

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of Music
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Ames, Iowa 50011-2180
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December 4, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter of support for Dr. Nicholas Bratcher, who is a candidate for the Kappa Kappa Psi National Vice President for Colonization and Membership. Nicholas is currently serving as National Vice President for Programs and this would be a logical ascension for him and a beneficial move for our Fraternity.

I have known Nicholas for several years, through his involvement as a leader in our Brotherhood – specifically as a member of the Board of Directors for our Alumni Association, and for his work as the Director of Bands at the University of Dubuque. We both taught in the state of Iowa until he moved to California State University in San Bernardino, so our paths crossed professionally during our shared time in Iowa.

I can tell you that Nicholas is highly regarded in our profession. Although he is new to his position in California, he is already in demand for upcoming honor bands and adjudicated festivals. He has an impressive listing of events where he has served (or will be serving) as a clinician, guest conductor or as an adjudicator.

Additionally, he has presented at numerous state music educator association conferences, fraternity conventions, and at the College Band Directors National Association Athletic Band Symposium. Nicholas has excellent professional contacts and having him as a leader at the national level of Kappa Kappa Psi would benefit our organization.

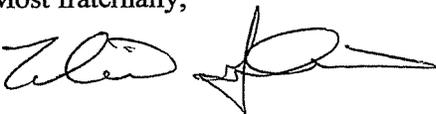
It is rare anymore, yet essential, to have a university band director of such regard continue in our organization at the national level. I believe that we continue to seek quality collegiate band directors who are dedicated to serving our Brotherhood and are equipped to lead us forward.

I believe that Nicholas Bratcher is such a person.

In addition to his professional and fraternal experiences which are impressive, Nicholas is simply a nice guy. He is able to communicate and relate easily to students, alumni and band directors. He has a relaxed yet thorough style that will serve him well in this position.

As you can tell I am a huge fan of Nicholas Bratcher and I urge you to support him for this important position.

Most fraternally,



Michael Golemo, D.M.A.
Director of Bands
Professor of Music
(Kappa Kappa Psi National President, 1999-2001)



Berkmar High School Band

405 Pleasant Hill Road
Lilburn, GA 30047
www.berkmarbands.org

December 3rd, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Dr. Nicholas Bratcher who is interested in running for the National Vice President for Colonization and Membership. I have known Dr. Bratcher for over 13 years. I have worked with Dr. Bratcher for a total of 6 years. I must say that I could not have asked for a better co-worker, brother, and friend. He currently serves as Director of Bands/Assistant Professor of Music at the California State University, San Bernardino. During the 6 years I worked with Dr. Bratcher, he served as Assistant Director of Bands at Savannah State University. There, he served as co-sponsor for the Lambda Upsilon chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Inc. and the Iota Zeta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority. He played a huge role in re-chartering of the Iota Zeta chapter, a task that took over a year to complete. In the capacity of chapter sponsor, Dr. Bratcher always went the extra mile to ensure that the chapters remain in good standing and active.

In his current position of Vice President for Programs, he has worked closely with National Council to develop and promote the Chapter Development Grant to help improve chapter officer and logistics training. He has also worked with National Leadership to promote and improve Chapter participation to 90% in the Month of Musicianship.

Dr. Bratcher is a Life Member of Kappa Kappa Psi and is constantly pouring his heart and soul into the beloved fraternity. I know that his serving as National Vice President for Colonization and Membership will benefit this fraternity greatly.

Warmest Regards,

Brother Arthur Wright, III

Spring 2003 Lambda Beta

Director of Bands

Berkmar High School

January 10, 2019

Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi,

It is with great pleasure that I provide this letter of support to Dr. Nicholas (Nick) Bratcher to serve as Vice President of Colonization and Membership (VPCM) for the 2019-2021 Biennium. I have had the pleasure of working alongside Nick since our initial term on the Alumni Association Board of Directors (AABOD) in 2015. Nick has a clear passion for this Fraternity and dedication to music that is clear through his professional work and his time serving on Fraternity leadership.

Nick was the first Director to serve in the position of Musicianship Director for the AABOD. During his tenure the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association (KKΨ-AA) Nick was instrumental in laying the foundation for the KKΨ-AA offering musical programming, which is best embodied by the KKΨ-AA sponsored solo competition. In this work, Nick developed this program to be easily run alongside NIB auditions and to have a committee to down select finalists. This model is still influencing the AABOD in the soon-to-be-formed musicianship committee. Nick's passion for music and this Fraternity has been further exemplified during his tenure as National Vice President for Programs. Working alongside the rest of the National Council, Nick has steadfastly worked to increase participation in the Month of Musicianship. Additionally, his workshops at conventions are tailored to help teach both our Actives and Alumni on how to keep music in your life, both during and after college.

Outside of his service on the National Leadership, Nick has served as a steadfast mentor to various members of the Fraternity which is exemplified by his role as a Chapter Sponsor for the Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma Chapters and Savannah State University. This has enabled Nick to stay in tuned with the needs and voice of our active membership while helping him understand effective methods for reaching out to Chapter Sponsors and Director of Bands.

Finally, on a personal note, I can say that Nick is a true pleasure to work with. He possesses a large smile and a boisterous laugh. Nick understands the importance of not having a single voice overpower a conversation and is able to concisely provide input. I truly value his leadership and value him as a Friend and Brother.

Once again, I am pleased to recommend Dr. Nicholas Bratcher for continued service on the National Council in the role of VPCM. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me either at my personal email (nrorrer@gmail.com) or via social media.

AEA,



Nicholas A. Rorrer, PhD
National Renewable Energy Laboratory – Staff Researcher
KKΨ– Alumni Association Board of Directors (2015-2019) and Xi Chapter Sponsor (2013 – Present)

3rd January 2019

To the Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi,

It is my pleasure to recommend Dr. Nicholas Bratcher for the position of Vice President of Colonization and Membership for Kappa Kappa Psi.

Through my time as an active Brother of the Fraternity, I was able to work alongside Dr. Bratcher on a number of occasions, and was able to see the love, passion, and drive he has for Kappa Kappa Psi.

My first memory of Nick was when he presented at SED DLC 2017 at Vanderbilt University; he presented a workshop called Leadership by the Numbers, and thoroughly demonstrated his ability to engage students and share knowledge that will better equip them to serve their bands. He was able to get a room full of band kids interested in statistics and studies; that alone speaks volumes about his leadership ability.

I was also able to witness Nick's leadership during my term as District President. I served while he was in his first year as National VPP, and was able to see numerous things that he accomplished, such as overseeing the rebranding of National Awards and increasing students' awareness of them, vast improvements to the National website, creation of a Leadership Grant, and beyond. It became clear to me through my interactions with Dr. Bratcher and through discussing the progress that was being made on National Programs with fellow Brothers, that he doesn't just have good ideas, he is able to act on them and see them to completion.

I truly believe that Dr. Nicholas Bratcher loves Kappa Kappa Psi, and that Kappa Kappa Psi would be lucky to have him as its next Vice President for Colonization and Membership.

AEA,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Marzen', with a stylized, cursive script.

Frank Marzen

To the National Council and the Greater Brotherhood,

I write this letter in support of Brother Nicholas Bratcher for Vice President of Colonization and Membership. Brother Bratcher has served loyally and diligently on the current national council as Vice President of Programs and I have seen his work on a personal level.

As Southeast District President, I had the pleasure of working with Brother Bratcher when He was in leadership under the National Alumni Association. His passion for the art of music is unmatched. Even with having the pressure of moving to the West Coast and securing his Doctorate, Dr. Bratcher has not left Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity, Inc. behind in any way, form or fashion. During the Southeast District Leadership Conference, Brother Bratcher served as one of our speakers and was considered a major highlight of the event. His ability to connect with brothers, from all walks of life, through music is so powerful.

Brother Bratcher has a diverse background. From joining our sacred brotherhood at South Carolina State, serving on the National Alumni Association Board, living in and serving different districts of our fraternity, He has been exposed to our brotherhood on a higher level. This combination of diverse experiences ensures that He has the understanding and capabilities to carry our brotherhood into the next biennium.

Brother Bratcher is a continued friend and advocate to brothers of all backgrounds and is indeed a prime candidate for the office of Vice President of Colonization and Membership. Aside from his academic prowess, the brother has a heart and passion to see those around him Strive.

Forever Striving,
Michael Bradford-Calhoun
Southeast District President '16-'17

Dear Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi,

January 11, 2019

I am very excited and humbled to write a letter of recommendation for Nicholas Bratcher for the office of National Vice President of Colonization and Membership for Kappa Kappa Psi! I have had the privilege knowing Nicholas for many years and witnessed his outstanding service & loyalty to Kappa Kappa Psi.

I first met Nicholas when he was the sponsor of the Iota Zeta Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma while I served on the National Council of Tau Beta Sigma as Vice President for Colonization and Membership. It was through this avenue that I learned what an outstanding individual Nicholas is and the integrity he carries as a person. Nicholas was one of the best sponsors I have ever worked with in both organizations of Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma. I believe in my heart these great experiences have prepared Nicholas to be outstanding in the Office of Colonization and Membership.

Nicholas is a great leader by example and this certainly is an important quality to have in any fraternity. The substantial amount of experiences and knowledge of fraternity membership, with college music education are very valuable attributes. Nicholas has these qualities and much more! Kappa Kappa Psi is very fortunate to have a member in Nicholas and I have no doubt that he will do a superb job in the Office of National Vice President of Colonization and Membership!

I have appreciated all Nicholas has done for the Fraternity, but also for Tau Beta Sigma Sorority. Nicholas's leadership is very inspiring, and I am deeply appreciative of his partnership he has built with Tau Beta Sigma as a Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi. I whole-heartedly give my full endorsement for Nicholas Bratcher for the Office of National Vice President for Colonization and Membership. We are very blessed to have him for both organizations and I envision him serving for many more years to come. If you need to contact me to answer any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me dolliemcdonald@tbsigma.org.

Sincerely,



Dollie McDonald O'Neill
Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Sorority
Past National President
Board of Trustees, Chair 2015-2017



Alaina Peters
198 E 16th Ave., Apt. B9
Columbus, OH 43201
alainarpeters@gmail.com, (360)561-0603

January 14, 2019

Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity
National Committee on Nominations
c/o Derrick Mills, Chair
PO Box 849
Stillwater, OK 74076

Brothers,

I am honored to recommend Nick Bratcher for the position of Kappa Kappa Psi National Vice President for Colonization and Membership for the 2019-2021 biennium. I worked with Nick through his positions on the National Alumni Association Board of Directors and the National Council throughout my term as a National Chapter Field Representative (CFR), and I am confident he would be an asset to the fraternity in this office.

Nick brings passion and energy to his fraternity work, centering musicianship in all that we do. He oversaw the first Kappa Kappa Psi Solo Competition at the 2017 National Convention as the Musicianship Director for the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and he has helped bolster chapters' musicianship through the Month of Musicianship and Chapter Development Grant as National Vice President for Programs. When I served on the North Central District Governor's Cup review panel with Nick last year, he asked the NCD's top chapters challenging questions about relations with all band programs on their campus and used his Director of Bands perspective to provide helpful feedback to push them to the next level. I trust that Nick would continue to support chapters in their musicianship through his membership education and development initiatives, as this value has defined our fraternity from its very beginnings.

Nick's initiative for Small Chapter Support specifically draws me to his platform. Throughout my time knowing Nick, our conversations have focused on supporting the diverse chapters in our fraternity, particularly those at smaller and/or minority-serving institutions. Since I came from a large chapter housed at a large, public, predominately white institution, Nick served as a great sounding board for ideas on how I could support Brothers, chapters, and band programs different from my own. His perspective as an active member, Director of Bands, and former Chapter Sponsor at various universities makes him particularly equipped to develop our fraternity's membership in a more holistic way. Each Kappa Kappa Psi chapter lives out our fraternity's purposes and Ritual in ways that look different from one another, but are equally powerful and meaningful. Embracing and supporting these differences is paramount to our future development.

Please feel free to contact me at alainarpeters@gmail.com or (360)561-0603 with any further questions about Nick's qualifications. I look forward to reuniting with many of you at the 2019 National Convention as we celebrate the centennial of our great fraternity.

AEA,



Alaina Peters
KKPsi National Officer Training & Resources Committee Member
KKPsi National Chapter Field Representative, 2016-2018
KKPsi – Beta Omicron Life Member

January 1, 2019
Nominations Committee
Kappa Kappa Psi
P.O. Box 849
Stillwater, OK 74067

Brothers of the Nominations Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Dr. Nicholas Bratcher who is pursuing the office of Vice President of Colonization and Membership for the Kappa Kappa Psi National Council. Nick and I served together on the 2015-2017 Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Board of Directors (AABOD), and he is a personal friend to me.

As the Musicianship Director for the AABOD, Nick challenged himself to encourage alumni participation in musical functions and bring awareness to the alumni who were able to participate in those musical functions. By promoting the Month of Musicianship via social media platforms this led to increased visibility which brought more awareness to participating. The largest project Nick spearheaded was the implementation of the Kappa Kappa Psi Solo Competition at the 2017 National Convention. This took months of planning, requesting submissions, securing an accompanist and judges, and partnering with headquarters to publicize the event to encourage participation. It was a lofty endeavor for something that the AABOD had not done, and Nick was the driving force that made it happen.

In his work as National Vice President for Programs, he extended his focus on musicianship by continuing to promote the Month of Musicianship through social media and The Podium which led to an increase in awareness of the involvement in musical ensembles from students, National leadership, and alumni. He collaborated with the National Council to develop and promote the Chapter Development Grant which focuses on the improvement of chapter officer and logistics training. And, he has continued to encourage transparency of the National Council through revision of applications for the awards process to reflect The Road to Wisdom. He has accomplished these things while moving across the country to further his professional career as a musician and director. Nick is a hard-working, determined Brother, and his work is a reflection of his passion that he has for the Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi.

Thinking ahead to the next biennium, Kappa Kappa Psi will continue to thrive under leaders that have determination, drive, and a standard for excellence. I believe that Nick is an excellent candidate for the office of Vice President for Colonization and Membership and I fully support his endeavor. He possesses the qualities necessary to thrive in a role that is consistently busy with the Road to Wisdom membership education program and colonizing new chapters.

Fraternally,
Jennifer Taylor 
Director of Programming and Professional Development
Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Directors

Kelly Collaborative

M E D I C I N E

Dr. Kathryn D. Kelly MD

Board Certified Internal Medicine Physician

10801 Lockwood Dr. Suite 160, Silver Springs, MD 20901 Office (301) 298-1040 - Fax (240)847-7178
January 5, 2019

To the Nomination committee of Kappa Kappa Psi,

It is with great excitement that I write to you on behalf of Nicholas Bratcher in support of his candidacy for KKPsi National Vice of Colonization and Membership. I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Bratcher throughout his tenure in the organization and have seen him grow into steward of the fraternity ideals. He is a strong example of the principles that Kappa Kappa Psi holds dear and I know that he can help lead the fraternity into the future.

As a chapter sponsor for Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, Nicholas was interactive and attentive to the needs of his chapter. As a member of the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Executive Council, he worked to grow Alumni involvement and developed the first solo competition. As the National Vice President for Programs, Mr. Bratcher initiated the Chapter Development Grant and increased the participation in National Programs including the Month of musicianship to 94% of all active chapters across the country.

I have no doubt that Mr. Bratcher is qualified and ready for the role. He demonstrates this not only through his adherence to the purposes of Kappa Kappa Psi, but also to the "golden rule". I am in awe of his compassion, integrity, perseverance, and tolerance with consideration of others. In Tau Beta Sigma we talk about "tolerance tempered with kindness and a consideration for the needs of others". The role of Vice President for Colonization and Membership needs an outstanding human being and not just an outstanding leader. Kappa Kappa Psi would we undoubtedly have both.

Therefore, I recommend Nicolas Bratcher without reservation. If any additional information is required, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dr. Kathryn Garrett Kelly, MD