

Robert John Duff, Gamma Iota 1996

Personal Information:

Born 1975, B.S. Chemistry Virginia Tech,
Senior Specialist at L3Harris Technologies, Inc.
Professional Representative since 2022

Fraternal involvement:

Initiated at Gamma Iota, Spring 1996 (rho class)
Master of Ceremonies @ Beta Chapter 1998-1999
Neo Pro President 2000-2008
Professional Representative 2009-2012, 2021-Present
Attended Conclave 1996 through 2026

Statement and Goals:

I remember my own initiation. No longer like it was yesterday but with amazing detail. I was the first to go through in my pledge class and I can remember everybody who participated and how much I loved the entire ritual and the effort my brothers put into it. Soon after I traveled. First to Especially, to other chapter initiations. It was amazing to see the same ritual but with those little nuances that made it different. A couple of years after my own initiation I got the chance to be MC at Beta chapter. Back then Beta had a house and planning a house initiation can be harder than you might think. Still, I eventually lost count after 100 initiations around the country and still look forward to them. Though I will say that chemical outreach, recruitment, and professional retention have been my focus over the last decade (or two), there is always a place in my heart for our ritual.

Let's get off that for a moment, in my three decades as a brother I've always looked up to the supreme council. Though, I've challenged them in many ways over the years it has been for the purpose of helping them and the fraternity succeed. The supreme council has a hard job running our fraternity of choice. It's taken me a while to be in the place to finally do what I can from within. I'm hoping that I can be less of a pain in the behind while working with the rest of the SC, if I get that opportunity to be the next GMC. I also hope there is someone like me to challenge me as I attempt to lead near the top. Throughout my career I've had many opportunities to lead. As a manager, program lead, and even from below. I'm a firm believe in managing the manager. It's about expectations and expecting 200% is unrealistic. Find me at conclave or email me and I'll tell you all about it.

I can ramble on and on, but I want to come back to the ritual. This next biennium comes the ritual review and revision. Every 10 years our ritual is looked at, audited, rethought, checked for problems, and room for improvement. I've seen three in my time. They've been controversial, thoughtful, and overall, a move in the right direction. The goal is to have ritual that is perfect but

unfortunately, we cannot stop the passage of time. I'm hoping that the fraternity has seen enough of my efforts and passions to know I will do my best in guarding our ritual and the spirit it represents in introducing our new brothers to the fraternity.