

Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

Board of Directors Candidate Filing Declaration June 2022 – June 2024 Term

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

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

The college landscape is changing, between students burdened with student debt and the today cost of college, many young individuals are questioning where they belong. Sigma Tau Gamma is an organization that can and will fill that gap to ensure members know where they are going. I see the Fraternity being able to reach out to individuals and not give them an “education” in the college sense but provide the tools of where they need to succeed. I have often told people there are two organizations in my life that have guided me in life, the Boy Scouts and Sigma Tau Gamma. Sigma Tau Gamma is already working towards working towards the future of providing the necessary resources to the very dynamic we strive to serve, and time will provide evidence of this essential drive.

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

I believe the most exciting opportunity is reaching out to the young men who think “Fraternities aren’t for me”. Between my own experience both in my own Chapter and meeting Brothers across the Country, I don’t see my Brothers as the “typical fraternity guy”. Everyone I meet and have met are hardworking gentlemen who strive to do what’s best for them and those around them. This cannot be forgotten. It’s amazing the amount of Brothers, both before and after me, who say they had to work their way through school to ensure they could get both the education and brotherhood they strive for. Coming from a college of roughly 7,000 students and 20 fraternities, this was definitely something that stands out about Sigma Tau Gamma and we can not lose that mindset of “we are here to help you succeed”.

3. Explain what specific skill set(s) and career experiences have you had that would most beneficially contribute to the deliberations and decisions of the Board?

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 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.

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. 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?

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 know 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.

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

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.

It is these programs that will help Sigma Tau Gamma stand out. We need to ensure we are out on campuses marketing why someone should join Sigma Tau Gamma and demonstrating why we are different. In addition, these programs help keep members engaged and know why they joined.