

## EPSILON TAU CHAPTER FINDS RECRUITMENT SUCCESS

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**For the Epsilon Tau Chapter at UNC Charlotte, they know recruitment is the lifeblood of the chapter. Brother Robert Sutton, UNC Charlotte, knew this all too well as he was tasked as director of recruitment to recruit the next generation of noble men. As he described, he had a goal to leave the chapter bigger and better than when he assumed his role.**

"I knew I had lofty goals, but I knew we were losing a big chunk of guys with graduation. I was beyond nervous, but we put together a recruitment team or bid committee, as we call it locally, of 17 guys [to honor our 17 founders] to help find and talk to potential new members."

Through this committee, they were given an in-depth tutorial on using ChapterBuilder. This software streamlined the potential new member process, and they had time to review everything Robert learned at Webb Academy about recruitment.

"I had no idea what I was doing before I attended Webb Academy. Through that, I learned what we should be doing, and we put it into action. We signed up for move-in, had pre-rush events, talked to guys on the first day of classes, and made it a point to create friendships with guys before talking about the fraternity."

Through the chapter's efforts, they initiated 27 new brothers last year. They make the entire process unforgettable for the new members, including capping off the experience with the *Azure and White Dinner*, a formal dinner for brothers and their guests. Robert says that building relationships is the cornerstone of recruitment.

**"WE PREACH OUR PRINCIPLES AND ON BUILDING GENUINE RELATIONSHIPS WITH GUYS. WE ENCOURAGE GUYS TO GRAB FOOD TOGETHER, GO TO THE GYM, AND GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS. ALL THOSE THINGS ADD TO CREATING A FRIENDSHIP AND BUILDING A BROTHERHOOD."**

## THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SIG TAU THIS MONTH

1

### OFFICERS TRAINED AT WEBB ACADEMY

Nearly 300 chapter officers were trained at virtual and in-person Webb Academy earlier this month.

2

### UNDERGRADUATE FACILITATORS NEEDED

We are seeking upperclassmen to [volunteer](#) for the spring Noble Man Institute. Volunteers must be on site Thursday afternoon through Sunday to lead small groups of newly initiated members through curriculum and team-building activities.

3

### NEW MARKETPLACE ITEM

A padfolio can now be purchased through the [Sig Tau Marketplace](#). The black padfolio features a zipper and the Sig Tau Seal on the front.



# EPSILON PHI ALUMNUS MAKING WAVES ON CAPITAL HILL



**Brother Wesley Harkins, Alabama, serves as communications director for Representative Bice of Oklahoma and has had first-hand experience with some of the most influential situations in recent American history. We sat down with him to hear his Sig Tau story and to see how things he learned as an undergraduate brother are still with him today.**

**Q: HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR WAY TO BEING A COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR FOR A SITTING MEMBER OF CONGRESS?**

**A:** I graduated in 2017 from Alabama, and for as long as I can remember, I've always been interested in politics. After graduating, I moved to Philadelphia and spent a little over a year actually doing cancer research. I learned that while I enjoyed my job, I wanted to work in DC and serve on the hill, so I quit my job and started interning on capital hill. I interned for four months and came in during a big switch in power in the house of representatives. During that transition, I became a staff assistant and gave tours, processed flag requests, and answered phone calls. From there, I was promoted to press secretary and became more involved with social media and the digital side of things. I wrote press releases, weekly newsletters and proofed content before it was published. Then I was promoted to communications director where I now oversee any communication from our office.

**Q: WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST EXCITING THING YOU HAVE SEEN WHILE WORKING ON CAPITOL HILL?**

**A:** Without getting too political, I've witnessed two impeachments, a global pandemic, and many other things. Let's just say it's an unusual time to be in politics, but I'm proud to say I've had a part in social media through all of this. Having to manage a representative's social media in the recent political climate can sometimes be challenging to cut through the narrative. Still, we believe in sharing things that just don't make noise but can have an impact.

**Q: HOW HAS SIG TAU HELPED PLAY A ROLE IN WHERE YOU ARE TODAY?**

**A:** Sig Tau has taught me the importance of friendship and brotherhood. There are other brothers in DC here with me. The fraternity helped shape me into the man I am today. Sig Tau helped give me the confidence to network and how to talk to people. I attended national Sig Tau events and learned how to network with successful people from all over the country, which is exactly what I do today.

**Q: IF AN UNDERGRADUATE BROTHER OR YOUNG ALUMNUS IS READING THIS AND WANTS TO GET INVOLVED IN LOCAL OR NATIONAL POLITICS, WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE THEM?**

**A:** The first step is not to be scared. The first question I get asked is, "How am I ever going to get started?" You would be shocked at the number of people who don't apply to come intern here. If you want a job here, you have to be here. Start networking, and don't be afraid to utilize resources. Go to LinkedIn, go to social media and find brothers, find school alumni in the area and start the conversation. It's all relationship-building and utilizing the resources that you have.

**Q: WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU, AND WHAT ARE YOU EXCITED ABOUT FOR THIS YEAR?**

**A:** I'm excited as another transition of power just happened, and we have to find new ways to handle things. Everything is new, and every day is different. It's one of the things I really like, and it's a fast-paced environment. Something you hear about on the news is what I work on daily. I actually had a brother from Auburn recently come to visit and tour the capitol, and it rekindled my excitement for my job. It's an honor to work in one of the most powerful governments in the world.







## FROM THE ARCHIVES

This month we feature the history of Webb Academy. The first officer training program was held in December of 1985, with 30 chapter presidents in attendance at what was then called the "Chapter Presidents Boot Camp."

The program has grown to be one of the most essential experiences of each year. It brings together executive cabinet members across the country, providing the time and space to become more effective leaders and design a framework for chapter success.