



Delta Delta Data

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DELTA DELTA DATA

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Alumni Support Delta Delta Chapter Revitalization

As many of you are aware the Chapter was faced with serious sanctions from Purdue's Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Sigma Chi Headquarters including potentially pulling our charter for a period of four years.

With the leadership of House Corporation President **Tom Hall '52**, Chapter Advisor **Nate Gustus '05**, Consul **David Kolsaak '25** and several alumni, discussions were held with Purdue officials and Sigma Chi senior leadership to get agreement to keep the Chapter open and conduct a Revitalization Program.

The Revitalization Program spearheaded by **Gavin Philipps '95** focuses on teaching transformational leadership skills and providing guidance in key areas of chapter operations. Sixty-five Delta Delta alumni are serving as mentors to the undergrads and another 20 alums are helping to staff the bi-monthly chapter sessions as part of this endeavor.

A full Sigma Chi membership review was conducted by a 14-person committee composed of senior alumni from chapters around the country. They interviewed each active member of Delta Delta to determine their willingness to follow all the rules and implement the five-week pledge program as written by Headquarters. They stated that 202 Littleton Street
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Don Fesko '94



Eric Morgan '95

Fesko, Morgan Selected Significant Sigs

Delta Delta's growing list of Significant Sigs has two new members, Don Fesko '94 and Eric Morgan '95.

Don Fesko '94 was named a Significant Sig for his ongoing engagement and leadership within the healthcare community in northwest Indiana.

Brother Fesko started his professional career as an optometrist before becoming the CEO of Community Hospital in 2005. In 2016, Don was promoted to President and CEO of Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, Inc. (CFNI), the parent corporation of Community Healthcare System, comprised of four not-for-profit hospitals. CFNI has an annual net operating revenue of over \$1.1 billion and employs

over 7,700 people. Throughout his career, Don has undertaken a number of significant building and technology expansions. Under his leadership, the healthcare system has received numerous national recognitions for the delivery of high-quality patient care.

In 2009, Don achieved Fellow status and board certification from the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE). He was honored with the Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award as the 2012 Young Healthcare Executive of the Year by the American College of Healthcare Executives, and the 2014 American College of Healthcare Executives Regent's Award for the state of Indiana.

Don commented, "Leadership, friend-
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THE SIGMA CHI CREED

I believe in fairness, decency, and good manners. I will endeavor to retain the spirit of youth. I will try to make my college, the Sigma Chi Fraternity, and my own chapter more honored by all men and women and more beloved and honestly respected by our own brothers. I say these words in all sincerity that Sigma Chi has given me favor and distinction: that I will endeavor to so build myself and so conduct myself that I will ever be a credit to our Fraternity.

George Ade ΔΔ 1887

CHAPTER OFFICERS

CONSUL David Kolssak
PRO CONSUL ... Leo Detwiler
ANNOTATOR Mitchell Rittman
QUAESTOR Brad Bolles
MAGISTER Nick George
RUSH CHRM Reid Brenton
 Shane Bradley
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EDITOR Carter Fernandez
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ALUMNI REL. ... Ryder Elitharp

SOCIAL CHRM ... Andrew McIntosh
 Kyle Bastian
PHILANTHROPY Clark Sweet
 Andrew Happ
WEBMASTER Aiden Clinton

You may contact any of the officers by going to the chapter's website: www.thesighouse.com.

Consul's Corner David Kolssak '25

This has been an exceptionally challenging semester for all the brothers in our chapter. We have gone through a full Membership Review by the International Fraternity and a large number of our chapter members have been placed on suspended alumni status(SAS). Anyone placed on SAS can not enter the chapter house or take part in any Sigma Chi activity until two years after they have graduated. This has left a core group of 61 active brothers with only 29 living in the fall semester.

The remaining brothers (mostly juniors and sophomores in the fall) are completely dedicated to establishing the new normal for Delta Delta and laying the foundation for future pledge classes.

The 29 brothers living in the chapter house next fall represent the emotional core of the chapter. Through all the turmoil, all the rumors, and all the pressure from the brothers intending to save face and move out, these men stayed the course and doubled down amid all the uncertainty. These brothers know what it takes to succeed and are committed to fighting for it.

The remaining actives have already begun working on those areas that need addressed. We have taken

part in Sigma Chi's Leadership Institute's training program, and our officers are actively working with our alumni to put in place programs that will help us achieve our goals. This includes Recruitment, Pledgeship, the Ritual and Chapter House maintenance. Along with the help of several brothers we have rewritten our chapter's by-laws to better reflect our new direction.

We also have several brothers attending Horizons and the Krach Transformational Leadership Workshop this summer.

I would like to thank all our alumni who have been part of this revitalization process. Your guidance and encouragement have helped us all through this difficult period. I believe with my heart that we have the potential and resources to bring the chapter back to place of national prominence. I feel we are closer to better times than we realize. There is finally positive buzz about the Sigs among the powers that be at Purdue, and that is because the change we are undergoing is not only tangible, but visible.

The chapter is excited to have several alumni groups returning this fall for award presentations and reunions. Please know you are always welcome. In Hoc, David Kolssak '25



Sigs (L-R) Gavin Foote, David Kolssak, Kyle Bastian and Eddie Becker taking part in Sigma Chi's Leadership Institute's two day seminar.

Chapter Revitalization cont.

was operating like the Delta Delta Fraternity and not like the Delta Delta Chapter of Sigma Chi.

The final result of the membership review is that 60 actives will return in the fall. There will be 29 actives living in the chapter house during the first semester and 31 living in during the second semester. The 31 brothers living out felt they had to make alternative living arrangements in February because of their uncertain status while awaiting the results of their review. These brothers are still active members of the chapter. An incoming freshman class of 20 to 25 men in the fall will bring the active membership to 80 to 85, which is a good number to be participating in a rebuilding effort.

This Sigma Chi Leadership Institute training program held March 24-25 was the first step in equipping our younger brothers with the tools and understanding they will need to re-

talize our chapter. By more fully recognizing how each brother has a role to play, the goal is to inspire these young men to be tomorrow's leaders at Delta Delta and beyond.

The next steps of the Revitalization Plan will focus on specific areas of chapter operations. These include Recruitment, Preparation for Brotherhood (Pledge-ship), Ritual Emphasis/Implementation and updating the chapter's by-laws. Other areas also involve campus and community engagement, and chapter house maintenance.

The alumni who have taken part recognize that addressing these tasks will not be easy and will demand the active involvement of many alumni to help direct and sup-



Gavin Philipps '95 leads a group discussion on areas of chapter improvement.

port the undergraduate brothers.

As we move forward we will continue to ask all our alumni to be involved and help support this effort. It is the strength of our brotherhood that will lead us back to our leadership role at Purdue, in the community, and within the Fraternity.

Significant Sigs continued

ship and philanthropy are three areas where Sigma Chi has impacted my life. The friendships I made are truly lifelong. I am honored and excited to be a recipient of this award."

Eric Morgan '95 was recognized for his diverse business success throughout his career.

Eric graduated from Purdue University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Pilot Technology. Following graduation, he served as a pilot for TWA and American Airlines until 2003 flying both domestic and international routes. During his undergraduate days Eric was one of two students selected by the Purdue faculty to fly the university jet. His primary responsibility was to fly President Steven Beering to his many events around the country. Eric remarked, "Dr. Beering was such a nice man. He always made it a point to intro-

duce us to distinguished alumni. It was a wonderful experience."

Eric's spirit of entrepreneurship motivated him to leave the cockpit and go into the real estate business. He founded The Morgan Investment Group in 2000 and has amassed a portfolio of multi-family apartment communities, golf courses, and airport investments located throughout the country.

In addition, Eric created the flight department and was head of flight operations for Barry-Wehmiller (\$2.4B company with 11,000 employees globally). He continued in this role for seven years, while still operating Morgan Investments.

Eric was again drawn back to aviation in 2020 with his current investment in the Naples Jet Center. The operation services private aircraft and aircraft storage for operators based at the airport.

Eric, who owns *The Club at the*

Strand in Naples, FL, a community that includes a 27-hole golf course, club house, a golf academy, tennis, pickleball facility and fitness complex, has sought to impact the community and women's golf. He has donated the facilities at The Club at the Strand for over 100 non-profit events and luncheons including Sigma Chi and Purdue events.

Under Eric's direction, the Club at the Strand also sponsors and hosts youth programs for golf and tennis and is part of First Tee Naples, a program dedicated to introducing young people to the game of golf. They also host the National Girls and Women's Sports day.

Amidst all this activity, Eric has found time to start a local soccer and baseball team for kids who may not have made the other teams in the league. This program gives "every kid a chance" to participate in youth sports and build on their strengths and confidence to succeed in sports and life.

Sigs Take First Step on Leadership Journey

Over a two-day period from March 24 -25, 37 undergraduates, nine Delta Delta alumni brothers, and seven outside facilitators took part in an intensive program on transformational leadership. This accredited program designed by the Sigma Chi Leadership Institute sought to help identify each undergraduate's core values and strengths and how they can apply them to future leadership roles.

Focus on Self

The initial sessions focused on each participant defining and selecting their top five core values and reviewing the results of the Gallup strengths based assessment tool that identified each person's individual strengths. Combining their insight into their core values and strengths, each active brother created their own personal mission statement.

Focus on Chapter

As part of different groups, each Sig then sought to understand how their individual strengths and values could work in conjunction with other brothers in their group and ultimately as a chapter. This process allowed the brothers to determine how they could best work together leveraging their individual capabilities.

Focus on Community

The second day concluded with the teams all identifying various activities/events that could benefit the Purdue and broader community. Each group of undergrads presented their ideas to the larger group with the goal to implement one of them in the fall semester.



Sigs at Sigma Chi Leadership Training

Alumni Support Key To Derby Days, Grand Prix Success

Delta Delta put on a fun and successful Derby Days fundraiser from April 10-14. Events were held at the house and on campus throughout the week.

These included a dodgeball tournament, tug of war competition, talent show, trivia contest, and a field day featuring an inflatable joust, dunk tank, and other field events. Ten sororities took part this year which was two more than last year.



Sig coaches cheer on their teams.

\$54K Raised to Fight Cancer

The sororities, brothers and their families, local businesses and alumni raised \$27,000 in support of cancer research. With a corporate match, our total donation to the Huntsman Cancer Institute was \$54,000. Overall, the international fraternity will raise over \$2.5M for HCI in 2023.

Grand Prix 2023 Experience

This year our Grand Prix kart drivers were Brendan Trent '23, who drove our veteran kart, and Eddie Becker '25 raced our rookie kart. Brendan qualified 18th in the veteran kart, but unfortunately Eddie did not qualify for the race this year.

During the race Brendan made his way from his starting position of 18th to 8th place when our kart had a flat tire 3/4 of the way through the race. After replacing the tire, Brendan came out in the 15th spot and was able to make his way back



Seniors Ryder Elitharp and Brendan Trent led our Grand Prix teams.

up to 13th when we ran out of time and the race ended.

Alumni Support Appreciated

Ryder Elitharp '23, who has led our Grand Prix efforts for the past two years, has also competed in his last Grand Prix. Ryder would like to thank all our dedicated alumni who continue to financially support our GP teams. Your support has been instrumental in our ongoing participation and success.

ALUMNI NEWS ALUMNI NEWS ALUMNI NEWS

59 Years and Counting. The Class of '63 Returns.

When you get to be a certain age, you look for almost any opportunity to get together with your pledge brothers. The Class of '63 did just that when they returned to Purdue the weekend of October 14 - 16, 2022 to celebrate their 59th reunion and recognize one of their own with a Significant Sig award.

Eight brothers of this era started their reunion by meeting for dinner Friday evening, perusing through old photos and memories; saw a presentation on the origins of Bowling on the Green; and recognized one of their own. This gathering was held in Purdue's new Convergence Building located on State Street. It was a great setting for a catered dinner and a chance to mingle with the brothers, wives, and other guests. Bill Vahle, with the assistance of Jill Anderson from Purdue for Life, made the arrangements.

Jim Lopeman '63 was presented with his Significant Sig plaque by Phil Steele '77. Phil highlighted Jim's outstanding career in the petroleum industry and the impact he had on several companies and communities.

Jill Anderson from Purdue for Life (formerly the Purdue Alumni Association) then gave a brief update on campus events before leading the group with a hearty version of "Hail Purdue".



Congratulating Jim Lopeman on his Significant Sig award are (L-R) Bill Weigel '63, Doug Wilton '63, Bill Frey '62, Honoree Jim Lopeman '63, Stan Collins '63, Nick Fritsch '63 and Ralph Kuhnert '63.

Chapter and Campus Memories

With the kickoff time for the Purdue - Wisconsin game on Saturday not until 7:30 pm, the brothers had time for a leisurely breakfast and then they converged on the Sig House at 3:00, taking a few pictures and nosing around. Doug Wilton commented, "Most of the active members had left for their tailgates near the stadium, so the house was unusually quiet. While it doesn't quite seem like the same old house, there are still plenty of memories associated with it. I'm glad we took the time to visit."

Jill Anderson arranged to meet the Class of '63 brothers and spouses

at the Dauch Alumni Center, where they enjoyed pizza, reviews of the 1963 *Debris*, and photo ops featuring a replica of the Boilermaker Special. Some of the group went to the game, while others chose supper at McGraw's and watching the game in Lopeman's toasty room at the Best Western Plus in Crawfordsville.

Sunday morning everyone said their farewells, and headed their individual ways, agreeing to reassemble after a year or two. Doug Wilton remarked, "If we wait too long there might not be a critical mass of us remaining."

Chapter Eternal

"All honor to their names"

Essell L. Bever '57, Flower Mound, TX 9-2-22

James Lemert '57, Washington, D.C. 5-5-22

Carl H. Ritter, Jr. '58, Merritt Island, FL 2022

Gordon D. Skeoch '60, Anderson, IN 9-22

Thomas E. Kramer '72, Jupiter, FL 12-13-22

Paul Lavignette '76, West Lafayette, IN 10-30-22

Guy M. East '82, Westfield, IN 12-27-22

Jeffrey C. Serrano '04, Anchorage, AK 10-22

Colin Schmidt '12, Columbus, IN 11-10-22

YOUR CLASSMATES WANT NEWS FROM YOU!

Engagements, Weddings, Births, Deaths, New Jobs, New Homes, Promotions, Fraternity functions.
Send details and photos to be included in the Delta Delta Data.

Include your name, class year, email address and details and photos of your event or activity.

Email News Notes to Phil Steele at steele202@comcast.net

ALUMNI AND UNDERGRADUATE UPDATES AT WWW.THESIGHOUSE.COM

Purdue Renames Course in Honor of Cosler '77



In their January 2023 meeting the Purdue University Board of Trustees approved the co-naming of the Kampen Golf Course to become Kampen-Cosler Course at the Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex. The new naming recognizes the generosity of Significant Sig Steve Cosler '77 and his wife, Lynne, for their support of Purdue Athletics and the John Purdue Club. Steve received his management degree in 1977 and as an undergraduate was a member of the Purdue Men's golf team.

Course Has Special Meaning

"While growing up in West Lafayette, I learned to play golf on Purdue courses," said Cosler. "The 'North' course has special meaning to me, as it was the site of the last competitive round my dad saw me play before his passing in 1973 after a short battle with cancer. Lynne and I love Purdue, and all that it has meant to our family, so we are thrilled to be able to support keeping

the Kampen Course as one of the premier college golf courses in the country."

"The Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex is truly a special place with a rich history," said Rob Bradley, Director of Golf and Head Men's Golf Coach. "We have two championship courses that are capable of holding prestigious championships for years to come. We are so grate-



Steve and Lynne Cosler

ful for the contributions made by Steve and Lynne Cosler and honored to include their name on the course. The renovations to the Kampen-Cosler Course they supported will ensure that it remains one of the best and most challenging university golf courses in the country."

Our Delta Delta Alumni golf outing will be played this year on the Kampen-Cosler course. We look forward to taking on this challenging course.

The original construction of Kampen Course was made possible by the generosity of the family of the late Emerson Kampen. Kampen received an honorary doctorate in management from Purdue and served on the Purdue University Board of Trustees from 1990 until his passing in 1995.

Make Sure We Have Your Email Address

If you are not receiving our monthly Chapter Updates via email then we must not have your email address.

Stay connected to all that is going on at Delta Delta by sending your current email address to Phil Steele at steele202@comcast.net.