

Planning an Impactful Year

Brendan Wall and Annie Mascia

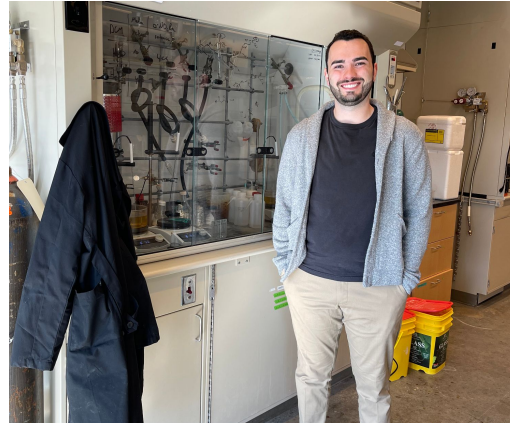


MORTAR BOARD

Brendan Wall (Region 1 RC)



Illinois State University
BS in Biochemistry
2018 MB, 2020 Grad



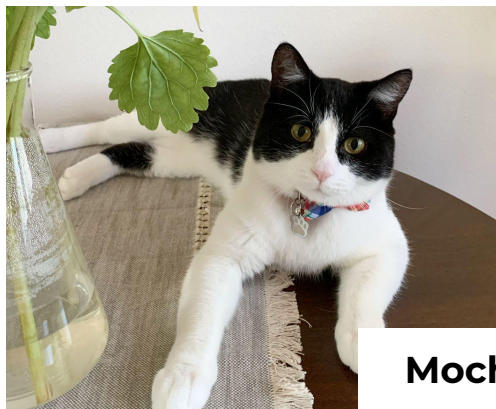
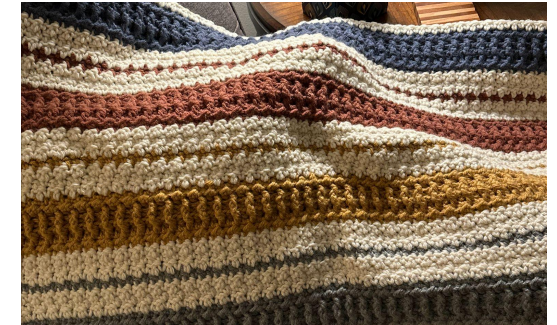
Iowa State University
PhD in Organic Chemistry
2025 Grad



Relocated to Indianapolis
working in pharma at
Eli Lilly & Co.



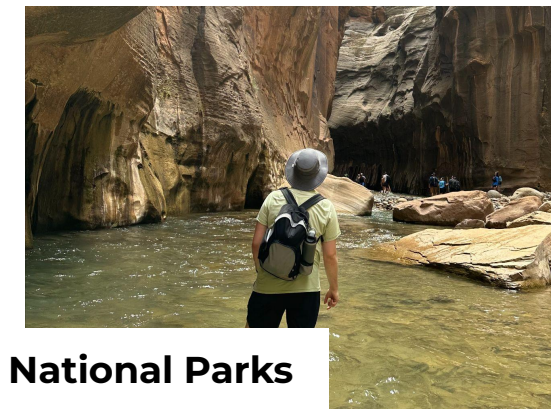
Intermediate-level **knitter**
& **crocheter**



Mochi & Matt

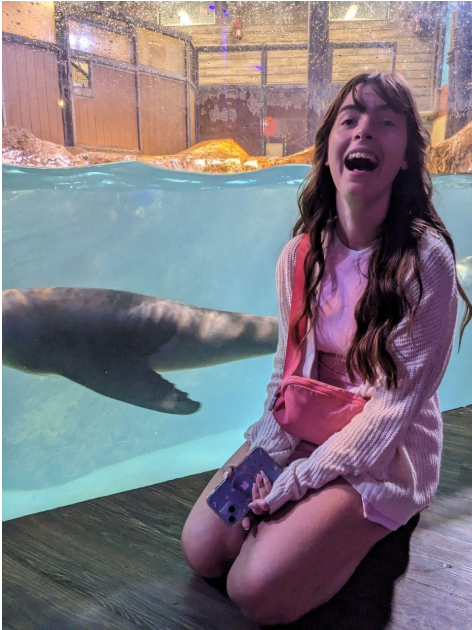


Utah National Parks



Annie Mascia (Region 2 RC)

My face knowing I
get to work with
amazing chapters
<3



Big smiles for
MB



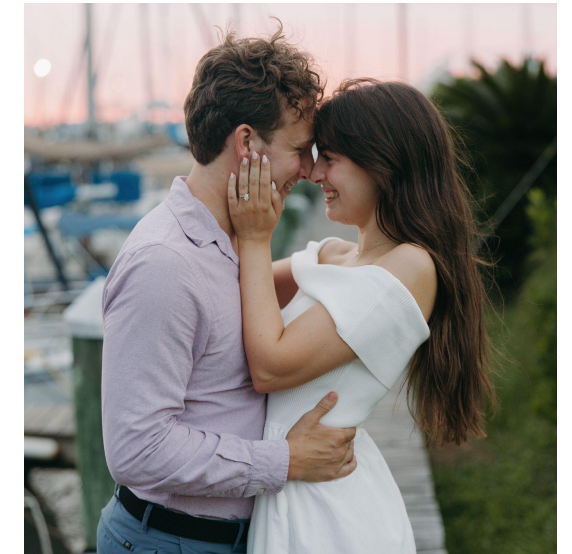
Mortar Board Besties



I am a Therapist!



I love to adventure



The joy I have working with you!



MORTAR BOARD

SAVE THE DATE!

Chapter Action Plans (CAP) Deadline

September 30 (semester schools)
October 15 (quarter schools)

Fall Virtual Initiation

Sunday, October 5

Fellowship Applications Open

November 15

Fall Virtual Initiation

Sunday, November 16 or December 7

Governance Recommendations Due

December 1

Special National Conference

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Mortar Board Week

Monday, February 9 - Sunday, February 15

Fellowship Application Deadline

March 15

Spring Virtual Initiation

Sunday, April 19

Chapter Annual Reports (CAR) Deadline

May 15 (semester schools & all award submitters)
June 1 (quarter schools)

Awards Application Deadline

May 15

Spring Virtual Initiation

Sunday, May 17

Governance Recommendation Due

June 1

National Conference (Columbus, OH)

Friday, September 25 - Sunday, September 27, 2026³⁷

#MBNC25

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MORTAR BOARD

JULY

- Attend conference!
- Maintain that energy

AUGUST

- Membership retreat
 - Plan the year!
- First Meeting!
- Start campus visibility

SEPTEMBER

- Chapter action plan due 30th (semester schools)

OCTOBER

- Chapter Action Plan due 15th (quarter schools)
- Week of service 20-26th
- Fall virtual initiation

JANUARY

- Special National Conference 25th
- Open applications

DECEMBER

- Don't leave for winter break without a plan for selections!

NOVEMBER

- Have an event
 - keep momentum
- Fellowship applications open 15th

FEBRUARY

- Mortar Board week 9-15th (a great time to do a final push for campus visibility before apps close)

MARCH

- Fellowship applications due 15th
- Selections/Initiation

APRIL

- Spring virtual initiation 19th
- Officer elections and transitions

MAY

- Flower sales
- Start planning for next year!
- Chapter annual report due the 15th (semester schools)

Right after conference...connection time!

- **Connect with your executive board**
 - Find a preferred communication platform (GroupMe/text/WhatsApp)
 - Talk about chapter goals for the year
- **Connect with your chapter** and see what motivates them
 - Do *NOT* plan your entire events calendar on your own - generate chapter buy-in
 - Coordinate with your university calendar and publicize your events early
- **Connect with your advisor** and establish communication platform and frequency of check-in
- **Check in with your RC** especially if you have chapter specific challenges or are feeling overwhelmed...that's okay we are here to help!



Semester Programming

- Generally important to **have a diversity of chapter events** on topics including:
 - Leadership development
 - Group based service activities
 - Scholarship promotions
 - Fundraising events



Special National Conference (SNC)

- Mortar Board is a **collegiate student-led organization** and the SNC is a critical piece of how our governance operates and provides a venue to have your voice heard in the organization
- **SNC is a requirement for many chapter based awards.**
- Opportunity to connect with your fellow Mortar Boards and your RC mid-year for selections planning and help if you need it!
- **SNC is virtual and typically around an hour long** - you could make it a chapter event and tune in as a group as there is no attendance limit!



Mortar Board Week

- Mortar Board Week is **Monday, February 9th** to **Friday, February 15th**
 - This is a great time for chapter visibility
 - This is also during **Valentines week** (a great time for fundraising opportunities)
- Campus Visibility Ideas
 - Tabling events
 - Partnering other campus organizations
- Fundraising Ideas
 - Valentines grams
 - **Flowers (not blossoms express)**



Selections

- **Selections can be overwhelming -- ask for help!** Your Region Coordinators, Trish Maxwell, and fellow Collegiate presidents are great resources!
- Think about Fall and Spring selection
 - Talk with Trish and your RC what will be the best practice for your chapter
- Selections can be a lengthy process **START EARLY**
 - Your year will fly by, make sure to take actions starting **IN THE FALL**
 - **Spring break should be a hard and fast stop.** Make sure to select before your campus goes out on break!



Officer Transitions

- **Elections and transitions are the most critical part of ensuring the next chapter is successful and stays active.**
- **Have your advisor present for transition** so they know who is leading the next chapter!
- **Explain the importance of attending Mortar Board National Conference** and help get the next chapter president registered for conference!
- Be sure to **pass on any social media accounts, files and bank accounts** to the new chapter leadership.



Interactive Discussion!

[menti.com](https://www.menti.com)
4800 2028



Contact Brendan or Annie

Brendan Wall

Region Coordinator Region 1

b.wall1998@gmail.com

309.825.9133

[LinkedIn](#)

Annie Mascia

Region Coordinator Region 2

annie.mascia@gmail.com

205.527.7123

(My LinkedIn is Annie Mascia)



What type of events have been successful for your chapter in the past?

Bake sales

Flower sales

Hands on service
projects, tabling

Tabling events at our
school union!

Flower sales at
graduation! (Blossom
Express)

Top Prof

Our chapter is new this
year. I'd love
suggestions!

Tip of the Cap

What type of events have been successful for your chapter in the past?

selling plants 🌿

Last lecture series!

We have done a get to know smore about mortar board where we invited people to come make smores with us

Rose Sales

Coffee Cart/ Ice Cream Social

Unfortunately I have no idea. The transition into my role was minimal. Would love to hear ideas.

Pint nights at a local brewert

Flower sales

What type of events have been successful for your chapter in the past?

Volunteer day

Lake clean up

We haven't had many events since I joined but the commencement ceremony went really well! They fundraised to get regalia for the seniors.

tabling! especially with candy and treats

Spooking campus events (dress up in robes/masks and make appearances)

Flip the bird chicken sandwiches for a fundraiser

I have no idea. I am the new social/service chair, but I was thinking of a Boba Social.

Gratitude Cards & Recognition Cards

What type of events have been successful for your chapter in the past?

Faculty/prof
appreciation

Social events (Group
vision board creation,
yoga sessions, etc.)

Valentine letter

Fundraiser for nonprofit
organizations or
charities

President's Forum

Yule Log. Every year near
Winter Break, Mortar Board
collaborates with other student
organizations (sororities,
religious, etc) to decorate the
Wren Building and do holiday
traditions as a school.

Pen pals w/ local
elementary school

Ticket booths at football
games

What type of fundraisers do you think would be helpful?

Raffles

Percentage nights at restaurants

thrift store in the student union !!

Selling treats like Krispy Kreme

Maybe cookie decorating around Valentine's, something students can make themselves, interact with the MB table and give gifts to others for the Valentine's season.

We did a hockey game fundraiser where we sold concessions for a percentage of the sales.

Car washes

Bake sales!

What type of fundraisers do you think would be helpful?

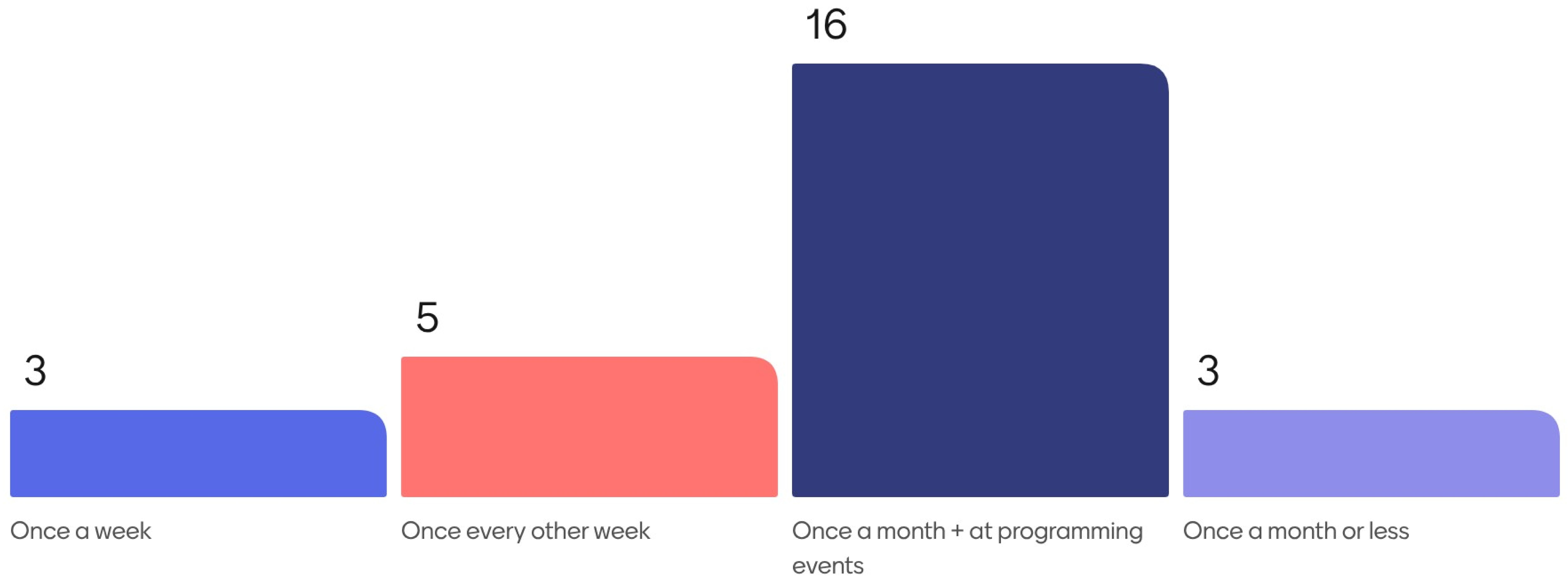
I second the
restaurant/brewery
nights!

Partnerships/
Community Events

Bake sales

those that integrate with
community service

How often do you plan to meet as a chapter?



Overwhelmed? Ask Annie and Brendan anything about Mortar Board!

0 questions

0 upvotes

