

Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity

Professional in the Chemical Sciences

Office of the
**GRAND
MASTER ALCHEMIST**



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Brothers,

As I come to the end of my time as Grand Master Alchemist it is fitting that I reflect on not only my time as GMA but the state of the Fraternity as a whole. This will not be a long report, as most of the details on specific programs and activities are covered in the reports from members of the Supreme Council and the committee reports.

When I started my GMA term in the summer of 2020 we were unsure where this biennium would lead. The Covid-19 pandemic had shut down universities and also had severely limited how extra-curricular groups like Alpha Chi Sigma chapters could operate. During this time, the Supreme Council was forced to make emergency decisions to keep the Fraternity alive. Working with chapters to accomplish the basic functions of chapter meetings, pledging, and initiations consumed our energy and resources. Through this, we tried to work with the chapters to maintain the spirit of brotherhood that is the heart of the Fraternity.

In retrospect I think our efforts were moderately successful. The efforts of GCA Cole and GMC Ellis to work with the chapters and help guide them through this biennium were instrumental in helping our chapters survive. While we lost chapters through this biennium, many of these chapters were struggling prior to the pandemic and the stress of pandemic operations on the chapter was too much to bear. However, many of our chapters found a way to survive and thrive during this time. They pivoted quickly to virtual meetings and initiations and maintained the chapter character, even when they couldn't do all of the things they were used to.

In addition, GPA Pawlowski along with Erin and Amy in the National Office were able to increase donations from our professional brothers and help alleviate some of the financial impact due to reduced pledging and initiation rates. Our donors stepped up when we needed them most and helped us promote Alpha Chi Sigma.

Even through all of this we were able to move the Fraternity forward with some organizational changes.

The 55th Biennial Conclave saw a complete rewrite of the way we promote the health and safety of our members. This biennium we institutionalized the 3P2E (Philosophy, Policy, Procedures, Education, and Enforcement) method of Fraternity health and safety. As with any major change in organization, there are things that need to be improved. But, overall, I think this change has been well-received by our Brothers and embracing the methodology will serve the Fraternity well into the future.

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Also, established at the 55th Biennial Conclave was the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiative. The DEI committee was established and has been working throughout the biennium. While there is still much more to be done, the efforts to understand and meet the needs of all of our Brothers, future Brothers, and those outside of the Fraternity is a welcome addition to our organization.

The last major initiative was the establishment of the Student Advisory Committee. During the 2021 Summer SC meeting Amy from the National Office presented an idea that she has seen from her previous experience - a national-level committee of students who can advise the Supreme Council about issues within the Fraternity. This committee was established in the fall of 2021 and has been active throughout 2022. While there are still some procedural improvements that could be made, it was very useful to have the student perspective at Student Advisory Committee meetings as well as the Winter SC meeting.

The ability of our members, collegiate and professional, to promote the value of Alpha Chi Sigma during such extraordinary times was inspiring and gives me great hope for the future. In conclusion, I want to reiterate something GR Stipp wrote in his report - survival of the Fraternity is dependent on our ability to grow. We have undergone a biennium (or more) of contraction due to some extraordinary circumstances. Growth of the collegiate branch and increased participation of the professional branch will determine the fate of the Fraternity. We need to grow not only for financial reasons, but also because we believe in the Fraternity, the Three Objects, and the value Alpha Chi Sigma provides its members. We know why Alpha Chi Sigma is a great Fraternity - we need to spread this message far and wide to help others reap the benefits of membership as we have.

Yours in the Double Bond,

Dr. Kip A. Nalley, Alpha Sigma 1990
Grand Master Alchemist
Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity