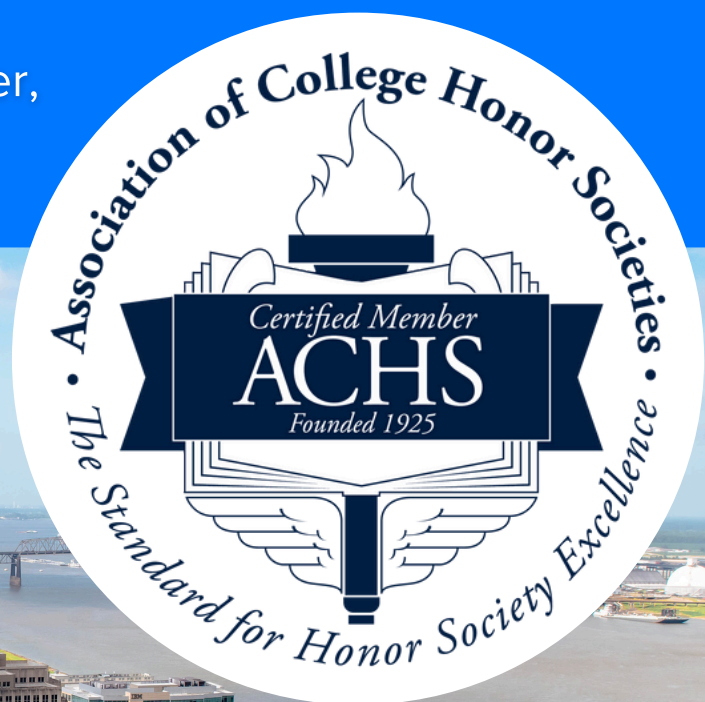


# ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETIES

## 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

January 29 - 31, 2026,  
Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center,  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana



Program sponsored by Goose Creek Publishing Co. LLC



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Dear ACHS Community,

Welcome to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and to the 2026 ACHS Conference! After celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Association of College Honor Societies this past year, it is wonderful to see so many of you here again and ready to make the most of our time together. The relationships built at this annual conference are a large part of what keep many of us coming back.

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation first to Vice President Marianne Fallon and the fabulous Conference Committee for the hard work that went into creating the engaging program that members can look forward to experiencing this week, and for creating opportunities for networking and the sharing of resources and wisdom with those who, like you, are doing the important work of recognizing and fostering exemplary student achievement, service, and leadership through the honor society movement.

Kudos to the many members who serve ACHS each year through the work of our committee structure. You are integral to the mission of ACHS, proving it takes many minds and sets of hands to successfully maintain an association like this. To our association management team at Redstone - Sophia Sameni, Julie Corbett, Chantelle Bonham, Emma Collins, and Alex Gillam - I have enjoyed working with each of you. Thank you for supporting our work so capably. And a special shout-out goes to Sydney Harris of Visit Baton Rouge, for making sure that we are treated well while visiting this beautiful city.

To our conference sponsors and partners, thank you for joining us here and for serving the needs of this honor society community so well. Our conference is very fortunate to have their financial support - with many having done so for multiple generations! Please take every opportunity you get to visit with these folks and explore how their products and services can support your society.

As I conclude six years of service on the ACHS Board of Directors with this last year as president, I want to say what an honor it has been to serve alongside some of the kindest and most competent professionals one could hope to work with. I learned so much and enjoyed many unforgettable moments and experiences (and, oh, those memes and gifs that kept us smiling)! Even while navigating the challenging situations, my fellow officers and the rest of the board stayed positive and kept a focus that saw us through and moving forward.

As you all know, the student members of our collective honor societies are the best of the best, but you fellow leaders who serve with me in honor society leadership are also the best of the best. It has been a pleasure, and I look forward to continuing with you in committee service and seeing where new leadership takes ACHS as it heads into its next era serving the higher education community and inspiring our students to influence the world for the better.

In scholarship and in service,



Lara Q. Noah, Alpha Chi  
ACHS President



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## Wednesday, January 28, 2026

2:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Riverview B	<b>Foundations for Honor Society Leaders: Session One</b> <i>This engaging and collaborative program is designed to support both new and seasoned honor society leaders. Through informative sessions led by experienced directors and staff, participants gain practical, real-world knowledge on topics such as governance, finance, technology, and the history of honor societies. The program fosters open sharing of best practices and resources, providing valuable tools to enhance professional effectiveness and organizational excellence. Participants consistently describe the experience as inspiring, supportive, and transformative - an invaluable opportunity to connect, learn, and grow within the honor society community. Seperate registration from the conference ticket is required to participate in both Foundations sessions.</i>
6:30 pm		<b>Dinner on Your Own</b>

## Thursday, January 29, 2026

8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Riverview B	<b>Foundations for Honor Society Leaders: Session Two</b>
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm		<b>Lunch on Your Own</b>
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	University Room	<b>ACHS Board of Directors Working Lunch (Board of Directors Only)</b>
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Foyer	<b>Conference Attendee Check-in</b>
3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	Partner Central (Riverview A)	<b>Catch Up and Caffeine in Partner Central</b> <i>Pick up you name badge at registration in the foyer and meet your fellow attendees and exhibitors over coffee!</i>
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Riverview B	<b>Conference Welcome &amp; Dorothy Mistifer Keynote Lecture: Generation Z and Careers of the Future</b> <i>Gen Z students live in the aftermath of an international financial crisis, a global pandemic, and the release of ChatGPT. Their anxiety about jobs reverberates in universities, especially in the 'unpractical' programs of a traditional education. Strangely, these programs may be the keys to unlocking the careers of the future and a collective reframing of what college is good for.</i>  Speaker: Dr. Vicki Mayer, Senior Advisor to the Dean and Professor of Communication at Tulane University

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## Thursday, January 29, 2026 (continued)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Partner Central (Riverview A)	<b>Welcome Reception with ACHS Partners, Sponsors &amp; Exhibitors</b> <i>Featuring the Spirit of Huey P. Long greeting guests with a rendition of "Be Our Guest".</i>
6:00 pm		<b>Dinner on Your Own</b>

## Friday, January 30, 2026

7:00 am - 6:30 pm	Foyer	<b>Conference Attendee Check-in</b>
7:30 am - 8:30 am	Louisiana Room	<b>Breakfast &amp; Community Building</b> <i>We see you! Join roundtables specially designed for small, medium, and large society members around topics you shared in your annual report.</i>
8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Partner Central (Riverview A)	<b>Exhibits Open</b>
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Riverview B	<b>Panel: Valuing Time, Talent, Treasure, Ties, and Testimony</b> <i>During this panel, honor society leaders will discuss various ways they lead efforts in recognizing generosity of time, talent, treasure and ties to their organizations. It is important for us all to recognize what individuals pour into our societies every year, and this panel will provide attendees with actionable ways to show gratitude for volunteers, donations, connections and more.</i>  Moderated by: Vinnie Birkenmeyer (Lambda Sigma) Speakers: Marianne Fallon (Psi Chi) Kirsten Fox (Mortar Board) Melissa Martin (Phi Upsilon Omicron)
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Riverview B	<b>From Insight to Impact: Unlocking Your Honor Society's Membership Magic</b> <i>Discover how data-driven insights, innovative outreach, and authentic engagement can transform the way your honor society attracts and retains members. This dynamic panel brings together experienced leaders to share practical strategies, real-world successes, and lessons learned in building meaningful membership pipelines. Leave inspired and equipped- with actionable ideas to turn curiosity into commitment and growth into lasting impact.</i>  Moderated by: Melissa Martin (Phi Upsilon Omicron) Speakers: Kellen Wells-Mangold (Chi Alpha Sigma) Lara Noah (Alpha Chi) Eileen Merberg (Alpha Lambda Delta)
10:30 am - 10:45 am	Partner Central (Riverview A)	<b>Refreshment Break</b>
10:45 am - 12:00 pm	Riverview B	<b>ACHS Business Council Meeting</b> <i>Voting for new board leadership and discussing proposed amendments to the Bylaws happens here.</i>

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## Friday, January 30, 2026 (continued)

12:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Offsite	<b>Visit Baton Rouge Hosted Lunch at the Capitol Park Museum</b> <i>A shuttle will be provided to and from the hotel and museum beginning at 11:30 am and ending at 2:30 pm. This lunch is open to all attendees, conference exhibitors, and attending sponsors.</i>
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Riverview B	<b>Get to Know Your Colleagues</b> <i>We'll begin by playing a quick "get to know you" game and then we'll move into committee speed networking. Be ready to get up and move around!</i>
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Riverview B	<b>Strengthening Chapter Engagement: An Advisor's Perspective</b> <i>Join experienced faculty and staff advisors as they share practical strategies for strengthening chapter engagement and sustaining student involvement across honor societies. This panel offers real-world insights into what's working on campuses today—and how administrators can better support advisors in their roles.</i>  Moderated by: Steve Loflin Speakers: Reatha Cox, Northwestern State University (Alpha Lambda Delta, first-year interdisciplinary) Dr. Eugene Johnson, Southern University and A&M College (Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science) Blake Winchell, Associate Director-Student Services, LSU Olinda Career Center (NSCS)
4:30 pm - 5:25 pm	Partner Central (Riverview A)	<b>Partners in Honors: Stamp Your Passport Event</b> <i>Join us in Partner Central to decompress and enjoy visiting with our wonderful partners and conference supporters. Remember, your fully signed "passport" will be your Saturday door prize entry for prizes.</i>
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Riverview B	<b>Accreditation in Transition: Navigating Change with Integrity and Purpose</b> <i>As the accreditation landscape continues to evolve, higher education leaders and honor societies alike face new challenges in sustaining excellence and accountability. This session will explore how emerging trends and policy shifts across the local, state, and federal levels shape institutional quality, recognition, and the environments in which chapters operate. Participants will gain practical strategies for interpreting change, supporting chapters at accredited institutions, and maintaining integrity in decision-making while guiding their campus and society communities through uncertainty.</i>  Moderated by: Marianne Fallon (Vice President, ACHS) Speaker: Dr. Tara Rose, Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness at Louisiana State University - Baton Rouge
6:30 pm		<b>Dinner on Your Own</b>

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Saturday, January 31, 2026**

7:15 am - 7:45 am	University Room	<b>ACHS Board of Directors Meeting (Outgoing and incoming)</b>
7:30 am - 8:30 am	Louisiana Room	<b>Breakfast &amp; Community Building</b> <i>Start your day with intentional conversation and connection at Fill Your Cup, a guided breakfast session focused on wellness and self-care. Table prompts will encourage meaningful, low-pressure discussion about caring for ourselves so we can better serve our societies. Designed by Trish Maxwell (Mortar Board).</i>
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Riverview B	<b>Honor Society "TED Talks"</b> <i>Join us for an engaging panel of Ted Talk-style presentations showcasing innovative ideas and diverse expertise from across the ACHS community. These short, thought-provoking sessions will cover a spectrum of topics, offering fresh perspectives and actionable insights you can apply to your chapter and personal growth.</i>  Moderated by: Kellen Wells-Mangold (Chi Alpha Sigma) Speaker: Eileen Merberg (Alpha Lambda Delta) Further speakers to be announced
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Riverview B	<b>Work Smarter, Not Harder: Tech to Support Honor Societies</b> <i>Wondering how to use technology to enhance workflows, operations, and brainstorming? Learn what technology member societies use from our first-ever tech audit, next practices with AI, and social media to enhance engagement.</i>  Speaker: Marianne Fallon (Psi Chi)
10:30 am - 10:45 am	Partner Central (Riverview A)	<b>Morning Break</b>
10:45 am - 11:45 am	Riverview B	<b>From Campus to Community: The Economic Power of Nonprofits and the Role of Honor Societies</b> <i>Honor societies contribute to the nation's nonprofit workforce pipeline while operating within the sector themselves. This session connects the economic realities of the U.S. nonprofit landscape with the strategic decisions honor societies must make to remain relevant, financially strong, and positioned to develop the next generation of leaders.</i>  Moderated by: Marianne Fallon (ACHS VP) Speaker: Dr. Heather Carpenter, Executive Director of the Institute for Nonprofit Administration & Research, and Associate Professor of Nonprofit Association & Research at Louisiana State University - Shreveport
11:45 am - 12:15 pm	Riverview B	<b>Final Remarks &amp; Resolutions</b>  Speaker: Lara Noah, Outgoing ACHS President
12:15 pm	Riverview B	<b>Adjournment</b>

# PLENARY SPEAKERS

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## **Dr. Vicki Mayer**

**Senior Advisor to the Dean and Professor of Communication at Tulane University**

Dr. Vicki Mayer is Professor of Communication and Senior Advisor to the Dean of Liberal Arts at Tulane University. Her research and teaching dovetail at the intersection of work and the formation of identities. Administratively, she has advocated for a liberal arts that embraces its practicality in fostering critical thinking, creativity, and cross-cultural engagements.



## **Dr. Tara Rose**

**Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness at Louisiana State University**

Dr. Tara Rose serves as the Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness at Louisiana State University, providing strategic leadership for accreditation, planning, assessment, program review, and accountability initiatives. She possesses over eighteen years of experience in higher education and has held positions with the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission and the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. Prior to joining LSU, Dr. Rose served as Director of Assessment at the University of Kentucky and taught for ten years in Eastern Kentucky University's Department of Homeland Security. She was a founding member of the Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE) and a Board Member from 2014-2021, previously holding the position of President in AY 2015-16. In her first year at LSU, she founded the Louisiana Assessment Group (LAAG). In 2019, Dr. Rose was appointed as Senior Fellow with the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U).

# PLENARY SPEAKERS

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## **Dr. Heather Carpenter**

**Executive Director of the Institute for Nonprofit Administration & Research, and Associate Professor of Nonprofit Association & Research at Louisiana State University - Shreveport**

Dr. Carpenter is a highly networked nonprofit professor, researcher, consultant, and trainer dedicated to nonprofit capacity building and talent development. With more than fifteen years in academia and over twenty years as a nonprofit leader, she serves as Executive Director of the Institute for Nonprofit Administration and Research at LSU Shreveport, which advances the sector through academics, professional development, and research.

She has published widely in academic journals and books, previously served as co-editor of the Journal of Nonprofit Education and Leadership, and sat on the board of the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council from 2017–2023. In 2022, she was named a Top 50 Power and Influence Nonprofit Leader by The Nonprofit Times.

Dr. Carpenter is a lifetime Girl Scout, active in Rotary, serves on the Greater Shreveport Chamber's Leadership advisory committee and the Volunteer Louisiana Commission. She holds a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies and a master's in nonprofit management.



# THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

## Dorothy Mitstifer Lecture Sponsor



Dorothy Mitstifer  
Past Executive Director,  
ACHS

### **Sponsorship generously donated by Tania Matz**

Since 1976, Dr. Dorothy Mitstifer served ACHS with tireless dedication, championing ethical practice, high standards, and student excellence worldwide. A trusted leader, mentor, and friend, she shaped honor societies with integrity and wisdom. Her immeasurable contributions to higher education leave a lasting legacy that will inspire generations to aim higher.

## Welcome Reception/Board Dinner Sponsor:



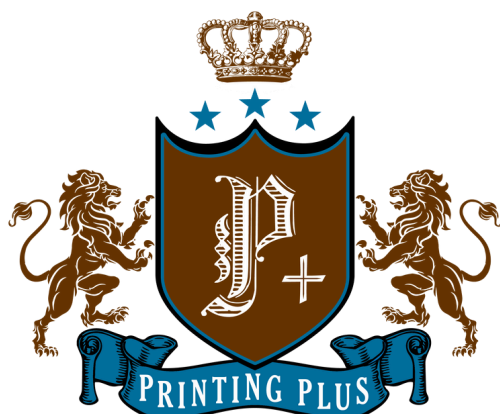
### **Visit Baton Rouge**

Baton Rouge is a premier destination for conferences, events, and tourism. Boasting renowned universities, dynamic honors programs, modern and classic venues, unique research opportunities, rich Louisiana culture, and a welcoming community, we are your ideal destination for your next gathering or getaway. Visit Baton Rouge and experience authentic excellence.

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## Premier Partner:



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Printing Plus is an award-winning specialty printing business that has served the Greek community and fraternal orders since 1982. We continue to be the industry leader for providing custom-designed printed items that exceed quality expectations. From personalized Greek membership certificates to commemorative installation charters to regalia, custom framing and more. We have everything your organization needs to help support your members and chapters. And we treat each of our customers with unparalleled care and customer service. Please let us know how we can help your organization stand out.

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## Partners:



### **Award Concepts, Inc.**

Since 1985, Award Concepts has been a leading manufacturer of member pins and custom emblematic jewelry for honor societies. We also specialize in graduation regalia, certificate-printing, membership fulfillment, plaques, awards, branded items and hosting online member stores.

**Visit their website:**



### **GreekTrack**

An honor society management software platform which streamlines your invitation process to reach more students and easily process membership dues in a simple 2 step acceptance process. Your advisors are empowered to import and manage their own invitee lists as well as access an array of chapter management tools like event calendars, email & SMS, awards, etc. Expand your platform with modules for an e-commerce store, scholarship application management, accepting recurring donations, ticketing platform for events, online learning system and much more!

**Visit their website:**



### **Herff Jones, LLC**

Herff Jones Greek College Division is honored to serve as a tenured, trusted, quality provider of official keys, key pins, special recognition jewelry, official honor stoles, cords and tassels to Greek letter organizations. We are now accepting bids for SY 26 for official jewelry, honor cords and stole programs, and would be honored to work with your organization!

**Visit their website:**



### **Schoen Trimming & Cord Co.**

Since our founding in 1939, we have been the largest direct manufacturer of insignia tassels and honor cords in the country. Due to the fact that we manufacture most of our products in our union shop located in New York City, we are able to provide immediate delivery with high quality and competitive prices for all our items.

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## THANK YOU TO OUR EXHIBITORS!



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Darren Jeanis, Chief Operating Officer, Award Concepts, Inc.



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### Collegiate Regalia

### Collegiate Regalia

Kyle Koelbel, CEO, Collegiate Regalia



### Goose Creek Publishing Co. LLC

Crystal Coomer, National Sales, Goose Creek Publishing Co. LLC



### GreekTrack.com

Tony Schmidt, Founder, CEO, GreekTrack.com



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Robert LaDuc, National Sales Specialist, Herff Jones, LLC  
Ken Jernigan, Representative, Herff Jones, LLC



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Ben Holtvogt, Production Manager, Printing Plus



### Schoen Trimming and Cord Co.

David Silver, President, Schoen Trimming and Cord Co.



### Switch

Drew Hopson, VP of Business Development



### Visit Baton Rouge

Sarah Noles, Destination Experience & Program Manager  
Sydney Harris, Destination Sales Manager

# ACHS LEADERSHIP

## Board

### President

Lara Noah (Alpha Chi)

### Vice President

Marianne Fallon (Psi Chi)

### Secretary

Terry Howard (Alpha Iota Delta)

### Directors

Beverly Horvit (Kappa Tau Alpha)

Kevin Howell (Epsilon Pi Tau)

Eileen Merberg (Alpha Lambda Delta)

Lisa Stewart (Tau Sigma Delta)

### Executive Director

Sophia Sameni

## ACHS Committees

### Bylaws

Greg Ulferts

Olga Amarie

Melinda DelMastro

Kristen Fox

Curt Gomulinski

Matt Hlinak

Beverly Horvit

Kevin Howell

Bob Kearns

Neal Lewis

Mark Lochstampfor

### Conference

Marianne Fallon

Vinnie Birkenmeyer

Lorie Brown Gordon

Katie Holmes

Steve Loflin

Melissa Martin

Trish Maxwell

Kim Switzer

Kellen Wells-Mangold

### Eligibility and Admissions

Tricia Gomulinski

Vinnie Birkenmeyer

Beverly Evans

Kristen Fox

Neal Lewis

Orlando Madrigal

### Foundations for Honor Society Leaders

Eileen Merberg

Kate Gaertner (emerita)

Melissa Martin

Jane Hamblin (emerita)

Martha Zlokovich (emerita)

### Member Education

Trish Maxwell

Holly Barclay

Clara Dwyer

Jane Hamblin (emerita)

Dylan Lane

### Programming Oversight

Marianne Fallon

Trish Maxwell

Eileen Merberg

### Standards and Definitions

Curt Gomulinski

Earl Blodgett

Katie Holmes

Beverly Horvit

Mark Lochstampfor

Holly Moorhead

Lisa Stewart

Greg Ulferts

Kellen Wells-Mangold

Lara Noah

Terry Howard

Eileen Merberg



# ACHS MEMBER SOCIETIES

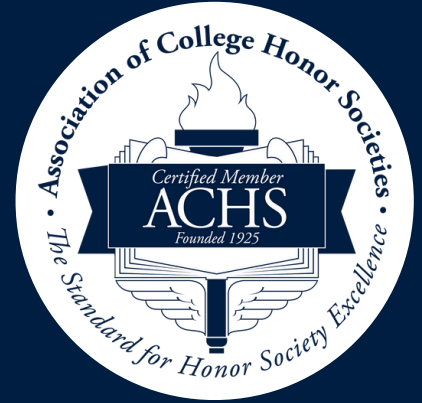
Alpha Beta Gamma, Business  
Alpha Chi, All Academic Fields  
Alpha Epsilon, Agricultural/Biological Engineering  
Alpha Epsilon Delta, Premedical  
Alpha Epsilon Rho, Electronic Media  
Alpha Eta Mu Beta, Biomedical Engineering  
Alpha Iota Delta, Decision Sciences and Information Systems  
Alpha Kappa Delta, Sociology  
Alpha Kappa Mu, All Academic Fields  
Alpha Lambda Delta, Freshman Scholarship  
Alpha Phi Sigma, Criminal Justice  
Alpha Pi Mu, Industrial Engineering  
Alpha Sigma Lambda, Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning  
Alpha Sigma Mu, Metallurgy and Materials Engineering  
Alpha Sigma Nu, General Scholarship – Jesuit Institutions of Higher Education  
Beta Gamma Sigma, Business and Management  
Beta Kappa Chi, Natural Sciences and Mathematics  
Beta Phi Mu, Library and Information Studies and Information Technology  
Chi Alpha Sigma, Athletics  
Chi Epsilon, Civil Engineering  
Chi Sigma Iota, Professional Counseling  
Delta Epsilon Sigma, General Scholarship in Colleges and Universities with a Catholic Tradition  
Delta Mu Delta, Business Administration  
Epsilon Mu Eta, Engineering Management  
Epsilon Pi Phi, Emergency Management  
Epsilon Pi Tau, Professions in Technology  
Gamma Theta Upsilon, Geography  
Kappa Mu Epsilon, Mathematics  
Kappa Omicron Nu, Human Sciences  
Kappa Tau Alpha, Journalism and Mass Communications  
Lambda Pi Eta, Communication  
Lambda Sigma, Student Leadership, Scholarship and Service  
Mortar Board, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service  
Mu Kappa Tau, Marketing  
National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Scholarship, Leadership and Service  
Omega Chi Epsilon, Chemical Engineering  
Omega Rho, Operations Research and Management Science  
Omicron Delta Epsilon, Economics  
Phi Alpha, Social Work  
Phi Alpha Theta, History  
Phi Beta Delta, International Scholars  
Phi Eta Sigma, Freshman Scholarship  
Phi Sigma, Biological Sciences, All Pure and Applied Fields  
Phi Sigma Iota, Foreign Languages, Linguistics, Literatures, ESL, & Cultures  
Phi Sigma Tau, Philosophy  
Phi Upsilon Omicron, Family and Consumer Sciences  
Pi Delta Phi, French  
Pi Gamma Mu, Social Sciences

Pi Kappa Lambda, Music  
Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science  
Pi Tau Sigma, Mechanical Engineering  
Pi Theta Epsilon, Occupational Therapy  
Psi Beta, Psychology at Two-year Colleges  
Psi Chi, Psychology  
Rho Chi, Pharmacy  
Sigma Beta Delta, Business, Management, and Administration  
Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish  
Sigma Lambda Alpha, Landscape Architecture  
Sigma Lambda Chi, Construction Management  
Sigma Pi Sigma, Physics  
Sigma Tau Delta, English  
Sigma Theta Tau, Nursing  
Tau Alpha Pi, Engineering Technology  
Tau Beta Pi, Engineering  
Tau Sigma Delta, Architecture and Allied Arts  
Theta Alpha Kappa, Religious Studies / Theology  
Upsilon Pi Epsilon, Computing and Information Disciplines  
Xi Sigma Pi, Forestry

**Visit the ACHS  
Website:**

**[achshonor.org](http://achshonor.org)**

**WE LOOK FORWARD  
TO SEEING YOU IN  
GREENVILLE, SC!**



**GENERAL / MEMBERSHIP:**

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Call: 877-321-2131 Ex 151

**CONFERENCE:**

Email: [conference@achshonor.org](mailto:conference@achshonor.org)

Call: 877-321-2131 Ex 140

**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
#ACHS2027!**

GREENVILLE, SC JAN 27 - 30, 2027

MORE INFO COMING SOON!