



2020 Convention and Leadership Training Conference: Highlights and Congratulations

Society Newsletter - March 2020

The Society's 20th Convention and Leadership Training Conference, hosted by our Brunonian Chapter, was a huge success!

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Siblings from the
Binghamton, Bowdoin,
Brunonian, Capital,
Columbia, Granite,
Middletown, New Leaf, Penn,
Rensselaer, and Ursinian
chapters were in attendance.
In total, **60 undergraduate**
and **65 graduate** members
took part in a memorable
weekend of business and fun!



A charter was granted to our **Rensselaer Chapter!**

After 5 years as an Affiliate, the Rensselaer undergrads submitted an application for charter in January, which was unanimously affirmed during a business session.



We explored the **Brunonian Archives**, on display at the John Hay Special Collections Library. It contained historic documents dating back to the mid-1800s, including the original Brunonian charter. Special thanks to **Tyler Zickmund**, Brunonian 2022, for creating this showing.



Engaging education sessions from **Uplift Together** and **Jeremy Wallace** focused on consent, power dynamics, inclusivity, and allyship through the personal experiences of our members.



More than 80 Alpha Deltas spent a phenomenal Friday night at **Mirabar** singing their favorite songs and dancing the night away!



Jim Sabo and **Emily Law** hosted another fantastic banquet to help us celebrate our Award recipients, the Literary Competition winners, and Seward Scholarship recipients on Saturday night.

Look out for the next edition of the **Society Xaipe**, with even more Convention highlights!

2020 Matching Challenge!

Our 8th Annual Convention Matching Challenge was our biggest success to date! Over Convention weekend, 140 people donated \$5,696. In total, we raised \$43,796 from 175 Alpha Delts! **Thank you** to everyone who contributed in support of financial aid, literary and educational programming, supporting our chapters, and more!



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The Board of Governors elected its 2020-2021 officers

Congratulations to our newly elected president!

Peter Goldstein, Brunonian 2008

Peter serves as the chair of the Lifelong Experience Committee, and originated the Society's graduate mentoring program in 2018. Inspired by his undergraduate experience with the Society, Peter founded Bay State Commons, a co-housing community in development in Massachusetts. In his professional life, Peter leads a small software team at Google.



Congratulations to the re-elected officers!

Vice President Dena Schwartz, Penn 2013

Treasurer Laura Hellwig, Capital 2016

Secretary Carly Blaugher, Rensselaer 2018



Congratulations to our 2020-2023 Graduate Governors!



Irissa Cisternino
Capital 2018

Irissa has been heavily involved in the Society ever since she became a member in 2016. As an undergraduate, she was the Capital Chapter's **Philanthropy Chair** for two semesters and later served as the chapter's **Inter-Chapter Relations Chair**. She's currently a member of the Capital Graduate Chapter's Board of Directors and is assisting with its incorporation efforts.

As a member of the **Lifelong Experience Committee**, Irissa launched the Society's Senior Advising program, a companion initiative to the larger mentoring program that assists senior undergraduates with their transition out of college by partnering them with young graduate members. She has also coordinated the **Society's Book Club** since February 2018.

Professionally, Irissa is a **PhD student** in sociology at **Stony Brook University**. Her research focuses broadly on gender, media, and the internet, and she is interested in computational methodologies and mixed-methods research.



Isabella "Isa" Bello
Martinez
Brunonian 2017

Since graduating from Brown in 2017 and later from an accelerated master's program in Engineering, Science, Technology and Entrepreneurship at the University of Notre Dame, Isa has been involved with a variety of efforts, mostly centered on **Expansion**. She is now a **Co-Director of Expansion** with Max Morant, Penn 2016.

Isa led the Society's **Pledge Manual Rewrite Project** and managed a group of more than 10 volunteers for a year by trying to coordinate with the Fraternity to get **original documents**, recording the **oral histories** of Pledge Educators and Expansions Chairs to write the new sections, and adding our **songs** and new **traditions**.

She is also a self-published author (check out her book **Eyes Are Windows**) and a member of a quantum computing research and consulting team at Booz Allen. She joined the Society a bit by accident, but she says it was the best decision she ever made.



Max Morant
Penn 2016

Max has been an active member of the Society since he was initiated into the **Penn Chapter** in 2013. As an undergraduate, Max served the Penn Chapter, then an Affiliate, as **Treasurer, Vice President, and President**. He also served as an **Undergraduate Governor**, and was part of the Undergraduate Parliament.

Max has served on the Society's **Development Team** and its **Chapter Services** team. He's currently President of the Penn Graduate Chapter and is the Society's **Co-Director of Expansion**.

Professionally, Max works as a programmer for a financial services firm, working in the foreign exchange trading team.



Ashley Taylor
Granite 2013

Ashley pledged the then-**Granite Affiliate** during her first semester as a freshman at the University of New Hampshire. Lured by the prospect of a road trip to another chapter, she ended up attending her first **Undergraduate Caucus** the day after she was initiated in December 2009. Ashley served as **Chapter Secretary** for three consecutive semesters, as well as **Social Chair, Pledge Master, and Chapter President** during her undergraduate years.

Ashley's first involvement at the national level came as an **Undergraduate Governor** in 2012. She continued work for the Society by planning the 2014 Convention and served as **Society Secretary** from 2015 until her election as a Governor in 2017.

Ashley graduated from the University of New Hampshire's **Franklin Pierce School of Law** and admitted to the New Hampshire bar in 2017. She currently practices employment law, family law, and complex commercial litigation at a small law firm. She has additional experience in the areas of contract law, criminal defense, personal injury, and Social Security disability appeals.

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Congratulations to our Award Winners: Nora, Irissa, Isa, Kristen, and Cailyn!

Emerald and Pearl

Nora Hennessey (left)

The Emerald and Pearl Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the Alpha Delta Phi Society at the national level, and secondarily, exemplary contributions to the member's chapter.

Rising Star

Irissa Cisternino & Isa Martinez (left center and center, respectively)

The Rising Star Award was introduced at our 2018 Convention to recognize young leaders of the Society who are making significant contributions to our organization.



Star and Crescent

Kristen Soule (right center)

The Star and Crescent Award is awarded by the Society Board of Governors to a graduate member who has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the Society. It is the highest distinction bestowed upon a graduate member of the Society.

Sword and Spear

Cailyn Hansen (right)

The Society Order of the Sword and Spear recognizes a member of the Society who has done outstanding work for their chapter, campus, community, and the Society.

Good for the Phi!

Good for outgoing governors **Kristen Soule, Jim Sabo, Christine Chapman**, for their years of dedicated service to the Board of Governors and to the Alpha Delta Phi Society.

Good for Director of Events **Kylie Madden** for organizing a Convention Weekend to remember.

Good for **Isa Martinez** for organizing our inaugural [Friday Afternoon Online Tea](#), starting today at 4 pm eastern time!



Members of the New Leaf Affiliate, and their advisors Kylie and Mike, enjoyed the post-banquet shenanigans.

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Help Us Continue to Thrive!

Your donations enable the founding of new chapters, encourage inter-collegiate friendships, and reinforce our life-long commitment to education beyond the classroom. Please [give generously](#) to help fund the educational, literary, and leadership endeavors of generations of Alpha Delts.

Corrections? Questions? Comments? Praise?

[Email](#) our Director of Communications: **Tiffany Moustakas**, Binghamton 2015

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