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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **ACHS Celebrates 100 Years of Promoting Standards of Excellence and Welcomes New Leadership**

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*KANSAS CITY, MO*—The Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) marked an historic milestone at its 2025 Annual Conference during which the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the association’s founding was celebrated. Held Jan. 30 to Feb. 1, at the Hotel Kansas City in Missouri, the conference brought together more than 50 representatives of approximately 34 ACHS-certified honor societies from across the nation.

Since formed in 1925, ACHS has spent the last 100 years dedicated to the mission of building a community of honor societies that promotes the values of higher education; fosters excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, and research; and adheres to the standards of honor society excellence.

Conference attendees heard from keynote speakers, Dr. Michele Smith who presented “What’s Next: A History Informed Future,” Dr. Alan Grant on “Reviving Recruitment in the Post-Pandemic Era,” Mr. Khánh Vũ who discussed “What’s New in Artificial Intelligence,” and Dr. Thomas Vansaghi on “Building an Integrated Life.”

Other program highlights included multiple panel discussions, a session on ACHS’s history and structure, roundtable discussions on topics such as society governance and trends in higher education, and networking opportunities with partners and exhibitors. Attendees were encouraged to collaborate and share innovative ideas for continuing to promote academic excellence across all disciplines.

The program included the Annual Council Meeting where the election of new board directors occurred. Serving on the 2025-26 ACHS Board of Directors are:

- Lara Noah, President (Alpha Chi)
- Marianne Fallon, Vice President (Psi Chi)
- Terry Howard, Secretary (Alpha Iota Delta)
- Beverly Horvit, Director (Kappa Tau Alpha)
- Kevin Howell, Director (Epsilon Pi Tau)
- Eileen Merberg, Director (Alpha Lambda Delta)

- Lisa Stewart, Director (Tau Sigma Delta)

The following outgoing board members were recognized for contributions during their tenure:

- Curt Gomulinski, President (Tau Beta Pi)
- Burrell Montz, Secretary (Gamma Theta Upsilon)
- Maureen Scott, Director (Beta Kappa Chi)

"The commitment and leadership of our outgoing board members have been essential in shaping ACHS into the organization it is today," said Lara Noah, incoming ACHS President. "We are grateful for their dedication and look forward to building on their work in the coming years."

The annual conference culminated with a special centennial luncheon program that included a presentation of ACHS history, video clips from a series of oral histories that were gathered last fall, and a panel of former ACHS leaders sharing personal reflections from their time in leadership. The event was an inspiring reflection of the organization's century-long impact on higher education and a testament to the dedication of its members.

"The ACHS centennial is a momentous occasion for honor societies and the academic community at large," said Curt Gomulinski, 2023-25 President of ACHS. "Our association has had the privilege of serving as the certifying body for honor societies that uphold the highest standards of scholarship and leadership for 100 years. As we look to the future, ACHS remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering excellence and supporting our members as they inspire the next generation of scholars and leaders."

The Association of College Honor Societies is the **only** certifying body for honor societies in U.S. colleges and universities. This visibly cohesive community of honor societies has grown from the six societies that formed ACHS to 68 in its hundredth year. As the landscape of higher education continues to change, ACHS remains dedicated to excellence and to making sure students and the academic community can make informed decisions when choosing to join or support an honor society.

For more information on ACHS, please visit [www.achshonor.org](http://www.achshonor.org).

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