

THE Chrome and BLUE of ALPHA CHI SIGMA



June 2025

From the Grand Collegiate Alchemist

Congratulations! We've all made it through another academic year! For most of us, that means that another one awaits us shortly, its inevitable return looming over our summer break as we try to rest and reset. Some of you, however, have reached the end of your academic journey and you're off to something new. Whether it's a new school, a fellowship, or the job market, your brothers will always be there for you. Wear your letters and display them proudly - in your office, on your resume, and on your social media. You'd be quite surprised at the number of people who reach out after seeing them.

I meet many alumni who tell me that they "were" in Alpha Chi Sigma, but I quickly remind them that Alpha Chi Sigma membership is for life. We are all brothers, even when our initiation is a distant memory. Our shared bond of brotherhood transcends not only our lifetime, but geography. While we may share special memories with those we spent time with during our collegiate years or those who walked the same campus as we did, we all share the commitment to come to the aid of any of our brothers when called upon.

When my alma mater (Florida State) recently experienced a tragedy, I heard from brothers all over the country - including some I hadn't spoken with in over a decade. Thankfully, all of our brothers there (including my wife and daughter) were safe, but the outpouring of support was a helpful reminder in a difficult time. If you are struggling with anything, I promise that you have brothers who will be happy to support you while you find your way through.

O=O,
GCA Matt Schnippert
Gamma Beta 2003

From the **PROFESSIONAL** *Branch*



From the Grand Professional Alchemist

Congratulations Graduates!!! Graduation marks a time for excitement and new adventures. It is important, however, that with the new adventures, we remember the fraternal ties of friendship and chemistry that bind us together. This time also marks your transition from the Collegiate Branch to the Professional Branch. There are a myriad of opportunities that await you, from serving on national committees, running for offices, or participating in Professional Groups and Chapters. Continue the enthusiasm that started in the Collegiate Branch and carry that forward into your professional life and endeavors in the Professional Branch. If you have questions about the Professional Branch, please do not hesitate to contact me at GPA@alphachisigma.org. Welcome to the Professional Branch!!!

Yours in the Double Bond,
GPA Faith Yarberry
Alpha Sigma 1992



Back to Basics - Officer Transitions

The end of an academic year generally brings the election of new officers for our chapters. A successful transition between officers is vital to ensure the health of a chapter. What this transition step does is ensure that the new chapter officer has an idea of what they are actually supposed to be doing. Lots of chapter members may have a general idea of what an officer does, but that doesn't mean that they know the nuts and bolts of the actual position. Here are a few tips that you can use to help a current transition and to prepare for those to come:

- Schedule a time for a one-on-one meeting between the outgoing officer and the new one. Ideally, this will be face-to-face so that the old officer can physically hand off important items like keys and passwords and show the new officer where to find things. The reality for many officers is that their predecessor has already left town for a job or new program, so Zoom provides a helpful stand-in that allows a synchronous meeting where new officers can ask real-time questions.
- Stay organized and share your system. We all have very different ideas of what "organized" means, but it's much easier for the newbie to make sense of how you did things if there's a system. As chemists, we're all skilled in pattern recognition - so try to leave a pattern someone else can find. Throughout an officer's time in office, there will be many notes and files that you collect along the way. This might include lists of resources, general calendar/timeline information, templates, or contact information for people or offices that the chapter may need to work with.
- Consider your goals. It's easy to just do a job, but some of the biggest benefit (and enjoyment) comes when you leave a lasting legacy at your chapter. How do you want it to be different when you leave? Is there anything your predecessors left up in the air that you can bring in for a landing?
- Set up a line of communication for later questions that come up. A new officer will try to think of everything they want to know and the outgoing officer will think about what they wish they knew. But there will still be things that get forgotten and go unmentioned. An open connection can make a huge difference in keeping your chapter strong and successful.
- You are not alone! Even if your predecessor disappears without a trace, there is still help available! You can always reach out to your Chapter Advisor, District Counselor, the National Office, or the GCA if you need information relevant to your officer position!

This fall, there will be opportunities to meet with the GCA and others to help officers better understand their roles and responsibilities. Keep an ear out for those announcements when the new school year starts!

A Message *from the GMC*



Care and Keeping of your Initiation Regalia

As the year concludes, I've got an important question for you. Did you clean your regalia before you put it away? At the end of a long initiation, it's tempting to throw everything in boxes quickly and forget about it until the next semester. That may make the next ceremony unpleasant after the last brother's sweat has had six months to bake into the costume.

The regalia worn by brothers at initiation should be cleaned at least once a year - if not every time they're used. While we want them to be a surprise for pledges to see at initiation, the costumes are not actually secret and have been custom made for us by an outside company. That means that they can be taken to a regular dry cleaner to ensure they stay clean and fresh. If you don't have storage where you can hang your costumes, a cleaning right before initiation can help ensure things are freshly pressed and neat for your ceremony.

Given that we put them on our head and face, it's especially important for wigs and beards to be cleaned before every initiation. These can be easily cleaned at home using cold water and Woolite or baby shampoo. Hang them to dry, and then carefully comb them out after they are completely dry. Be sure to give yourself plenty of time for these to dry - especially if your school is in a very humid place.



Welcome to Indianapolis!

Supreme Council Meeting • July 18-19, 2025

Embassy Suites Indianapolis Airport - Plainfield

Summer Supreme Council Meeting

The Supreme Council will be having its annual summer meeting July 18-19 at the Embassy Suites Indianapolis Airport in Plainfield, IN. All brothers are welcome to attend and we'd love for you to join us. This is a great opportunity to meet brothers from around the country and to learn more about what's going on in the fraternity. It's not all work, we also get to spend time together working on the first object after each day's work is done.



ALPHA CHI SIGMA by the Numbers

Alpha Chi Sigma by the Numbers

As of this writing the Fraternity has initiated **81,091** members since its founding in 1902.

The breakdown of our Active Chapters and Groups are as follows:

54 Active Collegiate Chapters **1** Active Collegiate Group **6** Active Professional Chapters **16** Active Professional Groups

The Chrome and Blue is a newsletter published during the academic year primarily for collegiate chapter officers and District Counselors. It also provides information useful to the rest of the Grand Chapter and to any interested Brothers. It serves to communicate news, reminders and updates in a timely manner.

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