

The Gold Rose

NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF



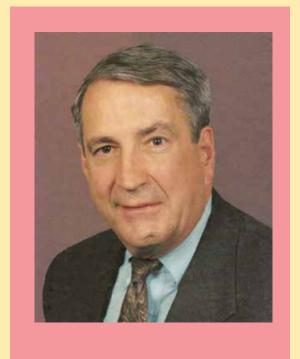
Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity

Message to Alumni from National President Edwards

National is pleased to report that there are over 390 Young men at our 10 Active Chapters. That is an increase of over 14% since last January. Iota Chapter (Missouri) leads the way with 30 new Associate Members. Another figure is that the 390 is 78% of the capacity of the 8 chapters who have houses and our goal is to push that number to over 90% by next year.

We have hired a new office administrator – Gina Whitney, and she mans the office in Belleville, IL from 8 AM to I:00 PM Monday through Thursday. Her hours give us the stability needed to serve the various chapters and officers.

The biggest news is the National Recruitment Program titled BRAVE, which was described in the last issue of the Gold Rose. This program will begin this month with a mailer to the top 200 churches in the 7 states where we have chapters. Copies of the mailer will also go to approximately 4,600 Alumni residing in those states as well. We will seek names of potential Lutheran Associate Members and forward those results to each chapter. In addition we are participating in a number of High School Youth Gatherings such as The Kansas District (LCMS) in Wichita, November 29 & 30th.



Finally Alumni and especially officers of the Alumni Chapters are encouraged to attend the Membership Educational Forums in Ames, Iowa on January 17 to 19. We will have special sessions for Alumni leadership.

It's been a fast paced year for the National Fraternity, but I personally feel we have provided the foundation for the Fraternity to grow and prosper in future years. If you have any questions or comments, you can reach me at Larryredwards12@gmail.com.

Fraternally,

Larry Edwards, National President.

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THE

GOLD ROSE

Fall Issue - October 2013

The Gold Rose is written and distributed by volunteers three times annually, if you would like to contribute articles, photographs, or advertisements, please contact the National Publication Editor. The Beta Sigma Psi National Board of Directors maintains complete editorial control of its content.

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Are you moving? Have you already moved?

Make sure you let us know so we can continue to stay in touch. If you have a new email, please send it to us so we can update the file.

Contact: by mail: Gary Raffety - 9228 W. 73rd, St., Merriam, KS 66204

Phone: 913-831-3842 or send email to: theraffis@kc.rr.com or zetaalum139@kc.rr.com

MEF 2014 - Ames, Iowa - Jan. 17 - 19

This year's MEF (Membership Education Forum) marks a departure from recent large city hotels. We once again are going to Chapter Sites with the host chapter this year – Epsilon. Ames is a perfect location and Epsilon is the perfect host. For Alumni not familiar with Iowa, Ames is about 30 miles north of Des Moines. The dates are always the weekend celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr's. Birthday, so all chapters have a long weekend off from classes. Sites for this year's MEF are to be held at Memorial Lutheran, ISU Student Center, Alumni Center, and the Epsilon Chapter house, all within easy walking distance of each other.

The National Fraternity has reserved almost the entire quantity of rooms at the Hampton Inn located at US Highway 30 and I -35. One of the features of the Hampton Inn is the large hot breakfast it serves each morning. The educational sessions are divided into 3 modules each containing 5 topics for a total of 15. You might say that there are learning opportunities for everyone including Alumni. There also will be two sessions on Saturday of the National Council Meeting, including the election of a National President, Treasurer and two Directors. Saturday night's elegant banquet will honor Rudolf Herrmann, Epsilon 73 with the Tiemann Award. After the Sunday Learning Module, formal activities will conclude with a brunch at the chapter house. We are hoping to have at least 8 basketball team involved in the annual tournament.

We are expecting an attendance of over 200 for the weekend's activities. The cost for Alumni who might want to attend all events is \$200.00 each which includes meals and two night motel stay. Make plans to attend. You will certainly learn how our Undergrads are developing into tomorrow's Alumni. Registration will begin the lst of December, and registration forms will be available from the National Office upon request. If you have any questions about any event, contact either Grant Luther, grluther@isatate.edu. Or Jacob Vogts; jvogts@isatate.edu.

My First Semester as a Beta Sig

By: Ben Wu - Epsilon Chapter

My English teacher in high school urged everybody to take risks in order to build community with people around you. As I went through the year learning from him and reading literature, I found risks to be an important aspect of life. Without risks taken I would not be who I am today. I took a risk when I decided that I am going to continue my education at lowa State University. At Iowa State, I took a risk when I made up my mind to join Beta Sigma Psi. And I am continuing to take risks in hope to accomplish many things among the Greek community and on campus.

So far in my college life being a Beta Sig is the best risk I have taken yet. At Beta Sig, I have men I can look up to who will be there for me no matter what. I have resources to help me excel in my education. I have friends who I can share hard times with. I have all the opportunities to have a great time in college.

Most importantly, I have a faith to carry on toward Christ with every guy in the house. My college experience would have been a mess without the house. I am very thankful for what God has given me. Taking risks had benefitted me in all aspects of my life. God took a risk when He sent His only son Jesus to die on the cross for all His people. Thanks to Beta Sig I will continue striving to take risks in life where I may accomplish goals farther than I will ever dream of.

Beta Sigs find innovative ways to donate to the Educational Foundation

by Rod Thompson, Treasurer, Educational Foundation

Many of us are Thrivent members based on the association Thrivent has with the Lutheran churches. There is a program for Thrivent members called "Thrivent Choice" where members can designate their Thrivent Choice dollars to an established charity of their choice.

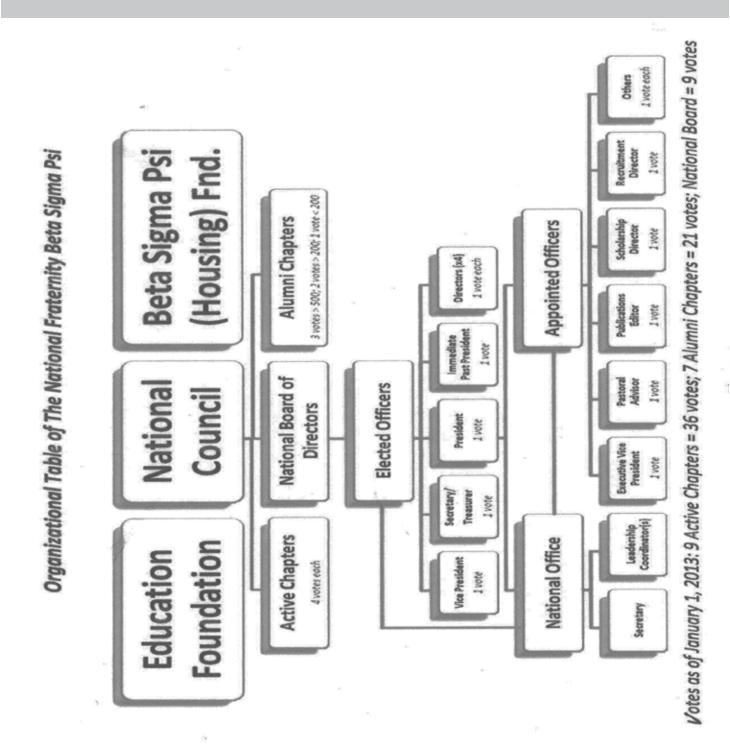
Every so often I receive an email from Thrivent that states this wonderful news: "We are pleased to let you know that we have made a deposit in your account on behalf of the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans' Thrivent Choice(R) program. We hope this gift helps further the work of your important ministry. By directing designated Choice Dollars(SM) through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations."

The message from Thrivent does not state the amount from the individual contributors, but we are all thankful for our alumni and friends of the fraternity who use this opportunity to provide financial gifts to the Educational Foundation. The following members have chosen to designate their choice dollars to **Organization ID: 513317627-Beta Sigma Psi Educational Foundation** (and my sincere apologies if I mistakenly left someone off of this list):

Mark Anderson, Blake Aper, Roger Bentz, Andrew Blasé, Charles Blaser, Eric Christiansen, Janet Defratus, Lloyd Dewerff, John Dietze, Ronald Faas, Eric Fogg, John Fogg, William Hayford, Scott Helmke, Helen Holle, Jay Holle, Theodore Huscher, David Kroeter, Jeremy Marburger, Carolyn Meehan, Michael Meehan, Kirk Meyer, Kenneth Reiter, Jeffrey Schuetz, Donald Tappendorf, Rod Thompson, Steven Witte and Stuart Young.

Please consider joining this group in their decision to donate their Thrivent Choice dollars to Beta Sigma Psi Educational Foundation!

Beta Sigma Psi Organizational Chart



Christian Leaders Hear God's Word

By: Rev. Bob Smith

National Pastoral Advisor

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it. -- Matthew 7:24-27.

We thank God for you, brothers! He has given you the gift of leadership and caused it to grow. Through your chapter, He has given you a new vocation - to lead and to guide your brothers as they serve our Lord Jesus, grow together as a band of brothers, learn to be effective leaders and mentors, care for others and prepare to be His gift to the church and to our country. Your alumni brothers are praying for you and are ready to help you in your position. Never hesitate to ask them or your pastoral advisors for advice, comfort and aid.

Beta Sigma Psi differs from other fraternities in that Christ is at the center of all we do. He loved us before he laid the foundation of the world. He became a man and lived a life of obedience to His Father for us. He suffered, died, rose again and ascended to heaven for us. He earned the



forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for us. He broke the power that sin, death and the devil had over us. He provides the strength for us to live as Christians, to serve Him and our neighbors and to lead others to do the same.

For this reason, we wisely build our lives upon the Word of God. We worship God regularly to hear God's Word preached, to remember our baptisms and to receive Christ's Body and Blood in His Supper. We study the Scriptures in private, attend and lead Bible studies to learn more about God and to set an example for

others. When we read, study and pray God's Word, the Holy Spirit changes our hearts, strengthens our faith, guides us and provides direction for them.

Yet, once in a while, even though we know better, we give into our own desires and seek comfort rather than self-sacrifice. Rather than forgiving those who fail us, we decide to teach them a lesson and seek revenge. All of this feels good - at least for a little while. We build our lives on the beach front, because the land values are higher there.

The problem is that sooner or later, disaster strikes. Tornados and hurricanes can take away all that we built in an instant. Our sins have a way of catching up to us from

time to time. Even when we are innocent, others may steal from us, harm us or our loved ones, worse. When these winds and waves test the lives we've built, all those things we've built for ourselves will fall.

But the lives that Christ builds for us never falls. They are built upon the Rock of Ages. Heaven and Earth will pass away, but His Word remains forever. Like a solidly built home, we come through the storm, wet and battered, but not broken. It is not our work that makes us strong, but what He has done in our lives.

So, brothers, be wise Christian leaders. Joyfully study God's Word. Hear it preached. Read it when you are alone. Study it with others and lead others to discover the wisdom you've found in it. God the Holy Spirit will use it to build your faith to weather all storms and to last forever.

Leaders Draw their Strength from Christ Rev. Jim Barton - Beta Chapter Pastoral Advisor

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. -- Galatians 2:20

We have died, Paul says. Our old sinful self has been crucified with Christ. Christ now lives in us, to lead and guide and strengthen us. This all happened in our baptism, as we were brought to faith in Christ.

Obviously, we still live a human, physical life. Paul calls this the life we "now live in the flesh." We are changed people, though. We live by faith in the Son of God, in connection with Christ, who lives in us and leads and

It is when we try to make decisions and lead in the old way, in our own strength and desires and human wisdom that we get into trouble, as individuals and as a fraternity. Do I need to get drunk on my 21st birthday? How do we act toward our dates at a party? What's really important for us and our chapter? To whom are we listening, as we make our choices?

Paul knows that He fails and that we fail, at times. That's why he says that we live now by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave Himself for us, to pay the penalty for every sin and to earn forgiveness for us. When God looks at us repentant and forgiven sinners, He sees Christ, who lives in us; and we are acceptable in His eyes, by His grace, through faith.

And as Christ lives in us, He strengthens us by His Word, so that we can be better leaders and examples to others of Christ's love and truth. He works for good, in and through us; and we say, with Paul, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."

Leadership is a Gift

Rev. Dave Beagley - Epsilon Chapter Pastorial Advisor

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our sewing; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."-- Romans 12:3-8

Several years ago, General Mark Welsh addressed the students at the Air Force Academy. He told them "Leadership is a gift. It's given by those who follow. You have to be worthy of it." He was reminding the students that being a leader isn't just about those who lead. It is

about those who are led. The ability to lead requires followers who are willing to follow.

The Air Force Academy teaches this in a special way. Freshmen at the Air Force Academy are called "doolies." It comes from the Greek word "doulos," which means "slave." The freshmen came to the Air Force Academy in order to learn to be officers. But before they could lead, they had to learn how to follow. Before they could be first, they had to be last.

Leadership isn't just a gift given by those who follow. It's a gift given by God. Paul includes it here in a list of other spiritual gifts. Leadership is a gift. As a gift, it is something that is done not for the glory of the leader, but for the glory of God. As a gift, it is also something done diligently, zealously, with care and confidence. Leaders can become casual and careless on the one hand, or controlling on the other. Recognizing that leadership is a gift keeps you away from those two extremes.

Seeing leadership as a gift is a comfort when you feel unworthy to lead. It can be intimidating trying to lead your peers. It can be intimidating to lead those who are smarter, more charismatic, more popular than you are. You can feel unworthy because of mistakes and failures, shortcomings and stress. But if leadership is a gift, than it isn't something that you have to earn. It is received with gratitude, and lived out with the promise of forgiveness.

All that we have are gifts from God. We are called to be good stewards of those gifts, of our time, treasure, and talents. Those who have the gift of leadership, and those who are placed into leadership positions, arc called to be good stewards of those they lead. As you strive to lead, you will stumble and fall. Thanks be to God that our leader, Christ, has done what we cannot do, and gives us grace as a gift!

New Efforts in Branding the Fraternity

By: Andrew J. Rusch

In the last year the National Fraternity has been hard at work to make ourselves present at Lutheran youth and campus ministry conferences. Whether it's coordinating volunteer efforts or just having an informational booth our efforts have been positively impacting our image in the Lutheran community. This should, in turn, aid recruitment and expansion efforts in the future.

The concept of visiting youth gatherings was first executed by Epsilon Chapter in having a booth at the LCMS lowa District West Youth gathering. The booth was a huge success and the national fraternity then coordinated a similar effort at the LCMS Indiana District Youth Gathering. In addition to having a contingent of volunteers from Alpha, Beta and Omega chapters helped with conference logistics and other needs, thereby relieving the conference staff.

This past January the national fraternity sent a group of 16 volunteers to provide assistance to the LCMS "Unwrapped" National Campus ministry conference. This was a gathering of over 500 Lutheran college students and campus ministry workers from across the country and a kickoff event for LCMSU, the new LCMS campus ministry organization. We significantly bolstered our name recognition among campus ministries by manning a booth and giving out promotional soda coozies to all attendees. We received multiple expansion inquiries from campuses across the country. Most importantly the conference itself was a significant success and our volunteers played a pivotal role in the execution of the conference logistics.

In July we ran a booth at the LCMS National Youth Gathering (NYG) in San Antonio. This was also the debut of the national fraternity's new professional booth setup. Armed with 2500 soda coozies and over 4000 brochures our three booth workers reached an audience of over 40,000 Lutheran youth and adult attendees. We ran a drawing that yielded over 500 high school student names for our new national recruitment database. This database will centralize potential rushee data and also serve as another source of Lutheran names for campus ministries across the country.

Less than two weeks after the NYG, a group of Beta Chapter Alumni were present at the Higher Things Conference at Purdue University. Like other conferences a booth was manned but in addition to this the Alumni provided extracurricular fun activities for the attendees in partnership with University Lutheran Church. From a scavenger hunt to a root beer float social there was never a shortage of fun things to do for the 1500 attendees at the higher things conference.

In the upcoming months we are planning on expanding our conference attendance to include booths at youth gatherings in Kansas, Nebraska and Michigan while continuing a presence at the previously attended conferences. With a new booth, national recruitment database, and renewed focus on outreach, the national fraternity is investing in the future of recruitment and expansion. These will in turn help us foster an environment in which the Lutheran college man can grow spiritually, scholastically, and socially.

If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to get involved please email Andrew Rusch at: ajrusch@indiana.edu

The Fraternity Thrives from Annual Phonathon

By: Rod Thompson

Your donation is so important for the Fraternity. We provide scholarships, support the initiatives and programming for the National Board of Directors, support the administrative costs of the Educational Foundation, and pay for the administrative costs of the phonathon. When you receive your annual donation letter, please consider sending a substantial donation.

For example, if you donated \$100 your donation provided the following:

\$37 for the Leadership Director providing on-location visits and coaching for the chapters

\$20 for scholarships to the undergraduate members

\$17 to support the National Board of Directors programming for the chapters

\$3 for alumni attending a Lutheran Seminary

\$3 to provide a monetary award for the Erck Award winner \$4 provided to the chapters for calling rewards during the phonathon

\$4 to pay for the Office Manager

\$5 for insurance fees and for audit fees and preparation of the IRS Form 990

\$7 for administrative costs and phonathon costs

If you donated \$200 or more, you were able to direct your donation to your chapter's sub-fund or a specific sub-fund cause such as the John Judge Memorial Campaign of Excellence (proceeds benefit the Fraternity in general), National Programs, Scholarships & Grants, Seminary Scholarship, Leadership School, Welge Scholarship Fund, and Expansion/Recruitment.

All of the members of the Educational Foundation are volunteers and donate travel and other out-of-pocket costs instead of receiving reimbursement.

We have very generous alumni and consistently lead the North-American Inter-fraternity Conference (NIC) in percentage of our alumni donating to the Fraternity. Your donation in any amount, large or small, contributes to the overall total that supports our scholarships and programming efforts. We couldn't do this without your financial support! We are blessed because of your generous contributions. May God bless Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity, indeed!!!



Gina Whitney is New Office Administrator

By: Larry Edwards

Gina Whitney has joined Beta Sigma Psi as our new office manager replacing Donna who has retired. Gina began her duties on July 1 and her normal scheduled hours are from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. Her regular office hours insure that a live voice answers the phone at least 4 days a week. Since beginning, Gina has thrown away years of accumulation in our small office space and established procedures and forms to help the Active Chapters on a day-to-day basis.

Gina describes herself as an outgoing individual who presents a positive first impression either on the phone or in person. Gina maintains professionalism with ease while infusing warmth and a personal touch to each task. She has enjoyed experience in an office environment from a Surgeons office, to reception and billing. She grew up in Illinois and Indiana and attended UNC – Charlotte. She worked on a degree in Economics with a double minor in English and Psychology.

All of her resume descriptions and accomplishments have proven to be true and we welcome Gina to the family of Beta Sigma Psi.

"All players have a place where they add the most value"

Quote by: John Maxwell

My Role at Zeta Chapter ~

by John Hatfiled - House Parent

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the Beta Sig team. My niche is leadership development and hopefully I am adding value to all we represent and the mission and vision of Beta Sigma Psi

- 1) Leadership workshops on responsibility and leading yourself.
- 2) Recruitment
- 3) Identifying and articulating the Beta Sig DNA/Ethos and making decisions around it.

The men have been very responsive and receptive to the development and I have enjoyed getting to know them. In the process, I am assessing each chapter of men so we can get a more accurate picture of our needs for each chapter and an overall picture of where we are currently as a national fraternity.



One theme that consistently surfaces that we need to take great pride in is how academic Beta Sig is Nationally. Several of our houses rank #1 out of all fraternities at their campus and the others are in the top 5! Our men are bright and are focused on the reason they are in college.

Another observation is our spirituality. I give a devotional before every workshop and the men like the time we spend in the scriptures. Several houses have weekly Bible studies and devotionals in the chapter house. Every house participates in Beta Sig Sunday once a month. Many try to live out the scriptures and emulate Christ.

I will be organizing a national leadership conference this summer as we want to continue to invest and develop these men. It should be a great time to continue to move Beat Sig forward to fulfilling our calling!

Fraternally,

John Hatfield

BS Kansas State University (business and science)

MA University of Nebraska-Lincoln (college student development/leadership)

CENSUS OF ACTIVE CHAPTERS AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2013

Total	In House	Capacity	%	Actives	Assoc.	Goals
24	16	33	48%	22	2	15
25	20	45	44%	18	7	10
19	0	0	0%	15	4	13
72	48	54	89%	48	24	22
36	28	50	56%	23	13	15
72	58	50	116%	52	20	20
80	52	58	90%	50	30	0
10	5	6	83%	10	0	15
21	14	14	100%	18	3	15
37	0	0	0%	22	15	<u>15</u>
396	241	310	78%	278	118	140*
	24 25 19 72 36 72 80 10 21 37	24 16 25 20 19 0 72 48 36 28 72 58 80 52 10 5 21 14 37 0	24 16 33 25 20 45 19 0 0 72 48 54 36 28 50 72 58 50 80 52 58 10 5 6 21 14 14 37 0 0	24 16 33 48% 25 20 45 44% 19 0 0 0% 72 48 54 89% 36 28 50 56% 72 58 50 116% 80 52 58 90% 10 5 6 83% 21 14 14 100% 37 0 0 0%	24 16 33 48% 22 25 20 45 44% 18 19 0 0 0% 15 72 48 54 89% 48 36 28 50 56% 23 72 58 50 116% 52 80 52 58 90% 50 10 5 6 83% 10 21 14 14 100% 18 37 0 0 0% 22	24 16 33 48% 22 2 25 20 45 44% 18 7 19 0 0 0% 15 4 72 48 54 89% 48 24 36 28 50 56% 23 13 72 58 50 116% 52 20 80 52 58 90% 50 30 10 5 6 83% 10 0 21 14 14 100% 18 3 37 0 0 0% 22 15

Awards Committee Announces the Jim & Edie Jorns Award

At the National Board strategic planning event earlier this year, one of our undergraduate members suggested we create an award for the chapter or colony with the best philanthropic program. We listened and thought about who this award could be named after. A suggestion was made by Dr. Larry E. Erickson, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director, Center for Hazardous Substance Research at Kansas State University. Larry is a Zeta Chapter alumnus and a Lienemann Award recipient. Larry asked this new award be named the "Jim and Edie Jorns Philanthropy Award" because of their long time leadership within the Children's Christian Concern Society that they established and developed. The inaugural award will be a chapter award with some modifications to the award structure in future years.

The National Awards are presented at the Membership Education Forum (MEF) held in January of each year. The following presents a summary of the awards:

The Lienemann Award is the Fraternity's highest honor. Appropriately, it was first awarded to Del Lienemann, an alumnus of Delta Chapter, who served as the National Secretary-Treasurer from 1942 to 1964. The Secretary-Treasurer position is comparable to today's Executive Director, and was a volunteer position during Del's tenure. The award is given for outstanding service to the Fraternity. Nominations are made by the Lienemann Award recipients and voted on by all living Lienemann Honorees. This is an award that applications are not appropriate as service to the National Fraternity in significant and sustained accomplishment is noticeable to the Lienemann Honorees

The Governor Norbert T. Tiemann

Award is presented to alumni who have distinguished themselves in their chosen profession over a lifetime of accomplishment. Appropriately, it was first awarded to Governor Norbert T. Tiemann, an alumnus of Delta Chapter, who served as the Governor for the State of Nebraska. The award is presented for "a lifetime of exceptional accomplishment in professional endeavors." Nominations to the Awards Committee are always welcome at any time.

The Erck Award is presented each year to the outstanding active member of Beta Sigma Psi. The award is named for the late Reverend Erck, longtime Pastoral Advisor to Delta Chapter. The award includes the following inscription: "A distinguished leader in church, fraternity, campus and community affairs, demonstrated in assuming leadership, sharing responsibilities, teaching, supporting, caring, and giving of himself while achieving academic excellence." A minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average and classification in their senior year of college is required to be considered for the award (additional requirements are provided in the application package). The award includes a \$2,000 check from all alumni of the Fraternity. The Erck Award is the committee members' favorite award to review, as they have the opportunity to observe the many accomplishments from all the nominees and the emotional impact of what it means to be a member of Beta Sigma Psi.

The Timothy R. Kettler Christian Leadership Award is presented each year to a promising young leader in Beta Sigma Psi. The

Leadership Award is presented each year to a promising young leader in Beta Sigma Psi. The award is named for Timothy R. Kettler, an active member of Eta Chapter, who tragically died in a car

accident in 1990. The award has been made possible by his parents, Ron and Linda Kettler, who established the program to honor the memory and life of their son. A \$2,000 award is given to the recipient of the award each year and is administered through the Educational Foundation. Nominees must be active members of Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity who have completed a minimum of four semesters of college and hold a minimum of a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Members who have completed six semesters or more at the time of application are not eligible for the award. Additionally, nominees must be living in the chapter/colony house or other organized group living arrangement (where such arrangements exist), both at the time of nomination and for at least one year after receiving the award. It is important the nominee be approved by the chapter/ colony membership and not submit the application on their own initiative. The nominee must demonstrate a high degree of spiritual leadership ability, which includes a personal interest in the Christian growth and wellbeing of members in the chapter/colony. Additional requirements are provided in the application package. Chapter/Colony activities will be the primary focus of the Awards Committee. Attendance at the Membership Education Forum is required as the nominees are interviewed by the Awards Committee.

The Hingst Award is presented annually to the active chapter or colony that exhibits the top scholastic achievement in the National Fraternity. The award is named for W. John Hingst, alumnus from Beta Chapter, who served as the National President from 1952 to 1967. John was also a Lienemann Award recipient and a distinguished alumnus. The award includes a \$1,000 check to the chapter/colony administered by the Educational Foundation through a generous endowment by the Hingst family. The entire academic program is considered, so drastic improvement may receive more consideration than just the overall grade point average.

The Edwards Award is presented annually to the active chapter or colony exhibiting best overall management. The award is named for Larry Edwards of Zeta Chapter who served as National President from 1967 to 1972 and again as our current National President. The entire management program is considered, so drastic improvement may receive more consideration than just sustainment of past management success.

The Welge Award is presented annually to the active chapter or colony deemed to have the best recruitment program. The award is named for William H. Welge, an alumnus of Alpha Chapter. Brother Welge was one of the Founding Fathers of Beta Sigma Psi and served as National President from 1936 to 1938. The entire recruitment program is judged, so drastic improvement may receive more consideration than just numbers of associate members recruited to the ranks of Beta Sig. The

Jim and Edie Jorns Philanthropy

Award is presented to the active chapter or colony providing the most in volunteer service to the community or the Lutheran church. Jim Jorns was a Zeta Chapter alumnus and the award honors their long time leadership within the Children's Christian Concern Society that they established and developed. The inaugural award will be a chapter award with some modifications to the award structure in future years. The philanthropic program criteria include the contributions to the community or a particular philanthropic entity, both in number of members participating and the number of hours or dollars contributed. The entire program is evaluated, and the winner is based on improvement and not just sustainment of past volunteer programs.

The **Baehr Award** is presented annually to the active chapter or colony producing the best historical record. This is a change from past years, when the emphasis was the "best scrapbook". The award is named

for William Baehr, a former Kansas State University Professor of Library Sciences and a National Historian, who realized the importance of preserving chapter histories. A scrapbook may be presented but an electronic format for a scrapbook or Internet site is now part of the judging criteria. The entire historical record is judged, and the winner is based on improvement not just a refreshment of a previous year's submission.

The Erickson Award is presented annually to the active chapter or colony with the best philanthropic program. The award is named for Dr. Larry E. Erickson, a Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director, Center for Hazardous Substance Research at Kansas State University. Larry is a Zeta Chapter alumnus and a Lienemann Award recipient. The philanthropic program criteria include the contributions to the community or a particular philanthropic entity, both in number of members participating and the number of hours or dollars contributed. The entire program is evaluated, and the winner is based on improvement and not just sustainment of past volunteer programs.

The Founders' Cup is presented annually to the active chapter or colony deemed to have the best membership education program. The travelling trophy was stolen during a break-in at one of our chapters so this part of our history is now lost. The award is named after all of our Founding Fathers and is awarded to the active chapter or colony that provides scholarship, religious, leadership, personal and social skill development programs and activities for active and associate members which add to the educational value of chapter life. The entire education program is evaluated, so drastic improvement may receive more consideration than sustainment of past programming.

The Karmeier Award is presented to any alumnus who makes a long-lasting volunteer contribution to a chapter, colony or the National Fraternity. This award differs from the Alumni Volunteer Service Award in that it recognizes individuals whose contributions have been seen in multiple areas and who consistently served Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity for many years. The award is named for Del Karmeier, an alumnus of Alpha Chapter, former National President and Treasurer, and a recipient of the Lienemann Award.

The Junker Georg Award (young ker' gay'ord) is named for Martin Luther who hid and wrote under that name during the warrant for his arrest from the Vatican (he signed his writings Knight George, or in German, Junker Georg). This award is presented to the Beta Sig brother (either active or alumnus) most responsible for starting a new colony that becomes a chapter of Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity. The award may be presented as part of the colony's chartering ceremony.

The Luther Award is presented to a person devoting service to the Lutheran Church. This prestigious award is presented to any pastor, church official, or other distinguished member of the Lutheran community for devoted service to the Lutheran Church and spiritual leadership provided to Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity.

The Alumni Volunteer Service

Award is designed to recognize those alumni who contribute substantially to our fraternity each year. The award is is presented to alumni who significantly impact a chapter or colony, alumni chapter, national committee or national board. The contributions must be significant in nature, produce tangible results, and reflect favorably on the alumnus' chapter and Beta Sigma Psi. Multiple awards of the Alumni Volunteer Service Award are not presented to an individual.

Epsilon Chapter Housemother Known as "Mom A-J" Retires

What can one say about Mom AJ in one short page? We could say that she was caring, that she was kind, that she listened and that she taught us in the art of etiquette, but that would not do her justice. She was more than that; to put it simple, she was our mom away from home.

Miss Alice Jane Walter- known to many as Mom AJ- came to Epsilon chapter in 2007. Serving as the housemother of Alpha Delta Pi sorority and being a member of Alpha Phi.

Mom AJ knew what it meant to be a member of the Greek Community at Iowa State. This made the transition very smooth, and it was in no time that Beta Sigs were finding their way to the white rocking chair in her apartment, in search for guidance and support.

Mom AJ was the best listener in the house and due to her genuine interest in all our lives we were able to find a true friend in her. She was usually the first person to meet a new recruit, and each time she was able to bring out the pride of a Greek Experience at Beta Sigma Psi.

She was able to calm the questioning parents and reassure the nervous recruit, and in the end made each young man realize that he wanted something greater in college, and that was Beta Sigma Psi.

She wouldn't tell us that the road to becoming a Beta Sig would be easy, but

she reassured us that it would be worth it. And that made all the difference.

Outside of recruitment, Mom AJ was always our biggest fan in any activity a Beta Sig took part in. She was always in the front row cheering us on at Yell Like Hell, Varieties and Lipsync. She would sit up on the hill watching us in Olympics and tournaments for Greek Week.

She would laugh with us at our stories of in house shenanigans and comfort us in our times of need. She would grade our papers and tell us that a B in class was not a goal, but a starting point. She made sure that we stayed close to our faith, and become closer with our families.

She would even make sure to pass along the good news of winning an intermural or being elected to a house position to our parents, when many times we would forget. She didn't just play a large role in our lives at Epsilon, but in the lives of our parents as well.

The first question we'd get when coming home for vacation would be, "how is Mom AJ doing?" She was the kind of lady that loved us unconditionally.

This past spring Mom AJ retired as our housemother and moved back to Maquoketa, IA to be closer to family. She remains a big part of our lives, staying in touch through Facebook, phone calls and



Miss Alice Jane Walter

visits. She told us that even though she has worked in many different places, and with many different people, "Beta Sigma Psi was my greatest gig, and I love you all." At her new place in Maquoketa, Mom AJ has her framed house picture on display and loves to brag about all her wonderful sons at Epsilon chapter. All the men of Epsilon chapter would love to express our gratitude for all that Mom AJ has meant to us. We will forever be her loving sons.

Jake Vanderslice

E-847 Vice-President

My First Semester as a Beta Sig

By: Alex Bristow, Epsilon Chapter

All through my early years until I turned 10, one of my older brothers went to college at Iowa State and was in a fraternity house. So I grew up knowing enough about Greek Life to make opinions and realize that as soon as I went off to college I wanted to join a fraternity house. Coming in to the house, I know I had a lot of expectations that were very high, and so far since I joined

Beta Sigma Psi, it has lived up to all of my expectations if not even more so.

One of my expectations about the house was the opportunity to be social on a much bigger scale than in high school, and graduating from a small high school, that isn't very hard. The house has given me a multitude of opportunities to either just straight meet a vast amount of other Greeks, or step up in Greek Life and be a leader. I have met tons of people not only in the house, but other houses through activities like socials, Yell Like Hell, intramurals, philanthropies, etc. As far as leadership we have been given many chances

to lead events, socials, and other things like that.

Another expectation that I had was that I would be super busy my first semester. That expectation has been filled as well. However, it hasn't just been through socials, and intramurals for the house, but spiritual and scholastic things. Plenty of schoolwork and clubs on campus, or bible studies and such at the house. There is always a way to keep busy, no matter what time it is, as a Beta Sig.

New Pleging Ceremony to Include and Inform Parents and Pledges



Pledging Ceremony Photos at Zeta Chapter

All photos this page courtesy of Zeta Chapter Active Andrew Rostock,



House Parent addresses Group

New Fall Pledging Tradition Started at Zeta Chapter

A new idea which Zeta Chapter first tried last month was a public pledging ceremony where parents, pastors, and alumni officers were invited to attend. The activities began on a Thursday afternoon before the beginning of classes. Parents or guardians were not required to attend but were encouraged to attend. Those parents who did attend thought it was a wonderful experience as did the actives and alums that were present.

First there was a welcome by Phil Krug, the President of the Alumni Association, the Active Chapter President Adam Beeman and the House Parent - John Hatfield. Next, copies of the rules of the House were distributed and explained to all. The rules at K- State include no drinking or drugs in the house - NO - Never! Also the rules of conduct in the house and other applicable rules and standards including meal times, etc. were discussed. A large amount of time was spent in explaining anything that new Associate members or their parent did not understand.

Next, each parent was asked to sign a house contract and pay for the first Semester House Bill. This is no different than the dorms. Than the prescribed ritual was held to pledge the new class and followed by a well prepared and appreciated dinner. In our estimation this would work at every chapter, especially if you have a Chapter House. We think it is worth a discussion between the Active and Alumni Chapters....

Pledging Ceremony



Parent Signs Contract

"S" IS FOR SCHOLASTIC

By; Steven Hick

The second of Beta Sigma Psi's three S's is Scholastic. At every Beta Sigma Psi Chapter we focus on student classroom success and the "Fraternity promotes and enhances the ideal of life-long learning throughout one's life." (The Membership Manual of Beta Sigma Psi Fraternity, 2013) We go to college to learn and to set the foundation for a lifetime of learning.

I'll bet many of you reading this are engaged in a profession or technology that did not even exist, much less get studied, when you were in college. And yet you learned something new because not only did you learn arts and sciences in college, but you also learned how to learn. You may not have seen it that way at the time but you did and that is why you are where you are today.

The grades are all in for the spring 2013 semester and Alpha Chapter at the University of Illinois finished number one among 45 fraternities on campus. Congratulations to the men of Alpha Chapter!

It certainly isn't expected that all of our chapters finish number one on campus

but it is a worthy goal. Four of our ten chapters finished in the upper one-third of fraternities on.

It is extremely difficult to make apples to apples comparisons between chapters and universities but what we can do is compare our chapter grade point averages to all- fraternity averages and all-male averages on campus.

Even this is problematic but it is the data we have to work with. That said, five chapters finished the spring semester with house grade point averages above the allmale campus average.

Can we do better? Of course we can, but are we focused on scholarship? During this academic year Fraternity Consultant John Hatfield is visiting every chapter providing leadership training and assessments of many aspects of Beta Sigma Psi fraternity life. As part of John's time at each chapter he is assessing the academic environment.

As we receive feedback from each Chapter, we will analyze the needs of each chapter and provide guidance and share best scholarship practices to maintain or elevate the level of scholarship across all Beta Sigma Psi Chapters.

We need to build a foundation for learning during a Beta Sig's college years and the foundation for a lifetime of learning. Just a reminder to put on your calendar January 17-19, Friday-Sunday for the MEF Conference in Ames, Iowa. There will be plenty of educational opportunities with 15 learning and leadership sessions. Awards will be abundant and hopefully your chapter will take advantage of the opportunities to receive recognition for a job well done

Scholarship

Grade Point Average.

John Hatfield, currently is the House Parent at Zeta Chapter but is also currently serving the National Fraternity as our National Leadership Consultant.

John states that of all of the chapters he has visited, none have specific constitutional requirements for Associate Members. This also will be addressed by Constitutional Amendments in Ames during MEF.

May we suggest that you amend your local constitution to include "No Associate Member may be pledged to this chapter with a High School Grade point average of less than 2.5 (on a 4.0 system) or a college current performance of less than 2.5

We might suggest that you may want to consider as a threshold, an average GPA of 2.7. That is what National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) is proposing.

What National Beta Sigma Psi has been doing since January 1

- Successful & Well attended MEF in St. Louis in January
- Activation of Lambda Chapter at Central Michigan, U.
- Appointment of Full Board of Directors
- Publication of "How to Sell Beta Sigma Psi."
- New and revised Membership Manual
- Board & member meeting to February to Develop Strategic Plan
- Adoption of New Strategic Plan for FY 2014
- New Gold Rose (1st in 1-1/2 years)
- Development of New Display Booth for use in Youth Gatherings.
- Reprint with up-dates Men of Conviction, Character, and Confidence
- Develop and Approve an FY 2014 Budget of Income & Expenditures
- Wrote/composed/printed a new recruitment tool- Realize your Vision
- Planned for FY 2014 attendance at 8 Lutheran Youth gatherings.
- Developing closer relationships with LCMS and ELCA Churches

- Marketing Folder for use at all Beta Sig events.
- Reorganized and staffed new direction of the National Office.
- Planned and executed two President's Roundtables
- Developed new plan & strategy of "Brave" National Recruitment Plan
- Continue to up-date and improve the website
- Developing the reactivation of Upsilon Chapter and secure a house as a gif
- Searching for a new replacement for Leadership Consultant..

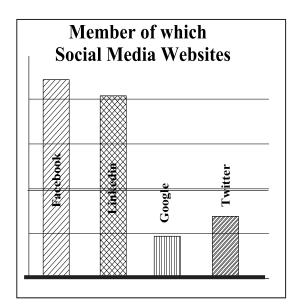
The Balance of Fiscal Year 2013 is now up to your Chapter at the local level

What Can You Do?

BSP Alumni Survey Summer 2013 Results and Insights

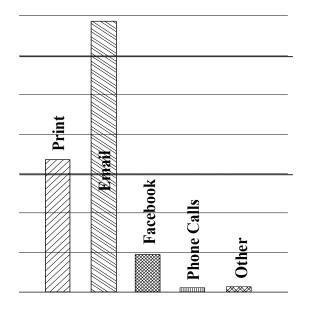
Last summer, the National Fraternity sent out a survey to approximately 1700 alumni and received back about 200 responses which is about (11.8%) of those surveyed. A variety of important questions were asked to determine how the fraternity alumni think and feel about some of the important questions that our National leadership must deal with. Some very clear results have been obtained in some real important areas, such as:

- How do you prefer to get information about Beta Sigma Psi? The choices were print medium, email, Facebook, phone calls, and all other. In general terms, email was by far the most selected method, by a factor of two over the second place method which was the print medium. (see chart)
- Another question asked the alumni which social media they are users/members of. The choices were Facebook, Linkedin, Google, and Twitter. Facebook & Linkedin together over whelmingly dominate. Google and Twitter combined are smaller than either of the other two. Twitter was almost twice that of Google, which came in dead last. (Please see chart, bottom left on this page).
- Another question asked everyone whether they had done any of the following things in the past month with regard to Beta Sigma Psi. (See Chart for items that are available for selection.
- Finally, another chart shows how the respondents answered questions regarding what they thought was important to the fraternity's future over the next 5 years and how they rated them in terms of their importance. (Again see chart).

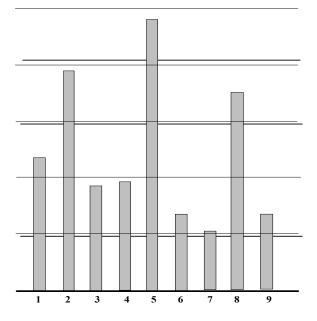


The chart above clearly shows that Google is not a big favorite with our alumni. Twitter is still new to many but is still favored above Google. However Facebook is the favorite with Linkedin a strong second close behind.

Information Source



Fraternity Related Activities Done Over The Last 12 Months



For Number Key to Graph above - see Below

- **1.** Attended a youth event at your church or been involved in a faith based event.
- **2.** Spoken with anyone about Beta Sigma Psi Fraternity.
- **3.** Been actively involved in youth or high school activities
- **4**. Attended Home Coming, a convention or other fraternity event, informal or otherwise.
- **5.** Served on a committee, board, or any organization entity.
- 6. Volunteered for Beta Sigma Psi at some level.
- **7**. Held an elected or appointed Office for the Fraternity.
- 8. Been in leadership position at your church.
- **9**. None of the above.

Recruitment & Expansion to

New Campuses:
What this chart shows is that there is not a major consensus of any one opinion, but there is vast majority of the two largest segments that feel it is very important or important. I would guess that about 80% or so comprise this opinion.

Quality Chapters:
With regard to the quality of fraternity chapters, over 95% of those polled felt that quality was very important or important with the first group comprising about 70% of the total respondents.

Programming for Engaging with Alumni Looking at the chart to the right, it appears that about 45% of the respondents felt that this is important, while the next largest group (about 25%) had no opinion. A total of about 15% felt that this was very important and only 5% felt that this is topic is unimportant.

Fund Raising
By a large percentage, about 2/3 of the respondents feel fund raising is important, with the second largest group (20%) say it is very important. That means that over 85% of all respondents feel that fund raising is essential.

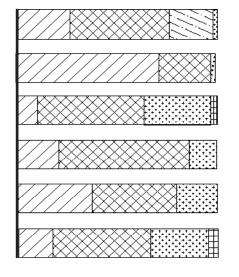
Branding and Marketing the Fraternity

This topic split the responders into 3 significant groups with the Important choice edging out the Very Important choice by just a few percentage points, but together comprizing they total almost 80% of the response. The remaining 20% was a neutral opinion.

Risk Management

Once again the largest segment (about 50%) believe that this subject is important while another 20% felt that it is very important. About 30% felt neutral on the subject and 1% or less felt it was unimportant.

How Important to Fraternity Over The Next Five Years



Recruitment & Expansion to New Campuses

Quality Chapters

Programing for engaging with other Alumni

Fund Raising

Branding and Marketing the Fraternity

Risk Management

Very Important	Neutral
Important	Unimportant

A Gift of Music

By: Lowell Gordon

We are certainly blessed by the generosity of our alumni. Serving at the National level, you see this kindness a lot. We try to acknowledge these gifts by our alumni in The Gold Rose, but this particular donation was very special and unique.

Bob and Lois Zibell have donated a beautiful custom-made Grand piano to Zeta Chapter. This donation can be recorded as a tax-deductible donation with the Educational Foundation by getting an appraisal by a qualified IRS approved appraiser and filing IRS form 8283 with their tax return.

An appraisal by an IRS approved appraiser is only required if the value of the donation is \$5,000 or more. The preliminary estimate of fair market value for the piano is \$26,000 for insurance

purposes. The Educational Foundation will work with the Manhattan Alumni Chapter to get this appraisal performed and documented and the cost of the appraisal can even be paid by the Educational Foundation and charged back to the Zeta sub-fund if that is the desire of the parties.

Five of the Zeta brothers are accomplished pianists and plan to assist other brothers interested in increasing their proficiency.

For those who have served their chapters as Song Chairman, you know well this is a remarkable gift. Practicing the familiar songs to prepare for serenades or special music at the chapel will be possible without the need to locate an available piano on campus. Imagine the entertainment value for the brothers, their families and guests. Not only will our brothers get to play music on a professional piano, their girlfriends will also visit often to play.

We have other major donations being considered that have been brought to our attention. Please discuss your desire to give back to our Fraternity with any who serve on the National Board, the Educational Foundation, or your local alumni chapter.

We will work with you to figure out how to process these donations to qualify as a donation with the Educational Foundation so the fraternity experience continues through the generations. These donations are part of the Beta Sig DNA – we are truly blessed with alumni who donate what they can in both time and money. The generosity of Bob and Lois remind us how our Beta Sig experience lasts a lifetime.

National Fraternity Offers Framed Certificates

The national fraternity is currently offering a very special (First Class)Membership Certificate Framing Offer to all alumni that has two options.

Option One: Includes black glossy hardwood frame w/ a narrow imbedded red band, plus black core Red (top matt) and Gold (bottom matt) that match the colors in the certificate.

Option Two is the same as option One except it has NO matt.

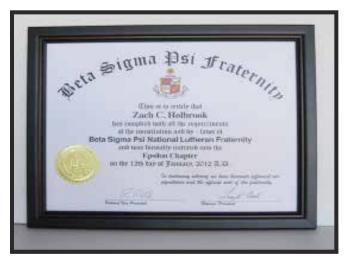
Both Options include non-glare glass, foam-core backing, dust cover and sawtooth hanger. The framing costs are as follows:

Option One - Double Matt - \$40.00 plus shipping Option Two - No Matt - \$30.00 plus shipping (See photos below.)

The cost for this offer at most frame shops would easily be 3-4 times these prices or more. We are using a company that privides framing for national hotels and chain restaurant franchises and they offer the best in quality. If you are interested in redoing or replacing a lost certificate, contact me (Gary Raffety) and I will help you complete the process. Allow about 3 weeks from the time we receive your order.



Option One - \$40



Option Two - \$30

Fraternity Crest - Lapel Pin

Many Alums will remember that when you went active you had a choice of a lapel pin with our Greek letters or a crest pin with the crest I/2" square. With the demise of LG Balfour Company, we now have a new source for our fraternity jewelry. As you can imagine, the financial cost of the recent activity of the National Fraternity has been substantial, including the large mailing to all Lutheran Churches in a 7 state area.

If you would like this pin for your sport coat or suit, please send \$10.00 to the National Office (or more if you would like) and we will in turn send back to you this keepsake for your service to the Fraternity. Thanks for your gift...



New National Membership Certificates.

The National Fraternity recently revised our Membership Certificates with a colored official crest, and gold seal. We know if you graduated a long time ago, or if in between moves, your certificate became damaged or even lost, you might want to consider our special replacement offer. We offer two options show at the left. Option #1 with a hardwood frame with a double matt for only \$40 and Option #2 with no matt but the same hardwood frame for just \$30. Any frame shop would charge at least 3 times this price. This is a top quality offer for a minimal price.

I purchased option #1 for my library in myi home office, and it is very distinctive and certainly makes a statement. Order Option #1 or #2. National will provide the certificate at no charge. and the framing would be easily 3-4 times our offer. Please send your check to the National Office, and we will provide the framed certificate at no cost to you. Please allow about 3 weeks from the time we receive your order

Larry Edwards, National President.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Beta Sigma Psi National Fraternity Chapter Houses











Campus Locations:

University of Illinois
Purdue University
University of Nebraska
Iowa State University
Kansas State University
Missouri S&T
University of Missouri
Indiana University
W. Michigan University
Midland Lutheran University







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