



2025 – 2027 Grand Council Slate of Officers

Article IV, Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1(c) The nominating committee will announce the slate of candidates and their qualifications not later than April 15th of the convention year.

Section 1(d) The nominating committee will present its report to Grand Chapter at the first business session during convention. Nominations for the office of Secretary and nominations from the floor for other offices will take place during the first business session provided the nominee meets the requirements and has given prior consent.

Section 1 (e) Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the time elections are to be held provided the nominee meets the requirements and has given prior consent.

The Nominations Committee of Kappa Epsilon is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates for the 2025 – 2027 biennium Grand Council Officers. This slate will be presented at the 55th National Convention in Lexington, KY on May 29th, 2025, to the Grand Chapter for their consideration.

Past President (not slated):

Denise Schultz, Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Grand President (not slated):

Nikkina Hankins, Birmingham, Alabama

Per the national bylaws, *Article III, Section 2 (a) (3) each officer will be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected or appointed.*

President Elect:

CharLeigh Steverson, Ruckersville, Virginia

- Initiated: Alpha Lambda, University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy, Columbia, South Carolina, 2024
- Position: Fellowship, Association Management at American Pharmacists Association, Washington, D.C.
- KE Involvement: National Grand Council Vice President of Communications (2024 – Present), National Grand Council Secretary (2023-2024), Alpha Lambda Chapter President (2022-2023), National DEI Taskforce (2022-2023)

Vice President of Financial Development

Caitlin Hawkins, Columbus, Ohio

- Initiated: Rho Chapter, University of Cincinnati James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy, Ohio, 2019
- Position: Current PGY2 Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership Resident at Nationwide Children's Hospital; will remain at Nationwide as the Controlled Substance Coordinator starting Sep 2025.
- KE Involvement: Rho Chapter President Elect/President (sequential): Feb 2020 – Feb 2022;
- Regional Retreat Coordinator (Region C): Aug 2021 – Mar 2022; National Grand Council
- President Intern: Oct 2021 – Oct 2023; National Scholarship Committee: Jul 2023

Vice President of Collegiate Development

Elizabeth Heard, Newport News, Virginia

- Initiated: Alpha Delta, Mercer University College of Pharmacy, Atlanta, Georgia, 2018
- Position: Clinical Assistant Professor, Specializing in Hematology/Oncology | APPE & Residency Coordinator at Hampton University School of Pharmacy, Hampton, Virginia & Clinical Pharmacist at Select Specialty Hospital, Newport News, Virginia
- KE Involvement: Vice President of Collegiate Development (2023 – Present), Alpha Delta President (March 2020 – March 2021), Zada M. Cooper Scholarship Recipient (2020 – 2021), Alpha Delta Breast Cancer Chair (March 2019 – March 2020), Alpha Delta Pledge Class Social Chair (January 2019 – March 2019)

Vice President of Collegiate Operations

Maritsa Stephenson

- Initiated: Alpha Pi, Howard University College of Pharmacy, Washington, DC, 2006
- Position: Regulatory Health Project Manager with the FDA
- KE Involvement: Vice President of Collegiate Operations (2023 – Present); Alpha Pi Chapter Advisor (2013-2017)

Vice President of Alumni Development

Kaileigh Yen, Durham, North Carolina

- Initiated: Beta Kappa Chapter, Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy, 2023
- Position: Practice Advancement Fellowship at University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy, Department of Practice Advancement and Clinical Education, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- KE Involvement: Beta Kappa Chapter President (2021-2022), Beta Kappa Chapter President-Elect (2020-2021)

Vice President of Communications

Melody Evans, Tallahassee, Florida

- Initiated: Alpha Xi Chapter, Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Tallahassee, Florida, 2023
- Position: Executive Fellow for Pharmacy Quality Alliance
- KE Involvement: Vice President College Development Intern (2023-2025), Alpha Xi Chapter Membership Intake Chair (2023-2024), Alpha Xi Chapter Social Co-Chair (2023-2024), Alpha Xi Chapter Ovarian Cancer Awareness Week Committee Lead (2023), Alpha Xi Chapter Week of Service Committee Lead (2024)

Vice President of Member Recruitment

Faiza Sumra, Batavia, Ohio

- Initiated: Rho Chapter, University of Cincinnati James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2019
- Position: Pending, corporate/community pharmacy position
- KE Involvement: Rho Chapter Treasurer 2020-2022, Intern to VP of Financial Development 2021- 2023, National Scholarship Committee Member 2023-2025

Secretary (*not slated*):

As per Kappa Epsilon's National Bylaws, a candidate for the position of secretary will be a collegiate or an alumnus member who will graduate prior to the next convention (2027) and will be in good standing at the time of election. Nominations will be taken from the floor during the 55th National Convention in Lexington, KY.

About the Nominees

CharLeigh Steverson, PharmD

Biography/Interest in Running:

As a native to South Carolina, I am a proud alumna of the Alpha Lambda chapter of Kappa Epsilon at the University of South Carolina. Currently, I am completing a fellowship in association management with the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) and the Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) in Washington, D.C. Because my professional journey has been deeply enriched by Kappa Epsilon, I'm pleased to be running for President Elect of National Grand Council to continue my dedication and service to our fraternity's mission and members.



Throughout my journey with KE, I've embraced every opportunity to serve and give back. As a student pharmacist, I served as chapter president of Alpha Lambda, which sparked my dedication to fostering connection and growth within our fraternity. Nationally, I've contributed to KE's growth and initiatives by serving on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Taskforce, the Convention Planning Committee, and as the Grand Council Secretary. Most recently, I transitioned into the role of Vice President of Communications, and I've served as the Grand Council liaison to the National Projects Committee over the past biennium. Each role has reinforced my love for this organization and deepened my desire to contribute to its legacy.

I am running for the position of Grand Council President-Elect because I believe in the power of KE to transform lives—just as it has transformed mine. I am passionate about ensuring Kappa Epsilon's long-term sustainability and growth. Through my fellowship, I've gained valuable insights into organizational management, strategic planning, and member engagement, which I aim to apply to KE. By combining what I've learned in my fellowship with my love for KE, I hope to preserve our history, empower our members, and build a brighter future for our fraternity.

Caitlin Hawkins, Cincinnati, Ohio

Biography/Interest in Running:

Hello brothers and sisters of Kappa Epsilon! For those I have not met, my name is Cait Hawkins and I am a PGY2 Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership (HSPAL) Resident at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.



When I was initiated into the Rho chapter at the University of Cincinnati in 2019, I could tell Kappa Epsilon was an organization that would play a role in my life, not just in pharmacy school, but beyond as well. It was a place where I met friends and mentors and was challenged to be the best version of myself as a person and as a leader. It is an organization that banded together and pushed me and others through Covid, which showcased to me the necessity of keeping the Bond strong, especially during tumultuous times. KE helped to shape me into the pharmacist and leader I

am today, and I hope to be able to continue to give back by serving as the VP of Financial Development in the upcoming biennium.

I have served Kappa Epsilon in a variety of local, regional, and national roles since my initiation. I was the President-elect then President of the Rho chapter from 2020-2022, where I worked diligently alongside an amazing officer board to rebuild our chapter's membership and re-establish ourselves within our local and national circles. I was the Region C Retreat Coordinator from 2021-2022, where I was able to collaborate beyond my school to other KE members and foster connections between multiple groups. I then served nationally as the Grand Council President Intern from 2021-2023, and as a member of the National Scholarship Committee in 2023; both positions allowed me to contribute to and further the initiatives of the organization on a larger scale and opened my eyes to the additional ways I could serve in the future.

While my enriching experiences with KE have pushed me to consider a position on Grand Council prior to this biennium, I wanted to ensure that I was able to give the proper amount of time required to serve in this type of role. Now that my residency is winding to a close this summer, I am excited about the prospect of ramping my involvement back up into an organization that means so much to me. I am truly honored to be a candidate for the role of VP of Financial Development. My HSPAL residency has not only fueled my enthusiasm for financial management, but also honed my skills in organizational leadership, strategic planning, and collaborative problem-solving. With these experiences and my deep commitment to Kappa Epsilon, I am excited to contribute to the financial health, sustainability, and enduring success of our organization. I look forward to collaborating with other dedicated members to further the mission of Kappa Epsilon as we step into a new biennium together.

Elizabeth Heard, PharmD

Biography/Interest in Running:

Hello, I am Dr. Elizabeth Heard, and I have had the honor of serving as the KE Vice President of Collegiate Development since Spring 2023. Professionally, I am an Associate Professor at Hampton University College of Pharmacy, specializing in Oncology, and I also serve as the APPE Coordinator. My role at Hampton University involves working closely with collegiate pharmacy students, which aligns perfectly with my responsibilities in KE. This synergy allows me to bring a unique perspective and passion to my work in both settings.



I would like to extend my current term as Vice President of Collegiate Development to ensure the progress I have initiated comes to fruition. This first biennium in the role has provided me with a deep understanding of the purpose and responsibilities of Kappa Epsilon Grand Council. With this foundational knowledge, I am now well-positioned to implement effective changes and make a lasting impact in the upcoming biennium.

Maritsa Stephenson, PharmD

Biography/Interest in Running:

Maritsa Stephenson is a dedicated healthcare professional with expertise in pharmacy practice, regulatory affairs, and mentorship. She currently serves as a Regulatory Health Project Manager at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where she contributes to advancing pharmaceutical regulations and public health initiatives. Dr. Stephenson earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Howard University College of Pharmacy in 2009 and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Bowie State University in 2003. She has been recognized for her leadership and contributions to pharmacy education through multiple honors, including:



- Kappa Epsilon Faculty Advisor (Alpha Pi Chapter, 2013-2017)
- Kappa Epsilon Outstanding Advisor (2013-2015, Alpha Pi Chapter)
- Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year (2016-2017, Howard University College of Pharmacy)
- Residency Director of the Year (2016-2017, Howard University Hospital)

In her current role, Dr. Stephenson combines her expertise in pharmacy with regulatory affairs to drive impactful projects. As a leader and mentor, she continues to inspire and shape the next generation of pharmacy professionals through her preceptorship.

Dr. Stephenson is also a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, reflecting her commitment to service, leadership, and community engagement. As the Vice President of Collegiate Operations, I will seek to:

- Streamline operations to enhance productivity and reduce costs.
- Identify areas for improvement and optimize workflows.
- Develop an onboarding process for new faculty advisors.

Kaileigh Yen, PharmD

Biography/Interest in Running:

Kaileigh Yen is a graduate of Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy and a proud alumni member of the Beta Kappa Chapter. While at PCSP, Kaileigh served as President Elect from 2020-2021 and as President from 2021-2022. As President, she prioritized recruitment within her chapter, which resulted in the chapter tripling in size. During her term, Kaileigh emphasized community and support to her chapter and gave back to the local community. Her team organized events such as: dinners, craft nights, highway cleanups, and breast and ovarian cancer awareness tabling events.



Throughout my life, I have always valued friendship and community. Spending time with those close to me is the best way to fill my cup, relax, and de-stress. When beginning pharmacy school, I knew that this would be of extra importance, and it would be beneficial to find a community of peers going through similar experiences. That is how I found my way to Kappa Epsilon. As a first-year pharmacy student, I was welcomed in with open arms to a community of students from all years of pharmacy school – offering kindness, support, and a community to be myself. I knew almost immediately that

KE was going to be THE organization for me.

The friends I made in KE supported me throughout my years in pharmacy school and continue to provide support post-graduation, even if we are now in different states and paths within our profession. I have always been told that “pharmacy is a small world,” but I did not realize how true that was until I was a new practitioner. After graduation I moved to North Carolina and on my first day, I met a previous resident and found out we were both KE members. That fact sparked a new professional relationship and friendship. In another instance, I bonded with my co-resident on being KE members and we instantly became a source of support for one another (and still are today).

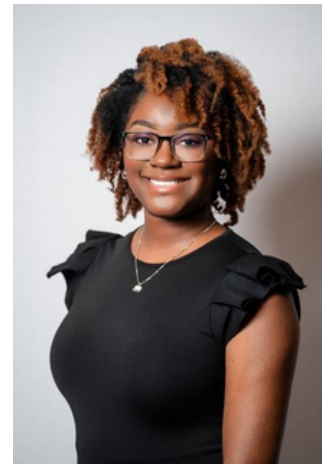
I want to be a member of the Grand Council to give back to the organization that has given me so much. I want to inspire future pharmacists and emphasize the importance of community within our profession. KE was formative to my growth as a pharmacist and I wish to continue to be involved with such an organization and provide those opportunities to current student pharmacists.

Melody Evans, PharmD Candidate*

(Graduates beginning of May 2025)

Biography/Interest in Running:

Melody Evans, a native of Augusta, GA, earned her bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from Alcorn State University before pursuing her Doctor of Pharmacy at Florida A&M University. Upon graduating in May 2025, she will begin an executive fellowship in Alexandria, VA. Passionate about mentorship, she aspires to become a Girl Scout Troop leader to empower and guide young girls in her community.



With a deep commitment to leadership, strategic communication, and professional development, Melody has actively contributed to the advancement of pharmacy organizations. She currently serves as Kappa Epsilon’s Collegiate Development Intern for the 2023–2025 biennium and as the 2024–2025 National Region 3 Facilitator for the Student National Pharmaceutical Association.

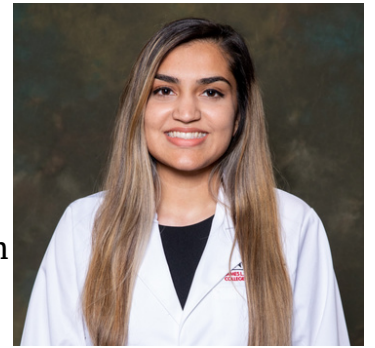
Her enthusiasm for association management, marketing, and digital outreach has driven her dedication to strengthening Kappa Epsilon’s presence and engagement. If selected as Vice President of Communications, Melody plans to revitalize The Bond by modernizing its content strategy, incorporating dynamic storytelling, and increasing member contributions. She also aims to expand the fraternity’s social media reach through interactive campaigns and a more consistent digital presence to enhance national recognition. Additionally, she is committed to amplifying collegiate and alumni voices, celebrating achievements, and fostering stronger connections among members nationwide.

Melody is eager to apply her expertise in branding, digital communication, and strategic outreach to elevate Kappa Epsilon’s visibility and engagement. She believes that innovative and impactful communication is key to strengthening the fraternity’s legacy.

Faiza Sumra, PharmD

Biography/Interest in Running:

I am proud to be an alumna of the Rho Chapter of Kappa Epsilon at the University of Cincinnati. Currently, I am completing my PGY2 Community Pharmacy Administration and Leadership Residency with Kroger Health and the University of Cincinnati, alongside pursuing a Master of Science in Health Outcomes and Pharmacoeconomics. Kappa Epsilon has played a significant role in shaping my professional path, and I am excited to run for the position of Vice President of Membership Recruitment to continue supporting and advancing the mission of our fraternity.



Since my initiation, I've had the privilege of taking on various leadership roles within Kappa Epsilon. As a student pharmacist, I served as Rho Chapter Treasurer for two years, where I developed a passion for fostering connections and promoting growth within the organization. On a national level, I worked as the intern to the Vice President of Financial Development. Throughout my residency, I've remained active by serving on the National Scholarship Committee. Every role has further deepened my commitment to Kappa Epsilon and strengthened my desire to contribute to its ongoing success.

I am seeking the role of Vice President of Membership Recruitment because I believe it is essential to ensure Kappa Epsilon's continued relevance in the evolving landscape of pharmacy education. My residency has provided me with invaluable experience in organizational management, process improvement, and coordinating intern experiences, which I am eager to apply to the fraternity. I am passionate about fostering long-term growth and sustainability for Kappa Epsilon, and I hope to help strengthen connections and engagement across all chapters at the national level.