



# The Inaugural SoCal Kappa League Conference

Summer 2019 Volume 1, Issue 1

## Visionary Leadership Development and Student Success

It is my pleasure to provide a summary of the Inaugural SoCal Kappa League Conference at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). The Conference Committee, which included members from local chapters, worked hard to ensure this would be a memorable weekend for our Kappa Leaguers. We planned an exciting and full agenda for the conference.

Friday night, Gigi McGuire, Assistant Director of Community and Academic Partnership at CSUN, discussed the four systems of education. Brother Terrance R. Campbell, University of Memphis Staff and Shelby County Schools Cybersecurity CTE Teacher, shared a presentation on Cybersecurity and animation to prepare a good defense to win the game of life. We concluded the evening with a group of young men, currently attending college, sharing their on-campus experience with a Q & A session afterwards.

We began Saturday morning with a Shark Tank Team Building exercise and then listened to a presentation facilitated by Dr. Condessa Curley with the AIDS Healthcare Foundation. After lunch, we divide the young men into 2 groups, one group worked on developing a news report for Kappa League TV with National Kappa League Spokesperson Brother John Marshall Jones while the other group worked on creating a newsletter with Brother Terrance R. Campbell. Our final activity for the conference was a Teen Summit which included the Rhoers from the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated. During this session, we discussed Mental Health and the impact social media and music have on the way young men and young ladies interact.

I'd like to thank our sponsors, the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the Krimson and Kreme Foundation, California Mental Health Service Authority, and AT&T for their financial support. Our vision would not have come to fruition without their support. I'd also like to thank the San Fernando - Santa Clarita Alumni Chapter for hosting this historical event.

Brother Anthony D. Lee  
SoCal Kappa League Conference Committee Chairman  
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.  
San Fernando- Santa Clarita Alumni Chapter



## College Information Forum

### Preparing a play book for success after high-school

The Inaugural Southern California Kappa League Conference College Panel moderated by Brother Jarrett Theragood, provided the opportunity for a discussion about life after college and necessary preparations to achieve success in life. The panelist were composed of former Kappa Leaguers from the Long Beach-Inglewood-South Bay (CA) Alumni Chapter, San Fernando-Santa Clarita (CA) Alumni Chapter, and current members of the Upsilon chapter. Each panelist brought a unique perspective to the conversation due to the robust range of educational backgrounds from community college (El Camino College), Predominately White Intuitions (University California at Los Angeles, University California at Berkeley, Arizona State University, Cal State Long Beach, Cal State (Northridge), and Historical Black Colleges and Universities (Morehouse College, Texas Southern University, and Tuskegee University).

The panelist spoke about how they choose their institutions, majors, internships, and studying aboard opportunities. They gave valuable advice about the importance of leadership, time management, study habits, networking, and mental health. The panel discussion was powerful in a multitude of ways: (1) showing there is no one path to college; (2) providing a platform for young men; and (3) giving hope. Through witnessing young men only a few years older than them achieving their goals; the panelist provided Kappa Leaguers hope, clarity and reassurance through anecdotes and advice which will last a lifetime. It was a proud moment for Guide Right, Kappa League and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.



## HIV Prevention Awareness

### Get Tested! KnowYour Status! Be Responsible!

According to the Centers of Disease Prevention and Control, in 2017, youth aged 13 to 24 made up 21% (8,164) of the 38,739 new HIV diagnoses with 87% (7,125) being young men and 13% (1,039) were young women. Addressing HIV in youth requires that young people have access to information and tools needed to reduce their risk, make healthy decisions, and get treatment and care if they have HIV. However, the percentage of US schools in which students are required to receive HIV prevention education decreased from 64% in 2000 to 41% in 2014.

The AIDS Healthcare Foudation in collaboration with the Los Angelos County Public Health Department used a a film called Inside Story (and various hand-outs) to raise the awareness of Kappa Leaguers about the process of contracting and living with HIV. The film followed a young talented African soccer player and how his rise in success mirrored his increased knowledge, acceptance, and control of his life living with HIV. The film included animation and an in-depth look at the consequences of being sexually active and safe sex practices. The film presentation was accompanied by facilitated discussions with Dr Condessa Curley (Medical Director of Health Service Planning Areas 5 and 6 in Los Angeles County). The segment was enjoyed by the Leaguers and the Brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi alike.



## Shark Tank Team Building Challenge

**YOU are a business YOUNG MEN!**

The team building activity was based on the television show “Shark Tank.” Kappa Leaguers were divided in to 6 groups. Each group was given the task to develop an idea for a product prototype and present to community members. Each group was required to identify the product, design a mockup (see examples on the right), share their ideas on viability, and provide a summary of product development and potential revenue.

Kappa Leaguers watched a clip of “Shark Tank” and discussed the product presented. Through the conversation, Kappa Leaguers generated ideas on the types of products that would appeal to consumers and the key components on a great product presentation. Each group identified key roles for each member such as team leader, presenter, graphic designer, finance expert and additional supporting roles as determined by each group.

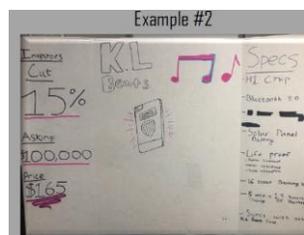
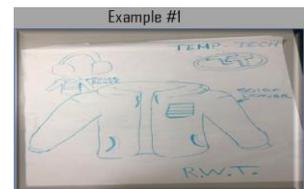
Kappa Leaguers were given 1 hour and 15 minutes (45 minutes – plan and design, 30 minutes – develop presentation) to complete the task. Each group was then given 5 minutes to make their presentation to community members. Community members included business owners, parents, teachers and former Kappa Leaguers. Community members were given the opportunity to ask questions about each team’s product. The community members determined the team with the best product and presentation.

## Kappa League TV & Cybersecurity Careers

**Using social technology as a defensive strategy for winning in the game of life**

At the 2019 SoCal Kappa League Conference we had the opportunity to engage our young men in a social media workshop, "How to create your own news report", hosted by John Marshall Jones, Kappa League National Spokesperson and producer/director of Kappa League TV. Kappa League TV is, in essence, a "CNN for young black men". Our young men were taught how to create a professional news report so that they can gain control of the narrative of who they really are. Our goal is to create a generation of young black storytellers who can define the African American experience in the digital space. This digital narrative will become the living history of the African American experience from the perspective of the young men who are living it. The Kappa Leaguers were attentive, excited, and engaged. If we're fortunate, the next Lester Holt was sitting in the room with us.

Additionally, using the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework, Brother Campbell demonstrated how using Kappa TV (including video games and newsletters they develop) as a "CNN for young black men" could be used to assist Kappa Leaguers prepare themselves (and their peers) for entry-level Cybersecurity careers and certification exams.



# Mental Health Awareness Teen Summit

**Let's make it okay to talk about mental health**

One of the highlights of the conference was the "Teen Talk" forum that occurred Saturday. Taken from the model of BET's 90's hit show "Teen Summit", this event included approximately 25 female high school students from the Antelope Valley and Los Angeles areas. The forum focused on two areas of interest: 1.) Mental health and 2.) Social Media and its effect on male and female relationships.

Radio personality Bigg P-Wee served as the moderator of the event. The panel consisted of three mental health clinicians that specialize in adolescent therapy. Dr. Jennifer Noble, Stevon, Lewis MFT, and Alexander Dorsey, LPCC provided great insight and important statistical data for the teens in attendance. The teens were able to take "real time" polls via their smart phones that provided immediate feedback and data. To break the monotony, there was a DJ spinning some of today's biggest hits, which the teens thoroughly enjoyed as well.

Overall the teens in attendance were very receptive and open to discussing "real issues" that are important to them. The general consensus was that the teens thoroughly enjoyed the event, and they would enjoy participating in an event like this in the future. This could be the start of bigger teen forums in the future.

