



Fall 2019

Gamma Psi

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Executive Board

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KΨ
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This Fall Semester, in seasonal fashion, has been a complex transition for the Brothers of Gamma Psi. With our pledge class getting our first real taste of the brotherhood on campus, we have all found purpose in the reasons we pledged in the first place. We have refined our communication, made effective adjustments to our chapter structure, and kept a system of checks and balances to ensure that each of us succeeds on all accords. Because of this tight brotherly bond, it has become second nature to hold each other accountable for responsibilities and depend on one another when in need. In addition to sharpening each other, we have also received valuable guidance

from our alumni Brothers who are present both on and off campus. They have been a deeply rooted network that plays a very large role in the chapter's success. Through them and amongst ourselves, we are constantly learning how to more efficiently run the chapter, which in turn will make us better students and future pharmacists. Throughout this semester, we have participated in a number of service-learning projects, social events, and fundraisers. Several of our Brothers even had the opportunity to attend Summer Assembly for the Atlantic Province in Knoxville, TN and the Grand Council Convention in Washington, DC. Both of these provided great networking opportunities and recognized Brothers for their hard work. This is the first time around for a number of us and going through it all has set a high expectation that we plan to strive toward for years to come. With all of the aforementioned items, we ultimately have the goal to strive for academic excellence as students in order to become great future pharmacists and leaders in the world of healthcare. With all of

this being said, I do look forward to seeing what the Spring holds for us and continuing the legacy that has been set before us. Thank you all for your support this semester and over the years. We will never forget where we come from and who we represent and commit to the goal. But most of all we will continue to DO WORK!

Fraternally,

Robert "Vinyl" Johnson



Brothers at the Grand Council Convention Washington D.C.

A Word From Our Regent



Hello Brothers, my name is Jonathan Parker Vincent, and it is my pleasure to serve as your Regent for the 2019-2020 school year. There is plenty of work to do and plenty of able hands to do it. I look forward to leaving the chapter in a better place than when we found it. The theme for this year is growth and development. How do you continue to grow a chapter that has accomplished so much? The answer is you continue to give back and develop one's members.

How we will accomplish this is to show up and be present. Where there is no growth, there is decay. So, for the chapter that wants

more, we must do more and work for that.

Industry, Sobriety, Fellowship, and High Ideals are the four pillars of our beloved fraternity. However, we have our own Gamma Psi way of accomplishing these. "Do Work," "Hold each other accountable," "Don't run this organization like a business," and "this is not a checklist," are four quotes that were told to me by our alumni that I feel represent our four pillars and our culture, respectively. Sometimes these pillars may seem at odds with each other, but they are all connected by our commitment to each other and ideas greater than ourselves. It is my belief that when you serve the brothers and pour your heart into them that's when the chapter thrives. Learning nor brotherhood doesn't stop and end with the completion of a degree. Gamma Psi is for life and requires a lifetime of involvement.

Thus, this semester we're expanding our philanthropy efforts and challenging ourselves to do philanthropy that

is impactful. This semester we're fundraising to make sure that every brother can attend every meeting. This semester we're focusing on academics and making sure every brother is competitive for every scholarship and every residency. I have taken these goals to develop and pour into the brothers not just because of the title, which will only last one year. Because it reflects the type of brother that I want to be well into the future when I'm an alumnus. Gamma Psi has given me much thus far and I welcome the opportunity to give back. This semester will be hard and challenging but I'm confident in our team to grow the chapter and grow ourselves both personally and professionally.

PTBYB,

Jonathan "No. 2" Vincent



Halloween Social



Kappa Kamp Out



**Gamma Psi
Friendsgiving**

Stay Connected!

We are constantly updating 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: mercergammapsi@gmail.com. Your information will be used to ensure that you are always updated with Chapter news.

Message From The GCD



The word commitment is defined by Merriam-Webster as “an agreement or pledge to do something in the future” or “something pledged”. What you are committed to may vary in form such as career, health, or personal goals. Although the goals may differ, one thing remains fairly certain. A commitment entails dedication and the ability to work diligently and persevere through trials and tribulations. There is a distinct desire between wanting to do something versus being committed to doing something. A desire to do something can quickly vanish, but a commitment requires no excuses and pure results. As Brothers of

Gamma Psi, we each took a commitment the day that we signed our bids. We committed to pledging the Gamma Psi way and saw it through to the day that we crossed. Were there moments where we felt like quitting or thought about how much easier life would be if we were not pledging? Absolutely, but we marched onward in hopes to eventually sport the letters of Kappa Psi. The gratification of crossing and earning your letters instills a new fearless mentality and desire to take on more challenges. Our pledge program teaches you to dig deep in the face of adversity and develop a “never give up” mentality which can be applied to any new challenges that life will throw at you. As we all know very well, the commitment does not end the moment we cross. The original commitment we made on bid day ultimately evolves as we transition to Collegiate Brothers and Graduate Brothers. Collegiate Brothers are committed to sharpening their pledges into better men, students, and eventually pharma-

cists. Graduate Brothers are committed to serving in an advisory role to younger Brothers and rising graduates. However, the fundamental theme will always remain true. We as Gamma Psi Brothers are forever committed to the development of one another and pushing forward the profession of pharmacy as a whole. This unwavering commitment has been instrumental in Gamma Psi’s continued dominance over the last decade and will now and forever always be a key to our success. “GAMMA PSI ‘TILL I DIE!”

Respectfully Submitted,

Neal Patel



Atlantic Province Summer Assembly Knoxville, TN



**Blood Drive
Tabling Event**



**Gamma Psi Roadside
Clean-up**



Men's Health Awareness

Dates to Remember

Ski Trip	January 17-20
Atlantic Province Winter Assembly	January 24-26
Rush Social	January 27
Bid Day	January 31
Founder's Day	March 6-8
IFC Formal	TBD
Pinning Ceremony	May 4
Hooding Ceremony	May 8
Commencement Ceremony	May 9

Alumni Spotlight



In the words of the great Denzel Washington, "Without commitment, you'll never start, and without consistency, you'll never finish. It's not easy! If it were easy, there would be none of the famous and influential figures that we know today."

Commitment is the act of being deeply connected to a goal or task with the intent of seeing it through, despite the circumstance. Commitment is aligning verbal plans to continued, repetitive action. In fact, no one achieves the pinnacle of success, in any line of work, without commitment to the craft. Interest alone will NEVER assist anyone in achieving greatness. In fact, you will find many on your journey who are simply interested in achieving something, but it takes more than interest, or even passion - it takes commitment!

While commitment is the foundation, it MUST be accompanied by strategic planning, continued learning, and sacrifice. Dedicating your life to something, but not supporting it with the necessary experiences, skillsets, or work ethic is completely asinine. That's where consistency comes in. Consistency creates a habit and dedicates the necessary time to perfect a craft.

I use the description above frequently when talking to student pharmacists, especially those that want to pursue non-traditional tracks. This notion of interest vs. commitment will be the distinguishing factor in you obtaining a role in which the prerequisites do not fully align with the curriculum of your institution. It's the additional research, conference attendance, and exposure that will demonstrate one's dedication to atypical routes. The same is true for the traditional community and clinical routes. With the current state of our profession, it behooves one to have a deep commitment to their craft. What was once an easily obtained community pharmacy role is now proving to require immense experience, relationships, and dedication from day one. Remember, if it were easy, everyone would achieve it. Commitment

plus consistency is the key.

I want you to stop and think about a goal or task that you are truly dedicated to. Why are you dedicated to this effort? What about this effort makes it so appealing for you to direct your entire focus to it? How are you progressing towards the end destination? Spend the next few days mulling over the idea of commitment and have an honest moment with yourself. Are you truly committed to your goal, or are you simply interested? Eliminate the excuses, minimize the distractions, and instill repetition into your daily routine. Good luck warriors!

- Uncle J taught you!

Jason Gaines, PharmD



Fall 2019 Council of Students Picnic