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for the 2022 Convention.
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The year 2020 is in the rearview mirror! I know it’s kind of early to be shouting this from the rooftops but...“2022 looms on the horizon!!” I, for one, am excited about that. So, what does 2022 bring? I’m glad you asked! AED is heading back to Nashville, or Nashvegas, as some say. For me, this was my favorite convention destination from the past (2014), and we are going back!

The AED Board is working hard to make this upcoming convention the best one yet! And, we want YOU there!

Here’s my top ten reasons you will want to kick off St. Patrick’s Day, 2022, with us at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Nashville:

1. We found the best hotel location in the heart of Nashville, near city highlights and hotspots. You won’t be disappointed!
2. AED will “bring it”, with awesome programming that is relevant to pre-health students.
3. The Doubletree Hotel offers their signature amazing, warm chocolate chip cookies upon arrival...yum! The best!
4. You need to brush up on your honky-tonk line dancing! (You know I’m talking to you.)
5. Nashville has iconic food options like: Hattie B’s Hot Chicken, 404 Kitchen, the Loveless Café, and Peg Leg Porker!
6. According to a recent survey, Tennessee is rated the 2nd friendliest state (2nd only to Minnesota, don’t cha know!). Who can’t use a little more “friendly” in their lives?
7. If you drive to convention, chances are you can visit a cave or two on the way (Tennessee has over 3,800 caves...yikes!)
8. We are planning some great mini adventures...shhh, it’s a secret! Mostly, because...well, we just don’t know what yet, but it’s gonna’ be great!
9. Since I’m from Texas, I found this little tidbit about Tennessee interesting: it is illegal to use a lasso to catch a fish there. Hey, fair is fair! You gotta’ give ‘em a fightin’ chance! I know this has nothing to do with Nashville and going to convention, but you gotta’ love this one anyway!
10. Not to be outdone by #9 above, it is also illegal to shoot any game other than whales from a moving automobile! Again...nothing to do with convention!

But, I digress! Mark your calendars for March 17-19, 2022 – destination: Nashville, baby! Here we come! Stay tuned for more information coming soon! In the meantime, tell all your pre-health friends!
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Donald Schreiweis Scholarship $1,500 Region 4
Tracie Huynh
Houston Baptist University
Attendees of the national convention in Tampa, Florida.

**IMPORTANT DATE!**

Deadline to submit Scholarship Applications is April 30, 2021.
One of the hardest aspects of the pre-health journey is knowing what you should be doing each step of the way to be a competitive applicant. So, where should students begin? As an Executive Team, we aspired to help students with these concerns and created an all-inclusive Pre-Health Student Timeline, which is displayed on our website (aed.ua.edu). From here, students can click through the top buttons which help to identify their class standing. Then, the hyperlink directs you to each designated year where we have listed out suggested activities, opportunities to get involved, and other peer to peer advice. Our recommended timeline gathers resources from our university’s Pre-Health Advising Office as well as professional organizations such as the official Association of American Medical College. We have found that by utilizing these tools, students feel more confident in their ability to be a successful pre-health student at our university.

Another way that we sought to help our members stay competitive applicants is through the variety of resources that our initiatives broadcast through their respective area. Our initiative directors focus on different areas of the pre-health application such as research, volunteering, healthcare experiences, mentoring, boosting metrics and more. By having student-led initiatives focus on these areas we have optimized the depth of resources to our members. With both of these tools available we have focused on ensuring all the opportunities our campus and community have to offer are within reach for those seeking experiences to further solidify their professional school pursuits.

Alabama Alpha Chapter: 2020-2021 Executive Board and Initiative Directors
Back Row (L to R): Anna Grace Price, Madeline Plunkett, Anthony Filoromo, Abby Weir, Brenton Bicknell, Cole Kiser, Eva Adams, Camryn Coley, Parker Cobbs
Top Row (L to R): Mary Margaret Hayden, Kai Buendia, Meredith Cook, Katie Fadus, Grace Dorsey, Laura Carrasquilla, Olivia Lattanzi
Not Pictured: Michael Arundel
*Masks removed only for photos and promptly put back on*
The Alabama Delta chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at the University of Alabama at Birmingham has continued to hold regular events for the spring 2021 semester despite continued COVID-19 restrictions. Our meetings remain exclusively virtual along with small group volunteer opportunities as we believe this is safest for our large membership right now.

This semester, we have a multitude of unique and exciting meetings planned, having already hosted several. We began weekly general body meetings this spring with our first ever Gap Year Night. We had speakers from different programs, especially master’s programs, give our members ideas of ways to spend a gap year before proceeding to professional school for their respective healthcare fields. With gap years being popular among many students, we recognized the importance of creating a meeting like this so that our members can be successful and participate in something meaningful in a potential year off. We look forward to expanding this event in the future. Additional meetings we have enjoyed so far include our Valentine’s Day themed meeting which focused on cardiothoracic surgery as we invited a UAB surgeon to share his story and a scholarship night where we learned about ways to pay for professional school— an important but less frequently discussed topic. Upcoming meetings will include our popular professional school student panel, LGBTQ medicine, an Alabama medical school night to highlight schools in our state, and diversity in medicine.

Another success for our chapter has been our new member meetings. We have established this as a monthly event in order to get to know our newest students as they apply for membership. This group most often includes freshmen and other underclassmen, so we believe they will especially benefit from social interaction as they have most likely only experienced the predominately virtual version of college. We do not want to miss out on meeting new students as we are all feeling a bit hidden behind the computer screen these days. New member meetings have given us a chance to partake in interactive games and chat with members in a more casual, personable setting.

Volunteerism proceeds as we continue to partner with the Spirit of Luke Charitable Foundation, which provides a free mobile clinic in the underserved Black Belt regions of Alabama, and The Red Barn, an equine therapy facility for those with disabilities in Leeds, AL. We are also volunteering with Community Kitchens of Birmingham which provides daily lunch for the hungry at local churches. Another service event arose from the tragic tornado that hit central Alabama in January. Our members were able to donate supplies to the affected nearby communities. We strongly value local service as we believe it is so important to help our neighbors.

We pride ourselves on resilience through a socially distanced school year. We continue to look forward to providing resources to our members to guide them toward the next step in their healthcare career goals.
The Alabama Epsilon Chapter of AED at The University of Alabama in Huntsville has prepared for a uniquely virtual semester, and time, in our local community. As a way to show our appreciation and admiration for all of the front-line workers in the healthcare field, we are in the process of creating a thank you video. The video will consist of short clips submitted by members and once compiled will be sent to those working in the COVID-19 unit at Huntsville Hospital and its affiliates.

We have transitioned all of our previously in-person events into a virtual setting to abide by COVID-19 guidelines. We have had great success in presenting various workshops that inform students about different things related to professional schools. Some are focused on professional school entrance exams and how to better prepare for them. Other workshops are more widespread to cover subjects like gap years and how to virtually shadow. Volunteering, both virtual and in person, are discussed as well with an emphasis on how to safely give back to the community. We are planning on hosting the 11th annual Health Careers Day virtually during the month of April as a way for students to interact with various professional schools in Alabama and surrounding states.

One of the most special opportunities COVID-19 and remote participation has rewarded us with, is the variety of speakers we have planned. Due to how accessible and common video conferencing has become, we have scheduled speakers to present that are located throughout the country. We have already heard from a panel of medical students along with the Rural Medicine Program Director at The University of Alabama in Birmingham, Dr. David Bramm. Additional speakers we look forward to hearing from are a clinical pharmacist practitioner from North Carolina, a public health advocate from the Florida Department of Health, and a New York State certified set medic for television and film industry. Additionally, to create a more personalized experience, The University of South Alabama Medical School Director of Admissions is set to conduct individual mock interviews at the end of the semester.

The Alabama Epsilon Chapter will continue to educate its members and promote interprofessional skills and relationships that will hopefully result in them reaching their academic and professional goals.
The Alabama Gamma Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Auburn University sets itself apart from other organizations because it assists, educates, and most importantly helps its members grow into their full potential. Even with COVID-19 still causing turmoil in everyday life, the AED at Auburn has not forgotten about its commitment to its members. The AED kicked off this semester by having workshops for the MCAT, DAT, and OAT. These meetings were hosted over Zoom by the AED representatives and other officers. Study tips, registration, and other information was discussed with the members. These workshops proved to be very beneficial and was a perfect way to start off the new semester. The AED was also able to host medical students from UAB and South Alabama, UAB dental, and UAB Optometry schools. These students spoke about their journey to medical school as an undergraduate and about the transition they faced going from college to professional school. Having these students speak helps to inform the AED members and let them know that there is going to be struggles throughout their journey, but it is still very possible. As mentioned, they also spoke about the transition from college to professional school. They mostly agreed that the biggest change was study time. In professional school, they stressed the importance of studying almost every day of the week and really utilizing proper time management skills due to the vast amount of knowledge they are expected to learn. This is valuable insight that our members can benefit from. As the COVID vaccine continues to be distributed, we hope to see things return to normal in the ever-nearing future. However, until then the Alabama Gamma Chapter of the AED at Auburn University will continue to put its members first and help them along their journey.
Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alabama Iota Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Troy University is striving to give its members the knowledge they need to succeed and help their communities. Our chapter has been able to remain active throughout the pandemic, following social distancing guidelines and other recommendations put forth by the CDC and Troy University.

Our Executive Officer team has been hard at work creating safe community service events for our members. One community service project that we are extremely excited about is our Adopt-A-Mile program. Our club has been cleaning our designated mile since the early 1990s, and we have no intention of stopping now. We are also planning to hand out candy grams to the professors in the Biology and Chemistry Departments at Troy to show them our appreciation for their hard work in this difficult time. A blood drive and a supply drive for the local animal shelter is also being planned.

This semester our chapter is teaming up with the local Encompass Health – Hospice office. At this time, it is not possible to safely meet with patients face-to-face. However, our chapter has decided to write letters to each patient in hospice care. For patients who aren’t able to receive many visitors, the letter will certainly brighten their day.

The Alabama Iota Chapter plans to have a traditional induction ceremony this semester for new members. This semester is not going to be like any other, but with strength and determination we will get through it together.
The Alabama Lambda chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta had a very productive semester in the Fall of 2020 at the University of North Alabama, and we are looking forward to great things in 2021! Through the fall and into the spring we have continued to have weekly chapter meetings with both a socially-distanced, in-person option, as well as a Zoom attendance option. We have welcomed health professionals from a variety of fields, current medical students, program directors, and faculty from our own university to share their experience and guidance. Our speakers often share their educational journeys, what a day in their life as a health professional consists of, or advice to help our members achieve their professional goals. Our members value the experience of our speakers and enjoy hearing all that they share with us.

In addition to preparing members for their future professions, Alabama Lambda also strives to serve our community. During October of 2020, our members volunteered with a local hospice to provide companionship to hospice patients through “tuck-in” calls. These calls were a great way to stay involved while following COVID guidelines. Our members made weekly phone calls to patients in which we talked with them about how they were feeling, asked if they had any needs or requests for their nurses, and provided them much-appreciated company during their care. Our members had the opportunity to improve their communication skills, but more importantly we enjoyed forming relationships with these patients.

Alabama Lambda’s largest fall service project was packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child. With the help of volunteers, Operation Christmas Child has sent over 178 million to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, and disease since 1993. Our chapter filled shoe boxes to the brim with toys, coloring books, crayons, stuffed animals, personal hygiene supplies, and more. Each box was carefully wrapped, and a handwritten note to the child was included in every box. Our members had a wonderful time taking a short break from studying to listen to some holiday music, spend time together, and make a positive impact on lives of children in need. Through Operation Christmas Child, Alabama Lambda was able to pack and send 20 boxes to Guyana, Zimbabwe, and the Democratic Republic of Congo!

The members of the Alabama Lambda chapter of AED at the University of North Alabama are proud of the progress we have made this year, and we are looking forward to a bright future!
In increasingly uncertain times, Alabama Zeta stays committed to providing our community with compassionate volunteers and dedicated future health professionals. We continue to deliver valuable ongoing service activities to our members including PASSAGE USA, Wilmer Hall tutoring, Comfort Care Hospice, USA Children's and Women's Hospital, and more.

Alabama Zeta is proud to introduce our new Mardi Gras-themed 5k run to benefit the USA Health Pandemic Emergency Fund for COVID-19 relief. Not only does the event celebrate Mobile’s rich Mardi Gras history, it also allows our members to socially interact with the community in a safe, in-person environment. Korey Shively, AED member and Committee Liaison for the event, stated that “the most satisfying aspect is being able to raise money for COVID relief by bringing our community together in a personal way. As someone on the track team, I have a true passion for running, and I am excited for others to share in that passion.”

Victory Health Partners is a faith-based medical clinic that provides affordable, quality healthcare to uninsured patients on the Gulf Coast. AED volunteers at Victory gain hands-on experience triaging patients, taking their histories, and assisting in the lab. According to Victory Health Volunteer Coordinator Mrs. Amy Browning, “Victory Health Partners staff relies heavily on our AED student volunteers as part of our essential medical team every day. We are so blessed to have this amazing group of students who are professional, considerate and dedicated to caring for our 24,000 patients.”

Alabama Zeta volunteers with the Spirit of Luke Ministry to distribute school supplies to underserved communities in the Black Belt. This past holiday season, Alabama Zeta collected dozens of toys to gift to children in need. AED member and Service Coordinator David Haider explained, “The most satisfying part of working with communities at Spirit of Luke is the obvious impact we are able to have in their lives and the smiles we bring to their faces.”

When people need it most, Alabama Zeta members answer the call to serve the diverse local and regional populations who help make our communities such great places to live, work, and prosper.
The Fall 2020 Semester was an eventful and productive time for the Arizona Beta Chapter’s growth. With a fully online transition to learning at the University of Arizona, chapter officials and members adapted quickly to the change. Through the Zoom-centric medium, many of our events became virtual and allowed members to connect to one another through programs like a Research Panel and Personal Statement Tips. In order to foster community in the midst of the pandemic, Board Members hosted a virtual Bachelorette Bracket and Fantasy Football Tournament. Furthermore, our continued partnership with Kaplan allowed us to offer two members full MCAT Prep Courses at half cost, aiding in their academic development.

In addition to a variety of online events, our chapter also welcomed NMC 106 into our organization. This group of neophytes is composed of 42 students who range across all years and come from a variety of backgrounds such as Medical Law and Engineering. We also finished our philanthropic initiative called the Sonoran Relief Fund which worked with local Tucson organizations in order to raise money and funds to help support those on-campus and those significantly affected by COVID-19. Our final donations were to local hospitals who were in need of PPE and other surgical supplies. The fall semester ended with the election of the 2021 Board and farewells from the previous group of members who have given so much to the organization.

This upcoming semester, Arizona Beta looks forward to welcoming NMC 107 and creating mentorship opportunities through our Big Little Program. The hybrid nature of this semester, along with the University’s updated Covid regulations allow us to have small in person events while following CDC guidelines. Some of these events include a discussion about the legalization and recreation of drugs in the United States or guided Goat Yoga to help alleviate some stress. All around, this upcoming year should be an exciting experience for all members as we continue growing and learning together.

Bear Down and Mask Up!
The members of the California Epsilon chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at the University of California, Irvine have been making the most of the past couple of months through a remote format. Although many of our traditions and events could not be held in person, we found a way to improvise these events so that we could continue to host them online while also incorporating new, creative events that uphold our three pillars.

We are going to gear more towards building professionalism by having professional workshops such as online interview etiquette, resume workshops, as well as career guidance workshops hosted by our alumni. In addition to this, we host weekly meetings over zoom and invite speakers from different aspects of the healthcare field to speak and guide our members through their respective career paths. Due to the current circumstances, we have been trying to incorporate speakers that teach our members how to take care of their mental health and practice self-care, creating a safe space for our members to open up about their personal obstacles.

This year, we have spearheaded a pre-health mentorship program with a high school in our community. We meet with these students online bi-weekly to host health care related workshops and to facilitate their transition from high school to college. So far we have truly enjoyed this experience and since it has only been established for two quarters, we look forward to finding ways to expand and improve the program in the upcoming years.

Lastly, we have been fundraising money throughout this academic school year via social media platforms to support social movements and COVID-19 relief organizations. We plan to continue to fundraise for these upcoming quarters to give back to the community. In addition, together we work to support our frontline workers by creating and delivering care packages and appreciation letters to local hospitals. As of right now, our main focus is planning virtual versions of many of our traditional spring quarter events. We hope to make our spring quarter meaningful and memorable to our members and our community.
California Kappa, like most everyone, is ever cognizant of the prolonged impact that COVID-19 has had on the healthcare field and our communities in general. The spring term brings hope as graduating members embark on their next adventure along their way toward healthcare careers while our new inductees immerse themselves in California Kappa’s offerings.

On a structural basis, California Kappa has been able to expand its graduate resource base in the 2020-2021 school year by growing its partnership with Kaplan Prep beyond providing only a discounted MCAT Prep course. Now, Kaplan Prep offers students and alumni of Dominican University of CA both discounted and full access to online prep courses for MCAT, GRE, DAT, OAT, and LSAT. So far this spring, our chapter has four students signed up for the Kaplan MCAT Prep Course and one for the GRE.

Spring also brings exciting decisions for a number of California Kappa’s current officers and members.

Treasurer Logan Siemers is currently weighing whether to attend Chapman University or CSU Northridge’s DPT programs, while Secretary Joanne Bamba is similarly comparing UCSF and University of the Pacific Thomas J. Long’s Schools of Pharmacy. Member Olivia Lang-Brown, meanwhile, will be attending UC Davis Veterinarian School.

California Kappa is likewise excited for our alumni. Much like the current members above, two alumni are deciding on which medical school and physician assistant school to attend this fall. Congratulations to Adrienne Davis (Future MD) and Julianne Chaves (Future PA).

Evolution related to California Kappa’s membership is also abundant. Fourteen of its members, including five officers, are set to graduate and take their next steps in joining the healthcare field. Filling the ranks left by these soon-to-be-graduates are seventeen incoming members set to be inducted this Spring.
The California Lambda chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Azusa Pacific University had a fruitful Fall 2020 semester. It started off with new member additions and ended with a successful turkey-trot fundraiser, which involved our members finding a sponsor or self-sponsorship for every mile run. We raised money for the Lambda chapter while engaging in activity over the Thanksgiving break.

During the fall we also provided our members with video conference calls discussing medical school and Ph.D. degree fulfillment, led by experienced professors within the Biology and Chemistry Departments at Azusa Pacific University. Our members received eye-opening presentations on what life after undergrad entails, as it is one of our chapter’s goals to fully prepare members for their future careers. Although many of our plans which involved in-person meetings were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we did our best to give our members the full AED, California Lambda experience.

We are looking forward to the Spring 2021 semester and do not intend on the pandemic preventing us from reaching our set goals. Already, we are looking at adding new members to our chapter and are preparing many presentations and activities for the months ahead, including advising our members in obtaining their required service credits through our partnership with The Gift of Life Organization, a stem cell and bone marrow transplant donation center in Florida. Not only will our members receive service credits for the recruitment of donors, but will most importantly have the opportunity to save lives and make a direct impact on others. Furthermore, we plan on hosting a fundraiser/raffle with the help of the Department of Biology and Chemistry at Azusa Pacific University, which will be an educational round of jeopardy involving the Chemistry and Biology professors at APU. We are not limited to the plans specified, and in fact, we hope to add more projects throughout the semester that will personally benefit our members and expand our chapter at APU.
Last fall Colorado Gamma members of Alpha Epsilon Delta made incredible steps to becoming tomorrow's healthcare leaders. While all meetings were held virtually via zoom, events from the previous semester included an informational meeting from a Loyola Chicago SOM admissions representative, an upperclassmen pre-health Q & A panel, a leadership development summit and an undergraduate prerequisite planning meeting by our pre-health advisor. Members also gave back to the community and patients battling COVID-19 and other illnesses by writing encouraging letters to patients at Children’s hospital, hospice, and University of Colorado Hospital. The Gamma chapter also began to build the repository of pre-health resources for future generations of AED that will be further developed this semester.

This spring the Gamma chapter will host a health panel with professionals and students from various fields such as medical school, PA school, dentistry, surgery, emergency medicine, and osteopathic medical school. Other events include a pre-health trivia night, induction for newly registered members, a professional development workshop for personal statements and interviewing skills, and a graduate financial aid workshop. These events will provide students opportunities to grow intellectually and professionally, as well as equip them with much needed skills to become excellent healthcare providers.

Although it has been over a year since meetings have been pushed online, the Gamma chapter at Regis University has worked hard to cultivate a community of like-minded students that help each other achieve their dreams while giving back to the community.
Planning our events through the COVID-19 uncertainties, our chapter had a responsibility to remain safely involved with student life on campus. We hosted many online events that were accessible for our members to attend from their homes throughout the nation, we increased the number of speakers and service events addressing mental health, and we hosted various formats of online social hours so that our members felt connected and engaged through the isolating semester. We started with a virtual “Climb” in August where we set out to be active outdoors and raise awareness for our philanthropy, the Climb for Cancer Foundation. We worked together to raise over $2,000 for CFC’s emergency relief campaign which continues to provide lodging, gas cards, and meal vouchers for cancer patients and their families in the Gainesville area. Our chapter also strengthened its relationship with other pre-health organizations, forming the Pre-Medical Student Council with 9 other UF groups to create a cohesive pre-health message for safety, service, and leadership during a pandemic. For service events, we were able to find new, safe opportunities to volunteer with some of our favorite places, like Give Kids the World, Camp Boggy Creek, the Downtown Art Festival, and Aces in Motion, and we were able to begin a relationship with new organizations, such as Joey’s Wings, Alex’s Lemonade Stand, and Signing Gators. For speakers, we were able to use the accessibility of Zoom to hear from some phenomenal professionals throughout the state of Florida, such as orthopedic surgeons at UF Athletics, an epidemiologist who collaborates with presidential administrations to study addiction patterns nation-wide, and non-profit leaders who provide reproductive health services in Key West. We continued new fundraising formats for the Climb for Cancer Foundation with a canoe trip in the Suwanee River and a live-streamed Luminaria ceremony. At the end of the year, we planted a time capsule with mementos and a letter for the future executive board. Overall, we had an incredible opportunity to try new things and find ways to make our favorite activities safe, and we believe that these events will become some of the most memorable and fun events of our AED experience. In 10 years time, when our future selves reflect on this year and uncover the time capsule in honor of AED’s 100th year at UF, we will see how the resiliency of this semester will leave a lasting, positive legacy on the organization for years to come.
Blood Work Workshop

For this event our members worked with a practicing physician in order to analyze a blood work panel. Members were shown how to analyze all the facets included in an expansive blood test such as erythrocytes, leukocytes, and thrombocytes. Other measures included were glucose counts, carbon dioxide, nutrient levels and many more. Our Pre-Health students were also taught the significance of the values, their correct ranges and the concerns that are brought up when those values do not fall under the standard measure. This event helped our members better understand the workings of the body and how it may be used to treat and diagnose patients. Our chapter is always seeking ways to further enhance the knowledge of our members seeking advancement in their particular Pre-Health field.
Bradley University’s Illinois Kappa chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has welcomed the new semester in stride and is continuing to engage its members in these difficult times. Our biweekly meetings are on Mondays and they are held over Zoom, which gives us the opportunity to see everyone and keep them informed despite still being online. Additionally, with this platform we are able to go into break rooms led by each of the executive members and are able to connect with the members on a more personal level since it’s not always easy to speak out in a large group.

A key feature of our health society is being able to have speakers join us to talk about their professions and fields, which enables our members to explore different career paths and ask questions to those who have experienced them. Some speakers we have already had and are looking forward to having are a neuroscientist, a dentist, a pharmacist, and more. We have also had the pleasure of having speakers talk to us about the Gift of Life Marrow Registry for donating bone marrow to help those with blood cancer.

Another feature of our chapter is volunteering in Peoria to stay involved within the community. Although it has been hard to find in person volunteering opportunities, some chances have arisen again and we also employ the use of online volunteering. We strive to help out in whatever way we can and hope that we can get back to being in person and develop more connections.

Our chapter has had the opportunity to welcome new members into our chapter this semester and will be having a formal induction ceremony for them in April. We will also be having elections for a new executive board, while saying goodbye to our graduating seniors for the spring class of 2021. Once again, we are hoping we can see all of our members face to face in the coming fall semester and are anticipating more wonderful volunteering opportunities and activities in the future.
Though COVID-19 has significantly decreased our community service and social opportunities, the Illinois Theta Chapter was able to give back through the EIU Hunger Action Month, College of Liberal Arts and Science (CLAS) Holiday Fest and sponsoring an on-campus blood drive and meet virtually.

Several members volunteered their time at the local food pantry organizing donations, packing food boxes and assisting patrons. We created a video entitled COVID-19 Safety Through the Holidays for the CLAS virtual holiday festival. Finally, this spring semester we are working with Community Blood Services of Illinois to organize multiple on-campus blood drives.

Our chapter has continued to meet several times each month via Zoom and hosted guest speakers from a wide range of healthcare professions including clinical lab science, medicine, occupational therapy, nursing, athletic training, dentistry, physical therapy, optometry, physical therapy and more. We also hosted prospective employers such as the US military and rural health programs. We are looking forward to connecting with many alumni during our spring meetings.
Over the past several months, the AED Kentucky Alpha Chapter at the University of Louisville (UofL) has been able to reach its members and the community with some necessary adaptations to the organization’s usual operations. Through online video conferences, we held forums virtually during the fall semester. These forums provided insight on some of the health industry’s lesser-known topics amongst pre-health students, such as acupuncture, mindfulness, and pain management. Hearing from professionals in fields such as these allows us to expand our views about what “health” encompasses and provides us with opportunities to learn about a range of possible career paths. We plan to move forward with the virtual forum model and will learn from speakers about population health, medical school, and other topics this spring. In December we held a virtual induction, where we welcomed new pre-health students into our chapter, and are planning to do the same this April. Despite difficulties, our members were able to find ways to give back to the community by completing service hours individually. Members took part in projects with organizations such as the American Red Cross, Mission Curakid, Korfhage Garden, and Remote Area Medical Response. Although maintaining a strong culture and sense of community was challenging with in-person restrictions, the participation and excitement of our members allowed the chapter to continue to offer an engaging environment over the past several months. During this time when health has become a major point of interest and concern across the entire world, it has become increasingly important that we continue to grow together as a group of pre-health students who are eager to enter the industry.
The Kentucky Gamma chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has been very active in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even with all meetings and events being held virtually, we are still serving our community and providing opportunities for our future healthcare professionals. One of the most notable community service projects that our members have participated in has been the COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Medical Center in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The vaccination clinic is run almost exclusively by volunteers, and many members of our chapter have devoted many hours of their time at the clinic. Some of their duties include registering patients, filing paperwork, and directing patients to the correct vaccination site. Through the volunteer work of our members, the COVID-19 vaccination clinic has been able to give thousands of vaccines to healthcare workers, educators, and senior citizens. Along with volunteering at the vaccination clinic, many of our members are also participating in Dance Big Red, WKU’s dance fundraiser benefiting Norton Children’s Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. Our chapter has formed a team for this virtual event and will compete against other teams to raise money for Norton Children’s Hospital! Another great opportunity that our chapter has had is that since all meetings are virtual, we can host medical school admissions presenters from all over the country! This semester we had the pleasure of hosting Concordia School of Pharmacy in Wisconsin, and it was a great opportunity for our members to be introduced to a professional school they might not have heard of before. We plan on hosting many other out-of-state professional programs this semester in hopes that our students will have more opportunities to follow their dreams of becoming healthcare professionals!

Pictured below: Amanda Harder and Shelby Robertson, two of our members that volunteered at the COVID-19 vaccination clinic. They also received their first doses of the vaccine!
The AED Louisiana Beta Chapter of Louisiana State University is excited to be able to continue to provide service opportunities and educational experiences to the pre-medical members of the LSU community.

Last semester, our chapter began our partnership with our new philanthropy, the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge. Through our partnership, we were able to mentor the young children and youth of Baton Rouge in a safe and socially distant fashion. Our members assisted with the organization’s Trunk or Treat Event in October and made over 400 Valentine’s Day treat bags for the children in February. Our Annual Miles for Medicine Race will be virtual this April, and the funds raised will be donated to the Boys and Girls Club. In addition, the AED member with the fastest running time submitted will receive a free MCAT prep class.

Our members have been able to serve those in need through our fall and spring Blood Drives. This is a significant service event for our organization because AED realizes the importance of donating blood and helping to save lives during a global pandemic. Our partnership with Volunteers in Public Schools has afforded our members the opportunity to tutor elementary students virtually in math and reading. AED has sponsored the Teacher Appreciation Day of a local school as well as assisted with a history of Mardi Gras event and activity for the teachers to facilitate in the classroom.

We are looking forward to our annual Dean’s Convocation and Med Student Panel Meetings which provide our members with a real look into what admissions counselors hope to see on your medical school applications and provide a closer look into life in medical school. Through our partnership with the U.S. Army, we have heard from amazing Army physicians from various specialties all over the country. The Army is hosting a day of socially distanced suturing for our members with an exceptional general surgeon speaking that evening.

As we are adapting to this new “normal”, we are proud to still be a resource for pre-medical students and continue to serve our LSU and Greater Baton Rouge community.
Where are they now? The presidential alumni of Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED) at Louisiana Tech University are blossoming with each day that passes. The past three presidents of the Louisiana Zeta chapter have set an impressive bar for excellence.

Jordan Caldwell, 2017-2018 AED president, is currently a third-year dental student at the LSU New Orleans School of Dentistry. She graduated from Louisiana Tech University in the winter of 2018, with a bachelor’s degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. Jordan hopes to serve the community as a general dentist in her home state of Louisiana. During study breaks, you can catch her spending time with friends, reading a novel, or playing tennis. Jordan regularly visits Louisiana Tech as a guest speaker for those AED members interested in dentistry. She has many fond memories of her time serving the club’s zeta chapter:

“What I really remember from AED at Louisiana Tech are the friendships that I made. These are the people from college that I’ve kept up with the most. Plus, it’s always so much fun to see everyone’s success in their chosen healthcare fields.”

Drake Daily served as the 2018-2019 AED president at Louisiana Tech University. With a GPA of 3.95, he earned a B.S. in biology and a minor in chemistry. After his graduation in 2019, Drake took a gap year to work with DePuy Synthes as a sales representative for hip and knee implants.

He is currently a first-year medical student at the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Monroe, Louisiana. As presidential alumni, Drake’s favorite memory of AED is “visiting with all of the guest speakers who often inspired [our] members to pursue new careers in the medical field.” Someday, Drake hopes to work in the field of emergency medicine in his hometown of Alexandria, LA. On a free weekend, you can find him hunting or fishing in the Louisiana countryside.

Amanda Langston served as the 2019-2020 AED president. With a 4.0 GPA, Amanda earned her B.S. in Biology with a minor in chemistry. During her time at Louisiana Tech, Amanda served as a Biological Sciences Student Ambassador and was awarded the George Roy Hayes Scholarship. Her most memorable experience from AED was helping younger members prepare for their professional school interviews. After graduating a quarter early, Amanda spent her free time working with stroke patients in hospice care. She is currently a first-year medical student at the LSU Shreveport School of Medicine. So far, Amanda is most interested in orthopedics:

“I love the variety of patients it offers and that I would have the ability to improve their quality of life in both clinical and surgical settings.”

As current members of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Louisiana Tech University, we are overwhelmingly proud of our alumni and their efforts to better society through the channel of healthcare. Their leadership, dedication, and bravery inspire us, greatly. We wish them luck in their D.D.S, D.O., and M.D. pursuits, respectively. Go Dawgs!
The Boston University Massachusetts Gamma chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has enjoyed an extremely rewarding Spring 2021 semester! Though there remained several of the same challenges as last semester, the Executive Board continued to find and organize a variety of professional development, community service, and social events for members to partake in. Although we hope to be able to return to in-person events in Fall 2021, after this academic year we are confident that our AED chapter can endure and make the best of whatever comes our way!

This semester we continued to host monthly meetings on Zoom. In February, we hosted a virtual Induction Ceremony during which we welcomed 29 passionate and enthusiastic new members. In March, we held a virtual Game Night, giving members the opportunity to get to know one another better while enjoying a fun break from their studies. Finally, in April, we had a virtual Senior Night. Seniors shared their wisdom with younger members, and younger members celebrated the accomplishments of the graduating members and wished them the best of luck in the next step of their careers. Altogether, these meetings were aimed at allowing members to connect with one another, as we believe building a sense of community is more important now than ever.

Throughout the semester, AED members attended several outside events together, such as a Statistical Genetics Seminar hosted by BU School of Medicine and the Antiracism as Health Policy: Race, COVID-19, and Policy Reform Series hosted by BU School of Public Health. These enabled members to learn more about their health professions of interest and the healthcare sector in its current state. They also participated in a variety of community service opportunities such as Cradles to Crayons, meeting in-person in very small groups to serve minority populations throughout Boston.

As in previous semesters, each member of the Executive Board hosted a reflection session where members could join in captivating discussions with one another. Three of our reflection sessions focused on articles and/or speeches about healthcare related topics and events. Two of our reflection sessions this semester were centered on our “AED Choice Read”, The Checklist Manifesto by Atul Gawande.

We are grateful to have had such a successful semester, and hope that all AED members will have a relaxing and restorative summer!
Given the current state of the country, our chapter will still be conducting all meetings and trainings from a virtual platform. Our induction this year is being held on February 1st and we will be inducting 41 new members into our chapter in a virtual ceremony. On top of this, we will be hosting a range of virtual events over the semester. First, we are partnering with the Boston Commission to conduct a virtual overdose prevention training. Secondly, we will be working with facilities on campus to safely offer CPR trainings to our members. Thirdly, we plan on hosting a graduate student exam panel to give younger pre-med and pre-PA students a sense of what to expect during their application cycles. Finally, we will be working with the pre-health office at Northeastern to provide a virtual presentation on requirements and recommendations for ultimately applying to graduate school. Our E-board is very excited to see all of these events run in this upcoming semester, and we’re even more excited to elect new members to our E-board for next fall as all of our E-board will be graduating in May!
This past semester came with many challenges as our chapter moved to an entirely remote format. With this change has come a flurry of new ideas on how to maintain our focus on philanthropy with the many obstacles that COVID-19 poses. In the fall, members of our chapter were able to work with community members to chop wood for the elderly through our local Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly group (pictured below). The group has also maintained its interest in learning more about the medical field. We were not able to travel to graduate schools and cadaver labs as we do most semesters, but that did not stop us from learning more about different programs! Michigan Technological University hosted a virtual graduate health program fair with over 30 programs attending to present and speak to students. This virtual format allowed for a wide variety of schools to attend that otherwise may not have been able to had it been in person. Members of our chapter attended these sessions and then met as a group to discuss what we learned and practice interview skills as we do at most meetings.

As for this spring semester, we have begun discussion on new ways to stay involved in programs such as Husky Hug Bags to provide grief care packages, knitting baby/toddler hats for our local hospitals, Suicide Prevention Training, raising awareness for bone marrow foundations and much more.
The COVID-19 pandemic brought challenges to how Michigan Epsilon would maintain many of their annual events. However, the hard work of our members and executive board allowed the chapter to create new virtual events while still maintaining our pursuits of impacting the community.

As our nation struggled with not only a pandemic, but also racial injustice, our members felt the need to help out our community in any way possible. During the summer, we partnered with the Detroit Justice Center, Black Visions Collective, and the National Bail Fund to fundraise towards these organizations. Through our virtual fundraiser via Instagram, we were able to raise $11,596. Although the pandemic did not allow us to use a hands-on approach that our organization was used to, we were still able to have an impact on racial injustice in our country.

Although our meetings switched over to “Zoom” rather than in person, we were still able to hear from various healthcare professionals. One of our favorites from this semester was Dr. Geoffrey Barnes, M.D., an assistant professor at the University of Michigan who specializes in cardiovascular diseases and internal medicine. During Dr. Barnes’ presentation, he stated that his biggest piece of advice for those pursuing a career in the healthcare field is to have some sort of outlet that has nothing to do with medicine, his being ultimate frisbee.

Michigan Epsilon also continued its mission of professional growth via a resume workshop, planned by our Professional Development Chair. During the workshop, we were given advice from Marylou Waineo, who has had years of experience reading over resumes in the workplace. Members greatly appreciated Mrs. Waineo’s help to form the best resume for their own experiences.

The members of Michigan Epsilon persevered through the challenges the pandemic has brought, and our organization came together to create new virtual traditions. We are excited to see what the future holds!
Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic changing the way our chapter operated in the Fall on the University of Mississippi campus, the Mississippi Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta adapted to these circumstances by holding virtual meetings and creating attendance incentives. As that semester continued, we discovered how beneficial Zoom breakout rooms and virtual speakers from across the country could be to our members.

Throughout the current Spring 2021 semester, we will continue to utilize these methods to virtually connect our chapter until in-person meetings can be safely held.

This semester, our executive team planned three pre-professional focused meetings: A Gift of Life Marrow Registry informational meeting for volunteer and internship opportunities, a health professions presentation by Midwestern University, and an accepted students panel.

Additionally, our chapter is having an Initiation for new members and a group “Meet and Vent” event, where members can come to discuss the challenges they've faced in the past semesters and gain peer advice on how to overcome the frustrations of COVID-19.

Our chapter’s meetings will continue to take place virtually on Zoom until the University of Mississippi can allow student organization meetings to take place safely on campus. In response to the need for virtual meetings last semester, we created an attendance-based raffle in order to incentivize rather than require attendance and membership. Due to the resulting rise in attendance and the continued shift to virtual platforms, we are maintaining our incentivized attendance plan this semester by raffling off four $25 gift cards. Understanding that college students are financially impacted by the pandemic, we hope to support our members to overcome other forms of barriers.

We look forward to initiating our new members this semester and continuing to build upon the virtual framework we used as a pandemic response. With a student speaker, who is able to promote the Gift of Life from the University of Florida, and a recruiter, who will share information about Midwestern University located in Illinois, we’re continuing to see just how advantageous virtual meetings can be in hearing from speakers from across the country that could not physically be in Mississippi.
The Nebraska Alpha chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln had an enjoyable and productive fall semester in the wake of ever-changing COVID-19 regulations. The Executive Board worked tirelessly recruiting dedicated pre-health students and working through the selective application process for new chapter members. These applicants demonstrated their excellence in community involvement, academics, and their passion for healthcare. During this unprecedented semester, our chapter had the pleasure of welcoming 10 new members to be officially inducted at a socially-distanced ceremony in February.

Our general meetings transitioned online to grow closer as a chapter while remaining safe and conscious of the pandemic. We had guest speaker Technical Sergeant Jorge A. Nevarez present to us about the benefits of joining the U.S. Air Force Health Professions, including its great scholarship opportunities. We also had the pleasure of hearing from our University alumna, who discussed the importance of clinical experience in her journey to be accepted into medical school, providing members with options to form connections and gain more experience in the healthcare field. In other meetings, we made plans for a safe initiation ceremony to properly welcome the new chapter members, virtual or socially-distanced community service projects, and many other ideas to maintain the engagement and enthusiasm of the chapter from our homes. Our last general meeting featured the newly selected members who shared their personal interests in healthcare to the older members of the Nebraska Alpha chapter. It was very inspiring to hear how committed these younger members are to serving their community. We ended the semester with some of the new and old members meeting and getting to know each other over pizza, while obeying COVID safety.

Going into the spring semester, the Nebraska Alpha chapter looks forward to our socially-distanced initiation ceremony and hopes to discover new possibilities for guest speakers and volunteering/healthcare experiences. We also hope to further take part in bonding as a group, as well as university-wide pre-health involvement measures. Our chapter is ready to serve the community and to grow closer as the Alpha Epsilon Delta Nebraska Alpha Chapter!
The Nevada Alpha Chapter of AED recognizes the current state of the country and has put in efforts to learn and engage online as much as possible in order to maintain social distance, include those who are learning from their out-of-state homes, and allow members to still feel part of the chapter despite extraneous circumstances. The most notable workshops were about the core competencies in personal statements for graduate programs, specifically medical school, as well as the medical student workshop discussing the multiple mini interview process. These were hosted by our advisor, Lindsay Forbes, who was able to educate and engage members who are applying to their respective preprofessional programs to put their best foot forward by demonstrating core competencies in their writing and preparing them for the interview process. Our members found both of these workshops very significant and informative!

In order to offer service hours, there were some socially distanced service events that did occur. Our members enjoyed the socially distanced Trunk-or-Treat event the most. We had members dressed to the nines in costumes and masks to hand out candy to kids of the Reno-Sparks community safely and socially distant. While unconventional, many members loved the experience and appreciated the opportunity to create a semi-normal Halloween for the kids.

We concluded Fall 2020 with a virtual initiation for our new national members. While not our biggest class, we were excited for these three members to become nationally recognized!

As we move into spring semester, we are excited for future service events and workshops to help our members develop as professional school candidates. The Nevada Alpha chapter is making the most of the current circumstances and hoping to provide the necessary resources and tools to become successful health graduate students!
In 2020, AED Nevada-Beta chapter conquered a variety of hardships that were presented as a result of the Coronavirus. While we had to pause in-person volunteer events and meetings for the spring and fall semesters, we continued to provide our members with extensive professional development and virtual volunteering opportunities. During the fall semester, we operated mostly virtually and served the local Southern Nevada community with our blood drives, tutoring for underserved populations, and letter writing to US Veterans. We also held a tie-blanket drive in which our members made over 100 tie blankets to donate to charities that we are partnered with here in town, including Ronald McDonald House Charities and Catholic Charities. Additionally, we partnered with a local donation drive to raise funds for new socks and underwear for the Shade Tree, which provides shelter for displaced women and children in crisis. As a chapter, we also aimed to devote most of our fall semester towards member appreciation efforts. Some of the ways in which we showed appreciation for our amazing members is through professional school test preparation book sets and courses. Because of the online format, we also prioritized staying connected with everyone through virtual service, movie and game nights, as well as meditations and workout sessions to promote wellness. In terms of professional development, we also hosted a “Professionalism 101” webinar series, featuring internet etiquette in lieu of recent events, which served as a resource for our members in their journey towards applying to professional school. We feel blessed to be able to continue excelling during this unprecedented time.

Beginning in the Spring, we are especially excited to reintroduce in-person events in direct correspondence with the COVID-19 pandemic. Provided the liability waiver is signed by each individual, ensuring the health and safety of our members’ and others’, we plan to participate at vaccination clinics, as well as amplify our donation efforts to local food, mask, and sanitation drives. We will continue to provide the membership with ample virtual volunteering, at home, and professional development opportunities. Due to our chapters outreach efforts to various communities in the Valley, we project a large influx of new persons joining the Gift of Life Bone Marrow Registry. Moreover, we prioritize the safety of our members above all, and will continue our monthly virtual study groups and stress relief events. Finally, to acknowledge and recognize our membership’s diligence and perseverance, we are potentially hosting a Gala at the close of the semester.
Despite the unprecedented times and continuation of online learning, the New Jersey Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Stevens Institute of Technology continues to engage with the community at our institution and provide opportunities for students to further their career in a pre-health profession. We started off the semester with our virtual event presentation of interview tips by Dr. Donald Lombardi, a University Teaching Professor, the Executive Director of the Stevens Healthcare Educational Partnership (SHEP), and the Academic Director of the Veterans Program at Stevens Institute of Technology. With his extensive background with the healthcare industry, he presented many insightful interview tips and ways students can improve their skills during an interview. Next, AED co-hosted a virtual Research Panel with the Student Health Professions Club. The panelists consisted of research faculty at our institution from biology, organic chemistry, biomedical engineering, and physics departments showcasing their groundbreaking research at Stevens, including research for COVID-19. The Research Panel served as an opportunity for students to interact with the Panelists and learn how to get involved. Furthermore, AED hosted a community service panel to shed light on the community service organizations, including the Hoboken Shelter, Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Be the Match (Bone Marrow Donation), and StevensThon and how students can give back to the community. AED welcomed Dr. George F. Heinrich, MD, the Associate Dean for Admissions at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School to discuss the latest updates on the medical school application and programs offered by NJMS. Dr. Heinrich also provided tips about personal statements, interview techniques and questions, studying for the MCAT, and lastly, explaining the application review process.

To conclude this robust virtual semester, AED collaborated with the Student Health Professions Club to publish our institution’s first pre-health newsletter. The newsletter highlights ethics in healthcare and research, updates from Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), COVID-19 related topics, best holiday practices and the vaccines, and lastly, student and professor spotlight. The newsletter serves to engage with the student and faculty community at Stevens as well as educate about the latest advancements in medicine. For Spring 2021, the New Jersey Beta Chapter plans to host medical school information sessions, fundraise, and volunteer at our local homeless shelter and raise money for the local homeless shelter. We are also looking forward to initiating our new Spring 2021 members and electing our new Executive Board.
The completion of 2020 marks the fifth year of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Manhattan College. NY PI had 25 members in the 2020 graduating class and 20 new inductees this semester. The 2020-2021 NY PI board is led by Bryan Alfaro (President), Lucas Babio (Vice President), Nesibe Memedovski (Secretary), Khaitlyn Figueroa (Treasurer), Stephanie Zandel (Scalpel Reporter), Jessie Rising (Historian), and Micaela Beatty (Social Media Coordinator). Dr. Wilkins serves as the chapter advisor. The NY PI board had several meetings to outline and implement goals for the year while having to make readjustments to plans as a result of the pandemic in order to prioritize the health and safety of our community.

The chapter was still able to participate in Manhattan College’s annual Safe Halloween which was conducted virtually for the first time. The purpose of Safe Halloween is to give children from the local neighborhoods both a safe and exciting experience in which they participate in a variety of Halloween-related activities hosted by different clubs and organizations on campus. Typically, Alpha Epsilon Delta would have their own room allowing children to immerse themselves in various demonstrations on topics such as biology, chemistry, and anatomy. However, with Safe Halloween being virtual this semester, the board created a spooky video with step-by-step experimental instructions on how to extract DNA from a strawberry. Positive feedback was received from the children that attended and parents appreciated how interactive and knowledgeable the experiment was for their children.

We also strived to be an organization that’s more inclusive towards accepting Pre-Health students across the various schools at Manhattan College by revamping our GPA Calculator to contain a broader range of math and science courses. This change was thought to be effective because the chapter can boost recruitment numbers as we felt that having a limited range of required courses for students would restrict the chapter from having members with diversified majors and backgrounds. The mixture of academic backgrounds in pre-health offer members the opportunity to learn more from one another and expand their involvement on campus resulting in multidimensional members more prepared for their future career paths.

Looking onto the next semester, the chapter intends to host more virtual events related to pre-health careers to both engage members and attract potential new members. We plan on doing so by collaborating with other organizations on campus, networking with AED NY PI alumni, and connecting with other AED chapters. In addition, we find it necessary to grow our social media presence by spreading awareness on all social media platforms as it has recently become the main line of communication and expression for college students in light of covid-19. The current NY PI board has learned to better navigate the success of the chapter when undergoing a pandemic and hopes to continue their strong presence on campus.
The Ohio Beta Chapter at the University of Toledo is enthusiastic to transition their Spring 2021 semester into a virtual environment due to the current pandemic. Our chapter’s goal is to continue empowering those who are interested in any pre-professional health career path by offering various networking and mentoring opportunities. Despite the semester being hosted virtually, our new and old pledges continue a kind camaraderie with their fellow students as they share their passion for a professional health career. Our student members prioritize offering opportunities for pledges to volunteer within their community, request advice from upperclassmen, and bond with one another during meetings.

Our executive board has made it their top priority to recognize the high caliber of their student members. Thus, we have expanded our network for student members to meet other undergraduate students, medical students, practicing physicians and other companies like medical scribing and EMT training. We commenced the Spring semester with a conversation about how to search for on-campus research opportunities and craft a professional email to professors, so that each student has the best chance to engage in research from the start. In addition, we hosted mock medical school interviews with Toledo’s medical school ambassadors, so that students had the opportunity to practice various types of MMI questions and answers. It was imperative to our executive board members to maintain student engagement during virtual meetings, so we decided to add a new personal segment: a web-shadowing experience. During the meeting, a family medicine physician walked us through his typical day in his practice and explained why he chose medicine. This meeting allowed for student members to better understand how to next pursue their academic and professional career by listening to a successful medical physician.

The Ohio Beta concentrates on the importance of volunteering in the community to better understand and serve the needs of local Toledo. We are thrilled to soon partner with Food For Thought in Toledo, an organization focused on feeding and nourishing the Toledo community. In the past, we have actively worked with the Community Care Clinic whose efforts focus on serving those receiving care by providing vitals checkings and medical screenings. We want to provide home-cooked meals to the individuals and their families receiving care at the clinic.

We look forward to seeing how our chapter grows this upcoming semester and future years. Our goal is to strengthen the bond between all the members and find more interested students to join our chapter. Despite the challenges of online meetings, we encourage our student members to reach their preprofessional health goals by interacting with one another, our executive members, or any outside contacts they meet during our general meetings. Our chapter centers on supporting one another beyond our meetings by starting conversations and helping one another all around campus. Hopefully, the next semester will allow our members to meet and interact in person to include more social, academic, and volunteer events.
AED Cincy Chapter has made history this year in ways that are beyond imagination. Last semester, our chapter started off by implementing committees within our organization for the first time. These committees include a public relations team, community service planning team, social event organizing team and a fundraising team. Since then, our members and committee chairs have stepped up to do some phenomenal work. Starting off with our Fundraising committee, AED partnered with “A Kid Again” organization past holiday season to raise money for little children fighting life threatening diseases. With the help of our fellow members and local community, we were able to raise a whopping $5,387 which was over our (already high) $5,000 target! With the amazing support we were able to definitely spread smiles during the holidays and provide each child with a gift and a party at the Newport Aquarium!

Our great work continued with Social Committee which led ethical discussions over the span of the semester discussing disparities in healthcare, and prejudices that healthcare professionals must be mindful of. On the same note, the Community Service Committee despite the challenges of being online presented us with virtual opportunities of writing letters to hospice facilities and working with the local food bank to play a role in fighting hunger. Lastly, the public relations started off this spring semester by bringing in a record number of qualified and highly talented members.

Our goals this semester include creating more interactive activities for our members and also forming inter-chapter meetings to expose our members to a greater network of AED members. Another aspect of AED we have decided to nurture this year is creating more opportunities for the pre-dental students and catering opportunities for pre-pt and pre-pharm students. By creating an inclusive environment for the various healthcare pathways, we believe we can truly form an amazing platform for our members to reach and connect with pre-professionals of a wide variety.

While this is the end of our report, our work is just beginning! We cannot wait to see how our journey as one of the more prominent pre-health organizations on campus takes us to building a stronger community for our wonderful members.
The Pennsylvania Nu chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta at Muhlenberg College is dedicated to helping students succeed throughout their pre-health journeys. Prior to the challenges brought forth by the pandemic, our primary focus was providing our members with information about the various career options available in the medical field and how to pursue them. During these isolating times, however, this chapter has recognized the profound importance of additionally maintaining and building on our strong sense of community. That is why, in our fall semester, we focused our efforts on continuing to build relationships with alumni, deepening the connections between peers, and broadening our efforts of outreach.

In particular, this past semester marked a particularly successful beginning to our peer-mentorship program. Underclassmen were matched to upperclassmen through a comprehensive survey about medical interests, extracurriculars, academic pursuits, what they hoped to get out of the program, and more. While matches were free to decide when, how, and how often they would meet, our monthly mentorship check-ins reported that our members were getting just what they wanted from these new connections. We are currently in the process of enrolling new mentors and mentees into the program and have high hopes for its development.

Our chapter also deepened our connections with alumni through having new presenters and panels speak with us over zoom. Our talks ranged from a current public health professor speaking about COVID-19, to insights on the journey to becoming a doctor from an experienced alumni, to conversations on bioethics. We also had a panel with four recent alumni about their experiences in medical school prior to, and during, the pandemic. While our conversations illuminated important information about career planning, the various paths in and to medicine, and current challenges within the field, our presenters also provided our members with more familiar people they can reach out to with questions.

In addition to building community within our own campus connections, the Pennsylvania Nu chapter wanted to help others feel less isolated too. In our outreach event for the semester, our membership worked together to make hundreds of virtual cards to be sent to children’s hospitals across the United States over the holidays.

We would like to recognize the hard work and high spirits of all of our inducted and affiliated members this past semester that allowed us to have yet another safe and successful semester here at Muhlenberg College.

Continuing into our spring semester, we are excited to host new panels and speakers and continue in our community outreach efforts.
Despite the understandable limitations imposed by our university due to COVID-19, the South Carolina Beta Chapter at Furman University has remained committed to serving our students and the local Greenville community. Accordingly, one of our chapter’s goals this Fall was to create a sense of community among our members in the face of limited in-person interactions. One of the ways we built camaraderie and a support system was to hold virtual social events. For instance, our chapter hosted several “meet and greets” for our members and potential members to connect with another. We found these events were especially beneficial for helping freshman students learn more about our organization’s events and values. Similarly, our monthly virtual meetings provided our members not only with career guidance from guest speakers but also a space where we could get to know one another. Our chapter was fortunate to have physicians, genetic counselors, nurses, and occupational therapists provide career advice to our members this past semester. We strive to cater to our members’ different interests in healthcare, and our diverse speakers are testament to this aspiration.

Aside from serving our campus, our chapter has remained dedicated to supporting the greater local community. A pillar of our organization is working together to support those in need, especially marginalized and at-risk populations. For example, our chapter partnered with The Blood Connection, a blood donation company, to host a blood drive. We were grateful that many of our members and fellow students donated blood given that healthcare facilities in the upstate portion of South Carolina have a critical need for potentially life-saving blood. Our chapter also organized a diaper drive to aid the diaper bank at Prisma Health Children’s Hospital. We are proud to do our part in helping to alleviate diaper shortages for vulnerable patients and local residents.

Our chapter continues to pride itself on facilitating the academic and career success of our members. During this past semester, our chapter has continued to organize academic and professional programs. We understand that pursuing a career in healthcare can be challenging, so providing support and resources to our members is crucial for their academic and career success. For instance, we maintained a mentorship program where underclassmen are paired with an upperclassmen who provides advice relating to pre-health coursework and pre-professional exam preparation along with more general emotional and social support. Further, our chapter hosted mock interviews. These practice interviews provided an opportunity to our members to practice their interview skills and hear important feedback.

We are looking forward to continuing our dedication to providing our members with pre-health professional guidance along with improving our local community next semester.
Erskine College, a liberal arts college located in Due West, South Carolina, is home to about 800 students. On November 10th, 2020, induction into Alpha Epsilon Delta become another opportunity for Erskine students to pursue. AED is one of ten honor societies at Erskine, and its launch has been marked as the 6th school in South Carolina where AED has been established. The process of installation of the chapter began in 2015 with follow-ups in 2017 and 2019 but was finalized in 2020. A two part virtual induction appointed five officers: president, Chloe Hamilton; vice president, Sydney Eaker; secretary, Lexi Lewis; treasurer, Sydney McGinnis; and historian, Anna Parramore as well as three new members: Kelci Brown, Ann Rose Connor, and Kathryn Torgerson. The chapter is advised by Dr. Al Mina. Since its initial interest, the development of AED at Erskine has been primarily student driven. Although somewhat limited by the pandemic, the society will be meeting regularly and hosting events made accessible to the campus and community. These events will begin this spring and be healthcare focused, for example, blood drives or vaccine drives. The society will also hold interest meetings in an attempt to inform underclassmen about opportunities that align with their major. Despite a small enrollment, Erskine has always had a very prevalent pursuit of careers in healthcare following graduation. Ultimately AED will assist students in opportunities for future careers as well as showing the importance of involvement in their school and community.
During the Fall 2020 semester, the Texas Beta chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta went above and beyond in ensuring the continuation of community service by its members in a safe, yet impactful fashion. Despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, AED’s members were committed to finding new ways to serve, leading to a new large service event held at The Shepherd’s Heart, a local food pantry working to alleviate poverty and hunger in Waco, Texas. Many families struggle to put food on the table and the need for community markets with fresh produce is greater than ever. Shepherd’s Heart is always open to help and volunteers are welcome anytime to aid in organizing and stocking food to support local families. AED volunteers answered the call for help by recognizing Waco’s need for food and stepped out to make this change. At the large service event, volunteers loaded boxes full of groceries and non-perishable items and efficiently transferred them directly into the trunks of waiting cars, ensuring that delivery was contactless. Many AED volunteers were moved by the stories of the families they met and were encouraged to return week after week, thus establishing a new, successful weekly service opportunity at Shepherd’s Heart. Volunteers continue to abide by social distancing guidelines and look forward to another great semester. The Texas Beta chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta hopes that we can continue to make a difference, no matter how big or small, in the lives of others through our continued commitment to community service during these challenging times.
The Fall 2020 semester for Texas Lambda at The University of Texas at San Antonio was like no other. Our chapter decided to maintain all events and meetings virtually to make sure we followed our community’s social guidelines. Although our operations shifted remotely, this didn’t stop our chapter from growing. Our chapter is known to be one of the largest Pre-health organizations on campus and this semester over 25 new members joined the Texas Lambda family.

Despite the circumstances, we continued to provide members with community outreach, professional development, and virtual volunteer opportunities. One of our favorite community outreach programs was volunteering with Project Sunshine. This organization provides pediatric patients and their families in short-term or long-term care with a variety of programs centered around providing joy, connection, socialization and memory-making. We were really excited to participate by making sunshine videos of our members saying jokes to provide joy and a smile to children who were isolated in the hospitals during this difficult time. We also worked with the San Antonio State Hospital by sending uplifting cards to patients who have been in quarantine since Mid-March and are unable to see any family members. As future health professionals, we understand the sacrifices and efforts current hospital staff are going through so we also sent “Hero Cards” to staff at the San Antonio State Hospital to thank them and show appreciation for their hard work during the pandemic.

While apart, Texas Lambda still managed to have engaging socials during stay at home orders. Our chapter was up to date with the latest virtual hang outs such as Among Us, Netflix Party, Quiplash, Celebrity look alike and many more. Providing a sense of community during these times is very important to our chapter. We strived to continue the connection and offer support to our members even if we couldn’t be together physically. Throughout the semester we had regular bi-weekly Zoom meetings with exciting guest speakers ranging from Medicine, Dental, Physical Therapy, Military Medical personnel, professional students and more. These speakers provided a greater insight on the different specialties within medicine while allowing our members to network with current healthcare professionals in their interested career path.

Our chapter strives to provide our members with the needed resources and opportunities for them to reach their goals in whatever field of health that may be interested in. This semester, our members got to experience a virtual medical school tour from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine North Texas. This provided our members with a wider understanding of the process of becoming a DO and answering any questions they had.

This semester for Texas Lambda was another memorable one for the books. We will be anticipating the challenges that arrive next semester and are excited to see our impact in the community grow in 2021. No matter what obstacles may arise, we know as a family we can remain connected as we embark on our journey towards becoming the future of healthcare.
It has been an incredible journey seeing the difference that the Texas Theta chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta has made in just a couple of years. In the past semester, our chapter has grown almost twice the amount that it was only two years ago. It was a tough transition going from in-person meetings to a complete online platform. There was plenty of worry of how we would be able to connect and engage with the members and be able to create this open community where all pre-health students were welcome. However, through relentless planning, teamwork, and the dedication and open-mindedness of chapter members there were many successful feats accomplished in the Fall 2020 semester of AED.

As always, our main goal in the Texas Theta chapter has been to engage, lead, and educate pre-health students in their pathways to their desired professions. In the school year of 2020-2021, we had primarily focused on reaching out to more members, providing them with more resources, and creating a larger community within our chapter through a better social media presence. The virtual reality that has become this year’s most uncertain aspect has nonetheless provided us with opportunities that have greatly increased the availability of resources and information to our members. Guest speakers in a variety of pre-health fields from all over the state of Texas and even outside of it were made possible. Despite their busy schedules, the online platform held for our meetings became an efficient way of finding a variety of doctors with different backgrounds to speak to our AED members. Through this online format the possibilities became endless of reaching guest speakers with diverse backgrounds such as pediatricians, optometrists, respiratory therapists, and even a pharmacy school in San Diego. Our most successful meeting being that of an emergency medicine doctor and assistant professor at the UT Southwestern Medical Center. Through the adaptation and success of our online platform, more members are able to listen to the guest speakers due to the efficiency of listening from home. A better social media presence that was started in the Fall has also been an advantage to our online transition as it has kept both current and potential members connected in our chapter community, and we have thus noticed a large increase in the networking between members.

The goals for the Spring 2021 semester is to continue to network with pre-health guest speakers outside of our local area to open up more resources and contacts for our members. This also includes plans of collaborating with other chapters of AED so that members will be able to interact with more students that have the same interests as them. We have filled as many spots as we could for guest speakers for the Spring semester and have given our members a variety of individuals to listen to such as a dermatologist, physician assistant, and plastic surgeon. The goal is to open up as many fields as we can to them.

Despite major changes and transitions, the Texas Theta chapter has seen nothing but improvements and growth both as an organization and as a pre-health community. It has taken a lot of effort both from the officers and members to accomplish the success that AED has seen, and it is something that we will continue to strive for in the Spring semester.
The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Texas Xi chapter of AED has continued working hard to recruit new members and giving back to our local community. After an amazing fall semester at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, our chapter is excited to start the spring semester with a bang. We are looking forward to the countless amazing volunteering opportunities, fundraising events, and exceptional online attendance during this pandemic. Texas Xi Chapter also hopes to continue demonstrating the need to give back to our community, and the importance of involvement in and out of this organization. Through the countless volunteering opportunities, our members will be able to connect with community members even through current circumstances.

This past fall semester, the mentor-mentee program was implemented into our organization and was a successful turnout. This program was designed to pair up underclassmen with upperclassmen as a means of building and strengthening relationships with our fellow peers, resulting in a stronger organization. This program allows for our members to make one-on-one connections with each other and helps build on networking skills to further branch out of their comfort zones with communication. Likewise, they can share knowledge and provide guidance with the application process for professional schools, and a transition from high school to the university. We are aware that attending college is very stressful with balancing out school, work, classes, and volunteering. However, having someone to talk to always helps with coping with the number of challenges that are brought up by attending a university. We have decided to keep our program going for future semesters and are looking forward to all the countless friendships that will be made.

We also hosted our very first food drive at our local food bank in Corpus Christi, we were able to provide 510 pounds of food and personal care items to the Coastal Bend Food Bank. This was able to provide countless numbers of meals during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We were extremely glad to hear that many families benefited from our efforts to provide back to our community. We have promised to continue volunteering at the food bank in the hopes to guide our organization on the importance that involvement has in our lives and those in need. Our goal with this drive was to help those in need, and this proved to be especially crucial as a result of the loss and financial hardships that the pandemic has caused over the past year. Knowing that we are making an impact in the lives of different individuals is what motivates us to continue to provide and lead as examples of future health professionals.

Lastly, even though these current circumstances have posed a challenge, the Texas Xi AED chapter wanted to show that maintaining the organization online was not an impossible task. Members have shown an outstanding commitment to service and highly believe that we have established an environment in which we can prepare and provide guidance to all our members in their journey to become successful health professionals. As the spring semester starts, we look forward to the growth and impact that our chapter will have in the community in the spring semester of 2021.
At the Texas Zeta Chapter of Texas Christian University, we have remained focused on fostering a pre-health community on our campus, helping the Fort Worth community, and providing an educational benefit to our members by bringing in professionals from different fields to talk about their experiences in their respective field of expertise. Last semester, we were able to hear from a critical care physician assistant, a cardiac nurse, and a hospitalist, who all shared their experiences regarding their journey to their current career and how the pandemic has affected their work. This semester, we plan on hosting more guest speakers—primarily students in pre-health graduate schools—who will discuss their undergraduate journey, their experience so far in graduate school, and provide any advice they have for our chapter members.

In addition to our virtual speaker’s series, our executive team has continued to embrace the virtual format of this semester by participating in the Baylor Pre-Health Symposium. At this event, we heard from professional schools across the nation and also collaborated with other pre-health students from across the nation. While not ideal, a virtual format has provided these collaborations with other chapters of AED that we may not have been able to do in the past, and we hope to continue connecting with other chapters in the future.

A virtual format has also allowed us to volunteer in creative ways in our local community. TCU's Texas Zeta Chapter of AED was able to participate in a volunteer event with Trinity Terrace, a retirement community in Fort Worth. At this event, chapter members led crafting activities in Zoom breakout rooms for residents in this retirement community, who are facing loneliness and social isolation due to the ongoing pandemic. The mural pictured on this page is the combination of many canvases created by both our chapter members and the residents at Trinity Terrace.
Regardless of the COVID 19 pandemic, the past year has been special for the pre-medical students at Lee University as we have been able to establish the Tennessee Iota chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta. The officers were initiated virtually by Dr. Taylor in early November. Just a few weeks after, our Executive Board was able to host an in-person initiation for the charter members of the chapter.

Our newly elected and pioneering Executive Board were excited to begin performing their duties for the chapter. They have worked hard to support and prepare those who are interested in pursuing a career in healthcare. Even with COVID, the chapter has been able to host activities and service projects. Most notably, Tennessee Iota has partnered with a free health clinic in town to provide service.

The Good Samaritan clinic is an organization entirely run by volunteers and offers care to the uninsured residents in the area. Chase Hayman, who is serving as Tennessee Iota’s service coordinator, leads a group of students at the clinic every week. There are numerous healthcare services made available such as blood sugar monitoring, urinalysis, prescription refills, and other health counseling. At this organization, volunteers can gather firsthand medical experience as well as shadowing opportunities during their visits. Volunteers can also build their social skills by establishing relationships with the healthcare specialists and fellow volunteers present. In addition to the Good Samaritan Clinic, AED members are encouraged to pursue other volunteer opportunities both locally and internationally. Through Lee University’s Global Perspectives program, our students are able to go on medical mission trips to Honduras and Guatemala each summer.

As our chapter grows, we hope to introduce even more opportunities and resources for the chapter members even during these unprecedented times. Our goal remains to support and encourage those who are pursuing a career in the health field.
At Regent University, our growing AED Virginia Mu chapter has made significant efforts to respond to the pandemic that has changed all aspects of our daily lives. Even during a time when in-person meetings are no longer available and outreach events are highly regulated, the Virginia Mu chapter has risen to the call of our local community for service as aspiring health providers. Our chapter is bustling with outreach activities from virtual tutoring for K-12 students studying remotely to a mask and soap fundraiser for Chesapeake Care Clinic, a local medical and dental facility dedicated to serving low-income families.

In addition to our efforts at outreach, Regent University’s AED Virginia Mu chapter is still making every effort to support our members in their pursuits of postgraduate studies. Our members are active in the medical and scientific communities as emergency medical technicians, interns at Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS), and an intern at a Department of Energy National Lab. Additionally, our members have come together to make their own sub-clubs to offer encouragement and support to other members pursuing similar careers. This year, two of our members, already accepted into the Physician’s Assistant program at EVMS, founded a Pre-PA sub-club to guide underclassmen through the application and clinical hour process.

Regent University’s AED Virginia Mu Chapter is sincerely devoted to service and scholarship, now more than ever before. With the deafening demands of the community for passionate medical providers, the Virginia Mu chapter is making every attempt to prepare our members for the future while serving our local communities now.
The Wisconsin Beta chapter at the University of Wisconsin-Madison had another successful and productive semester. Due to school restrictions, all meetings and events for our chapter were held virtually. We had an impressively large turnout for virtual events and meetings by our members which was great to see.

Something new that we implemented this semester was the creation of an “advocacy and awareness” committee that was in charge of finding or hosting events related to ethical issues and health disparities in healthcare. These events included different documentaries that were watched and followed up with guided discussions afterwards to discuss the issues presented in the videos as well as other ethical issue related events that were hosted virtually by the university. Although these events may not always be the most fun or exciting, they bring up very good points and ideas that are critical to keep in mind when working with people in the medical field.

We continued to offer our usual volunteer, social, and professional development events which are popular among our members. Being virtual made it more difficult at times to find events because there are only so many virtual volunteer options out there. We found great success in doing a socially distant food drive by dropping food off in a box at a specified location, so we plan on doing a similar event during the spring semester. In regard to the social aspect of our chapter, this semester we are planning on having a specified time after our virtual meetings to talk, meet, and connect with other members so we can all get to know each other. We look forward to another fun and eventful semester in the spring.
HOW TO SUBMIT A SCALPEL REPORT

Step 1: Visit the AED website to download the Scalpel Reporting Form.

Step 2: Fill in your Chapter Name, University, and Scalpel Reporter, using the PDF file.

Step 3: Write and Save your article in a Microsoft Word document making sure it follows the 250-350 word count range.

Step 4: Photos must be in High Resolution (320 DPI or more) JPEG format at least 2.5 “X 4”. (Photos are strongly encouraged)

Step 5: Please attach the Scalpel report (as a Microsoft Word Document), your photo (as a JPEG) and the completed Scalpel Reporting form (PDF) to an email and send the email with the three files attached to the AED National Office at: aednationaloffices@tcu.edu

Reminder:
AED HAS THE RIGHT TO EDIT SUBMITTED ARTICLES. The Deadline for submitting articles is October 1st for the Fall Scalpel and Feb 1st for the Spring Scalpel.
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Welcome To Our New and Re-Established Chapters

New Jersey Zeta - William Paterson University
Pennsylvania Tau - Holy Family University
South Carolina Zeta - Erskine University, Due West
Tennessee Iota - Lee University, Cleveland
Pennsylvania Pi - Mercyhurst University
South Carolina Eta - Charleston Southern University
Wisconsin Delta - Carthage College
Virginia Eta - Old Dominion University
Massachusetts Eta - Clark University
Kansas Beta - Tabor College

SAVE THE DATE

2022 Convention
It will be in Nashville, TN, March 17-19, 2022.
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The AED National Office receives numerous inquiries asking for verification of membership. These queries frequently result from a person listing AED membership as a part of their credentials.

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Each AED member has been issued a certificate of membership and is officially registered in the AED National Office with a national number. The National Office will be happy to confirm your membership status if you have any questions.

Contact us:
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E-Mail: aednationaloffices@tcu.edu

CHANGES TO THE MRF SUBMISSION PROCESS:
In addition to previous requirement the following should be included with each package of MRF’s:
1. Only typed forms will be accepted and processed.
2. A typed list of each students first, middle, and last name is to be included.
3. Please allow three weeks from arrival at the national office for processing and return.
SAVE THE DATE
for the 2022 Convention.
It will be in Nashville, TN,