



Educational Leadership Consultant & Leadership Coach
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are you interested in being an Educational Leadership Consultant (ELC) or Leadership Coach (LC)? Throughout this document, you will learn what some of our past ELCs and LCs have gained from their experience on the road.

ELCs and LCs have the opportunity to work with Alpha Xi Delta's chapters and travel across the country to meet Sisters through one-on-one meetings and chapter programs. If you are interested in applying to be an ELC or LC please check out the Educational Leadership Consultant and Leadership Coach page on our website at www.alphaxidelta.org.

WHY DID YOU TRAVEL AS AN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONSULTANT OR LEADERSHIP COACH?

There was so much of the U.S. I had yet to explore, and traveling for Alpha Xi Delta gave me the opportunity to go to those places, meet the people and learn about the many different cultures within our own country. Little did I know, not only would I travel across the U.S., but I would also meet amazing people, create lifelong friendships and learn about myself through my many amazing and memorable adventures. - **Laura Thompson, West Virginia Wesleyan '05, 2009-2010 Educational Leadership Consultant**

It sounded like such a great opportunity to give back to Alpha Xi Delta and to learn about myself and develop professionally. I wasn't wrong - It was that and so much more. It's hard to describe how much you learn and grow during your time traveling for the Fraternity. - **Andi Fouberg, South Dakota State '95, National Vice President and 1999-2000 Educational Leadership Consultant**

The reasons are many. The first thing that comes to mind is that I loved Alpha Xi Delta and it seemed like the next step for me. I had the confidence to apply when one of the current ELCs asked me if I ever considered traveling — she said she could see me doing this job, and it gave me incredible confidence to try and go for it. I wanted to make a difference for others and help people. I was given that opportunity and so much more! - **Elysia Gallivan, South Dakota '93, National Executive Director and 1996-1998 Educational Leadership Consultant**

WHAT LESSONS DID YOU LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF WHILE TRAVELING?

I learned that I could be organized and efficient, yet flexible, all at the same time. I also learned the importance of listening. By letting people talk and share about themselves and their situations, I was given the opportunity to better understand what was truly going on. There was always a lot more depth behind the situation that had initially presented itself, and it was the depth that needed assistance, not the problem on the surface. - **Kim Starr, Kentucky '79, Past National President and 1982-1983 Educational Leadership Consultant**

It takes a lot of maturity, independence and flexibility to be an ELC or LC. I'm sure I had those qualities even before I traveled, but the experience really emphasized those abilities and gave me confidence that I could do anything I set my mind to. - **Michelle Hartnett, Nebraska-Lincoln '88, Foundation Chair and 1992-1993 Educational Leadership Consultant**

I learned that I am tougher and more resilient than I ever thought possible. When we traveled there was not instant access via email, cell phones, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. There were a variety of challenges that required interaction with collegians, alumnae, college administration, Fraternity Headquarters staff, National Council members and others. It was a crash course and worth every moment. Those skills have all carried me into the corporate world, volunteer world and beyond. – **Julie Woods, Texas '83 and 1986-1987 Educational Leadership Consultant**

When I traveled there were no cell phones, laptops and other forms of technology. I learned that I could do anything if I tried and that people were different from coast to coast. I also learned the art of letter writing and met individuals who became lifelong friends. Most of all, traveling for Alpha Xi Delta helped me believe in me! – **Gina Willis Hawkins, Jacksonville State '86 and 1989-1990 Educational Leadership Consultant**

WHAT WERE YOUR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES WHILE TRAVELING?

I met so many fun, enthusiastic and talented women during my year of travel. It was an inspirational and motivating experience. My time on the road also allowed me to hone my interpersonal skills and shine as a representative of a national organization. I was assigned to a colony, and I had to communicate regularly with university officials and make presentations to students and campus groups. That experience also put me in touch with our Alpha Xi Delta leadership on a regular basis, including the National President and National Executive Director. There was a high expectation to represent our Fraternity well and lead with maturity and grace. – **Michelle Hartnett, Nebraska-Lincoln '88, Foundation Chair and 1992-1993 Educational Leadership Consultant**

In one visit, you might conduct a membership workshop for chapter members on one day and have a meeting with the university president the next day. These meetings and workshops gave me the opportunity to develop my public speaking skills and problem solving skills. – **Julie Woods, Texas '83 and 1986-1987 Educational Leadership Consultant**

I gained the ability to speak comfortably in any setting, whether that is a one-on-one meeting or a ballroom full of people. I learned how to follow through on a new level as well as develop my problem solving skills. I saw obstacles firsthand and was able to provide solutions and options for people. It was real-life learning to experience. I learned the power of connections and relationships, whether it is with volunteers or campus professionals. You never know when these connections will matter and how important it is to always be mindful of the impression you leave. – **Elysia Gallivan, South Dakota '93, National Executive Director and 1996-1998 Educational Leadership Consultant**



WHAT ALPHA XI DELTA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WERE AVAILABLE TO YOU AFTER TRAVELING FOR THE FRATERNITY?

The foundation of information you gain as a traveler is great preparation for volunteering. As a member of your local chapter, you are exposed to some volunteers, but when you travel for Alpha Xi Delta, your eyes will be opened to the hundreds of women volunteering across the country with our chapters. While I have been a Chapter Advisor and an Area Facilitator, I wouldn't have known about the volunteer role that I currently serve in, and have served in for the last decade, had I not traveled for the Fraternity.

- Andi Fouberg, South Dakota State '95, National Vice President and 1999-2000 Educational Leadership Consultant



Alpha Xi Delta 
REALIZE YOUR POTENTIAL