



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Theta Phi Alpha Welcomes Two Sisters to National Office Staff



BAY VILLAGE, Ohio – Theta Phi Alpha has recently welcomed two new staff members to National Office to support our members. Kathryn Owsianiecki Hartmann, Gamma Iota, has officially transitioned into her position as the new Executive Director, and Barbara Gjerstad, Alpha Nu, has been hired in a new role as Technology Coordinator.

Kathryn’s selection to oversee the day-to-day operational support of Theta Phi Alpha was announced in May while she was still serving on Grand Council. In July, she formally completed her 2016-18 term as National Vice President—Collegians and turned her focus to her new position as Executive Director. Professionally, Kathryn brings extensive experience in higher education as the Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Pace University and prior to that, the Assistant Director for Leadership and New Student Programs at La Salle University.



Theta Phi Alpha is also proud to announce Barbara Gjerstad as the new Technology Coordinator. In this part-time role, Barbara will maintain the national website, membership portal, officer portal, and database. The Technology Coordinator will also assess our current technologies and make recommendations to further streamline our online systems and improve efficiency.

“Kathryn and Barbara have both demonstrated their passion for values-based organizations and the fraternity-sorority experience through their professional and volunteer experience,” said Tracey Liphardt, National President of Theta Phi Alpha. “We are thrilled to begin sharing their talents with our members.”

Founded in 1912, Theta Phi Alpha is a women’s organization whose mission is to provide close comradeship; to advance educational, social, and philanthropic interests and leadership training; to encourage spiritual development and adherence to the highest moral standards; and to promote lifelong bonds of friendship. A fraternity for collegiate women and alumnae, Theta Phi Alpha was founded at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Today there are 58 active collegiate chapters, 35 alumnae associations and five alumnae clubs in the United States.