member and alumni member. Giving the Undergraduates this solid foundation is what will provide the Fraternity with a solid foundation to continue building a strong, successful future.

2. What do you believe is the most critical external challenge faced by the Fraternity? Explain why. How should Sig Tau position itself to successfully deal with this challenge?

Response: Without a doubt, I see negative press coverage as the most critical external challenge faced by the Fraternity. This isn't just negative press coverage of Sig Tau, but of the entire Greek community across the country, both Fraternity and Sorority. As I'm sure everyone has noticed, when a Fraternity or Sorority does something not in line with the values of the Greek community, that news is broadcast far and wide and the coverage and subsequent discussion eventually moves to what purpose the Greek Community plays in today's society.

I believe Sig Tau has already begun and continues to deal with this challenge with Member Safety and Wellness Policy that was been implemented a few years ago. Furthermore, this policy continues to be thoroughly reviewed within the programming for the Undergraduates and their buy-in is actively sought and received. But moving forward, the emphasis on this Policy cannot wane and needs to be followed and every member (undergraduate, alumni, staff, etc.) needs to adhere to what it requires of us.

Additionally, greater collaboration with the greater Greek community as a whole will help ensure we are all doing as much as we can to educate our members on the importance of membership safety and wellness. It's important to note that this isn't meant to restrict the Greek community, but to enable it to continue the good each individual Fraternity and Sorority is known for.

3. What career or life experiences you have had that would most beneficially contribute to the deliberations and decisions of the Board?

Response: In my profession I am responsible for managing multiple projects at a time and each one presents a new challenge. When a problem is discovered, it is human instinct to execute the first solution we arrive at. I am fortunate enough to work for a company that focuses on thinking outside the box to find solutions. The founder of my company often says, "If you're not looking for creative

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ideas, you'll never find any." This mindset has taught me to stop, step back, take another look, and reevaluate the situation. More often than not, the best solution is the third or fourth idea that comes to mind.

I also come from a big family where I am the fourth of six children, four of which are men, so I was fortunate enough to experience brotherhood from the day I was born. Needless to say, we never got along 100% of the time and looking back it was very similar to my life in the Chapter house. I came to realize that Sigma Tau Gamma is a family, too, and although we might have our disagreements, we all wanted what was best for the group as a whole. The only real disagreement was debate over how best to attain it.

It all comes down to this: No brother wishes something bad to befall Sigma Tau Gamma, but quite the opposite. Every brother in Sigma Tau Gamma deeply cares for the organization and wants it to succeed. Unfortunately, not every brother will agree on what path to follow to ensure success. I believe that my career and life experiences have taught me how to be able to cross the divides, integrate different opinions, search for creative solutions, and help us all find the common ground that will bring us continued success.

4. What item(s) in the 2025 Strategic Plan do you think is (are) most important? What item(s) would you change? Explain why.

Response: It's difficult to pinpoint a single item that is most important as they all tie together and rely on each other in order to successfully implement and follow the current Strategic Plan.

One of the most important items is Membership Development, the programming that we offer to the Undergraduates. It goes back to being able to tie it all into one Sig Tau as well as providing the Fraternity with a solid foundation to grow.

Another important item is the Foundation. In order to provide top notch programming, we need to have the funds to provide these educational benefits. Instilling in all members, whether active or alumni, the importance of giving back will help set the example for future members so the existing programming can be built upon and expanded to more Undergraduates.

5. If you could ask a candidate for the Board any one question, what would it be? Please provide your own answer to that question.

What do you believe is the purview of the Board of Directors?

Response: The Board of Directors is not meant to manage the day-to-day operations of the Fraternity, that responsibility falls on the CEO and the staff he/she employs. The Board of Directors are there to govern the Fraternity between meetings of the Grand Conclave. Put another way, the Board of Directors provides the ends while the CEO determines the means. A lot of the responsibility is to look at where the Fraternity needs to be in the next 5, 10, or 20 years and letting the CEO determine the best way to get there.