



PLATFORM THEMES OF ARCHON ANTOINE M. GARIBALDI

Sigma Pi Phi's enormous reservoir of talent and expertise makes anytime, and especially these days of our Fraternity's 116-year history, the perfect time to vigorously address some of the major challenges affecting Blacks, and particularly young Black males. Over the past 15 years, Boulé initiatives on social action, public policy, HBCUs, higher education access, strategic planning, corporate boards, health and wellness, and international engagement have yielded impressive dividends. While all of those areas should be continued, my five Platform Themes include a combination of those initiatives and an additional item that can produce substantially more gains by using Archons' collective skills, experience and networks. And we can address these serious topics as we continue to enjoyably "get to know the best of one another!"

Platform Themes:

- 1. Social Action:** Replicate and expand some of Sigma Pi Phi's successful Member Boulé social action programs to enhance the academic achievement of elementary and secondary school students, while also simultaneously increasing their graduation rates. (This action is needed to address the approximately 10% decline in Blacks' high school graduation rate between 2010 and 2017, a rate that the Fraternity's social action programs can significantly impact.)
- 2. Public Policy:** Elevate Sigma Pi Phi's proactive public policy initiatives, especially those related to encouraging voter participation and civic engagement locally and nationally while voters' rights are concurrently being threatened, challenged and suppressed in the United States.
- 3. HBCUs and Postsecondary Education Access:** Continue the initiatives of the Grand Committee on HBCUs and Postsecondary Education Access to increase the enrollment of Black students in all colleges and universities. (This goal's urgency is compellingly supported by the fact that there was a 13% decline of Black students enrolled in college between 2010 and 2017.)
- 4. Growth and Expansion:** Monitor closely and assure the implementation of Goal 2 of the Sigma Pi Phi Strategic Plan: 2018-2024, which states: Increase the Fraternity's Membership Through New Archons and Member Retention, with the Intent to Ensure the Long-Term Viability of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and Strengthen its Traditions.
- 5. Foundation Support:** Strengthen Sigma Pi Phi's capability to obtain funding from foundations and similar organizations that will support the Fraternity's Social Action and Education programs, specifically those focused on young Black males.