

The Diamond

A publication of Lambda Sigma National Sophomore Honor Society

President's Message

The Lambda Sigma national convention will be held at Carnegie Mellon University from October 16-19, 2009. Pennsylvania has a special place in our hearts because the organization was founded in 1922 at the University of Pittsburgh and we have three chapters in the city. Duquesne University and Carnegie Mellon University are also located in Pittsburgh. This central location for many chapters will allow these representatives to drive to the conference. The city is quite beautiful nestled between two rivers. Please put the dates on your calendar and emphasize this is a must for your new president.



There are a lot of ways to keep your chapter active during the selection process with exciting service, fundraising and special activities. Ending the year with just the officers planning everything and no members around is not a good idea, but you have to work to keep the membership active. That takes a lot of thought on the part of the executive board.

If you need an additional advisor, this might be the time to search for one. Most chapters have two advisors and one needs to be a "hands on" advisor who can attend most of the chapter and exec meetings.

The year has flown by. I hope your experience in Lambda Sigma has been one of the highlights of your sophomore year. Be sure and let the national board know any thoughts or suggestions you have for the national organization. We always want to know how we can better serve you. ♦

Honor Chapter Selection Criteria

Lambda Sigma Society recognizes certain chapters each year as honor chapters. These chapters are selected by the national executive board for their general excellence and achievement. Chapters are not in competition against each other for this recognition, but may each achieve the recognition on the basis of individual chapter accomplishment.

Honor chapters are selected by the national executive board for excellence and achievement. Requirements these chapters must fulfill to be considered include: completion of all reports including the mid-year status report, ritual report, and annual reports by the president, treasurer, and advisor; completion of all rituals in accordance with chapter and national guidelines; correspondence with board correspondents; submission of an article to at least one issue of *The Diamond*; a minimum of \$50 contribution to the national scholarship fund; submission and approval of the by-laws to national, and attendance at the national convention.

If all the above criteria are met, the national executive board will consider the chapter's service projects to the institution as well as the community.

All information to be used for consideration of honor chapter status must be submitted to the appropriate member of the national board by the deadlines. The final deadline for all monies, Initiate List Form, and annual reports is the end of the chapter's school year, or no later than June 1.

The national executive board meets each summer, usually in late June, and all decisions are made at that time. Both the president and the advisor are invited to submit materials along with their annual reports for the board to consider in making its decision. There is no limit on the number of honor chapters who may be recognized each year. ♦

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SPOTLIGHT ON FORMER MEMBERS

Dan Drane Works at the Beijing 2008 Olympics

Dr. Dan Drane, former member of the Alpha Delta chapter of Lambda Sigma, currently serves as the assistant director, School of Human Performance and Recreation and an associate professor of Sports Management at the University of Southern Mississippi. His interest in sports led him to Southern Miss as a student where he received a golf scholarship. After graduating in 1988 with a degree in marketing, he spent ten years in industry as a sales manager, business owner, and PGA golf professional. Then he returned to school to pursue his masters in Sports Administration followed by a Ph.D. in Human Performance before beginning his career in higher education. He worked at Clemson University before returning to Southern Miss to teach. Drane has authored two books; published articles in over 15 state, national, and international journals; received numerous grants; and done presentations throughout the United States as well as Canada, Australia, Brazil, and Korea. Later in the year he is scheduled to do presentations in Morocco and Holland.



While Drane has incorporated service learning in his classes for a number of years, the opportunity to have his students become involved with the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics was a unique opportunity. This all began when Drane was approached last year by Community Collaborations International and asked to supervise 17 teams of volunteers at the Olympics. Knowing the opportunity it would provide he decided to include four

students. As the only group from Mississippi, they joined 160 volunteers with the Community Collaborations International Olympic Game Time Volunteer Program. This olympic experience will be incorporated into a textbook on sport event management that he is currently writing. Dr. Mike Forster, College of Health interim dean, said "Drane's willingness to lead and supervise students in this international venture is a measure of his professionalism and commitment to student learning." ♦



Natasha Vivoda to Compete in Miss USA Pageant as Miss Ohio USA

Former Lambda Sigma member at Slippery Rock University, Natasha Vivoda, will be competing in the Miss USA Pageant on April 19th in Las Vegas. Vivoda, who was a Lambda Sigma member during the 2006-07 academic year, is currently a biology major and honor student at Youngstown State University. She was named Miss Ohio USA in November.



"Natasha was one of the most highly motivated students we had in the biology major, prior to her transfer to Youngstown State University, but there is a lot more to her than academics," states Mark Shotwell, biology professor and advisor to the Alpha Theta chapter. "She was one of our most dependable and enthusiastic members, participating in all our fundraisers and service projects. She is an excellent student who finds time to help others in the community."

Service has always been important to Vivoda, as she also volunteered for the Institute for Community, Service-Learning, and Non-Profit Leadership at Slippery Rock. Her raspy voice is a result of several operations on her vocal cords as a child leaving scar tissue, which drew her to helping others. "Overcoming certain obstacles dealing with my voice has helped me become a stronger young woman," she said. "Being different and having a raspy voice, I want to show other girls that if you have a flaw, embrace it and be who you are."

Currently she works as a behavior technician at Forum's Hillside Rehabilitation Hospital while completing her education. Natasha's Forum Health family could not be more proud of her. "She's as beautiful on the inside as she is on the outside," said Karen Smith, office manager, HRH Psychology Department. "She will certainly go far in life, continuing to make a difference in the lives of others." Vivoda said she plans to return to YSU in the fall to finish her degree in biology and will apply to graduate school to receive a doctorate in physical therapy and eventually wants to become a physical therapist. ♦

LAMBDA SIGMA SOCIETY MISSION STATEMENT

Lambda Sigma Society, a national honor society for second year students, is dedicated to the purpose of fostering leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service among its members as they promote the interests of the colleges and universities they represent. ♦



Alpha Honor Chapter University of Pittsburgh

The members and officers of the *Alpha* chapter have recently begun their second exciting semester at the University of Pittsburgh. We are continuing to serve the local community and connect with each other as a team!

The first semester has proved to be a time of opportunities, challenges, and of course, successes in the *Alpha* chapter. Our members participated in a weekly Adopt-A-Block every Saturday morning to help clean the streets of Oakland neighborhoods. The not so pleasant Pittsburgh weather did not stop us from benefiting our community. We also participated in the Pitt Make A Difference Day alongside with hundreds of other volunteers to help with a huge number of service tasks all over the Pittsburgh area. We were, and still are, very involved with the Children's Hospital, where we regularly participate in service events, such as window painting and book reading. We also strengthened our relationship with other Pitt service organizations in a Halloween event which included movies, activities, snacks and pizza to benefit our organization and the community. Our team-building social activities, such as a board game night and an ice-cream social at the locally famous Dave and Andy's Ice Cream Shop, helped our members connect with one another, build friendships, and reflect upon our service endeavors. Our officers have also helped strengthen the leadership skills of our members by organizing various committees to help organize our service and social events throughout the semester.

The remainder of the spring term is going to be an exciting one for all of us at the *Alpha* chapter. Aside from continuing our strong dedication to the local service events established during the previous semester, the officers and

Chapter News

members are raising funds for the charity ball, which will benefit the Heart Association this year. We are looking forward to a spring of exciting service opportunities that support our community and our great team at the University of Pittsburgh Lambda Sigma chapter.

Aleksey Smalianchuk Vice President

Beta Miami University

The *Beta* chapter at Miami University has been going through a major reform this year. This change has taken affect on many different aspects of the chapter. From recruitment to service to social aspects and meetings, Lambda Sigma is changing. In particular, a huge recruitment process was enacted. The chapter and the executive committee in particular felt a more competitive and stronger commitment was needed from applicants this year. A new point system was also put in place to keep members active. We are hoping for a large increase in applications this year as compared to last year. We hope to be able to improve the image of Lambda Sigma on campus through our stronger commitment.

This year, the main service events have been focused around the Knolls of Oxford, a local retirement community. We have had an ongoing relationship with this community for the past three years. This year we hosted a pancake breakfast, played bingo with the residents, helped with holiday time chores, and hosted a Valentine's Day breakfast. We plan on having at least one more breakfasts this year. It is a rewarding feeling when the residents remember our group or even particular people. Our main service event will be to create a computer service. Many of the Knolls have computers located in their rooms, however, they do not know

how to operate them. Many of them can no longer write. Therefore, many of them cannot send letters or emails to friends and families. We are going to create sign-up sheets to go and help with their computer needs. This event will also allow for the members to get to know and spend time with the residents. The Knolls is our main focus, but this semester we are going to continue our Adopt-A-Highway program, start volunteering at our local animal shelter, help with United Way, work at Serve City (a free food service), and participate in Miami's Relay for Life. Our chapter is really changing and we hope Lambda Sigma continues to grow from year to year.

Epsilon Honor Chapter Allegheny College

Allegheny College is a school known for its dedication to service and scholarship, so entrance into Lambda Sigma only awarded most students with a title to be proud of for values they uphold in their everyday lives. The Allegheny chapter of Lambda Sigma has had a busy semester, beginning with initiation and culminating in, most recently, the arrival of our commemorative mugs.

In the fall, the Allegheny chapter participated in the biggest service activity in Meadville – Make a Difference Day (MADD). MADD brings students, faculty, and community members together for one day of service celebrations across the city of Meadville.

Among some of the activities the Allegheny chapter participated in were building ramps to make houses wheelchair accessible, raking the hundreds of leaves that pile up during the fall months, and patching holes in walls and roofs.

Lambda Sigma member Carolyn Killiany participated by painting walls in a nearby

center for mentally disabled high school students and adults, along with ten other Lambda Sigma members.

"I got to know several other members of Lambda Sigma better, and we definitely made a difference at the ark," she said. "Several people came up to us and told us how much they appreciated what we're doing."

MADD was a great success, but the year's activities did not end there. In October, Lambda Sigma President Shawn Palmeri attended the Lambda Sigma national conference and shared experiences and tips with hundreds of fellow presidents. "It was really interesting to see how chapter dynamics were really similar, even though our school is much smaller than a lot of other schools," he said.

The national conference also gave Palmeri some ideas for the future of the Allegheny chapter. "We want to make sure Lambda Sigma is better known in the campus community, and I would like to have a Lambda Sigma signature event that is something we organize completely on our own," he said.

One such activity that is unique to Lambda Sigma on Allegheny's campus is the awarding of Lambda Sigma Professor of the Month. Each month, Lambda Sigma members vote on a professor who exemplifies the values that Lambda Sigma treasures the most. And as of January, Professors of the Month will be receiving personalized Lambda Sigma mugs. "I was glad we got something that we could give back to professors," Treasurer Jesse Horan said.

The Allegheny chapter of Lambda Sigma plans to continue to give back not only to professors but, also, to the community as a whole. In the upcoming months, students will be active in projects at soup kitchens, local grade schools, and around the campus itself. The members of the Allegheny chapter of Lambda Sigma continue to uphold the values of service, scholarship, and leadership in everything they do.

Alexandra Jaffe
Historian

Zeta Honor Chapter Muskingum College

The Zeta chapter has had a wonderful year so far and is looking to make this semester even better than the last. We have already performed many community service activities this year, but are planning on doing many more. In doing so, we will leave a lasting legacy for next year's Lambda Sigma members.

This year, the Zeta chapter of Lambda Sigma has been very active. A canned food drive was organized in the fall, with the proceeds going to a local food bank. This was organized in conjunction with homecoming. In addition, to this we have donated money to an organization known as Christ Table. Christ Table provides meals to needy families and individuals in our area. As December approached, everyone had the Christmas spirit. Our chapter visited a nearby nursing home where we made Christmas-themed crafts with the residents. After that, we spent time with them, listening to them as they told stories about their lives. It was a truly wonderful experience, and we hope to return again this semester. We finished our fall semester with a project known as Christmas on Campus. Our chapter bought Christmas presents for children in a needy family. The presents were then wrapped so they could be delivered to put a smile on the face of a small child come Christmas morning. With that said, last semester was gone in a flash.

Now, we are doing more great things during spring semester. Of course, the induction process is already underway. Currently, we are waiting on applications to be returned. In between steps of the induction process, we have several community service projects planned. We will be participating in Relay for Life, in which some of our members will be walking at all times during the entire twenty-four hour period. We encourage our members to raise as much money as possible for this great cause. In addition, we will also help with an event known as Cleanup New Concord, which is a community cleanup project in which we pick up trash throughout the town and along the roads. Finally, we hope to

assist at a restaurant to make some money that can be donated to a local organization. New ideas are always coming up when you have a group of dedicated individuals in an organization known as Lambda Sigma.

The Zeta chapter of Lambda Sigma has definitely had a great year so far, and will continue to do so. In addition to continuing our community service projects for the remainder of the year, we hope to induct a new group of promising members. With that said, a new group of students will eventually carry on the values of scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service.

Douglas McClain
President

Eta Honor Chapter Carnegie Mellon University



Eta members making blankets.

The Eta chapter has been busy! At CMU the service events keep on coming. As an organization we are open to hosting all kinds of service events, especially those presented to us by our own members. But without a doubt, one of our most popular and successful events this past semester was a school sponsored event.

Every Friday and Saturday night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. during the school year, the Office of Student Activities hosts and sponsors a social event in the University Center. Student organizations, housing communities, and other groups scramble to schedule one of these spots. The events range widely in character, but all seem to provide good, wholesome, free fun on the weekends to anyone who stops by.



Eta's Late Night Event – Volunteering Never Goes Out of Style.

Surely one of the most unique Late Nights was the event we hosted, titled Volunteering Never Goes Out of Style. Drawing upon the structure of Lambda Sigma's Late Night event last school year, we set up a variety of volunteering opportunities throughout the University Center. We had a whole room dedicated to making fleece blankets which were later donated to a local men's shelter and a teen pregnancy support center (for information on how to make these, visit <http://hubpages.com/hub/How-to-Make-a-Blanket>). Another table outside of that room was devoted to making baby shower gifts to send to the same teen pregnancy center. Additionally, we solicited donations outside of the campus convenience store to collect non-perishable food items to send to an organization called the Parent Resource Network, which provides support to parents with children born prematurely. The food will go to families who must unexpectedly stay at the hospital for extended periods of time. Finally, we had two tables devoted to our most popular activity, making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for a soup kitchen.

We made about 12 blankets and over 200 sandwiches, not to mention the food that was donated. From our experience, we learned never to underestimate the power of volunteer work or the ability of free pizza and ice cream to get students to come to an event!

Chris DeFrancesco
Selections Chair

lota **Honor Chapter** **University of Mississippi**

The Lambda Sigma *lota* chapter has had a fantastic year, and we are so excited about the spring semester! Our members have done an outstanding job with our many service projects and leadership activities around campus.

To start the year, Lambda Sigma handed out waters to thirsty freshman walking to class during their first days of school. With it being around 85 degrees during the day, this was a great project to make the new students feel welcome. The following month, we also handed out more than 400 free waters at stations across campus.

In October, our chapter helped with TOMS shoes. For every pair of TOMS shoes purchased, the company gives a pair of shoes to a child in need in Argentina and South Africa. We donated supplies, advertised on campus for the event, and worked the decorating table. It was a very rewarding cause to get involved with because there are so many people who are less fortunate that we are.

With Christmas fast approaching, November was full of projects that focused the real meaning of Christmas which is giving. The chapter wrapped and donated 40 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, a project that sends children in desperate situations around the world a box filled with small presents to be opened on Christmas. Also, each member made Christmas cards and cookies for terminally ill hospice patients. The holiday season is a great time to give to other people.

For our fundraiser, we are asking restaurants around Oxford to donate dinner or a gift card to be raffled. This was extremely successful last year because businesses always want to advertise. We expect this fundraiser to be a huge success.

We have already begun spring service projects. We assisted with the local Boys and Girls Club for their Valentine's

Day party and made cards for the hospice patients. We, also, have numerous other projects to complete before the semester ends. The applications for new members to join will be going out soon, and we cannot wait to instill the Lambda Sigma principles of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service into others.

Victoria Meadows
Vice-President

Rho **Honor Chapter** **Thiel College**

The *Rho* chapter at Thiel College of Greenville, Pennsylvania, has been working hard to draw on the four aspirations of Lambda Sigma: service, fellowship, leadership, and scholarship. With this in mind, we began the new year the same way we ended the last – with enthusiasm!

This new semester offered us more opportunities to give back to our college and community. Beyond making our traditional trips to St. Paul's Nursing Home, we have been helping our college's Greening Initiative. Thiel College began the new year with a new project called Recycle Mania. We were more than excited for this new program since many of us were interested in rejuvenating Thiel's recycling program. Once the program was introduced, it did not take long for administrators to convince us to help. We are increasing the student body's recycling education and helping with the campus-wide collections.

The *Rho* chapter has adopted two miles of highway through the Adopt-A-Highway



Rho members at the highway clean-up.

program. We have set a date for a highway cleanup day later in spring when the weather improves. Last semester, the cleanup went really well, and members collected and disposed of a lot of trash that was cluttering the beautiful Pennsylvania land. We are ready to go out in our orange vests and gloves and help out soon.

Shortly after the start of classes, we began with our Teacher Appreciation vote. We were very proud of the outcome of last semester's campus-wide vote, which was used to honor the professors on campus for their hard work and efforts on a monthly basis. Therefore, we started where we left off and have been giving the deserving professors their awards.

Also, we have been working hard on fundraising. We are selling birthday cakes which we deliver to students after their parents order them. Receiving a birthday cake from one's parents is always a special treat for students that may not see their family for months. As an added fundraiser, we also held an Orange Crush sale before Valentine's Day which allowed students to send bottles of Orange Crush soda to their romantic crushes anonymously or with a special note. These gifts were delivered on Valentine's Day as a sweet treat for their "someone special."

The most exciting event this semester has been recruiting and soon initiating new members. We sent out letters to the qualified students in early January informing them that they have earned the needed GPA and were being considered for future membership. We scheduled a meet and greet in early February where we served pizza and pop to the interested students. We



Rho members at the highway clean-up.

answered any questions they had about Lambda Sigma explaining all the wonderful benefits of being a member. Interviews were held and an initiation ceremony will be held in late March. We are very excited for the new members. They are a great group of students.

The Rho chapter is proud to have been actively involved this year in our college and community. The aspirations of Lambda Sigma are such important values that we hold deeply to our hearts. We will have mixed feelings this April. We will be sad that our sophomore Lambda Sigma status will have ended, but we will also be very pleased to see a new group of students stepping up and exemplifying great humanity.

Alivia Lapceovich
Vice President

Tau **University of Kansas**

With only three months left in their run as members of the Tau chapter of the University of Kansas, our 35 Lambda Sigma members plan to keep up the hard work and community service projects we have been completing thus far.

Each member is required to do five hours of community service per month, as well as attend a monthly group service project. Already this year members have participated in a barbeque for the Lawrence Community Center, rang bells with the Salvation Army, started a clothing drive, and volunteered at Jubilee Café.

Our favorite project this year was in October, when we participated in the Trick-or-Treat So Others Can Eat program. Our members dressed up for Halloween and went door-to-door collecting canned goods. We were able to collect almost two carloads of cans for local shelters, and managed to get a little candy for ourselves too!

We also purchased t-shirts, using Lambda Sigma's colors of course! We wear our shirts with pride, complete with a Jayhawk making a diamond symbol

on the back.

Right now we are busy planning upcoming community service events and organizing membership selection, along with the initiation of our new members. We can not wait to see what great things next year's new members will do in Lambda Sigma!

Andrea Olsen
Historian

Psi **University of Central Missouri**

Small but mighty, the Psi chapter at University of Central Missouri has had a busy but successful year, and we are looking forward to finishing out the year with a bang!

To start the fall semester right, our chapter collected canned food and dry goods for the local food pantry. The food pantry had contacted our organization because they were in desperate need for donations. We dropped off grocery bags in local neighborhoods, and picked up the donations about a week later. Our chapter collected almost 200 items for the food pantry.

Our next project was to raise money for our chapter funds. We set up a table during our school's homecoming parade to sell coffee, hot chocolate, biscotti, and granola bars. Although it was a cold and early morning, our dedicated members showed up ready to work hard. The next fundraiser our chapter did was a leaf-raking project. We distributed flyers advertising our yard services and asked customers to make appointments. We had two leaf-raking days, both cold and snowy. Despite the weather conditions, our members raked for several hours and earned over \$100.

To help spread some holiday cheer, our chapter gathered books to donate to the local Adult Abuse Survival House. Not only did we donate more than 40 book sets, we also took the time to wrap each gift for the children who would be

receiving them on Christmas day. We wrapped these gifts at our holiday party, where our members had a gift exchange and our advisors cooked a wonderful meal for us to enjoy. It was nice to sit back and relax after a busy semester.

The spring semester brings on more tasks for our chapter than the fall semester had. Our chapter has had low numbers for the past couple years, but our chapter is determined to change this during this recruitment season. We have been organizing and rebuilding to ensure our chapter next year will be even more successful than our chapter has been this year. We want to continue the tradition of Lambda Sigma on our campus for years to come!

One of our service projects for the spring semester is making fleece blankets with our new members to donate to the community. Some other ideas are serving food at the local soup kitchen, donating time and efforts to a campus-wide melanoma benefit concert, and planting trees for Arbor Day.

The *Psi* chapter has been grateful to experience the things we could have only done by being involved in an organization like Lambda Sigma. We want to extend our best wishes to everyone else that is a part of Lambda Sigma, and hope that recruitment and this semester go well for all.

Jordan Becker
Secretary

Omega Honor Chapter Pittsburg State University

The *Omega* chapter of Lambda Sigma dove into the fall semester of 2008 by engaging in a variety of exciting activities and service projects. We started the year with a barbeque in Gorilla Village to get to know each other and plan for the semester. The group volunteered one Saturday to be part of the move-in crew where we assisted freshmen with carrying bags and finding their residence halls. In October we organized a Halloween costume party for the

international students involved with the Intensive English Program. We read the history of Halloween in order to familiarize the students with how it came about in the United States. Everyone had a great time. They especially enjoyed wrapping people as mummies with toilet paper.

Our next big service project was adopting a family at Christmas. Instead of our usual meeting, we all met at Wal-Mart and shopped for the presents. We then took them to our advisor's house where she had dinner for us. We ate, wrapped the presents, and later delivered them to a local school for distribution to a needy family. It has been great to see how everyone contributes their ideas and opinions on what we can do to improve our school and community. We are excited to implement many new ideas this spring semester, along with organizing the selection process for new members and planning our annual banquet!

Abby Dellasega
Editor

Alpha Delta Chapter Honor Chapter University of Southern Mississippi

The *Alpha Delta* chapter has had a great year so far! We have participated and planned several community service activities and there are more on the horizon.

We began the year with a care package service project. Our care package program was designed to help new freshman adjust better to college life, and also help them prepare for mid-term exams. We filled these care packages with fruit, popcorn, candy, and encouraging notes to help keep students motivated during the stresses of midterm exams. We then hand delivered them to the students the week leading up to midterms.

Near the end of October members of our chapter also participated in a walk for Diabetes. This walk was sponsored by the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi and all proceeds went to help find a cure for diabetes.

For the spring semester, we are planning to collaborate with Habitat for Humanity in order to better serve the Hattiesburg area. We are also planning other community outreach projects as well as projects on our own campus. In November our chapter also hosted a pizza party for the freshmen in order to make our presence known to them, as well as help them to feel more at home at Southern Miss.

The *Alpha Delta* chapter has had a busy year and is going to finish the year strong. The selection process is well underway and we are all confident that the incoming members will continue the traditions of Lambda Sigma.

Eyslyn Hunte
Editor

Alpha Zeta Honor Chapter Texas A&M University

Howdy! The *Alpha Zeta* chapter is experiencing a very exciting spring semester!

We have had a busy semester with recruitment efforts beginning in January and lasting through February. Because Texas A&M has such a large campus, we have many avenues available to reach our eligible freshman, and we are working very hard to actualize each one of those resources. This year we are trying actively to establish a cohesive network with the various Freshman Leadership Organizations (known as FLOs). Our goal is to make the incoming freshman aware of Lambda Sigma as a great opportunity to demonstrate their



Members at a "Nerd" themed general meeting.



Members at Replant, a day in which various student organizations plant trees in the Brazos/College Station area.

leadership ability during their sophomore year, while giving back to their community. Lambda Sigma will also allow them to meet fellow Aggies with their same ambition towards scholastic achievement.

In addition to our recruitment efforts, we will participate in Relay for Life, a Cancer Walk-a-Thon and The Big Event which provides a day of help for anyone in the Bryan/College Station area. Finally we will be visiting a local retirement community to have ice cream with the seniors and visiting the local hospital to read to children.

We are proud to announce that we are adding a new face to the *Alpha Zeta* chapter this semester, Jonathan Jones, an academic advisor with the Honors Office, and now, our second advisor!

From all of us in Aggieland, we would like to wish all of our fellow chapters much luck and success in their remaining semesters as Lambda Sigmas!

Korri Duncan
President

Alpha Theta **Honor Chapter** **Slippery Rock University**

The *Alpha Theta* chapter of Lambda Sigma is dedicated to service and fellowship with our members and our campus. We hold bimonthly meetings in which we discuss community service projects, fundraisers, and Professor of the Month in which we honor a professor each month that we feel as a group has gone above and beyond just the relationship with students in the classroom.

We started our year with some great community involvement. Our first activity as a group was going to Canton, Ohio, to participate in Habitat for Humanity. We worked together with the future owner of the home to build the walls of the house. It was a great bonding experience for us as a group. We also held a Spaghetti Dinner to raise money for our Jared Box program. The Jared Boxes were prepared and sent during the holidays. These boxes included a collection of fun activities, toys, and some necessary items for children in Pittsburgh Children's Hospital. We delivered 60 of these Jared boxes to multiple age groups of boys and girls in the hospital. We also helped spread some holiday cheer by participating in Project Christmas Elf. As an organization we bought Christmas gifts for an underprivileged three-year old girl.

We are excited for even more activities and involvement in the remainders of our spring semester. We would like to participate in another Habitat for Humanity as well as visit a nursing home with some trained therapeutic dogs. We are very excited about continuing our service throughout our spring semester, as well as ending the selection process for new Lambda Sigma members. We cannot wait to continue the tradition of leadership, scholarship, and fellowship to new potential members.

Nicole Cobb
Secretary



Members working on a Habitat Home.

Alpha Iota **Honor Chapter** **Mississippi State University**

The Lambda Sigma members of Mississippi State's *Alpha Iota* had a fall semester packed with fun, fellowship, and

of course service. The semester was full of service opportunities ranging from cleaning up area streets, to mentoring local children and building a house! The group has already laid groundwork for a record number of service opportunities this spring.

Alpha Iota began the semester by participating in the GET SWEPT UP campaign, in which local volunteers cleaned up area streets. Also, members were given the opportunity to volunteer for a mentoring program called Project AIM. This program required members to dedicate one hour a week to spend time with one student from an area school. In this hour members said they would study, play on the playground, or just talk about ideas. Most of the children come from broken homes and the time they spend with their mentor was often their favorite time of the entire week. The *Alpha Iota* members quickly found themselves becoming closest of friends with the student they mentored and looked forward to each mentoring hour as much as the students did. Cathy Curtis, the creator of Project AIM recently spoke at a Lambda Sigma meeting to praise the members for their contribution.

Another memorable project this fall was participating in Habitat for Humanity. *Alpha Iota* spent two Saturday mornings literally raising the walls of a home that was to become the home of a needy family. Although it was no easy task, especially considering the Mississippi heat. This service project allowed the members to grow closer together as a group. Also, it was rewarding to look back at the progress that was made. Due to the success of this project, *Alpha Iota* will be participating in two more Habitat projects in the spring.

Members also participated in a Halloween carnival where children could dunk basketballs for candy. The money raised by our annual fundraiser was partially used to donate over 40 boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Many other service projects have been added for the remainder of the spring semester schedule, in hopes of setting new records for service hours.

Members have been practicing their bingo skills for a biweekly bingo night with a local retirement home. *Alpha Iota* will also be working with Big Brothers Big Sisters and participating in The Big Event in which all campus organizations will dedicate a full day to community service. With these events as well as many more, *Alpha Iota* members are hoping to pass the torch to another group of bright students who will continue to strive to make the community a better place.

Anna Rush
Editor/ President

Alpha Lambda Honor Chapter D'Youville College

The 2008-2009 year for Lambda Sigma at D'Youville College has been a time of great change in how we conducted our chapter, service, and leadership toward the western New York area. We started the year by helping the new freshmen class move into Marguerite Hall. This gesture was appreciated by both the students and their parents. In addition, Lambda Sigma also encouraged these students to participate in the Centennial Picnic. Moving on through the year, some members assisted with Habitat for Humanity and Caring Casino, where we learned how to play various casino games to raise money for charity. Fun was had by all, especially those players who played Blackjack against dealers with only 30 minutes of experience with the game.

It was soon after this that we would partake in one of our most enjoyable service opportunities. The 21st of October was a frightful time to be at the Buffalo Zoo, especially with a Halloween party for young children going on! Sure, there were tiny Power Rangers and teensy Indiana Joneses, but what could the zookeepers do to protect themselves from volunteering crayons, cats, fairies and friendly cardboard robots? We weathered the cold evening for the children, even while the closest thing to warm clothing for some of us was a sombrero and decorative poncho!

Costumes would return again later in the year, with preparations for the annual holiday party, which was held at the Hamburg Fairgrounds. Once again, the weather was fierce and the snow was deep as members dressed like Disney characters traversing the park to their respective activity stations. Nevertheless, the children enjoyed the party, and that alone is worth the frostbite.

Thomas LaPoint
Editor

Alpha Mu Honor Chapter Berry College

Margaret Mead once said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." The *Alpha Mu* chapter at Berry College has taken these words to heart for the 2008-2009 academic year. Our chapter consists of 40 dedicated members who love helping others and are motivated to excel in their studies and in their lives. While this year's group certainly treasures all the fundamentals of Lambda Sigma – leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service – community service has been especially important for us this year. Our chapter works diligently every month to make a difference in both the Berry College community and the Rome, GA community.

One of our goals for this year has been to become more active as a student organization in the Berry College community and find service opportunities on campus. In order to do so, the *Alpha Mu* chapter participated in several large events sponsored by the combined efforts of several campus organizations.

For example, Berry College launched a new health and fitness program this year, which is called A New Year, A New You. Our chapter sponsored a booth at the Fitness Expo, one of the many events this new program involved. The theme of our booth was Brain Food, and we

offered several fun facts and tips about healthy eating in college, provided healthy snack samples of pretzels and peppermints, and raffled a gift card to Kroger. Our chapter also participated in Marthapalooza, the late-night carnival that takes place on our homecoming weekend. Our chapter sponsored a boiled-peanut booth, which was a huge hit with the students.

We have also partnered with other student organizations to implement service projects on campus. One example is AIDS Awareness Week, which took place in November 2008. Our chapter made posters to hang in the student center and sponsored a table during lunch hours to sell AIDS awareness bracelets and raise funds for the cause.

Likewise, our chapter has been active in the community of Rome, GA. Our most successful service project was Make a Difference Day in October 2008. Our chapter sponsored two booths at the annual Make a Difference Day Carnival at Main Elementary School. We offered face-painting and temporary tattoos to the adorable children who came to the carnival. The smiles on their faces and their delight at feeling so special were some of the greatest rewards of the semester.

For a campus student organization, we may be smaller in number, but we certainly do not question our ability or desire to make a difference. As *Alpha Mu* at Berry College looks forward to continuing our leadership and service on campus and in Rome for the remainder of the semester. We are also excited about welcoming a new group of leaders into the *Alpha Mu* chapter of Lambda Sigma as we end the selection process for the upcoming year. The opportunities are endless, and the members of *Alpha Mu* will leave Lambda Sigma with an even greater sense of purpose and the knowledge that we all have the potential to change the world.

Rebecca Phillips
Alpha Mu President

Alpha Pi Honor Chapter Lawrence University

The 2008-2009 Lawrence chapter of Lambda Sigma began the service year with the local CROP Walk in October. Shortly after that project Lambda Sigma was one of several campus organizations to participate in CHAIN Reaction Day, fulfilling our role in the chain by raking leaves for the homebound.

At the end of October many of our members volunteered at Appleton's Boo Bash, a Halloween festival for hundreds of area children. Lawrence Lambda Sigma members facilitated games and manned snack stations. While some members boo-bashed, others dorm-stormed, asking students to donate to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In November members attended the local Emergency Shelter Benefit Gala, an event held to raise support for the shelter. Later in November many members bundled up and braved the cold, quite literally ringing in the season on behalf of Salvation Army outside the local Walgreen's. Another dorm storm took place in November, during which we collected students' spare change for Operation Christmas Child. The weekend following the collection, Lambda members bought, wrapped and sent toys to disadvantaged children worldwide.

Lambda Sigma continued to fill its traditional role in providing ushers for campus convocations, assisting both the Matriculation Convocation and Frank Rich's lecture on media's role in the quality of news coverage.

In the middle of December, members volunteered at the local charity-based Harmony Café, assisting with their World AIDS Day activities, which included three public speakers, live music, and an overall environment of support.

In February Lambda Sigma members participated in a variety of service activities as a part of Lawrence's Day of Service, held in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Members ventured out into the community, some visiting a local nursing home to play bingo with the residents,

others at a nearby kindergarten to assist teachers. Then we made Valentines for veterans in a local home.

Our chapter also takes part in a number of continuous service roles including tutoring with the VITAL tutoring program at the YMCA, supporting the campus gay and lesbian community, and displaying door decorations as emblems of Safe Space, areas in which students of all sexual orientations can feel welcome.

The nature of Lambda Sigma is such that we have a limited amount of time to fulfill all the goals we set for ourselves, but what we do achieve fulfills a common goal, to serve. As a member of the Lawrence chapter, I am proud to say that this group acts as a constant reminder to recognize and appreciate good fortune and to use it as a means to give back.

In our remaining months as "lambds," we have plans to feature an on-campus showing of the activist film *Invisible Children* and to partake in the campus driven program Pay it Forward. The months to come hold a lot of opportunity for service, including sending to retired officers heart-shaped construction paper cards decked in doilies.

Alpha Tau Honor Chapter University of Alabama

The *Alpha Tau* chapter of Lambda Sigma has had another great year of service and fellowship. This year we have also welcomed our new advisor, Wellon Bridgers, a new member to the



Alpha Tau's mural.



Alpha Tau's welcome mural at the local animal shelter.

University of Alabama family. The year started with some fun games and icebreakers so that members could get to know each other. Unfortunately our kick-off project was postponed until the spring because of problems outside of our control, but the members did not let that deter them from being enthusiastic about serving our community. We helped to collect canned goods for the annual Beat Auburn Beat Hunger Drive, and we also participated in some of the homecoming activities.

Beyond smaller projects like collection drives, we had two larger projects in the fall semester. In October we volunteered at two fall festivals – one sponsored by a social services institution and another at a local elementary school. We helped with selling tickets at the door, face painting, and watching the kids on the inflatable games. Our biggest project of the semester was in November. We painted a mural depicting a park scene with kids playing with their pets at the Tuscaloosa Metro Animal Shelter. Before we painted the long stretch of the wall, the whole interior of the shelter was a dreary plain white. We also painted a smaller section in the front that says "Welcome" with hand and paw prints around it. The project was a great example of everyone contributing with their own talents to collaborate together. Some people were responsible with designing and creating the stencils for the mural. Others bought the painting materials and transported them among group members. The rest of the members split up into small groups to paint and outline the objects of the mural.

The only fundraiser we conducted was

to sell Domino's Pizza Delivering the Dough coupon cards. This one fundraiser was profitable enough that our entire budget can operate from it for the year. We had a holiday dinner for active members, provided food and drinks at meetings and projects, and we finally received our t-shirts over the winter break. We will also be using these funds for our Relay for Life team and for the selections process with new members.

With the application deadline we are fully engrossed in the selections process. Because the University of Alabama is such a large school (with a freshman class of 5,100), we always have a wealth of well qualified applicants. Furthermore the Coordinating Council for Honor Societies at UA handles the online applications and all of the promotions for them, so our only job is to schedule the interviews and welcome the new class of Lambda Sigma members. We anticipate selecting 50 freshmen again this year for induction in early April, representing the top 1% of their class. As our final project for the year, we plan to conduct a creek cleanup so that the new members will get a chance to meet the outgoing ones and learn more about the rich traditions of Lambda Sigma at the University of Alabama, *Alpha Tau* chapter.

Richard Cockrum
President

Alpha Phi **Ferrum College**

The 2008-2009 members of the *Alpha Phi* chapter of Lambda Sigma started the spring semester and the new year of 2009 as a busy group. Plans are underway to increase the status of the treasury by hosting another Krispy Kreme donut fundraising activity. Last semester it was which a success contributing \$250 to the treasury. We are aiming for double the profits this semester!

A major project still in the works for the hard working members of the *Alpha Phi*

chapter is Sobriety Day, which headed by our president, Jeremiah Cook. This campus-wide event will help bring awareness to the problem of underage drinking and set a positive example for our peers.

The current members of the *Alpha Phi* chapter are very busy increasing the group's capability to make a difference in the college community and campus as we prepare to relinquish the duty of community service and leadership to the incoming sophomore class.

Alpha Omega **Westfield State College**

Walking down the road, side by side, next to thousands of people, we were united with one cause – to raise money in hopes of finding a cure for breast cancer. Teams from all over New England were gathered at the Rays of Hope Walk in Springfield, Massachusetts. Everyone was surrounded by high spirits, music, dancing, food and of course everything pink. As a team, Westfield State's Lambda Sigma chapter raised over \$1,000 for this cause. This was an event that we had planned in September, and none of us could have imagined the sense of satisfaction we all received from impacting the lives of others for the better.

A spontaneous event that we took part in was writing Christmas letters to the United States Air Force troops. It was a great feeling to reach out to soldiers serving outside of our country, who were away from their loved ones in this holiday season. One of the soldiers e-mailed, explaining that he had put our letters under the Christmas tree for others to take one. When he looked



Alpha Omega members.

under the tree a few hours later, the box was empty. In the e-mail he said, "Your group made our days and Christmas!" It was such an amazing feeling to know that just a simple hour out of our day made these soldiers' holiday season that much better.

With some experience under our belts, we are anticipating our next service project to be the best one yet. The name of our event is called the Cinderella Project. We all collected as many prom dresses as we could to sell to high school girls at a very low price. The money raised will be donated to the local YMCA. After the completion of this project, we will jump right into Family Fitness Day, a day of exercise and competition for all local families. It will be free of charge but we are going to ask for donations for the local children's library.

When you last heard from us in the fall, we could not wait to carry out all of our great ideas. Now that we are in our spring semester and our past events have been such a success, we hope our upcoming events will be even more sensational. The more time that we spend together and the more service events we have

done, the closer we have become as a family, and the more we feel we are giving back to our community.

Editor/President
Megan Millette

Beta Gamma **Pikeville College**

This year the *Beta Gamma* chapter of Lambda Sigma at Pikeville College has been very industrious. We have worked together to help our community, to



Pikeville's Halloween event.

design fundraisers, and to have fun at the same time. We began our year with a pizza party at the university president's home with the members from last year who discussed the responsibilities of membership and the importance of the shoes that we would fill. We continued to get to know each other with a fun night at Gatti Land! We socialized, played games, and ate all the pizza we could eat.

All through the semester we did lots of things that really kept us busy. One of the first events was the opening convocation for which several members served as ushers. We also continued a *Beta Gamma* chapter tradition by honoring one staff person and one faculty member as Staff Person and Professor of the Month. As a token of recognition, we filled coffee mugs with pencils, pens, candy, and a note of appreciation. The recipients of the mugs were thrilled to be recognized for everything they do. We also had a table set up for our annual Club Search Day. We made it as informational as possible in order to engage freshmen interests in our society, and hopefully give them initiative to strive to do well in their academics. There were many students who asked questions and seemed very interested in what we were doing with our group. Later in the semester we assisted student affairs with their annual t-shirt giveaway.

Perhaps the most fun activity was our Halloween community service project. We all went in together and made about one hundred treat bags to distribute at Model City Day Care. Members dressed in costumes to visit the daycare center. A few of the costumes that we sported were a cowgirl, a kitty cat, Pebbles from the Flintstones, Hannah Montana, and Snow White. The three and four year olds absolutely were thrilled with our

visit and loved the treats. The smiles on their faces really made the trip worth while. The most interesting part was the questions that three and four year olds asked. The most hilarious one was, "Snow White, how did you get here all the way from the castle?"

Our Thanksgiving project was a food drive, held in conjunction with the college library. We helped feed several needy families from the area. The project was a great success. For Christmas we all participated in Operation Christmas Child. We each chose a gender and age group for a child and shopped to fill a shoe box full of toys and various other items. It was a lot of fun creating Christmas joy for a child by simply filling a shoe box with goodies and messages of inspiration and hope. In the spirit of competition, we had a contest to see who could make the best box.

Our annual fall fundraiser was, once again, Christmas Care Packages. We offered the parents of Pikeville College students the opportunity to purchase a care package for their son or daughter. In addition to being a fundraiser, the event also served as a way of sending comfort from home during final exams.

Spring semester is just as exciting. We had our Valentine's Day fundraiser called Orange Crush where students sent an orange crush drink with a personalized message to their "crush." We also plan to participate in Relay for Life and will repeat our care package fundraiser again for spring semester exams. We are all looking forward to initiating the next group of Lambda Sig's, and are hoping that they have as much fun as we have had.

Amber Perkins
Corresponding Secretary

Beta Delta
Middle Tennessee State
University

Middle Tennessee State University's Lambda Sigma chapter is set to revamp membership! As a fairly new chapter of

Lambda Sigma our membership has suffered in the past. This year we have decided that it must come to an end. We have participated in many on-campus community service activities to not only help out everyone less fortunate, but to get our name out to the public! We have been participating in our school's largest philanthropy, Up 'til Dawn, which contributes to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. All of our current members have written 50 letters to their friends and family members asking for donations. Lambda Sigma also hosted a bake sale, raising over \$200, to benefit the cause!

Recruiting a class of 50 members is also a huge goal for us this year. We have a great plan to do so. We have e-mailed, sent letters, called, and posted fliers around campus in order to inform everyone eligible of the great opportunity that they have to join Lambda Sigma. We are excited about the upcoming year and new members! We could not have done what we have this year without the support of our advisors and Lambda Sigma at the national level.

Melissa Peery
Editor

Beta Epsilon
Washington University

The *Beta Epsilon* chapter of Lambda Sigma at Washington University is dedicated to sustaining the values of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service that are characteristic of this esteemed organization. We were extremely productive last semester and



Beta Epsilon members at the Hope Lodge project.

are having an even more dynamic second semester! We started our first semester strong by integrating all of the members into our group with a leadership position either as an elected officer or as the supervisor of a committee.

Early on in the semester, we held a fundraiser, an annual tradition of *Beta Epsilon* chapters, to earn money for our chapter's projects throughout the year. We sold commemorative glasses to students on campus and raised significant funds for our endeavors this year. We also succeeded in conducting weekly meetings where every member attended, participated, and shared ideas about projects to undertake.

We are also thrilled to report that our chapter has organized a new weekly service project that has been remarkably successful. All of our members were interested in starting a weekly service project that was distinctive from previous *Beta Epsilon* chapter projects. Throughout the fall semester we implemented our plan to visit with cancer patients at the local American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge twice a week, and half of our members attended each trip. We joined the residents and their caretakers in games, conversation, daily chores, and even meals, and their responses were astounding. We also held a special event one evening in which we cooked "breakfast for dinner" for the patients and their caretakers. There was an incredible turnout! The residents, as well as the management, were so ecstatic to have bright and energetic faces at Hope Lodge to help and to raise spirits. We were also pleased to have such a positive impact at Hope Lodge. Additionally, as a holiday gift, we donated several new games to Hope Lodge with the money we raised. These games replaced many of their old games that were missing cards and pieces.

We have also been fortunate enough to find time to arrange outings in order to become better acquainted with our fellow members! This semester will be a great opportunity for the *Beta Epsilon* chapter to continue our hard work in the St. Louis community and to involve others on campus in our efforts. We are resuming our bi-weekly visits with the

residents at Hope Lodge, as well as planning for our yearly Lambda Sigma 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament. We will be pursuing a unique opportunity to partner with the St. Louis chapter of the American Red Cross for our tournament, which will benefit the Measles Initiative.

Recently, we have directed our efforts toward recruiting new members for the chapter by sending information about Lambda Sigma to eligible students and organizing "Sundaes on Sunday" information sessions in which we invite interested freshman to stop by a location on campus and answer questions about Lambda Sigma. We offer free ice cream sundaes to attendees. We are really eager to introduce the next cohort of Lambda Sigma members and are very enthusiastic about our upcoming events and projects this semester! We expect this semester will be very lively and meaningful for all of our members.

**Marissa Astor
Vice President**

**Beta Zeta
Pace University –
NYC Campus**

The *Beta Zeta* chapter of Lambda Sigma has been busy this spring semester. We still have so much planned this semester and we are ready to continue to make a difference!

We have been working closely with the university and a program called A.S.P.I.R.E. (Alumni, Students, and Professors Influencing Recruitment). During the fall semester we volunteered at Open House which turned out to be a huge success. We continued our work with the ASPIRE program as we pursued the title of ASPIRE Shining Star. This award goes to the student organization that has the most volunteers.

After Valentine's Day we continued to "show some love" with our Condom Gram Sale! We are planning a Food Drive for beginning of April and all of the

donations are being sent to the New York Food Bank. We are also planning to work with our fellow classmates at the Pleasantville campus, the *Beta Eta* chapter. Every year the upstate campus is highly involved in the Relay for Life, and we are hoping to join forces and create a Pace Lambda Sigma team to show our support. There has always been a big divide between both campuses and as Lambda Sigma we would like to come together to close that gap! We are also planning some smaller events on campus to publicize our name so the freshman class will become interested in what Lambda Sigma is all about and aspire to become a part of the program.

Our advisor, Shannon Haick, is also the associate director of Academic Resources. She approached the executive board with an idea to help the incoming freshman. Our chapter volunteered to become mentors for new freshmen spring semester to help them with whatever they may need at Pace.

We have a full plate this semester, but we are ready to finish our year in Lambda Sigma. We are also very excited to see who will replace us next fall!

**Beta Eta
Honor Chapter
Pace University –
Pleasantville**

Fall semester the *Beta Eta* chapter of at the Pleasantville Campus of Pace University has worked toward enhancing its involvement in the campus, local, and national community. To assure that this chapter performed efficiently the executive board employed a committee system in hopes of encouraging members to stay active throughout the year. This system consists of four committees including Pace events, community service, fundraising, and induction. Each committee is responsible for generating ideas, planning events, and executing events that deal with the committee topic to which they belong. To ensure the productivity of each committee, co-chairs and an average of



Beta Eta members winterizing outside a nursing home.

eight or nine other members are associated with each committee. The co-chairs deliver reports during general meetings about the status of upcoming events and report to the vice president, who serves as a liaison between the committees and the executive board. This committee system has proven to be very beneficial in involving all members and assuring that all members are given an equal opportunity to assist in the creation of events and encouraged to be active members in society activities.

The Pace events committee collaborated with several organizations on campus to arrange a campus beautification project which involved planting daffodils. The daffodil planting event on October 23rd turned out to be an overall success. During the event, the main goal was to



Beta Eta members decorating a tree.

plant 1,800 daffodil bulbs. Lambda Sigma provided apple cider as beverages and ran consecutive bobbing-for-donut contests. The bobbing-for-donut contest played a key role in gathering volunteers to plant bulbs. Many university 101 students, an Introduction to University Life Seminar required for first semester freshmen students, attended the event as one of their assignments for class. In addition, high school students that were taking a tour around the campus even stopped by and participated in one of the events. By the end of the event, all bulbs were planted. Overall, the daffodil planting event served as a great campus activity that demonstrated the involvement of students at Pace.

These daffodils will not only serve to enhance the aesthetic value of the campus but will be employed as a community service asset during the spring when Lambda Sigma plans to sell daffodils and donate the profits to our chapter's Relay for Life team. Relay for Life is an enormously successful campaign by the American Cancer Society that promotes awareness and raises funds for the fight against cancer. Whether directly or indirectly every individual has been impacted by cancer and Relay provides an opportunity for local Pleasantville community to give to the cancer research fund. The Beta Eta chapter has created a team for Relay this year and has set a goal of \$5,000.00. We will ask businesses, chapter members and our families to help us reach our goal and do whatever we can to support this excellent cause.

The Lambda Sigma executive board and members are busy with an exciting spring semester and look forward to getting to know the incoming members and sharing this wonderful opportunity with them.

Ashley Hamilton
Secretary



Beta Theta **Urbana University**

The Beta Theta chapter has had a very exciting and productive 2008-2009 year. During both semesters our chapter has been focused on getting involved on campus and making life better for students and faculty.

In keeping with our goal of improving life on campus, our chapter decided to go green. To help our overworked maintenance staff, our chapter dedicated some time to help clean up trash after events such as football and basketball games. Instead of just throwing all collected items in the trash, we took five minutes to separate the recyclables. At one of the games, there were eight bags of trash that we cut in half and were able to recycle four bags. Not only did we help keep our campus beautiful and clean, we also formed connections with members of the university staff that we would never have met otherwise. That experience also taught our members to appreciate all work the maintenance staff does around campus.

Our fundraiser also kept with our theme of the year, improving the lives of the students. To make the students feel valued and not forgotten during the stressful week of finals, our chapter put together exam packets that their families could purchase and attach their own personal notes. Then we delivered these packets to the students. Doing this gave students a boost of confidence during the most hectic week of the semester and gave them something to smile about. The packets included healthy food and drinks, school supplies and fun toys to take some stress away.

To help the community outside of campus, the Beta Theta chapter adopted a needy family. We bought and wrapped Christmas gifts in an effort to help the family during the holiday season.

We have a very exciting event planned for the end of this semester and the beginning of next semester. When students move out of the residence halls for the summer, our chapter will ask for any unwanted items, such as furniture, televisions, books and anything else that

students might want to throw away instead of taking home. We will then store all the items over the summer. When students return in for fall, our newest members will hold a yard sale allowing students to purchase these inexpensive items for their rooms. This project will hopefully save some students money, as well as has help save the environment by recycling.

To end the year, our group is looking forward to taking a trip to Cincinnati, Ohio, to tour the Newport Aquarium. The *Beta Theta* chapter at Urbana University has enjoyed a successful year. We have all learned something about service, fellowship, leadership, and scholarship and we look forward to applying this new knowledge in our futures!

Alice Rizzo
Vice President

Beta Kappa **George Mason University**

Poet Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." These profound words said by Emerson were exemplified by the 41 exceptional student scholars and leaders who were inducted into the newly chartered *Beta Kappa* chapter of Lambda Sigma at George Mason University on Friday, October 3, 2008. Advisors Jude Butch and Mark Kidd, both of whom are Lambda Sigma alumni, as well George Mason University President Alan Merten, reminded the members that induction into Lambda Sigma is not only recognition for academic and personal accomplishments but also a challenge to continue to lead and serve the campus and community.

The members accepted the challenge through two service activities in the fall semester. For Thanksgiving the group collected a total of 104 items including pasta boxes, canned vegetables and soup, and muffin mix. The items were then organized and packed into laundry baskets and sent to three needy families during the holiday season. Each family also received a ten dollar gift card to Giant in order to buy the turkey. After the baskets were wrapped the members

had the opportunity to eat, watch a movie, and enjoy their time together before the holiday break. The second service activity helped children in the Fairfax area through the donation of money for holiday gifts and toys.

The dedication and motivation in the fall semester is apparent for the spring semester as well. Members have already met with their respective committees to plan numerous activities for the spring, which includes volunteering with disabled children at the HSC Pediatric Center in Washington, D.C. and holding a "Meet and Greet" between current and future members in April.

The *Beta Kappa* chapter worked hard to set outstanding precedents for its future members through the collaboration of different philosophies, allowing everyone to contribute and implement their ideas. The vision of the *Beta Kappa* chapter of Lambda Sigma remains not only a vision but translates into a certain truth that transforms the very society in which we all must live.

Shamama Moosvi
Public Relations Committee
Member ♦

Calling for **Service Project** **Photos**

The National Board would like to post pictures of service projects on the web site. When your group conducts a service project, take some digital photos and send the best ones to ex_sec@yahoo.com. We will put them on the web site so other chapters can see what you are doing. Also, include a one or two sentence summary of the project...how it went, and how long you've been doing it, etc. We would like for everyone to see what others are doing in the area of service, which for Lambda Sigma is not only one of our major areas of interests, but one that we carefully consider when we select the Honor Chapters over the summer. So, let's hear from you! ♦

Beta Iota **Installed at** **Texas A & M** **University –** **Kingsville**

On November 19, 2008, the *Beta Iota* chapter of Lambda Sigma was installed at Texas A & M – Kingsville. Dr. Dann Brown, dean of University College and chapter advisor, welcomed the attendees and introduced the guests. Remarks were given by Dr. Terisa Remelius, vice-president for Student Affairs. John Hauser, national Lambda Sigma vice-president, conducted the installation and initiation of the 22 charter members. Dr. Steven Tallant, the university president, was also initiated as an honorary member. Others in attendance included Dr. Thomas Fields, associate vice-president for Academic Affairs and Dr. Enrique Massa, director of the University Honors Program. ♦

Diversity **Statement**

Inherent in the purposes and ideals of Lambda Sigma Society is the understanding of the importance of diversity within the organization in achieving its goals. To this end, the National Executive Board of Lambda Sigma Society encourages its member chapters to actively pursue candidates for membership who would broaden and strengthen the local chapters by providing diverse backgrounds. This diversity within the organization should serve to enhance the potential for leadership and service by acknowledging the wide range of students within the college or university and their potential to contribute to the goals of the society. ♦

Upcoming Deadlines

MAY 1, 2009

Scholarship ApplicationMark Shotwell

JUNE 1, 2009

President's Report.....Ron Wolfe

Treasurer's Report

Advisor's Report

National Dues (\$40/member)

Convention Assessment (\$300)

Scholarship Donation (Minimum Donation \$50 for Honor Chapter Status)

Initiate List Form (with national dues and convention assessment)

All reports and *The Diamond* articles are to be submitted electronically. Reports are located on the website. The Scholarship donations may be sent with the Initiate List, if that has not already been sent. The Initiate List must be typed and mailed in with the dues and convention assessment. ♦

Lambda Sigma Chapter Roster

<i>Alpha</i>	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
<i>Beta</i>	Miami University	Oxford, OH
<i>Epsilon</i>	Allegheny College	Meadville, PA
<i>Zeta</i>	Muskingum College	New Concord, OH
<i>Eta</i>	Carnegie Mellon University	Pittsburgh, PA
<i>Iota</i>	University of Mississippi	University, MS
<i>Lambda</i>	Westminster College	New Wilmington, PA
<i>Mu</i>	Eastern Kentucky University	Richmond, KY
<i>Omicron</i>	Northern Illinois University	DeKalb, IL
<i>Pi</i>	Auburn University	Auburn University, AL
<i>Rho</i>	Thiel College	Greenville, PA
<i>Tau</i>	University of Kansas	Lawrence, KS
<i>Chi</i>	Louisiana Tech University	Ruston, LA
<i>Psi</i>	University of Central Missouri	Warrensburg, MO
<i>Omega</i>	Pittsburg State University	Pittsburg, KS
<i>Alpha Gamma</i>	Duquesne University	Pittsburgh, PA
<i>Alpha Delta</i>	University of Southern Mississippi	Hattiesburg, MS
<i>Alpha Epsilon</i>	Mansfield University	Mansfield, PA
<i>Alpha Zeta</i>	Texas A & M University	College Station, TX
<i>Alpha Eta</i>	Penn State Erie – The Behrend College	Erie, PA
<i>Alpha Theta</i>	Slippery Rock University	Slippery Rock, PA
<i>Alpha Iota</i>	Mississippi State University	Mississippi State, MS
<i>Alpha Kappa</i>	Georgia Institute of Technology	Atlanta, GA
<i>Alpha Lambda</i>	D'Youville College	Buffalo, NY
<i>Alpha Mu</i>	Berry College	Mt. Berry, GA
<i>Alpha Pi</i>	Lawrence University	Appleton, WI
<i>Alpha Sigma</i>	Gannon University	Erie, PA
<i>Alpha Tau</i>	University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
<i>Alpha Phi</i>	Ferrum College	Ferrum, VA
<i>Alpha Psi</i>	University of Toledo	Toledo, OH
<i>Alpha Omega</i>	Westfield State College	Westfield, MA
<i>Beta Gamma</i>	Pikeville College	Pikeville, KY
<i>Beta Delta</i>	Middle Tennessee State University	Murfreesboro, TN
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