



Alpha Sigma Nu

100 Years

1915 - 2015



THE HONOR SOCIETY OF JESUIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES • MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETIES

In the WORLD for the Next CENTURY

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ALPHA SIGMA NU TURNS 100!

Dear Members,

This issue of the Alpha Sigma Nu newsletter kicks off our Centennial anniversary celebration. Please stay tuned – through our 2015 newsletters, the new Centennial website, Facebook, LinkedIn, and now even Twitter – for 100th anniversary events. I hope you will join me over the year in marking this milestone, whether at an induction or AΣN alumni program, and by living the AΣN pledge as you go “out in the world for the next century.”

Reviewing AΣN's history, I was struck by the parallels among the histories of the Jesuits, Jesuit higher education, and Alpha Sigma Nu, as well as the impact that world events have had on the Society. Jesuit education has moved from a relatively parochial focus to one that embraces the Jesuit commitment to being an agent of change in the broader world, from educating the children of immigrants to challenging students to promote faith and justice out in the world. Our Centennial is an opportunity to celebrate our past, share our present, and chart our future.

As we look to the next century, let us accept Father Nicolas' challenge from his 2010 speech at Mexico City, “Can Jesuit universities today, with energy and creativity, continue the legacy of Jesuit learned ministry and forge intellectual bridges between Gospel and culture, faith and reason, for the sake of the world and its great questions and problems?” Today, I ask, CAN AΣN MEMBERS?

My experience of AΣN members compels me to offer a resounding yes! As an AΣN Board member and now president, I have had the distinct honor to meet today's inductees. Transformed by their Jesuit education, these students live scholarship, loyalty, and service, “out in the world,” and encourage these values among their peers. In the same way, alumni members I encounter bear the name Jesuit in ways varied and inspirational. Members are poised to heed the call for the next century.

As we begin the celebration of our first 100 years, we should challenge ourselves – as members of AΣN – to be part of the *magis*, the ‘more,’ that our Jesuit ideals call us to be in our world. It is through the continued dedication and effort of each of you, as AΣN members, that our Society truly will be “out in the world for the next century.”

Sincerely,

Patrick Cain (Loyola Marymount '78)

Then & Now



William Hebard
First AΣN
National President
1924-1926



Patrick J. Cain
AΣN Board President
2012-Present



1915

Fr. John Danihy, SJ, founded Alpha Sigma Tau at Marquette University

1921

Creighton University became second Chapter, beginning the national expansion



1925

First national AΣN convention held in Milwaukee, where the first Board of Directors was elected and the constitution passed



Josephine Newell O'Gorman founded Gamma Pi Epsilon (GPE) at Marquette University

1927

First alumni club formed in Milwaukee



1932

Name of the Society changed to Alpha Sigma Nu (AΣN)

1947

Saint Louis University chartered as second Chapter of GPE

1949

First national GPE convention held in St. Louis



1955

First honorary AΣN member - Konrad Adenauer - inducted at Creighton University

1962

First Faculty Adviser meeting held and appointment of laypersons as Advisers approved



1966

Father General Pedro Arrupe, SJ, headlined the 50th Anniversary celebration of AΣN

1967

An AΣN national office established with the generosity of Marquette University



1973

AΣN and GPE merged into the co-ed Society we know today



CELEBRATING the PAST

1915-2015...This century saw Alpha Sigma Nu history shaped by the Society of Jesus, world events, Church history, and the evolution of Jesuit higher education. In the year of AΣN's founding, Europe was embroiled in the Great War. The Jesuits' 1915 General Congregation 26 met six months after the war began and was internally focused.

It was in this insular era that Father John Danihy, SJ, and Josephine O'Gorman, founders of Alpha Sigma Nu (1915) and Gamma Pi Epsilon (1925) respectively, defined the goals and purposes of their societies. Father Danihy explained at the inaugural induction that the students were chosen not on the basis of scholarship alone, but because they best exemplified the meaning of Jesuit education. These 11 new members represented a dedication to scholarship, loyalty to the cause of Jesuit education, and service in promoting "all the various activities of the university." Gamma Pi Epsilon, modeling their tenets after AΣN's, chose "For the Glory of the School" as their motto, encouraging each member's unselfish service to the university.

Adding 12 Chapters, Alpha Sigma Nu flourished through the 1920s and 1930s, then necessarily adjusted to the World War II years with a pullback in activity and a suspension of inductions at some Chapters. The post-war years saw a resurgence as nine AΣN Chapters and seven GPE Chapters were chartered in the 1940s and 1950s.

The 1965-66 General Congregation 31 reflected the changes in the Church coming out of Vatican Council II. **Pedro Arrupe, SJ** (Marquette '67), was elected the Superior General and heeded the call of Vatican II to the Jesuits to return to their Ignatian inspiration. Additionally, GC 31 called on Jesuits:

"...To be more keenly aware of the importance of the state and vocation of laymen and their apostolate since in many areas of human activity and in many places the Church can be present to the world only through laymen."

When AΣN celebrated its 50th anniversary with Father Arrupe as the keynote speaker, he directly challenged the Society's members to this wider mission:

"I feel that the first 50 years of Alpha Sigma Nu stressed objectives before graduation. Permit me tonight to ask that the second half of the century be inaugurated by emphasizing scholarship, loyalty and service *after* graduation."

AΣN's leadership ensured that the induction ritual and pledge echoed Father Arrupe's challenge.

Alpha Sigma Nu did not escape the unrest of the late 1960s over civil rights, the Vietnam War, and women's rights. Some schools opted to disband inductions during this turbulent time. As Jesuit universities became more socially aware, so did the Society's leadership. In 1973, after years of (not always easy) discussions, Alpha Sigma Nu, the men's honor society, and Gamma Pi Epsilon, the women's honor society, finally merged forming the Jesuit honor society we know today.

This developing social responsibility can be seen in the instructions coming out of the General Congregation 32 in 1974-75, which

challenged Jesuits and Jesuit institutions to promote a faith that does justice. As Jesuit education became more mission focused, so did Alpha Sigma Nu.

In an address to the 1979 Triennial Conference, AΣN Board member and former AJCU President **William McInnes, SJ** (U. of San Francisco '73), reminded members, "The pin becomes a relic rather than a badge," when members do not engage in the world:

"A Jesuit honor society must offer its members a challenge, real freedom in life and a gigantic sense of responsibility for promoting justice and increasing faith. This is the mandate for the Society of Jesus today. It can be no less for Alpha Sigma Nu."

At that same meeting, the AΣN Board established "a special award for outstanding books published by faculty, administration or staff of our member Jesuit colleges and universities" and the Alpha Sigma Nu Book Awards were born. The Alpha Sigma Nu scholarship program subsequently began in 1981.

During this period, the Society took steps to professionalize its operations and communications. AΣN was certified by the Association of College Honor Societies, established its first office, hired its first executive director, and improved outreach to members.

In the thirty years hence, the AΣN mission has driven the Society's work. Thirteen new Chapters were chartered, including Jesuit theologates and international Chapters. The Triennial Conferences offered training and program development as the Society's Board and staff supported and encouraged Chapters and Alumni Clubs in their work to promote scholarship, loyalty, and service.

Then & Now



Gonzaga inductees in 1958 and 2014

1975

Richard J. Panlener appointed first Executive Director

First international Chapter chartered at Sogang University in the Rep. of Korea



1979

Alpha Sigma Nu Book Awards established to honor scholarship



1981

AΣN scholarship program inaugurated

1993

Graduation medallion designed



1994

First theologates brought on with Chapters at JSTB and Weston

1998

AΣN website was launched



2001

Online Member Directory added to provide a networking resource



2003

Major growth of Alumni Clubs as Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Denver, New York, and Washington, D.C. received their charters

2007

Mission-focused vision and agenda set for AΣN at Faculty Adviser Conference

2009

Becky Cates elected AΣN's first woman Board president



2010

First Alpha Sigma Nu Week celebrated on campuses



Frank Haig, SJ, directed largest AΣN gift ever to the Haig Fund for Chapter Programs



2013

Membership topped 75,000

First Chapter Leadership Conference hosted at Saint Peter's University



2014

Loyola University Maryland named Chapter of the Year in inaugural year of the award



SHARING the PRESENT

Communication with Chapters, Alumni Clubs, and members is significantly enhanced by the creation of the AΣN member database and the email and networking opportunities that it provides. The AΣN Board has grown to 16 with members representing diversity in school of induction and geographical location. The staff has increased to three as technology allows and mission requires us to do more.

That Alpha Sigma Nu mission informs all work of the Society. This mission focus harkens back to the address that Father General **Hans Peter Kolvenbach, SJ** (Marquette '86), gave at Santa Clara University in 2000:

"Our primary mission is the education and formation of our students for the sake of the kind of persons they become and their wide influence for good in society in their lives, professions, and service. The real measure of our Jesuit universities lies in who our students become."

This new intentionality about mission at all Jesuit universities, driven by fundamental shifts in the Society of Jesus, required AΣN to respond. The Board and Faculty Advisers reviewed the function of AΣN, planned for its renewal, and continue to do so today.

The result?

- Chapters are more active in service to their campus and community, have deeper connections with Jesuit communities, and are more focused on Ignatian spirituality
- Faculty Advisers work to provide a common, AΣN-centered experience of membership
- Leadership conferences ignite Chapter leaders to inspire members to a greater loyalty
- AΣN scholarships and the Alpha Sigma Nu Book Awards (now in their 35th year) promote excellence in scholarship at our member institutions
- AΣN seeks to serve alumni by offering life-long support for its members living the mission, and AΣN's Alumni Clubs provide the platform for those programs and for networking

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES = CHAPTER ACTION

When the Alpha Sigma Nu Board of Directors saw the remarkably increased and improved action among the Chapters whose leaders attended last October's leadership conference, they decided to fund two conferences for the fall of 2014. Made possible by the generous hospitality of Loyola University Chicago and Faculty Advisers **Thomas Regan, SJ** (Fairfield '84), and **Michael Beazley, PhD** (Loyola Chicago '13), in the Midwest and Saint Peter's University and **Michael Braden, SJ** (Saint Peter's '10), in the East, the conferences convened 28 Chapter leaders from 21 Jesuit colleges and universities. "The collaborations and idea sharing reignited my personal dedication to the AΣN values. I am returning to my Chapter with a greater energy for future programming and the general growth of AΣN on our campus," says Saint Louis University President **Molly Loughran** (Saint Louis '14) who attended the Chicago meeting.

Again this year, the goal of the conference was to provide the tools to lead Chapters effectively. As **Stephen Ferguson** (Boston College '14), a Jersey City attendee, explains, "I thought I would wind up spending an awkwardly rigid weekend stuffed with lectures telling me how to be a leader. The conference turned out to be a very hands-on experience



Loyola University Chicago Conference



Saint Peter's University Conference

where we worked together to solve problems and create programs. It created a bond, a feeling that the work I do for AΣN contributes to a much bigger mission."

Carlos Martinez (Santa Clara '14), the Santa Clara Chapter Vice-president noted, "From the moment we sat down to share our first meal together, I was so inspired by my fellow Jesuit student leaders. They are committed to improving their Chapters, and this passion is what made our conversations and workshops so productive. We developed a real sense of direction for our Chapters and I will make my Chapter a reflection of the Jesuit ideals that AΣN was founded on." The leaders will keep the conference spirit and feeling of community alive when they connect monthly with all the Chapter presidents on video conference calls.



FALL CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of the fall Chapter highlights coming out of the conferences:

Boston College - Cradles to Crayons service trip

Fairfield University - Created an AΣN video highlighting the three pillars

Fordham University - **Philip Florio, SJ** (Fordham '12) on how to live the Jesuit mission after graduation, co-hosted a haunted house for local Bronx families

Georgetown University - Hosted two "Dinners with a Jesuit"

John Carroll University - Christmas Cards for Soldiers in collaboration with the Veterans/ROTC Club

Loyola University Maryland - Speaker Denene Yates on human sex trafficking, hosted a "Meet and Eat" with those experiencing homelessness

Marquette University - Annual Pizza Night with the Jesuit community

Saint Louis University - AΣN Lecture Series with Alex Sheen on "Because I Said I Would"

Santa Clara University - Dinner at the Jesuit Residence

Seattle University - Partnered with Navos, an organization that supports low income families with mental disabilities

Wheeling Jesuit University - Daily bread run for Catholic Charities, Christmas cards to nursing home residents

AΣN

TODAY
By the
NUMBERS

46.8% male 53.2% female

77,355
TOTAL MEMBERS

AΣN Members Live in:

76,100
United States

South Korea 514

441 Canada

Other Countries 300



\$181,574

Donations from 2013-14 Sustaining Fund

AΣN

MEMBER
DONORS
2013-2014
1,974

LARGEST INDUCTEE
CLASS BY A CHAPTER
LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY CHICAGO
203

2013-2014 INDUCTEE CLASS

1,841

Number of Current
JVs (Jesuit
Volunteer Corps)
Who are members 55

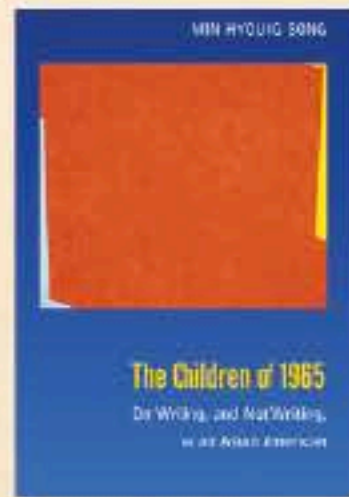
AΣN Winter 2014

35TH ANNIVERSARY {1979-2014}

The Children of 1965: On Writing, and Not Writing, as an Asian American

Min Hyoung Song
Boston College
(Duke University Press, 2013)

Since the 1990s, a new cohort of Asian American writers has garnered critical and popular attention. Many of its members are the children of Asians who came to the U.S. after the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 lifted restrictions on immigration. Having scrutinized more than one hundred works by emerging Asian American authors and having interviewed several of these writers, Min Hyoung Song argues that collectively, these works push against existing ways of thinking about race, even as they demonstrate how race can facilitate creativity. Some of the writers eschew their identification as ethnic writers, while others embrace it as a means of tackling the uncertainty many people feel about



the near future. In the literature they create, a number of these writers take on pressing contemporary matters such as demographic change, environmental catastrophe, and the widespread sense that the United States is in national decline.



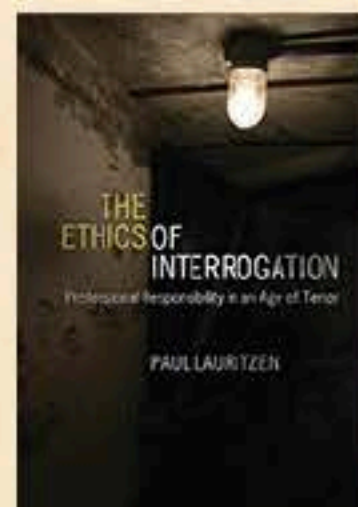
"Publishing a book, especially an academic one, is like sending a message into a void. You just never know how it's going to be received. Winning this award is such an unexpected, but wonderful, acknowledgement of the work I put into the book and of the importance of the topic. I hope the attention my book receives will help shed more light on the amazing, creative, and unique work so many Asian American writers are producing now."

Min Hyoung Song is Professor of English at Boston College, where he directs both the English MA program and the Asian American Studies Program. He is also the outgoing editor of the *Journal of Asian American Studies*.

The Ethics of Interrogation: Professional Responsibility in an Age of Terror

Paul Lauritzen
John Carroll University
(Georgetown University Press, 2013)

Can harsh interrogation techniques and torture ever be morally justified for a nation at war or under the threat of imminent attack? Ethicist Paul Lauritzen takes on ethical debates about counterterrorism techniques that are increasingly central to US foreign policy and discusses ramifications for the future of interrogation. Lauritzen examines how doctors, lawyers, psychologists, military officers, and other professionals addressed the issue of the appropriate limits in interrogation. In each of these professions, a vigorous debate ensued about whether the interrogation policy developed by the Bush administration violated codes of ethics governing professional practice. This volume argues that some of the techniques used at



Guantánamo Bay and elsewhere were morally impermissible; nevertheless, the healthy debates that raged among professionals provide hope that we may safeguard human rights and the rule of law more effectively in the future.



"There is a famous quote from Groucho Marx that goes roughly as follows. 'Please accept my resignation. I don't want to belong to any club that will accept me as a member.' I'm not sure I belong in the club of Alpha Sigma Nu book award winners, but it's sure an honor to be keeping company with

the likes of Frank Clooney (U. of Scranton '07), David Cole, Amy Haddad (Creighton '95), and the many other distinguished award winners from previous years. I'm delighted and I'm not resigning."

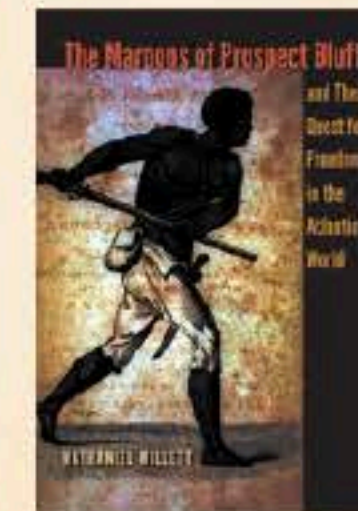
Paul Lauritzen is Professor of Religious Ethics at John Carroll University. He is the author or editor of five books and has published extensively on issues in bioethics, human rights, and religious ethics. He is the past coeditor of the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* and is currently an associate editor with the *Journal of Religious Ethics*.

The Maroons of Prospect Bluff and Their Quest for Freedom in the Atlantic World

Nathaniel Millett
Saint Louis University
(University Press of Florida, 2013)

During the War of 1812, Edward Nicolls of the Royal Marines armed ex-slaves, Red Sticks, and Seminoles to fight alongside the British from the fort at Prospect Bluff in the Florida panhandle. This so-called Negro Fort became the largest maroon community ever to emerge in North America. Nicolls galvanized the Prospect Bluff allies with his radical anti-slavery ideology and the promise of freedom, asserting their rights and privileges equal to those of any British subject. At war's end, Nicolls left the fort to his black army of radicalized British subjects.

Nathaniel Millett examines how the Prospect Bluff maroons constructed their freedom, shedding light on the extent and limits of their physical and intellectual fight to claim their rights. He compares their settlement with maroon



communities across the Americas, emphasizing the rare opportunity offered by Prospect Bluff to examine black consciousness during the era of slavery.



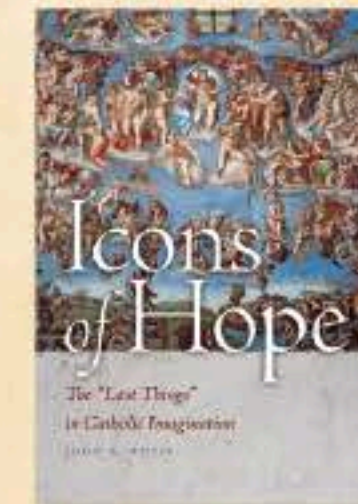
"I am both thrilled and honored to be a recipient of an Alpha Sigma Nu book award. As a humanist and an historian I find the award to be particularly meaningful given the longstanding commitment to studying and glorifying the human experience which is at the center of Jesuit education."

Nathaniel Millett is Associate Professor of history at Saint Louis University. Originally from New Jersey, Millett was educated at the University of Edinburgh (BA) and Cambridge University (PhD). His research interests focus on the history of the early modern and Revolutionary Atlantic World. He is particularly interested in the history of slavery and Native American history. Millett is spending the 2014-2015 academic year in London on a Fulbright Fellowship researching his new book that examines Afro-Indian relations in the English Atlantic World.

Icons of Hope: The "Last Things" in Catholic Imagination

John E. Thiel (Fairfield '14)
(University of Notre Dame Press, 2013)

Icons of Hope presents an interpretation of heavenly life, the Last Judgment, and the communion of the saints that is shaped by a view of the activity of the blessed dead consistent with Christian belief that the blessed dead in heaven continue to be eschatologically engaged in the redemptive task of forgiveness. Thiel offers a revision of the traditional Catholic imaginary regarding judgment and life after death that highlights the virtuous actions of all the saints in their heavenly response to the vision of God. These constructive efforts are fostered by Thiel's conclusions on the disappearance of the concept of purgatory in large segments of contemporary Catholic belief, a disappearance attributable to the emergence



of a noncompetitive spirituality in postconciliar Catholicism—one that recovers traditional Pauline sensibilities on the gratuitousness of grace—encouraging an eschatological imaginary of mutual, ongoing forgiveness in the communion of the saints in this life and in the life to come.



"It's such an honor to receive the AΣN book award and to be included in the company of all the previous recipients."

Dr. John E. Thiel has served as Director of the University Honors Program at Fairfield University since 1997. He is Professor of Religious Studies and has taught at Fairfield for 38 years. Twice a recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Dr. Thiel is the author of six books and his articles have appeared in *Theological Studies*, *Modern Theology*, *The Heythrop Journal*, *New Theology Review*, *Horizons*, *Philosophy and Theology*, and *The Month*. In 2011-12 he served as President of the Catholic Theological Society of America.



This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Alpha Sigma Nu Book Awards, established in 1979 to recognize outstanding publishing achievement in the humanities and sciences by faculty and administrators at the 31 member Jesuit colleges and universities. The original name of the awards was the AΣN National Jesuit Book Awards, and they were jointly administered by Alpha Sigma Nu and the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) until 2012. The Awards have now expanded from two annual winners to four, each receiving \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque.

Then & Now



Book Award winners in 1979 and 2007



AΣN Writes

Check the AΣN website for a listing of our published members. The newsletter column has been moved to a new online home.

CHARTING the FUTURE

As we approach our 100th anniversary, Father General Adolfo Nicolas, SJ, has much to say about the challenges and opportunities facing Jesuit education, the Society of Jesus, and thus AΣN. The very same technology that enables AΣN to communicate more efficiently and globally has wrought, in Father Nicolas' words, "the globalization of superficiality," where depth of thought and heart are compromised by the ease of superficial communication. How can we turn that technology into a tool? What do the opportunities that technology, and more specifically AΣN's cross-university database, command AΣN and our members to do? How can we use our network to be "out in the world for the next century?"

AΣN members must take up the mantle of the Jesuit and AΣN missions as the number of Jesuits declines. Father Nicolas directs us:

"...there has been much creative and effective work aimed at strengthening the Catholic and Ignatian identity of our institutions...at sharing our spiritual heritage, mission, and leadership with our collaborators. I am also very aware of and delighted to see how our colleagues have become true collaborators – real partners – in the higher education mission and ministry of the Society."



The General Congregation 35 calls members as well, "The Society of Jesus desires strong relationships in mission with as many collaborators in the Lord's vineyard as possible." How can AΣN members, recognized for their loyalty to the values of their Jesuit education, be collaborators in the vineyard – for the next century?

In celebration of the Centennial, in gratitude for 100 years of scholarship, loyalty, and service, and in anticipation of partnering in mission in the vineyard, let all members renew the AΣN pledge "to do all of this in light of the Jesuit concern for the greater honor and glory of God."

Molly Loughran
(Saint Louis '14)

I cannot wait to see how the Society grows in the next 100 years. Collaborations between Chapters and increased dedication from alumni will mark AΣN's bi-centennial.

Stephen Ferguson
(Boston College '14)

As Jesuit education moves through the 21st century, AΣN will bring together members from the Jesuit tradition and integrate us into the challenges of a secular society.

Phillip Nahlik
(Loyola Chicago '13)

I am extremely hopeful for AΣN's next 100 years as we connect outstanding Jesuit alumni internationally to serve the world by striving together for justice.

Margaret Mary DeMark
(Fairfield '14)

AΣN will hold events streamed live to every Chapter, enabling all members to participate through virtual attendance.

Emily Robinson
(Wheeling Jesuit '14)

I see AΣN's next 100 years being filled with service for the community with joint service projects done all around the country and beyond.



Alpha Sigma Nu

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF JESUIT COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITIES

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THE ALPHA SIGMA NU NEWSLETTER IS
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SAVE
the
DATE



Centennial Triennial

October 15-18, 2015
Marquette University

- ✓ Visit the new Centennial website often for updates: www.alphasigmanu.org/centennial
- ✓ Follow AΣN on Twitter: @Alpha_Sigma_Nu
- ✓ Attend a local AΣN induction or participate in a local Centennial program