

# MISSISSIPPI

## SIGMAS

ENGAGED | EMPOWERED | ENLIGHTENED



August 2021

Summer 2021

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## State Director's Message

Greeting my Brother of Sigma Mississippi,

Let me begin by thanking each and everyone of you for your sacrifices to ensure that our chapters, neighborhoods, and communities remain safe during this pandemic. We now live in a world where going to schools, grocery stores, and even a local game are a task. So, let's continue to mask up and be safe.

I would like to thank brothers across the state who attended Conclave Myrtle Beach 2021 both in person and virtually. It is always good to fellowship with the Brotherhood. Like many of you, there are brothers I only see once every two years. We welcome the Honorable Brother Chis Rey and his cabinet as they lead our Fraternity the next two years. In this next chapter we will "Empower Generations of Men to BELIEVE in Advocacy, Community Service, and Engagement". Everything didn't go like we wanted it to; however, as we continue to learn and grow in Sigma, we improve our chapters and state. We congratulate those brothers and chapters that were recognized by our Immediate Past President Brother Michael Cristal.

The membership in our state is strong. We were recognized at our 2021 Southern Regional Board Meeting as having the greatest retention amongst the states in our Region. If we continue on this trajectory, we will have a total financial membership exceeding numbers we haven't seen since 2018. As we enter into the fall intake season beginning September 12 - November 14, 2021, let us not forget the processes that have been put in place to insure the safety and

integrity of the organization. I am requesting that all collegiate chapters forward a copy of your annual calendar to me prior to intake approval. This will help us plan for all upcoming events.

This week we began our Sigma Small Business Week. You have received various ideas and programs on how to make this week a success from our international office. As an incentive, the chapter with the greatest number of PIA's submitted will receive a chapter grant from the state. The deadline to submit is September 13, 2021.

This month we also recognize Sigma Day of Service on September 25, 2021. We will have a state-wide highway clean up. I am asking every chapter who has an adopted highway to help keep Mississippi beautiful. Please take photos to add to chapter archives and post to our state's facebook page. Lastly, September is Sickle Cell and Prostate Cancer awareness month.

The new chapter MOU for Adopt a School has been approved and can be used to begin the 2022 academic year. The state will offer two education opportunities to secure funds for your chapter and an undergraduate brother. We will provide a chapter grant to a graduate chapter to support its Adopt a School initiative, and we will provide a fall academic scholarship to any brother in one of our ten undergraduate institutions. Applications will be released through our constant contact and website.

Since our last newsletter, we have lost brothers who have added value to our great organization: Brother Sam Hurt (Alpha Zeta), Brother William Henry Gatewood, Brother Cedric Kinard, Brother Eugene Liger Jr., and Brother Jeffrey Phil-



lips. Please continue to keep the families and fraternity brothers in your prayers. Losing a brother is never easy.

In closing, let's look forward to the following events. The Inaugural North Mississippi Greek Picnic will take place at the Sam Cooperwood Park on September 25 in Holly Springs, MS. We are still looking for that one chapter that can represent Sigma in the stroll off and step show. Our 2021 Fall Brotherhood Retreat and Tailgate will be held October 22-24, Roosevelt State Park in Morton, MS. The cost is only \$30. This includes all meals and a conference gift. Registration can be found on the State's website. There are cabins and a motel on site. This is an excellent opportunity to build comradery as a chapter and meet other brothers around the state. Because of Covid protocols we will only be registering 125 brothers. Lastly, our Mississippi State Conference is set for February 25-28 in Philadelphia, MS. More information to come.

Continue to do the work of Sigma,

Sedric Scott  
Mississippi State Director