Leading a chapter board as president is a major responsibility that requires a personal investment in terms of time, intellectual resources, and emotional responsiveness.

Omicron Delta is a large, diverse chapter with members and chapter leaders in distant geographic regions. We value the leaders who accept the challenge to lead our chapter, and who go on to be past presidents who stay actively involved in service activities, mentoring future leaders and leading other initiatives on behalf of our members.

To recognize these leaders, Omicron Delta created a presidential stole that is a leadership symbol in the same vein as the presidential chain worn by the STTI presidents during their ceremonies. Stole includes:

- Names of current and past presidents.
- Years of service as president

The stole is passed on to the incoming president during the installation of new officers. The president wears the stole during inductions and other important ceremonies. We have found that our members appreciate the symbolism. The leaders who are recognized in this way have also indicated that they in turn feel appreciated for their service to the chapter and our members.

The word “STOLE” is used to describe some of the intricacies of being a chapter president:

S = Service and Scholarship
T = Teaching and Tenacity
O = Optimism and Opportunities
L = Leadership and Love
E = Energy and Enthusiasm

There are many leadership competencies and characteristics “woven” into the threads of our Presidential Stole. Each president leaves a unique legacy in the “tapestry” and history of our chapter.

Omicron Delta also introduced the President-Elect Necklace. The scene on the pendant appears to be two nurses looking out to the water. This is significant as one of Omicron Delta’s sustainable service projects relates to water.org. We also think it is symbolic of the mentorship relationship between the president and vice president as they look to the future.

Chapters struggle with leadership succession as they seek presidential candidates. Having the stole and necklace to serve as tangible forms of recognition may be a motivating factor as prospective leaders make their decisions. Furthermore, this has allowed us to create a legacy for our chapter. Jim Rohn, a philosopher who shares nine principles necessary for a successful life and a lasting legacy, noted the following as his first principle: “Life is best lived in service to others.”

As our president elects, presidents and past presidents live their lives in service to our chapter and its members, we celebrate their leadership through our legacy of the presidential stole and president-elect necklace.