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Each conference proved a success in promoting strong leadership in all chapters of Lambda Chi. In this issue of the Cross & Crescent, you will find coverage from all three conferences in the form of articles, along with pictures.

Throughout the rest of the issue, undergraduates and advisors will find useful information about recruitment and what to expect during an educational leadership consultant visit. In addition, all readers will enjoy stories of friendship and brotherhood which keep the values of Lambda Chi Alpha alive and well.

As always, please remember to check lambdachi.cc for the latest updates on what is going on throughout all Lambda Chi Alpha chapters. If you would like to see every article as it is published, please feel free to sign up to receive email alerts by visiting lambdachi.cc/subscribe. If you have a story which you would like to submit, please email editor@lombdochi.org.

We would like to extend our thanks to members and friends of Lambda Chi Alpha alike for creating the best experience of any fraternity.

school year.

Best regards,

Taylor Grayson, Editor, Cross & Crescent Magazine

# FROM THE EDITOR



We are through the summer and onto a new, exciting school year! The break was filled with members exploring new places, pursuing wonderful opportunities, and attending Stead Leadership Seminars.

This summer, Lambda Chi Alpha offered not one, but three unique Stead experiences for undergraduate members all across the country. Members were treated to state-of-the-art educational and large group sessions all while having the chance to meet fellow brothers from across North America.

Thank you for reading, and we hope all members have a fantastic start of the



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### LAMBDA CHI ALPHA GETS SOCIAL

### @LambdaChiAlphaIHQ

We are always eager to see the interesting and wonderful things our brothers are doing across the country and Canada! Here are some examples of how members of Lambda Chi are giving back to their community, enjoying brotherhood and upholding the values of our fraternity:









@rollinslambdachi

@montevallolambdachi













@griffin\_parkrosz











@rollinslambdachi







Stead Coverage

Stead Coverage

## **STEAD COVERAGE**





































### **STEAD ATTENDEES**

**Akron** Trystan Votava

**Akron** Luke Massie

**Akron** Ryan Hannaford

**Akron** Timothy Zappitelli

**Akron** Logan Blanchard

**Alberta** Cole Mackenzie

American Danie O'Sickey

Arizona State Austin Taylor

Arizona State Joey Shields

Arizona State Jake Weinbaum

Arkansas Zachary Hartnedy

Arkansas Jacob Boone

**Arkansas** Alex Heffington

Arkansas State Caleb Strain

Arkansas State Matthew Vangilder

Arkansas State Landen Crancer

Auburn Jackson McCrary

**Auburn** Luke Anderson

Auburn Davis Voecks Auburn - Montgomery Robert Turley

Baldwin Wallace Austin Edgar

Baldwin Wallace Robert Loechler Baldwin Wallace Ian Walton

**Ball State University** Bryce Sigsbee

**Ball State University** Evan Bayles

**Ball State University** Kaes Petroviak

Bloomsburg William Bagwell

**Bloomsburg** Colin O'Hara

**Bloomsburg** Charles Manley

**Boston** Coleman Johnson

**Boston** Matthew Micale

**Boston** Derek Newberry

Bowling Green State Daniel Fulop

Bowling Green State Andrew Luptak

**Bowling Green State** Blake Burton

**Bradley** Evan Gagnon

Bradley Ryan Huch

**Bradley** Hernan Gutierrez

Bucknell Austin Getgen-Stroup

**Bucknell** George Van Dyke

**Buffalo** Sean Dineen

**Buffalo** Andrew Mavrogeorgis

**California - Los Angeles** Scott Manis

California - Los Angeles Dan Denson

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Stead Attendees

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Stead Attendees

**Coastal Carolina** Matthew Denzler **Coastal Carolina** Cameron Hauser Coe Devin Foster Coe Avman Handal Coe Will Pogge Colorado State - Pueblo Jacob Estridge Colorado State - Pueblo Griffin Burgos Colorado State - Pueblo Demetrius Marrow Cornell Matthew Spoth Cornell John Carollo Cornell Max Kester Culver-Stockton Tyler Renaud Culver-Stockton Nicholas Bringer Culver-Stockton Braedyn Hausdorf Delaware Joseph Jefferson Delaware Nicholas Palmer Delaware Tyler Kane Denison Jack Droke Denison David Rives Denison Fermin Cervantes Denver Nicolas Salvini Denver Matt Kraus

Denver

John Drury

Grant Hussey Drexel Dominic Prime Drexel Jason Wilson Drexel William Pender Drurv Cody Rawlings Drury Dillon Canon-L Drury Cole Malkmus Eastern Illino Danny Hensel Eastern Illino Colton Eilers Eastern Illino Ben Francis Eastern Kentu Sean Collins Eastern Kentu Harley Adkins Eastern Kentu Tyson Brown Edinboro Jared Hladycz Edinboro Michael Willia Edinboro Benjamin Mille Elmhurst Anthony Izzo Elmhurst Anton Rettig Elon Ryan Murray Elon Zachary Siegel **Embry-Riddle** 

Denver

Embry-Riddle Ian Kelley Embry-Riddle Jiewei Tan Embry-Riddle George Parfeny

	Embry-Riddle Prescott Michael Chastain
erano	<b>Embry-Riddle Prescott</b> Tristan Minkoff
	<b>Embry-Riddle Prescott</b> Colin Rogers
rgast	<b>Eureka</b> Elijah McGhee
S	<b>Eureka</b> Jacob Sall
Low	<b>Eureka</b> Tyler Schaffer
	<b>Evansville</b> Craig Beeson
is	Evansville Daymon Weller
is	<b>Evansville</b> Drew Sutphin
is	<b>Evansville</b> Luke Hoffman
ucky	Ferris State Austin Mattson
ucky	Ferris State Hunter Jacobs
ucky	<b>Ferris State</b> Skyler Stolk
	Florida Jeremy McLachlan
ms	Florida William Sanders
er	Florida Cade Jarrard
	Florida Southern Samuel Bowling
	Florida Southern John Bryant
	Florida Southern Clayton Anderson
	<b>Franklin</b> James Phillips
e	Franklin Thomas Akers
e	<b>Franklin</b> Yousf Elayyan
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George Washington Kojo Otchere

George Washington Daniel Wagner

Georgetown Ben Martin

Georgetown Austin Keene

Georgetown Eddie Lam

Georgia Charlie Thain

Georgia Tyler Fields

Georgia Steven Spencer

Georgia Tech Braxton Stokes

Georgia Tech Hartley McGuire

Georgia Tech Drew Dubose

**Gettysburg** College Ouinn Wirth

Gettysburg College Nicholas Merritt

Hanover Travis Butte

Hanover Sam Beach

Hanover Joe Sheryak

Hanover Jacob Hedrick

Hanover Ethan Monnin

Hanover Austin Zapp

Houston Baptist Colony **Rick Sykes** 

Houston Baptist Colony Bryan Brody

Houston Baptist Colony Bashaar Nemri

Houston Baptist Colony Chance Pope

John Haynes Huntingdon

Huntingdon

Gerald Smith Huntingdon

Jackson Dykes Idaho Fox Verveckken

Idaho Eric Anderson

Idaho Joseph Brannan

Illinois Matthew Rowley

Illinois Brian Vickers

Illinois Mitchell Gribble

Incarnate Word Luis Gallegos

Indiana Samuel Stec

Indiana Matthias Ebever

Indiana Michael Bogdanowicz

Indiana Koerner Miller

Indiana Brad Haas

Indiana State Spencer Halcomb

**Indiana State** 

Zene Colson **Indiana State** Lucas Ennen

Iowa Ryan Murphy

Iowa Rvan Kaminski

Iowa Thomson Coffey

Iowa State Nate Maile

Iowa State Devin Prasad

Stead Attendees **Iowa State** Ryan Bodda John Carroll Jacob Schupp

10

John Carroll Nathan Martin

John Carroll Brendan Sieber

Iohnson & Wales - Charlotte Joe Suzanne

Johnson & Wales - Charlotte Noah Sells

Johnson & Wales - Charlotte Dalton Lafferty

Johnson & Wales Providence Colony Sam Silverman

Johnson & Wales Providence Colony Austin Davoren

Johnson & Wales Providence Colony Andrew Molina

Kansas

Samuel Bond

Kansas Brenden Gougeon

Kansas Anthony Bendure

**Kansas State** Jason Davis

Kansas State Alex Peterson

Kansas State Aidan George

Kent State Cody Knox

Kent State Griffin Ewers

Kent State John Malinowski

Kettering - A Alec Johnson

Kettering - A Micheal Brown

Kettering - A **Riley** Case

Stead Attendees

Kettering - B Brandon Rogers Kettering - B Brandon Riel Kettering - B

Nick Djokic Kutztown

Daniel Chestnut

Kutztown Eli Kirschen

Kutztown Ian Eberly

Lake Forest David Barry

Lake Forest Jackson Reinhardt

Lake Forest Mason Wallis

Louisiana - Lafayette Will Trosclair

Louisiana - Lafayette Cody Roy

Louisiana - Lafayette Collin Comenge

Louisiana State Chris Simpson

Louisiana State Cole Abraham

Louisiana State Michael Bienvenu

Louisville Sam Stahl

Louisville Dylan Rankin

Louisville Adam Hack

Lovola Marymount Michael Del Santo

Loyola Marymount Valente Dolcini

Lovola Marymount Evan Brown

Lycoming Jack Clark

Lycoming Jordan Foster Lycoming Christopher Mathur

Maine Christian Zwirner

Maine Peter Hatch

Maine Dylan Turner

Marietta Willem Kern

Marietta Brandon Decicco

Marietta Alex Hogan

Brendon Scalchunes

Dylan Caylor

Adam Frankel

Kyle Wolfrey

Zachary Jones

Memphis

Methodist

Methodist

Methodist

Miami (FL)

Skyler King

Michigan

Miami (OH)

Keenan Sullivan

Hunter Owens

Colt Miles

County

Michigan

Daniel Borsuk

Maryland - Baltimore County Marvland - Baltimore

Maryland - Baltimore County

Maryland - College Park

Maryland - College Park Brandon Goldberg Maryland - College Park Robert DiBenedetto McDaniel College

McDaniel College Sam Shoemaker McDaniel College

Zachary Taylor

Alexander Hassam

Alexander Hamilton

Christopher Salazar

Michigan Sean Flanagan Michigan Jacob Kamm Michigan Tech Kenneth Hubbard Michigan Tech Cole Arntsen Michigan Tech Landon Jakubos Middle Tennessee State Aaron Selby Millersville **Jackson Houston** Millersville Nicholas Miller Millersville Sean McGeehan Millsaps Noah Crosley Millsaps James Murray Millsaps **Evan Smithers** Minnesota State Brian Kelly Minnesota State Ryan Heither Minnesota State Tom Asper Mississippi State Tim Spaulding **Mississippi State** Will Malatesta Mississippi State Joey Tufts Missouri - Columbia Patrick Revnew Missouri - Columbia Sean Vogt Missouri - Columbia Andrew Breakfield Missouri Science and Technology Daniel Markowitz



Missouri Science and Technology Richard Messer Missouri Science and Technology Trevor Beuke

Missouri State University Thomas McGrath

Missouri State University Jacob Beck

Missouri State University Robert Schoonover

Montevallo Chad Langley

Montevallo Dakota Patrick

Montevallo Neal VanMarter

**Murray State** Connor Wagner

**Murray State** Stephen Bennett

**Murray State** Adam Stubblefield

Nebraska - Omaha Ben Snyder

Nebraska - Omaha **Richard Oshlo** 

Nebraska - Omaha Austin Exline

Nevada - Las Vegas Vincenzo Ventre

Nevada - Las Vegas Thredz Chan

New Hampshire Brian Piekutowski

New Hampshire Andrew Nemits

New Mexico State Caleb Gattis

New Mexico State Noah Pierce

New Mexico State Cordel Pyle

New Orleans Francesco Carmine

New Orleans Brian Humphrey

New Orleans Austin Moore New York University Nico Gonzalez

> New York University David Bravo

New York University Zachary Adler

North Carolina - Chapel Hill Chase Brady

North Carolina - Chapel Hill Ryan Kennedy

North Carolina - Charlotte Andrew Vaccaro

North Carolina - Charlotte Zachary Hollar

North Carolina - Greensboro Dalton Meyer

North Carolina - Greensboro Griffin Burke North Carolina - Greensboro

Madison Clore North Carolina - Wilmington

Jordan Cooke

North Carolina - Wilmington Matt Conzola

North Carolina State **Jackson Williams** 

North Carolina State Matthew Stanaland

North Carolina State Derek Bingham

North Dakota Adam Guenther

North Dakota Aaron Mader

North Dakota Tyler Horvey

North Texas Colony Ryan Blakey

North Texas Colony Stephen Hidalgo

North Texas Colony Ian McFarland

Northeastern State **Avery Simmers** 

Northeastern State Dylan Kinser Northeastern State Preston Patrick Northern Colorado Justin Andes Northern Colorado Logan Reneau Northern Colorado Jesse Key Northern Colorado Eric Stopps Northern Colorado Tanner Johnson Northwestern Gabriel Cohen Northwestern **Julian Kanagy** Northwestern Leeks Lim Ohio Kameron Black Ohio Eriq Wolf Ohio Aaron Freund Ohio State Nicholas Kyriakou **Ohio State** Jarod Armstrong **Ohio State Jack Pumper Oklahoma State** Sawyer Pooler **Oklahoma State** Dylan Hagan **Oklahoma State Clay Beagles** Oregon Jake Clare Oregon Daniel Davanzo Oregon Jason Polk **Oregon State** Evan Lepire

Stead Attendees

**Oregon State** Trent Olson

**Oregon State** Alan Waggoner

**Oregon State** Colin Shearmire

**Oregon State** Charles Callen

**Oregon State** Triston Foss

**Oregon State** Dominic Sanchez

**Oregon State** Jordan Kalahui

**Oregon State** Pattrick Gregson

**Oregon State** Tyler Lee

**Oregon State** Cole Riedl

Pennsylvania Brian Chao

Pennsylvania Joseph Cappadona

Pennsylvania State Ezekiel Thomas

Pennsylvania State Casey Brennan

Pennsylvania State Cavan Wallace

Pennsylvania State Mark D'Ostilio

**Pittsburg State** Cole Hurley

**Pittsburg State** Austin Borland

**Pittsburg State** Michael Karraker

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Thomas Gall

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Nicholas Kesler

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Beck Zhu

Rhode Island Brandon Duffy **Rhode Island** Timothy Hager **Rhode Island** 

Maxx Trabatto Richmond

Griffin Walsh

Richmond Chris Cassella

Richmond Jacob Lamar

Richmond CJ Slavin

Rollins Jacob Geller

Rollins Christopher Ste

Rose-Hulman Andrew Hende

Rose-Hulman Jeffrey Himmel

Rose-Hulman Nathan Phipps

Samford Elijah Wade

Samford Chris Williams

Samford Alan Troxell San Diego

Dan Patton San Diego

Memo Woodar

San Diego Hunter Kacsur

Sewanee James Hausma

Sewanee David Lyon

Shepherd Michael Parsor Shepherd

Chase Roberts

Shepherd Michael Icenho Shippensburg

Clayton Leab

12 Stead Attendees

rty	<b>Shippensburg</b> Evan Courtney
	Shippensburg
oni	Ronald Moschorak
	Simpson Daniel Xu
	Simpson Coby Berg
	Simpson Caleb Grose
	Simpson Anthony Lloyd
	<b>Simpson</b> Tristan Duncan
ephenson	South Carolina Brandon Green
l erson	South Carolina Zach Regester
ı Iblau	<b>South Carolina</b> Joe Scuderi
1	South Dakota Andy Holmes
	<b>South Dakota</b> Conrad Mohr-Eymer
	<b>South Dakota</b> Jace Jerome
	South Dakota Lucas Lund
	<b>South Dakota</b> Joshua Duklet
-d	South Dakota Mines Cody Cooper
	South Dakota Marcus Hall
n	South Dakota Benjamin Halbkat South Dakota State Sam Johnson
20	South Dakota Benjamin Schmunk
ns	Southeast Missouri State Jeff Hart
DWAP	Southeast Missouri State Justin Ovalle
ower	Southeast Missouri State Hayden Eddings
	_



Southeastern Oklahoma Patrick Warren

Southeastern Oklahoma Ty Heflin

Southern California Sean Bar

Southern California Samuel Kachikian

Southern California Matthew Aghaian

Southern California Maxwell Gomez

Southern California George Dulcich

Southern Illinois - Carbondale Avery O'Connor

Southern Illinois - Carbondale Trevor Murphy

Southern Illinois - Carbondale Brvar Brookens

Southern Indiana Jacob Mueller

Southern Indiana Brice Miller

Southern Indiana Sean Kennedy

Southern Indiana Derek Welp

Southern Indiana Alex Markle

Spring Hill Anthony Chatham

Spring Hill Ben Bolton

Spring Hill Joe Mraz

St. Joseph's Steve Fera

St. Joseph's **Bailey Ramirez** 

St. Ioseph's Jeffery Cooper

St. Louis College of Pharmacy Eric Johnston

St. Louis College of Pharmacy Dylan Solomon

St. Louis College of Pharmacy Adam Barber

St. Mary's University Paul Mendez

St. Mary's University Francis Lopez

St. Mary's University Alejandro Carrillo

Stetson Nicholas Murphy

Stetson Sam Pratico

Stetson Duncan McMahon

Syracuse Aaron Sortal

Svracuse Nick Garzon

Svracuse Daniel Driscoll

Tampa Drew Schloegl

Tampa Joshua Cote

Tampa Kevin O'Hare

**Tarleton State** Luke Hathaway

**Tarleton State** Joseph Kamin

**Tarleton State** Cole Howeth

> Tennessee - Chattanooga **Bailey Chambers**

Tennessee - Chattanooga Abraham Hasan

Tennessee - Chattanooga Hunter Zimmerman

Texas - Austin Alec LaPlace

Texas - Austin Jacob Voswinkel

Texas - Austin

Eliott Lee

Texas - Austin Andrew Dau

Stead Attendees

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Texas - Austin

Austin Bennett Texas - El Paso Adrian Broaddus

Texas - El Paso Hector Zepeda

Texas - El Paso Joshua Quiroz

Texas - San Antonio Armin Almassi

Texas - San Antonio Samuel Arce-Chang

**Texas Christian** Madison Jaulin

**Texas** Tech Jake Vella

**Texas** Tech Tristan Hays

**Texas** Tech Rvan Vereen

**Texas** Tech Cass McLaughlin

Toronto Maximiliano Simpson Sagahon

Toronto Arta Moshfeghi

Toronto Francois Gouelo

Truman State Piercyn Charbonneau

Truman State Matthew MacAinsh

Truman State Dakota Robertson

Tulsa Michael Haenni

Tulsa Jacob Lee

Union

Austin Orr Union

Josh Moody

Union

Carter Sprouse

Valparaiso Maxwell Grover Stead Attendees

Valparaiso Zachary Diamond Valparaiso

Rodrigo Serrano Villanova Anthony Passela

Villanova Brooks Guzman

Villanova Nick Kostiw

Virginia Commonwealth Bruno Fernandez

Virginia Commonwealth Zachary Green

Virginia Commonwealth Sean Benoit

Wabash Ryan Barr Wabash

Matthew Hopkins

Wake Forest Daniel Pachino

Wake Forest Hunter Artz

Wake Forest Ethan Bahar

Washington Jakob Christen-Cooney

Washington Ian Spendlove

Washington Curtis Nilsen

Washington & Lee Nate Scinta

Washington & Lee Ryder Babik

Washington & Lee Ben Schaeffer

Washington State Keegan McAdam

Washington State Matthew Sullivan

Washington State Ryan Chapman

West Virginia University Anthony Geeza

West Virginia University Jake Martin

West Virginia University Jonathan Kraft

Western

Western

Western

Adam Green

Alex Salmon

Conor Byrne

Nick Beiter

Patrick Gardner

Jake Wilkinson

Michael Fuller

Nathan Seged

Tyler Irick

Skyler Davis

Alex Laba

Joseph Barthold

Andrew Gritten

Ian Englebright

William Iewell

William Iewell

William Jewell

Ian McBride

Dan Finke

Mark Schuster

Wisconsin - Lacrosse Matthew Sukovich Wisconsin - Lacrosse Addison Skeels Wisconsin - Whitewater Jaret Seitz Wisconsin - Whitewater Nick Herzberg Wisconsin - Whitewater Alex Ostermann Wisconsin - Whitewater Western Carolina Zachary Hoffland Western Carolina Wisconsin - Whitewater Alexander Zalewski Western Carolina Wisconsin - Whitewater Drew Fritz Western Kentucky Wittenberg Spencer Laughman Western Kentucky Wittenberg Iacob Eifert Western Kentucky Wittenberg Clayton Marsh Western Michigan Worcester Polytechnic Institute William Gaddis Western Michigan Worcester Polytechnic Institute Nicholas Cunha Western Michigan Worcester Polytechnic Institute Roger Wirkala Wichita State University Worcester Polytechnic Institute Nicholas Fleury Wichita State University Wyoming Joel Moline Wyoming Zachary Davis Wyoming Bailey Cordonnier Kameron Moroneso Wilmington College

Nathan Henderson Wilmington College Matthew Gilardi Wilmington College Mathew Hursey

Wisconsin - Lacrosse



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Anytime you post on social media, you are basically showing people who you are, what you stand for, and how others will perceive you.

As college students and future employees, the way you represent yourself affects the opportunities that you may or may not receive. In turn, this will affect your ability to be successful.

Many of us try to contradict what people say about social media branding by making accounts private, but at the end of the day, we should know that once something is online, it is there forever. Social media sites are able to retrieve any posts whether they are deleted or not.

Here's a pro tip: try Googling your name and see what pops up. It is interesting to see what employers can see with just a simple Google search. Your presence on social media should correlate with the same story as your resume.

Another thing to keep in mind is the saying, "a picture says a thousand words", which holds very true on social media sites.

For example, that picture you posted last week of you hanging out at a party shows your followers a good time, but the beer cans in the background can say a lot to a future employer. While you might think this picture is innocent, it might send the wrong message.

Put your pictures to the "grandma test": would you want your grandma to see what you are posting? If not, you probably shouldn't post it.

Make sure to check the pictures you have been tagged in and untag yourself from any risky posts, as well.

In addition to pictures, another good rule of thumb is to avoid posting hateful messages and using profanity when creating social media content. Remember, your social media

### **GENTLEMEN'S CORNER: BUILDING YOUR BRAND**

Social media has become one of the most influential networking resources in today's world, so it is important to understand how your platforms can make or break your personal brand.

by: Kayden Lichtenauer







@LambdaChiAlpha

@LambdaChiAlphaIHQ Facebook.com/LambdaChi

presence could be the difference between getting the job and not getting the job.

A couple examples of positive posts include the following: volunteer experiences, family, vacations, academic success, etc.

Last tip, if you don't have a LinkedIn, get one. It is a great tool to help you build your resume and keep track of all of your accomplishments while allowing prospective employers to see your experience.

With these social media tips in mind, you now have all of the tools to start creating a strong social media presence. Remember: social media can be fun, but should also paint a picture of professionalism and dignity. C&C

# Join the conversation #LambdaChiAlpha





@LambdoChilHQ



18

### Listening to the Music: Chris Blair's Road to Success



Though he held the title of

Assistant Vice President of Fifth-

Third Bank, managed one of the most

Tennessee, and had more money than

breathed for music, something he was

sorely missing in his corporate job.

Music has been a part of Blair's

life for as long as he can remember.

solo when he was six years old, later

always kind of been in my blood and

Though he was playing venues

occasionally on the Nashville scene,

he knew he was not where he wanted

performing for President Reagan in

middle school. As Blair says, "it's

a part of who I am."

to be in his music career.

He recalls fondly singing his first

important portfolios in the state of

he ever could have dreamed of, he

Blair, a graduate of Southeast

Missouri State University and a

Lambda Chi brother, lived and

ARTISTS.

was not satisfied.

Blair had always been a big believer in local talent and "raw music" and found that while Nashville was known as "Music City", most places did not much live up to this name.

"I really just wanted to create my own spot that felt like you were sitting at home in the family room, and it was just comfortable and intimate, built with music first and everything else second," Blair stated.

But to find such a place, Blair had to take baby steps.

In 2006, The Listening Room was started, and Blair had been playing there regularly. Its mission perfectly aligned with what Blair aspired to do. After a rocky period, hardships with the previous owner, and a move to a new location, Blair became the sole owner of The Listening Room in 2009.

Though he was exactly where he wanted to be in his career, the failing economy had other plans. Just to keep the club afloat and his dream alive, Blair was forced to sell his house, music equipment, and many other belongings.

"Sometimes it's hard to see the good," stated Blair. "We can't control what happens to us, but we can control how we respond."

And Blair did just that: he controlled his response to the adverse situation and fought even harder for what he knew he could accomplish. And so he became the dishwasher, the cook, the bartender - a one-man show running The Listening Room.

While Blair was in the midst of his struggle, a few of his songwriter friends in the area got wind of what was happening and put together a benefit to help keep The Listening Room afloat. When things were just starting to turn around for Blair, the

**LISTENING TO THE MUSIC: CHRIS BLAIR'S ROAD TO SUCCESS** 

As Chris Blair woke up for yet another dry, predictable day at the bank, the suit which he donned started to feel more like a prison.

by: Taylor Grayson

So with his sights set on a bright future in the music industry, Blair gave his two weeks' notice to the bank and started his journey.

### I JUST COULDN'T TAKE IT, AND I LITERALLY KIND **OF BROKE DOWN** ON STAGE, AND SAID I'M GOING **TO BE COMPLETELY** TRANSPARENT AND **VULNERABLE AND** LET YOU GUYS **KNOW WHAT IS** GOING ON...

heavens opened above Nashville, and the rain did not stop.

Seeing the circumstances around him, Blair was adamant that he could not take any money raised from the benefit concert for himself or the club. So Blair teamed up with Hands on Nashville, an organization tasked with helping the community.

At first, Blair planned to only give a portion to the victims, but he knew he had the power to do more, and he had to.

"I just couldn't take it, and I literally kind of broke down on stage, and said I'm going to be completely transparent and vulnerable and let you guys know what is going on," said Blair. "We are struggling and I don't know what is going to happen, but I know I can't take any of this money and I said...100 percent of everything raised today has to go to you guys; we have to help get Nashville back on track."

From that day on, not only did The Listening Room begin to flourish once



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During his keynote speech at Stead CENTRAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR, BLAIR IMPLORED MEMBERS TO NEVER GIVE UP ON THEIR DREAMS.

more, but Sound Good, Do Good was born. A brainchild of Blair's, The Listening Room would team up with a nonprofit once a month, every month.

Today, The Listening Room is doing better than ever. To help spread the word about the club, Blair continues a tradition which helped him in the beginning: Blair would pay a dollar to the concierge at each area hotel for every person they sent over to the club. Social media factored into this marketing plan as well, but for Blair, it is all about treating the locals right.

The Listening Room attracts new visitors every day, but for those who might be still curious, Blair describes the club as a music-first venue, above all.

"All of the songs you hear on the radio that you love, you are going to come and have an incredible dinner,



BLAIR WITH HIS WIFE, BRITTNEY, AND THEIR DAUGHTER, EMERSON.

and you are going to sit down, hearing those same songs that you know on the radio," said Blair. "You are going to hear them from the perspective of the people who wrote them and how they wrote them and why they wrote them, and learn more about the story behind the song."

In addition to the atmosphere, guests will have the opportunity to experience The Listening Room's state-of-the-art Bose sound system and the fresh, local food.

Blair will be the first to say he has endured the lion's share of challenges while pursuing his dream, but his message to all brothers is a simple one: follow your passion and don't ever give up.

"There were many times...where it would have been easy for me to pack it up and move back to St. Louis or put on that suit and tie and go back to the job that was secure but wasn't my passion," stated Blair. "But I pushed through and took all of the things I learned from my family, my upbringing, from my brothers of a lifetime and the way we worked through conflicts and learning opportunities as a Lambda Chi, and I didn't give up. C&C



FIVE TIPS TO RAISE AWARENESS **DURING HUNGER ACTION MONTH** 

Whether you are a large chapter or small chapter, raising awareness for your philanthropic cause is critical to increasing donations and hosting successful events.

by: Brandan Bonds, Special Assitant to the CEO

#### **STORY**

Often, people want to know the single best strategy for how to raise awareness for an event or philanthropic cause. In reality, there is no one right way to do it. Instead, you should invest time in more than one strategy.

Bringing attention to your cause when you have a limited budget can be tricky. It becomes easier with the right ideas. Outlined below are several ways to raise awareness for your philanthropic, broken down by events, contests, branding, content, and challenges.

1. Host Events

Organize educational events

- Host an educational workshop where you educate your chapter members and the public about your cause. Make sure to engage in conversation about your cause using the personal stories of people you know.
- Feeding America's "Mop the Meal Gop" provides quick and easy statistics and data that you can use in an educational workshop.

Host Fundraising Events

• A fundraising event can help boost both awareness and donations to your cause. From a penny wars competition to t-shirt drives, there are no shortage of winning fundraising ideas. Set The Table is a new tool designed by Feeding America that allows groups to create a custom fundraising page in order to raise funds for Feeding America. The Zeta-Omicron chapter at the University of Oregon recently used this tool and raised over \$11,000 in a matter of weeks!

2. Host Contests

- **Picture Perfect**
- People are naturally drawn to visual content. Pick a theme, a time frame, and a social media platform to host it. Then, ask your supporters to submit their best photos by tagging you. Pick the winner and feature the photo on your social media pages. A good project for this might be a "CANstruction"!

#### Like & Comment to Win

• This idea is simple and invites a lot of engagement. Simply create a new post on social media, make sure it links to your campaign, and explain the contest to your followers. You can pick the winner at random. Consider asking local



Members volunteering their time at a food bank

businesses if they would sponsor a prize like a gift card.

#### 3. Brand the Event or Cause Properly Keep it consistent

• The key to making your cause easy to recognize is keeping the imagery and wording consistent. Always use the image or logo for profile pictures and make sure your call to action doesn't vary.

#### Design and give out swag

• It may be worth it to spend a small amount of money to make swag that you can hand out. Keep it simple with items like stickers, buttons, or t-shirts. The point is to get people to start recognizing and representing your cause.

#### 4. Produce Valuable Content Create handbills and/or pamphlets

• A great way for people to learn about your cause is through handbills or informational pamphlets. Organize the key information summarizing your event or cause and craft it into something that catches people's interest.

Write press releases for your student newspaper

• You can usually submit press releases to campus newspapers for free. There are free samples of press releases in the appendix of the Feeding America Resource Guide.

5. Use Challenges to Increase Engagement Challenge your Greek community and other student organizations

• Encourage students in and out of the Greek community to participate in a challenge to raise funds and awareness for your event or cause. C&C



BRANDAN BONDS



### RECRUITMENT TIPS AND TRICKS: FIVE FOCUS AREAS FOR A FANTASTIC RECRUITMENT

It is hard to believe that the fall term is already here. It means football, cooler weather, and the biggest period of fraternity recruitment (although we should be focusing on it year-round).

by: Chris Buck, Associate Director of Expansion

#### STORY

For many of our groups, when we think of recruitment we think of big events, formal recruitment, and getting the "best" guys possible. Instead of focusing on these three things, I want to offer five areas where you should focus your efforts to increase your recruitment pool, improve the quality of men you are attracting, and strengthen your retention of those men who do decide to sign that bid card. The five areas are the following: adopting the right mentality, building and strengthening your names list, relationshipbuilding, focusing on small activities vs. big events, and embracing Lambda Chi Alpha and Associate Membership

#### Adopting the right mentality.

Over the past few years, I have been fortunate enough to visit a ton of campuses and Lambda Chi Alpha chapters and colonies, seeing the very best that our brotherhood has to offer. With all the amazing things these groups do, I continually see that many struggle with recruitment. My belief is that this struggle occurs due to having the wrong mentality about recruitment. Many of us think recruitment is a chore, an effort to find the "chillest" guys to improve our social standing, or something we have to limit to the first couple of weeks of school. The truth is, recruitment is so much more. Recruitment is all about



Recruitment Tips and Tricks

building relationships and sharing our brotherhood with the future leaders; it's about changing lives.

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Now you may be thinking, "That statement is a little bold", but I assure you, I have seen first-hand the amazing impact Lambda Chi Alpha can have on someone. We have members who are leading major corporations, raising thousands of pounds of food, and achieving the highest standards of academic success. If I asked many of you what Lambda Chi Alpha has done for you or how it has impacted your life, you would say it created friendships, allowed you to lead, gave you career connections, and made your college experience more fun and rewarding than anything else you are or were a part of. Ultimately, you would share how it has changed your life. That is what recruitment is all about. It's about sharing that experience with others and showing them how Lambda Chi Alpha could enhance their collegiate experience: how, by joining, they can experience leadership development, opportunity for personal growth, and enjoy a tight-knit brotherhood. Potential members will ask about the socials, housing situation, and other little things that they think make a fraternity experience valuable, but once they join they will stay for the stuff that really matters.

Each of us has an obligation to give back to the organization that has given so much to us. Each of you should be gearing up to go out, meet men, and change lives. Remember back to the guy who recruited you. If it wasn't for him, you wouldn't have joined. So, go be that guy for others and share the gift of Lambda Chi Alpha.

### Building and strengthening your names list

A chapter/colony's recruitment efforts are only as good as their names list. In recruitment, names

### MOST PEOPLE JOIN AN ORGANIZATION NOT BECAUSE OF THE REPUTATION, CAREER PROSPECTS, OR EVEN THE COOL T-SHIRTS. THEY JOIN BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE.

are gold. Names are the startline in someone's Lambda Chi Alpha journey, and the more you have, the better your chance to have some of those names transform into brothers. Each chapter/colony should strive to maintain such a list; today there is software like ChopterBuilder to make it easier. The way a chapter/ colony builds a names list is through referrals and name generation. Each chapter/colony should have active members add all the unaffiliated men they know to the list (unless they don't fit our values) and should actively seek to add more names by getting referrals. If you aren't sure where you should be looking, check out my past article 5 Places You Should Be Looking for Potential Members. On average, 1 in 10 men will join from your list. So, if you are wanting to add 20 men to your chapter this fall, you will need to have at least 200 names on your

to have at least 200 names on your list. To ensure everyone on your list is getting contacted, assign members to each person and have them serve as their Lambda Chi Alpha point of contact.

### Focus on relationships

The key to being good in recruitment is being good at building relationships. When you are talking with a potential member you shouldn't be thinking, "What can I say to get him to join?". Instead, vou should be thinking, "What can I learn about him and how can we become friends?". Most people join an organization not because of the reputation, career prospects, or even the cool t-shirts. They join because of the people. When contacting the men on your names list, ask them to meet up one-on-one. Schedule a 20 to 30-minute meeting and



UNDERGRADUATES ATTENDING STEAD CENTRAL.

Chris Buck

spend the bulk of the time getting to know them. Challenge yourself by not using the words "I" or "me" for the first 15 minutes; focus on them. This leads to them feeling more comfortable and provides you insight on whether or not they will be the right fit for Lambda Chi Alpha. People join people, so focus on building relationships; it will make a tremendous difference.

#### Small activities vs. Big Events

Once you have had your initial one-on-one meeting with a prospective member and you two really hit it off, it's time to get him around other men from the chapter. Big, blow-out recruitment events can be extremely intimidating. Big events cost too much money and the chapter/colony does not usually get the return for which they hope. Small events are not recruitment-specific and involve between 3-7 members of the chapter/colony. They can be as simple as playing a pick-up game of basketball, watching the newest episode of Game of Thrones, or studying in the library. These are low-pressure events (well, maybe not Games of Thrones, that gets intense) that do not cost much and require little manpower. The best part is, you are more yourself at these events.



At small events, brothers tend to be more laid-back and the brotherhood bond comes alive. This is what really sells your chapter/colony, you all being you.

#### Embracing Lambda Chi Alpha and Associate Membership

Too many believe that after someone signs their bid that the work is over. The truth is, it's just beginning. Last year, Lambda Chi Alpha had over 400 men who accepted a bid to join and quit before they were initiated. We need to do better when it comes to retention. The biggest reason why people join and then leave is one of three reasons. First, we were unclear about the expectation of being a member of Lambda Chi Alpha. This includes the financial, scholastic, or time commitment associated with membership. Lambda Chi Alpha has expectations and that's okay if a person can't meet them; we are not for everyone. The second reason is we did not do or provide what we said we would. During recruitment we make promises, upsell the experience,

## BY SHIFTING YOUR CHAPTER/ COLONY'S FOCUS TO THESE FIVE AREAS, YOU ARE GOING TO SEE A CHANGE IN YOUR RECRUITMENT.

Recruitment Tips and Tricks

and say we are going to provide opportunities. When we say it, our newest members expect it. If we said that we don't have pledges and then vou treat our Associate Members like one, how can they trust you? How can they expect you to fulfill the other promises you made? So, remember to be forth-coming during recruitment and follow through with what you said. Finally, new members lose interest or don't feel like they have any ownership in the process. The great thing about Lambda Chi Alpha is that they have full ownership in the fraternity from day one. Associate Members should be involved in the recruitment process, have the opportunity to hold office, serve on committees, and vote. They

should be taking an active role and be encouraged to use their new-member excitement to positively advance the chapter/colony.

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By shifting your chapter/colony's focus to these five areas, you are going to see a change in your recruitment. You will see more names on your list, better quality members, and you will keep those members for life. If you have questions about how to incorporate these focuses into your chapter/colony's recruitment efforts, email growth@lambdachi.org or visit LCAOne and click on the Recruitment Tab.

Best of luck as you look at changing lives and sharing the gift of Lambda Chi Alpha with men this fall. C&C



BREAKOUT SESSION FROM STEAD CENTRAL.

Lambda Chi Store





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### FIVE WAYS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR ELC VISIT

"You're that guy from nationals, right?" Oh, the repetitious reception of the Educational Leadership Consultant (ELC) at your chapter.

by: Josh Womack, Associate Director of Chapter Services

### STORY

Three days out of the year, you're hosting Lambda Chi Alpha's liaison from the International Headquarters. Why do you do it? Maybe, "I was told to do it," or, "we just know he's coming once a semester." Sometimes ELC visits may seem like wash, rinse, and repeat, but there are a multitude of reasons why LCA commits to an ELC visit to every chapter, every year.

"That guy" who arrives on your campus over 3 days could be a soon-to-be law student, an aspiring eSports personality, or a future Fraternity & Sorority Life advisor. Whatever he may become, he chose to travel thousands of miles from his home, his friends, and his chapter brothers to be with yours. His heart is dedicated to the highest possibilities of our Brotherhood, and he's willing to endure tough travels to bring you the best coaching, accountability, and inspiration he can. To make the most of his time with you, here are 5 things to maximize your ELC visit:

- **1.Let him experience your town/city.** Take him to a great food spot; invite him to intramurals; or make time for Super Smash Bros. Making time to chill leads to a long-lasting relationship between the ELC and your chapter.
- **2.Prep your officers for his visit.** ELCs put in 200+ hours of effort into training every summer. He's ready... but are you? Meet with your Executive Committee, High Zeta, and Alumni Advisory Board to review previous reports, current goals, budgets, and bylaws before he arrives. The ELC will be both impressed and more effective!
- **3.Recruit non-officers to attend meetings.** What better way to groom your future leaders than to get advice straight from an ELC? Think about it—the more chapter members who "get it," the stronger your chapter.

HIS HEART IS DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST POSSIBILITIES OF OUR BROTHERHOOD, AND HE'S WILLING TO ENDURE TOUGH TRAVELS **4.Be invested in your goals.** Sure, the ELC can help you articulate your goals better. But you are the one who needs to attack them with a vengeance! The ELC can and should be your number one supporter if you have high aims and a passion to achieve them. Create them; own them; and attack them.

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5.Listen, and be open to change. "All failure is failure to adapt, all success is successful adaptation" (Max McKeown). Your ELC works hard to improve each chapter uniquely, but ELC visit failures often come from the chapter's indifference to change. Don't waste good advice!

These 5 things guarantee ELC visit efficacy (a fancy word for, "it works the way it's supposed to"). Apply them, and you'll get more out of your visit than any previous one.

In addition to coaching and consultation typically provided by our ELCs, you can expect them to focus on the following General Fraternity goals during the Fall 2017 semester:

• Preparing your chapter for new billing structure for summer conferences



Josh Womack

Five Ways to Maximize your ELC Visit



ELC NICK GAFRON



FORMER ELC CHRIS POCKETTE



ELC Alex Martens addressing undergraduates.

REACH OUT TO YOUR ELC FOR ASSISTANCE BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER YOUR CHAPTER'S VISIT! TOGETHER, WE'LL MAKE ALL GOOD CHAPTERS GREAT AND GREAT CHAPTERS EXCELLENT.

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- Improving quality and submission of Bylaws and Tax Form 990s
- Improving chapters' access to Initiation Ritual equipment
- Educating and empowering Executive Committee members to become leaders by example in your chapter

Reach out to your ELC for assistance before, during, or after your chapter's visit! Together, we'll make all good chapters great and great chapters excellent. **C&C** 



### **ALUMNI ADVISING TIPS AND TRICKS**

As a fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha thrives on connection, education, and brotherhood. In order to achieve this success, we value the incredible impact that our alumni advisors have on undergraduates' lives.

by: Kayden Lichtenauer

#### **STORY**

Alumni are able to offer guidance and direction through their experiences in life and with the fraternity, which the undergrads do not possess yet.

"You don't get anywhere in life without somebody opening a door, without somebody who's gotten to the top of the ladder and sends it back down for you," discusses Nick Zuniga, former Director of Chapter Services. "That's no more true than within a fraternity."

The opportunity for networking is a big part of fraternity. As new members grow in their college experiences, it is vital for them to have someone with the knowledge and experience to help guide them in the right direction.

The first step to becoming an advisor is figuring out what chapter you would like to help and how your skills and resources could benefit that chapter.

Chris Buck, Associate Director of Expansion, suggests, "I would start by emailing volunteering at lambdachi.org and say 'This is what I want to do'. You can also go onto our website and see where we are actively seeking alumni volunteers."

#### Alumni Advising Tips and Tricks

Headquarters offers many different options for alumni to start training to become an advisor.

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"We provide a lot of different opportunities to train alumni on sight with Alumni Advisory Board (AAB) training," said Zuniga. "Hopefully, at the end of this summer we'll be launching the Alumni Advisor Academy, which is an online training similar to what the officers are doing ...

"We also provide the Neville Advisors College in February which is a chance to come on site. We also provide people here on staff able to assist alumni, being able to process their registrations, being able to have a contact person that they can call on for issues, questions, reports, data information..."

It is important to note that becoming an advisor is not specific to one's chapter. Of course, it would be great to give back to one's own chapter, but sometimes circumstances make handson involvement difficult.



Alumni offer guidance and direction for undergraduate members.

#### Alumni Advising Tips and Tricks

"That's the beauty, is that our oaths and our obligations tell us to give back, but it doesn't say to give back to our own chapter," exclaimed Zuniga. "If you're lucky enough to be close to your chapter or be involved from a distance, that's great, but we are all from the same ritual, we're all from the same fraternity."

Especially with new technology, getting involved is accessible from anywhere, with things like Facetime. Skype, etc.

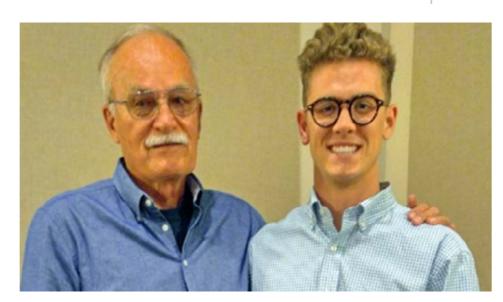
Headquarters plans to begin promoting and taking advantage of progressing technology by using it to help connect brothers, no matter where they are in the world.

The importance of alumni and advising is essential to the growth and productivity of the fraternity as a whole.

"When I was an undergrad I definitely had a fixed mindset of what was going on and so this was comfortable, but I think one of the best things was having a really solid advisor who is willing to challenge and push us and help us see things a little differently," exclaims Buck.

Advising doesn't just benefit undergrads; it allows alumni opportunities to learn and grow through their experiences with the men they are guiding, by putting their beliefs, principles, and oaths into action.

ADVISING **DOESN'T JUST BENEFIT** UNDERGRADS; IT ALLOWS ALUMNI **OPPORTUNITIES.** 



Ken Greenman (left) of San Diego provided much guidance for his CHAPTER AND NOW HAS AN AWARD NAMED FOR HIM, PICTURED HERE.



"If you have been disengaged for a long time, this is a really great opportunity for you to get reengaged with Lambda Chi," Buck explains. "When you took those oaths at initiation and got involved, it wasn't just for four years, it was for the rest of your life. I would encourage our members to think that way and to really look at this as an opportunity to get reengaged with the fraternity."

In order for young men to grow, they must have a solid foundation of support. As a fraternity, it is Lambda Chi's mission to provide each member

Member from the Alpha-Tau chapter at Iowa State accepting the Grand HIGH ALPHA AWARD AT THE 2017 STEAD CENTRAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR.

> with the guidance they need to help create a "better society of men".

Through the involvement of advisors, we are better able to achieve that goal by allowing developing individuals to learn from men who have been in their shoes and know what it takes to live successfully. **C&C** 



Fall Expansion

## FALL EXPANSION

This fall, Lambda Chi Alpha is excited to be establishing/re-establishing our brotherhood on four campus; Christopher Newport University, Northern Michigan University, University of Nevada, Reno, and Texas State University. Here is snapshot of each of these campuses.

### CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

**History:** CNU was established in 1960 and is situated in Newport News, Virginia. **Enrollment:** *5*,170 students

Greek Organizations: 18 recognized organizations (7 IFC Chapters)

Lambda Chi Alpha's History: The organization has never been to the campus before.

**Fun Fact:** The university president, Paul S. Trible, Jr. is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha and was initiated at Hampton-Sydney College.

For questions about the expansion to CNU, email Brett Turner, Recruitment Specialist at blurner@lambdachi.org.



### UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

**History:** University of Nevada, Reno is a public research institution that was founded in 1874 in Reno, Nevada.

Enrollment: 19,900 students

Greek Organizations: 33 recognized organizations (16 IFC Chapters)Lambda Chi Alpha's History: Epsilon-Iota Zeta had initiated 1,453 men when they closed in 2011. We are excited to be returning this fall.Fun Fact: Manzaita Lake, located in the heart of campus, has served as a movie set to several movies during the 1940s.

For questions about the expansion to Nevada, Reno, email Dylan Bateman, Recruitment Specialist at dbateman@lambdachi.org.

### NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

History: Northern Michigan University was established in 1899 and is in Marquette, Michigan which lies in the Upper Peninsula of the state.

Enrollment: 8,890 students

Greek Organizations: 5 recognized organizations (2 IFC Chapters)

**Lambda Chi Alpha's History:** Lambda-Upsilon Zeta played a major role in the NMU's Greek community prior to the chapter's closure in 2011. There were 608 total men initiated.

**Fun Fact:** In 2011, former President Barack Obama chose NMU to announce his Wireless Innovation and Infrastructure Initiative.

For questions about the expansion to NMU, email Nick Catalano, Recruitment Specialist at ncatalano@lambdachi.org.



### TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS

History: Texas State University was founded in 1899 and is in San Marcos, Texas. Enrollment: 38,800 students

Greek Organizations: 32 recognized organizations (12 IFC Chapters)Lambda Chi Alpha's History: Lambda-Phi Zeta had initiated 1,060 men when they closed in 2011. We are excited to be returning this fall.Fun Fact: There is a river that flows through campus that students enjoy floating on the hot Texas days.

For questions about the expansion to Texas State University, email Chris Pockette, Recruitment Specialist at cpockette@lombachi.org.







### SEMO ALUMNUS CREATES SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY **OF LATE FATHER**

Born in St. Louis Missouri, Nick Maddock graduated from Southeast Missouri State University in 2014 with degrees in Finance, Economics, and Entrepreneurial Management.

by: Kayden Lichtenauer

### STORY

Maddock then received a job at Capital One as a Financial Analyst and has just recently accepted a position as Cafe Launch Manager where he is involved in the facilitation the launch of their new Retail Branches across the United States.

In addition to his work at Capital One, Maddock has been involved in creating and funding scholarships for undergraduates at Southeast Missouri State University.

The first scholarship created by Maddock is called the Nicholas K. Maddock LGBT Ally Scholarship awarded annually to students who are involved in helping



NICK MADDOCK SPREADS HIS FATHER'S ASHES AROUND THE WORLD.

SEMO Alumnus Creates Scholarship

**IN ADDITION TO HIS WORK AT** CAPITAL ONE, MADDOCK HAS **BEEN INVOLVED IN CREATING AND FUNDING SCHOLARSHIPS** FOR UNDERGRADUATES **AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE** UNIVERSITY.

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SEMO Alumnus Creates Scholarship



MADDOCK IS GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING CAPTIAL ONE HAS CONTRIBUTED TO HIS SCHOLARSHIPS AND CAREER.

the LGBT community reach their goals in equality. This scholarship was created to encourage people to help fight issues in the LGBT community.

Last month, Maddock gifted the University \$10,000 to establish a new scholarship called the Kevin J Maddock International Studies Scholarship.

Maddock was able to graduate debt free through the aid of University scholarships. He hopes to allow students the same opportunities he had.

In his own life, Maddock found his study abroad experiences to be very useful in shaping him into the person that he is today and he wants to give other people the chance to have similar experiences.

The scholarship is dedicated to Maddock's father in memory of his life.

"I wanted to do this in part to honor my Dad who I lost to suicide last year." Maddock explains. "He always wanted to travel and see the world.

# WITH THE SCHOLARSHIP, HE HOPES TO OFFER SOMEONE THE CHANCE TO GO ABROAD...

Since his passing, I have been on a journey to spread his ashes around the world, already giving him over 25 new resting places across more than a dozen countries."

With the scholarship, he hopes to offer someone the chance to go abroad who would not be able to without assistance.

Maddock notes that the scholarships would not be possible without help from Capital One.

"They have matched \$8,000 in contributions I have made to the University foundation over the past 4 years," says Maddock. "I am extremely grateful for the support they have given



SCHOLARSHIP.

and the other amazing opportunities they have afforded me thus far in my short career."Lambda Chi has played a vital role in Maddock's success by teaching him how to lead and providing him with connections that would last a life time.

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"These leadership opportunities not only enabled me to succeed in the interview processes but also prepared me to show leadership in the workplace," describes Maddock. "I am confident without the opportunities presented through my fraternity, I would not be where I am today." C&C



MADDOCK HOPES TO KEEP THE MEMORY OF HIS FATHER ALIVE THROUGH THE



September 2017 - lambdachi.org - Quarterly Issue #3

### LAMBDA CHI BROTHERS ELECTED TO LEAD WABASH ALUMNI BOARD IN HOPES OF PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY

The National Association of Wabash Men (NAWM) recently elected two Lambda Chi brothers, Rob Shook as their President and Marc Nichols as Vice President.

by:Kayden Lichtenaur

#### **STORY**

Not only are both of these men Lambda Chis, they are also the first openly-gay men to lead the Association. Hoping to further increase diversity and inclusion, the men are continuing their - and the College's - work to find ways to reconnect previous and current students with each other and the institution. When Nichols steps into the presidency in May of 2019, four of the previous five NAWM presidents will have been Lambda Chis.

Wabash College is ranked No. 1 for its Alumni Network by The Princeton Review, due to the help and hard work of the NAWM. The Association exists to support Wabash's mission to "educate men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely."



Rob Shook

The presence and active engagement of the alumni on campus offers students the chance to gain advice and learn from people who have firsthand business and life experiences, while also leveraging the vast network of Wabash alumni and their connections to others.

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#### **Rob Shook- President**

Shook graduated from Wabash in 1983 and continued his educational career at Miami of Ohio and eventually the University of Texas-Austin. His intentions were to stay only a few months in Austin, but he soon fell in love with the city and decided to make that his home.

He has been working for IBM for 30 years in various sales, marketing, and executive roles around the U.S., Europe, and Asia and keeps coming back to Austin. He currently leads Marketing, Communications, and Digital Credentials for IBM's Training, Skills and Support.

Shook cites significant accomplishments in his career as "working with LGBT community members and allies to get IBM to offer domestic partner benefits in 1997, followed in 2002 by a global nondiscrimination policy inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression."

In 2011, a previous NAWM president and Lambda Chi brother, Greg Castanias, delivered a speech that was pivotal for Shook, Nichols, and the school.

Castanias, a long-time ally of the LGBT community, said, "...to our gay students, as well as to my gay alumni brothers, I pledge this to you: as the president of your alumni association, the Wabash tent is wide open, and you and your partners are welcome as a part of the Wabash fraternity, and as a part of the Wabash family."

Moved by this statement, Shook recalls times at Wabash when students and faculty were discriminated against



Wabash College is ranked No. 1 for its Alumni Network by The Princeton Review, due to the help and hard WORK OF THE NAWM.

for being gay, experiencing a significant lack of awareness and engagement by the College.

"It's important that we acknowledge that history and the impact it had on people – and it's even more important to note that things have changed so much for the better," said Shook. "Then, we must continue the process of rebuilding and re-engaging."

The promise made by Castanias inspired Shook and others to return to the institution in hopes of continuing Wabash's mission. Soon, Shook would find himself going from no involvement with the school to being elected to serve as the first openly-gay leader of the Alumni Board.

As President, Shook hopes to further progress the great work that has already been done. His main goal is to increase alumni participation.

He believes there are many ways for people to stay connected and ways to better reach under-engaged groups, such as international alumni.

"We encourage alumni to give of their time, talent, and treasure. Ideally, some of all three," Shook says with a smile.

Further, Shook wants to continue to build upon Wabash's inclusivity and make sure all alumni know they are welcome and encouraged to return to the school.

"Wabash College prepared me well; so many there were so generous to me and to others, and I have been rewarded many times over for anything I have given back to the school," exclaimed Shook.

Shook is looking forward to getting to know even more of the over 14,000 alumni and learning about the impact the school has had on individual lives.

"Convincing prospective students and their parents to believe in the value of a liberal arts education is sometimes a challenge," Shook said.

Wabash allowed him to learn a broad range of skills, which he still carries with him throughout his life, something he hopes to instill in undergraduates.

"Wabash College taught me how to learn, and how to communicate what I have learned... I draw on what I learned in my liberal arts education every single day," said Shook.

Shook believes one of the more important decisions for a college student to make (other than the school they choose to attend) is the fraternity where they choose to devote their time.

Lambda Chi allowed him the opportunity to become part of a brotherhood and continue to have friends outside of that brotherhood.

"Stand on the shoulders of those who have been here before you. Be those shoulders for the men who are around you and who will follow you," encourages Shook.

To those who may be uneasy about having a gav man as President of the NAWM, Shook would like to remind them of the words of Wabash alumnus and professor Dr. Bill Placher '70: "Understanding each other may not lead to agreement, and respect for one another does not depend upon agreement."

### **SHOOK HOPES TO FURTHER PROGRESS**

they may draw from and learn from

As an undergraduate at Lambda

one another in order to make the

board as successful as possible.

Chi, Nichols became one of, if

the skills necessary to run an

organization smoothly, by learning

that the best way to lead is taking the

time to get to know his brothers and

through my experience as president

was making sure that I respected

every individual and learned about

"Bond of Christian brotherhood is

a lifelong goal and if students learn to

let that be sort of their guide, it will serve them well. It won't keep the hard times from happening, but it's a source of strength to draw on in the hard times when you're trying to figure out the right thing to do. We're human beings, we all make mistakes. I have learned as I reflect on my leadership, that it [Christian brotherhood] has served me well and I would commend that to all Lambda Chis to continue to

Both of these men are excited to advise, as well as learn from the Wabash community, by creating an atmosphere which allows

brotherhood to flourish. C&C

draw on that lesson."

"Part of the lesson I learned

Wabash's campus.

their differences.

not the first African-American, to

become president of any fraternity on

During his involvement, he learned

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### Marc Nichols- Vice President/ **President-elect**

Graduating from Wabash in 1992, Marc Nichols did not return to the Wabash campus until 2010 when he took a position at Rolls-Royce.

While attending a Wabash football game against rival DePauw University, Nichols was asked by the President of the Alumni Association at the time, Greg Estell (another Lambda Chi), about his interest in joining the board.

At first, Nichols declined the offer, but after having a chance to get acclimated, he joined the board in 2012, taking the seat previously held by Greg Castanias. He then became the head of the Alumni Advancement Committee, which works to further philanthropic efforts within the Wabash community.

This year, Nichols was elected as the Vice President/President-elect of the NAWM. He will become just the second African-American to serve as president of the Association.

Like Shook, Nichols hopes to make Wabash a place where everyone may feel welcome and represented, regardless of their identity.

"We don't want people to have any reason to not engage with the college and if there is any way for us to help further that engagement... then

### NICHOLS DID NOT RETURN TO THE WABASH CAMPUS UNTIL 2010 WHEN HE TOOK A POSITION AT ROLLS-ROYCE.

that is for the benefit for everyone," explained Nichols.

Because Nichols was away from the campus for so long, he missed out on the opportunities to get to know many of the alumni. He is looking forward to beginning relationships with new and old alumni, as well as creating a space to learn from one another.

"That's really what this job is about," stated Nichols. "It's about taking their concerns and being a voice for their concerns with the college, and trying to figure out the best way to further engage alums to make sure that the message that all are welcome is heard wide and loud."

Nichols has been in charge of is restructuring the board and its committees.

One of the first major tasks that every individual in order to augment what we were trying to achieve," he explains. "I have taken that lesson into my business career and I certainly am going to do that as best I can as Taking effect July 1, he hopes president of the Alumni Association.

to ensure that the board members understand each other's strengths and weaknesses. This will guarantee that



MARC NICHOLS

Q&A With CEO Bill Farkas

### **Q&A WITH CEO BILL FARKAS**

What does a day in the life of Bill Farkas look like?

by: Taylor Grayson

#### **STORY**

Well every day is something new, and that's one of the beauties of having this job. You are never sure what are the victories and the challenges that are going to come through on any given day. To say I arrive at 8 and I work until 5 is just not true. Sometimes those challenges come in at 11 o'clock at night, sometimes there are celebrations on the weekends, so to say what does a typical day look like really such a thing doesn't exist.

#### What are some of the most valuable things you have learned during your time on staff?

I think of two things right off the top. I was given some advice by one of my predecessors, George Spasyk, and that was when given the correct information, the undergraduates typically make the right decisions and that has poured itself out time and time again. Whether it is a chapter that is struggling, whether that is a chapter that has seen great success, they tend to make the right decisions, and that is pretty satisfying. The other thing that comes to mind is how passionate and committed our alumni volunteers are with Lambda Chi. So many alumni have helped us get to where we are today and that goes back to our very founding and that is really gratifying to see their continued involvement through the whole of their lives.

#### What is your favorite Lambda Chi memory?

Well I think most people's favorite memory is sharing those times with those brothers that you care deeply about. So, I think about the times I had at my local chapter, I also think about those times I had when I was a young staffer as an educational leadership consultant with my fellow consultants. It was those moments of laughing and making fun of each other and supporting each other. That carries forward to today being with the staff and those moments



FARKAS CHALLENGES MEMBERS TO REMEMBER THAT DOING THE RIGHT THING IS NOT ALWAYS THE EASIEST THING.

that are just really fun.

#### If you could offer one piece of advice to undergraduates, what would it be?

The piece of advice that I think is most important and this is something that can be learned throughout your life, and that is to me, it is more important to be respected than it is to be popular. That means making sometimes tough decisions. That can be challenging, we all want to be liked but at the end it's more important that you are respected, particularly for those officers and leaders within the chapter.

#### Any additional comments?

I guess any words of wisdom, again circle back to what my fond memories are and that is it is fraternity and it should be fun. We need to include fun, whether it is deliberations, chapter meetings, working at the headquarters. We should never lose sight that it is about comradery, it's about brotherhood and that should be fun..." **C&C** 



FARKAS WITH MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED STEAD CENTRAL.



### THE INS AND OUTS OF AN EXPANSION

Like with any organization, the prospect of expanding to new locations is vital to the success of Lambda Chi Alpha.

by:Taylor Grayson

#### STORY

Through expansion efforts, men from different universities across North America are able to experience the bond of brotherhood in new and exciting ways.

We sat down with Associate Director of Expansion, Chris Buck, to explore all of the factors that go into an expansion, from start to finish:

#### Starting the Expansion Process

Before an expansion can even begin, the Lambda Chi Alpha expansion team first looks at the potential host university. Many factors are at play when considering a new university, such as the current climate of fraternity and sorority life, academic climate, and if our fraternity could flourish there.

Once all expectations are met on the fraternity's side, it is then turned over to the university.

"We have a policy of not going to any campus unless we are recognized," said Buck. "Some fraternities don't have that, but we are very much of the mind that we need to be co-curricular, so we will not go to a campus unless we have the approval or the invitation from the host institution."

The university's approval is the biggest barrier to expansions, but once that hurdle is overcome, an expansion can then move into the next phase.



The Ins and Outs of an Expansion ONCE AN EXPANSION IS PROPOSED AND ACCEPTED BY BOTH THE FRATERNITY AND THE HOST

INSTITUTION,

MUCH PLANNING

MUST HAPPEN.

#### Planning an Expansion

Once an expansion is proposed and accepted by both the fraternity and the host institution, much planning must happen.

Ideally, Lambda Chi aims to plan an expansion at least a year in advance. This allows the expansion team to not only become acclimated with the host institution, but also start Alumni Advisory Board (AAB) training, something that has proven crucial to successful expansions.

"Being able to have them [AAB] prepared has been night and day change in the whole conversation," stated Buck. "Ideally, we would like to have at least 8-12 alumni who are on an advisory board and that translates to almost one advisor to each officer."

Another huge advantage to planning an expansion early is the opportunity to start meeting potential members earlier. The expansion team is able to generate excitement well ahead of the school year and start building a solid membership. The Ins and Outs of an Expansion



#### Chartering of Missouri State University chapter.

"This has been a big part of our evolution and has made our expansions more successful, specifically this last spring was so successful," said Buck.

#### Recruitment

At this point in the process, the university has approved the Lambda Chi expansion and the team has done their part in planning and generating interest.

Now comes the time to recruit and start to flush out the colony.

Recently, Lambda Chi introduced a new position, titled "recruitment specialist". This specialist is the bread and butter of any expansion. They will spend seven weeks focusing on identifying potential members, having meetings with them, getting referrals, tabling, and developing relationships.

From there, the specialists begin the education process and pick the first officers, so that when the educational leadership consultant comes for three weeks, a foundation has already been laid. "From day one to the day we end, we are always focusing on fostering brotherhood, that is so important," said Buck. "Planning one or two brotherhood events, whether they are formal or informal, we teach them how to do their first philanthropic and service events, they get to learn how to do that; so it's very much learning by doing and that is what we have really promoted and then integrating the advisory board into the process so they can continue to support them."

After the initial work is put in by the expansion team, it is on the colony to spread their wings and fly. It usually takes about 15 months for colonies to charter, with continued support from staff, even after their departure.

#### Alumni Support

The final, and probably most critical, piece of the puzzle comes in the form of alumni support.

Buck stresses that the real work begins after chartering, and that is where alumni support comes in.

"I think the ability to sustain operations at a high level for three years, that's a lot of work," said Buck. "You have to build up the excitement and show the newer guys who maybe weren't part of the initial founding, if you will, that there is a strong foundation to build upon, and there is an opportunity for them to really achieve the heights."

For alumni looking to become involved in the Lambda Chi experience, Buck stresses the importance of events such as the Neville Advisor's College, a place to learn how to effectively lead as an alumnus.

With the help of the staff at Lambda Chi Alpha, and the support of alumni, an expansion can be an exciting and wonderful time for new members, allowing them to experience all Lambda Chi Alpha has to offer.

If you would like more information on how to become involved or have any questions, please email exponsion@lombdachi. org. **C&C** 



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### **BROTHER SPOTLIGHT: GINO FARIS**, WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Gino Faris is about to start his last year at Western Michigan University. During his college years he has been no stranger to making change and achieving success.

bv:Kavden Lichtenaur

#### **STORY**

Born and raised in Flint, Michigan, Faris became interested in Western Michigan. Once there, he decided he was going to rush Lambda Chi Alpha in an attempt to meet new people. He visited various houses on campus, but none of them made him feel as at home as the diverse Lambda Chi house.

Faris has a passion for people and began a work-study job at the University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

"The Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Western really just prepared me to socialize with the diversity of the US," stated Faris. "There are so many things that people are saying or doing, that they don't realize are offending or making people uncomfortable; that office really prepared me to properly outreach to a diverse crowd and that really helped me in starting the Middle Eastern Men's Club."

### Brother Spotlight **BORN AND RAISED IN FLINT**, MICHIGAN, FARIS BECAMÉ **INTERESTED IN WESTERN** MICHIGAN.

After attending a Middle Eastern Convention in Grand Rapids, Faris remembers how the strangers made him feel at home the same way the Lambda Chi house did back at Western. He decided he wanted to make others who may feel like outcasts feel the same inclusion, so he started the Middle Eastern Men's Club.

"My mission is to unite the Middle Eastern community...at a collegiate level because it will get us in the habit of giving back to the community, doing



GINO FARIS PICTURED CENTER.

Brother Spotlight

charity work, and continuing to be united," explained Faris. "The Middle Eastern community in the United States is kind of spreading thin now, and I'm really focused on keeping it a family."

Faris is a third-generation American but holds his culture as one of the most important things to embrace. The club allows him to learn from people who are directly from other countries, as well as enabling him to learn more about himself.

"Some of the students I'm working with, I would say most of them, are from directly overseas, so trying to be on their level is a little difficult sometimes," discussed Faris. "Some things I feel like I should know about my own culture, and they basically kind of educate me, and there is no shame in that. That's the entire point of the club is for us to be able to share our culture."

Faris explains that the many experiences he has had within his Lambda-Tau chapter have inspired and helped him to develop his own path and has taught him many useful communication skills.

"Being in Lambda Chi Alpha, I became familiar with socializing with other people, other fraternities and sororities, all these different things, but to these guys, the social culture in the Middle East is so different to the social culture in the U.S.," said Faris. "So I've had to kind of guide them along the lines of how to confidently socialize in the U.S."

In addition to his involvement with Lambda Chi and the Middle Eastern Men's Club, Faris plays collegiate paintball for Western Michigan. The eight-man team plays against other schools around the Midwest.

Faris is also in the process of creating his own music website, something he hopes could lead to a future using his degree in sales business marketing.

community.

"I really want to focus on community outreach and being involved with the community: I love business, but I hate how some businesses ... act like they're very high and mighty and the community is just the little guy," said Faris. "I want to break that barrier."

Change is something that does not come easy, but Faris's achievements have proven he is making a difference, his goal from the beginning. **C&C** 

### I REALLY WANT TO FOCUS ON **COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND BEING** INVOLVED WITH THE COMMUNITY...



MBA STUDY ABROAD BROTHER JAY CAUGHREN OF COE COLLEGE AND FARIS MET UP IN PADERNO DEL GRAPPA, ITALY

As of now, Faris is unsure of a specific job he would like to pursue after college, but knows he wants to go into a business that places emphasis on the



### LAMBDA CHI ALPHA WELCOMES JAYME LITTLE TO STAFF AS DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

The Lambda Chi Alpha staff is looking forward to welcoming Jayme Little to headquarters as the new Director of Alumni Engagement. Little will start in his role on August 1.

by:Taylor Grayson

### STORY

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Little served as an Educational Leadership Consultant for two years following graduation before accepting a role working with Lambda Chi alumni for a year. Little then pursued his Masters in Higher Education and Student Affairs at Indiana University on the IUPUI campus in downtown Indianapolis.

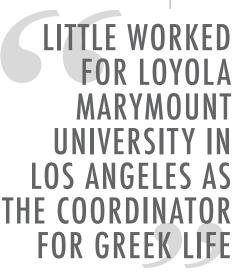
Little worked for Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles as the Coordinator for Greek Life until he returned to Indianapolis in 2007, where he has held the title of Director of Alumni Programs at IUPUI since.

Looking forward to connecting and reconnecting with alumni as the Director of Alumni Engagement, Little says he is ready to tackle anything that might come his way.

"I think the thing that most excites me about this particular position is that I can begin to transform this culture of 'I was a Lambda Chi when I was in college'," said Little. "There are some things that we can start doing to chip away at that [mentality], and I'm excited to develop those, in combination with Josh [Lodolo] and the Foundation team...and working with our chapter services team in working with our undergraduates to help them understand that this is a lifetime commitment, not just a few years or brief period of your life..."



Lambda Chi Alpha



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In addition to reaching out to alumni and training those volunteers, Little will provide leadership to create an undergraduate career/mentoring service experience through early career coaching and counseling implemented at the chapter level.

Little is looking forward to beginning his time on staff and says this opportunity could not have come at a better time for him or his family.

"The fraternity has meant a lot for me over my career," said Little. "I've been involved in some capacity as a High Pi for a little bit when I was in California and worked somewhat with our chapter in Cincinnati for a little bit here recently. I was a Master Steward for just a brief bit... so I've always been involved in some shape or form..."



JAYME LITTLE

Grand High Zeta Profile

### GRAND HIGH ZETA PROFILE: FLETCHER MCELREATH, GRAND HIGH ALPHA

The young man stood starstruck, eyes wide, arm extended to shake the hand of Grand High Alpha Fletcher McElreath.

#### STORY

To that undergraduate member, as with so many others, McElreath was the picture of success: one of the most respected men in Lambda Chi Alpha and a partner with a large New York City law firm.

But what most fail to realize is the long path that McElreath took to become that success members now see today.

McElreath's story begins in the shoes of a consultant. After many visits with consultants during his own undergraduate experience, McElreath knew this would be his next step. Despite his father thinking the job to be too "fluffy", a young McElreath needed the new experience to refuel himself after a demanding college career.

And so he traveled the country for a year as a consultant, learning invaluable life lessons, meeting brothers from across the country.

Once he had traveled for a year, though, McElreath decided to leave the consultant life and entered into law school. Despite taking a year away from the world of higher education, the Mercer graduate affirms that his time as a consultant helped him immensely with the transition to law school.

Now, McElreath is a partner at Alston & Bird LLP where he practices corporate financial law. Though there is no such thing as a typical day, McElreath can usually be found counseling clients with any questions that surface.

Away from the office, McElreath is an advocate for the arts and an avid theater-goer. He can also be found socializing with friends around the city and enjoys traveling the world.



The decision to serve as Grand High Alpha was McElreath's way of giving back even more to the fraternity.

### ONCE HE HAD TRAVELED FOR A YEAR, THOUGH, MCELREATH DECIDED TO LEAVE THE CONSULTANT LIFE AND ENTERED INTO LAW SCHOOL.

As for his involvement with Lambda Chi Alpha, McElreath continues to do whatever he can for the good of the fraternity. Following law school, McElreath served as the High Pi for his local Mercer chapter for about 10 years and facilitated for a number of different conferences.

When the time came to choose a new Grand High Alpha, McElreath's name was entered into the conversation about what was needed for the fraternity. For McElreath, the decision to accept the position was another wonderful opportunity to serve his fraternity.

### FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, MCELREATH HAS LEFT HIS MARK ON NOT ONLY NEW YORK CITY, BUT ALSO SO MANY MEMBERS OF LAMBDA CHI ALPHA.

"It was my time to give back," stated McElreath.

Since the time of his acceptance of the position, McElreath has worked tirelessly with the fraternity to provide a one-of-a-kind experience for undergraduates, while grappling with the challenge of remaining a top choice for young men's development offered on college campuses.

"The fraternal world is at a crossroads, in the sense of remaining relevant," said McElreath. "Students

opportunities to broaden themselves and be part of a group, without the duties, responsibilities and obligations that our organization places on them in order to do that."

these days have so many other

In the fight to remain relevant in the ever-changing college scene, McElreath remembers his own experience and implores undergraduates to realize the immense number of benefits to joining such an organization.

Grand High Zeta Profile 44

"Law firms and business firms are very similar to a fraternity in the way they operate, recruit, the way they retain and train, and the way they interact with each other," said McElreath. "It's been a huge help to me and my profession to be a part of this whole experience.

"I think that they [undergraduates] need to think in those terms, that they can actually take their skills that they have learned here and move to a number of different professional opportunities."

From humble beginnings, McElreath has left his mark on not only New York City, but also so many members of Lambda Chi Alpha. Through his efforts, McElreath has left Lambda Chi Alpha a better fraternity and secured its place among the top choices for young men to become true gentlemen. C&C



### **STEAD LEADERSHIP SEMINAR, EAST:** SERVICE PROFILE

To fully understand Virginia Commonwealth University sophomore Zachary Green's love of volunteering and service, a trip back to his high school days is needed.

bv:Tavlor Gravson

#### **STORY**

Green joined a service organization when he entered high school, an organization which required all participants to accumulate 120 hours by the end of four years. But for the bright-eyed young man, adamant about making a difference, this seemed too easy.

By the end of his high school career, Green had clocked over 600 hours of community service. He was hooked.

But when Green made the transition from high school to college, the need to serve his community tapered off as he found himself lost in trying to navigate his new home.



FLETCHER MCELREATH



ZACHARY GREEN

**GREEN JOINED** A SERVICE ORGANIZATION WHEN HE ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL, AN ORGANIZATION WHICH REQUIRED **ALL PARTICIPANTS TO ACCUMULATE** 120 HOURS BY THE END OF FOUR YEARS

"It was weird because I came into my first semester of college and it [volunteering] just stopped," recalled Green. "I went from cleaning beaches on Saturday mornings, something that no one would ever do, to sleeping in on Saturday mornings. I needed to change it up, and I didn't like what I was doing and needed to be involved in my new home of Richmond."

Enter Lambda Chi Alpha.

From the moment Green was introduced to the men of Lambda Chi, he knew he had found a new home, not only to find brothers, but to rekindle his love of service.

Now, fast forward to Stead Leadership Seminar, East.

Green and his team of other Lambda Chi members from across the country were introduced to the city of Baltimore and all of its intricacies as they traveled to their worksite. The group would be joining the Community Lot team of Baltimore, a team of people dedicated to



"transforming vacant and abandoned lots in Baltimore City into community gardens and green spaces".

As the Lambda Chi members traveled down the hill to the site, the change in scenery was drastic. One minute the area boasted lavish town homes and villas, and the next, the group passed condemned buildings and cracked windows.

But then Green noticed a bed of sunflowers as they pulled into the lot, a small sign of hope and rebirth.

"We came upon a site that was just an empty lot, and then it was crazy because there was just a bed of sunflowers among piles of ruble, piles of dirt, gravel," said Green. "You could tell they were previously working on this site, and there was just a beautiful sunflower; what an odd thing to see in a place like this, but there are small amounts of beauty in such a rundown location." With a fresh perspective on his work and surroundings, Green was ready to become a part of this new community. The group spent three hours moving dirt and soil to help transform the lot into something of peace and beauty.

"A woman [who worked there] came up to us and said how grateful they were that we came out today, and this is the first project they have seen in a long time where someone is really taking time to come out here in this area," stated Green. "She told us this put a spark in many people in the neighborhood to get involved and really change what this area looks like, and that's why we are here."

Though it was just a few hours out of his day, Green likes to think that he was able to make an impact in some small way and start a chain reaction of goodness, one of the reasons he believes in the value of service.





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Green has come a long way in his life, but will always remain the same person who brought a meal every day for a less fortunate peer in high school because he knew it to be the right thing to do.

"We as individuals who have this opportunity to be in college and to be a part of a fraternity shows privilege, and the first step with any type of privilege is recognizing that you have it," said Green. "I think the way to really...share that privilege with individuals is to give back, and I think that's why philanthropy means so much to me..."



Green fully believes in the value of service and hopes to carry it with him for the rest of his life.



GREEN HELPING TO CREATE A PLACE OF SERENITY FOR THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY

Stead Leadership Seminar: East

### STEAD LEADERSHIP SEMINAR, WEST: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION DISCUSSION WITH SUZETTE WALDEN COLE

In today's ever-changing social landscape, the topics of diversity and inclusion are even more critical to understand and apply.

by:Taylor Grayson

#### STORY

For the men of a fraternity, especially Lambda Chi Alpha, it is even more important to embrace these topics, as leaders of tomorrow.

The attendees of Stead West had the great pleasure of hearing from professional speaker, Suzette Walden Cole, as she delved into these tough topics.

Though Cole has been speaking to college fraternities and sororities about the developing issues for many years, she remembers starting where many of her



Suzette Walden Cole

listeners do: knowing there needs to be a change, but not knowing how to deliver.

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Cole recalls growing up in Atlanta where 70-85 percent of the community was African American and seeing many injustices that she just could not label as a child. She found herself frustrated by the lack of answers and truth, so pledged herself to a line of work that would address diversity and inclusion with clarity.

According to Cole, there are so many universities and colleges around the country that want so badly to have the conversations which address diversity and inclusion, but most fall short. Cole says that it is one thing to have a diverse university, or chapter, but it is something completely different to then include every student or member.

But these conversations have to start, Cole says.

### ...FRATERNITIES ARE A RIPE FOREGROUND, HONESTLY, TO BE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT THE TOUGH CONVERSATIONS, TO BE EXPOSED TO THINGS THEY MAY NOT HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO BEFORE.

"I think fraternities are a ripe foreground, honestly, to be able to talk about the tough conversations, to be exposed to things they may not have been exposed to before," said Cole. "So, if we are not having the diversity and inclusion conversation in our chapters, where else are we having them?"

In her discussion with Lambda Chi brothers at Stead West, Cole implored members to think about their own chapters and how they might be missing the mark on diversity and inclusion. While most chapters can claim that they are diverse in practice, the next part of the equation would be truly accepting each member as they are and how they choose to identify.

"It's easy to say, 'Well, we can check all of those boxes, 30 percent of our chapters are coming from these identities, so we're good'. But are you," asked Cole. "Do those guys feel fully integrated, do they feel like their voice matters, are they at all alienated? That is not inclusive behavior."

So how does Lambda Chi Alpha, as a fraternity, start to tackle these lofty topics? It begins with a conversation.

That conversation should then lead to teaching brothers how to see other people's identities, whether that is sexual orientation, religious preference, etc. "There is a desire amongst many brothers who are coming and representing those identities that want to see a brotherhood that embraces them differently," stated Cole.

Stead Leadership Seminar: East

The next step in the conversation requires the action of chapters. It is one thing to say a chapter will be inclusive, but it is quite another thing to follow through.

Cole encouraged brothers to seek resources on their campuses and from their educational leadership consultants, as well as beginning to help all members feel at home.

At the end of the day, though, Cole says the most important thing to remember is that it is alright to not agree with the views and opinions of fellow members, but the difference is accepting all for who they are and what they believe. But the conversation must continue past Stead.

Once identities are not only seen, but celebrated, can the fraternity move forward in offering a welcoming and impactful experience for undergraduates. **C&C**  Chi Zeta Breaks Ground on New House...

### CHI ZETA BREAKS GROUND ON NEW HOUSE WITH ASSISTANCE OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Members of Chi Zeta at the University of Illinois were ready for a change. For over 100 years, the long-standing tradition of Lambda Chi Alpha on campus was housed in the same building.

by:Taylor Grayson

#### STORY

Though some might say the building was rich in history, many alumni and undergraduates alike agreed it was time to make a move, literally.

"Everyone knew the old home had exceeded its functional life," said alumnus John Crook. "It wasn't supporting brotherhood and fraternity; for Chi Zeta to remain strong, we all knew something needed to be done."

So, with an idea in hand and a fresh perspective, the men of Chi Zeta partnered with the Lambda Chi Alpha Educational Foundation and embarked on their mission to provide the best experience.

The rebuilding of the chapter house began with a small group of skilled alumni over a five-year time period. This group was comprised of alumni with careers in finance, construction, and project development. Along with the guidance and assistance of an architecture firm, members began to formulate how the new house would feel.

Ultimately, the decision was made to proceed with an all-new construction, a fresh start. While members wanted to carry forward some of the physical



Cole has been an advocate for diversity and inclusion for many years now.



Cole addressing members at Stead West, August 10.



The groundbreaking of the new house will take place on September 9.

features of the old house, the prospect of starting fresh was met with much excitement.

"It kept the people who were interested in the old heritage of the house happy, and it gave us a brandnew structure," said Crook.

The Educational Foundation played a crucial part in making the new chapter house a reality. Staff provided guidance on significant elements of the process, such as securing a tax attorney to provide the legal opinion on tax deductibility and identifying the right fundraising support.

"The support they [the Foundation] provide for a project like this is absolutely critical," said Crook.

The groundbreaking of the new house will take place September 9, ushering in a new era for the men of Chi Zeta, helped along by the Educational Foundation.

"It's not easy being part of fraternities right now, it goes to show how much everyone believes we have something good," said Matt Rowley, High Alpha. "We have good guys in the house, we've had alumni donate more than two million for a house for us to live; there is a lot of trust in us, and they believe in us. The fact they are investing in us is great to tell recruits-we've got really strong people behind us, supporting us."

If you are interested in learning about how the Educational Foundation can help you and your chapter, please contact Senior Director of Development, Travis McDearmon, mcdearmon@lambdachi.org. **C&C** 



### TALES FROM THE ROAD: NICK CATALANO

The bond of Lambda Chi Alpha is something that exceeds all time and distance.

by:Nick Catalano, Recruitment Specialist

### STORY

This idea came to fruition in my mind during the Spring 2017 semester of my travels as an Educational Leadership Consultant.

My travels brought me to Lambda-Lambda Zeta at Western Kentucky University. My visit schedule just so happened to line up during the group's Pre-Initiation week and day of Initiation Ritual. Naturally, I was looking forward to see the chapter's exemplification of the Ritual at the conclusion of my visit, but my realization really struck me was just before.

The chapter was dressed in badge attire and began heading in groups to the local banquet room of a restaurant, not too far from the chapter house. This final banquet before the chapter's exemplification of the Initiation Ritual was a regular occurrence for each semester. The chapter members took their seats at one of the 10-top tables placed around the room and enjoyed dinner.

At the conclusion of the meal, all members of the chapter would one by one share their reflection on the past semester. Each and every member in that room stood up and shared their positive experience with everyone there. All brothers, associates, alumni and myself had nothing but positivity to share.



### Tales from the Road 50 THE MEN SHOWED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO

**IMPROVE AND DO** 

SO WITH A GOOD

SUPPORT OF THE

**BROTHERS** 

ATTITUDE AND THE

The men showed their willingness to improve and do so with a good attitude and the support of the brothers. The beauty of this moment was the spectrum of members in the room. From myself, a person initiated over 1,000 miles away, to the alumni brothers that were initiated over ten years ago, to the members that were initiated the previous semester and the members that were about to be initiated that night, all of us shared that moment.

We all gathered together in that moment to share in the beauty and unity of our Initiation Ritual. Our bond is created by our willingness to do better and be better men every day with our brothers by our side to help us get there.

I walked away from that night with an immense sense of pride and connection with all of my brothers. **C&C** 

### GEICO Auto Insurance

Lambda Chi Alpha's partnership with GEICO gives you the benefit of great rates on auto insurance. In addition to your membership discount -- which could shave as much as 8% off GEICO's already low prices -- you'll also receive 24-hour service online or by phone, and efficient & fair claim handling.

NICK CATALANO



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