

Phi Alpha Chapter Officer Zoom Meeting Summary

October 6, 2020 Meeting

Current and Alumni Chapter Officers: Transcription outtakes

Chapter organization examples

- Arkansas State: Very small chapter and we have president, vice president and treasurer.
- King University: We had co presidents co-vice presidents so that each of these offices had one officer shadowing the other. We had a secretary. And then we also had two to three media officers, which helped us out with Facebook and our social media posts and social media blasts.
- Florida International University (FIU): We have two organizations on campus. One is the student Social Work Association (SWA) which anyone can join (open to both BSW and MSW; also any other major can join) and then Phi Alpha. We recruit students into Phi Alpha from SWA using a point system. Points are earned service (e.g., donating to sock drive), education (e.g. attending a webinar). Students must earn 14 points to be considered for Phi Alpha. Organizationally, we have the president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and historian and then we have a CSR representative which is somebody that essentially meets with the student organizations on campus. We have a parliamentarian, who is responsible for facilitating proper communication among members as well as mediating any conflicts and they take on any duties of the board as needed. We have really hit the ground running this year, our E board has been absolutely phenomenal. We have two new social reps. Here's FIU's agenda for October.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vQXwkL9_TjZU7mbzfU-IU7Ca4Td-kNu_q2cZX2Fn24hcOnL0tFjbeZOZboYO2866p-6UHZAAtTLv2QT4/pub

Chapter service/partnering with other organizations

- King University: We focused a lot on the humanitarian efforts. We received \$1,000 grant while I was president for our nat humanitarian efforts. And we did some things like the nose freeze November: we had a drive for blankets, socks and gloves to you know to help folks in the community. We also partnered with the Democratic Party club. We sent a bunch of shoe boxes over to Trinidad.
- FIU: We partnered with public health for a diaper drive for the Miami diaper bank. And that was very successful. We're going to be partnering with nutrition. We're going to work with the Diabetics Club on a Thanksgiving event where there will be a recipe contest and then donate to our food bank or university food bank. We're going to partner with SAFE (Students Alliance for Fighting Exploitation) which is about human trafficking. Other organizations interested in working together include Partners for Recovery (focued on addiction/substance abuse recovery) and the Miami Recovery Project. Also, Project Seed, sponsored by the Physicians Assistants students, which helps a migrant community south of Miami. This year we are doing a distribution of bags and we're going to help with buying items to go in those bags like toiletries and maybe a flyer that will be in Spanish and Creole and include information about assistance and resources.
- Arkansas State: Last year we worked with a group here at our school to help them with gather food for Thanksgiving. They were making baskets and giving it to families who needed. We've also helped out with the HUB, which is a homeless shelter here in town and Habitat for Humanity as well. And we've also helped out a pregnancy resource center -- we helped out with their annual fundraising banquet.

Chapter meetings

- Preparing bachelor and master students to take the licensure exam.
- Inviting alumni to come and talk to the current students about getting jobs and the transition between school life and job life
- Self Care.
 - Mental Health bonfires for anybody in Phi Alpha. It's just a way to connect and decompress build some level of community with social distancing and it's been a very popular event for students currently.
 - We decided to do gratitude journals.
 - We're going to do stuff like yoga, dancing, meditation.

Chapter challenges

- Recruitment. Trying to get students to see the value of joining and then continuing the torch in holding leadership positions.
- Inductions.
 - Last year We just mailed them their certificates and the pins and students were disappointed, so now we're going to add the last year students to this year's induction and have a big virtual zoom Phi Alpha. We're going to mail them candles that flicker instead of the real candles.
 - We did a virtual zoom as well. Our president received the certificates and pins. Inductees picked them up from her along with the candle and a lighter. We provide that for them so that while they were on zoom they actually presented it and they got to light their own candle. We also put a video together. So, it's not the same, but we were able to kind of build that community. We did icebreakers at the beginning; you still get to read the script, go through the induction process, do the candle lighting one at a time as the names are read, and you still kind of have that nostalgia.
 - One thing that we added as well this year is we had students send in a picture of themselves. I put a slideshow together as well. Not everybody was in attendance, even if it was on zoom, for variety of reasons, but every almost everybody sent in a picture and a bio and something, you know, fun about themselves or, you know, talked about themselves.
- Engagement. They're so separated with life and class and daily routines; Sitting in front of a computer all day long ... they're just inundated.
- Communication. We've decided to try GroupMe once everybody is in the program and we're going to start a chat, which will make it much easier for people to communicate because emails are sometimes not the best. I think communication is one of the biggest things because the program could start off at a real high and then it starts to slow down as the semester goes. We want to do is try to do activity every single month.

Fundraising for chapter operations

- We pretty much rely on the funds from the university at this point.
- Fundraising with T shirts and other clothing like that.
- Note from Paul Baggett on T-shirts/logos: You may use our logo for your own purposes. We don't allow people to give it to vendors and so forth so they can make money off it, but certainly if you want run anything by us, it's fine with us to use our logo your logo for things like T shirts or merchandise, whatever you want to do.
- Partner with some local restaurants. Create a flyer and they'll donate a percentage of the proceeds to the organization. We made over \$300 with Five Guys just on a one night, which was amazing. Yeah.

So, definitely. I mean, every restaurant or whatever is different on how much they provide, but that's definitely an easy way to make some quick money

- I know Chipotle partners with organizations for fundraising nights too!
- Other partner ideas. <https://www.weareteachers.com/restaurants-that-do-school-fundraisers/>
<https://www.groupraise.com/restaurant-fundraisers>
- Our Student Government Association (SGA) supports all clubs on our campus.
- We did a hot dog lunch and everything we had was donated so Pals donated hot dogs and Food City donated, chips/soft drink/dessert. And so it was all it was 100% profit. We sold out of everything; made \$1200 in one day. Publicity: posted something on WETS with NPR; word of mouth, also put flyers up all over campus.
- Change Agents. Walk around campus with one of those big water gallon jugs and just ask people to just drop the change that they have in their pockets inside of the water jug (note: this was a planned event that didn't happen due to COVID).

Involvement at the National Level

- National Service Project. What if we all pick one thing right across the country and in our chapter we take pictures of ourselves (e.g., take pictures of ourselves gathering diapers, gathering toothbrushes whatever we decide on). And that way, where it's more of a community. It's more of a unit. We're doing what students love to do anyway and then somehow you know incorporate that social media kind of social aspect (students love to take pictures of themselves).
- Licensure Exam. I was thinking Zoom is a good way to start because Zoom is a way that you can connect with people so like if we were able to connect like advisor to advisors. We could all study together for the same licensing exam... we could have a time where we like did some sort of whether it was a learning game or just going through the manual together and studying together.
- Self Care. Using this zoom platform to reach out to folks all over the country and share about self care and projects. We ran a webinar called dual pandemics and self care where everyone joined and we discussed struggles that everyone is experiencing. Not only that are COVID-related but with the racial justice issues going on right now. It was essentially just an open discussion for current students and alumni and it went very, very well. So I think something related to that for Phi Alpha would be great.
- Maybe consider Phi Alpha organizing around the annual Social Work Day at the UN to involve our international chapters with US chapters.

Home Office Support

- Chapter handbook. <https://phialpha.org/>
- The Chapter Service Program supports chapters in organizing new recruitment. Chapters may ask to receive up to \$100.00 towards an event or meeting. Chapters are asked to organize membership and invite students who are eligible to join Phi Alpha. Funds may be used for refreshments, materials or other items. Chapters will also receive a Phi Alpha Table Top Display. Chapters should submit a brief account following the event or meeting. Please contact the Phi Alpha Home Office at phialphainfo@etsu.
- Student Membership Support – is designed for students eligible for Phi Alpha membership whose situation makes it a challenge to pay membership fees. Each chapter receives 2 memberships per academic year at no cost. Chapters are responsible for any chapter fees.