

Psi Upsilon Alumni Newsletter



What a wild year 2020 has been! This school year, students were offered an online option to complete course work, strict regulations were placed on the events that student organizations could hold, and lockdowns hampered our ability to spend time in person with one another. With the COVID-19 pandemic changing so much about the world around us, our chapter has had to change too. Here's a little bit about what we've been doing!

Alumni Association

Some of the alumni have started organizing themselves to create an official alumni association. If you are interested in learning more about what they are working on and getting involved, reach out to Justin Ward at jsward93@outlook.com.

Psi Upsilon Discord Server

The largest change we have had to make is moving chapter operations online. Since we couldn't do things in person together, we decided to restructure our Discord so we can host rush, brotherhood, and social events there. We even hold chapter meetings on Discord on Sundays. This server is still going through some changes so it can be even more effective, but currently we have places for potential new members to interact with brothers and channels where brothers and alumni can chat. We are currently working on adding ways for potential recruits and brothers alike to label themselves with their majors, year in school, and pronouns. This way we can skip the typical introduction questions and ask more meaningful ice-breaker questions. Alumni are welcome to join this server by following this link: <https://discord.gg/ZDnjjed>.

Rush Season

Despite how impersonal online environments can feel, we did our best to make sure that we could still recruit members by adapting our rush events to fit this virtual format. We sent out a blast email to the undergraduate student body when we couldn't pass our flyers. We also increased our social media presence and hosted game nights and other rush events on the Discord server. We ended up giving bids to three students, which one student deferred and the other two accepted! We are excited to welcome Christy O'Brien and Max Hess to our chapter!

This semester we are modifying old rush events and adding some new ones. For example, we will be hosting game nights online to play Among Us, Jackbox games, and Cards Against Humanity, and the usual painting along with Bob Ross night will be done through MS Paint in lieu of physical paint and canvases. The new event we are adding is

Christy O'Brien and Max Hess, the newest members of our chapter!



Spring 2021

Executive Board

President

Heather Craker

Internal VP

Riley Frady

External VP

Lucas Baumgartner

Chapter VP

Candice Hudak

Treasurer

Erin Beatty

Recording Secretary

Dani Newhouse

Corresponding Secretary

Annissa Poeppel

Spring 2021

Committee Chairs

Recruitment

Annissa Poeppel

New Member Education

Nikolas Damalas

Scholarship

Christy O'Brien

one that is unstructured. The potential new members (PNMs) that have attended previous rush events will have the opportunity to choose what kind of thing they want to do with us, which will help them feel more involved and invested! We are hoping to also limit the size of the voice chats to encourage more meaningful conversation and provide the PNMs with more chances to chime in.

Brother Academics and Extracurriculars

Despite classes and chapter happenings being virtual, many of our brothers still excelled academically and got involved in other organizations on campus. Seven of our brothers were on the Dean's List for the fall semester and six completed the semester with honors! Also, Christy was awarded two scholarships: Purdue Musical Organization Scholarship and the Edward Elliot Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations to her and our other members on their academic accomplishments!

In regards to club involvement, we have a few members who are returning members of clubs and some who joined new organizations. Candice is a member of the Athletic Training club which pairs older students in the athletic training program with newer ones to act as mentors. Dani is part of the Women in Science Program (WISP) which also works to set up mentoring between older and younger women in the school of science. Currently, she is a mentor for a freshman on campus. Christy is also in WISP as well as the All Campus and Community Chorale and the Earhart hall club. Just this spring, Heather joined the Juggling and Unicycling Club to learn some circusy tricks. Last fall, Nik joined b01lers which is a hacking club that competes in "capture the flag" style competitions. His team placed 2nd in the new member capture the flag challenge this last fall!

Career Accomplishments

With graduation soon approaching, some of our seniors have applied to graduate school. Currently Candice has applied to multiple physical therapy programs and is waiting on responses. Dani is also waiting to hear back from the medical schools she has applied to, and she's looking to specialize in cardiovascular surgery. Some of our brothers are not quite ready to graduate, but are getting experience now. In the summer of 2020, Nik had an IT/software internship at A440 Consulting making a cooking app, and Heather worked at the National Center for Atmospheric Research developing a Python data visualization gallery for scientists. Heather's internship was extended twice, once for the fall semester and then again for the spring, giving her a year's worth of experience and the opportunity to present her work at the 101st American Meteorological Society conference in January! While many internship applications are still open for this coming summer, Nik has already been accepted for an IT internship at USAA in San Antonio, Texas. Congratulations to him! We are wishing our members who are waiting to hear back about their applications the best of luck.

Social

Candice Hudak

Service

Christy O'Brien

Philanthropy

Max Hess

Brotherhood

Erin Beatty

Marketing

Lucas Baumgartner

Ritual

Candice Hudak

Communications

Lucas Baumgartner

Fundraising

Max Hess

Alumni Relations

Heather Craker

Newsletter

Heather Craker

A group photo taken at Meet the Brothers during our formal rush period.

