

Gamma Psi

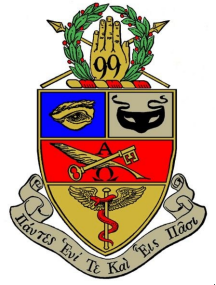


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Executive Board

Habeeb Asiru-Balogun
Regent

Joseph Walker
Vice Regent

Chris Shumans
Secretary

Appiah Kissi
Treasurer



Breaking the chain of routine and undergoing the process of renewal whereby new viewpoints are

adopted, life long friends are made, and lessons are learned that enhance your social, spiritual and professional life is my definition of the life we live every day, "the Gamma Psi way of life."

Our Chapter has transitioned from Province IV and is now part of the new Atlantic Province. I believe this realignment will serve as a structural base that enhances the bonds of brotherhood among all Chapters.

In this edition we have some great news to share, Our humble Regent, Habeeb Asiru-Balogun, will present his message as the new Regent and his experiences so far.

My fellow Pledge Brother and Chaplain Francois Emmanuel Cherestal received the calling to share his message on the importance of brotherhood and how becoming a piece of that unique oneness has impacted his life. I am thankful each day to be part of that oneness that I share with him and so many others before me.

Near or far our brothers are always with us and have an ear to listen to our problems and offer words of advice. Alumni Brother, Dr. Kevin Long, shares some of these words in this edition. Words of advice I believe could serve as the blueprint for future leaders.

As a new brother, this year has been a whirlwind of events for me. To be part of each and every one of them has made me proud to be a Gamma Psi brother. Such a moment was born when I received the news that through the hard work of our previous E- board,

campus and alumni brothers, Gamma Psi was once again ranked the top Kappa Psi Chapter in the nation. We have really big shoes to fill but in the words of a very wise man if we continue to push forward and "DO WORK" the reward is nothing less than success.

The path towards success is not an easy one but nothing worthwhile usually is and when these difficult periods come our way, we may occasionally stumble but we will not fail to succeed in the goals we have set out to achieve. With a lot of hands the workload is light and we shall continue to put our hands together to get the job done right.

Justin "Teddy" Kyei-Frimpong



**Brothers at Operation
Christmas Child**

A Word From Our Regent



It was only yesterday that I was a pledge, running around with a myriad of tasks to complete and asking myself over

and over what exactly I had gotten myself into. Looking back, those are some of the best memories I have and the lessons I learned during that period were geared to preparing me to take up the position that I currently hold. As Regent, my perspectives and more importantly, my responsibilities have greatly changed from those of that overly eager pledge.

Many events have transpired from that time period to the present and the best decision I believe I ever made was joining Kappa Psi. The pledge process was a challenge that I took head-on and the process helped me discover not only my weaknesses but the untapped potential that lay within me. The new skills I learned and the hurdles I faced were by far very fulfilling but could not be considered as my most important experiences.

I truly believe my greatest experience from the pledge process was learning to believe and trust in others. An independent individual by nature, I tend to do well by myself but during the process I learned how to really depend on another person, learned to fully put my trust in another individual and know he was not going to let me down no matter the cost. The

brothers I made during that process served as my strength when I was weak and continue to do so to this date.

The process also taught me the importance of being selfless and putting myself last. As Regent, I have been entrusted with responsibilities that I hold myself accountable for and I am grateful to all the brothers before me for teaching me the true meaning of accountability. I have learned to lead by example, and to always remember that as Regent, I serve all. I strive for the success of the Chapter but this I do not do alone, I depend on each and every brother available, both collegiate and alumni. Throughout this semester they have provided me with the support that has helped me to achieve the goals set out at the beginning of the semester.

It has been a long and sometimes difficult semester for the Chapter. We have had brothers lose loved ones and others welcome a new addition. But as always, we live through those pains and joys together because the bonds we share are unmovable and indestructible. My vision and sights are forward ever and like all leaders who strive for perfection, I refuse to settle. My unyielding desire to emulate our past and current achievements while fostering a strong brotherhood in the Chapter continues to drive me. My commitment to each and every one of you remains strong and the oath I took as Regent continues to be my guide. My hopes and plans for

the Chapter in the new year are huge and I am hopeful you will be a part of it all. May the joys and happiness of the holiday season gladden your heart and your family's.

Fraternally,

Habeeb Asiru-Balogun

Regent, Gamma Psi



**Brothers at our
annual Kappa Psi
Halloween Party**



**Brothers at the
First Atlantic
Province Conclave**

Stay Connected!

We are constantly updating the Gamma Psi Alumni mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. If you have moved since graduation or changed your email addresses, or know a Brother who may not be in our system, please send updated information to: mercergammapi@gmail.com. Your information will be used to ensure that you are always updated with Chapter news and events.

Dates to Remember

<i>Gulf Coast Province Conclave</i>	JAN 4 - 6
<i>Rush Sign Up</i>	JAN 14 - 25
<i>Ski Trip</i>	JAN 18 - 21
<i>Atlantic Province Conclave</i>	JAN 25 - 27
<i>Kappa Psi Rush Party</i>	JAN 30

Facing Life Together

Although we all come from different backgrounds, God had a purpose for us all in making the decision to choose Mercer, Gamma Psi, and Kappa Psi. Only He knew that something great was waiting for us; brotherhood. It is good to know that we are all on the path to becoming pharmacists, but it is a more enjoyable experience sharing the journey as brothers. True brotherhood is like a blood line, knowing that even when there are struggles, even when there are disagreements, and sometimes even when there are fights, we know that all will be taken care of within the family.

It is a blessing knowing that we belong to a family where everyone

truly cares for each other. We all have burdens to carry through our lifetime. However, we can happily say that while others may struggle to deal with their issues, we have ninety-nine hands ready to be extended to help us make it through.

As we continue to face this life together, circumstances may cause us to be separated in flesh, but the spirit shall always remain united. Never fail to remember that brother in need of an extra hand to help him through. One hurt little finger is all it takes to make the whole body feel a sense of discomfort. With that mind, never forget to be there for your brother when he needs it.

Before the disciples of Christ could receive the Holy Spirit from Jesus, they all needed to be in one spirit with themselves first. Once that was accomplished, together they

became very powerful and achieved great things, and performed many miracles. As we uphold the virtues of our brotherhood, and with God on our side, we shall conquer all adversities and achieve all we set out to do.

Humbly submitted,

Francois Emmanuel Cherestal



Gamma Psi Brothers at the Final Province IV Conclave



Brothers and Mercer students at the Taste of Tucker

Getting Leaders to Follow



A Regent's time on campus is a mixture of joy, work, frustration, and

reward. As the face of the Chapter and, ultimately, the brother responsible for its function and appearance, there is a large amount of pressure felt by Alpha. With it, there is a great amount of respect and satisfaction when a plan comes together.

There is no perfect person for the position, and the one-year term creates a situation where a Regent must hand the reigns to his successor shortly after he has had time to really figure everything out. The biggest challenge comes not from faculty, administration, or specific events, but from within the Chapter. As a Chapter full of men who were born to lead, Gamma Psi presents a situation different from most any other in the fraternity. Gamma Psi's Regent must be able to look about 20 leaders, most of whom would be Regent at any other Chapter, in the eye and get them to follow his ideas. The only way to achieve this is by maintaining a delicate balance where on one side, all brothers are your equal, and on the other, all brothers know that you are responsible for the Chapter's decisions and their outcomes, good or bad. Attaining

this will allow Alpha to do what the position is made for: serve the Chapter so that every brother gives all they can to it, and they receive all the benefits and experiences that Gamma Psi has to offer. Any Regent who has neared this, has been able to rely heavily on his exec board.

I had the benefit of having great, not good, great brothers on campus during my time. Brother Amir Khan balanced the substantial duties of Rho Chi President with being a superior Vice Regent, just as Brother Nick Blackwell took NCPA to new heights, while going above and beyond what could possibly be expected from the Treasurer or any other brother. A regent must be able to accept help, just as other brothers must be able to ask or find what needs to be done.

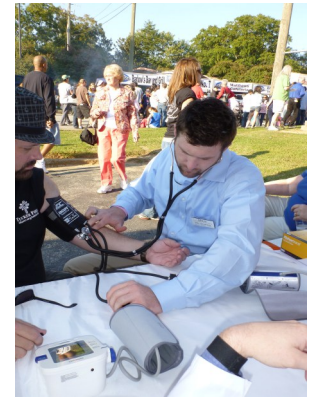
Perhaps the only asset that equals the exec board, is the experience of those who have been here longer, and seen more. Each year is a unique experience unlike any other in the history of the Chapter and has to be treated as such. However, the past experience of Regents and active alumni prove invaluable. I relied heavily on advice from Past Regents Marvin Smith, Andrew Crowe, and Purvish Patel, as well as senior Brothers Andy Asberry, Johnathan Hamrick, and Seth Hammonds. A regent ignoring this asset is like a traveler without a map, taking extensive

journeys to reach a nearby destination.

As I Regent, I faltered, but was able to overcome much and feel good about my service. This was due to the realization that being a Regent is still a Gamma Psi Brother first. We must know that we cannot do everything by ourselves, but must trust and rely on those closest. We have had some great years recently, but once we fully realize GCD Crowe's dream, we will grow to unfathomable heights. For years, he has been preaching brotherhood and love for each other above all else. We've had glimpses and periods of this, but have not sustained it as we should. The perfect Regent will be the one to see this through, and everything else will just fall into place. At that point, it wouldn't matter which brother we call Alpha, because we will all speak with one voice.

Gamma Psi till I die!

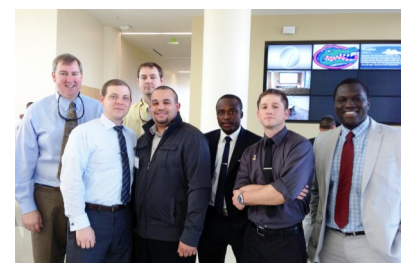
Dr. Kevin Long



Brother Trey performing Blood pressure test at Health Fair



Brother Joe carving the turkey at our Thanksgiving Potluck



Brothers at the Southeast Province Conclave in Orlando