

Kathryn Cavanaugh, PhD, Alpha Theta 2003

Personal Information: b Kankakee, IL 3/8/1981. BS (Chemistry, History minor) 2003 Bradley University Peoria, IL. MS (Chemistry) University of Iowa 2006. PhD (Chemistry) University of Iowa 2009. Post-doctoral researcher The Ohio State University 2009-2014. Adjunct Professor Physical Sciences Pensacola State College 2014-2015. Assistant Professor Physical Sciences Pensacola State College 2015-2023. Associate Professor Natural Sciences 2023-Present.

Professional Involvement: Student ACS member Bradley University 1999-2003; vice-president 2001-2002, co-president 2002-2003. Chair elect Pensacola Section of ACS 2016-2017. Chair Pensacola Section of ACS 2017-2018. Board member Pensacola Section of ACS 2016-2019. Served on various Pensacola State College committees 2016-present. Vice President Faculty Senate Pensacola State College 2025-Present. Member ACS 2003-Present.

Fraternal Involvement: Treasurer Alpha Theta 2005-2006. Member Northern District Committee 2006-2009. Member Great Lakes District Committee 2009-2014. Professional Representative 2011- 2019. Member South Eastern District Committee 2015-2022. Ritual committee member 2016-2018. Member Chemical Demonstration Committee 2019. Ritual Chair 2018-Present. South Eastern District Councillor 2022-Present. Member 2nd Object Outreach Database Committee 2024-Present. Attended 47th -55th, 55th Biennial Conclaves.

Statement and Goals: I'd first like to thank the Nominations Committee. I am honored to have been considered worthy of serving on the Supreme Council. As Grand Master of Ceremonies it will be my job to guide the ritual review, advise collegiates and professionals, guard the fraternity's trademarks, and serve on the Supreme Council. I anticipate a steep learning curve which I can handle. I have served the fraternity on various committees, as a Professional Representative, and District Councillor. Serving as District Councillor has been a master class in problem solving and leadership, and has been one of the most rewarding things I've done. My interaction with collegiates has taught me how to listen, strive to educate rather than punish, delegate, and help others meet their goals. I have counseled chapters through difficult times, and helped them establish new and better paths to follow. I hope to continue this work on the Supreme Council.

Overseeing the decennial review of the ritual will be the linchpin of my tenure as Grand Master of Ceremonies. I served on the Ritual Committee during the 2018 revision, and have been the chair of the Ritual Committee since then. During his tenure as GMC Matt Schnippert asked me and the Ritual Committee to help revise parts of the ritual in between ritual reviews to address safety concerns. This lessened the liability of our collegiate chapters. GMC Hannah Bowman is having the current ritual committee come up with a list of areas for the next Grand Master of Ceremonies to review. This work has prepared me for the work to come.

I will work with my Ritual Chair and Committee to meet and anticipate the needs of the modern fraternity without changing the meaning behind our most sacred rites. I have served and led committees for the fraternity and my College, and have learned how to set and accomplish goals, and how to delegate. I am prepared me to lead and delegate work to a committee of brothers to reach our goal of a safe secure ritual for all. I have identified a problem with our ritual ceremony that must be addressed - the use of a hoodwink on the candidate. Hoodwinks have become examples of hazing, and I have seen hoodwinks become banned at more and more Universities during my tenure as a District Councillor. I believe that we need to do away with them unilaterally to meet the needs of the modern fraternity. There is no space in our fraternity for hazing, and the ritual ceremony must remain a safe and secure experience for all. By

rewriting the ritual eliminating hoodwinks, and addressing other issues I and my Ritual Committee will endeavor to make and keep our sacred ritual a transformational experience that is not misinterpreted as problematic or disparaging in the future, and is a safe space for all.