

# ALPHA CHI RESOURCE BOOK

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# OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. President
  - Attend and head meetings for the council.
  - Attend and present at AX National Convention.
  - Set goals for the future of AX.
  - Collaborate closely with Dr. Hobbs and fellow members of the council to ensure the society is running smoothly.
  - Sit on Academic Honor Committee to attend and vote on committee hearings.
  - Write and give speech at induction ceremony.
  - Take charge of pinning ceremony.
  - Ring the bell at commencement ceremonies or find another council member to take your place.
  - Solicit members to serve as graduation marshals.
2. Vice president
  - Attend meetings for the council.
  - Attend and present at AX National Convention.
  - Coordinate volunteers to work the scanning booths for Dimensions on Tuesday mornings.
3. Special event co-chairs
  - Attend meetings for the council.
  - Attend and present at AX National Convention.
  - Share, plan, and coordinate events for AX such as extracurricular events for Taco Soup Night (ex: last year's scavenger hunt), the Pinning Ceremony, Backpack program with Registrar's office, NNO, and Wills and Prophecies.
4. Secretary
  - Attend and record meetings for the council.
  - Attend and present at AX National Convention.
  - Maintain AX's facebook and instagram pages by updating upcoming events and uploading fun pictures.
  - Work closely with Lou Ann Scates with AX role in commencement ceremonies.
  - Find volunteers to be graduation marshalls for commencement ceremonies.
5. Membership Chair/National Delegate
  - Attend meetings for the council.
  - Attend and present at AX National Convention.
  - Vote on various topics of the National and Regional Council. (Basically sit beside Hobbs at the Convention and vote when she votes!)

# PINNING CEREMONY

- ❖ This is the ceremony where we honor those newly qualified candidates for Alpha Chi. After getting permission from professors, we surprise candidates by giving a short explanation to the class about AX and its importance and then gifting candidates in the class with a handmade pin. We encourage the candidates to wear their pins throughout campus to show off their accomplishment.
  - Usually done early/mid-October once qualifying candidates have been approved by the Registrar's office.
  - Will get a list from Dr. Hobbs. Have all members of the council look over the list to see who they have classes with. **START THERE**, it helps!
  - Once council members have figured out who they have classes with, get schedules from Debbie! See which candidates share classes; you can do more than one pinning in the same class! This also helps! We recommend hitting classes that have multiple inductees first and then hitting classes of individual inductees.
  - Use a spreadsheet like [signupgenius.com](https://signupgenius.com) or google sheets to compile a schedule for pinning classes and let everyone sign up at their discretion. Set a date for signups to be complete.
  - Create and send out a short greeting/explanation for members to say before presenting the pins to candidates.
  - Get together at some point with co-chairs to help make the pins- this is bonding and helping at the same time!
  - Send an email to the professors of the inductees a week in advance asking if it's okay to pin in their class. This helps everyone.
  - Give a deadline for when pinnings should be completed
  - If you miss any pins due to class cancellations or missing students, try to get it done before the set deadline and before national office emails go out, but don't stress if they all don't get done. Send an email explaining the pins and plan a time to meet with students on campus individually to pin them.

## TACO SOUP NIGHT

- ❖ This is an annual gathering at Dr. Hobbs' house to celebrate old, prospective, and desiring members of AX. It is usually on a Sunday evening and Dr. Hobbs takes care almost everything! This is the time to relax and have fun while getting to know the members of AX and enjoying a delicious home-cooked meal!
  - Usually at the end of October, maybe early November.
  - Collaborate with Dr. Hobbs to get a head count of who's coming.
  - Maybe plan another activity before the dinner to garner interest and to develop a stronger sense of community between members.
  - Previously we've done a scavenger hunt around campus and carved pumpkins at Dr. Hobb's house.
- ❖ Preliminary activity
  - If you decide to do an activity, start planning ASAP. We suggest deciding on an idea during the initial AX council meeting.
  - Begin planning soon after.
  - Advertise by creating flyers, sending emails, creating signup sheets to get an idea of how many are coming, what you need, etc.

# INDUCTION CEREMONY

- ❖ This is the ceremony where the candidates who choose to join AX are officially inducted into the honor society. It is a formal event and very special to GWU. Inductees will invite family members and will have a sponsor to accompany them.
  - Usually takes place early November and generally always on a Sunday.
  - Each council member will have a specific role in the ceremony such as giving the history of AX, introductory prayer, conclusion prayer, lighting the candles, and presentation of the candidates.
  - The president will need to prepare and give a short speech between 5-10 minutes.

## *NERDS NIGHT OUT (NNO)*

- ❖ A planned activity that is intellectual yet fun that members will enjoy! The objective of this activity is to create a space for our scholars to embrace, enjoy, and express their Nerdiness in a safe zone.
- ❖ Ideas compiled from those who attended last year's Chapter Strengthening session are:
  - Museums
  - Cafés
  - Movie Theaters
  - Trampoline Parks
  - Escape Rooms
  - Plays
  - Music Performances/Symphonic Orchestra Concerts
  - Science Centers
  - Arcades/Game Night In
  - Bowling
  - Children's Museum
  - Hiking
  - Poetry Slams
  - Tours of Historical Buildings
  - Hack-a-thon (marathon of coding and problem solving)
- ❖ Last year's trip included a visit to the Bechtler Museum in Charlotte, dinner at Fuel Pizza, and pastries & conversation at Amélie's French Bakery & Café.

# LIFE OF THE SCHOLAR MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

## (LOTS)

- ❖ This is the preliminary conference where all of GWU's students are able to present their research, projects, and academic work in a formal setting. Presenters are judged in their respective categories and winners are given prizes. This conference is modeled after the AX National Convention in April.
  - Normally held on a Saturday in March.
  - All AX members who plan to attend the National Conference are **required** to present at LOTS. This provides excellent practice for the National Conference and offers you feedback for how to improve your presentation.
  - AX members are also asked to serve as session chairs.

# AX NATIONAL CONVENTION

- ❖ This is the annual Alpha Chi conference where members of AX are afforded the opportunity to travel and present their research, projects, and academic work with members of AX from all over the States. They will compete for monetary prizes and have opportunities to win scholarships. This is a big deal in the AX world and also tons of fun!
  - Takes place in April.
  - Must let Dr. Hobbs know ahead of time if interested in attending.
  - Although presentations will take up a good portion of the trip, there will be time for sightseeing and fun!!!
- ❖ Members from our Chapter will need to create a presentation for the Chapter-Strengthening session of the conference.
  - Needs to be a team of at least 2 scholars.
  - Objective is to share with other chapters on how we have enhanced AX on our campus through fundraising, increasing membership, community engagement, and member interaction.
- ❖ Members of our Chapter are also encouraged to participate in the Collaborative Research Project. This project asks students from different disciplines to collaborate and use resources from their respective disciplines to solve a global problem or issue.
  - Needs a team of at least 3 scholars.
  - Dr. Hobbs will work closely with this group.
  - **Grand prize is \$5,000, split between team members!!!!**
  - GWU has brought this prize home every time they've competed in this category.

## *WILLS AND PROPHECIES*

- ❖ This is the last gathering that AX officially hosts. This is the time where seniors and juniors can share what they've learned about their fellow members. Seniors will say something special to the juniors and the juniors prophecy something special to the seniors!
  - Usually held before or during finals week.
  - Dr. Hobbs hosts at her house.
  - We encourage that you start advertising during and immediately after the National Convention to ensure a good turnout.
  - Wills and prophecies can be serious, comical, or a mixture of both. Have fun and enjoy the moments before everyone is off to new beginnings!
  - This is also a good time to announce new council members for next year.

## *NEXT YEAR'S COUNCIL*

- ❖ You've come to the end of the road. Congratulations on your accomplishments and on graduating! The very last thing to do is to choose the next group of leaders for AX.
  - Start by asking those who attended the National Convention if they would be interested in serving in a position on the council.
  - Try to get the president's slot filled immediately, preferably with someone who attended the National Convention.
  - Those you can't find from attending the Convention, ask current members of the council to recommend members who they think suit each position.
  - Ask those who were recommended if they're interested in the position.
  - Have the council vote for the best person for each position.