

# Alpha-Gamma

## Newsletter

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Fall 2017 / Spring 2018



Randy Sorensen,  
Alumni Associate Director

### An Update From Your AG Alumni Association

Brothers,

The Alumni Association is alive and well and open for business. You can reach us at [alphagammatetaaa@gmail.com](mailto:alphagammatetaaa@gmail.com). Make sure we have your favorite email address so you do not miss hearing about what is going on with the brothers who have earned that expensive piece of paper.

This past year we have been busy trying to track down everyone's email address so we can start to communicate with everyone electronically. We are also looking to organize more social events both online and around the area so it is important to get everyone on board. If you have not been receiving the last few publications from the Alumni Association, send an email to [alphagammatetaaa@gmail.com](mailto:alphagammatetaaa@gmail.com) and request copies and we will get you caught up with what is going on. You will also be eligible to win fabulous prizes. That's right, FABULOUS prizes!



2017 Dakota Days

Last year, we had a blast! The Prairie Inn is right across the street from the Dakota Dome so it was convenient to tail gate and attend the football game. A bunch of us toured the campus on Friday afternoon and attended the Alumni Banquet on Friday evening. Saturday morning, we hit Carey's and watched the homecoming parade before going over to the Lambda Chi house for our annual Alumni Association Meeting. Then it was off to the football game tailgate party and attend the football game. Saturday evening, we went out for dinner downtown Vermillion. In between all of these events we would gather in the hospitality room at the Prairie Inn and meet old friends as well as make new acquaintances. If you have not been back for Dakota Days in a while, this is a great way to do it. Hopefully, we will see you there!

We also look forward to seeing everyone at Dakota Days for our annual alumni meeting. We have reserved the entire Prairie Inn under our name (the actives won't let us stay at the house) and will have a hospitality room for those who come back to gather and rehydrate. If you would like a room, send an email to the alumni association as noted above and Zeke and Sput will set you up.

### High Zeta

Lucas Lund  
High Alpha

Ethan Walker  
High Beta

Ross Bellefeuille  
High Theta

Conrad Mohr-Eymer  
High Gamma

Conner Paulsen  
High Tau

Andy Holmes  
High Rho

Devon Braun  
High Kappa

Seth Reinke  
High Iota

Nick Rise  
High Sigma

John Morris  
High Phi

Glen Clark  
High Epsilon

Jackson Dziedzic  
High Delta

Jack Seitz  
House Manager

Brad Fowler  
High Pi

## 2017 Philanthropy Update

Alpha Gamma's first major event was our haunted house in the week leading up to Halloween. This event is always a great time as we pair with the sorority, Pi Beta Phi, and host our haunted house to the entire community.

The annual Lambda Chi Alpha Football Run had SDSU's Lambda Chi Alpha chapter starting the run from Brookings to Vermillion. Our final philanthropy event of the 2017 Fall semester was the 2nd annual "Lambda Chi Hy-Chi". One year ago was the first time we partnered with Hy-Vee to fundraise for Feeding South Dakota, and our chapter is happy to continue this new tradition every year.

These three large scale events help Lambda Chi Alpha raise money for our national philanthropy, Feeding America. In addition to our larger fundraisers our chapter hopes to enrich its members with weekly smaller events. Recently our members volunteered with the backpack program by helping pack bags of food to hand out to school aged children. The turnout was great, almost twice as much as last year, and our members enjoyed the experience. We hope to keep the good attitudes and attendance for the rest of the year.



## Fall 2017 Recruitment Week

This year, we are thrilled to announce that we have had yet another very successful Rush Week--bringing in 24 new Associate Members! During Rush Week, we had quite the selection of foods, ranging from a 1,000 wing feast from Buffalo Wild Wings, a heaping pile of BBQ Ribs and Pizza, a grill-out with Alumni, and buckets of chicken from Popeye's.

Despite the week starting off on a rainy day, we enjoyed some yard games inside on Monday, and had outdoor festivities the rest of the week. Thanks to the combined effort from our Alumni Brothers and the Active Brothers, the following 19 gentlemen have joined Lambda Chi Alpha: Nick Tran, Joey Messler, Ernst Coriolan, Alek Aeikens, Ryan Metzger, Gabriel Wenzlaff, Ethan Hazlett, Mickey Sega, Parker Smith, Connor Corcoran, Cooper Olthoff, Pete Sternburg, Kyle Swallow, Nathan Bachman, Tyler Hamsa, Alex Waltner, Devon Braun, Ross Oyler and Shane Boomer.

We're looking forward to another awesome year with our new Associate Members!







James Abbott,  
U. of South Dakota, President,  
Member of Grand High Zeta

President James W. Abbott says his 20-year career at the University of South Dakota is coming to an end. He will retire in June of 2018. “This has been both the most rewarding – and the most demanding – job of my life,” Abbott said. “USD is positioned well for the future. We have a strong and growing enrollment, academic programs that are second to none, and Division I athletics.” “I’m proud of my alma mater and all the progress we’ve made,” he said. “Now it is time for new leadership to take USD to the next level.”

Abbott is USD’s 17th president, the only alumnus to serve as president and the second longest-serving president in the university’s 155-year history. The 69-year-old Abbott became president of USD on July 1, 1997. Abbott entered the president’s office with a budget of \$90 million. Today the university’s budget is \$215 million. Enrollment has grown from 7,448 to 10,261 students. The number of full-time faculty has grown from 393 to 436, while the staff has stayed the same at about 1,400. Scholarships and financial awards to students have nearly tripled, from \$6.5 million in 1997 to \$24 million last year. The USD endowment is six times larger, growing from \$45 million to \$258 million, thanks to two successful fund-raising campaigns during Abbott’s tenure.

During the past 20 years Abbott has led a vigorous building campaign to repair and refurbish historical structures on campus and upgrade laboratories while adding new buildings.

*Editors Note: Brother Jim Abbott was also inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame (Class of 2017) this past September in Chamberlain, South Dakota.*



The Hon. David Gienapp of Madison, SD- recognized for Public Service and Dan Radigan of Sioux Falls, SD- recognized for Service to the University at 103rd Dakota Days Event

2017 Stead Leadership Seminar, Los Angeles, CA



**Loren “Doc” Amundson (AG 459)  
Recognized by LXA HQ During Annual  
Dakota Days Lunch.**

During the annual Dakota Days luncheon at the Alpha Gamma chapter house, Brother Loren “Doc” Amundson was presented with the 2017 Lambda Chi Alpha Distinguished Alumnus Award. This award was sent to our chapter from Lambda Chi Alpha’s International Headquarters to help recognize Doc’s service and dedication to the fraternity. LXA Brother and SD Governor Dennis Daugaard presented the award on behalf of LXA Headquarters.



## Chapter House Improvements

Brother Jared Roland, 2017 House Manager, spent this past summer in Vermillion and devoted considerable time and effort toward several significant projects around the chapter house. These projects have consisted of building a brand new patio and firepit on the south side of the house, in addition to re-staining the front porch and French doors, re-seeding the front lawn, and installing a new basketball hoop, as well as adding several improvements to the kitchen. However, our biggest project of the past year was the completion of our new study room off of the basement lounge. This space has been utilized frequently by the chapter, and is unquestionably a more comfortable and productive space for studies and relaxation. We owe Alumni Brothers Dave Landry, Brad "The Builder" Peterson, Mike Roach, as well all of the other generous brothers that donated valuable time, resource, and energy toward our chapter house. Thanks for all of the great help around the chapter house!



## Active Brother Spotlight

This past summer certainly was a busy and exciting one for Brother Lucas Lund (pictured right)! In addition to working as a student assistant in the Office of the Dean of Students on campus, Brother Lund began his summer by teaching an introductory course on Spanish language and culture for students in the University of South Dakota's Upward Bound summer program. With the goal of Upward Bound being to provide opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and future higher education pursuits, Brother Lund gained valuable experience in working with high school students from low-income families in South Dakota, offering support to these students in their preparation for college admittance.

Additionally, Brother Lund was invited by Dr. Kimberly Grieve, University of South Dakota Vice President and Dean of Students, to represent the University of South Dakota by participating in a summer study tour of China organized by the China Education Association for International Exchange. The 2017 China-U.S. Rising Star Study Tour, which took place between July 8th and July 22nd, centered on the topic of traditional Chinese art & design. Aimed to promote dialogue and cultural understanding between university students from China and the United States, the tour itinerary included the cities of Beijing, Hangzhou, Rizhao, and Qufu, with visits to university campuses, world heritage sites, and Chinese industries in each of those aforementioned cities. Among the many exciting locations Brother Lund was able to experience included the spectacular Great Wall of China, the serene beauty (and sweltering heat) of West Lake in Hangzhou, as well as Beijing's Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, and Summer Palace. As a dedicated student pursuing degrees in Spanish, Political Science, International Studies, and Business Administration, Brother Lund has also enjoyed traveling to Peru and Ireland during his time at USD.



# Thank You For Your Generous Donations!

For more information on how to contribute, contact:  
Scott Bell, Housing Corporation Treasurer  
[scott@scottbellcpa.com](mailto:scott@scottbellcpa.com)

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Gienapp, David R.	Lammers, Ryker J.	Trotman, Frank L.
Goodhope, Michael	Lammers, Ryker J.	Truhe, Dr. Thomas F.
Haahr, J. Tyler	Leuthold, John E.	Walk, Scott H.
Hammer, Bradley D.	Leuthold, John E.	Wetzeler, Charles W.




Save the Date!

April 14, 2018

Annual Founder's Day Celebration

More details to come!



 [www.lambdachiatusd.com](http://www.lambdachiatusd.com)  
 @usdlambdachi  
 @LambdaChiAtUSD



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