



Welcome to Day 1!

Mortar Board National Conference
Saturday, July 19



MORTAR BOARD
2025 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Welcome to the 2025 Mortar Board National Conference





Conference Welcome

Dr. Cassandra Lucas
National President



Elizabeth Clark



McCaleb Hart



Jaquilynn Huff



Mack Pruitt



Heather Shoffner



Rachel Wong



Nathan Cordle



Kirsten Fox



Cassandra Lucas



Trish Maxwell

Conference Planning Team



National Foundation

#MBNC25



National Council



Region Coordinators

#MBNC25



Advisors

#MBNC25



Alumni

#MBNC25



Collegiate Members



Kirsten Fox, PhD
Executive Director



Trish Maxwell
Director of
Collegiate Success



Liz Cook
Director of
Strategic Advancement



Ben Flox
Membership &
Operations Manager



Jaquilynn Huff
Communications &
Engagement Manager



Olivia Beckett
Administrative
Coordinator

National Office



National Office

Dr. Kirsten Fox
Executive Director

Conference Agenda

Saturday, July 19

Welcome

Keynote Address

Region Meetings

Governance 101 & Business Meeting

Chapter Operations Panels

Leadership Development Sessions

Day 1 Wrap Up

Sunday, July 20

Welcome

Position-Based Networking

Region Meetings

Business Meeting

Professional Development Sessions

Chapter Operations Sessions

Region Meetings

Candlelight Ceremony & Hold High The Torch



Keynote Address:
Dr. Tamara McMillan

**Good Leaders Stay in the
Lines - The Bold Ones
Redraw Them**



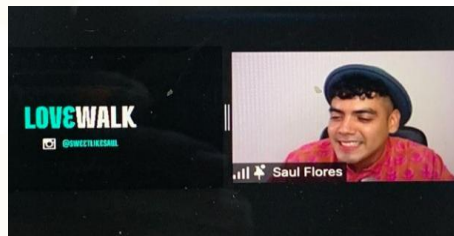


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National Citation



**Bryan Stevenson
2018**



**Saul Flores
2021**



**Bushra Amiwala
2023**



**Teresa Roche
2019**



**Carlotta Walls LaNier
2022**



**Haley Waggoner
2024**

Recent National Citations

National Citation Recipient:

Dr. Tamara McMillan



Emerging Leader Awards

The Emerging Leader Award honors an alumni member who was initiated as a collegiate member; is between one and 20 years past initiation; has demonstrated remarkable accomplishment in their profession far ahead of others of the same cohort, or are noted for outstanding community service; has shown a constant commitment to the Ideals of scholarship, leadership and service through their profession; and is a role model for other members.

Emerging Leader Award Recipients



Brandt Coleman
University of
Louisville, 2015



Kelly Houghteling
University of Kansas,
2010



Morgan Weed
San Diego State
University, 2021

 MORTAR BOARD



Emerging Leader Award

Excellence in Advising Awards



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The Excellence in Advising Awards are given to Mortar Board chapter advisors who have demonstrated a commitment to Mortar Board's purpose and have gone above and beyond in their work with a collegiate chapter.

Excellence in Advising Award Recipients 2025

Seth Barnes at The University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Dr. Loria Brown Gordon at Jackson State University

Dr. Elizabeth Clark at West Texas A&M University

Dr. Julie Huff at Auburn University

Dr. Donna Lim at the University of Maryland

Sydney Riu at Endicott College

Freeman & Fox Most Improved Chapter Award

Encouraging chapters to honor tradition while embracing change was the inspiration that led the mother-daughter team of Dr. Mabel Freeman (The Ohio State University, 1965) and Dr. Kirsten Freeman Fox (The Ohio State University, 1996) to create the Freeman and Fox Chapter Revitalization Fund in the Mortar Board National Foundation. The fund supports chapters who are developing their programming and increasing their presence on campus.

Freeman & Fox Most Improved Chapter Award Recipients

The University of Findlay
Catherine Moore Freed chapter



Jackson State University
Blue and White Tassel chapter





Region Coordinator of the Year

Presented annually, this award honors a Region Coordinator who goes above and beyond—not just in completing tasks, but in the energy, care, and leadership they bring to every aspect of their role. These individuals support chapters with dedication and collaborate seamlessly across the region, embodying the true spirit of partnership and service.

Region Coordinator of the Year 2025

Cadence Ciesielski

Region 5

(Kansas State University, 2021)

Known for offering steady guidance, uplifting others with contagious positivity, and never missing a beat when it comes to follow-through, this individual models what it means to lead with heart and purpose. Whether mentoring fellow Region Coordinators or strengthening chapter experiences, their influence stretches far beyond their region.



Region Meetings

Region	States
1 - Northeast & Atlantic Coast	MA, MD, NC, NH, PA, VA, VT, WV
2 - South / Southeast	AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, SC, TN
3 - Midwest - East	IN, MI, OH
4 - Midwest - West	IA, IL, MN, ND, NE, SD, WI
5 - Great Plains South/Southwest	AZ, KS, MO, NM, OK, TX
6 - Rocky Mountain & Pacific	CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, OR, UT, WA, WY
Advisors	All advisors please join this room
Alumni & National Leaders	All alumni & leaders please join this room

**To join your region, click the Breakout Room icon
(select “More” if you don’t see it).**



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Break

Governance 101

Room 1	Regions 1, 2, 3
Room 2	Regions 4, 5, 6

**To join your region, click the Breakout Room icon
(select “More” if you don’t see it).**



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Governance 101

Mortar Board Governance Basics

- Student-governed society - your vote matters!
- One vote per chapter
 - Highest-ranking student officer is official voting delegate (usually president)
- We use simplified Robert's Rules of Order
- The Chair runs the meeting and recognizes speakers

Tools You Can Use:

- “Point of Order” - if rules are broken
- “Point of Information” - to request clarification
- “Call the Question” - to end debate and vote
- “I move that..” - to make a motion

Discussion Procedures

- Only one person speaks at a time
- Wait to be acknowledged by the Chair and then state your name and chapter
- Only speak to motion on the floor
- Allowed to speak two times per motion
- Chair will call for delegates to speak for or against a motion in alternating order
- Raise hand for either a Point of Order or a Point of Information and wait for Chair to acknowledge
- Discussion will continue until there is no further discussion or someone calls the question



Business Meeting

Welcome to the Business Meeting

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Voting Rights at Conference
- Roll call
- Committees and Student Advisory Board
- *Bylaws* changes
- Adjournment & Reminders

Voting Rights at Conference

ARTICLE V

Section 1 - Conferences

Section 1.2 - The only voting members of any conference, in conference committees or in business sessions, shall be the delegates from the collegiate chapters. They shall be considered the supreme governing body of the Society.

Section 1.4 - Each collegiate chapter shall be represented at conferences by one delegate who shall be the president of the chapter or the designated alternate. The name of the delegate shall be sent by the chapter president to the National Office. Pending verification of voting credentials, the delegate shall have one vote on all questions, whether or not instructed by the chapter.

Section 1.7 - In the interim between conferences, the government of the Society shall be vested in the National Council.



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Roll Call

Roll Call: Region 1

Region Coordinators:

Dillon Cook, Vedant Kulkarni, Brendan Wall

Bucknell University

Carnegie Mellon University

College of William and Mary

Endicott College

Grove City College

Hood College

Lenoir-Rhyne University

Longwood University

Salem College

The Pennsylvania State University

The University of Vermont

University of Mary Washington

University of Maryland

University of Richmond

Wake Forest University

West Virginia University

Roll Call: Region 2

Region Coordinators:

Parker Brown, McCaleb Hart, Annie Mascia

Agnes Scott College

Alcorn State University

Auburn University

Emory University

Jackson State University

Lyon College

Mississippi College

Rhodes College

The University of Alabama

Troy University

Tulane University

University of Louisville

University of Mississippi

University of South Alabama

Roll Call: Region 3

Region Coordinators:

Olivia Beckett, Robbie Kichak, Alexa Murray, Rachel Wong

Adrian College

Bowling Green State University

Butler University

Case Western Reserve University

Denison University

Hanover College

Northern Michigan University

Ohio Northern University

Otterbein University

Purdue University

The Ohio State University

The University of Findlay

The University of Toledo

University of Cincinnati

Xavier University

Roll Call: Region 4

Region Coordinators:

Carina Huot, Kailey Jerome

Joining to assist during conference: Jaquilynn Huff

Beloit College

Carleton College

Coe College

Illinois State University

Lawrence University

Monmouth College

North Dakota State University

The University of Nebraska - Lincoln

The University of Nebraska at Kearney

University of North Dakota

Roll Call: Region 5

Region Coordinators:

Cade Ciesielski, Shelby Morlock, Reilly Roggendorff

Kansas State University

Oklahoma State University

Southern Methodist University

Southern Nazarene University

Texas Tech University

The University of Kansas

The University of New Mexico

The University of Tulsa

University of Arizona

University of North Texas

Washburn University

West Texas A & M University

Wichita State University

William Jewell College

Roll Call: Region 6

Region Coordinators:

Andrew Gray, Ava Heintzelman, Kara Stogsdill

Chapman University

San Diego State University

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Los Angeles

University of Hawaii at Manoa

University of Montana

University of Puget Sound

University of San Diego

University of the Pacific

University of Washington

University of Wyoming



62nd Mortar Board National Conference

Katie Chick
Chair, Standing Nominations Committee



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Nominating & Credentials Committee

Nominating & Credentials Committee Members

- Guinevere Wagner | University of Findlay, **Co-Chair**
- MacKenzie Morrison | University of South Alabama, **Co-Chair**
- Marivel Alfaro | San Diego State University
- Timekia Ford | Jackson State University
- Brenda Lang | Illinois State University

The Student Representative Role

- Commit to one (1) year of service on the National Council
- Exhibit strong communication skills and time management
- Serve as the Co-Chairs of the Student Advisory Board
- Actively participate in monthly National Council virtual meetings
- Serve as the voice of our collegiate members on national level issues, including by serving on Standing and/or Ad-Hoc Committees
- Uphold strong engagement in your local chapter
- Attend national Mortar Board events

Student Representative at-Large Candidates:

Eli Ade (Purdue University, 2025)

Elizabeth Barker (University of Maryland, 2025)

Francesca Bolt (University of Puget Sound, 2025)

Erin Demmon (University of Washington, 2024)

Molly McBratney (William Jewell College, 2025)

Caitlynn Noble (The University of Findlay, 2024)

Faraz Shahbazi (University of the Pacific, 2025)

Eli Ade | he/him

Major(s)

- Electrical Engineering, Semiconductors

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter President
- President, Mental Health Action Week
- Chief of Staff & Elections Director, Student Government
- Researcher at Semiconductors@Birck
- ECE Ambassador

Purdue University
Initiated in 2025



Elizabeth Barker | she/her

Major(s)

- Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter Treasurer
- The Women's Network
- KDSAP
- Fundraising Chair - Brighten a Day
- Aquarist Club
- Beekeeping
- Special Needs Caretaker
- Research Intern - UMD Fertility Lab & Open Insulin

University of Maryland
Initiated in 2025



Francesca Bolt | she/her

Major(s)

- Business Leadership Program & Art
- Minors: Spanish & Pre-law

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter President
- President, Maroon Society & Co-Chair of the Future & Young Alumni Committee
- Vice President, Phi Eta Sigma
- University Advancement Committee
- Repertory Dance Group

University of Puget Sound
Initiated in 2025



Erin Demmon | she/her

Major(s)

- Integrated Social Studies & Project Management

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter Vice President
- SOW Corps Experience
- GSI redesign of Marginal Way Skatepark
- Community Facilities Advisor - WA State RCO
- Web Master at i5cid.org

University of Washington
Initiated in 2024



Molly McBratney | she/her

Major(s)

- Biology
- Minor: Pre-Med

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter President
- Vice President, TriBeta
- Tennis Team
- Powerlifting Team
- ER Department Assistant at Saint Luke's North Hospital
- EMT

William Jewell College
Initiated in 2025



Caitlynn Noble | she/her

Major(s)

- Animal Science, Pre-Vet
- Minors: Biology & Chemistry

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter President
- Drum Major, Oiler Marching Band
- Challenged Champions Equestrian Center Volunteer
- Recruitment/New Member Education Chair, House Manager, & PR Chair - Phi Sigma Sigma
- Co-founder, Books Beyond the Arch Campus Book Club
- President, Ottawa County Junior Fairboard
- Treasurer, Unwinding at University of Findlay

University of Findlay
Initiated in 2024



Faraz Shahbazi | he/him

Major(s)

- Pre-dental / Biological Sciences

Activities

- Mortar Board Chapter President
- Vice President, Sigma Chi
- Lead Ambassador Volunteer, Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital Downey
- Member, Delta Epsilon Mu

University of the Pacific
Initiated in 2025



Cast Your Ballot for Student Rep

Official Delegates Only

Ballot will open after Bylaws Amendment is presented

Cast your vote by 7pm Eastern / 6pm Central / 5pm Mountain / 4pm
Pacific / 1pm Hawaiian on **Saturday, July 19**



MORTAR BOARD
2025 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Resolutions & Recommendations Committee

Resolutions & Recommendations Committee Members

- Genevieve Batman, University of South Alabama, **Co-Chair**
- Faraz Shahbazi, University of the Pacific, **Co-Chair**
- Elizabeth Barker, University of Maryland
- Erin Demmon, University of Washington
- Bree Hawkins, University of New Mexico

Resolutions & Recommendations Committee Charter

Article V, Section 1.6.

Resolutions are the Society's **formal statement of philosophy** or its **deliberate choice of action** and are effective for the **next two years**. Resolutions are looked to by the Society for organizational direction and by chapters for programming direction.

Conference recommendations are **items suggested for the Society's leadership or chapters to consider**.

2024 Resolutions & Recommendations examples

- Whereas delegates vote on governance issues at the National Conference, be it resolved that **examples for how to participate in parliamentary proceedings**, similar for how examples are given for tapping and initiation, be provided prior to the introduction of governance-related votes
- Whereas delegates vote on governance issues at the National Conference, be it resolved that the committee recommends that there is **time for the introduction of governance-related votes in Region Meetings** before the votes are called
- Whereas delegates appreciated the amazing location and service at the **Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel**, be it resolved that the committee recommends that **Mortar Board return to the hotel for the next in-person National Conference**

Open Meeting

Today 6:30pm Eastern

Submit Your Resolutions & Recommendations

Form is open until **Sunday, July 20** at
8am Eastern



Student Advisory Board

Each region elects one student to represent the region and serve as a liaison to the Governance Committee and the Student Representatives at-Large advocating on behalf of fellow collegiate members from the region. This is a 1-year term. One student from each region is elected annually at the National Conference.

If you haven't yet expressed interest but want to be considered, submit this form (link in chat).





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Proposed *Bylaws* Amendments

Amendment 1

Article III Membership

Section 1 - Collegiate Membership Membership

Qualifications

Section 1.5, A & B

Section 1.5 - The scholarship requirements for collegiate membership shall be the minimum of:

A) the grade point average representing the upper 35% of the corresponding class-year or;

B) a straight B average, whichever is higher, on any given campus.

Action Proposed:

To delete point B, “a straight B average, whichever is higher, on any given campus.”

Rationale:

This change would maintain our class rank to stay consistent with the upper 35% of the corresponding class-year. The Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), established a minimum grade point average of a 3.3 GPA to be used when class rank is not available. As a result, if we were to list a grade point average in our bylaws, we would need to raise our stated minimum from a 3.0 (straight B) to a 3.3 GPA. Our class rank is still in compliance with the ACHS standards, and the use of GPA becomes operational.

Instead of stating our GPA in our bylaws, it will be listed in our operational handbook as noted in the Bylaws, Article III, Section 1.1: *Members are selected by the collegiate chapters annually according to the criteria stated in these Bylaws and Mortar Board chapter operational guides.*

Amendment 1 - Proposed Language

*New language in **bold**, language to ~~strike in purple~~.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Collegiate Membership Membership Qualifications

Section 1.5 – Members are selected by the collegiate chapters annually according to the criteria stated in these Bylaws and Mortar Board chapter operational guides.

Section 1.5 - The scholarship requirements for collegiate membership shall be: ~~the minimum of:~~

A) a minimum ~~the~~ grade point average representing the upper 35% of the corresponding class-year ~~or;~~

~~B) a straight B average, whichever is higher, on any given campus.~~

~~C) B)~~ Students are eligible to apply any term after they have completed at least 50% of credits needed for graduation by the end of the term in which they are selected. (Inclusive of 3+2, 5-year, transfer from community colleges, etc.)

~~D) C)~~ If a student is not selected the first time they apply and/or are nominated, they are eligible to reapply in subsequent selection seasons if they have not yet graduated.

~~E) D)~~ Students can be selected for membership in their final term prior to graduation as long as the total percentage of students in their final term does not exceed 25% of the total selected students.

Cast Your Ballot for Student Rep and Bylaws!

Official Delegates Only

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7pm Eastern / 6pm Central / 5pm Mountain /
4pm Pacific / 1pm Hawaiian





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Break

Chapter Operations Panels

Descriptions are on page 6 of the Conference Program

Room	Topic
1	Expanding Chapter Impact: Increasing Size <i>Elizabeth Payton, Kaydee Richardson, Grace Tang</i> <i>Facilitated by Jaqui Huff</i>
2	Building Tradition: Tapping & Initiation <i>Emily Deskus, Sierra Malik-Misselhorn, Hayley Moree, Shelby Morlock, Rory Roberts; Facilitated by Dr. Elizabeth Clark</i>
3	Fostering Community: Member Engagement <i>Aabha Mantri, Whitney Mitchell, Jaxon Wetzel</i> <i>Facilitated by Rachel Wong</i>

**To select your topic, click the Breakout Room icon
(select “More” if you don’t see it).**



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Leadership Development Sessions

Descriptions are on page 7 of the Conference Program

Room	Topic
1	Partnerships to Avoid Burnout <i>Tamika Lovelace & Kailee Weiker</i>
2	How to Lead a Productive Meeting <i>Dr. Patience Whitworth</i>
3	So You're a Leader - Now What?! <i>Rachel Wong</i>
4	National Support for Advisors <i>Dr. Kirsten Fox & Trish Maxwell</i>
5	Alumni Informal Gathering Space



MORTAR BOARD
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Wrap Up

Cast Your Ballot for Student Rep and Bylaws!

Official Delegates Only

Ballot is open until **Saturday, July 19**

7pm Eastern / 6pm Central / 5pm Mountain /
4pm Pacific / 1pm Hawaiian



Reminders: Committee Meetings

Resolutions & Recommendations Committee

Open session at 6:30pm Eastern today

Nominating & Credentials Committee

CLOSED meeting at 7:30pm Eastern today

Submit

**Resolutions or
Recommendations**
by 8am Eastern



Reminders: Chapter Meeting

Chapter 1:1 Meetings with Region Coordinators are tonight or tomorrow morning.

- Meetings have been pre-booked with your RC
- You were emailed your confirmation info and time yesterday

Tomorrow's Schedule

Sunday, July 20

Welcome & Student Rep Update

Position-Based Networking

Region Meetings

Business Meeting

Professional Development Sessions

Chapter Operations Sessions

Region Meetings

Candlelight Ceremony & Hold High The Torch

**We start promptly at 2pm
Eastern / 1pm Central / Noon
Mountain / 11am Pacific /
8am Hawaiian.**

See you tomorrow!

Cast Your Ballot for Student Rep and Bylaws!

Official Delegates Only

Ballot is open until **Saturday, July 19**

7pm Eastern / 6pm Central / 5pm Mountain /
4pm Pacific / 1pm Hawaiian

