

# Delta Gamma Foundation 2024-27 Board of Trustees Slate

March 18, 2024

Dear Delta Gammas,

In accordance with the Foundation Constitution, the Governance Committee shall present to the Delta Gamma Foundation Board of Trustees and the voting membership at least one, but not limited to one, candidate for each vacancy on the Board of Trustees by April 15 prior to an Annual Meeting. The Governance Committee met March 15 – March 17, 2024, at Executive Offices in Columbus, Ohio, and is pleased to present the following candidates.

#### The candidates for the two vacancies are:



**2024-27 Trustee Term Jennifer (Jenn) Stuart Ragusa, Zeta Lambda-UC Riverside**San Diego alumnae chapter

Jennifer (Jenn) Stuart Ragusa, Zeta Lambda-UC Riverside, is the current Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Delta Gamma Foundation. Her journey within Delta Gamma has been marked by various leadership roles, from serving as a Delta Gamma PRO, Foundation Ambassador, Regional Director of Region 8, RCS, ATC, CRC, collegiate chapter president, and Collegiate Development Consultant (CDC), reflecting her deep connection to Delta Gamma. In her professional life, Jenn is a Realtor® with The Ragusa Group at Compass, managing a real estate and property management business in San Diego, CA. She also has served in many volunteer

capacities in San Diego and was recognized with the Volunteer of the Year Award by the City of San Diego for her unwavering commitment to the community. Jenn resides in Bay Park, San Diego, with her husband, Dave Ragusa, and their two teenagers, Amanda and Gavin. She loves to stay active by attending all of her kid's events, teaching Barre, biking along the beach and her favorite evenings include catching the sunset at a San Diego beach. Jenn is dedicated to seeking joy in every aspect of life and that always makes time for Delta Gamma!

## Why do I want to serve on the Foundation Board of Trustees?

I am deeply honored to be slated for a second term as a Trustee and Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Delta Gamma Foundation, a role that I cherish. Alongside the exceptional Board of Trustees, I am dedicated to fostering the growth of the Foundation, ensuring its enduring legacy and ability to meet the evolving needs of our membership and the Service for Sight community that Delta Gamma supports. The Foundation serves as a vital link for all DGs, providing strength and inspiration when we witness the collective impact of our actions. Whether it's empowering and advocating for people living with blindness or low vision, or supporting our sisters through crisis grants, scholarships, and leadership opportunities, each contribution makes a meaningful difference.

You, my sisters, are the reason I am committed to continuing my service to the Delta Gamma Foundation. My involvement allows me to witness the incredible ways we make a difference every day. Our sisterhood has flourished because of the love and support we offer each other, and the Foundation exemplifies this support in action. For me, it's about honoring our shared commitment to the "Do Good" sisterhood and ensuring that we carry this legacy forward for generations to come.

My objective in serving on the Board of Trustees is to provide confident leadership and make strategic decisions that maximize our outcomes while ensuring responsible stewardship of our resources. I am committed to enhancing the engagement and connection of the Delta Gamma Foundation across our sisterhood, inspiring each member to do good every day. Thank you for the privilege of serving again on the Board of Trustees. I am here to listen to our sisters and represent each of you, fostering a lasting connection through our shared commitment to doing good.



**2024-27 Trustee Term Jennifer Surgalski, Zeta Sigma-Northern Kentucky**Dallas alumnae chapter

During Jennifer Surgalski's 20-year career in sports, she has contributed to successful business endeavors for NFL franchises including the Cincinnati Bengals, Miami Dolphins, and currently as a senior director for the Dallas Cowboys. Jennifer has been at the forefront of the team's most innovative business partnerships and strategic projects, including its stadium naming rights negotiations, design and development of its new world headquarters and training facility, record-breaking sponsorship revenue generation, and expansive stadium enhancement and renovation projects – in addition to the franchise's unique business ventures in co-working,

esports, fitness, luxury residential, private aviation, social club and restaurant and retail.

Her philanthropic contributions include serving as chief of strategy for the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation which is establishing a national museum, monument and leadership institute preserving the values and legacies of Medal of Honor recipients, those who received our nation's high recognition for valor in military combat. Her contributions span the areas of architectural design, brand development and experience, business strategy, exhibition design, fundraising strategy, and milestone events.

Jennifer, an initiate of Zeta Sigma-Northern Kentucky, received a Bachelor of Science in

marketing and served as the chapter's vice president: social standards and director of alumnae relations. Jennifer went on to receive a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Sports Administration from Ohio University, courtesy of a merit-based graduate fellowship from Delta Gamma Foundation.

Jennifer resides in Dallas, Texas and is a member of the Dallas alumnae chapter. She is an avid traveler who enjoys Pilates, golf, pickleball, musicals and cheering on her Dallas Cowboys.

The best way to honor all that Delta Gamma has poured into me is to perpetuate our Do Good Sisterhood – this is my inspiration for serving Delta Gamma's Foundation as a Trustee.

### Why do I want to serve on the Foundation Board of Trustees?

As a Zeta Sigma-Northern Kentucky University new member, and later a chapter officer, Delta Gamma Fraternity instilled in me a commitment to academic excellence, philanthropy, leadership, and sisterhood. Nearing graduation, I received a Delta Gamma Foundation merit-based graduate fellowship, allowing me to attend Ohio University where I completed two post-graduate degrees and launched a now twenty-year career in the sports industry. And as a young professional, Delta Gamma alumnae groups provided an anchor upon each relocation, connecting me to sisters and service opportunities in unfamiliar places and lending a thread of consistency amidst new beginnings in North Carolina, Florida, and Texas.

Delta Gamma has been a steadfast influence and a tremendous blessing in my life over the last twenty-five years – it will be my privilege to serve our sisterhood so that other women may also experience the beauty of Delta Gamma I have been fortunate to know.

Thank you for submitting names of qualified alumnae members and for providing valuable information through your nomination forms and the confidential evaluation surveys. We listened closely to your recommendations. The Committee also studied the Trustee nominee applications, recommendation letters and conducted interviews with nine (9) qualified nominees. This wealth of information provided the basis for our deliberations.

Per Article VII, Section 2 of the Delta Gamma Foundation Constitution, any two (2) participants of the Foundation may submit a nomination by filing the required forms with the executive director of the Delta Gamma Foundation by 2 p.m. Pacific time/5 p.m. Eastern time, 14 days after the Slate is presented, which is **April 1, 2024**. The participants of the Foundation consist of all initiated members of the Delta Gamma Fraternity.

#### The required forms include:

- A single letter signed by two participants of the Foundation or two separate letters signed by the participants. Participants must be in good standing with Delta Gamma Fraternity.
- Trustee application form
- Please contact Leslie Martin, Foundation executive director, at <u>FoundationED@</u> deltagamma.org or additional information.

Such nominations and qualifications shall be presented in the same manner as the Governance Committee Slate and shall be included in any communications sent prior to the Annual Meeting. There shall be no nominations from the floor.

In the Bonds, Delta Gamma Foundation Governance Committee

Janet Aronberg Hersh, Alpha Zeta-Lawrence, Chair FoundationGovChr@deltagamma.org

Jackie Leyes Bergquist, Mu-Missouri FoundationGovl@deltagamma.org

Ann Glosup Bordelon, Alpha Omega-Arkansas <u>FoundationGov2@deltagamma.org</u>

Kierstan Knaus Dufour, Delta Pi-Southern Mississippi FoundationGov3@deltagamma.org

Christine Rocchio, Epsilon Chi-South Carolina FoundationGov4@deltagamma.org



April 3, 2024

Dear Delta Gammas,

Previously, you received notification from the Foundation Governance Committee of the proposed slate to fulfill the Foundation Board of Trustees vacancies for the 2024-27 term.

Article VII, Section 2 of the Delta Gamma Foundation Constitution provides that any two (2) participants of the Foundation may submit a nomination by filing the required forms with the Executive Director of the Delta Gamma Foundation by 5 p.m. Eastern time, 14 days after the slate is presented, which was April 1, 2024. Please be advised that no participant nominations were received by this Constitutionally mandated deadline.

In the Bonds,

Susan R. Cornell, J.D.

Epsilon Delta-Washington and Jefferson

Susan R. Cornell

Constitution Chair

Delta Gamma Foundation