



KAPPA TAU ALPHA

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

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Nevado, Reno professor named KTA adviser of the year

WASHINGTON -- Media law professor Patrick File of the University of Nevada, Reno took home the 39th William H. Taft Outstanding Kappa Tau Alpha Adviser Award at the 2023 annual conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Washington.

Since becoming adviser of the Reynolds School of Journalism's KTA chapter, File says he has focused on "keeping KTA membership meaningful" and helping the students build professional connections.

Not only are they recognized at an annual awards banquet with the Reynolds School of Journalism's other honorees, but they also receive exclusive invitations to meet notable guest speakers in informal settings.

"The students get to pick their brains, talk about their careers, and learn more from those great guest speakers," said File, who has been the KTA adviser at the Reynolds School since 2016.

As a KTA adviser, File regularly volunteers to help judge entries for the Frank Luther Mott/Kappa Tau Alpha Research Award for the best book in journalism and mass communication. He says serving as a preliminary screener affords him an excellent way to remain engaged in wide-ranging scholarship.

"Patrick's insightful comments on the books he's reviewed always prove extremely helpful as the national officers pick the final winner," said Beverly Horvit, executive director of Kappa Tau Alpha. "I also greatly appreciate his willingness to serve the society whenever and however asked."

File teaches both undergraduate and graduate students at the Reynolds School, with a focus on technology and media law. He also serves as the director of graduate studies.

"Professor File is a wonderful choice for KTA's adviser of the year," said Reynolds School Dean Alan G. Stavitsky. "His dedication to students and commitment to scholarship exemplify KTA's values."

Kappa Tau Alpha, the national honor society for journalism and mass communication students, is based at the University of Missouri.

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