

GAMMA-KAPPA OF KAPPA SIGMA



WINTER NEWSLETTER



WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE FALL SEMESTER, THERE IS MUCH TO BE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT. COVID-19 VACCINES HAVE BEEN APPROVED AND OUR CHAPTER HAS ELECTED ITS NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND IS SET TO FINISH ITS COMMITTEE CHAIR ELECTIONS ONCE WE RETURN FROM BREAK. WE ALSO HAVE A BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR SOONER SCANDALS, AS OUR CHAPTER WAS ABLE TO WIN THE 2ND PLACE TROPHY IN UNIVERSITY SING THIS FALL. WE HOPE TO CONTINUE TO BUILDING ON OUR POSITIVE MOMENTUM THIS COMING SPRING



(From left to right): Jackson Houston, Ben Linkous, Rob Rodrigues, Cooper Slay, & Kurt Edmonds

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Prior to Thanksgiving Break, our chapter held elections for its new Executive Committee. Former Grand Treasurer with the prior executive committee, Jackson Houston ('18), was elected to serve as the chapter's new Grand Master with William Cole Miller's term coming to its conclusion. Houston also served as the chapter's Professional Development chair for a semester.

When asked how his experience was serving on the previous Executive Committee as Grand Treasurer, Houston responded, "My experience as treasurer this past year has to be unlike any other. While trying to navigate and learn a new job, it was interesting trying to oversee a fraternity budget in the midst of an ongoing pandemic. I learned a lot and it was really fun to help plan and manage budgets for all of our events this calendar year. I certainly enjoyed taking on the responsibility."

A question that every chapter Grand Master is asked at some point is typically something along the lines of "what inspired you to run for Grand Master?" In response to this question, Houston replied, "Honestly, what inspired me to run for GM was to continue all the progress and strides this chapter has taken in the past couple years. I'm very humbled that the chapter thought I would be a good fit for this role."

Looking to the future, Houston was asked what he hopes for with the new Executive committee he will be working with. In his response, Houston stated, "With this new EC, I think we have a great group of guys. I hope we can just continue our promise of transparency, competence, and reliability while also furthering this chapter for the better."

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Also serving on the Executive Committee with Houston will be Ben Linkous ('19), Rob Rodrigues ('19), Cooper Slay ('19), and Kurt Edmonds ('19). To summarize:

Ben Linkous was elected to serve as Grand Procurator. Linkous previously served as the chapter's Risk Management chair.

Rob Rodrigues was elected to serve as Grand Master of Ceremonies. Rodrigues previously served as the chapter's Health and Fitness chair.

Cooper Slay was elected to serve as Grand Treasurer. Slay previously served as the chapter's Historian.

Kurt Edmonds was elected to serve as Grand Scribe. Edmonds previously served as the chapter's Sorority Relations chair.



Director Zac Cowger, holding the 2nd place trophy

UNIVERSITY SING

For this year's University Sing competition, our chapter was paired with the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority. Despite having to work around COVID-19 Protocols—which included hosting practices in the Loyd Noble parking lot in order to help ensure proper social distancing—the group was able to put together a great show that ended up winning the 2nd place trophy.

Zac Cowger ('18) has been heavily involved in University Sing since 2018; he was a member of the cast his freshman year and has been a director for the past two shows since then. When asked what his favorite part about being a director was, he stated: "Being able to provide an atmosphere for freshmen to make new friends and gain confidence by singing and dancing in front of hundreds of people."

When asked how weird how different it was being a director during the COVID-19 pandemic, Cowger said, "It was difficult to say the least. Reminding cast members to wear their masks properly and not having any in person performances definitely changed the atmosphere of U-Sing."

On how it felt to win the 2nd place trophy, Cowger went on to say he was "Overwhelmingly thankful. Since I was a freshman I've been involved in every show. We have been so lucky to make all but 1 show since then, which is no easy feat. So, to be able to be apart of the crew that won the Gamma-Kappa chapter their first U-Sing/Scandals placement since being back on campus was unreal!"

Cowger, along with fellow director Kenny Cervantes ('19) put great effort into making sure our chapter put together a great show. Our show "The Okay Express" can be viewed by clicking [here](#). To view the entire set of shows from all the other paired groups, click [here](#).



Last year's Scandals cast at the Sooner Showcase (Feb. 2020)

SCANDALS

For Sooner Scandals this upcoming spring, our chapter will be paired with the Delta Gamma sorority. The directors for our show will include Zac Cowger ('18), Braydn Hall ('17), Clayton Ayres ('17), and Kenny Cervantes ('19).

Director Braydn Hall was able to answer a few questions about his time being involved in scandals and expectations for our upcoming show.

When asked what has been his favorite part of being a scandals director the past several years, Hall responded, "the opportunity to help develop, lead, and challenge our guys each and every single year to step out of their comfort zone in various aspects. It has been incredibly rewarding to watch our brothers become closer in a variety of ways, and I am very thankful to have been given this opportunity."

Another topic of interest is how different the show will be compared to last year due to the COVID pandemic. Hall elaborated on this: "Due to the COVID pandemic, our show this year will be different since we are not allowed to have any sort of partner dancing, and are all required to wear masks while performing. Adversity aside, we are still excited and ready to put on a great show!"

With regard to his expectations for this year, Hall stated, "Our expectations this year are set high due to the fact that we are paired with the wonderful women of Delta Gamma and coming off of our 2nd place University sing win. We are excited to continue the momentum and bring the hardware back to Gamma-Kappa!"

Most of the dates for this year's scandals performances are not yet available however tickets are expected to go on sale sometime in March.

FLAGGERT

ASSOCIATES CONSULTING TEAM, LLC



Jayke Flaggert ('19)

FLAGGERT AND ASSOCIATES

In the previous newsletter, we highlighted some of the businesses members of our chapter started over the past year. We will be continuing that trend as by learning more about Flaggert and Associates Consulting Team, LLC, owned by Jayke Flaggert ('19).

Flaggert and Associates is a consulting firm in Oklahoma City that specializes in direct and digital delivery of advertisement. Their clients vary from political campaigns to other small businesses. They offer services such as Social Media Management, Event Photography, Phone Banking, Mass Text Messaging, Door Knocking/Canvassing, and Literature Dropping.

When asked what motivated him to start his business, Flaggert stated, "I have been in the Oklahoma and Texas political fields for a short time, but COVID-19 really made me consider the potential of bringing all of the services that college students are generally good at under one company and trying something new. I am very proud of our results so far."

A valuable lesson he has learned while trying to grow his business: "I was reinforced about the importance and value of hard work. Hiring college students is hard sometimes, but there have been times where the work ethic of my peers—especially the brothers in Gamma-Kappa—has left me so thankful that I do."

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With regard to the role his fraternity brothers have played in his business, Flaggert said, "I could not have done this without my fraternity brothers. From always being there to bounce ideas off of or their willingness to drive to far away cities and knock doors with me—they have been there since the beginning."

Looking forward to his hopes for the business in the future, Flaggert stated, "One major downside of such a campaign-heavy client base is that our clients generally are seasonal during political cycles. In the future, our plan is to grow the company more into the corporate field with annual contracts."

For more information about his business, Flaggert can be reached through email:
jaykeflaggert@ou.edu

A.E.K.Δ.B



Creator:

Will Walton

Chapter Editor

Email: willwaltonou@gmail.com