

ALPHA ARTERY

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF OKLAHOMA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



Oklahoma Alpha receiving awards at the 2016 Carlson Leadership Academy.



OKLAHOMA ALPHA HIRES ARCHITECTURE FIRM DONATE TODAY TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON OUR FUTURE

At the beginning of 2016, the *Pride in Our Past, Ensuring Our Future: The Campaign for Oklahoma Alpha* entered an exciting new phase of leadership and management. Our motivation to end our campaign as strongly as we started stems from the idea that we all got something out of our membership and it's time to pay that forward for future generations of brothers. To date we have raised \$1,300,371 toward our \$2 million goal. We want to thank everyone who has already contributed financially, but we need support from all of our brothers to complete the project as planned.

On April 23, the AVC decided to move forward with developing a shovel-ready plan based on the current concept of our chapter house. Our concept architect is located in Virginia so they will coordinate our transition to a local architect (contract pending) to finish putting together our project. Once those have been prepared, the AVC will present those proposed plans to the city of Stillwater for approval to begin construction. The chapter also received a grant from the SigEp National Office to help fund some of the initial cost as they are interested in supporting our efforts. Please review our proposed timeline on page 6 of the newsletter to learn more about the specific project details contingent with the city's approval of our project.

We have made progress with our fundraising, but we need to increase participation to ensure the chapter is on a solid financial foundation. So far, 127 alumni, or only 10%, have

made a commitment to the campaign. With the average participation rate among Greek campaigns being 20-25%, we know we can do better. Now is the time to give!

Alumni, the next steps are yours. It is up to us to make this dream a reality. **We must meet our \$2 million goal to guarantee we can complete the project as planned.** If you have been considering a gift to the campaign, please consider these reasons to send in your gift today:

- ♦ We know you want to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.
- ♦ Many brothers have taken advantage of our convenient five-year pledge program to maximize their giving potential.
- ♦ Any donor who contributes \$2,500 or more will have his name listed on a plaque in a prominent area of the new chapter house.
- ♦ If you know of a brother who has not stepped forward with a gift, encourage him to make a pledge immediately.

The need is huge, and the time is now. Please don't wait; use the enclosed pledge form to make your pledge to Oklahoma Alpha today.

Fraternally,
Mike Reddout '85
Campaign Chairman
mreddout@brocade.com
(580) 380-6565

SPRING 2016

OKLAHOMA ALPHA ALUMNI VOLUNTEER CORPORATION

President

Todd Donovan '86

todd.donavan@colostate.edu
(970) 430-9700

Vice President

Si Fentress '72

silas.fentress@gmail.com

Treasurer

Kay Robinson

kayrob1977@gmail.com
(614) 323-7319

Secretary

Karig Culver '80

culver@gungolljackson.com

Property Manager

Randy Barton '80

randy.barton@pacere.com

Campaign Chairman

Mike Reddout '85

mreddout@brocade.com

Alumni Relations Advisor

Trevor Davenport '14

trevordav92@gmail.com

Chapter Counselor

Trey Lewis '08

franklewis3@gmail.com

Balanced Man Steward

Jon Cantanzarita '11

jonbeatz@gmail.com

Members-at-Large

Vicky Brown

Darrell Pulliam '84

Mike Daniel '85



YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE A POWERFUL DIFFERENCE

JOIN OUR LIST OF LOYAL DONORS TODAY

We are truly thankful to the 127 dedicated alumni and friends who have committed \$1,300,371 to the *Pride in Our Past, Ensuring Our Future: The Campaign for Oklahoma Alpha*. These brothers recognize the importance of our campaign in securing the future of Oklahoma Alpha. There is still time for you to join your brothers and make your contribution today. Commitments are needed from all of our alumni in order to achieve our goal and complete this major project. If an error has been made in recording your gift, we sincerely apologize. Please notify our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661.

THE 1920 FOUNDERS SOCIETY (\$100,000 AND ABOVE)

Mike Dillard '74
Thomas A. Morley Jr. '87
Oklahoma Alpha Undergraduate Chapter
Oklahoma Alpha AVC

THE GOLDEN HEART SOCIETY (\$50,000 TO \$99,999)

Mary Ellen and Gary Bridwell '74
Si E. Fentress II '72
Jeff C. Linihan '85
Kim Rolston
In honor and memory of Joe S. Rolston IV '86

THE STAR AND SWORD SOCIETY (\$25,000 TO \$49,999)

Michael D. Bolick '70
Michael G. Daniel '85
Charles J. Devlin '70
In memory of Ray Murphy '68
David R. Dickey '57
Jack W. Dickey Sr. '60
Steven M. Dickey '69
Edward J. Holland '59
Jim McKellar '67
J. Michael Reddout '85
Neal T. Seidle '62
Terry L. Stewart '71
Thomas W. Tatum '61
Clint M. Ward '83
Tom Winslow '58
H. Smith Wycoff '61

THE BROTHERLY LOVE SOCIETY (\$15,000 TO \$24,999)

Patrick J. Brierley '88
Mark L. Dickerson '75
Brent L. Foster '97

THE COWBOY SOCIETY (\$10,000 TO \$14,999)

James N. Blazer Jr. '67
Donald E. Bugh '53

Ronald E. Carlson '54
Brian "Shane" Crawford '99
Todd Donavan '86
In memory of Brad Jackson '88
Fred W. Ettner '81
Bill G. Fruedenrich '83
Roger "R.J." Lipert '98
Darrell K. Pulliam '84
Bruce Shirck '72
M. Dick Teis Jr. '68

THE OKLAHOMA ALPHA SOCIETY (\$5,000 TO \$9,999)

Jon H. Bayouth '70
Tim H. Cleverdon '73
Karig P. Culver '80
Herbert G. Davis '53
Stephen R. Diehl '84
Jerry A. Dow '86
Terry and Don Dupree '70
Jon M. Eckel '80
John P. Fiebig '87
Norman W. Foster '61
Jack T. Gregory '82
Lyn and James A. Livingston '70
Timothy K. Reddout '87
Brent M. Suchy '98
David L. Warden '71
Jason B. Weintraub '98
John H. Wynne '71

THE BALANCED MAN SOCIETY (\$2,500 TO \$4,999)

Billy Barnett '88
Keith L. Casner '53
Mark H. Connell '90
Alexander Croci '81
John R. Deming '63
Trey Deupree '85
Jerry A. Dow '86
Mike L. Dreyer '81
Mark S. Erickson '81
Steven D. Giles '87
Robert E. Harrison '52
In memory of Benjamin F. Harrison Sr. 1914,
J. Robert Harrison '42,
Charles F. Harrison '49, and
Benjamin F. Harrison Jr. '50

Brad D. Leverett '82
Trey Lewis '08
W. Randall Lindsey '55
In honor of the Class of 1955
Lance M. Miller '95
Charlie O. Riddle '74
Robert A. Wright '58

THE RED DOOR SOCIETY (\$1,000 TO \$2,499)

Jim L. Anderson '54
Tim Armstrong '64
William L. Brooks
Charles C. Caldwell '90
In memory of Greg Miano '90
Guy P. Clark '62
William H. Cormany Jr. '82
James R. Davis Jr. '73
Brian M. Diffin '81
Wade W. Edmundson '73
Robert A. Eskridge '79
In honor of the Pledge Class of 1975
Brad A. Jobe '88
In memory of Grego Miano '90
Wight W. Jones '53
Todd D. Krieger
J. William Love Jr. '49
In memory of Dr. Jack Fuquay '48
Jerry D. Mallonee '63
Mike C. Mitchell '01
R. Brian Mitchell
Joe S. Rolston III '55
Paul Seeley '51
Jack I. Seidle '59
Larry A. Simpson '66
W. Gene Speece '50
Thomas L. Stafford '59
In memory of Roy L. Stafford
Ryan B. Tate '98
Jerry R. Tyson '58
Forrest "Bud" Ward '63
Brent Williamson '98

CAMPAIGN STATUS AT-A-GLANCE

As of May 23, 2016

Goal
\$2 Million

Total Committed
\$1,300,371

Number of Contributors
127

CAMPAIGN DONOR (UP TO \$999)

Joe T. Bailey '64
Randy L. Barton '80
Sean A. Boggs '15
Jerry E. Burson '55
Michael S. Chesley '91
Buck L. Davis '81
William E. Dieker, M.D. '64
Hunter Easterling
James R. Elder '64
Larry D. Ferree '59
Timothy T. Forman '08
Bob L. Greenhaw '58
Abe Gjura
George G. Hunt '54
Ben Hutto
Donald Ledbetter '57
Glenn A. Leonhart '53
Jimmy J. McGraw '58
Jake Minnis '13
Alan J. Morton '83
Vernon E. Mudd '57
Philip H. Myles '65
Christopher C. Olson '88
Gary H. Price '68
Joe S. Rolston III '55
Brad S. Siahmakoun '09
Philip E. Viseur '54
Dr. Joe F. Welch '56
Larry Whatley
Joseph R. Williams '51
William D. Williams '56



Alumni Volunteer Corporation Welcomes New Leadership

A Fond Farewell to Gary Bridwell '74

It was with mixed emotions the Alumni Volunteer Corporation accepted the resignation of **Gary Bridwell '74** from his positions as AVC President and capital campaign chairman. Many of you know Gary, and know what a phenomenal brother, businessman, leader, and Cowboy he is. Gary led the AVC beginning in 2010 and under his leadership, the AVC gained new volunteers, began a relationship with Pennington for our alumni relations, started the capital campaign, and received several alumni awards for excellence in finance. In the last few years, the AVC and Oklahoma Alpha have achieved a more than 95% collection rate. Gary resigned to work more on his business, Ditch Witch, and we all wish him the best of success.

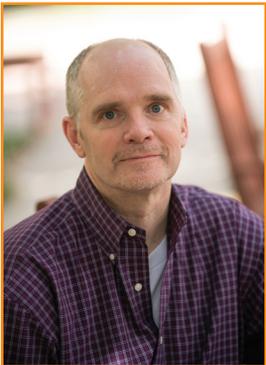
served on the AVC from 1994-1999 while in graduate school. In addition, he has served as the chapter counselor for Kansas Beta Chapter (Kansas State) from 1999-2005, and is the current chapter counselor for Colorado Gamma (Colorado State), a role he has been in since 2005.

We are also happy to welcome **Mike Reddout '85** to the board in the position of capital campaign chairman. Mike also has a personal connection with the chapter, having two sons, **David '17** and **Garrett '19**, who are current undergraduate members. He is excited to keep the campaign moving forward to secure a new facility for the future of Oklahoma Alpha.

Filling the position of AVC President is **Todd Donovan '86**. Todd's son, **Matthew '19**, is a new member of Oklahoma Alpha and while Todd has a very personal connection to our chapter, he is no stranger to volunteering with SigEp. Before becoming AVC President, Todd

The AVC thanks Gary, Todd, and Mike for their faithful service to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK WHY TODD DONAVAN '86 SUPPORTS OK ALPHA



When you think about the many life milestones you've had—graduation, your wedding, children being born, new jobs—who is it that you remember sharing them with? For many of us, the answer is our Oklahoma Alpha brothers. That is certainly the case for **Todd Donovan '86** and that is why he chose to serve as Oklahoma Alpha Alumni Board President.

Though Todd has enjoyed working with other chapters across the country, he is eager to be involved with Oklahoma Alpha again. "Oklahoma Alpha offers a great opportunity for me to give back to my home chapter. I've been to seven conclaves where I was able to see how other chapters operate. Ours is one of the best SigEp chapters in the nation and my drive is to ensure that we continue to give the best experience possible."

Despite living in Colorado, serving on the AVC board has provided Todd the opportunity to reconnect with many of his brothers. "While I had not spoken with several of my brothers for some years, it was like we never missed a beat. Our friendships are deep and enduring." He enjoys seeing these friendships mirrored in the experiences of his son, **Matthew '19**, who is an undergraduate member of Oklahoma Alpha.

Part of providing that great experience is having a modern, competitive facility for our undergraduate brothers. "After seeing the Kansas State SigEps renovate their chapter house, I was determined to help my home chapter move in the same direction," shares Todd. "Oklahoma State has one of the most competitive Greek systems in the nation. To sustain the success that we have had, we need to have a modern, safe, competitive facility." That is why Todd encourages his brothers to support the *Pride in Our Past, Ensuring Our Future* campaign today. "Our members deserve to live in a facility that reflects their success."

Todd is not a stranger to serving on an Alumni Volunteer Corporation. He has volunteered continuously with SigEp since 1994. "Through the years, I have gained far more from working with the young men than I can ever repay. It is wonderful to see these guys grow into young men with all the skills to be leaders in our communities."



Todd Donovan '86 with his son, Matthew '19, at Matthew's initiation.

Today, Todd and his wife, Tammy, and their daughter, Emma, live in Fort Collins, Colo., where he is a professor of marketing at Colorado State University. "I love the fact that my job gives me the opportunity to work with young, energetic students every day." You can connect with Todd at todd.donavan@colostate.edu



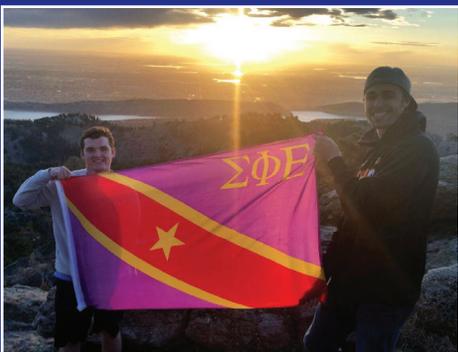
Our freshmen were paired and won with the women of Kappa Delta in Freshman Follies.



Our members placed first in the Kappa Delta Shamrock softball tournament.



We were paired with the women of Kappa Kappa Gamma for Spring Sing and won best costumes.



Members show their SigEp pride during a hike in Colorado.



The men of SigEp raised more than \$4,700 for Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Oklahoma.

SIGEP MEN EARN FOURTH-HIGHEST GPA IN IFC OK Alpha Receives Chapter Excelsior Award in Finance

As the spring semester at Oklahoma State University comes to a close, the men of Oklahoma Alpha have been working hard to build on the rich history of Sigma Phi Epsilon. From academic success to extracurricular involvement, our brothers are setting an example of leadership for our peers, prospective students, and the surrounding community. We are pleased with our continued growth and success, and look forward to building on it next fall.

OK Alpha Excels at Carlson Leadership Academy

This year at the Carlson Leadership Academy, Oklahoma Alpha proudly took home five awards praising individual and chapter success. As a chapter, we received the Chapter Excelsior Award in Finance. **Aaron Cromer '16** was presented with the J. Edward Zollinger Senior Award, **Trey Lewis '08** won the Volunteer of the Year award, **Jon Cantanzarita '11** was honored with the Volunteer Excellence Award, and **Levi Close '18** was selected to be a Tragos Quest to Greece Scholar. Overall, we are extremely proud of the work of our undergraduates and alumni volunteers.

Established Leaders on Campus

Our freshman class has proven themselves to be among the best and brightest on campus. They hold the most leadership positions of any freshman class at OSU. Our chapter, as a whole, is also aiming to have the most members who are campus organization leaders, proving once again that SigEp is recruiting and building the best leaders in our community. The Interfraternity Council awarded **Vishnu Patel '19** and **Ridge Howell '17** with the Outstanding New Member and Junior Awards, respectively. **Aaron Cromer '16** was awarded Outstanding Senior, one of 15 seniors honored. Ridge was also elected as SGA vice president for 2016.

Greek Community Raises More Than \$15,000

Philanthropically, our chapter has redoubled our efforts toward the community. Following the tragedy at the 2015 Homecoming parade, our chapter donated \$5,000 from our activities budget, challenging the campus community to do the same. All in all, the Greek community raised nearly \$15,000 toward the families affected by this tragedy. We co-hosted Cokes for Kasey with Gamma Phi Beta, as well as donated \$4,750 to Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Oklahoma from our Safari concert.

OK Alpha Wins Best Costumes in Spring Sing

On campus, our members continue to demonstrate their achievements. Recruitment is well under way for our fall pledge class as we had an effective Greek Discovery Day and aim to capitalize with another great new member class. This semester, our freshman class took first place in Freshman Follies with the women of Kappa Delta. In Varsity Revue, our chapter was paired with the women of Pi Beta Phi. For Spring Sing, we were teamed up with the women of Kappa Kappa Gamma and won best costumes.

Alumni, Join Us for Homecoming 2016

We look forward to a successful Homecoming with the women of Gamma Phi Beta this fall and encourage any alumni or family of members to join us, as well as at any other home games this fall. Although we have many things to be proud of at Oklahoma Alpha, we are never complacent. Like the men who came before us, we strive for continued success in all areas and are obliged to set a high standard for those who follow in our footsteps.

Fraternally,
Levi Close '18, Chapter President
(405) 558-1755 / levi.close@okstate.edu



Aaron Cromer '16 Presented with the J. Edward Zollinger Outstanding Senior Award

Oklahoma Alpha members have a longstanding tradition of distinguishing themselves as leaders on campus, in their communities, and within our national fraternity. Each year at the Carlson Leadership Academy, one senior from each district is presented with the J. Edward Zollinger Outstanding Senior Award for his scholastic achievement, leadership, and service. Given his record of excellence, both in Oklahoma Alpha and on Oklahoma State's campus, it comes as no surprise that this year's award was presented to **Aaron Cromer '16**.

"I was extremely humbled and honored by this award, and that others have seen what I have done and tried to do to help this chapter," shares Aaron. "I am also very proud that I can use this opportunity to perpetuate leadership by awarding **Alex Pfeifer '18** the Zollinger Sophomore Scholarship for displayed leadership potential and zeal."

A member from Elk City, Okla., majoring in finance, sustainability, and management with an accounting minor, Aaron has repeatedly demonstrated his leadership and service. He has been a finalist for the Student National Board of Directors for SigEp, recipient of the SigEp National Competition Scholarship, and the NUTS! Conclave Scholarship, and attended the Tragos Quest to Greece. He has also been recognized as an OSU Senior of Significance, OSU Outstanding Senior, IFC Junior of the Year, and a Business Scholar Leader.

Aaron has enjoyed his experiences with Oklahoma Alpha and the success of the chapter over the years. "I hope our legacy will be to continue to seek excellence. When I first joined, there were many people who were settling for 'fine.' Since then, I have seen changes in individual lives and our chapter's attitude toward being better. I want us to continue seeking to be the best chapter we can be."



Some of Aaron's favorite undergraduate memories stem from his time in Oklahoma Alpha. Two of these memories include the great Christmas tree escapade of 2012 and holding the ritual on a mountaintop in Delphi while watching thunderclouds roll in from the distance during the Tragos Quest to Greece. He hopes future members of Oklahoma Alpha will continue to have similar experiences.

"I absolutely loved my SigEp experience. If you want to see a great bunch of guys helping each other become better people, you should visit the chapter house. We'd love to have you," Aaron shares. After graduation, he plans to work for several years before attending law school, where he hopes to be a SigEp resident scholar. He also hopes to remain involved with SigEp wherever he goes. "I plan to work in the Norman/OKC area for a few years, helping Oklahoma Beta develop their membership, and if Kay Robinson has anything to do with it, I will be on the Oklahoma Alpha AVC in a few years." You can connect with Aaron at aaron.cromer@yahoo.com.

Article written by Brooks Robison '19 and Trey Lewis '08.

CONGRATULATIONS, SPRING 2016 GRADUATING SENIORS

- Ryan Anthony '16
- Andrew Campbell '16
- Rob Confer '16
- Aaron Cromer '16
- Trevor Eckert '16
- Dominic Eramo '16
- Brett Lanham '16
- Cam McMahan '16
- James Wood '16

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND ESTABLISHED FOR OKLAHOMA ALPHA

Thank You for Your Generous Support

We have great news to share with you. In 2012, Oklahoma Alpha signed an agreement with the OSU foundation to create an endowed scholarship. If we could secure \$50,000 by February 29, 2016, then the endowment was eligible for matching funds at 150% from the T. Boone Pickens estate. Thanks to you, we have reached our goal! We now have more than \$50,000 in the account and are able to award scholarships from the interest earned. In the future, the Pickens estate will add \$75,000 to the account, which will allow us to award more than \$6,000 each year to the undergraduates. I thank all of you for your kindness and support of Oklahoma Alpha.

Fraternally,
Todd Donavan '86
Oklahoma Alpha AVC President
todd.donavan@colostate.edu
(970) 430-9700

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President

Levi Close '17

levi.close@okstate.edu
(405) 558-1755

Vice President of Recruitment

TJ St. John '18

tstjohn@okstate.edu
(918) 557-7894

Vice President of Programming

Tyler Ferguson '18

Vice President of Communications

Brooks Robison '19

brooks.robison@okstate.edu
(918) 688-837

Vice President of Finance

Kyle Anthony '18

Chaplin

Chase Haddican '17

Vice President of Membership Development

Quinnten Thompson '18

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A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF OKLAHOMA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



Sigma Phi Epsilon Oklahoma Alpha

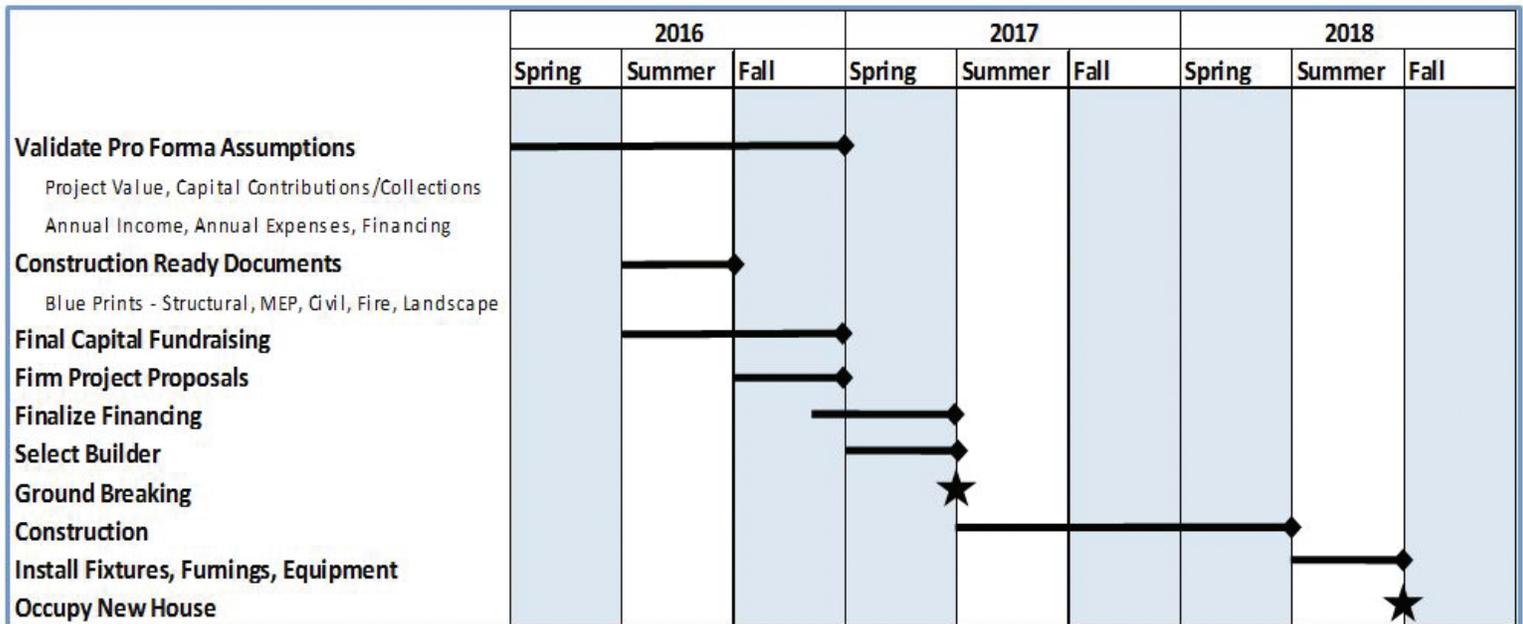
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Attention: This newsletter is intended for Oklahoma Alpha alumni and parents. If your son is still attending Oklahoma State University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he is no longer in school, please send us his permanent address, to update our records.

OKLAHOMA ALPHA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TIMELINE



WEBSITE

www.okstatesigep.com



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@SigEpOKAlpha



INSTAGRAM

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FACEBOOK

Sigma Phi Epsilon — Oklahoma
Alpha Chapter Alumni