



OCTOBER 2015

October is a special month. You are leading your Mortar Board chapter to great fall programming, enjoying your campus' fall activities, and observing an important Mortar Board deadline day — October 15. Here's what's up!

Conference make-up sessions on October 15, 20 and 21

National leaders are offering one-hour make-up webinars for those who were unable to attend the national conference in Phoenix this summer. The sessions will be held on:

October 15 at 9 p.m. Eastern,

October 20 at 9 p.m. Eastern, and

October 21 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

Please [register](#) to attend the make-up sessions. Once you register, we will send you further instructions for the webinar.

October 15 — the quad deadline — important action items:

1. If your chapter missed the September 15 deadline, submit your CAP (Chapter Action Plan)!
2. Apply to serve on the Conference Advisory Board (CAB).
3. Nominate an alumni member for a position on National Council.
4. Propose an amendment to the *Bylaws of Mortar Board, Inc.*

More information on each of these important items can be found below.

Don't delay! Take the best leaders' advice and do it now. That way, you can celebrate October 15 with your "to do" list completely clear! If you have questions, your [section coordinator](#) or the [National Office staff](#) are only a phone call, text or email away. We are here to help!

NEWS

CALL FOR 2016 ALUMNI AWARD NOMINEES

The Emerging Leader Awards, Alumni Achievement Awards and Distinguished Lifetime Membership Awards are given by Mortar Board to alumni who have demonstrated Mortar Board's continuing commitment to the Ideals of scholarship, leadership and service. These alumni are models for the collegiate members as well as illustrations of what Mortar Board stands for. Intentions to nominate may be submitted by alumni chapters, collegiate chapters, or individual Mortar Board members on or before November 15. [Read more about the awards](#) and submit your nomination today!

2016 CONFERENCE FEE ANNOUNCED

The 2016 conference fee has been set at \$350, and the fee is due from each chapter when it submits its Official Membership Report (OMR) in the spring of 2016. It may be paid in advance of the OMR as well. It costs almost \$700

to support each conference delegate at the National Conference The conference fee constitutes only half that amount — a bargain for each chapter.

Mark your calendars - the 2016 National Conference will be held **July 22 - 24 in Indianapolis, Indiana!**

MORTAR BOARD FELLOWSHIPS

The Mortar Board National Foundation invites applications for 2016 Mortar Board Fellowships. The fellowship selection process is managed by the Mortar Board Fellowship Selection Committee, which reviews all completed applications. Mortar Board Fellowships are for Mortar Board members who are or will be working toward a post baccalaureate degree in the 2016-2017 academic year. A completed application for a Mortar Board National Foundation fellowship consists of three parts: 1. the application form, completed in full, and submitted electronically; 2. a current, official electronic or hard copy transcript from every institution of higher education that you have attended and 3. two recommendations from faculty or other persons who can speak with authority about your ability to do graduate work in your chosen field and about your personal qualities and achievement. The deadline for receipt of the completed application, all transcripts and recommendations is March 1, 2016. Details and links to on line forms at <http://www.mortarboard.org/About/Fellowships/>.

MEMBER RECONSIDERATION CAMPAIGN

Many students' situations change over the summer, and they regret refusing membership in Mortar Board, so it is Mortar Board's policy to provide them a chance to reconsider. In August the National Office staff emailed all candidates who declined their offers of membership last spring. These are the candidates that your chapter reported as "refused" on the Official Membership Report (OMR). The National Office staff will let you know if your chapter has acquired any new members through this "reconsideration campaign." You will want to include these new members in your chapter's activities. Be sure to wrap them in quickly. They may turn out to be some of your best members! For an up-to-date list of all member fees paid online, advisors can log into their accounts at <http://bit.ly/MBPaymentUpdate>. If you have questions, please contact your section coordinator or the National Office at mortarboard@mortarboard.org.

UPCOMING DUE DATES

DUE OCTOBER 15

Unsubmitted Chapter Action Plans

Chapters that missed the September 15 CAP deadline, please be sure to submit the CAP to your section coordinator AND also to reports@mortarboard.org as soon as possible (before October 15). Submission before October 15 ensures your chapter will still have a chance to earn a Silver or Gold Torch award at MBNC16 — not a bad thing to put on your résumé.

Conference Advisory Board applications

The Conference Advisory Board (CAB) is a group of members who assist in the planning and execution of the national conference. Any collegiate member of Mortar Board is eligible to apply, and preference will be given to members who have attended at least one national conference. All forms and applications can be found online at <http://www.mortarboard.org/Conference/CAB/>.

Nominations for alumni leadership positions on National Council

Do you wish to nominate a Mortar Board alumni member for one of the two national leadership positions available on the National Council? The two positions available are vice president and alumni representative. Details can be found on the [nomination form](#). The candidates who are slated (one for each position) will be announced in December, and chapters may review their credentials before the Special National Conference. More on this in the November LeadingLeaders.

Amendments to the *Bylaws*

Any member may propose amendments to the *Bylaws of Mortar Board, Inc.* for consideration by the Governance Committee. The committee will gather proposed changes for a vote by the student membership at our 2016 Special National Conference. All proposed changes or general suggestions should be emailed to Jane Hamblin, executive director at mortarboard@mortarboard.org on or before October 15. In addition, if you would like to serve on the Governance Committee or learn more about it, please let Jane know.

CHAPTER VIDEO SHOWCASE

At the national conference next year, chapters will showcase their activities and programs through one-minute promotional videos. This takes the place of chapter display boards. Start planning your chapter's video now! Think of all the visibility you will gain on your campus with your new promotional video. Submissions are due on or before May 15, 2016, and the promo videos will all be shown at the national conference. View 2015 videos [here!](#)

Please submit your videos to <http://bit.ly/ChapterVideos2016>.

CHAPTER RESOURCES

FINDING YOUR FUNDRAISING NICHE

Fundraising can be a challenge for any chapter. But, it is an important part of your chapter's overall success! How do you find a fundraiser that will be worth your time and effort?

Use your campus resources!

As a registered student organization, are you eligible to receive funding through student activity fees? Does your student activities office publish handbooks or guidelines for student organization fundraising? If you are not sure of the answers, be sure to check them out.

Follow any rules or guidelines your state or institution may have!

Be especially mindful of rules around games of chance and raffles.

Have fun with this!

Decide on fundraisers that your members will enjoy and elevate Mortar Board's Ideals and brand. If you have fun and think creatively, you can find a fundraiser that will not only help raise funds for your chapter, but will make you more visible on your campus and serve student life at the same time!

[Handbooks and guides](#)

[Report forms](#)

[Fellowships](#)

[Mortar Board Store](#)

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