



# INSPIRING OPPORTUNITY

Bringing into living reality the Sisterhood of women

Winter 2018

## COACHES CORNER

The 2017-18 Leadership Coaches worked hard during fall semester - visiting nearly 40 chapters between August and December while meeting with nearly 700 collegiate women!

*The Leadership Coach Program is unique to Alpha Xi Delta. It is fully funded by the Alpha Xi Delta Foundation through the generosity of her donors. Our Leadership Coaches (LCs) provide one-on-one coaching to help undergraduate Sisters develop leadership skills and enhance their personal growth including communication skills, personal development, career preparation and StrengthsQuest™. They also provide chapter programs through the Inspire program and to facilitate growth of chapter members and encourage reflection and development.*



*The Pi Chapter at Ohio University*



*The Iota Xi Chapter at Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

## PLANNING AHEAD - YOUR LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance is a way for you to plan for the future of your family, loved ones and organizations you support. Life insurance is a way to help keep the promises you've made to those close to you after you pass away. Life insurance can be purchased by you or may be provided by an employer. Regardless of how you come to have life insurance, make sure you are guaranteeing the maximum benefits are issued. There are important factors to ensuring those you want to be taken care of are.

First, be sure to name a beneficiary. A beneficiary is the person(s) who will receive the benefits of your policy. If you do not name a beneficiary, it is possible that the benefits will still go to your family, but only after a lengthy and potentially

expensive legal and probate process. Be sure to inform the person(s) or organization you have named that they are the beneficiary of your policy.

*Hundreds of millions of dollars in life insurance benefits go unclaimed every year.*

\*2011 New York Times, <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/26/your-money/life-and-disability-insurance/26wealth.html>

**Foundation Tip:** *If you don't wish to name an individual as your beneficiary, you can make Alpha Xi Delta Foundation the beneficiary of your policy.*

Second, be sure to list contingent beneficiary(s). In the event that your beneficiary predeceases you or if you pass away at the same time, the result is the same as if you do not have a beneficiary named.

**Foundation Tip:** *You can name multiple people or charities as beneficiaries. You can list each person/entity and designate a percentage of the policy to go to them.*



And, lastly, just as you revisit your budget and your retirement planning on a regular basis, revisit your beneficiaries. You should do this when you change jobs, or if there are major changes in your life (marriage, divorce, birth of children, a change in interests (charities). Regardless of when or how these changes happen, life insurance beneficiary information is a legal designation and will be binding even if you have filed divorce paper work or told a charity of your intention. If it is not reflected with the life insurance company, it will not matter.

**Foundation Tip:** You should be checking your financial planning for the future on a regular basis to make sure it best serves your interests.

If you have questions related to naming the Foundation as beneficiary or about estate planning, we are here to help. Please feel free to contact either Kendra Lewis, Director of Development, at [klewis@alphaxidelta.org](mailto:klewis@alphaxidelta.org), or 317.872.3500; or Elizabeth de Jong, Development Officer, at [edejong@alphaxidelta.org](mailto:edejong@alphaxidelta.org), or 317.628.6612.



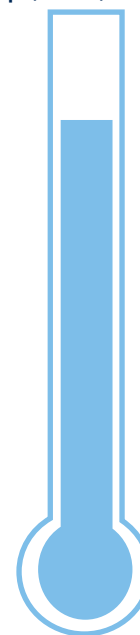
## 125th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We are already well on our way to celebrating Alpha Xi Delta's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary! If you want a full glance at the celebration plans, please visit [www.alphaxidelta.org/125](http://www.alphaxidelta.org/125). And, the Foundation is in the midst of our first campaign! The Campaign for the 125th was designed to help fund the development of strong Alpha Xi Delta leaders for years to come. This historic, three-year campaign has an aggressive goal of \$1.25 million. The campaign will mark the Fraternity's anniversary of April 17, 2018 and wrap up in 2019 when we meet again at National Convention. We are well on our way to the \$1.25 million goal in gifts and pledges, but we still need you!

A key focus of the campaign will be to establish a fund that will allow the Fraternity to support The Founders' Academy. Your gifts will help ensure that Alpha Xi Delta can continue to provide high quality leadership training and personal development for generations of Sisters to come.

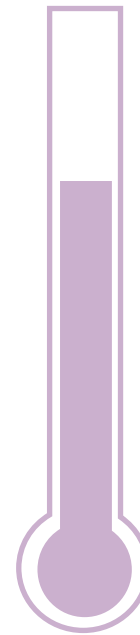
Together, we must seize this opportunity to provide a strong foundation for our membership and invest in our Fraternity's next 125 years!

\$1,250,000



125th Campaign

\$250,000



The Founders' Academy



## WHY I SUPPORT THE 125TH CAMPAIGN

From my days as the Chapter President of our Gamma Beta Chapter to my days as Alpha Xi Delta's National President (2005-2007), Alpha Xi Delta has been a foundational source of inspiration. Living by our Ritual has provided strong guidance for me to be the best version of myself, to be accountable to our values and principles, and to appreciate the bonds and connections that could only be created through Sisterhood.

Growth is realized when a Sister and mentor believes you can rise to a challenge, even when you don't. Much of my growth and personal development has occurred in this way. In particular, a few Sisters, Jane Sutton, National President (2001 – 2005) and Linda Dinus, National President (1993 – 1997), believed I had the experience and talent to lead our Fraternity as National President, when I did not think I should be entrusted with such a responsibility. I decided to trust them more than I trusted myself. When trying to make some of the decisions this office is charged with making, I reflected back on a speech Linda made at volunteer training during her term as National President. Her speech was based on a 1993 Reader's Digest article by Robert Fulghum entitled *Time to Sacrifice the Queen*. Look it up if you want a short, inspiring read. It provides examples of times where unconventional, creative actions may be a person's best move.



Many Sisters have taught me many things and inspired me in many ways. Linda entered Chapter Eternal in 2015, but her wisdom and ability to constructively challenge and move people to action lives on in our organization and continues to inspire my own actions. Every step taken outside of one's comfort zone, with a Sisters' support, is another step toward realizing your potential.

Another growth opportunity came subsequent to my time as National President, when I accepted an invitation to be a facilitator at The Founders' Academy. This time I was able to learn from members many years my junior. Chapter leaders in my small group shared the many challenges they face on college campuses today, but through their belief in our Ritual and through development opportunities like The Founders' Academy, they work hard to make good decisions and represent Alpha Xi Delta with grace. My time at The Founders' Academy left me with a feeling of gratefulness and a belief that with continued support, Alpha Xi Delta's future will shine bright.

Since 1893, Alpha Xi Delta has been molding strong, capable, intelligent women to do great things in the world and creating opportunities for members to realize their potential. Gifts to the Alpha Xi Delta Foundation support Fraternity educational and leadership development programming. They provide and continue to expand scholarships, grants and member support funds; and encourage philanthropy. We all know that the cost of going to college continues to increase and for some young women and their families, the financial burden is great. Providing financial assistance for deserving Sisters is one of many positive contributions our financial gifts help to create for Alpha Xi Delta and its members.

The 125th Anniversary Campaign is a milestone opportunity for members to collectively give thoughtfully and generously. Our combined contributions during this campaign can be a pivotal point for the Alpha Xi Delta Foundation to increase the support it gives our Fraternity. Our determined, capable, optimistic members, nurtured by Alpha Xi Delta's talented staff and selfless volunteers, depend on the growth of the Foundation. Through our generosity and working together, the Alpha Xi Delta Foundation, through our Fraternity, will continue to provide Sisters with the opportunity to realize their potential in big and small ways, always.

— Debbie Maas, National President 2005-07





# BeLIEVE IN YouRSELF

## THE FOUNDERS' ACADEMY 2018

The Founders' Academy is the premier summer educational opportunity for Chapter Presidents and emerging leaders. Drawing on Alpha Xi Delta's commitment to members' strengths, TFA will focus on the development and application of StrengthsQuest™ principles for individual and organizational leadership. Participants will be challenged to use their individual strengths to honor our Ritual, heritage, and Founders while leading our chapters to success. Two tracks, one for Chapter Presidents and one for emerging leaders, will be specially designed to ensure a meaningful experience. Each chapter should make an effort to send one member for each track.

The 2018 Founders' Academy will take place at the University of Maryland June 7-10.

With YOUR donations, The Foundation helps to fund The Founders' Academy. Your donations make a difference to women like Payton Johnson, *Central Oklahoma '15*. Payton was an emerging leader when she attended The Founders' Academy in 2016. She credits her experience there, and the connections she made with Sisters across the country with her success as a leader, both in her chapter and on campus. She is so appreciative of the efforts of our donors and celebrates our Founders during our 125<sup>th</sup>.

*"Thank you for having the belief, the confidence and the courage to branch out and start a woman's organization that 125 years later is still benefitting us. Not just our Sisters, but also impacting those in our communities around us. Thank you for helping us to realize our potential in our lives. Because of your courage, you changed my life, and many thousands of women's lives, for the better." Payton Johnson, Central Oklahoma '15*

