



## ***Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> General Convention***

***Embassy Suites DFW North  
Dallas, Texas***

***July 24-27, 2019***

Grand President Sean Shingler called the 67<sup>th</sup> General Convention to order at 9:13 a.m. on Thursday, July 25, 2019.

Brother Shingler announced that Court of Honor member Albert Shonk (Southern Cal '54) would serve as parliamentarian. If necessary, David Schell (Clarion '73) would assist.

Brother Shingler explained the voting procedure. He then called the roll and quorum was confirmed.

Chancellor of the Court of Honor Scott Jacobson gave the report of the Nominating Committee. As the chair, he introduced the members of the committee: Todd Simpson (Central Missouri '86), Jonathan Taylor (RIT AI), Len Gales (Alabama '93), Marco Sepulveda (Cal Poly '06) and undergraduate chapter presidents Wesley Alexander (Appalachian State) and Dominic Stockey (Minnesota).

Brother Jacobson reported that members of the committee had held a series of phone conversations, reviewed documents and familiarized themselves with the goals of the Fraternity. The committee had already accomplished a great deal before arriving in Dallas.

He explained that only those names presented prior to or during the Convention would be considered for Grand President or for a seat on the Grand Council.

The following brothers have been nominated for Grand President: Chris Hoye (Ferris State '91), Darald Stubbs (Stetson '88) and Glenn Roby (Northern Illinois '91).

The following brothers have been nominated for Grand Council: David Cohen (Union College '88), Ryan Cole (Ball State '13), Mark Cowan (Minnesota '71), Ed Doherty (Massachusetts '74), Jeff D'Onofrio (George Washington '09), Brad Filler (Adelphi '13), Matt Gregory (Southern Illinois '95), Jeff Liesendahl (Northern Illinois '87), Sean McGreevey (Henderson State '97), David Schell (Clarion '73) and Jerome Wood (Mansfield '77).

According to Brother Jacobson, all candidates have accepted their nominations.

Brother Jacobson called for further nominations. Hearing none, Brother Jacobson moved to close nominations. The motion was seconded. Hearing no discussion, the motion carried.

Brother Jacobson then announced that the interviews were open to anyone who wished to attend. He asked that members refrain from campaigning and maintain a sense of brotherhood.

Brother Chris Hoye (Ferris State '91) was introduced as chair of the Credentials Committee. He introduced the other members of his committee: undergraduate members Dale Shober (Georgia Tech), Nick Taylor (Kentucky) and Eli Kimmett (Ball State); alumni members Daryl Demos (Southern Cal '77), Steve Chastain (Pittsburg State '10) and staff representative Grant Carpenter (Northern Arizona '13).

Brother Hoye reported that the committee had already met with five chapters. Three of those chapters have agreed for full payment over the next 90 days and the committee planned to meet with two more chapters later that morning and expected to get signed agreements at that time.

Doug Diekow (Florida A1), chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, introduced members of his committee. Undergraduate members included Will Kraemer (Stevens), Alec Chapman (Akron) and Mike Smith (Illinois). Chris Hoye (Ferris State '91) and David Schell (Clarion '73) were the alumni members of the committee. He reported that the committee would meet from 10:30 a.m. to noon that morning and then again that afternoon.

Brother Diekow said that the committee already had some potential bylaw changes and requested further potential changes be submitted by noon on Friday, July 26.

Chair of the Resolutions Committee Atif Elkadi (Cal Poly '01) introduced Darald Stubbs (Stetson '88) and Jim Charanis (FDU/Madison '87) as the other members of the committee. He requested that all submissions to the Resolutions Committee be made by noon on Friday, July 26. He also asked for any undergraduate volunteers to join the committee at their 10:30 a.m. meeting.

COO Nick Zuniga (Ball State A1) reported that the roll-out of the strategic plan, PhiSigForward, has been well-received. He said that the upcoming convention events would be exciting, with the roll-out of the new brotherhood development program, Cardinal Journey. He said the weekend would be about positive change. New officers will be elected, and updated legislation introduced.

Tony Fusaro (Rhode Island '58), as chair of the Ritual Committee, reported that members of his committee included Grant Carpenter (Northern Arizona '13), Todd Simpson (Central Missouri '86), Jonathan Taylor (RIT A1), Bruce Johnson (Illinois '70), Atif Elkadi (Cal Poly '01), Thomas Jackson (Minnesota '87), Frank Tortorici (Alabama '60), Adam Lipshin (Cal Poly '18), Sean Hamilton (Stetson '89) and David Schell (Clarion '73).

Brother Fusaro announced that the committee would meet Friday morning in Suite 221. He said that brothers were welcome to attend and participate in the discussion. Any decisions would be voted on during the Ritual Exemplification on Saturday, July 27. The agenda of the meeting will include how the ritual room may be utilized at the Shonk Archives in Indianapolis.

He also reported that the installation of officers will take place Saturday afternoon, July 27 during the Ritual Exemplification. He asked those who may be elected to think about who they would want to escort them during the ceremony.

Grand President Shingler declared the convention in recess until 9 a.m. Saturday morning, July 27.

The convention was recessed at 9:45 a.m.

Grand President Shingler called the convention to order at 9:18 a.m. on Saturday, July 27.

COO Zuniga called the roll and determined that quorum existed.

Brother Shingler stated that the biennium report was available in the mobile app. It was moved and seconded to approve the biennium report. The motion carried.

As chair of the Credentials Committee, Chris Hoye (Ferris State '91) reported that the committee had met with those chapters who had established payment plans and that those chapters were now in good standing.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Credentials Committee report. The motion carried.

As chair, Brother Doug Diekow (Florida AI) presented the report of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

The following changes to the bylaws would be considered during New Business.

Article XII – Rituals - Section I – Candidates shall, prior to initiation, complete a course of training prescribed by the chapter. This course shall include the following: . . . The proposed change is to change the word “training” to “education.”

Subsection (d) of that same section reads “Indoctrination in the traditions and customs of the chapter and the institution. The course of associate training may include duties about the chapter house . . . The proposed change is to delete everything after the first sentence.

Article X, Section II – currently states “A member of the First or Second Degree may be suspended by the president of his chapter, the chapter, the adviser, or the Council or its representatives in this order of increasing authority.” The suggested change would read “A member of the First or Second Degree may be suspended by the president of his chapter, the chapter, a member of the Third Degree or the Council or its representatives in this order of increasing authority.” The change would change adviser to a member of the Third Degree.

Article XI – Expulsion – The suggested changes to this bylaw would make it easier for chapters to submit the proper documentation. Currently, charges of expulsion must be made in writing and notarized. The change would accept charges electronically, through Officer Portal. It would also limit who could bring charges to chapter presidents or chapter treasurers. It would allow document processing to be done by the professional staff, as opposed to the COO. It would also change the number of days the accused has to request a hearing and/or an appeal.

Article IX – Fees and Dues – Section 1 – This section currently states that unpaid membership fees are the joint responsibility of the individual and the chapter. The change would make the chapter responsible for any fees that were not collected and forwarded to the Grand Chapter.

Article VI – Section 9 – currently states “The adviser shall represent the Grand Chapter in the chapter to which he is appointed which has nominated him. The proposed change would be to substitute the

words “represent the Grand Chapter” with “provide guidance and advice.” It would also delete the wording “to which he is appointed.”

Article VI – Section 3 – currently states “The regional adviser and regional counselor shall work with a chapter/colony or chapters/colonies as assigned by, and for a period to be determined by, the Grand Council. The proposed change would substitute the word “work with” to “advise.”

Article V – Section 1 – The Council – currently states “The Council shall consist of the President and six directors. It may also be referred to as the Grand Council, and it shall function as the board of directors of the Grand Chapter. New members of the Council shall be formally installed as provided in the Rituals as soon after their election as may be practicable. The suggested wording would add “all of whom will be members of the Third Degree or higher” following “six directors.”

Article V – Section 2 – The Council – subsection (d) currently states “To supervise the condition and the programs of the chapters and chartered alumni clubs. The suggested change is to replace the word “supervise” with “review.”

Article V – Section 2 – The Council – subsection (k) currently discusses the method by which the Grand Council would fill a vacancy created by resignation, disability disqualification or death. The suggested change would be to add: “Only members of the Third Degree or higher are eligible.”

Article V – Section 2 – The Council – Subsection (l) currently states “To act upon matters of discipline, the suspension of a chapter or alumni club, and the revocation of a charter of a chapter or alumni club. The suggested change would delete the word “discipline.”

Article V – Section 2 - The Council – Subsection (r) currently states “To have full authority to control all the affairs of the Grand Chapter, to manage all property belonging thereto, and transact all its business. The suggested wording would replace the word would change “to have full authority to control” to “to have full authority to manage.”

Article III – Section 14 - The General Convention – currently states “Nominees for the offices of the Grand Chapter, as listed in Section 13, shall consist of those presented in the report of the Nominating Committee, and other nominations which may be made, at the call of the President, from the floor of the Convention by any member present, who is entitled to vote.” The suggested change would add “shall be members of the Third Degree or higher” following “as listed in Section 13.”

Article IX – Fees and Dues – Section 1 – currently states the associate fee is \$82.50 and the initiate fee is \$301. These fees may be increased by vote of the Grand Council in accordance with the fiscal year of Phi Sigma Kappa and the corresponding Consumer Price Index. The suggested change would ask that the associate fee be raised to \$84 and the initiate fee be raised to \$315. It also asks that the Grand Council be given the right to raise these fees by no more than 5%.

Article IX – Fees and Dues – Section 2 – currently states that the census fee is \$52 per member, per semester. The suggested change would be that the census fee be raised to \$63.50 per member, per semester.

It was moved and seconded to receive the report of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The motion carried.

As members of the Resolutions Committee, Brothers Atif Elkadi (Cal Poly '06), Darald Stubbs (Stetson '88) and Jim Charanis (FDU/Madison '87) presented the following resolutions:

**Resolution #1**

Whereas, Our Grand Chapter staff continues to perform in an exemplary manner;  
Be it resolved that the 67th General Convention of Phi Sigma Kappa commends the dedication, professionalism and initiative of the Grand Chapter Staff since our last General Convention.

The staff members include: Executive Director/COO Nicholas Zuniga (Ball State AI), Senior Director of Operations Kathy Cannady, Financial Services Specialist Marsha Spears, Administrative Assistant Karen Miller, Director of Advancement Joe Kern (Radford '09), Director of Chapter Services Grant Carpenter (Northern Arizona '13), Director of Education Leslie Pedigo, Director of Expansion Erik Silvola, Associate Director of Communications Daniel Kobren (Minnesota '17), Chapter Consultant Trevor Hartley (Ferris State '19), and Chapter Consultant Cody Lamana (Northern Illinois '19).

**Resolution #2**

The Convention also wishes to recognize Development Officer Greg DalSanto (Ohio State '14), Chapter Consultant Evan Schrauben (Eastern Michigan '16), Chapter Consultant Dezie Gude (Tennessee/Martin '17), Taylor McDougal (Stetson '18) and Cam Clark (Cincinnati '18) for their work on staff during the biennium.

Be it resolved that this convention expresses its appreciation to these officers and brothers and to wish them well in their future endeavors.

**Resolution #3**

Be it resolved that the Grand Council is hereby empowered to approve the minutes of the 67th General Convention.

**Resolution #4**

Be it resolved that this 67th General Convention expresses its hearty congratulations to those chapters, colonies, and individual brothers who have been or will be recognized at this General Convention for their service to Phi Sigma Kappa for their achievements while members of our bond of Brotherhood.

**Resolution #5**

Whereas, the Phi Sigma Kappa Foundation has again done a commendable job in its assistance to Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity; and

Whereas, the most visible manifestation for this support is the assistance given to the educational programs of the General Convention,

Be it resolved that the 67th General Convention expresses its heart-felt thanks to all brothers, and other friends of Phi Sigma Kappa, who have donated to the annual fund, and to the Trustees of the Phi Sigma Kappa Foundation for their outstanding efforts on behalf of our Brotherhood.

#### **Resolution #6**

Whereas, Phi Sigma Kappa Properties has again done noteworthy work in providing quality, low-cost chapter living facilities as well as short-term loans to the undergraduate membership,

Be it resolved that the 67th General Convention expresses its genuine gratitude to the leadership and Directors of Phi Sigma Kappa Properties for their outstanding efforts on behalf of our Brotherhood.

#### **Resolution #7**

Whereas, Brothers of the Epsilon Mu Chapter, at Central Arkansas University, are performing the exemplification of our Fraternity's Ritual of Initiation of New Members at this General Convention, and

Whereas, by their efforts, these brothers are demonstrating the added richness of our Ritual which comes from preparation and memorization of its parts,

Be it resolved that the 67th General Convention expresses its gratitude to these brothers for their important contributions to this gathering.

#### **Resolution #8**

Whereas, in these times of challenges and opportunities for fraternities, the management of our Brotherhood has required much work and many difficult decisions, and

Whereas, many of these decisions were the responsibility of the Grand Council of this Fraternity,

Be it resolved that this 67th General Convention expresses its gratitude to our brothers on the Grand Council for their time, effort, and diligence over the past biennium.

#### **Resolution #9**

Whereas, the many benefits of our Fraternity would be impossible without the countless hours of work performed by our appointed volunteer officers, and alumni, and

Whereas, these officers include our committee members, regional advisers, regional counselors, chapter advisers, alumni association and housing corporation members, and other positions as well,

Be it resolved that the Grand Chapter thanks all the volunteer officers and alumni for their dedication and efforts without which this Fraternity could not function in the manner it enjoys today.

#### **Resolution #10**

Whereas the Alabama Alumni Association of Omicron Deuteron continue to show their commitment to the Cardinal Principles of Phi Sigma Kappa.

Be it resolved that the Omicron Deuteron Alumni Association provided \$60,000 in funds for undergraduate members to utilize for education.

#### **Resolution #11**

Whereas, the Embassy Suites DFW North has served as host to Phi Sigma Kappa for the 67th General Convention, Shonk Undergraduate Leadership School, and Robert M. Zillgitt Leadership Institute,

Be it resolved that the brothers here assembled at the 67th General Convention hereby express their sincere thanks to the Embassy Suites DFW North for its hospitality and support.

**Resolution #12**

Whereas, the 1873 Society has dedicated treasure for the benefit of the Fraternity by way of the Phi Sigma Kappa Foundation, and

Whereas, the 1873 Society has contributed to the future of Phi Sigma Kappa,

Be it resolved that the 63rd General Convention extends its gratitude to the members of the 1873 Society.

**Resolution #13**

Whereas, during the preceding biennium, we have lost brothers to the Chapter Eternal, and

Whereas, we want to be mindful of these brothers,

Be it resolved that the brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa hereby express our condolences to and remember the family of all our deceased brothers.

**Resolution #14**

Whereas, during the preceding biennium, we have lost a former trustee, two former Grand Council Directors, a former Properties Director and a past Grand President.

Whereas, we want to show appreciation for their lives of service,

Be it resolved that the brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa hereby remember and express our condolences to the families of Adam Umbrasas (Ferris State '06), David Towle (San Jose State '58), former Trustee, Paul Gray (MIT '54), former Council Director, John Bowker (Detroit '59), former Properties Director and Al Rudisill (Gettysburg '50), past Grand President.

**Resolution #15**

Whereas brother Adam Umbrasas served Phi Sigma Kappa as chapter president, chapter adviser, foundation trustee, leadership school facilitator and Grand Council Director over a period of 17 years.

Whereas brother Adam Umbrasas served Phi Sigma Kappa with honor, distinction, and dedication.

Whereas brother Adam Umbrasas supported the good name of Phi Sigma Kappa in all her worthy endeavors.

Whereas brother Adam Umbrasas joined the chapter eternal on Sept 20, 2018.

Let it be resolved that the 67th general Convention recognizes and remembers Adam (Coach) Umbrasas for his contributions to Phi Sigma Kappa.

**Resolution #16**

Whereas Grand President Sean Shingler, XI Septaton of George Mason University, has served in numerous staff and volunteer roles for our brotherhood, and

Whereas Sean is still for some reason a Cowboys fan, and

Whereas Brother Shingler has declined re-nomination for the position of Grand President,

Be it resolved that the convention thanks Brother Shingler for his service, celebrates his success, and wishes him continued success.

#### **Resolution #17**

Whereas brother Scott Jacobson ran the Nominating Committee with a Jacobsonian approach and kept his process above board. The Nominating Committee was able to perform their duties respectfully because of him.

Be it resolved that the term "Jacobsonian (Jacobson-ian)," be added to Phi Sigma Kappa diction, the definition of which is honor and fairness.

#### **Resolution #18**

Whereas the Promotion of Brotherhood, Stimulation of Scholarship and the Development of Character are the Cardinal Principles of Phi Sigma Kappa, and

Whereas several session speakers aided our learning in the pursuit of Justice, Wisdom and Honor, therefore

Be it resolved that the 67th General Convention delegates of Phi Sigma Kappa direct the International Headquarters staff to convey our appreciation and acknowledgement of the exceptional talents to James Robilotta for his Keynote.

#### **Resolution #19**

Whereas, the Special Olympics is the national philanthropy of Phi Sigma Kappa;

Be it resolved by the 67th General Convention of Phi Sigma Kappa that we reaffirm our commitment to providing as much support as possible to the Special Olympics.

#### **Resolution #20**

Whereas Brother Al Shonk has set the standard for what it means to be a Phi Sig,

And whereas the Albert D. Shonk Jr. Archives and Educational Center, housing our most treasured and significant historical pieces, is scheduled to be completed and dedicated in Indianapolis at Leadership School in 2020.

Hereby be it resolved that the Fraternity thanks Al Shonk, Mr. Phi Sig, for his past and continuing contributions to our bond of brotherhood.

## **Resolution #21**

Whereas, this Resolutions Committee wishes this report to be as true and accurate as possible, Be it resolved that the 67th General Convention hereby authorizes the International Headquarters staff to correct any grammatical items, dates, names, etc., so long as the intent of each and every resolution remains true to its original meaning and intention.

It was moved and seconded to receive the report of the Resolutions Committee. The motion carried.

Chancellor of the Court of Honor Scott Jacobson gave the report of the Nominations Committee. He thanked the members of the committee for taking their job seriously and commended the candidates for stepping forward. He explained that the committee was looking for a clearly defined skill set and that the interview questions were consistent with each candidate.

Brother Jacobson announced that the slate would be David Cohen, Jeff Liesendahl and Sean McGreevey for seats on the Grand Council and Chris Hoyer as Grand President.

It was moved and seconded to receive the report of the Nominating Committee. The motion carried.

## **New Business**

The Constitution and Bylaws changes that were proposed in the committee's report were brought forth in New Business.

Article X, Section II – currently states “A member of the First or Second Degree may be suspended by the president of his chapter, the chapter, the adviser, or the Council or its representatives in this order of increasing authority.” The suggested change would read “A member of the First or Second Degree may be suspended by the president of his chapter, the chapter, a member of the Third Degree or the Council or its representatives in this order of increasing authority.” The change would replace adviser with a member of the Third Degree.

The rationale for this change is that not every chapter has a chapter adviser.

Article VI – Section 3 – currently states “The regional adviser and regional counselor shall work with a chapter/colony or chapters/colonies as assigned by, and for a period to be determined by, the Grand Council. The proposed change would substitute the word “work with” to “advise.”

The rationale for this change and those that follow is legal in nature and would minimize the liability of the Grand Chapter.

Article VI – Section 9 – currently states “The adviser shall represent the Grand Chapter in the chapter to which he is appointed which has nominated him. The proposed change would be to substitute the words “represent the Grand Chapter” with “provide guidance and advice.” It would also delete the wording “to which he is appointed.”

Article XII – Rituals - Section I – Candidates shall, prior to initiation, complete a course of training prescribed by the chapter. This course shall include the following: . . . The proposed change is to change the word “training” to “education.”

Subsection (d) of that same section reads “Indoctrination in the traditions and customs of the chapter and the institution. The course of associate training may include duties about the chapter house . . . The proposed change is to delete everything after the first sentence.

It was moved and seconded to approve the changes to Article X, Section 2; Article VI, Section 3; Article VI, Section 9; and Article XII, Section 1.

Discussion was held on the proposed change to Article X, Section 2.

Tom Grunwald (Ferris State '91) was concerned about the reference to a member of the Third Degree, as opposed to chapter advisers. He pointed out that some chapters have non-member as chapter advisers.

Mark Viel (Ferris State '73) shared Brother Grunwald's concern. He added that he didn't like the freedom of any Fourth Degree member being able to suspend members.

Bruce Johnson (Illinois '70) felt the wording was too broad and implied that any Fourth Degree member from anywhere in the country could suspend members.

Brother Johnson moved to remove the change to Article X, Section 2 from the original motion. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion was then held on Article VI, Section 9. Legal Counsel Bud Berman explained that the change in verbiage is an attempt to make it more difficult for plaintiffs to navigate a path into the assets of the Fraternity. He said that the Constitution and Bylaws are vaguer and that the Policy Manual is much more detailed. This is important because the Constitution and Bylaws can only be changed every two years, whereas the Policy Manual can be changed at any time by the Grand Council.

Discussion was closed. The motion carried on the changes to Article VI, Section 3; Article VI, Section 9 and Article XII, Section 1.

Article V – Section 1 – The Council – currently states “The Council shall consist of the President and six directors. It may also be referred to as the Grand Council, and it shall function as the board of directors of the Grand Chapter. New members of the Council shall be formally installed as provided in the Rituals as soon after their election as may be practicable. The suggested wording would add “all of whom will be members of the Third Degree or higher” following “six directors.”

Article V – Section 2 – The Council – subsection (d) currently states “To supervise the condition and the programs of the chapters and chartered alumni clubs. The suggested change is to replace the word “supervise” with “review.”

Article V – Section 2 – The Council – subsection (k) currently discusses the method by which the Grand Council would fill a vacancy created by resignation, disability disqualification or death. The suggested change would be to add: “Only members of the Third Degree or higher are eligible.”

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Article III – Section 14 - The General Convention – currently states “Nominees for the offices of the Grand Chapter, as listed in Section 13, shall consist of those presented in the report of the Nominating Committee, and other nominations which may be made, at the call of the President, from the floor of the Convention by any member present, who is entitled to vote.” The suggested change would add “shall be members of the Third Degree or higher” following “as listed in Section 13.”

It was stated that the purpose of the above suggested changes would be to minimize the legal liability and risk to the Grand Chapter.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed changes to Article V, Section 1; Article V, Section 2; and Article III, Section 14. The motion carried.

Article XI, Sections 2, 3 and 4 were discussed. The changes in procedures would make the expulsion process easier for the chapters. Changes would include being able to request expulsion through the Officer Portal, as opposed to having forms notarized and sent through the mail. The changes would also affect who could bring forth charges and change which IHQ staff members handle the administrative handling of expulsions.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed changes to Article XI.

Discussion was held on the motion.

Michael Haynes (Pittsburg State '16) said he didn't like two or three members of the Third Degree or higher being removed (Section 2, subsection a). He said it would be a mistake to take away that privilege. His fear was that undergraduate members would be reluctant to bring forth charges and that the chapter could be taking on a lot of liability if there were no checks and balances.

Sean Shivnen (Eastern Michigan '00) said that situation had taken place at Epsilon Lambda. There was no chapter adviser and the chapter president was unwilling to bring charges. The chapter had to find two third degree members who were willing to bring forth charges of expulsion.

Matt Long (Pittsburg State '21) asked for the rationale of removing these alumni from the process. Brother Diekow explained that as written, two rogue alumni members could file an expulsion. Brother Long then made a point that in that situation, the expulsion could be appealed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposed changes to Article XI and not remove two or three members of the Third Degree from subsection a.

The motion for the amendment carried.

A voice vote was called for the original motion. The results of the voice vote could not be determined. Brother Haynes asked for a standing vote. The motion carried.

Article IX – Fees and Dues – Section 1 – currently states the associate fee is \$82.50 and the initiate fee is \$301. These fees may be increased by vote of the Grand Council in accordance with the fiscal year of Phi

Sigma Kappa and the corresponding Consumer Price Index. The suggested change would ask that the associate fee be raised to \$84 and the initiate fee be raised to \$315. It also asks that the Grand Council be given the right to raise these fees by no more than 5%.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed changes to Article XI, Section 1.

Discussion was held on the motion.

Dominic Stockey (Minnesota '21) said he had concerns about the Consumer Price Index. He said he felt recession is impending and that a 5% increase would considerably outpace the CPI. He said he didn't want to lean on undergraduates for funding.

Mark Azzarello (Rhode Island '80) asked why specific dollar amounts are given in the Constitution and Bylaws, but not the Policy Manual. Brother Diekow replied that if those figures were in the Policy Manual, it would give full authority to the Grand Council to change fees and not the entire body.

Brother Azzarello said that he would argue that it is a case of supply and demand. The market will drive costs. If the costs are too high, there will be no new members.

Glen Roby (Northern Illinois '91) remarked that the CPI is something that everyone can understand and that the leadership can't raise fees arbitrarily. He said that if the Fraternity needs additional funds, the membership should also know why. Costs shouldn't be levied on the backs of the students.

Robert Blankenship (Radford '20) said he disagreed with a cap of 5 percent. He felt it should be closer to 3 percent. He said he felt 5 percent gave too much power to a small group of people.

Nick Basch (Southern Cal '21) asked if the average initiate fee was \$259 and Phi Sigma Kappa's current fee is \$301, why is the Fraternity moving even further away. Brother Diekow explained that the initiate fee is a one-time fee for individuals. The purpose of the fee increase is to try to keep ongoing fees (census fees) lower.

Thomas Deatherage (Central Arkansas '14) said that the most recent CPI was 2.2 percent. Why is the proposed change almost double? Brother Diekow said the 5 percent would allow the Fraternity to be more stable. He asked delegates to remember history and that there had not been much changes in dues in recent years. He also said that dues have not gone up, but costs have risen.

COO Zuniga explained that the increase would allow the Fraternity to sustain Cardinal Journey. Investment money was used to implement the program. Funds will be needed to sustain it.

Michael Gonzalez (Stetson '10) – asked what the dues increase would be based on the current CPI.

The initiate fee increase would be \$9, instead of \$14 and the associate fee increase would be \$2.50, as opposed to \$1.50

David Cohen (Union '88) asked that everyone support the proposals. He said it was only a difference of about 2.5 percent. He said no one likes paying more money, but if the membership wants to be premier, these programs are needed.

Sean Shivnen (Eastern Michigan '00) offered an amendment to the proposal. He suggested striking the cap of 5%. It was moved and seconded to accept the amendment.

Thomas Deatherage (Central Arkansas '14) made a motion to amend the amendment with the wording that fees could increase no more than 1.5 times the CPI. The motion was seconded. The motion did not pass.

The question was called on the amendment suggested by Brother Shivnen. A voice vote could not determine the outcome. A standing vote was called for. The motion carried.

The question was called on the original motion. The motion carried.

Article IX – Fees and Dues – Section 2 – currently states that the census fee is \$52 per member, per semester. The suggested change would be that the census fee be raised to \$63.50 per member, per semester.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed change.

Will Kraemer (Stevens '20) asked that COO Zuniga explain the value added for the census fees increase. Brother Zuniga remarked that a portion will go toward the IHQ staff for consultants, expansion and education; and a portion will go toward Cardinal Journey to help sustain the program. He said the increase would help us a long time into the future.

It was asked if the membership could get access to the itemized budget. COO Zuniga said it would take about 10 days to provide it.

The motion carried.

Article IX – Fees and Dues – Section 1 – This section currently states that unpaid membership fees are the joint responsibility of the individual and the chapter. The change would make the chapter responsible for any fees that were not collected and forwarded to the Grand Chapter.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed change. The motion carried.

The Convention went into recess at 10:45 a.m.

The Convention was call back to order at 10:55 a.m.

It was moved and seconded to approve the report of the Resolutions Committee.

There was a correction to Resolution #7. It was asked that Beta Epsilon at Pittsburg State be recognized for performing the Ritual Exemplification, as opposed to Epsilon Mu at Central Arkansas.

The motion carried.

David Schell (Clarion '73) presented resolutions from the floor.

Be it resolved that it is the sense of this Convention that the minutes of all meetings of the Grand Council, the Trustees of the Phi Sigma Kappa Foundation, and the directors of PSK Properties be provided to all brothers who have submitted a written request to receive them, and that such minutes should be provided within one week of their being provided to members of those boards.

It was moved and seconded to accept the resolution.

After concern shown by PSK Properties President Shawn Shivnen (Eastern Michigan '00) that for legal reasons, PSK Properties should not take direction from the Convention, Brother Schell agreed and said the Convention could suggest, as oppose to direct.

The motion carried.

Be it resolved, that it is the sense of this Convention that the completed annual audits of the Grand Chapter, the PSK Foundation and PSK Properties be provided to all brothers who submit a written request for said documents.

It was moved and seconded to approve this resolution.

Brother Elkadi (Cal Poly '01) said that the audits for the Grand Chapter are available on the website.

Brother Schell mentioned that as a non-profit, the audits are required to be available.

Brother Shivnen said he would object on behalf of PSK Properties on the same basis mentioned above.

The motion carried.

Be it resolved, that it is the sense of this Convention that the high cost of the annual convention or leadership school deter many of our brothers from attending these meetings and represents a hardship on our collegiate chapters, and that the staff and Council should investigate methods to significantly lower this cost, with particular reference to utilizing a university campus or secondary city.

It was moved and seconded to accept the resolution.

Resolutions Chair Atif Elkadi (Cal Poly '01) said this resolution was not included in the original list of resolutions presented to the body because the committee felt it to show a disservice to the professional staff. The committee felt that the staff already did a good job of investigating locations, etc.

Tyler Gidley (Eastern Michigan '20), who is a hospitality major, said he felt it would be difficult to hold such an event on a college campus. Considerations must be considered, such as lodging, meeting rooms, audio visual and food.

Another student said his chapter budgets for the event and the trip they take creates a better bond of brotherhood.

The motion failed.

It was moved and seconded to accept the slate for members of the Grand Council. There were no nominations from the floor. The motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to elect the slate, as presented by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to accept the slate of Chris Hoye as Grand President. The motion carried.

Glenn Roby (Northern Illinois '91) was nominated from the floor. Brother Roby declined the nomination.

It was moved and seconded to elect Chris Hoye as Grand President. The motion carried.

## **Announcements**

The results of the Court of Honor meeting were announced. Al Shonk (Southern Cal '54) would remain as Recorder and Sean Shingler (George Mason '97) was elected as Chancellor of the Court of Honor.

It was announced that the time of the Ritual Exemplification would be changed to 1:00 p.m. and that brothers would be asked for the password and grip.

An alumni reception, sponsored by the Foundation will take place at 6 p.m.

The closing banquet will start promptly at 7:30 p.m.

The Convention was recessed at 11:33 a.m.

## ***Awards presented during the 67<sup>th</sup> General Convention include:***

Medallion of Merit

Framroze Virjee (UC/Santa Barbara '82)

Distinguished Alumnus

David Poile (Northeastern '71)

Order of the Diamond Circle

Preben Are (Georgia Tech '19)

Devin MacGeorge (Mansfield '20)

Alexander Sheehan (Cincinnati '19)

Outstanding Chapter Adviser

Gregory Stack – Phi Deuteron (University of Kentucky)

Joseph Teeple – Phi Upsilon (Valparaiso University)

Herbert L. Brown Outstanding Chapter

Phi Deuteron (University of Kentucky)

Jim Whitfield Chapter of Honor

Pi Tetarton (Long Island University/Post)

Fred Schwengel Most Improved Chapter

Phi Upsilon (Valparaiso University)

President's Special Achievement Award for Recruitment

Tau Septaton (Hope College)

Kappa Deuteron (Georgia Institute of Technology)

President's Special Achievement Award for Scholarship

Chi Septaton (Georgia Southern)

Kappa Deuteron (Georgia Tech)

President's Special Achievement Award for Philanthropy

Gamma Tetarton (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Phi Septaton (Adelphi University)  
Epsilon Tau (Ball State University)

President's Special Achievement Award for Community Service  
Epsilon Lambda (Eastern Michigan)  
Omicron (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

President's Special Achievement Award for Campus Involvement  
Delta Deuteron (University of Michigan)  
Omicron (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

President's Special Achievement Award for Risk Management  
Sigma Epsilon (Ferris State University)  
Delta Octaton (Appalachian State University)  
Epsilon Hexaton (Virginia Institute of Technology)

President's Special Achievement Award for Communication  
Kappa Hexaton (Stetson University)  
Delta Triton (Purdue University)

President's Special Achievement Award for Membership Experience  
Sigma Epsilon – Ferris State University  
Pi Deuteron – Ohio State University  
Eta Septaton – California Polytechnic State University/San Luis Obispo

#### Outstanding Alumni Clubs

Eta Alumni Association  
Phi Sigma Kappa Epsilon Lambda Alumni Association  
Phi Sigma Kappa Alpha Epsilon Alumni Association  
Phi Sigma Kappa Alumni Association of Northern Illinois University  
Alumni Association of Omicron Chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa, Inc.  
Phi Sigma Kappa Alumni Association of Illinois

Grand President Chris Hoye presented retiring Grand President Sean Shingler with a certificate in recognition of his outstanding service during the last biennium and Brother Shingler presented Brother Hoye with the diamond Grand President's badge.

Grand President Chris Hoye adjourned the Convention sine die at the close of the banquet.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Zuniga,  
Convention Secretary

