

Candidate Questions (REQUIRED)

PLEASE SUBMIT A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE FIVE (5) QUESTIONS ASKED.

(300 words maximum per Question; Responses in excess of maximum will be discarded.)

1) Articulate your vision for the Fraternity in the next 5 – 10 years.

As a Director, I will work toward and advocate the following goals:

- **Improved Chapter Service – Existing Chapters will receive advice, training, and other assistance from Headquarters to ensure their continued operation and success.**
- **Chapter Advisors – Successful chapters tend to have good advisors, while unsuccessful chapters tend to have little to no advising at all. The Fraternity will actively identify, recruit, and train chapter advisors to provide chapters with the support and continuity they need to succeed.**
- **Controlled Growth – The Fraternity will establish chapters at new campuses, making the effort and spending the time necessary to ensure the new chapter's success, while not diminishing the quality of service to existing chapters.**
- **Financial Best Practices – The Fraternity will manage assets and spend undergraduate payments and alumni donations wisely to ensure financial soundness and limit the need to increase fees over time.**
- **Improved Alumni Service – Though our primary focus is on the needs of our undergraduates, Sig Tau is for life, and we must enhance our alumni experience if we want to cultivate volunteers, advisors, and donors to the Fraternity. The Fraternity will offer improved support to alumni associations and chapters, and provide networking and other opportunities to our alumni members.**

If we can accomplish or even make substantial progress towards these goals, together we can achieve my vision for the Fraternity – that Sigma Tau Gamma is financially sound as an organization, provides our members with tangible benefits and a life-changing experience, and is positioned to succeed and support all of its members for many years to come.

4) Explain what you believe is the most critical external challenge faced by the Fraternity? How should Sig Tau position itself to successfully deal with this challenge?

I believe that Questions 2, 4, and 5 are interrelated, so to best explain my view, I will answer them together in the order that makes the most sense.

Our organization faces many external threats. These include the perceived public image of fraternities as inherently problematic, and the reinforcement of that image by the actions of an unrepresentative few groups; increasing regulation at the state, local, and university level; the cultural shift from attending college in person to attendance all or in part online; and the growing cost and complexity involved with just being a fraternal organization, both at the national and chapter levels.

Taken together, this leads to what I believe is our biggest external threat – convincing potential members that fraternity experience is relevant and worthwhile. Because if we cannot continue to grow our Fraternity with new members, we will cease to exist.

How should Sigma Tau Gamma position itself to successfully deal with this challenge? By recognizing the changing environment, adapting to the changing needs of current and future students, and playing to our strengths. Together we can turn some of the threats we face into opportunities, which I will more fully explain in my answer to Question 2 below.

- 2) Explain what you believe is the most exciting opportunity for the Fraternity. How should Sig Tau prioritize this opportunity?

As stated above, our biggest threat is proving that the fraternity experience is still relevant and worthwhile. But this threat is also an opportunity we can capitalize on to demonstrate the value of the fraternity experience.

As our society moves more and more online, there are fewer opportunities for in-person experiences. The essence of the fraternal experience is being together, in person. Sigma Tau Gamma offers leadership experiences, social events, shared living, philanthropic opportunities, and other in-person activities. There will be fewer and fewer opportunities for these kinds of experiences elsewhere, which teach valuable social and interpersonal skills that can help our members succeed in their lives and careers. Future students will want and need these experiences, and their parents may as well; we just need to explain these benefits and convince these men that joining Sigma Tau Gamma is a valuable and safe experience.

All this plays into one of the historical strengths of Sigma Tau Gamma. Our Fraternity may not be the best at all things, but it has always been run like a family. If a member wanted to talk to our CEO or National President, that member would have that chance. If there was a crisis at one of our campuses, we would have a staff member or senior volunteer at that school within 24 hours. We have always excelled at taking care of each other, and in a more and more impersonal world, we should capitalize on that strength to promote Sigma Tau Gamma and the valuable fraternal experience we offer our members.

- 5) With undergraduate enrollment expected to decrease and as generational preferences evolve, how can Sig Tau enhance its membership experience to attract new members, stay relevant, stand out from the competition, and keep existing members engaged?

Sigma Tau Gamma can attract new members, stay relevant, and stand out from the competition in several ways:

- **Play to our strengths – demonstrate to potential new brothers that Sigma Tau Gamma is a home to its members, that we care about the individual, and we offer interpersonal experiences and opportunities that are increasingly rare in our culture but of great value and benefit to those that join.**
 - **Stick to our Principles – though every fraternity has a set of ideals it promotes, our Principles and Ideals – being a Noble Man – holding ourselves to a higher standard – really does distinguish Sigma Tau Gamma from the competition. Compared with other fraternities, Sigma Tau Gamma has a much lower rate of risk management incidences, which shows that our members do strive to be better men, that our Principles have value, and that we do look out for one another.**
 - **Offer and promote more in-person opportunities – Ask any alumnus at the Grand Conclave why they keep coming to these events, and they will tell you it is because of the relationships they have built at these meeting that keeps them coming back. Though these events can be expensive, they provide tremendous value to our members, and we should find ways for more members to have the opportunity to participate.**
 - **Engage our alumni – the Sig Tau experience does not and should not end at graduation. Being a mentor can be a valuable and rewarding experience. Our alumni members have a lot to gain by continuing their participation in the Fraternity, and our members will certainly benefit by having more alumni advisors and volunteers sharing their wisdom and experience to help ensure the success of our chapters and our organization.**
- 3) With what specific skill set(s) and career experiences have you had that would most beneficially contribute to the deliberations and decisions of the Board?

The Fraternity is best served when the House of Delegates elects Directors who have a diversity of backgrounds and experiences, so a wide range of viewpoints can be represented in the boardroom. Having a range of perspectives helps to ensure that the Board of Directors makes the best decisions possible.

The skill I will bring to the Board of Directors is my knowledge and experience, both of Sigma Tau Gamma and the fraternity world in general.

I have formally or informally served as the Fraternity's chief legal counsel for over 13 years, and served as a chapter advisor for over 21 years. I have also served two prior terms on the Board of Directors, and worked as a member of the Headquarters staff. Beyond Sigma Tau Gamma, I have consulted with other national fraternities and sororities on their legal issues, both at the national and local level. No other candidate has this knowledge and experience to bring to our Board of Directors.

And this experience brings value both to the Board of Directors and the Fraternity. Serving as general counsel, I have helped the Fraternity and the Foundation to save tens of thousands in legal fees, and helped the Fraternity avoid lawsuits that could have cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars in claims and reputational damage. Though a Director cannot act as the Fraternity's lawyer, there will be many opportunities for me to help the Fraternity choose the best course of action on difficult issues, given my knowledge and experience.

That said, I'm not going anywhere, and I will continue to do whatever I can for Sigma Tau Gamma, whether I am elected or not :)

Thank you for your consideration.