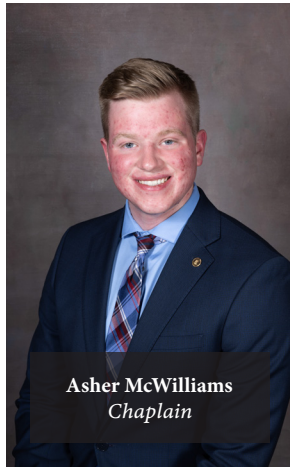




Ander Streuli
President



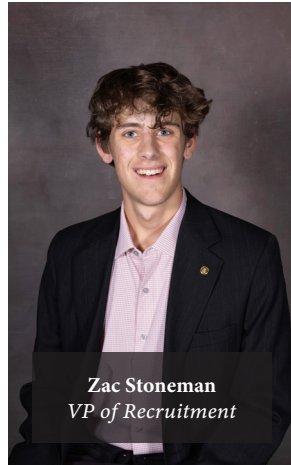
Asher McWilliams
Chaplain



Aiden Christy
VP of Programming



Dayton Wickerd
VP of Member Development



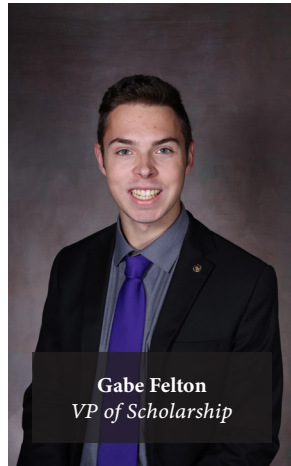
Zac Stoneman
VP of Recruitment



Walker Black
VP of Finance



TJ Dubler
VP of Communications



Gabe Felton
VP of Scholarship

Montana State University
SigEp
Virtue • Diligence • Brotherly Love

Spring 2024 Newsletter



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Communications	sigep.msu.communication@gmail.com
Local Website	https://montanastate.sigep.org/
National Website	https://sigep.org/

Support Our Chapter

As always, we are going into next semester with high hopes and ambitions for our chapter. You can help us attain these goals by donating to our chapter. Your donation would help us do more of the things we love, like chapter retreat, formal banquet, and all other events in the name of strong brotherhood.

by Walker Black, Finance

There are a few ways you can donate to the chapter. One way is to donate to our PayPal account, @sigepmtb. Alternatively, you can send a physical check made out to Sigma Phi Epsilon to 1717 Greek Way apartment A, Bozeman MT 59715. Thank you so much for your continued support; we are incredibly grateful.

State of the Chapter

by Ander Streuli, President

This past year was a big one for pilot programs. As some of you may have seen on our Instagram page, we piloted the new “Raise Your Bar” media campaign from SigEp HQ. Our current Vice President of Communications, TJ Dubler, led the effort with this, creating graphics, putting together standardized formats for posts, and coordinating with HQ to share our progress.

The next pilot we participated in was the new ritual pilot. Our previous chaplain, Jack Larson, served on the Ritual Task Force that was put together by HQ and helped write much of the new ritual which is called the Right of Brotherhood. Even after his term ended, Jack has been a steadfast resource and supporter of this new program.

The third pilot we have been participating in is the Balanced Man Program pilot. This is a pilot we will be putting a lot of effort into this next semester, as we really want to help HQ find improved ways to nationally run our development program.

This semester, we got a lot of awards and recognitions from HQ. At Carlson Leadership Academy in San Francisco, we were given the Benjamin Hobson-Fraser Award for excellence in communication. During the same award ceremony, it was announced that two of our members, Aiden Christy and TJ Dubler, were Tragos Quest to Greece finalists. The Tragos Quest to Greece is a 10-day study abroad that HQ puts on for the most excellent brothers where they will immerse themselves in art, architecture, philosophy, and other Greek roots. TJ was announced as one of 17 Tragos scholars - he leaves for Greece on June 21st!

Our current Vice President of Recruitment, Zac Stoneman, was selected to attend Ruck this summer. Ruck Leadership Institute is another leadership

conference that SigEp HQ puts on for high performing SigEps around the country. One of our other brothers, Owen Cool, went to Ruck last summer and said it was an awesome experience and we are so excited for Zac! He will go to Richmond, VA on June 12th.

Aiden Christy, our current Vice President of Programming, applied and was selected to be on our National Undergraduate Council. He has several chapters that he is in charge of across the nation, where he checks in and sees what kinds of things that chapters want to see from SigEp HQ. This is an exciting position and we can't wait to see how Aiden helps out different chapters.

Our chapter hasn't been perfect though, as I assume it is for all chapters. We have hit some roadblocks with member development and attendance primarily. We have had some issues with getting people excited to show up to our events and have been searching for ways to remedy this. We believe our members have grown comfortable with low expectations of each other, so we intend to create an attendance policy this next semester and enforce it when members lapse.

We also plan to enforce our grade policies and expectations more strictly this semester as well. Our chapter GPA wasn't as good as we wanted it to be a semester ago, and we want to provide even more opportunities to help brothers improve their academics. As with our attendance policy, we will prioritize upholding our standards on grades by being more strict with putting people on poor standing.

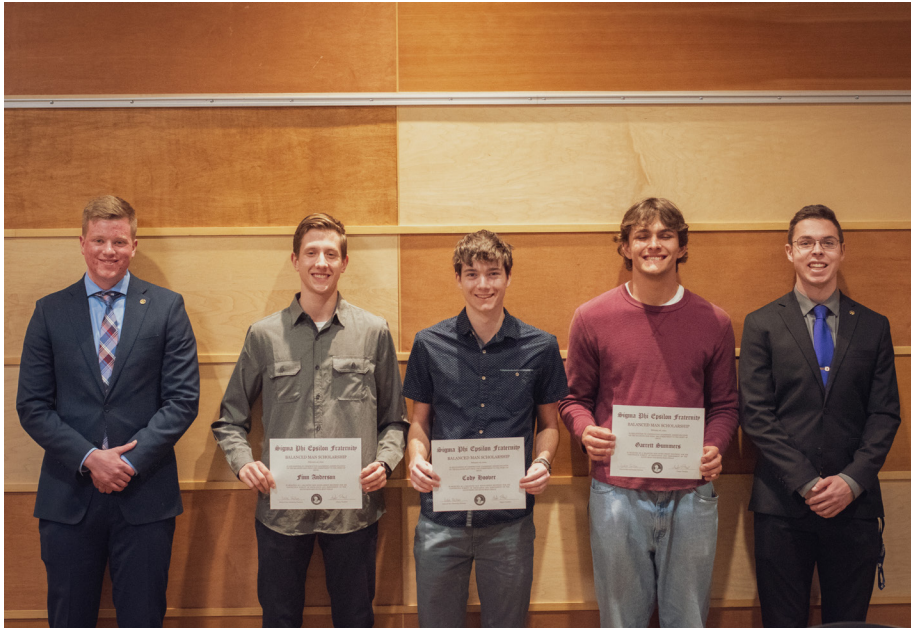
We are very proud to be SigEps, proud of our members and their accomplishments, and proud to continue pushing ourselves to be our best.

The Balanced Man Scholarship

by Gabe Felton, Scholarship

This Balanced Man Scholarship cycle was a learning experience to say the least. Mason, the previous VP of Scholarship had revolutionized the scholarship outreach process, bringing in well over 200 applicants in the fall. We carried forward this process to the spring and had 131 applicants! This would've been a tremendous effort, except for the fact that most of them were current high school seniors who were not eligible. With that being said, we still had a solid spring cycle, and awarded four scholarships.

Our winners for this spring cycle were Finn Anderson (left), Cody Hoover (middle), Garrett Summers (right), and Cooper Driskell (not pictured). These were the individuals chosen as exemplifying the Balanced Man!



Welcome, New Members!

by Zac Stoneman, Recruitment

This semester's recruitment cycle was successful, bringing seven new guys into the chapter. Our last event of our formal recruitment was a campfire up at hyalite. I remember hearing the crackle of the fire and chatter of the brothers and couldn't help but feel so proud of our chapter. So many brothers helped put on events, meet with potential new brothers, and make everyone feel welcome at events. I looked around and saw that all the new brothers had a small circle of older brothers gathered around them and it made me so excited to get to see how this chapter will recruit this fall!



Carlson Leadership Academy

by James Pitassy, Rising Leader

Attending the Carlson Leadership Academy in San Francisco was an amazing experience that I'll always remember. While we were there to learn how to lead our chapters, exploring the city with my closest friends also created unforgettable memories. Meeting brothers from other universities was fantastic, and I'll always treasure those connections. It is great knowing that I have brothers across the nation, not just at Montana State. As a rising leader, it was incredibly valuable to gain new skills and insights to help shape the future of our chapter, and myself. The award ceremony was also special to see how successful our chapter is (see Ander's State of the Chapter on pages 1-2). This experience was truly special, and I'll always look back on it with appreciation and fondness.



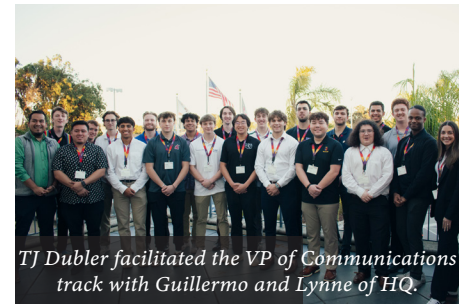
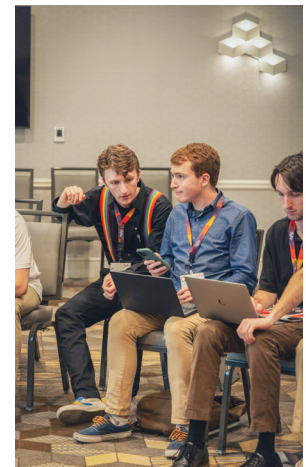
The executive team, James Pitassy, Micah James (rising leaders) and Brian Kassar (Chapter Counselor) celebrating a successful time at Carlson Leadership Academy.



Asher McWilliams leads the conference in prayer.



TJ Dubler is announced as a Tragos Quest to Greece Scholar.



TJ Dubler facilitated the VP of Communications track with Guillermo and Lynne of HQ.

Chapter Retreat

by Anthony Battaglia

This year in SigEp, we added a few new ingredients to our standard retreat formula. As a pilot chapter, HQ tested eliminating the BMP app, putting the member development outline in our hands. The Epsilons gave back to the fraternity by helping prepare food for retreat and run some of the activities as a way for them to give back to the chapter. This involved pre-cooking over 100 Golumpkis prior to retreat (Polish/Eastern European cabbage and meat wraps), which was a new meal option Anthony offered to prepare for the chapter. Unfortunately, in fear of overseasoning the Golumpkis, Anthony severely under-seasoned them, making Saturday's dinner a little more bland (he will not be doing this again).

We'd like to give a shout out to Carter Lefler, Gabe Felton, Charlie Farr, and Brett Loften for helping meal prep regardless, and a big thanks to all the brothers that lended casserole dishes to cook the 100+ Golumpkis. The rest of the retreat went well, with a successful Burning Heart ritual for both the seniors and the newest brothers. "Fraternity Family House Love Webs" were reintroduced, which also seemed to have gone well. Overall, another successful year at retreat with some valuable lessons learned.



End of Semester Banquet

by Asher McWilliams, Chaplain

For our end of semester banquet this year, we gave awards for brothers who exemplify Virtue, Diligence, Brotherly Love, a Sound Mind, and a Sound Body.

The Virtue Award was given to Bryan Fulfs. Bryan serves as Guide on the Ritual Team and is a constant presence within the chapter. He is one of the kindest people you could meet and holds strong morals for how he treats the fellow brothers. The Diligence Award went to Gabe Felton. Whether it's holding himself and others accountable on school work, working on his motorcycle, or going to the gym, Gabe seeks improvement every day. The Brotherly Love Award went to Anthony Battaglia. Anthony has always made a point to build relationships with new brothers as soon as possible. Most if not all of us have experienced a thoughtful meal at Anthony's apartment when the chapter was still new to us and not every face was familiar.

The Sound Mind Award went to our Chapter President, Ander Streuli. Ander is always a calming influence in the room no matter the situation. With a steady hand on the wheel, he holds a positive outlook on any problem. The Sound Body Award went to Lucas Black. Lucas can usually be found at the gym here at MSU - and not just because he works there. He's encouraging to the other brothers there and an excellent example of striving for physical greatness.

We also always include some fun awards that are submitted by the chapter. One was "Least Fish Caught" for Ander Streuli. Despite being an avid fisherman, hardly anyone from the chapter has seen him catch anything. A real testament to diligence.



Virtue Award
Bryan Fulfs



Diligence Award
Gabe Felton



Brotherly Love Award
Anthony Battaglia



Aiden Christy, "Best Dressed" award recipient, planned a fun casino themed Banquet.

Incoming Alumni (1 of 2)

by Caden Epperson

“The friends thou has and their adoption tried, grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel.” - excerpt from the Hoop of Steel ceremony

As we said goodbye to our graduating seniors, we wanted to know a few things. What are you excited for in the next steps of your life? What is one of your favorite SigEp memories over the past few years? What piece of advice would you give someone new to college? This is how they responded. We will miss you!



Orrin Clark, Industrial & Management Systems

I'm excited for how I want to run/hike the Continental Divide, Pacific Crest, and Appalachian Trails among a lot of other adventures. My favorite SigEp memory is when I went through one of our rituals with my friends, namely Chris Timm who helped recruit me, as one of the people who ran the ritual. It made me feel like I was part of something bigger than myself and we are here to support each other. A piece of advice is talk to faculty and get involved; you don't have time to not get involved.



Payton Weaver, Psychology

I am excited to experience life post-undergraduate education as I venture into the world of psychology and business as a wantrepreneur. Specifically, the relationships I will cultivate through this season is what I am especially looking forward to. I will never be able to pick just one memory to savor, but instead I have a lifetime supply of indelible memories that I will forever cherish as a SigEp alumni. If I could give one piece of advice to a college student it would be this “if you want a new idea, read an old book”.



Jack Larson, Mechanical Engineering

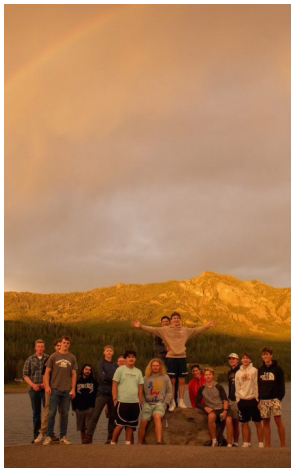
I'm excited to learn a new set of skills in a professional environment while also making money to spend on Facebook marketplace :) One of my favorite memories was traveling to Greece on the Tragos Quest to Greece last summer with 17 other undergrads. It's truly not what you know, it's who you know - go to office hours, make friends in class, apply for internships. All of these will help your network when you're looking for new opportunities!

Incoming Alumni (2 of 2)



Mason Slider, Film

I'm really excited to keep making movies or creative content in any shape or way possible. All of my fondest memories of SigEp have meshed together into a conglomerate of late nights in our apartments either watching movies, playing games, struggling on homework, or just mutually enjoying each other's company. My advice for incoming freshmen is don't let your expectations of college hold you down. We all had our own idea of what college is supposed to be. If you truly embrace change, you'll have the best college experience.



Andrew Spencer, Film

I'm excited to pursue any and all creative endeavors and career opportunities that come my way. My favorite SigEp memory is the Hyalite barbecue where I got to meet potential new brothers, our new RDVS, hangout with old brothers, enjoy a fire and some good food. My advice for college students is stay involved and get involved. College is the best opportunity to form lifelong connections and that's accomplished when you're a part of things.



Rory Donley-Lovato, Computer Science

I'm looking to get a job in game development, or at least getting the time and money to continue making my game. My favorite SigEp memory is when we were casino dealers out at the Big Sky Resort. We finished the night by playing games like sardines around the resort. My advice is don't be afraid of people changing. Everyone will show their true colors eventually and if they don't align with anymore, it's ok to not be as close to them anymore. You'll change in college too and figure out what you want and need in life as well.

Remembering Our Alumni (1 of 2)

by TJ Dubler, Communications

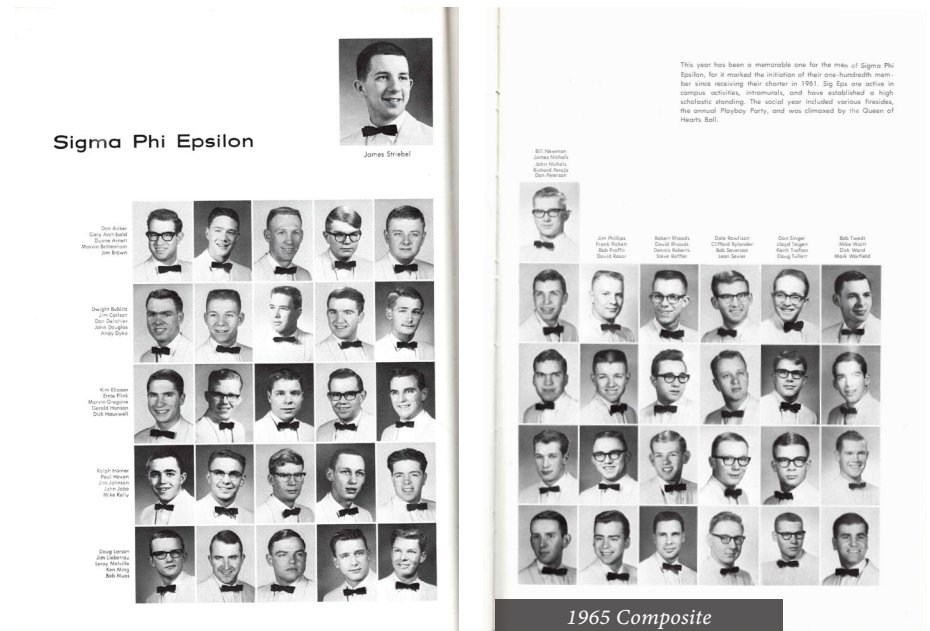
After sending out the Fall 2023 Newsletter, Dale Rowison (alumnus of SigEp, 1967) replied with some photos that have been lost in time to us. As it turns out, Dale was the Secretary back then (today's equivalent is VP of Communications), and Dale and TJ got to swap newsletters - one from 1965 and the other from 2023.

Dale shared some very funny and insightful stories and comparisons to his chapter experience back then as opposed to ours today. The Balanced Man Scholarship used to be \$25. Now, it is \$500. Apparently, in the 60s, \$25 was more than enough to buy all the textbooks you would need! Our fraternity's house used to be in Quad C; Dale recalls water balloon combat (hand-to-hand, or even with artillery) between other sororities and fraternities. The MSU administration frowned upon this. SigEp also used to have the role of "Housemother" (which was held by Mom Gay), which was actually a ceremonial role that had no mundane house duties. It was a role of guidance and having fun.

Some things remain very similar. I admire how Dale remembers his Big Brother - a big/little relationship is something we still hold dear to our heart today. There was also a Queen of Hearts competition and the winner was Candy Petaja of AOII in 1965. Coincidentally, in 2023, our Queen of Hearts was also from AOII, Trinity Keefer. In the 60s, SigEp was known for leading other fraternities in GPA and prioritizing academics, which holds true today. Dale told me that "I pledged SigEp because they had the best GPA and worst football team".



SigEp, 1967 at Quad C.



This year has been a memorable one for the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon, for it marked the initiation of their new handbook, members since receiving their charter in 1951. Sig Eps are active in campus activities, intramurals, and have established a high scholastic standing. The social year included various parties, the annual Playboy Party, and was climaxed by the Queen of Hearts Ball.

1965 Composite

Remembering Our Alumni (2 of 2)

by TJ Dubler, Communications

Take a look at the newsletter from 1965 that Dale Rowilson lovingly put together with a typewriter. Some fun notes:

- The newsletter manager, Melanie Lemons, had no role in making the newsletter - she was acquainted with the editor (Dale!), and they have now been married 56 years and counting.
- The ads are fake; Hovan's Auto Supply was targeted to Paul Hovan, who "had a car so bad, nobody would steal it".
- A pinning ceremony was a serious first step for couples seeking marriage.

Thank you so much, Dale, for sharing these stories and photos - your memories are cherished. It's very special to see how impactful our fraternity experience is on our brothers, even 60 years later. Personally, I hope to receive a newsletter in 60 years - take notes, future VP Comms!

To alumni - please reach out, we would love to hear your stories and see your favorite photos!

