

Gamma Iota Sigma Chi Chapter

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"Your membership in Gamma Iota Sigma is only the beginning, and the associations you make will contribute greatly to your progress."



Brotherhood. Knowledge. Leadership. Professionalism. Community Involvement.

Alumni Newsletter

In this issue...

Pledge Class President

Drew was our pledge class president this semester. He did a good job connecting our new members together and the pledge ball was a blast!

Newly-initiated Theta Class

We are proud to have initiated 24 members into the Theta Class this fall. We can't wait to help them grow and watch them shine bright in the future!

Fall 2016 International Conference

Our brothers had great experience networking with the professionals and also other chapters!

Actuarial Evening

Over 45 companies were present at the recruiting event and we loved seeing some of our alumnus at the event!

Gamma Graduation

We've bid farewells to seven brothers this semester with pride. All the best, graduates!



The 45th Annual International Conference by GIS Grand Chapter took place in Columbus, Ohio. Over 20 members attended and it was a great experience of learning and networking. We are proud to bring home the International Chapter Award, the Superior Chapter Award, and the Black and Gold Award for Leadership Conference!



The sessions were divided into Dive-in Sessions, Corporate Education Sessions, and Member and Chapter Sessions. 7 members represented our chapters at the Member and Chapter Sessions to share about chapter managements. For more in-depth details, look for our articles about conference in the newsletter!

Theta Class Initiation

|| Nicole Lim, Committee of Recruitment & Ritual



I am Pei Ling, one of the committee member under the Director of Recruitment and Ritual Fall 2016 (Taylor). I helped her throughout the semester with Mickey and JoeYee. I was in charge in checking the buddy system assigned to the pledges every week before chapter. Most of the pledges are up to date for the buddy system and they all did a great job for that. I learned a lot throughout the semester while working with Taylor. She thought me a lot and gave everyone opportunities to express our ideas. The biggest event we had this semester was the Initiation, which was held on the November 9. It was a really exciting initiation as we have 25 pledges that are going to be initiated as Theta class members. All of them were provided with a small initiation gift and at the same time, their big prepared them with some impressive gift. It was really happy to see all the pledges were initiated by their Big in front of all members. I hope that these Theta class member will show more connection with their Big in the future and get more bonding time with their family. Last but not least, I am proud and excited to be the next Director of Recruitment and Ritual. I can't wait to bring in potential new members to the family!

International Conference

|| Praneeth Raj Singh, VP of Professionalism

As someone who has never been to the annual International Conference, I was keenly looking forward to my first time at the conference this year at Columbus, OH. My experience was unique since I had a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the planning and budgeting stages, given my position as VP of Professionalism.

Despite Columbus being much further away than Chicago (last year's host city), Matt Odum, our VP of Finance did a marvelous job budgeting our expenses in a manner that allowed 30 of our members to attend the conference. To add some context, this was nearly 50% of the chapter before we welcomed Theta class into our midst. I can proudly say that Chi Chapter had the highest representation at Columbus in terms of proportion of the chapter size that made its way to the conference.

This was only possible due to the willingness of members to put up with a few inconveniences, such as a 12-hour drive (as opposed to flying) or squeezing 5 to a hotel room, for the benefit of their fellow brothers. Our members continue to impress me with their selflessness, displays of brotherhood and camaraderie.

Our 3 days at Columbus were filled from dawn till late at night. Between the many speaker sessions, career fair, networking meals and informal social activities (an organic result of students from over 70 chapters meeting and getting to know each other), it is an understatement to say that it was an exhausting but fulfilling time.

I walked away from this year's conference with a few interviews, many new friends from across the country and industry and more new memories and experiences than I can count. I look forward to what next year's conference down in Texas holds in store for us. After all, as they say, everything is bigger in Texas!



Member and Chapter Sessions at Conference

|| Fang Liang Lim, presenter at Chapter Management Session

Being a superior chapter, our chapter had the opportunity to present at the 2016 Gamma Iota Sigma International Conference's member and chapter sessions. Chi Chapter was given 3 sessions, so we decided on "Energize, Excite, and Expand Chapter Enthusiasm", "Setting Up Your Chapter for Success – Strategic Planning", "Taking the Initiative to Innovate" as our topics. I had the wonderful opportunity to present the "Energize, Excite, and Expand Chapter Enthusiasm" sessions alongside Noah Daniels and Kate McCoy.

The main goal of our presentation was to inspire other chapters to come up with ideas on getting members more engaged with chapter activities. We talked about different activities that we organize to keep our members active, like activation, initiation, Gamma potluck, Gammies, Gamma formal, compliment boards, and many more. To end our presentation, we split those who attended our session into groups to brainstorm and talk about what their chapters do to keep their members engaged.

The response from other chapters was amazing. All the seats at our sessions were filled up, some were even sitting on the floor for the whole session. Other chapter members also approached us after the session with questions and their thoughts. Overall, it was a wonderful experience presenting a session like this and I was really glad that we got to inspire other chapters.



Actuarial Evening

|| Hai Nguyen, Gamma Class Member

College career fairs play an important role in our futures. Career fairs not only provide great job seeking opportunities, but they also allow the students to enhance their networking portfolio and get their foot in the door in the business world. Each fall semester at Drake University, Actuarial Evening Career Fair gives us, those who are majoring in actuarial science, just those things. Throughout the two hours course of events this year, I was able to speak to many different recruiters from different companies, learned valuable information and explored career opportunities offered by those companies.

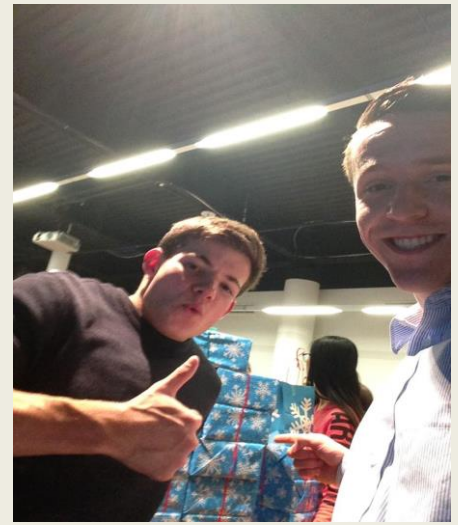
I think first impressions are really important at the career fair, thus here are some tips I do have for you: set your goals, do research and be yourself. Since there are as many as 50 different companies participating in recruiting, setting your goals and focus on which company you would be interested in learning about the position as well as the company. Then, in order to gain knowledge, questions are needed and thus, research is necessary. Research helps you impress the recruiter and to show them that you are taking the effort to learn and want to work for them. Finally, just be yourself, go talk to recruiters with your enthusiasm and positivity and enjoy. Sometimes, the company turns you down because they do not have the right position for you, but with the business cards exchange, you are gaining another valuable network. They might know other recruiters from companies that do offer the right fit for you. Therefore, word of mouth can be exchanged and the chance of you finding an internship or a job can become very likely. I wish everyone out there who currently is seeking an internship or full-time the best of luck, including myself, of course.

Go forth and conquer!

The Theta Class

|| Drew Breun, Pledge Class President

Even though I've only been at Drake for one semester, Gamma Iota Sigma has already provided so much for me socially, and professionally. It all started with Recruitment Week, where I had no clue who anyone was, and I initially didn't know what to expect from Gamma. Me being a shy individual, I was nervous going into the small room in upper Olmsted on the first day of Recruitment Week; however, Gamma welcomed me with open arms. From that day forward, I knew that Gamma would be my second home at Drake. A few weeks into being a pledge member of Gamma, I decided to run for Pledge Class President. This was by far the second best decision I made at Drake so far, with the first being joining Gamma. The role of Pledge Class President has provided me with so many leadership and professional skills that I would not have acquired otherwise. Through the process of being a pledge member to becoming a full member, I bonded deeply with my fellow brothers, and gained valuable professional advice along the way. There is no doubt in my mind that Gamma is perfect for me, and I look forward to several more semesters with my fellow brothers.



Gamma Graduation

|| Ing Teck Wee, Epsilon Class Member graduated Fall 2016



There were a total of 7 graduating seniors this semester: Steven, Joeyee, Grant, Natalie, Gan, Sean, and me.

I still remember the day I came into this foreign land, a land about 9400 miles away from home with the ultimate objective of pursuing my studies. To start everything from scratch, I survived the test, quizzes, and assignments that professors would constantly "feed" me with, and also not to mention, I survived the harsh weather Des Moines could possibly give me. After going through all these challenges, I could finally pronounce myself as a proud graduating senior of class 2016.

One of the most significant action I did in Drake was when I signed up to be a member of Gamma. Being an active member for almost 2 years, Gamma has certainly provided me with all the necessities I need for my future endeavors. From Gamma, I was able to learn more in details about my profession both internally and externally. I was also able to plan and visualize my future career pathway. Overall, the moment I enjoyed most in Gamma was the brotherhood within Gamma, and also the various resources Gamma could provide for the benefit of all its members.

Lastly to all my juniors, Gamma is a place where you can grow in brotherhood, knowledge, professionalism, leadership, and community involvements! I would advise all members to remain devoted to acquiring more knowledge and also to continue to ask questions if you have any doubt.



Executive Council Spring 2017



External Co-president

Internal Co-president

VP of Internal Affairs

VP of Finance

VP of Professionalism

Director of Professional Development

Director of Public Relations

Director of Recruitment and Ritual

Director of Service

Director of Social

Director of Technology

- Kate McCoy
- Noah Daniels
- Krista Hutchinson
- Matthew Odum
- Praneeth Raj Singh
- Johnathan Fischer
- Courtney Luib
- Nicole Lim
- Sophie Tibbals
- Maxwell Newland
- Jeremy Liu

Alumni Donation

With each passing semester, we aim to step up our game in terms of what we provide to our active members. This Fall for example, we had 30 people attend the Gamma International Conference in Columbus, OH. The conference provides members with industry knowledge and professional skills through informative sessions and aids in members' job search through the career fair. It is a good opportunity for our members to enhance their professional experience and expanding their networks.

All of this was made possible through careful planning and sponsorships via donations.

To make the annual Conference a reality for as many members as possible, Chi Chapter requires all the support we can get. Next year's Conference is scheduled to be held in Dallas, TX and will therefore be more expensive than previous years. As mentioned, we need as much help as possible.

As such, if you would like give back and donate to the Chi Chapter, please fill up the Alumni Donation Form attached in the email. All funds raised will be used towards group expenses (transport, registrations, accommodation) for next year's Gamma International Conference.

Thank you for your support and consideration!

