

## Fraternity & Sorority Life

# The Fraternity and Sorority Connection

Minnesota State University  
MANKATO

SPRING 2024

## FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE ADVISOR REMARKS

It has been quite the year for our Fraternity and Sorority Life community. We've experienced exciting changes and significant accomplishments, and I'm proud of our student leaders.

This fall saw the addition of the Fraternity & Sorority Life Rock Garden on campus, giving us a visual presence in a high-traffic area.

This year, our sororities transitioned to a "Partially Structured Recruitment" process that allows for more flexibility for both the chapters and the women participating in recruitment. This had good results, and we're making some adjustments as we get into year two of the new process.

In October, the community hosted its first Family Weekend Pancake Breakfast to help raise funds to support our student leaders' trip to the AFLV Leadership Conference in Indianapolis.

Mavathon, the largest student-run philanthropy event on campus, raised more than \$8,000 for Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare and Children's Miracle Network.

During the Spring semester, our Strategic Planning Committee developed a plan that will address these core areas over the course of the next 3-5 years:

- Alumni Relations
- Communication, Public Relations, and Marketing
- Housing and Facilities
- Image and Community Perception
- Programming and Processes
- Recruitment and Membership Growth



We're thankful to the alumni members who served on the committee: Randy Reichert (Phi Delta Theta), Courtney Igbo-Ogbonna (Alpha Chi Omega), and Haley Severson (Gamma Phi Beta). We're also thankful to the alumni who provided feedback via our written surveys and focus groups. The full strategic plan can be found on our website, [maverickfsl.com](http://maverickfsl.com).

While we celebrated some great accomplishments this year, we also experienced some tragedy. In August, Jason Leiran, a member of Phi Kappa Psi, passed away, and in late March, we lost Derrick Witte, a member of Sigma Nu and the VP of Diversity & Outreach for the Interfraternity Council. We are thankful for the time they spent with us and their contributions to the community.

As we get into summer, I look forward to working with our student leaders to jump into the Fall!

## A FOCUS ON RECRUITMENT

We continue to work towards a post-pandemic membership growth rebound. Some of our chapters are doing well with this. Having graduated nearly 40 members of our community this semester, we are at a critical point for the community.

While our sororities have the structured recruitment process as the primary way women join, chapters continue to recruit informally after that in the Fall and during the Spring. One thing that we do know is that recruitment is one of the biggest expenses chapters incur during the year.

Our fraternities offer structured recruitment as a way for men to join, but they primarily join through informal processes. I have stressed the importance of summer recruitment efforts by fraternity chapters in order to be successful and to lead to the growth that we need to see. They are provided information and resources that enable significant outreach efforts. The reality is that many of our chapters do not take advantage of this time to make meaningful contact and to extend invitations to join. This may be because they want to take a break, or, as some have told me, it may be because their chapter budgets do not allow for the expenditures required for a successful summer recruitment program.

If you're looking for a meaningful and impactful way to support the community or your organization, I'd encourage you to reach out and ask how you can support their recruitment efforts. This may be in the form of consistent follow up and gentle nudging, an offer to assist in the development of a plan, referrals, an offer to host a recruitment cookout at your home, or a gift of money or gift cards they can use to buy recruitment supplies or take potential members on lunch "dates" during the summer. As I noted, recruitment is expensive, and any financial assistance earmarked for recruitment efforts can help chapters that are trying to avoid raising membership dues that may make the experience more unaffordable for current or new members.

If you have questions about how you can help, please feel free to reach out.

-John Bulcock

Assistant Director of Student Activities

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bulcock".

[www.maverickfsl.com](http://www.maverickfsl.com)

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# AWARD WINNERS RECOGNIZED

At the annual Fraternity & Sorority Life Awards banquet, held on Sunday, April 14, the following organizations, community members, and alumni were presented with awards.

John and Kristy Buck Leadership Scholarship for Phi Kappa Psi & Alpha Chi Omega

- Ryan Schmidt, Phi Kappa Psi
- Leah Hed, Alpha Chi Omega

Reichert Family Leadership Scholarship for Phi Delta Theta

- Aedan Bertrand, Phi Delta Theta
- Trevor Odenbrett, Phi Delta Theta

Stephen C. Jensen Scholarship for Phi Delta Theta

- Jake Miller, Phi Delta Theta
- Michael Crescenzo, Phi Delta Theta

# AWARD RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS DURING 2023

Order of Omega & Gamma Sigma Alpha Faculty/Staff Member of the Year

- Crystal Watts, Interim Assistant Director for Community Engagement

Vauracz Award for Community Service

- Abi Saha, Sigma Chi

Outstanding Alumnus Volunteer Award

- Jimmie Hua, Sigma Chi

Rissa Amen-Reif Award for Advocacy and Awareness

- Abi Saha, Sigma Chi

Sorority Scholar of the Year

- Emily Watts, Alpha Sigma Alpha

Sorority & Fraternity Chapter Presidents of the Year

- Taylor Stradinger, Gamma Phi Beta
- Joe Roeser, Phi Kappa Psi

Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council Executive Board Members of the Year

- Collin Jutting, 2023 Interfraternity Council President
- Alyssa McCullough, 2023 Panhellenic Council VP of Community Service & Philanthropy

Outstanding New Members

- Nomin Senadheera, Sigma Chi
- Natalie Boelter, Alpha Sigma Alpha

Marie Bruce Fraternity Man and Sorority Woman of the Year

- Alyssa McCullough, Sigma Sigma Sigma
- Abi Saha, Sigma Chi

Public Relations & Marketing Award

- Phi Delta Theta Fraternity

Panhellenic Council Sisterhood Award

- Alpha Chi Omega Sorority
- Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority

Interfraternity Council Brotherhood Award

- Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity

Most Improved Chapter Award

- Alpha Chi Omega Sorority

2024 Greek Week Winners

- First Place: Sigma Sigma Sigma
- Second Place: Alpha Chi Omega
- Third Place: Gamma Phi Beta

Chapter Achievement Awards

- Alpha Chi Omega Sorority
  - Recognized for achievement in the areas of
    - Community Service & Philanthropy
    - Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement
    - Member Education & Development
    - Recruitment & Retention
    - Risk Management
    - Scholarship
- Gamma Phi Beta Sorority
  - Recognized for achievement in the area of
    - Campus Involvement & Outreach
    - Community Service & Philanthropy
    - Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement
    - Member Education & Development
    - Recruitment & Retention
    - Risk Management
- Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority
  - Recognized for achievement in the areas of
    - Community Service & Philanthropy
    - Recruitment & Retention
  - For Achievement with Honors in the area of
    - Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement
- Phi Delta Theta Fraternity
  - Recognized for achievement in the areas of
    - Community Service & Philanthropy
    - Member Education & Development
    - Recruitment & Retention
  - For Achievement with Honors in the area of
    - Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement
- Sigma Chi Fraternity
  - Recognized for achievement in the areas of
    - Member Education & Development
    - Risk Management
    - Scholarship
  - For Achievement with Honors in the areas of
    - Community Service & Philanthropy
    - Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement
- Sigma Nu Fraternity
  - Recognized for achievement in the areas of
    - Fraternity & Sorority Community Involvement
    - Risk Management

Chapter of the Year

- Alpha Chi Omega Sorority



FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE AWARDS RECIPIENTS WERE RECOGNIZED AT THE END-OF-YEAR BANQUET IN APRIL.

MEMBERS OF SIGMA SIGMA SIGMA AND SIGMA NU STEER THEIR BOATS DURING THE ANNUAL CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA, AS PART OF GREEK WEEK



MEMBERS OF ALPHA CHI OMEGA AND GAMMA PHI BETA PERFORM DURING GREEK WEEK'S LIP SYNC COMPETITION.



MEMBERS OF THE MAVATHON COMMITTEE REVEAL THE AMOUNT RAISED THROUGH THIS YEAR'S EFFORTS.



SPRING 2024 GRADUATES ARE RECOGNIZED AT THE LAST ALL-GREEK MEETING OF THE SEMESTER.

# Minnesota State University MANKATO

## THE ULTIMATE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE Fraternity & Sorority Life

### Fraternity and Sorority Life Community Mission Statement

The Fraternities and Sororities at Minnesota State University, Mankato take pride in serving the University and the greater Mankato area. We are a community of campus leaders committed to excellence in scholarship and to promoting dynamic personal growth of members, focusing on the development of experiential leadership, and the fostering of lasting relationships.

### Fraternity and Sorority Life Community CoreValues

- Leadership
- Friendship
- Scholarship
- Service

### CONTACT US:

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