

**The Annual Communication
of the
Executive Council
to the
182nd Psi Upsilon Convention**

Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI

Brothers of Psi Upsilon,

It is with profound honor and a deep sense of gratitude that I present my second annual communication as President of the Executive Council to the 182nd Convention of Psi Upsilon.

I would first like to sincerely thank the Phi chapter at the University of Michigan for the work they have done in preparation of serving as our host for this convention. We come to Ann Arbor in large part to celebrate 100 years since the completion of the Phi chapter house at 1000 Hill Street, a beautiful building that I had the pleasure of calling home for two years as a graduate student.

As I reflect on the past year, I am struck not only by what our brotherhood has accomplished, but by the opportunity that lies before us. Earlier this year, we invited every brother to participate in a fraternity-wide survey designed to help inform the future direction of Psi Upsilon. The strong response of our members exceeded every expectation. More than 500 brothers—representing multiple generations from every active and many inactive chapters across North America — shared thoughtful perspectives on what Psi Upsilon has meant in their lives, where we are succeeding, and where we have opportunities to grow.

Perhaps the most encouraging takeaway was not where opinions differed, but where they converged. Across generations, brothers reaffirmed the enduring values that have defined Psi Upsilon for nearly two centuries: lifelong friendship, meaningful brotherhood and a commitment to helping one another. Those ideals remain as relevant today as they were at our founding.

At the same time, the survey made something equally clear. Our Brotherhood expects us to think boldly about how we strengthen those values for future generations. Brothers challenged us to communicate more effectively, to create stronger connections between alumni and undergraduates, to develop more meaningful opportunities for engagement and leadership, and to ensure that Psi Upsilon continues to deliver lasting value throughout every stage of a brother's life.

The work now before the Executive Council is to translate those insights into action that will drive our Fraternity forward and continue to evolve the work of our International Office and the Psi Upsilon Foundation. While that work is still underway, one idea has emerged consistently throughout our discussions: our objective is not simply to improve the way our organization operates (though operational effectiveness and modernization will certainly be an important means to an end), but to expand the positive impact Psi Upsilon has on the lives of every brother and the campuses and communities in which we operate while positioning our organization for long-term growth.

Our fraternity celebrates not only the sincere friendships we share with one another but also the positive impact our brothers deliver to the world around us. Below is just a small highlight of the remarkable activity and accomplishments happening across our brotherhood:

- Our chapters collectively raised more than \$120,000 and engaged in nearly 9,500 hours of community service
- We have built a year-round calendar of unique, thought-provoking events such as the Gilrane Economic Symposium, Fish Fund Venture Summit and multiple Speaker Series Events attended by brothers of all chapters and ages
- Many chapters experienced some of their strongest recruitment years in recent memory, demonstrating that Psi Upsilon continues to attract outstanding young leaders.
- Many of our undergraduate brothers and chapter leaders also serve their campuses and communities as student government leaders, varsity team captains, IFC officers, researchers, EMTs, peer educators, nonprofit volunteers, mentors, and organizers of major campus initiatives

These achievements are not accidents—they are the product of engaged brothers, dedicated alumni, and a deep belief in the lifelong value of our fraternity. I encourage all our members to review the individual reports prepared by our chapters to better understand the remarkable work completed in the last year.

Growth and expansion remain essential to the vitality of our Fraternity. I'm proud to share that the past year has seen encouraging progress in this area. In October we formally installed the Delta Omicron chapter at Purdue as Psi Upsilon's 50th chapter. Additionally, we are pleased to welcome back undergraduate brothers at the **Beta Beta (Trinity College)** and **Phi Nu (Christopher Newport University)** chapters.

Looking ahead, the Executive Council remains committed to reestablishing our presence at several distinguished institutions where Psi Upsilon has historical roots, including **Theta (Union College), Iota (Kenyon College), Chi (Cornell University), Rho (University of Wisconsin), Mu (University of Minnesota), and Delta Nu (Keene State College)**. These expansion efforts reflect our belief in the enduring value of the Psi Upsilon experience—and the opportunity to pass it on to new generations.

However, it must be said that for every chapter we reopen, we risk losing another. Without robust recruitment, sustained alumni involvement, and local mentorship, our chapters struggle. As our Executive Council and International Office discuss the strategic investments we will continue to make in our organization, I firmly believe our ability to help facilitate mentorship and valuable inter-generational experiences will ultimately lead to strong chapters and a more impactful organization.

I would like to recognize the efforts of the officers and term members of our **Executive Council**, whose dedication continues to inspire me in my role:

- **James Platner, Phi Delta '10, Vice President**
- **Cathy Lefebvre, Gamma Tau '18 , Secretary**
- **Marty Diamond, Eta '11, Treasurer**
- **Directors: David Hollis, Gamma Tau '11; Steven Malinski, Epsilon Iota '09; Lance Miller, Epsilon Nu '80; Jon Szykowski, Epsilon Nu '06; and Madison Turkette, Delta Omicron '19,**
- **Undergraduate Advisory Board: Aidan Stewart, Theta Theta ' 27**

We are also deeply grateful for the continued support and wisdom of our **Life Members of the Executive Council**:

- **Thomas T. Allan IV, Theta Theta '89**
- **Mark D. Bauer, Omega '83**
- **David A. B. Brown, Epsilon Phi '66**
- **Charles M. Hall, Nu Alpha '71**
- **Jeremy McKeon, Eta '08**
- **Richard A. Rasmussen, Upsilon '72**
- **James A. Swanke, Jr., Rho '80**

- **Evan W. Terry, Epsilon Phi '93**

And our **Honorary Life Members**:

- **Bradley R. Corner, Omicron '72**
- **Murray L. Eskenazi, Lambda '56**
- **Patrick Gilrane, Psi '83**
- **Charles A. Werner, Omega '55**

Additionally, I would like to thank the Brothers of our **Psi Upsilon Foundation Board of Directors**, who have served as thoughtful partners in shaping the future of our organization through scholarship programs, educational grants and numerous programs to drive engagement throughout our brotherhood.

I extend my deep appreciation to:

- **Alexander C. Senchak, Eta '06, President and Chair**
- **Matthew J. Eckenrode, Epsilon Nu '04, Vice Chair**
- **Patrick J. Gilrane, Psi '83, Chair Emeritus**
- **Doug Jackman, Omega '89, Secretary**
- **John F. H. Ong, Gamma '82, Treasurer**
- **Directors: Martin Brayboy, Gamma '84; Garrett Gleim, Tau '01; Gary G. Pan, Eta '86; Larry Rakers, Omicron '86; Jennifer Roper, Gamma Tau '03; Apurva Upadhyay, Eta '06 and James Volpentest, Theta Theta '90**

Their vision, stewardship, and generosity make a tangible difference in the lives of our undergraduate brothers and the sustainability of our Fraternity.

To all our **Alumni Presidents, Alumni Advisors, and Chapter Alumni Board Members**, thank you. Your time, your counsel, and your presence are the glue that binds our undergraduate chapters to the broader Psi Upsilon experience. This fraternity is better because of you.

Last but certainly not least, a huge thank you to Psi Upsilon's professional staff led by **Thomas Fox, Omicron '00** our Executive Director. The tireless work of our staff brings to life the goals and vision our brothers help to shape with a level of professionalism and dedication that should make all of us proud.

Brothers, we stand at a pivotal moment. The strength of Psi Upsilon lies not just in our traditions, but in our willingness to meet the challenges of the present and continue to evolve as an organization. We must have a bold vision for the future—but we also must ensure we build the infrastructure and support system to execute upon it. The organizational survey earlier this year re-confirmed the passion our members have for Psi Upsilon and their desire to see it become stronger and more connected than ever before. Let us renew our commitment to **intentional communication**, to **genuine connection**, and to **impactful and inspirational lifelong engagement**—with our chapters and with one another to bring this vision to life.

Let us leave this Convention not only inspired, but mobilized, reinvigorated and engaged. Let us lead Psi Upsilon with the same spirit of friendship and excellence that has guided our Brotherhood for nearly two centuries.

Thank you for your time, and your continued demonstration of the power of our shared bond.

Yours in the Bonds,

Timothy Zepp, Chi Delta '08
President, Executive Council
Psi Upsilon Fraternity

