



Sigma Nu

Gamma Kappa Chapter

UPDATE: Spring 2019



Greetings Sigma Nu GK Alumni,

Starting this semester, and in the spirit of continued brotherhood, the Alumni Relations Chairmen will be constructing and sending out a newsletter just like this one once a semester to better inform the esteemed alumni of the ongoing shenanigans and activities at the GK Chapter here in Boulder, CO. My name is Conrad Hawkins GK 2322 and I am the current Alumni Relations Chairman and I am honored to have the privilege of starting this new tradition. I hope you enjoy reading up on some of the chapters past, present, and future accomplishments and goals.

Executive Board Briefing

Greetings from E.C. Adam Wenzlaff, L.C. Holten Sparling, and the rest of the Gamma Kappa executive board! Our first semester together is off to a productive start. At 141 brothers strong, and more on the way in our upcoming pledge class – we have a lot on our plate. Make no mistake, as all of you reading this once have, we are eager and happy to pour our effort into a brotherhood that has already given us so much in return – be it lifelong brothers, unforgettable memories, or an unending sense of pride.

As the leaders of a large and diverse brotherhood, we are always looking for ways to streamline effective leadership of the house. As executives, we have made it a priority for brothers to be self-motivated and find their own appreciation for propelling the house forward. As a symbol of this effort, we have begun awarding a “brother of the month” distinction as a way of recognizing brothers who have exemplified our shared values. Our executives have championed more specific pursuits as well. Andrew Siana, our treasurer, is implementing a proactive mechanism for collecting dues on time. At recorder, Spencer Micali is ensuring robust chapter attendance. Our novice marshal and scholarship chairman, Yazan Abu-Hijleh and Nick Girardi, respectively, are working hand-in-hand to ensure our soon-to-be initiates enter our brotherhood with a true and proper reverence for academic success. For those of you who are unfamiliar with some changes, our Chaplain has taken on the responsibilities as our liaison with our property management company to ensure a productive and sustainable relationship into the future. Sentinel Chris Schabacker works closely with our E.C. and L.C. to ensure Gamma Kappa fosters a safe and enriching environment as every active brother prepares himself for a life as a young professional.

We are truly grateful to alumnus Randy Rowland, who championed the successful creation of the Alumni Advisory Board. This board is a collection of alumni who council each member of our executive board. Just last weekend, the executive board had an afternoon retreat to alumni advisor Robert Bailey’s house. Burgers, brats, beer, and brotherhood were on the agenda. We are cognizant of the impact this house may have had on you during your time as an

active. Accordingly, we appreciate and applaud your contributions to making this storied brotherhood what it is today.

Without losing sight of our core values of Love, Truth, and Honor, we genuinely aspire to be a model of the modern fraternity. Enjoy reading the updates from our various chairmen and be well!



Pictured:
E.C. Adam Wenzlaff (left) &
L.C. Holten Sparling (Right)
at College of Chapters in Roanoke
Virginia and Sigma Nu Headquarters in
Lexington Virginia



Philanthropy: ----- William Hill & Henry Pierce

This semester we plan to enlarge our involvement in philanthropy events within our house and around campus. Already, we have participated in a few sorority events such as Alpha Phi's "King of Hearts" and Kappa Alpha Theta's "KATwalk". We also were approached by an organization called Relay for Life, a community-based fundraising event for the American Cancer Society, where we will have brothers participate in a fun day of activities to raise money for cancer research. In the past we feel philanthropy has not been emphasized enough so we are looking to encourage brothers to be more active in going to philanthropic events whether they be ours or community events. An event we are introducing this year will take place in late April, it will be a 4 vs 4 basketball tournament and cookout on Sigma Nu's property.

As a continued supporter of the Global Down Syndrome and Dare to Play Foundation, we will be focusing all of our events and fundraising efforts towards helping their organization gain awareness and make any contribution we can. We plan to ask local businesses for fundraising help in our effort to support 'Global' and their work. In conclusion, the active brothers are starting to find a new drive and sense of pride in our philanthropic events and are eager to continue to move forward with them.



Pictured:
The brotherhood participating in
Global's Dare to Play activities
during the football game against
Arizona at Folsom Field.

Community Service: ----- William Hill

The brothers here at the Gamma Kappa chapter of Sigma Nu are dedicated to giving back and assisting in the improvement of their community. This semester we plan for every brother to contribute a minimum of 6 volunteer hours before the end of the school year. We plan to accomplish this by partnering directly with Wildlands Restoration Project, an organization focusing on restoring and protecting the local environment here in Boulder. Our partnership will consist of weekly sessions brothers can attend focusing primarily on cleaning up and protecting local wildlife areas. We hope for the brothers of Sigma Nu Gamma Kappa chapter to make a significant impact on our local community.

Formal: ----- Nick Julander & John Rupert

This semester we have been working on finalizing our spring formal trip to Las Vegas on the weekend of April 5th to April 7th. We are expecting about 71 brothers to go to Las Vegas this year, which is an amazing turnout and makes this formal a strong runner-up for one of our chapter's largest formals. This will be the second formal we have held in Las Vegas, proving Sigma Nu is the pioneer for out of state formal trips in Boulder.

Internal Social: ----- Nick Julander & Raftery Cole

So far this semester we have had many great brotherhoods, and there has been so much enthusiasm and contribution from the house as a whole to coming up with new ideas for brotherhoods and making these ideas a reality. For moms weekend, coming up soon on the weekend of April 13th, we will be renting out Bar Taco and taking group baking classes. One Sigma Nu brother, Noel Thomas, will be performing a live concert at the house. Overall, this semester I expect there will be many more great brotherhoods, and Mom's Weekend is looking like it will be another great success for Sigma Nu!



Pictured: Brothers enjoying a night out while supporting our very own Noel Thomas at his live performance in Fort Collins

Recruitment: ----- Cole Skach & Bryson Lewis & Matt Skaja

This spring recruitment went very well. We started out with giving house tours and interviews to potential new members that may have deserved continuous open bids. These potential new members were people that brothers in the house knew and wanted the recruitment chairmen to meet before open houses. We ended up giving out three continuous open bids, all three of whom accepted these bids. Furthermore, both of our open houses were successful because many brothers were in attendance as well as many potential new members interested in becoming brothers of Sigma Nu. Preference night also went very well with a high retention rate from preferences given to preferences that actually showed up. We spoke with our potential new members, interviewed them all in separate groups, and ate a formal dinner with them as well. Out of the twenty-four bids we gave out, including continuous open bids, twenty-three accepted those bids! Thanks to the many brothers who helped to show what Sigma Nu is all about, we now have twenty-three potential new members eager to begin their pledgeship.



Pictured: Recruitment Chairs Bryson Lewis, Cole Skach, Matt Skaja and Novice Marshall Yazan Abu-Hijleh with the 2019 Spring Rush Class

Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, Development (LEAD's): ----- Brandon Schwab & Michael Green & Ryan Boles & Trevor Bianchi

Last semester we took major leaps and bounds in the alteration, improvement, and implementation of the LEAD position. We accomplished every part of phase one for the first time of our chapter in a long time as well as finally making the progression to phase two with our newly initiated brothers. This allowed us to focus on the potential candidates for Sigma Nu fall semester and hone them in Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, Development and employ to them what it truly means to be a Brother of Sigma Nu Fraternity. We saw progression and achievement like never before from this fall class, bringing in key alumni, local law enforcement, and influential figures within the community to help teach the foundation of Sigma Nu.

This upcoming semester we will progress into phase two and go beyond the foundation of LEAD. Presenting new teachings and achievements for our New Brothers. The focus of Phase II will be improvement of Sigma Nu within our core beliefs of Love, Truth, and Honor. During chapter we will be organizing alumni, key speakers, and Active Army LTC to speak on truth and honor with character among brothers in pressing times. For phase one we will improve last semesters practice with our new candidates of Sigma Nu and help guide and teach them in all things LEAD and what it means to be a Brother of Sigma Nu.



Public Relations: ----- Doug Shapiro

Public relations for a fraternity chapter is an oxymoron in today's cultural landscape. But here at Gamma Kappa, we don't fit the typical fraternity stereotype. We regularly utilize social media, particularly Instagram, to share chapter operation updates and feature brothers that have done exemplary work in school and in the Greek community. With slightly over 1,000 followers, we are always testing new types of content to increase the number of reactions, all in the hope of gaining more followers. The most beneficial function of Gamma Kappa's social media accounts is communicating with other chapters across the country, building strong relationships that will extend beyond our four years at CU. We love to see what other Sigma Nu chapters around the country are doing, how we can improve and excel with honor.

Social: ----- Wilson Starr & Dylan Ogle & Colton Gilbert

Coming up for this semester we have multiple mixers and major parties plans. Our two major parties are Snu Globe, which is March 2nd, and Snu Lab, which is April 26th. Snu Globe will take one week of setup, and likely three to four days of cleanup. Additional equipment for Snu Globe that you would not expect to see at social events usually would be a light board for graphic entertainment, a packing peanut room, a house full of white paper, and ice luges. For Snu Lab, which is outside, triangle tarps will be covering the volleyball pit. In the volleyball pit there will be a stage with a much larger than normal speaker setup. Both parties are being heavily advertised, contained with hired security, and much more exclusive than your average party. Granted, Sigma Nu isn't known for having average parties.

In terms of a special event, thanks to a holiday, we will be collaborating with Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Pi Kappa Phi, in a three party, three different location, three different times Saint Patrick's Day bender.

February 28th our first mixer will be with Pi Beta Phi, and the theme is undecided, (but most likely "80's in Aspen"). March 15th our second mixer will be with Delta Gamma Sorority, and the theme is "DG Around the World" which entails the house being set up in such a way that every room is themed as a different country. March 21st, our third and last mixer, will be with Alpha Phi. The theme is yet to be decided.



Pictured (left to right): Sam Nicholson, Will Hill, and Andrew Siana all ready for a formal night out in gorgeous Boulder Colorado

Mental Health And Wellness Report: ----- Ethan London

Since creating this position at Sigma Nu, I got connected with a member of Sigma Nu nationals to require a Mental Health chairman at all chapters of Sigma Nu. Now, every fraternity at CU has elected a Mental Health Chairman. James McConnell holds monthly IFC Mental Health and Wellness meetings in which all mental health chairmen at CU attend to discuss improvements and other beneficial things. We are now working on getting a medical kit and narkan/naloxone kit in our house. Slowly, some brothers have started to approach me seeking help and I am happy to say I now have the opportunity to bridge brothers to the professional help they might need. Lastly, I sent out a spreadsheet of resources for counseling or medical help anywhere from Denver to on campus at CU.

Hot Tub: ----- James McConnell

The hot tub at 1043 pleasant st has been seeing a lot of action this semester. The newly elected hot tub chairs have been working diligently maintaining the cleanliness of the hot tub for the enjoyment of brothers and guests. The hot tub room has been affectionately named the Sigma Nu spa. Using the small but appropriately allocated hot tub budget the brothers plan to purchase floor mats and LED lights to enhance the hot tub experience even further.

Pictured (left to right):

The Executive Council enjoying a dinner at the Boulder Chop House and tavern:
President- Adam Wenzlaff, Risk Reduction- Chris Schabacker, Scholarship- Nick Girardi,
Treasurer- Andrew Siana, Recorder- Spencer Micali, Chaplain/House Manager- Liam Carney,
Novice Marshall- Yazan Abu-Hijleh

