



Alpha Rho Chi

National Professional Fraternity for Architecture and the Allied Arts

www.alpharhochi.org

From the Office of the
Worthy Grand Architect
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August 2016

Brothers,

Welcome back, returning students, alumni, advisors, honorary brothers, and faculty brothers. The APX 2016-2017 year is going to be exciting and busy, so let's get started!

Grand Council

Since the start of the new Grand Council term on July 1, the fraternity's leadership team has been busy preparing for the coming year and beyond. Our very first official act, on the evening of our first day as the new Grand Council, was to appoint former WGA Vicky Horton to be the Grand Advisor. Then, with the full Grand Council in place, we appointed our dynamic teams of Regional Directors and Alumni Directors, along with our Colony Director, Expansion Director, and National Historian. We are also pleased to welcome back our Executive Assistant and our Webmaster. Finally, I am happy to announce that Catherine Berry is our first-ever Advisor Director.

This is the first year of the largest Grand Council in the history of Alpha Rho Chi, with six elected positions plus the Grand Advisor, who is appointed by the Grand Council. By a vote of the 69th convention this past March, the newly-created positions of Worthy Grand Inspector (formerly the National Director) and Worthy Grand Lecturer (formerly the Grand Lecturer) are now elected and voting members of the Grand Council. Welcome WGI AJ Kessinger and WGL Risa Schoenfeld! Elected to the GC this year after previously serving as appointees are WGAA Hao Phung and WGE Emily Lewis. Our newly elected WGS, Christina Anderson, takes over a position that went unfilled for most of the last school year.

This is my first year as WGA. I served as our WGAA from 1989-1991, then stepped aside for a decade or two(-and-a-half). I've been in this role for 2 months now, long enough to begin understanding why those who came before me were so passionate and dedicated, and talented as well.

Events

Coming up in the next couple of months, the Grand Council is hosting our annual Advisor Roundtable in College Park, Maryland on September 10, and the annual Leadership Conference in Los Angeles, California on October 14-16.

Our first ever Alumni Days come to life in four cities over two weekends in September: Chicago and San Francisco on the 17th, and New York and Houston on the 24th. Be there, enjoy the day, reconnect, and recharge!

In March 2017, we will meet as a fraternity in Portland, Oregon for the 70th Alpha Rho Chi convention. Portland is a city for foodies, outdoor activities, and spectacular architecture. Well, not really; let's call it a city of architecture opportunity, in need of all that Alpha Rho Chi has to offer.

Chapter Milestones

The Mnesicles chapter celebrates its 100th anniversary on October 1 in Minneapolis. To put that in perspective, Mnesicles was born in the same year as the Republic of Ireland, during the Woodrow Wilson administration, when there were just 48 United States and three other chapters of Alpha Rho Chi.

In November, Hadrian celebrates its 10th anniversary on November 12 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Born during the George W. Bush administration, the installation of Hadrian as our 28th chapter may actually be the most significant world event of 2006.

Chapter Life

In and around the events and milestones, our chapters will add new pledges this year, and guide and educate them to become new brothers. Meanwhile, our brothers will serve our schools, our communities, and our fraternity by doing great and important things. Leaders will find their voices, brothers will support brothers, seeds will be planted and bonds will be forged. This will happen; I've been around long enough to see it all!

Risk Management

Risk management is part of the foundation of our success as a fraternity, and an important guiding principle. There are lots of legal and insurance terms to define risks and how to manage them, and you will learn more from our national and chapter leaders throughout the year and the years to come.

When it comes to fraternity activities, remember that your actions reflect on all of your brothers. Most times, it's better to go home than go viral. Remember that your grandmother and your future employer might see you on Facebook, and certainly the rest of us will.

Closing Thoughts for August 2016

When I was initiated at Metagenes in 1982, the Grand Council seemed more like a concept than reality. A few years later I was an RD, and just seven years after being initiated I was elected WGAA. Now, decades after becoming a brother, I have the high honor and distinct pleasure of serving as our fraternity's Worthy Grand Architect. If it can happen to me, it can happen to you, too.

This is a great organization for students and alumni alike. As a professional fraternity, our brotherhood is a network that extends from college to the professional world of architecture and its allied arts. Alpha Rho Chi offers you opportunities to lead, to serve, to hone your skills, to make others happier, to give, and to receive.

We're off to a fast start this year. Thanks in advance for your help, your support, your good judgement, and your fidelity. See you soon!

Fidelitas, Amor et Artes,

Phil Buckberg
Worthy Grand Architect