



2026-28 Election Forum Speeches

Council Trustee: Fraternity Programming | **Leslie Jean Pedigo, Gamma Nu-North Texas**

Delivered on June 26, 2026, at Delta Gamma's 72nd Biennial Convention

Good morning! I want to first take a moment to thank the people who made it possible for me to stand here today.

To my parents, Jim and Jaymie Pedigo— thank you for being incredibly supportive since I first joined Delta Gamma and for being here. Mom, the fact that you will be initiated into our sisterhood by my own chapter tomorrow makes this moment almost impossible to put into words. And to my husband and anchorman, Grant — thank you for showing up, always. I truly am the luckiest.

And to all of you — thank you. Delta Gamma shaped the trajectory of my entire life. It led me to my career, my closest friends and ultimately the path that brought me home. I never would have imagined this moment when I was initiated into Gamma Nu in 2007. But after volunteering for the past 13 years - I am certain that it's time to give back in this way.

As your Council Trustee: Fraternity Programming, I will work to ensure Delta Gamma meets its members where they are. I will utilize my skills in strategic thinking, collaboration and execution to bring our ideas to a reality. I have four main goals in this role.

The first is to collect and utilize data and feedback from our members to create experiences that truly reflect their needs.

The second is to lead the programming team and EO staff partners in building intentional, collaborative relationships across every area of this Fraternity — collegiate, alumnae, membership and recruitment and the Foundation — so that programming isn't siloed, but woven throughout the full Delta Gamma experience.

Thirdly, it's time to revamp the resources we provide at the local level, so that chapters and alumnae groups have the tools and training they need to create meaningful development opportunities right in their own sisterhoods — not just at Fraternity-wide events.

And lastly, continuing to evolve the volunteer experience into one with clear goals, intentional strategy and real accountability.

My vision is simple – that Delta Gamma be a place that fosters a true sense of belonging, in every stage of life. All members should feel that Delta Gamma is a constant source of connection, community and support and programming is the heart of that vision.

I am incredibly humbled by this opportunity and am ready to serve. Thank you.