On February 22nd, 2018, Alpha Lambda Delta opened its 2018-19 year with its annual induction ceremony. ALD gave a grand welcome to the eligible freshmen, who had joined UConn in August 2017. The induction ceremony also saw the organization present numerous awards, including scholarships, and the annual Faculty of the Year Award.

With nearly 950 students inducted, incoming Vice President Nicholas Olson remarked that it was “an all-time high for our chapter in a single induction, almost double the amount we inducted last year.” Olson went on to say that this was “one of the highest single inductions in the country.” ALD maintained the criteria for students to have completed their first semester with at least a 3.5 GPA, and that students had to complete that first semester at a UConn campus.

The ceremony was a major success, with the room being completely packed. By the time it began, people resorted to standing, as seating had run out. University Catering supplied the food, as is the usual procedure.
ALD’s keynote speaker was Provost Jeremy Teitelbaum, whom Olson said “offered great words of wisdom as we grow and become functioning parts of society,” and that the words would encourage UConn students to learn and fulfill their roles beyond the campus. The other UConn faculty member to speak was Professor Keith Barker, who received the Faculty of the Year Award.

The decision to award Prof. Barker came about because of a student nomination, and the board chose him among others “based on personal experience,” and “his campus-wide impact,” which Olson pointed out. Barker’s speech was a rather moving one, pointing out how the world had changed since his college days. He also noted that despite having won many awards before, this was the first one given to him by students. He ultimately concluded by pushing ALD members to aim even higher.

There were many ALD members who volunteered at the ceremony, helping sign students in, distribute programs, and sell ALD memorabilia. ALD sold a plethora of t-shirts, as well as both laptop and bumper stickers.

Four ALD members won scholarships, which they received that night prior to the induction itself. They were Audrey Spencer, Anand Veeraraghav (myself), Caitlyn Kaufman, and Kathleen Flynn. These awards were, respectively, the Katie Jo Michel Roaming Husky Award, the Paper n’ Paws Award, the Dr. Seuss Award, and the Continuing Education Award. After applying, various criteria determined the winners, who were selected by the Executive Board.

Flynn will be pursuing a graduate degree in pharmacy school at UConn, after having served as ALD’s Historian. I have been a very active member of ALD and an annual prize winner, in addition to being active around campus. Kaufman, who could not attend the ceremony, previously interned under the E-Board and frequently participates in ALD events. Spencer, also a former E-Board member as CFO, previously studied abroad in the UK and has now earned a dual-degree.

ALD looks forward to working with all the new initiates, and also congratulates all of those who remained involved with the organization and earned scholarships. A successful year is definitely ahead.
ALD Skates the Night Away

BY DANIELA PAREDES

On February 23, 2018, Alpha Lambda Delta hosted a casual ice skating event on-campus at the Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum. Several members of the Executive Board attended, including Newsletter Chair Alexis Abbotts, outgoing Vice President Quinton Carmichall, and outgoing Social Chair Rebecca Shepherd, who organized the event. It was a great time and a fun way for students to destress (especially since it was around this time that a lot of midterms were taking place)!

ALD Members All Smiles for Professional Photoshoot

BY SIDNEY TOMKO

On Tuesday, February 27th, Alpha Lambda Delta held a professional photoshoot in the Student Union for the benefit of its members, as well as any friends a member wished to bring along with them. The photoshoot featured a new professional ALD themed backdrop picturing the organization’s crest. Members were encouraged to dress however they wanted, whether it be formal, business casual, or even strictly casual, as the pictures were later sent to members for their own personal use.

Newsletter Chair Alexis Abbotts took pictures from 1-3PM, and members were able to stop by for as little or long as they pleased. This photoshoot presented members with a great opportunity to gain high quality headshots to be used for LinkedIn and Facebook, as well as other social media applications that members saw fit. The event was so successful that another photoshoot was held on Thursday, April 26th, to accommodate for any members who had missed this great opportunity.
ALD Gets Creative at Paint Night

BY AMBER SMITH

The Spring 2018 Paint Night was just what UConn students stressed out with midterms needed to unwind. Everyone gathered in Storrs Hall, where there were quality canvases, paints, brushes, and great company. Many ALD members and their friends came to express their creativity in a way that they normally do not have time for. It was great to see people bouncing ideas off of each other as they worked. Some people decided to paint quotes, others painted animals, and someone even decided to paint an adorable Pokémon.

There were some ALD members who had experience with painting, whether it was related to their major or simply their hobby. All of the more artistic people in the room were sharing tips on how to mix colors to get different shades and brush stroke techniques. However, everyone had a chance to have fun, no matter their level of skill. It was great to see old and new ALD members alike bonding over this creative outlet. Clearly, this is an event that ALD members need to experience at least once. Luckily, there will be other paint nights in the future, as the event is usually held once every semester.

FlowerFest Proves to Be Huge Success

BY JING ZHAO

On Wednesday, April 11th, Alpha Lambda Delta held its annual FlowerFest on Fairfield Way on the University Seal. This year, the money we received was donated to the American Cancer Society. We sold cacti, succulents, and a variety of pots for decoration. Many people came to browse and chose the plants they like. ALD members volunteered to help sell plants to people and put their plants in the decorative pots.

Overall, FlowerFest was very successful. The ALD E-Board planned the whole activity very well and our volunteers were very helpful. The event raised $500 for the ACS. Everyone had a great time in this meaningful activity.
The 2018 annual Oozeball tournament was held Saturday, April 21 from 9am to 6pm in the fields and courts behind North Residence Halls. A UConn tradition, Oozeball celebrated its 35th anniversary of students getting muddy with the theme of “Stranger Ooze”, based on the popular television show “Stranger Things”. The placing teams from 1st to 3rd were, respectively, Suck My Disc, On Oozedays We Wear Pink, and The Joozie Shore.

Oozeball is a large-scale mud-volleyball tournament, consisting of single-elimination rounds played in mud, usually occurring during Spring Weekend. Programmed by the Student Alumni Association, UConn Office of Alumni Relations, and UConn Recreation, Oozeball hosts up to 400 teams and draws over 3,000 students and spectators. In the days before and early in the morning of the event, volunteers and staff members construct the courts and mud with the help of the UConn Fire Department.

There were many interesting team ideas, including our own Alpha Lambda Delta Executive Board’s theme of different types of eggs. With the name of The EGGsecutives, the E-Board members consisted of different styles of eggs such as “Scrambled” and “Sunny Side Up”. Additionally, there was a handful of teams consisting of fellow ALD members. Everyone is sure to have played some EGGcellent games. Winning team Suck My Disc also had an interesting name, and carried through to the end for the win. “The last two years, our team has always come in third,” commented team leader Mathew Zampetti. “Overall, it was a team effort; everyone contributed.”

OOzeball is sure to return next year with another exciting theme and more amazing, muddy games.
Bonfire Provides Even S’More Fun

BY ALEXIS ABBOTTS

A past tradition for ALD, the spring bonfire made its way back into the organization’s hectic schedule this year, providing a night of warmth, laughs, and yumminess to members.

One of Outgoing Social Chair Rebecca Shepherd’s last events before her graduation from UConn, the bonfire took place on a beautiful Thursday evening at the UConn Hillel. In addition to the coziness and good company the fire provided to members, s’mores making materials were also available for anyone needing to combat a sweet tooth.

A night enjoyed by many, the bonfire will hopefully make a return in the semesters to come as a warm way to relieve stress during the crunch time before finals.

Semesterly Ice Cream Social Sweetens Up Finals Week

BY MADISON CHIULLI

The UConn community was mocked by mother nature as hallmark spring weather emerged in the midst of final exams. Luckily, the members of Alpha Lambda Delta had the chance to melt away their stress by enjoying ice cream from our school’s renowned Dairy Bar. Away from the bustling Homer Babbidge Library, members flocked to the Student Union eager to socialize and enjoy each other’s company. An extensive assortment of flavors—including, but not limited to, Husky Tracks, Oreo, Raspberry Sorbet, and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough—appealed to any member with a sweet tooth. Overall, the opportunity to mingle with fellow Alpha Lambda Delta brothers and sisters while simultaneously engaging in the ultimate study break was a great way for our organization to enter finals week!
Meet the Newest E-Board Members

This semester, the Alpha Lambda Delta Executive Board elected two new members to fill the positions of Academic Chairperson and CFO. Let's get to know them a little more!

Sarah Verity – Academic Chairperson
Animal Science Major, Pre-Dental

**Hobbies:** Hiking, playing the flute, working out, working at the horse barn, and baking

**Why did you join the E-Board?:** I wanted to be able to help people by hosting activities that not only can help their resume/possible future applications, but also can help them meet people in the club and feel accepted and create new friends!!

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Jayla Millender – CFO (Chief Financial Officer)
Physiology and Neurobiology & Africana Studies

**Hobbies:** Lifting, shopping, eating, hiking, and watching Netflix

**Why did you join the E-Board?:** I decided to join the E-Board because I have always taken pride in my grades, and when I got accepted into this society specifically for students who have achieved great academic success, I wanted to get involved as best as I could!!
Letter from the Editor

BY ALEXIS ABBOTTS

Hi ALD,

I usually set aside this letter to talk about the past semester, but this time, I would like to use my end note to talk about the E-Board members who have recently graduated from UConn and will no longer be on our amazing board. They’ve done wonders for this organization, and I hope you take the time to read what I have to say about them, as they’ve left a mark on ALD that can never be erased nor overshadowed.

I’ll start with Kathleen, our Historian prior to Sam’s return from the Hartford campus. Her confidence and ability were so admirable, it had me a little unsure of how I’d fit in when I was elected onto the board. Despite my initial intimidation, I quickly learned that Kathleen was always there to show me the motions of ALD and to guide me when I felt small. Though she will still be around UConn as a graduate student pursuing her doctorate, her absence from the board has been and will be evident, as her knowledge and uniqueness brought something to us as a group that cannot be replicated.

Next is Becca, our Social Chair. Becca held her position starting with her freshman year, maintaining a high standard for the execution of her duties over her entire college career since. When I say I knew what she was doing, she knew what she was doing. Becca never shied away from a challenge that our board faced, especially when we all had to problem solve at Four Arrows. She was a character that can never truly be replaced. Though she is now an accountant in the big, scary, adult world, Becca will always be a member of our board at heart.

Last, but certainly not least, is our Vice President, Quinton. One thing is obvious: Quinton was the backbone of this organization, through and through. If any of us had a question or was unsure, Quinton knew the answer. If something needed to be done, Quinton got it done, or at least made sure the right person did. He was always on top of things, always knew what to do, and was always there for all of us. Quinton embodies ALD. Our board isn’t going to be the same without him, and that’s a hard truth we all have been working on facing. Though he’s graduated now, we hope he can possibly return as an advisor for our chapter, and maybe even attend this year’s conference in Cincinnati. Fingers crossed!

While these members must leave us behind, our current board will continue to move forward. I have never been prouder of a group of people in my life. I have high hopes for the future of this organization, and you all should, too. Have a wonderful summer, and I’ll see all of you next semester.

All my best to you,

Alexis Abbotts
Newsletter Chair