



***TO BETTER THE MAN SCHOLARSHIP  
BANQUET SCRIPT***

# ***PROGRAM AGENDA:***

1. Introductions
2. Guest speakers
3. Finalists
4. Chapter Awards
5. Food
6. Keynote
7. Scholarships

## ***Introduction and Welcome***

Notes: (Allow members and guests 5 minutes to find their seats. Use this time to set the stage for the banquet and recognize key guests.)

<<Vice President of Growth>>:

Good evening and welcome to the To Better the Man Scholarship Awards Banquet. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am the \_(Vice President of Growth/President)\_ of the \_(college/university name)\_ chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity, better known as Alpha Sig.

Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge several special guests with us today. First, I would like to thank all the alumni and volunteers in attendance. Volunteers play a critical role in mentoring chapter leadership and ensuring the long-term viability of our chapter's success (applause). Next, I would like to thank all the parents here with us. Your investment in these young men has made them the exceptional students and leaders (applause). Finally, I would like to recognize the \_(college/university name)\_ faculty and staff with us tonight:

### **Examples:**

- The Dean of Students, Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ (applause)
- Professor \_\_\_\_\_, vice chair of the engineering department (applause)
- Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_, Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life (applause)
- and \_\_\_\_\_, our keynote speaker for the evening (applause)

Tonight, we will recognize and reward some of the best and brightest young men at \_(college/university name)\_ today. Among them are several varsity athletes, class presidents, valedictorians, team captains, entrepreneurs, volunteers in their communities and leaders of their peers.

Our program tonight will start with a few words from our guest speakers, recognition of each scholarship finalist, chapter member awards, and a break for a meal. We'll conclude with our keynote speaker and the scholarship awards. There will be time after the banquet for photos and networking with other guests. If at any point you need to use the restroom, they can be found \_\_\_\_\_.

I will now call upon our chapter president, \_\_\_\_\_, to introduce our guest speakers.

## Guest Speakers

Notes: (The chapter should invite non-keynote guests such as an alumnus or Greek Life Office professional to say a few words during the banquet about the chapter or scholarship. These speakers should be prompted before the banquet about how long they should speak and, generally, what to speak about.)

<<President>>:

Good evening, everyone. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I serve as the \_\_\_\_\_ here at \_\_\_\_\_.

As mentioned at the beginning of our program, the members of the local Alumni & Volunteer Corporation have spent countless hours supporting our chapter. Our Alumni & Volunteer Corporation is a group of volunteers who are alumni and friends of the chapter that help mentor chapter leaders and keep our chapter running smoothly.

[Insert guest speaker bios]

### Components of a good bio:

- Name
- Career title & accomplishments
- Alpha Sig experience & accomplishments
- Current volunteer position

### Example:

Despite leading a busy life in the business world and having a family, he still makes time for Alpha Sig. Jeff has been an Alpha Sig volunteer for over 20 years and is currently in his fifth term as our Chapter Advisor, etc. Jeff has worked tirelessly to make this a reality. Along with the other Council members, Jeff networked with our Headquarters and University staff to make sure that Alpha Sig could make the triumphant return to campus. Not only that, but Jeff also helped establish an Alpha Sig endowed scholarship fund that will be able to offer scholarships in perpetuity. He even serves on the Western Carolina Alumni Board of Directors.

It's only fitting that we invite Jeff to say a few words. Please help me welcome someone who I now consider a friend, Brother Jeff.

<<Guest Speaker(s) 2-3 minutes each>>

[Insert Additional Guest Speakers Bios]

(Chapter president returns to podium.)

Thanks, \_\_\_\_\_. We appreciate you taking some time today to speak with us. I'll now invite \_\_\_\_\_, Vice President of Growth, back to the podium to read our finalists' biographies.

### *Finalists Bios*

*Notes: Read biographies for all finalists and present finalist certificates and prizes. It's imperative that all finalists are recognized in some capacity whether they are winning a monetary scholarship or not. Don't let anyone walk away empty-handed.*

<<Vice President of Growth>>

Our founders believed in Silence, Charity, Purity, Honor, and Patriotism as the way to live a fulfilling life. Since the early 2000's, we've awarded the To Better the Man Scholarship to recognize incoming students who exemplify these qualities in their everyday lives.

We'd now like to take the opportunity to recognize each finalist and a few of their accomplishments. Our finalists excel in various areas, from sports to leadership to scholarship.

We've identified some extraordinary individuals who are here with us today. Each finalist will receive a TBTM Finalist certificate as well as a gift from the chapter to recognize their effort in the scholarship process and their accomplishments to date.

[Insert additional info about finalist gift]

#### Possible finalist gifts (something that connects with the chapter):

- Book that connects with the chapter
- 10\$ gift card to the bookstore or grocery store

#### Example:

Our finalist gift this year is a copy of "How to Win Friends and Influence People" by Dale Carnegie. "How to Win Friends and Influence People" is an important book for our chapter because it aligns with our desire for developing values-based leaders. As part of the Alpha Sig experience, members are challenged to practice and improve their leadership abilities by assuming leadership roles in the chapter and attending leadership development events across the country.

Like we mentioned before, we believe we have some of the brightest students from the class of \_\_\_\_\_ sitting in this room before us today. Overall, we received \_\_\_\_\_ applications for our To Better the Man Scholarship this year. We reviewed each application thoroughly based on four categories: academic success, athletic involvement, engagement in the community and work experience.

We then took those \_\_\_\_\_ applicants and narrowed it down to \_\_\_ semi-finalists. We interviewed each one of these semi-finalists and asked them questions about lessons they'll take with them from high school, their intended legacy at this university, and opportunities they must improve. We then evaluated which of these semi-finalists best embodied our guiding values of Silence, Charity, Purity, Honor, and Patriotism.

We believe personal development should be continuous and the finalists we have selected each embody this principle.

From \_\_\_\_\_ applications ... to \_\_\_ semifinalists ... to \_\_\_\_\_ finalists. We are proud to say that these finalists are averaging a \_\_\_ GPA on a 4.0 scale.

Finalists, after we read through your accomplishments, if you will, come to the front of the room and receive your TBTM finalist certificate and finalist gift from the chapter. Stay in the front of the room so we can recognize the group of finalists at the end. Please hold your applause until all finalists have been announced.

[Insert All Finalist Biographies]

**Components of a good bio (2-3 sentences):**

- Name and background
- High school or college academic/athletic accomplishments
- Extracurricular accomplishments

**Examples:**

**Carter Whaley**

Carter Whaley is from Dawsonville, just north of Atlanta. Studying Economics, he brings his strong academic skills from high school where he maintained a 4.0 GPA. Carter was also the captain of his high school Golf team and served as the president of the quiz bowl team. Carter has been awarded the Freshman Academic Excellence Scholarship, Engineering Scholarship and in his free time, Carter enjoys playing guitar and baseball. He desires to push those around him to become better, both physically and mentally.

**Louis Manigault**

Louis is a freshman from Charleston, South Carolina. He is studying computer science and cybersecurity. He is a member of the famous maroon band here at State and is a proud Eagle Scout, becoming a part of the Order of the Arrow Brotherhood. He served his community through numerous volunteer hours working with hurricane relief, in-need youth and working with younger boy scouts in his troop. Louis was a co-captain of his drum line and was also on his high school archery team. Trey has been awarded the MSU Academic Scholarship, the Eagle Scout Scholarship, and the Methodist Foundation Scholarship.

(Photo opportunity - have VP of Communications take a photo of all the finalists)  
----Let's give one final round of applause to each of our finalists as they return to their seats.  
(Lead Applause)



## Chapter Member Scholarships

Notes: (Spend 3-5 minutes recognizing current members of the chapter with 2-3 awards. Make these awards exemplify the chapter's values and show the finalists what can be accomplished by joining Alpha Sig. Inspire them to want to accomplish what current members have accomplished. )

### Chapter Member Scholarships

<<Vice President of Growth>>

Tonight's banquet is not only to recognize the outstanding students who have applied for our scholarship. We'd also like recognize our own brothers' accomplishments here at \_  
(college/university name)\_. In the past year, Alpha Sigma Phi was awarded \_  
(name and describe chapter honors and awards)\_. These feats can only be accomplished through the work of motivated brothers who are committed to pushing Alpha Sig to the next level.

I would now like to invite Mr./Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ our (CCA or other key guest) to present awards to members of the chapter.

[Insert short biography of CCA or another key guest]

<<CCA>>

[Insert chapter member award descriptions]

#### Example:

##### Honor Award:

Alpha Sigma Phi stands by Honor: Honor is an inclusive term and that we will stand aggressively for honesty in all walks of life. Committed to this "aggressive honesty" Matt Humberger has pushed our organization towards conversations of vulnerability and value, asking us - how well do we truly know each other? For standing for honesty in his life, we are proud to present him with the Honor Award.

##### Purity Award:

Striving to develop himself, his teams, and UT Austin each day, our next brother works endlessly towards success. Achieving the highest GPA within the College of Natural Resources and Environment for his first three semesters while managing an expansive

leadership development team, Jeremy Reid works tirelessly day and night. We are in awe at his entrepreneurial nature, and we are proud to grant him the Diligence Award.

Thank you and congratulations to all the men who work diligently for the betterment of themselves and the chapter (applause).

(Vice President of Growth returns to podium)

***Meal / Refreshment Break***

*Notes: (If you have a catered meal, this is the time, if you don't, a break is still helpful to get more coffee, use the restroom, etc. Allow 20 minutes for members and guests to begin their meal)*

<<Vice President of Growth>>:

At this time, I would like to invite our chaplain, \_\_\_\_\_, to deliver an invocation.

<<Chaplain>>

Dear Lord, guide us in this undertaking. We are grateful for the values of Alpha Sigma Phi that have brought together so many fine young men, brothers, alumni, parents, and faculty. Bless this food so it may nourish our bodies and give us strength to perpetuate Alpha Sigma Phi through the ages. Amen.

<<Vice President of Growth>>:

[Insert instructions for meal/networking time]

**Example:**

Our ushers will dismiss you by table. Please, enjoy your food.

Or...

Two of our undergraduate brothers, \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, will be coming around to release your tables one at a time to visit the buffet. Until then, please enjoy your table's company.

Please enjoy your meal.

***Keynote speaker***

*Notes: (This should be your designated speaker for the night. Instruct them to provide a 5-10-minute speech that inspires the audience and connects them with the chapter. A good example is a successful alumnus describing their career and how Alpha Sig helped or a Greek Life Advisor talking about how Alpha Sig is different.)*

<<Vice President of Growth>>

I would now like to introduce our keynote speaker for the banquet.

[Insert keynote speaker biography]

**Example biography:**

John Davis is a native North Carolinian and currently lives in Atlanta with his wife Melanie, his daughter Elizabeth who is a junior in college and his son Walker, a high school senior.

John serves as Senior Vice President Global Sales and Marketing for medical device maker CryoLife. John's previous professional experience was primarily with Medtronic where he spent 14 years in their Cardiac Rhythm Management division, including 7 years as Vice President of sales.

Upon graduation from UT Austin, John went to work for Alpha Sigma Phi as an Assistant Director of Chapter Operations serving chapters in the Southeast. He has been a long-standing member of the Alpha Sigma Phi Board of Directors and routinely attends Grand Chapter and Elevate Leadership Academies.

Please join me in welcoming UT Austin and Eta Eta alumnus, John Davis.

(applause)

[Insert keynote speech notes]

(Applause while VPG resumes the podium)

<<Vice President of Growth>>

Thank you for those wonderful words. I hope we can all aspire to follow these principles in our lives.

## Scholarship Presentation

Notes: (Awarding of the monetary To Better the Man Scholarships)

<<Vice President of Growth >>

And now, the moment we've all been waiting for. I would like to invite \_\_\_\_\_, our (Vice President of Growth/President) \_\_\_\_\_, to present the (year) To Better the Man Scholarships.

Alpha Sigma Phi annually awards over \$90,000 to the best freshmen males at over 180 campuses across the country through the To Better the Man Scholarship. As a nonprofit organization, our mission is to Better the World through Better Men, and through this scholarship we honor and reward men who exemplify our ideals – Silence, Charity, Purity, Honor, and Patriotism.

The (college/university name) Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi has offered the To Better the Man Scholarship annually since (year started), awarding over \$\_\_\_\_\_

This year, we are awarding \$\_\_\_\_\_ in scholarships. We were amazed at the accomplishments of all the finalists. The scholarship winners were able to distinguish themselves from the pack based on their commitment to the values of Alpha Sigma Phi. Please come to the front of the room to accept your award and remain there until after all winners have been recognized.

[Insert recipient bio]

### Example:

There are two consistent themes that define our next recipient's life, intensity and growth. In high school, this man committed himself to cultivate habits that fostered physical and mental health as well as a passion for servant leadership, mentoring and personal development. Great leaders are ones who inspire others to action. In every team and organization, this man has been involved with, he's inspired others to adopt his vision and elevate their performance. He is a Wendy's High School Heisman Award for Athletics recipient for the state of Texas - an award given to only one student in each state every year. This man has cultivated an active lifestyle committed to health and wellbeing and has shown a devout duty to not only embody but teach and cultivate in others the values of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Our first \$\_\_\_\_\_ scholarship recipient is \_\_\_\_\_ (applause).

[Insert 2nd Recipient bio]

Our second \$\_\_\_\_\_ scholarship recipient is \_\_\_\_\_ (applause).

(Photo opportunity)

Congratulations once again, and you may return to your seats.

**Conclusion**

Notes: (Conclude the ceremony and be sure to inform guests how to learn more about Alpha Sigma Phi.)

Conclusion

<<Vice President of Growth>>

In conclusion, if you would like to learn more about Alpha Sig, you can visit our website \_\_\_\_\_ or speak with a chapter member after this banquet. They'd be more than willing to get together for coffee or lunch. We also have various development meetings each week that are open to non-members, such as \_\_\_\_\_ coming up this \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_pm.

That concludes this evening's ceremony. We would like to thank once again all of you for attending and we hope that you enjoyed tonight's To Better the Man Scholarship banquet. Lastly, to the finalists: we hope you understand how truly proud your schools, communities and especially your parents are of you all. We were sincerely impressed by the quality of the applicants this year. You should be proud of your outstanding accomplishments but also remember that you have a great journey ahead of you in college. I strongly encourage you to continue striving for excellence in your everyday lives and take advantage of opportunities to surround yourself with others who would do the same.

Thank you and we hope you have a good night.