



The Undergraduate brothers of the Lambda Iota Chapter are happy to bring to you, once again, another edition of *The Russell Street Review*.

◆ From the Cabinet

The Spring 2022 semester began with concerns of a new COVID outbreak as leaders at Purdue and globally warned about potentially ramping up COVID restrictions. Luckily, the increase in cases on campus and around the country subsided and Purdue lifted the mask mandate in all classroom spaces midway through the semester. With COVID officially a thing of the past, the brothers at Phi Gamma Delta revived pre-COVID traditions with an extremely eventful semester and demonstrated success in every facet of life at Purdue.

The semester kicked off with 31 brothers attending the Mortar Board Leadership Academy, teaching them leadership skills necessary to follow in the footsteps of many great Lambda Iota's. A few



Spring 2022 3v3 Basketball IM Champions, Mar. 2022

weeks later, the 2025 pledge class was initiated - just in time to participate in our Purple Garter Formal. Brothers each brought a date and stayed in the Music City for two nights, topped off with a formal dance - exclusive to brothers and their dates. This trip was made possible by the tireless effort of Purple Garter Coordinator Nick Mutchner (2022) and graduate brothers Sam and AJ DiCarlo (2016).

With the return of intramural sports, Lambda Iota Fiji resumed dominance on the court, sand, and field. This Spring, we had numerous teams competing in basketball, sand volleyball, soccer, and ultimate frisbee, with multiple teams making deep playoff runs including reaching the sand volleyball finals and 3v3 basketball champions.

In August, the Cabinet looks forward to the 174th Ekklesia, Phi Gamma Delta's biennial convention, which will be held in Washington D.C. We plan on sending three undergraduate delegates and are excited to meet delegates from other chapters and discuss matters critical to the fraternity.

The chapter remains in good standing with Purdue and the Interfraternity Council while being an example of excellence for other fraternities. With 30 graduating seniors in the class of 2022, we will have a total of 86 active brothers to begin the fall semester and plan for 55 brothers living in the house. We are looking forward to building the class of 2026 behind the lead of Recruitment Chair Zander Klekovkin (2023) and molding them into true gentlemen of quality (for more information, read below).

The cabinet and chapter appreciates the continued support from Purple Legionnaire Bill Miller, the House Corporation including President Chris Burke, and graduate brothers Tim Sarhage, Sam and AJ DiCarlo among others. The support and knowledge of these graduate brothers allows for the continuation of traditions and other events at a high level.

After nearly two years plagued by COVID restrictions, the Boilermaker Fiji's are full steam ahead and looking forward to a great semester including football, fun, and most importantly, brotherhood.

◆ **Brother Spotlight**

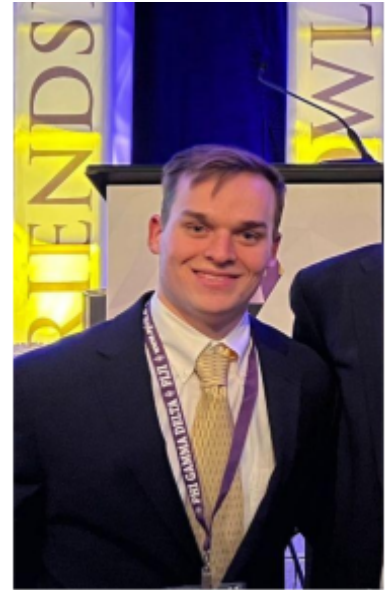
Excellence can be defined as a state of possessing good qualities in an eminent degree, exalted merit, and superiority in virtue. Brother William Kenneth Crawford (2024) exhibits these qualities daily in class, work, and as a brother of Phi Gamma Delta. Born on January 23rd, 2002 in Carmel, Indiana with twin brother Michael, Will grew up in Carmel and attended Carmel High School. He is now a rising Junior at Purdue University studying Electrical Engineering Technology. Will is a truly excellent individual, achieving highly in the classroom, being well involved in extracurricular activities, and creating a network of caring and supporting friends.

Academically, Will excels in his coursework. In high school, Will was drawn to programming and working hands-on with anything involving electricity. Fittingly, he decided to study electrical engineering technology and has achieved an impressive 3.78 GPA at Purdue. After graduation, Will wants to code microchips for robots to do things that humans cannot. Last summer, he worked for Gaylor Electric using a CAD program called Revit to design the CVG Amazon airport and perform renovations on Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

Outside the classroom, Will is very involved on campus. He supplements the programming learned in class as a member of the Association of IT Professionals. This club hosts an annual hackathon competition for students to work on practical and intriguing coding problems hosted by companies such as Caterpillar, John Deere and other large companies. Will is also involved in Purdue Dance Marathon (PUDM), which stems from being an executive board member of Carmel Dance Marathon (CDM) at Carmel High School. Through CDM, Will facilitated raising over \$5,000 to support Riley Children's Hospital. In Fall 2021, Will raised over \$3,000 through PUDM. Next semester, Will is going to be a part of the logistics committee of PUDM.

In Will's free time, he plays on numerous house intramural teams including basketball, volleyball, and soccer. He frequently plays pickup basketball in the house parking lot or the Corec and is known for his tenacious defending and unrelenting effort. No matter the opponent nor the score, Will can revitalize a team with his energetic and uplifting nature.

As studious scholar, courageous leader, driven professional, and loyal friend, Will Crawford truly exhibits what it means to be excellent, and what it means to be a brother of Phi Gamma Delta.



Will at the 2022 Fiji Leadership Academy, Jan. 2022

◆ **Upcoming Events**

We are eager to welcome graduates back to campus and to 640 North Russell Street. Below is the 2022 Purdue Football Home Schedule.

September 1st - Purdue vs. Penn State

September 10th - Purdue vs. Indiana State

September 24th - Purdue vs. Florida Atlantic (Homecoming)

October 15th - Purdue vs. Nebraska (Purdue Parents Weekend)

November 5th - Purdue vs. Iowa (Dad's Day)

November 19th - Purdue vs. Northwestern

◆ **Philanthropy**

This past spring semester, the brothers of the Lambda Iota chapter continued our involvement in improving the Purdue and West Lafayette communities through philanthropy events. Led by philanthropy chairs Lindy Parr (2023) and Matt Bigelow (2023), the house collectively raised over \$4,000. In early April, brothers worked with the sisters of Kappa Alpha Theta for the first annual CASA Carnival event. This event took place in the Theta parking lot and benefitted the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) organization. Participants could buy tickets for carnival games including ring toss and cornhole and carnival food such as cotton candy and hot dogs. Helped by one of the first fair weather afternoons of the spring, the CASA Carnival raised \$3,650 in total. Later that month, brothers constructed a mini golf course inside the house for our annual Fiji Putt Putt philanthropy event. The 9-hole mini golf course spanned the second and third floors and raised over \$575 to benefit the Bigelow Open and Pancreatic Cancer research.



Brothers Matt Bigelow (left) and Lindy Parr (right) at CASA Carnival, Apr. 2022

◆ **Rush**

Hello Phi Gamma Delta family! My name is Zander Klekovkin and I am thrilled to be representing the Lambda Iota chapter of Phi Gamma Delta as the Recruitment Chair for Fall 2022 Rush. Due to my experience as assistant rush chair last year and a great team of support behind me, I am confident that we are going to have a great recruitment for the class of 2026. As you may know, this is our only rush season of the academic year and each fall we look to build a pledge class of 30-35 young men. This year, our vision is to seek and cultivate a talented and balanced pledge class who will not only form lifelong friendships as a result of membership, but also will allow for individual flourishing and a second place to call home. The Lambda Iota Chapter holds members to a high standard while challenging them to be leaders within their family and their community. With this being said, we have officially begun the recruitment season for the 2022 Fall Rush. We take great consideration from recommendations coming from Graduate Brothers and would love for you to reach out to us with yours. My email is aklekovk@purdue.edu and I look forward to starting a conversation! I will be studying abroad until the end of July, but I promise to reply to your message within a reasonable time (In the meantime, you can contact Alex Hanna at hanna35@purdue.edu or 203-940-3234). Rush happens in the first two weeks of the Fall semester, so be sure to reach out this summer or early next Fall. A full rush schedule will be posted to the [@purdue.fiji](https://www.instagram.com/purdue.fiji) instagram later this summer.

◆ **Graduate Relations**

Are you or your class planning an upcoming trip to campus? The chapter loves hosting graduate brothers, touring them through the updated chapter facility, and hearing stories of their time at Purdue! The Graduate Relations committee will accept any input regarding graduate focused communication or events including next year's Pig Dinner or any other trips to campus. Please contact Alex Hanna (2024) at hanna35@purdue.edu, with any questions or suggestions!



THE FRATERNITY OF

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Phi Gamma Delta:
Not for College Days Alone

◆ Fiji Racing

This year's race was nothing short of amazing for the Fiji Racing team. We placed fourth, a remarkable accomplishment for a team that had not raced in nearly two decades, and our driver, Caden Taylor, won rookie of the year. We are excited to see him grow as a driver and a person in the next three years. The fraternity could not have asked for a better team or support from the Purdue Fiji Family. Despite facing a new obstacle around every corner, the team was never daunted and found the best solution rather than giving up. It is with their unbelievable determination that we can look back and be proud of our results this season. It must also be noted that this incredibly positive experience for the team would not be possible without the generous and unwavering support of our sponsors.

The Fiji Racing team would like to give a special thanks (in no particular order) to

Dr. Chris Burke	Stoney Creek
Bill Miller	AHM Consulting
Brekke Realty	Team Brock
Wings Etc.	Fiji Class of '74
Muinzer Management	Milwaukee Tools

The team would also like to give a special shout out to graduate brother Bennett Taylor who donated an insane amount of time and money. The team truly couldn't have done it without him.

With one year under our belts, the Fiji Racing team looks forward to next year's Grand Prix and has a podium finish in sight.



Fiji Racing Team with their Trophies, Apr. 2022

Questions about the chapter? Please contact the Fiji President at president@purduefiji.com or 203-940-3234.

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