

 **ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION**

**Alpha Chi Omega, Theta Omicron Chapter  
D. Reid Weedon, Jr. '41 FSILG Alumnae Relations Award  
2013 Application**

**Submitted on behalf of Alpha Chi Omega, Theta Omicron by:**  
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As Alpha Chi Omegas, we are tied to our alumnae by an unbreakable bond. Our alumnae serve as our mentors, our friends, but most of all, our sisters. Alpha Chi Omega's motto is "Together Let Us Seek the Heights;" thus, each sister, whether a newly initiated freshman or an alumna long past her college days, does all she can to help fellow sister. Alpha Chi Omegas are not satisfied until all of our sisters have accomplished her goals, her aspirations, and her desire to become a better woman – until she has reached "the Heights." This is manifested in the endless support provided to us by our incredible alumnae. We are proud to have so many incredible alumnae sisters, and honored to be seeking the heights with them by our sides.

| <b>Chapter Quick Facts</b>                 |      |
|--|------|
| Number of living FSILG alumnae population: | 638  |
| Number of current (student) members:       | 119  |
| Year chapter was founded at MIT:           | 1986 |

1. Please describe your major annual alumni event(s) (e.g. Alumni weekend, Founders' Day, reunion). Use the chart template below to describe each event:

Our major alumnae events include the Hall of Commitment Ceremony (the last component of the Ritual of Alpha Chi Omega, transitioning seniors to alumnae status), the summer Tech Reunion Open House, and a new event, the Chapter Birthday Reunion and Celebration.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Name of Event   | <b>Hall of Commitment</b>   |
| Date  | May 7, 2012<br>May 5, 2013  |
| # of undergraduate members attending  | 22  |
| # of alumni/ae invited  | All   |
| # of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix)                                 | 4, plus 8 non-MIT alumnae from Boston Alumnae Chapter.  |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 2001-2008   |
| Alumni role(s) at event   | Alumnae perform the ceremony, as collegiate members are not allowed to.   |
| Student role(s) at event  | Active sisters organized a post-Hall of Commitment celebration to allow sisters and alumnae to mingle and share memories and stories.                           |
| How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit) | Active sisters determine the date and time of the event. Alumnae run the ceremony, and actives plan the celebration after. Seniors participate in the ceremony. |
| Event description & outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in                                    | This event is the "graduation ceremony" for our collegiate seniors. It is the last  |

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| <p>appendix</p> | <p>component of the Ritual of Alpha Chi Omega that serves as the transition between collegiate and alumna status. Alumnae welcome collegians into the new chapter of their lifelong sisterhood. Alumnae also help sisters enroll with their local alumnae chapters upon graduation.</p> |
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| <p>Name of Event</p>   | <p><b>Tech Reunion Open House</b></p>  |
| <p>Date</p>  | <p>June 8, 2011</p>  |
| <p># of undergraduate members attending</p>  | <p>10</p>  |
| <p># of alumni/ae invited</p>  | <p>All</p>   |
| <p># of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix)</p>                                 | <p>11</p>  |
| <p>Class year range of attending alumni/ae</p>   | <p>1987-2007</p>   |
| <p>Alumni role(s) at event</p>   | <p>Attendees, helped coordinate date/time</p>  |
| <p>Student role(s) at event</p>  | <p>They organized the event, provided refreshments and chatted with alumnae!</p>   |
| <p>How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit)</p> | <p>Alumnae normally notify the chapter of when the Tech Reunion is held. Then, the VP Ritual and Fraternity Appreciation and her Alumnae Chairs organize for the house to be open at that time and provide refreshments for the alumnae.</p> |
| <p>Event description &amp; outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix</p>                       | <p>Alumnae were able to see the chapter house, look at chapter scrapbooks and talk with their sisters.</p>   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Name of Event   | <b>Chapter Birthday Event (NEW!)</b>  |
| Date  | April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2013   |
| # of undergraduate members attending  | 119   |
| # of alumni/ae invited  | All   |
| # of alumni/ae attending  | 13  |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 1989-2012   |
| Alumni role(s) at event   | Attendees   |
| Student role(s) at event  | Organizers  |
| How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit) | The Chapter Birthday event on campus is organized by active sisters. The virtual alumnae chapter president is also organizing regional get-togethers for that weekend for the sisters who can't make it to Boston.  |
| Event description & outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix                           | <p>This event will be a great opportunity for active sisters to meet alumnae! We hope to make this event an annual tradition for our chapter, and we are so happy to start it this year! This event will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A resume-interview-career help session with the alumnae as panel speakers</li> <li>2) Dinner at the chapter house with active sisters and alumnae</li> <li>3) Alumnae and all active sisters participate in formal chapter meeting, sharing the special Ritual of Alpha Chi Omega. At this chapter meeting alumnae will share their favorite AXO memories,</li> </ol> |

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|--|--|
|  | <p>sisters will ask alumnae questions, and then everyone will mingle and celebrate with a chapter birthday cake. Alumnae who can't attend are sending in photos to be included in a slideshow! In addition, during the chapter meeting we will be performing the 25 Year Pinning Ceremony for three alumnae to celebrate a quarter century of their sisterhood in AXO.</p> |
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**Appendix Items:** Attendance Lists

2. Please describe other chapter events which alumni/ae were invited and participated (e.g. initiation, community service, informal alumni dinners, athletic events, faculty dinners, parents' dinners, and Campus Preview Weekend). Use the chart template below to describe each event:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Name of Event   | <b>Initiation</b>  |
| Date  | November 10, 2012  |
| # of undergraduate members attending  | 119  |
| # of alumni/ae invited  | All  |
| # of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix)                                 | 3  |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 1990-2008  |
| Alumni/ae role(s) at event  | Participant in ceremony  |
| Student role(s) at event  | Run/participate in ceremony  |
| How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit) | This event is planned and organized by active sisters.   |
| Event description & outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix                           | This year, we were very happy to initiate our first MIT-AXO legacy. Isabella Stuopis' mother, Cecilia Stuopis '90, attended the ceremony and participated for her daughter. This was a special moment for all sisters to recognize the timelessness of the AXO bond. |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Name of Event   | <b>Recruitment</b>   |
| Date  | August 29-September 5, 2012  |
| # of undergraduate members attending  | 119  |
| # of alumni/ae invited  | Recruitment Advisory Team  |
| # of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix)                                 | Recruitment Advisory Team and Volunteers   |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 2008-2011  |
| Alumni/ae role(s) at event  | Assisted VP Recruitment and the entire chapter   |
| Student role(s) at event  | Recruiters!  |
| How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit) | This event is planned and organized by active sisters.   |
| Event description & outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix                           | Our recruitment advisors are instrumental to recruitment success. They provide endless support to the Recruitment Team during a normally stressful time, provide snacks and sandwiches during long recruitment days and provide support to individual sisters who are feeling overwhelmed. |

|                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Name of Event                        | <b>Fondue</b>                    |
| Date                                 | November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2012 |
| # of undergraduate members attending | 119                              |
| # of alumni/ae invited               | All                              |



|   |  |
|---|--|
| # of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix)                                 | 6  |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 2008-2012  |
| Alumni/ae role(s) at event  | Attendees  |
| Student role(s) at event  | Organizers   |
| How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit) | This event is completely organized by sisters. Alumnae helped donate to offset costs of the event.   |
| Event description & outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix                           | Fondue is Alpha Chi Omega's annual faculty event and open house. Faculty members are invited to the chapter house for the first hour, and the next hour is an open house for the entire community. Alumnae assist with chocolate dipping and enjoy spending time with sisters in the house (and eating lots of chocolate)! This year, alumnae also donated \$300 to the chapter to help offset the costs of the event. |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Name of Event   | <b>Career Fair Dinner</b>                           |
| Date  | September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2012                   |
| # of undergraduate members attending  | 20  |
| # of alumni/ae invited  | 2   |
| # of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix) | Two attendees: Emily Houston '09 and Emily Shao '11 |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 2009-2011   |
| Alumni/ae role(s) at event  | Speakers  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Student role(s) at event  | Attendees   |
| How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit) | This event was organized by our then VP of Intellectual Development. She emailed out to the alumnae to see if any were attending the fall MIT Career Fair, and two alumnae were attending to recruit! They attended a dinner, planned by our VP Intellectual Development, during which they provided advice for the career fair and also edited sisters' resumes. |
| Event description & outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix                           | Many sisters benefited from the dinner! They expressed positive feedback about the advice they received. Emily Shao also offered to host another resume and interview advice session, which will occur later this semester.   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Name of Event   | <b>MFA Event*</b>  |
| Date  | This event was planned for February 9 <sup>th</sup> . Unfortunately, due to the "Nemo" blizzard the event was cancelled, but we hope to have this event next year. |
| # of undergraduate members attending  | Planned: 20  |
| # of alumni/ae invited  | All  |
| # of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix) | Planned: 13  |
| Class year range of attending alumni/ae   | 2008-2012  |
| Alumni/ae role(s) at event  | Attendees  |
| Student role(s) at event  | Attendees  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit)</p> | <p>This event was planned by the VP Ritual and Fraternity Appreciation. Alumnae assisted in encouraging their fellow sisters to attend.</p>   |
| <p>Event description &amp; outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix</p>                       | <p>Alpha Chi Omega celebrates MacDowell Month in February to appreciate the fine arts. (AXO was founded as a musical organization, so we have strong ties to the arts). The purpose of the MFA Event was to appreciate the arts with our sisters - collegiate and alumnae. Active and alumna sisters would have lunch before at nearby restaurants and then attend the museum together. Sisters from UNH and UMass Amherst were planning on attending, too. Unfortunately the event was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances (the blizzard), but we plan on having this event occur next year!</p> |

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <p>Name of Event</p>   | <p><b>Big-Little Revelations</b></p> |
| <p>Date</p>  | <p>November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012</p> |
| <p># of undergraduate members attending</p>  | <p>All- 119</p>                      |
| <p># of alumni/ae invited</p>  | <p>All</p>                           |
| <p># of alumni/ae attending (please include list of names and class years in appendix)</p> | <p>9</p>                             |
| <p>Class year range of attending alumni/ae</p>   | <p>2011-2012</p>                     |
| <p>Alumni/ae role(s) at event</p>  | <p>Attend</p>                        |
| <p>Student role(s) at event</p>  | <p>Organized</p>                     |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>How was this event student-driven? If collaboration with alumni, how were responsibilities shared? (250 word limit)</p> | <p>This event is organized by active sisters.</p>   |
| <p>Event description &amp; outcomes (250 word limit) Please include captioned photos in appendix</p>                       | <p>At this event, the new members find out who their “big sister” is and which family line they entered. Many alumnae come to the event to meet the newest addition to their family line and introduce themselves to their new sisters!</p> |

In addition to these events, alumnae have a permanent invitation to visit the house or attend chapter meetings. Many stop by to say hello, stay the night or weekend at the chapter house and reconnect with sisters. Additionally, some alumnae who are passing through the area stop by to see the sisters and the house again after being away from Boston for several years. During the Cambridge blackout, some local alumnae sought refuge at the AXO house with welcome arms. Many alumnae also keep in touch with their family lines via the family line email address or Skype. In addition, alumnae often invite sisters to events while in Boston. For example, an alumna invited collegiate sisters to a Red Sox game. Recently, an alumna, Mary Winn Miller, invited 25 sisters to the Boston Ballet and a special pre-show discussion with the ballet director. It is through these actions that our alumnae constantly provide us with incredible opportunities!

**Appendix Items:**

- Attendance Lists
- Captioned photos

3. Please describe your chapter's interaction with your House Corporation. In what ways is it student-driven? (250 word max.)

The House Corporation of Theta Omicron is comprised of nine women, ranging from three current sisters and two recently graduated alumnae to several alumnae who graduated between the last six and eleven years. This composition provides the House Corporation with a wide range of perspectives of the house's past and present state. Impressively enough, the members of the House Corporation live all around the country, so they meet monthly via teleconference to work towards maintaining and improving the house.

In the past, the House Corporation (HC) was seen as a mysterious body that none of the current sisters in the chapter really knew about; not even the sisters living in the house, directly affected by the decisions of the board, knew much information about HC. To improve the image of HC within the chapter, we have implemented several changes. First, we have invited local members of HC to chapter meetings to introduce themselves. We have also created a "get to know HC" page on the AXO MIT website to inform active sisters (including house sisters) about what HC discusses. Finally, the House Manager sends out monthly meeting minutes from the HC meetings.

HC has three undergraduate members (the House Manager, Chapter President, and Undergraduate Director) who all live in the house, so the board looks to undergraduate members to provide updates on the current state of the house and ideas for improvements, and to assist in any business that must be done locally/at the facility. For

example, the selection process for a Residential Adviser is largely led by the undergraduate members of HC.

**Appendix Items:**

- Roster of House Corporation Members
- “Getting to Know House Corp” website screenshot.
- Example of monthly meeting minutes

4. Please describe your chapter's interaction with your Alumnae Advisors. In what ways is it student-driven? (250 word max.)

Theta Omicron is extremely fortunate to have the resource of a complete and dedicated advisory board. The board has two chapter advisors and an advisor for each executive officer, summing to 14 advisors. Each advisor is easily accessible - many are located in the Boston area and all are easily reached via email. Additionally, the board has monthly meetings at the chapter house which are open to all members. Furthermore, at least one advisor attends each chapter meeting, participating and interacting just as active sisters do. Likewise, at least one advisor is present at weekly executive meetings and Chapter Relations and Standards Board meetings.

Advisees reach out to their advisors for advice and to gain a different perspective on certain subjects, helping the advisees to expand their thinking and problem solving skills. Moreover, when asked for help, the advisor does not take over the situation; instead they provide suggestions and other resources to help the advisee solve the problem on her own. As MIT is a stressful school with rigorous curriculum, each advisor will check in on their advisee to ensure they are not overly stressed. Advisors are always available when the advisee needs help on a personal level and frequently become a close friend to their advisees. Thus, students reach out to advisors not solely as mentors but also as sisters.

**Appendix Items:** Roster of Advisors

5. Please describe how you communicate chapter news to alumni/ae.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Do you have a newsletter for alumni/ae?  | Yes   |
| How often is the newsletter distributed?   | Monthly during the school year, once during the summer.   |
| How is it distributed? (i.e. mail, email, website)   | The newsletter is emailed to all alums, and also posted on the chapter website.   |
| Share web link to newsletter(s) since April 2012 or indicate what .pdf(s) is included in appendix                        | <a href="http://axo.mit.edu/alumnae/">http://axo.mit.edu/alumnae/</a>   |
| Do you use a service (i.e. Stewart Howe)? Describe if yes.   | No.   |
| If applicable, note other communication methods used by your students to communicate with your alumni/ae (250 word max). | <p>Our chapter recently created a Facebook page (link: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/MitAlphaChiOmega">www.facebook.com/MitAlphaChiOmega</a>) which over 120 alumnae have “liked.” This page allows us to show alumnae what we are up to (via sister of the week profiles and other updates) as well as allow sisters to see what alumnae are up to, with a new “Real Strong Woman” profile. This profile features an alumna and what she is up to. Alumnae are nominated through both active sisters and other alumnae. We plan on continuing this new tradition semiweekly!</p> <p>Sisters can reach out to alumna in the “Alumna-Sister Connections” section of the newsletter with job requests or questions. Sisters also contact alumnae directly via email lists. In addition, there is an alumnae Facebook group. We are in the process of creating an</p> |



|                                  |
|----------------------------------|
| MIT- AXO LinkedIn group as well. |
|----------------------------------|

**Appendix Items:**

- “MIT Alpha Chi Omega” Facebook Page
- Alumnae Facebook Page
- Real Strong Woman Profiles

6. Please describe how you use your chapter’s website to communicate with alumni/ae.  
(250 max.)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>What is the web address for committee review, if this address/site is password protected, please contact Katie, <a href="mailto:kcasey@mit.edu">kcasey@mit.edu</a>, to discuss the best way to share this information with the committee</p> | <p>Axo.mit.edu</p> <p>Facebook.com/MITAlphaChiOmega</p> <p>Our website includes profiles for each sister, which allows alumnae to learn about active sisters! Some of our website is password protected--this includes a section in which we feature our House Corps Board and a “Frequently Asked Question” section with some questions answered by alums. However, most of our alumnae interactions come via the newsletter, the alumnae Facebook page, or our chapter’s Facebook page, facebook.com/MITAlphaChiOmega. We have found that using Facebook increases interactions because alumnae are already on Facebook regularly.</p> |
| <p>Does this site include a link to <a href="http://alum.mit.edu">http://alum.mit.edu</a>?</p>  | <p>Yes</p>   |
| <p>Do you encourage your alumni/ae to update their information with the MIT Alumni Association? How?</p>  | <p>Yes, during update email and on alumnae section of website.</p>   |

**Appendix Items:**

- Alumnae section of website, screenshot
- Sister Profiles

7. Please describe how undergraduates engage alumni/ae as mentors, career advisors and/or for networking. (250 word max.)

Our members' interaction with alumnae begins only a week after Bid Day! Each new member is paired with an alumna sister based on interests. These partnerships, known as "Symphony Sisters," allow new members to connect with alumnae immediately, providing them with a mentor and advisor for their college years and beyond. Symphony Sisters are particularly important for "real life" questions that active sisters who are still in school may not know the answer to. Additionally, the Symphony Sister program connects alumnae with current collegiate that they may not otherwise have met, keeping them involved in the current chapter happenings.

Senior members were given the opportunity to interact with alumnae through the creation of a "Wisdom Book." At a senior education meeting, each senior wrote one or two questions they had for alums, both serious and funny, which were sent to the alumnae. The answers were compiled, and the seniors were really happy to get their questions answered, and though some of the answers were surprising, many were exactly what they needed to hear. A list of participants and sample questions, in addition to sample questions and responses is in the appendix.

A new program starting this year matches seniors with a "Wisdom Sister" alumna in their new area who will welcome them to the area's alumnae chapter after graduation and encourage them to stay involved with MIT and AXO alumnae activities.

Additionally, sisters reach out to alumnae via email lists or the Alumna-Collegiate connection section of the newsletter.

**Appendix Items:**

- List of Symphony Sisters, 2012
- Wisdom Book sample entries and participants
- Alumna-Collegiate Connections sample entry from newsletter
- Sister anecdotes of alumnae connections

8. Please describe any other programs, events or outreach not described above (e.g. Holiday Cards, Relational Phonathons, and email listservs). (500 word max. Bulleted list acceptable)

### **Email Lists**

Sisters, both alumnae and active, have access to a wide variety of email lists in order to contact sisters. These lists are detailed in the appendix.

### **Class Agent Program**

Each year, the graduating senior class elects one member from their class to serve as “Class Agent.” This sister is in charge of planning reunions for their pledge class and facilitating other methods of keeping in touch, such as Skype sessions and email chats. The class agent also is a great resource for the alumnae relations team to contact in order to get help organizing specific pledge classes.

### **Holiday Emails**

The chapter loves to celebrate holidays, both AXO and not, with our alumnae. This year we celebrated the following holidays:

- Valentine’s Day: e-card
- MacDowell Month:  
MacDowell Month is an Alpha Chi Omega Holiday dedicated to celebrating the fine arts. We collected artwork from sisters and sent alumnae photos of the masterpieces!
- Hera Day Email:  
Hera Day is an Alpha Chi Omega Holiday dedicated to service. Hera is the patron goddess of Alpha Chi Omega. On Hera Day, an email was send to alumnae encouraging them to participate in service activities and included facts about the Greek mythology of Hera.
- National Ritual Celebration Week:

During National Ritual Celebration Week, an email was sent to alumnae reminding them to participate in International Badge Day (many did!). The email included the *Symphony of Alpha Chi Omega*, an open piece of AXO ritual, and they were encouraged to share the symphony with others.

- Planned e-cards for 2013:
  - Chapter Birthday (April 26)
  - “Happy Summer” (End of May)
  - Founder’s Day (October)
  - Holiday Card with Chapter Photo (December)

### **Update and Invitation Emails**

Alumnae are always invited to events such as LipSync, our philanthropy event and Initiation via email. In addition, we update our alumnae after exciting events such as recruitment, revelations and elections.

### **Preserving Our History**

It is important to preserve our history so that when alumnae return, they can see photos and other memorabilia from their collegiate days! Each year the chapter historian makes a scrapbook. This year, we are shifting to a photo-book by Shutterfly so that the memories are preserved longer. We also maintain our composite photos carefully.

### **Other**

- Chapter sister Caitlin Mackey ’15 wrote an article for *The Tech* about the cross-generational bond sororities offer. The article was shared with alumnae not only from the MIT chapter but also alumnae across the nation.
- We maintain a detailed family tree so that alumnae can track their growing families and contact new additions.

### **APPENDIX ITEMS:**

- Email Lists
- Valentine's Day E-Card
- Hera Day Email
- *Tech* article about alumnae.
- Family tree

9. How do you develop, improve, setup and/or pass on your program from year to year?  
(250 word max.)

Each outgoing executive member meets with their successor in December, immediately after elections. Each outgoing member is required to create digital transition documents to pass on to their successor and have a two-hour transition meeting. This meeting happens early so planning for the term may begin over winter break. Each outgoing member also is available in person and via email during the new officer's first semester in office. Transition materials are kept which helps less frequent events; for example, when a large 25-Year Reunion was planned in 2011, the officer had the large 20 Year Reunion notes to turn to.

The new officer in charge of Alumnae Relations often comes with many ideas for the position. These ideas and feedback are supplemented by sister feedback from the annual sisterhood retreat at the beginning of the spring semester, where sisters provide fresh ideas to each executive officer.

The officer's advisor plays a key role in helping the program improve. The advisor encourages the officer to set specific, practical goals for her position and create a specific action plan on how to achieve these goals. For example, the goal of "Help sisters find out what alums are up to" is turned into the specific action item of "create a semi-weekly alumna profile on the Facebook page." These specific goals are more likely to be achieved and help the program improve each year. Additionally, an electronic feedback form is sent to alumnae annually for suggestions on the newsletter and other interactions.



10. Please note changes, both additions and deletions, to your alumni/ae relations program from last year (250 word max. bulleted list is acceptable).

There were no deletions to our program from last year.

Additions:

- Facebook Page and Real Strong Woman Alumnae profiles
- Chapter Birthday Event to be held in April.
- Matching seniors with AXO alumnae (“Wisdom Sister”) before the Hall of Commitment ceremony to welcome them into alumnae life.
- “Get to Know House Corp” section on website
- “Frequently Asked Question” section on website
- MFA Event
- Alumnae E-Cards

11. What challenges and/or successes did your chapter's alumni/ae relations program face this year (250 max.)?

Historically, our chapter has done an outstanding job of updating our alumnae on our current events, news and happenings. We receive great feedback on our newsletter and email updates. With a new executive board term commencing in January, our goals were to continue our success in updating alumnae, better inform the chapter about what our alumnae are up to and facilitate more personal interactions with alumnae.

One challenge is that many of our alumnae are spread out across the country, making reunions more difficult. Since a large, 25-year reunion was held in 2011, we did not have a large reunion in 2012. The Tech Reunion was during the summer, so many active sisters were unable to attend. We are planning a Chapter Birthday celebration and reunion for April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013, which we hope will allow for a lot of collegiate-alumnae interactions. We hope to make this an annual tradition. Finally, we are improving our chapter's awareness about what our alumnae are doing through the "Real, Strong Woman" alumna profiles on the Facebook page.

### **CURRENT PROJECTS**

- Improving alumnae database using MIT Infinite Connections data and surveying alumnae. We hope to collect data on companies worked for to better serve as a resource for networking.
- Creating AXO- MIT LinkedIn page.
- Find “lost” sisters using Facebook as a new tool, and encourage them to update their information with Alpha Chi Omega and MIT.
- Continue planning and host April chapter birthday event, with hopes that a successful event this year will allow the event to grow in future years and become an annual tradition for our chapter.

## APPENDIX

### ATTENDANCE LISTS:

#### Hall of Commitment 2012 Attendance

Caroline Barker '08  
 Rashmi Khrae '01  
 Kelly Johnson '05  
 Doria Holbrook '08

#### Tech Reunion Attendance

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| Ms Liana M Alvarez Lopez  | 1987 |
| Ms Ela Ben-Ur             | 1997 |
| Mrs Erica K. Everhart     | 1997 |
| Julie Hockett             | 2002 |
| Ms Christina Hsu          | 1997 |
| Miss Ava Y Kuo            | 1992 |
| Ms Rebecca D Niles Peretz | 1992 |
| Mrs Cynthia D. Panas      | 2007 |
| Mrs Elizabeth H Rasmussen | 1992 |
| Julie Melissa Watts       | 2002 |
| Ms Judy Wong              | 1992 |
| SiRui Xia                 | 2007 |

#### Initiation Attendance

Cecilia Stuopis '90  
 Rachel Ellman '07  
 Caroline Barker '08

#### Big-Little Revelations Attendance

Emily Shao '11  
 Shireen Warock '11  
 Elise Hens '12  
 Lauren Sless '12  
 Vanessa Bowens '12  
 Jane Chen-Liang '12  
 Amber Stangroom '12  
 Claudia Richardson '12  
 Dordy Sugano '12



Dordy Sugano '12, Victoria Lu '13 and Lauren Quisenberry '14 welcome new sister Karly McLaughlin '15 to their family line at Big-Little Revelations 2012!

**Chapter Birthday Event 2013: Anticipated Attendance**

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Kimberly McNeil  | 1989 |
| Cecilia Stuopis  | 1990 |
| Rebecca Niles    | 1993 |
| Nikki Springer   | 2004 |
| Doria Holbrook   | 2008 |
| Caroline Barker  | 2008 |
| Ellen Sojka      | 2008 |
| Nahathai Srivali | 2010 |
| Julie Paul       | 2010 |
| Julie Harrow     | 2012 |
| Lauren Sless     | 2012 |
| Vanessa Bowens   | 2012 |
| Elise Hens       | 2012 |



Cecilia Stuopis '90 and her daughter, Isabella '16 at the post-initiation celebration.

**Recruitment Advisory Team and Volunteers**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Amy Brazin     | 2008 |
| Doria Holbrook | 2008 |
| Amy Jacobi     | 2011 |
| Julie Harrow   | 2012 |
| Vanessa Bowens | 2012 |

**Fondue Attendance**

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Caroline Barker | 2008 |
| Ellen Sojka     | 2008 |
| Emily Shao      | 2011 |
| Vanessa Bowens  | 2012 |
| Julie Harrow    | 2012 |
| Jane Chen-Liang | 2012 |



Sisters Stephanie Fung '13 and Julie Harrow '12 happily reunite at Fondue

**MFA Event: Planned Attendance**

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Caroline Barker | 2008 |
| Elise Hens      | 2012 |
| Vanessa Bowens  | 2012 |


10 Alumnae from the Zeta Zeta Alumnae Chapter

**HOUSE CORPORATION**

MEMBERS:


|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| President                | Kelly Johnson '05       |
| Vice President           | Elizabeth Greenwood '05 |
| Secretary                | Claudia Richardson '12  |
| Chapter President        | Morganne Klein '14      |
| House Manager            | Abbey Bethel '14        |
| Special Projects Chair   | Katie Gaetke '02        |
| External Relations Chair | Jessica Kesner '06      |
| House Manager Advisor    | Vanessa Bowens '12      |
| Undergraduate Director   | Marissa Jasso '13       |

[About](#) [Sisters](#) [Philanthropy](#) [Social](#) [Recruitment](#) [Parents](#) [Alumnae](#) [Sisters Only](#)  
[Attendance](#) [Directory](#) [Elections](#) [Feedback](#) [AXO Resources](#)

**House Corp** 

**President**  
 Kelly Johnson  
 AXO '01, MIT '05, Course 1-C  
 I'm responsible for ensuring that HC meets monthly to discuss on-going projects, initiatives, or issues related to the house. I help to make sure that the other officers are able to perform their duties, and I act as a main point of contact between the local board and the Nationals organization.  
*Why did you join House Corp and what do you like most about it?*  
 I was a member of HC during my undergraduate years (while Chapter President), and I decided to stay involved after graduating. I held an official position for one year, then became a member at large for several years before rejoining as the board President. I loved living in the house as an undergrad, and I'm happy to support and maintain the house's important role in the Chapter.  
 Outside of HC, I work at McKinsey as an Associate and enjoy hanging out in New York with my fiancé, Andrew, and our cat, Burt. I love trying out new restaurants, going for a jog along the Hudson River, or just meandering through Central Park.

**Vice President & Forms and Filing Chair**  
 Elizabeth Greenwood  
 AXO '01, MIT '05, Course 14 & 18  
 I am in charge of making sure the IRDF application and other forms are completed and turned in on time.  
*Why did you join House Corp and what do you like most about it?*  
 I joined HC because living in the house was one of my favorite experiences at MIT! I want to make sure AXOs keep having that opportunity for a long time!  
 I just finished my PhD in economics at Harvard, and I'm starting as a consultant at BCG's Chicago office in January. I just moved to Chicago this summer, and I'm enjoying getting to know the city!



**Secretary & Internal Relations**  
 Claudia Richardson  
 AXO '08, MIT '12, Course 3

**Treasurer (Headquarters Property Management Team)**

This semester, we added a “House Corp” section to the sisters-only section of the AXO website. This allows sisters to learn about what House Corp does and about the sisters who are involved!

**House Corp Meeting Minutes (3/12/13) - for the curious!**

*In Attendance:* Kelly, Liz Greenwood, Jess Kesner, Abbey, Vanessa

1. Updates from Beverly
  - a. Security system upgrade is scheduled to take place over spring break
  - b. Bev has received a quote from \*\*\*AAA\*\* for venting the server room. Bev thinks it's incomplete and has asked for some additional info
  - c. Request for quote has gone out for new sectional for blue room. Bev will share the quotes once she receives them.
2. Summer RA Discussion
  - a. Vanessa spoke to Caroline. Caroline had informed Adam McCreedy about potential summer vacancy in December. Adam did not get back to her until this month.
  - b. Caroline has found a potential interim summer RA, Grace, who she feels is a good fit for the house
  - c. Grace has agreed to go through training to become interim RA over the summer
  - d. We'd like to hold a meeting with Grace at the house (with a few house sisters, chapter advisor, and a HC rep or two) to act as a mini interview
  - e. However, we need to figure out a back-up plan in case we don't feel she's a good fit for the house
  - f. AI: Vanessa will speak with Adam McCreedy this week to discuss backup options
  - g. AI: Vanessa will also initiate planning the mini interview for Grace once we identify a backup plan
3. Term RA Discussion
  - a. Caroline will not know her plans for next year until mid to late April
  - b. AI: Vanessa will meet with Abbey and any other undergrads in leadership roles to fill out RA survey to get us into the pool of chapters in need of an RA. To be done soon as deadline was Mar 1
  - c. If Caroline ends up staying in Boston, we would consider her alongside other potential candidates

House Corp Meeting Minutes 3/12/12 sent via email to House Sisters!

**ADVISORS**

## MEMBERS:

| <b>Role</b>                              | <b>Current Advisor</b> | <b>Class Year</b> |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| Chapter Advisor                          | Ellen Sojka            | 2008              |
| Chapter Advisor                          | Doria Holbrook         | 2008              |
| New Member Education Advisor             | Rachel Ellman          | 2007              |
| Financial Advisor                        | Megan Roberts          | 2007              |
| Housing Advisor                          | Vanessa Bowens         | 2012              |
| Intellectual Development Advisor         | Madeline Paniagua      |                   |
| Public Relations & Marketing Advisor     | Margaret Leibovic      | 2010              |
| Risk Management Advisor                  | Caroline Barker        | 2008              |
| Recruitment Advisor                      | Arielle Sobov          | 2010              |
| CRS Advisor                              | Wen-fai Fong           | 2008              |
| Philanthropy Advisor                     | Tina Srivastava        | 2009              |
| Ritual & Fraternity Appreciation Advisor | Amanda Koh             | 2011              |
| Membership Programming Advisor           | Emily Attwood          | 2011              |
| Panhellenic Advisor                      | Lauren Cipicchio       | 2010              |





The screenshot shows the Facebook page for MIT Alpha Chi Omega - Theta Omicron. The page features several posts:

- A post from March 22 with the text: "To strike on the lyre of the universe only the notes of happiness, of joy, of peace." Happy Spring Break!!!
- A post from March 20 congratulating Jessica Andersen for being selected as Sister of the Week. The text reads: "Congratulations to Jessica Andersen for being selected as Sister of the Week! Jessica helped run the Junior Panhel Service event during Relay for Life and also co-planned an awesome mixer with Theta Xi! Keep up the good work!"
- A featured profile for Joy Dunn, an alumna from 2008, titled "Real Strong Woman". The profile includes a photo of her and a SpaceX spacecraft, along with text describing her career at SpaceX and her involvement in various activities.

At the bottom of the featured profile, there is a quote: "A quote to live by: 'Promise me you'll always remember: You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.'" attributed to Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh.

Our Facebook page shares sister profiles, alumnae profiles, and other updates from the chapter! It currently boasts 249 “Likes,” over 120 of which are by AXO alumnae. The page was created in January, so the number of likes (and thus alums we are reaching) continues to increase!

# AXO

## Real Strong Woman

**Meet Joy Dunn, AXO '05 MIT '08!**

**MIT Major:** Course 16- Aero-Astro Engineering

**Other MIT Activities:** Varsity Softball, UA

**What I Do For Fun:** scuba diving, hiking, soccer

**How I'm "Seeking the Heights" Now!** "I'm currently the Production Engineering Manager for Spacecraft Propulsion at SpaceX, a private space exploration company! I've launched 4 Dragon spacecraft into orbit- 3 have docked with the International Space Station- and built 72 spacecraft thrusters that have flown in space. I'm also helping build the next generation spacecraft that will carry astronauts in a few years (of which I want to be one of them!)."

**Favorite AXO Memories:** hanging out with sisters at Couch Crew, dressing up as Sir Mix-a-lot and Peter Griffin for Lip Sync pledge class acts, getting nicknamed AirJoyDunn for a recruitment skit, Blue Room TV marathons

**What I Learned as a Collegiate AXO:** true friendship, humor, compassion, human endurance, leadership, personal development, and a whole lot of songs!

**How I'm Still Connected to the AXO Sisterhood:** pledge class virtual firesides, video chats, the occasional trip to Boston, Pirate Family emails

**My Wisdom for Collegiate AXOs:** "Follow your passion and don't ever let go of your dream. Any job that you take after college will be so much more enjoyable if you are doing what you love and you are passionate about it. Work your butt off and realize that anything is achievable with enough hard work and dedication. Pursue the challenging opportunities since they will help you grow and "seek the heights." Stick through the difficult p-sets and labs and challenges later in life because you will make it out the other end a stronger person knowing what you are capable of accomplishing."

**We are proud to call you our sister, Joy!**  
**You truly are a *Real, Strong Woman!***



An example of the "Real, Strong Woman" alumna profile posted on the Facebook page!  
 This profile allows active sisters and alumnae to see what our amazing alumnae are up to!



## Alpha Chi Omega

together let us seek the heights

*Real Strong Woman  
Alumna Profile*



### Cecilia Warpinski Stuopis

*Year* AXO '87, MIT '90 *Major* 16- Aero/Astro

*MTJ Activities* Varsity Volleyball & Softball, Burton Third, Tech Catholic Community

#### *What I Do For Fun*

Play volleyball with my husband (Paul '87) and other MIT alums, stay involved in my local parish community, and support my three kids in all of their activities!

#### *How I'm "Seeking the Heights" Now!*

I'm an OB-GYN at Dartmouth-Hitchcock. I was recently named Associate Medical Director for Accountable Care. In this role I am involved in changing how healthcare is delivered to our patients, working with organizations across the country to benchmark our efforts. I'm also an MIT Educational Counselor!

#### *Favorite AXO Memories*

I have two- one old, one new. The old was my Candlelight at the end of my term as Chapter President. My sisters were so surprised! My new favorite is my daughter's beautiful initiation into AXO last fall-being there and participating was incredible!

#### *What I Learned as a Collegiate AXO*

My Alpha Chi experience at MIT was invaluable. I made strong, lasting friendships, and developed leadership skills which have served me so well in my medical education, residency, current work role, and as a member of my community.

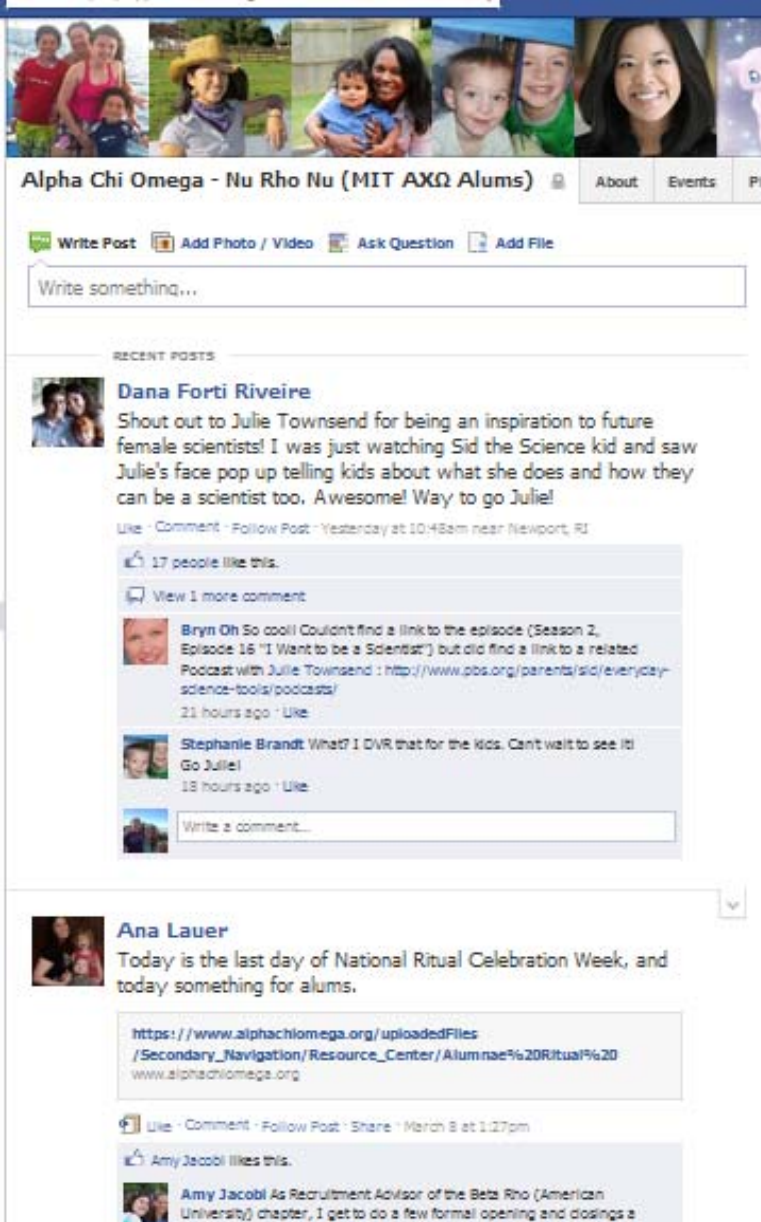
#### *How I'm Still Connected to the AXO sisterhood*

I'm now connected through my daughter Isabella to a new generation of AXOs. And of course, I remain connected (thanks especially to Facebook!) to many of my sisters from my time at MIT. I know I could call on any one of them at any time if I needed them, and they would be there for me!

#### *My Wisdom For Collegiate AXO's*

Be as involved as you can. Alpha Chi helps you develop a strong set of skills that can be used in almost any kind of personal or professional situation- I am easily able to network using skills I learned from recruitment! My other advice is to do what makes you happy. You spend a lot of time at school or work- it is so much more pleasant and fulfilling when you love what you do, and who you do it with.

Another "Real Strong Woman" profile.



The image shows a screenshot of a Facebook group page for "Alpha Chi Omega - Nu Rho Nu (MIT AXΩ Alums)". The page header includes the group name and navigation tabs for "About", "Events", and "Photos". Below the header is a "Write Post" section with options to "Add Photo / Video", "Ask Question", and "Add File". A text input field contains the placeholder "Write something...".

The "RECENT POSTS" section features two posts:

- Dana Forti Riveire**: A post with a profile picture of two women. The text reads: "Shout out to Julie Townsend for being an inspiration to future female scientists! I was just watching Sid the Science kid and saw Julie's face pop up telling kids about what she does and how they can be a scientist too. Awesome! Way to go Julie!" The post has 17 likes and one comment. The comment from Bryn Oh says: "So cool! Couldn't find a link to the episode (Season 2, Episode 16 'I Want to be a Scientist') but did find a link to a related Podcast with Julie Townsend : <http://www.pbs.org/parents/sid/everyday-science-tools/podcasts/> 21 hours ago · Like". Another comment from Stephanie Brandt says: "What? I DVR that for the kids. Can't wait to see it! Go Julie!" 18 hours ago · Like.
- Ana Lauer**: A post with a profile picture of a woman. The text reads: "Today is the last day of National Ritual Celebration Week, and today something for alums." Below the text is a link: [https://www.alphachiomega.org/uploadedFiles/Secondary\\_Navigation/Resource\\_Center/Alumnae%20Ritual%20www.alphachiomega.org](https://www.alphachiomega.org/uploadedFiles/Secondary_Navigation/Resource_Center/Alumnae%20Ritual%20www.alphachiomega.org). The post has one like from Amy Jacobi.

The Nu Rho Nu (Virtual Alumnae Chapter) has 331 members! The group shares about sister successes, job opportunities and fun updates.



## Alpha Chi Omega Theta Omicron Chapter at MIT

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This year we celebrated 25 years at MIT! Thank you to all of the alumnae for joining us at our 25th Anniversary celebrations in May. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



We recently launched a fundraising campaign to raise money for the FIRST sorority scholarship fund at MIT. Please consider making a donation to the MIT AXO Scholarship Fund! Right now, the MIT class of 2003 is in the lead, with a 42% participation rate!

We love to stay in touch with our alumnae so please stay tuned for more ways to stay connected with the Theta Omicron chapter, Alums! Make sure to keep your information up-to-date with the MIT Alumni Association at [alum.mit.edu](http://alum.mit.edu). Their list of Theta Omicron alums can be found [here](#) (login required).

Our VP of Alumnae Relations publishes regular newsletters to keep you updated on the events of our chapter. If you are not already receiving these by email but would like to, please contact [VP Alumnae Relations](#).

#### Past Newsletters

- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [September 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)

The alumnae section of our website includes a link to [alum.mit.edu](http://alum.mit.edu) and encourages alumnae to update their profiles. It also includes the email address of our Alumnae Relations Chair and an archive of past newsletters.



# Alpha Chi Omega

Theta Omicron Chapter  
at MIT

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## Stephanie Fung

**Class Year:** 2013

**Major(s):** 20 - Biological/Biomedical Engineering;

**Hometown:** Marlboro, NJ

**Bio:** Junior majoring in biological engineering. Born and raised in New Jersey. Two younger sisters. I love baking and cooking new things, and in any free time that I have, I'll usually be chillin' listening to music, shopping, or working out. I also laugh at almost anything, so feel free to try out your lamest jokes on me :)

**Interests:** competitive swimming, arts&crafts, crazy cupcakes

**Email:** [s\\_fung@mit.edu](mailto:s_fung@mit.edu)

**Phone Number:** 732-977-4278

**Residence:** AXO House

**Big:** [Amber Stangroom](#)

**Little(s):** [Rebecca Zhang](#);

**Favorite AXO Memory:** Hmm...there are so many! I will never forget building a giant snowman in Killian Court after the first snowfall of my sophomore year, or making cow-shaped gingerbread cookies with my pirate family! Dressing up for ring delivery with my 2013s was so much fun, as was my spring break trip to Puerto Rico with the AXO 2011s!

**Why I Love AXO:** The group of women that make up AXO is the strongest support system I have ever encountered. If I were to fall (sometimes, quite literally...), there is a sister there to catch me. If I were to succeed, there is a sister there to celebrate with me. Within every sister there is a heart that cares so deeply for the well-being of others - it is a place where I feel safe and a place where I can grow.

Sister profiles allow alumnae to learn about active sisters. The “big” and “little” links also allow alumnae to track their growing family lines.

Academics

AXO

Boston/Cambridge

1. What's your favorite place to go in Boston? Good views, good food, etc.

- o Pour House
- o Just go anywhere in the North End for great food.
- o The AXO House!
- o Biking around (to Walden Pond is one of my favorite spots).
- o Davis Square (Museum of Bad Art, Crepes, the Good Anna's Taqueria, The Goodwill store, people watching of crazy Somerville people, Tufts University)
- o Inman Square (Good food and 18+ salsa on Friday nights)
- o Cape Cod. Not in Boston/Cambridge, but beautiful.
- o Good window shopping: Newbury and Boylston Streets, the Prudential. Good actual (aka affordable) shopping: The Cambridgeside Galleria
- o Relaxing location: The reflection pool by the Church of Christian Science
- o Harvard Square: Boston Tea Stop for bubble tea, 9 Tastes Thai, Harvard Book Store, Finale, Spice
- o Boston: top of the Hub, Pourhouse, Bukowskis, Otherside Cafe, Trident Booksellers and Cafe, China Pearl (Dim Sum)
- o Kendall Square: Cambridge Brewing Company, Kendall Square Theater, Garment District
- o Central: Salt, Toscaninns, Miracle of Science, Middle East, Phoenix Landing, Harvest Co-op, People's Republik
- o Porter Square: BlueFin, Elephant Walk
- o Davis Square: Somerville Theater, Diesel Cafe, Redbones BBQ, Rosebud Bar and Grill
- o The Paradise for dancing (the one in Cambridge... not in Boston)
- o I love going to the Commons and just people watching. I should do it more often. I also really like just walking down a street I don't really know (like wavyy down Mass Ave) and letting myself get lost and learn more about the city. Personal development FTW!
- o Chinatown, Prudential Center, Galleria, Top of the Hub, Boston Commons, North End, Quincy Market

2. What's the best way to get to Logan?

- o The T is cheap, taxis are fast, taxis with friends are cheap and fast.
- o There are sometimes shuttles from MIT to Logan (usually Thanksgiving). If you have a lot of luggage, take a taxi; it's so not worth it to drag your stuff all the way to Kendall. Splitting a taxi with at least one other person makes the ride quite affordable (and it's usually about a 30 minute ride). Otherwise, taking the Red Line to South Station and the Silver Line SL1 to Logan takes \$2 and around 45 minutes.

3. What is a super good restaurant I should try?

- o Izzy's Puerto Rican Food outside of Tech Square
- o Sugar and Spice (Porter Square, Thai Food)
- o Trident Cafe (Newbury St., breakfast/brunch!)
- o Red Lentil (Mt. Auburn Street in Watertown, delicious vegan food, especially Sunday brunch!)
- o Asmara (Central Square, Ethiopian Food!)

Our website includes a Question and Answer section, with questions answered by both active sisters and alumnae. This provides an easy resource for all sisters to browse through fantastic advice on everything from classes to travel abroad to student organizations!

**SYMPHONY SISTERS, 2012**

Symphony Sisters are paired with new members immediately after Bid Day! These symphony sisters range from recent graduates to graduates from 15 years ago. We always have more volunteers than new members!

Kuan Cheng  
Adriana Rodriguez  
Gwen Johnson  
Katie Kauffman  
Ellen Sojka  
Lizzy Wei  
Anne Runkle  
Deepa Rao  
Elise Hens  
Jenn Simoneau  
Steph Moran  
Jennifer Yang  
Juliana Rotter  
Lauren Cipicchio  
Jackie Kunkel  
Laurie Burns  
Kristen Sunter  
Amber Stangroom  
Maddie Mirzoeff  
Amy Brazin  
Jessica Bainbridge-Smith  
Amy Jacobi  
Nayana Ghantiwala  
Julie Harrow  
Liz Denys  
Manvi Goel  
Emily Shao  
Tenley McHarg  
Katie Creasey  
Megan Kercher  
Katie Dalrymple  
Maria Frendburg  
Victoria Davis  
Emilienne Repak  
Meredith Gerber Cunha  
Amanda Fried  
Laura Garrit



## SENIOR WISDOM BOOK

### Participating Alumnae:

|                   |                       |                |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Anna Orenstein    | Jennifer Sun          | Nikki Pfarr    |
| Ay Valade         | Jillian Reddy         | Nikki Springer |
| Caroline Barker   | Joy Dunn              | Rebecca Niles  |
| Cheryl Casquejo   | Katrina Ellison       | Sophia Yen     |
| Christine Spencer | Kelly Na'amah Rickard | Teresa Huang   |
| Cynthia Santillan | Kim Vo                | Teri Ijeoma    |
| Ellie Powers      | Maddie Mirzoeff       | Theresa Chiueh |
| Emilienne Repak   | Mariah Mandt          | Tracy Embree   |
| Grace Yao         | Melda Buyukozturk     | Valerie Wong   |
| Jennifer Galperin | Monica Lewis          |                |

The book was 68 pages long, so it is not included here. Questions and answers were both practical and emotional. Some questions included:

What is the best advice you got/would give about transitioning into adulthood?  
 What is the one thing you wish you knew upon graduating?  
 What is it like to be an adult woman?

Some answers were:

“I wish someone would have told me to listen more to myself and figure out what \*I\* wanted versus what my parents wanted for me.”

“Start saving for retirement right away. Once you have everything set up, there is so much less stress and you can feel confident you are preparing for your future.”

“Read everything you sign.”

“It can be really challenging making friends outside of a school environment – I think it’s a struggle almost everyone faces. Fortunately there are great networks of MIT and AXO alums in almost every city, and if you’re moving to a new place getting in touch with alums can be a great way to meet new people.”

“I wish had known more about practical living. Like how do I get insurance if I am self--employed? How do I fill out a tax form? How do I find a good doctor? How do I financially plan for my future? I had to find out all these things though trial and error. This was in the days before the internet and instant connectivity. Also, I felt a little embarrassed asking these kinds of questions of my peers. Now, I would not feel any hesitation.”

“After graduation is the time to explore who you are and what you can contribute to the world. Do this either at work or outside of work. Don’t limit yourself when you’re in your twenties.”

“If you’re in a new city and feeling lonely, there are ways to go about being proactive about making friends. Join a group/school/team to pursue one of your interests, go to local MIT alumni events if there’s a group in your area, or even go to [meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) events groups that interest you. These are some of the ways I went about trying to make friends after I finally realized I shouldn’t that friendships weren’t just going to “happen” the way they used to.”

These questions really helped seniors get the answers they needed to hear, and encouraged them that they would survive the “real world!” Alumnae also provided contact information so that seniors could contact them for help or further questions.

## Alumnae-Sister Connections

**From:** Pavika Buddhari (PJ)

**Contact:** pudjeeb@mit.edu

Looking for a summer internship in graphic/communication design and/or branding, preferably in the Bay Area, but Boston is okay.

**From:** Kaitlyn Bailey

**Contact:** kbailey1@mit.edu

Looking for a mechanical engineering internship in the San Francisco area for this summer. Will be a rising senior with an interest in product design.

**From:** Teresa Lin

**Contact:** tlin15@mit.edu

Looking for a summer internship that is more hands-on, industrial, and related to mechanical engineering. Currently a sophomore who will have completed 2.001, 2.003, 2.670, 2.004, 2.005, and 2.007.

**From:** Lauren Jefferson

**Contact:** laj51714@mit.edu

Looking for a paid summer internship in marketing or marketing research, preferably focusing on marketing management, consumer behavior, and/or marketing strategy.

**From:** Liz de Laitre

**Contact:** edelaitt@mit.edu

Looking to connect with sisters who graduated with a degree in Course 9. Interested in hearing about the path you took after MIT and in any advice you have for a Brain&Cog student who does not want to go to medical school.

The Alumnae-Sister Connections from the February 2013 Newsletter  
These connections, posted in every newsletter, result in internships or emails filled with  
advice to younger sisters.

### Active Sister-Alumnae Networking and Connections Anecdotes

Sisters often email alumnae lists for advice or assistance. Below are some examples of alumnae-sister interactions.

“I’m moving to DC after graduation, so I’m looking for places to live. I emailed the DC alum list to ask for recommendations, and several alums responded with great general advice as well as specific places to live, and some even offered their homes as a place to stay when I visited. Alums ranged from one I knew who had graduated fairly recently (Amy Brazin) to one who had graduated 15 years ago (Jennifer Yang).”

–Amanda Olender ‘13

“I got my internship this summer when Bryn Oh sent out to axo-spam saying her husband was hiring an intern for JPL. She sent along my resume to him and I got the job! Plus he sent along my resume to a bunch of other hiring managers because I ended up getting four offers from JPL.” –Barbara Schloss ‘15

“Amy Brazin is my symphony sister. She is AMAZING!!! Not only did I get to meet her during recruitment this year but she emails me/gchats with me a lot and gives me career advice (she was also course 16!), life advice about relationships, religion, and anything under the sun. She was there for me when I went through a rough time with AXO at the beginning of the semester and she helped me see the amazing things about AXO and what I love about it. She’s always there when I need to rant or complain and I just really love talking to her and getting to know her.” –Barbara Schloss ‘15

“I had only one weekend to visit Paris this past summer, and the two AXO theta omicron alums (Frances Hsieh and Emilienne Repak) who live there were thrilled to meet up with me and four other active sisters. We got together at the “Paris Plages” -- the temporary beaches that pop up along the Seine. It made the experience of being in Paris for the first time feel so familiar! Even though I’d never met either of the alums before, they were so open and willing to give life advice. They had great experiences to share, since they made the difficult choice to live abroad: away from friends and family. I had a great time meeting up with them and I hope I get to visit again soon!” –Ann Alampi ‘14

“Emily Shao and Anne Shen (2011) have provided a ton of great feedback on what it means to be a consultant and have taken time to speak with me personally about consulting. They have given me advice about careers in the long term and how to utilize undergrad opportunities to get what I want. Jordan Taylor (2011) has been a fantastic resource and good friend. She has opened her home to me and given me perspective on what I want out of internships, my undergrad career, living situations, dating... everything. She’s even helped me figure out how to be a healthier eater.” –Erin Bailie ‘15

“Margaret Leibovic designed our website!! I’m pretty sure a lot of the work was done after she graduated. She’s also my VP PRM advisor and has monthly Skype meetings

with me. Ashley Pinchinat visited for swim meets, cheered us on, and gave me an AXO t-shirt when I was a freshman on the swim team. Caroline Barker '08 wrote me a recommendation for TBP. Amy Jacobi '11 came to my NEWMAC swim meet, cheered me on, and helped cheer me up after the meet after swimming very poorly." -Chelsea Finn '14

"Tina P. Srivastava, my advisor for VP Philanthropy, helped me with making my decision about the future of LipSync by setting up a meeting with other alums and providing me with feedback and support (such as informing me of community service opportunities)." -Jennifer Li '14

"While Joanie, Ann, Chark, Selda, and I were in Paris this past summer, we were able to meet up with two MIT AXO alums, Francis Hsieh and Emilienne Repak, for an unofficial Chi Connections and lunch on the Seine. It was great to hear what their experience in AXO was like back when they were in school, and they had some great perspective and advice about life after MIT. They were also able to give us some suggestions about off-the-beaten-path places to visit in Paris and when the best time to see things was. It was so cool to spend time with such accomplished women living independently abroad! Also, an alumna helped me move my stuff from my dorm to the house when I first moved in (the perks of having a car!). Even when I was super late in getting everything packed, she was a great sport. I would have had to make four or five miserable trips across the bridge without her. :)" -Liz de Laittre '15

"Emily Shao '11 gave me career, resume, and internship advice. She met me for coffee and talked to me for hours about my career goals. She is practical yet encouraging and gave wonderful suggestions. Anne Shen '11 provided me career advice and is always very encouraging and refreshing to talk to. She provides awesome feedback and a great professional perspective." -Hannah Barrett '15

"When I went to Pasadena this past summer for my internship, I was left without housing for a week. During that week, I stayed with Gwen, an AXO alumna from MIT who was currently a graduate student at Caltech. She not only let me stay in her house, she also gave me rides when I needed them and took me grocery shopping on the weekend. I got my internship this past summer at the Jet Propulsion Lab through an AXO alumna. The internship was a great experience because her husband was both the lead flight directory of the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity as well as my mentor for the summer. In addition, I got to spend time with her and her family informally on multiple occasions, where I learned a lot about AXO during her years as a student at MIT." - Kaiying Liao '14

"I meet with my symphony sister (Kristen Sunter, MIT '04) about once a month. She's a great resource and friend, and gives me advice on how to handle the stresses of college life. She was really helpful when I was a new member and had trouble getting to know my pledge class. She helped me realize what makes AXO such a supportive sisterhood,

and that it's normal to feel overwhelmed at first. She's also awesome and inspiring, having worked at JPL and now doing physics research. Also, AXO alums were so helpful when my friend was looking for an apartment in the Boston area! One of them even offered to let her stay with her family until she found a place.” –Kate Tatar ‘16

"Emily Houston helped me get an internship this summer! A spot opened up at their company for a summer intern, and she was very fast to email/interview me. I got the job offer the next morning!! Emily Shao and Houston also came last semester to visit the house! We had a great dinner at Uno's where they shared with us about life after MIT and good life skills. They also helped to give us advice on our resumes. Our RA Caroline Barker gave me a ride from the house to my dorm on campus after summer was over. It was a particularly crummy day (IE raining) so I was super thankful!" –Kirsten Lim ‘15

"Bryn Oh (AXO 91 MIT 95) sent me chocolates for Christmas!" –Krista Nordin ‘14

"Deepa Rao '12 hosted me during IAP in Washington DC. She let me stay in her apartment, explored the city with me, and kept me safe and happy during my stay.” –Carolyn Joseph ‘15

“When I got an interview offer at SpaceX, I panicked: I never had a technical interview before! I remembered hearing that an AXO alumna, Joy Dunn ’08, worked there, and emailed her immediately. She spent two hours on the phone with me preparing for my interview, and I got the job! I am so excited to work with her this summer. I was just so amazed that an alumna I had never met before would spend so much time helping me.” –Caitlin Mackey ‘15

“The one instance that sticks out to me as a time when an AXO reached out to me was the time I just got an email out of the blue from an alumna asking if I was still looking for an internship this summer. She offered me an interview the same night-- which was a great connection. Though I did end up making other plans for my summer, I was super happy that alums look to sisters as girls they look to when a job opens up. I'm sure there is a better way of putting this, but I think it's great that alums look to us just as we look to them” –Kay Kay Wopat, ‘15

“Silvana (AXO, course 10/B) and I had a great networking call about the working culture and rotational program at Genentech. She was really helpful and knowledgeable about the whole interview process :)” –Jean Fang ‘13

“As chapter president, I work closely with the two chapter advisors. I reach out to them as mentors in which they give me suggestions but allow me to make the final decision and carry out those decisions. They provide me with feedback on actions I make/ intend to make or things I say/ plan to say. I reach out to them for emotional support or when I feel my responsibilities are becoming overwhelming. They help me to manage this stress, remain calm during difficult times, and encourage and give me confidence to be a

better leader. We work to keep a close relationship, for instance, the two advisors, myself and my VP Chapter Relations and Standards all went out to dinner together to get to know each other on a personal level and to discuss how we felt about our positions and to exchange thoughts and advice regarding the chapter. I have attended our advisory board meeting; at which I am not merely a mentee but an equal with them exchanging ideas and opinions. Personally, I emailed out to the alums for help in search for internships. One alumna in particular, Victoria Davis, helped me reach out to several companies!" –Morganne Klein '14

"My Symphony Sister, Nayana Ghantiwal (AXO '94 and MIT '96) e-mailed me about her career and life choices in response to my letter. She made me feel more secure about the activities I have chosen to participate in at MIT as well as the choices I plan to make towards my future career." –Pam Cai '16

"One alumna, Maria Frenberg, my symphony sister, gave me lots of advice on classes, careers, and life in general. She was also in MITSO, so I got to see her a lot. She told me about her experiences as an undergrad and how she got to where she is now. The way she keeps up with her career and her passions in music is really inspiring, and I hope to do the same. Anne Shen, an AXO '11, has really helped me indirectly. I read a lot of her blog that she kept on her life at Cambridge University, and it really helped me make the decision to study there next year. When I met her in person, she was just as helpful and more than happy to share stories of her experience there. She has definitely helped me feel more comfortable with my decision to study abroad next year!" –Teresa Lin '15

"I was doing MISTI Paris and I met up with an alumna, Emilienne Repak, MIT '09, a few times for lunch/coffee/stories. Also, when I was back in Paris she let me crash in her apartment!" - Joanie Weaver '14

"Many alumnae have given me internship advice! I am so grateful!" –Charlotte Clark '14

"Doria Holbrook took the time out of her busy graduate school schedule to help me transfer 100 carnations, baby's breath, and ribbons from the flower store to the AXO house for our Initiation celebration. Katie Dalrymple MIT '12 AXO '08 also showed me around her city of New Orleans when I traveled down there this past spring for a conference." Meg O'Dell '15

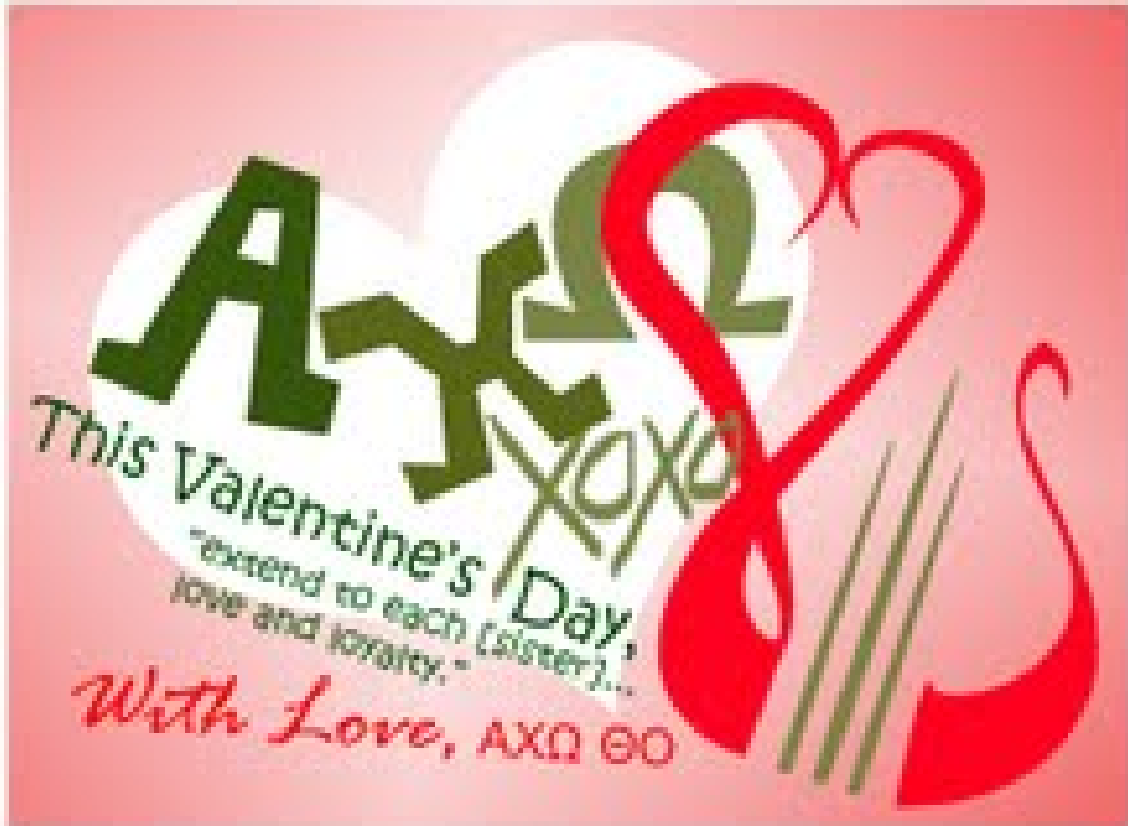
### ALUMNAE EMAIL LISTS

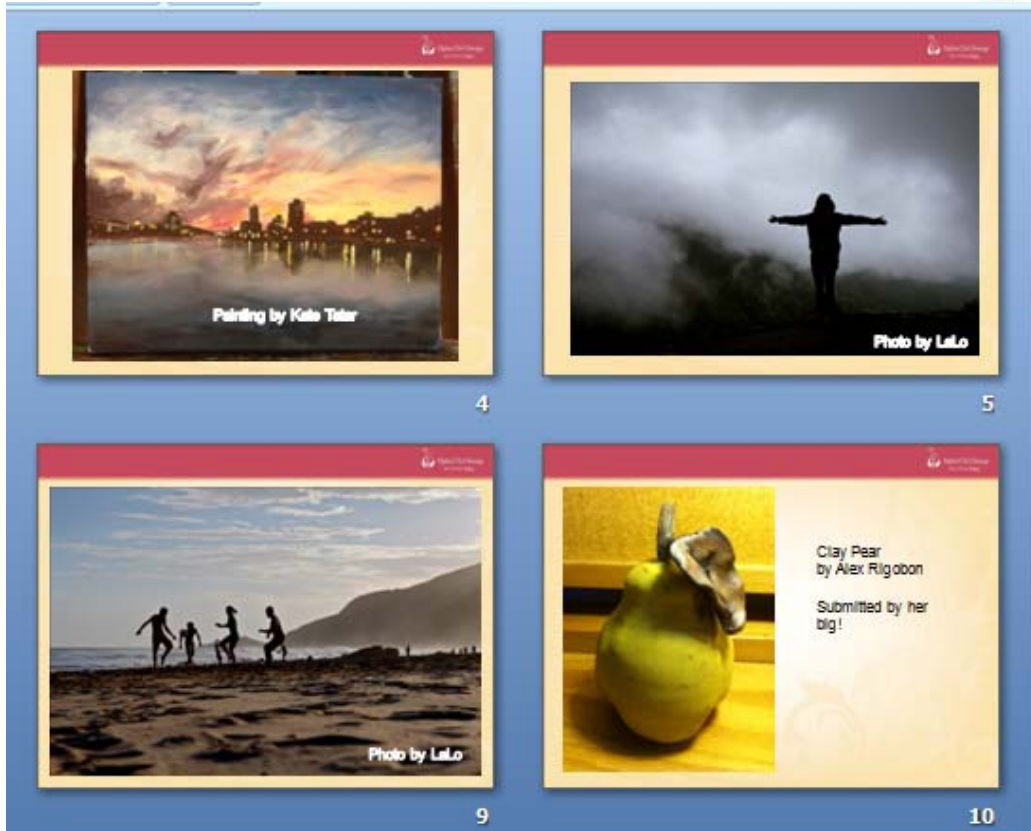
These lists are posted on the chapter website so that all sisters can access them to email alumnae!

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Name</b>  | <b>Description</b>  |
|-----------------|--|---|
| Official        | axo-advisor  | Chapter Advisors  |
|                 | Axo-advisers   | All 14 Advisors   |
|                 | Axo-symphony   | Symphony Sisters  |
|                 | Axo-allalums   | All Alumnae Email List  |
|                 | Axo-alumschat  | Fun conversations between alumnae   |
|                 | Axo-classagents  | All class agents  |
|                 | Family Line Lists  | Many different lists  |
| Regional Lists  | Axo-atlanta<br>Axo-bayarea<br>Axo-boston<br>Axo-chicago<br>Axo-dc<br>Axo-houston<br>Axo-midwest<br>Axo-newyork<br>Axo-europe<br>Axo-socal<br>Axo-texas | Alumnae sisters in these areas. Sisters in an area for the summer are added to the list as well to facilitate dinners and other events. Sisters often email these lists for housing advice or while visiting an area. |
| Class Lists     | Axo2003-axo2016  | Class lists   |
| Course lists    | Axo-course2, etc.  | Many alumnae stay on the course lists and provide advice and help when sisters email out, or email the course lists with opportunities.   |




**Valentine's Day E-Card**






**Some slides from Powerpoint sent to alumnae of sister artwork to celebrate MacDowell Month!**

 **Caitlin Mackey** <caitlin.mackey@gmail.com> Mar 1 ☆ ↶  
to axo-alumschat


Hey Sisters!!

Happy Hera Day! We hope you remember to "appreciate every little service" rendered and "shed the light of love and friendship" to your friends and sisters today.

To celebrate Hera Day, here are some interesting facts about our patron goddess!



Hera's symbol is the peacock- her chariot was pulled by them!  
She also is often seen holding a pomegranate as a symbol of fertility.  
Hera had many temples dedicated to her!! She was very beloved by many Greeks and even had her own cult.



There's also some drama about her love life (she was married to Zeus and he wasn't the most faithful guy...) but we don't need to focus on that today ;) If you want to read more, <http://www.theoi.com/Olympios/Hera.html> check it out!

Also, if you are in the Boston area we would love to complete some community service events with you! Contact me for more details.

We are so proud to be your sisters and share our common AXO bond and holidays with you all.

Happy Hera Day!

LITB,

Meg O'Dell (Warden) and Caitlin Mackey

**Email sent to alumnae to celebrate Hera Day! We received many email responses with positive feedback from alumnae.**

## SORORITY ALUMNI: Bonding beyond college

<http://tech.mit.edu/V133/N1/sororityalumni.html?comments#comments>

Sorority sisters connect across generations

By [Caitlin Mackey](#)

February 5, 2013

Have you ever met an MIT alum purely by chance? Maybe on a plane someone asked you about your cardinal and grey sweatshirt. Perhaps you found out an older neighbor once walked through the Infinite to class. We immediately connect to these MIT alumni, trading stories about late nights and tunnel escapades and comparing Brass Rats. We have shared experiences and a common history.

Greek organizations also provide these amazing shared experiences. When a sorority woman sees someone wearing matching letters at the airport, or hears someone mention her affiliation, our mutual sorority experience allows us to connect immediately.

And while we can perform the handshake, or whisper favorite moments from our initiation ceremonies, the sorority bond is not just about the secret rituals. Our organizations are rooted in our founders' ideals of the women they wanted to become, and these values have been passed down for over a century. Sorority founders based our Greek organizations on friendship, leadership, learning, and service. They were ordinary women who wanted to become better — together — and created organizations to promote this mutual growth. And throughout the decades, as chapters expanded to campuses nationwide, sororities invited more young women who shared these same values to grow with these sisters.

My sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, was founded as Mark Twain finished *Huckleberry Finn* and as the Statue of Liberty arrived in New York City. Since then, my sisters survived the Great Depression, been “Rosie the Riveters” during World War II, and watched man first land on the moon. My sisters witnessed both the Berlin Wall and the Twin Towers fall. So much has changed in the past 128 years. Yet the values of my fellow Alpha Chi Omegas, and of the sisters of all Panhellenic organizations, have remained true to their roots through it all.

This continuity fosters the cross-generational connections that contribute to what makes being Greek so great. This continuity makes me know that my great-grandmother, initiated into Alpha Chi Omega when women were still fighting for the right to vote, lived by the same ideals that I hope to attain. The traditions and symbols of our sisterhood mean that my eighty-five year old grandmother, initiated in 1946, and I can sing the same songs, and that I can proudly wear her badge. But more importantly, our value-based sisterhood makes me know that while times have changed, we have all sought to become the best women we could be, seeking the heights together as Alpha Chis.

You don't have to be biologically related to a sorority alumna to share the benefits of these cross-generational connections. We are motivated by our more recent alumnae, succeeding in the real world. We read in our sorority newsletters about our inspirational sisters who have continued to live our organization's values beyond college life. We can reach out to these sisters, no matter when or where they went to college, for advice, or when we are in a new city, and immediately connect because of our shared experience. We can be confident that these women, from diverse backgrounds and in different careers, share our ideals and will care for us as sisters no matter what.

Throughout the years, as times have changed, sororities have remained steadfast to their original values and goals. Because of this continuity, Greek organizations offer a unique, shared experience throughout the generations. I am living by the same ideals that my grandmother, great-grandmother and over 200,000 women lived by throughout history. This common link of love and loyalty is timeless. This collective bond of shared experiences and values makes me proud to call these incredible women my sisters.



Our massive family tree!! This family tree is kept up to date so that alumnae can see the new additions to their family line and contact them.