

THE RUSSELL STREET REVIEW



The Lambda Iota Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta

Spring 2020

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 cabinet is pleased to report that The Lambda Iota Chapter at Purdue University continues to be an exemplary chapter, preserving the good name of Phi Gamma Delta through their propensity towards the 5 pillars which this Fraternity was founded upon. Perhaps the most notable being service. The Lambda Iota chapter continues to serve its community through their partnership with the Habitat for Humanity organization in Lafayette. This partnership has entailed a multitude of service projects ranging from the construction of wheelchair ramps to the pouring of concrete footers that would soon become the foundation of a new house. In this partnership our chapter has been able to truly live out our calling to serve and be of service. In addition, the chapter also continues to excel academically. This past semester, the chapter obtained a 3.08 GPA which ranked 18th among 42 Fraternities on Purdue's campus. This grade point average also surpassed the all men's average GPA as well as the average fraternity GPA. This chapter continues to be at the forefront of academic prestige on Purdue's Campus. The chapter hopes to carry this momentum into the new semester and is looking forward to welcoming brothers back on campus in the Fall!

♦ Coronavirus

In light of the many national, state, and local guidelines surrounding COVID-19, Purdue moved to 100% remote classes from spring break through the remainder of the year, and the brothers living at 640 reluctantly packed up their belongings and headed home. With that being said, the brotherhood is certainly as strong as ever as brothers continue to be there for one another as we recognize that certain members have been affected more than others during this difficult time.

Brother Samuel Smith '21, from Medina, WA, decided to not go home when in-person classes were cancelled due to the state of the greater Seattle area and Coronavirus. Luckily for him, his Pledge Brother, Ben Uhrig from Carmel, IN, was more than happy to take him in and spend the quarantine with him! This is just one example of how no matter what comes between us as brothers, we will always be there for one another, and reiterating that friendship is of course the sweetest influence.

For the fall semester, while it is still unclear exactly how exactly campus life will be impacted by this virus, it is evident that Purdue is committed to bringing students back to campus and is willing to make adjustments to make it happen! Purdue has already made some adjustments to ensure the safety of both staff and students, including cancelling fall break and moving to remote instruction after Thanksgiving break to deter students from traveling to and from campus, as well as setting a goal to have at least one-third of Purdue employees working remotely. Additionally, Purdue is looking at 150+ other possible changes to ensure safety for everyone on campus.

It is still unclear how all these changes will impact those living in Fraternities and Sororities, but the cabinet and leadership team at Lambda Iota is committed to opening the house this fall and welcoming everyone back with open arms. We may need to get creative, but if Purdue is open, so will 640 North Russell!

♦ The Return of FIJI Putt-Putt!

The brothers of Lambda Iota were pleased to bring back the annual philanthropy event, FIJI Putt-Putt. On Thursday March 6th, the brothers hosted over 200 attendees to a round of 9 throughout the chapter facility and raised over \$1000 for Habitat for Humanity of Lafayette! Attendees were mesmerized by the 'creativeness' of the different holes, and all who came agreed it was one of the most unique philanthropy events they had been a part of.

The money raised will go to supporting our new partnership with Habitat for Humanity which consists of funding and constructing wheelchair ramps and supplying extra labor on other projects as needed. In the fall, we were able to build our first ramp for a local woman who was paralyzed from the waist down. Without this ramp, she was unable to get into or out of her home on her own. With the help from Lambda Iota, this woman now is free to enjoy the outside as much as she likes! She was very thankful for the support from our chapter and very complimentary of the brothers she met! Brothers also spent a number of weekends in the late fall and early spring preparing a lot in Wolcott, IN where two new homes are planned to be built this upcoming summer. This new partnership has opened the brotherhood up to a multitude of service opportunities and we cannot wait to continue it come fall!

Brother Spotlight

Every couple of issues, we like to highlight an individual brother for their contributions to Lambda Iota. In this issue, we'll be highlighting Brother Colin Zeh, PC 21. Colin, hailing from West Lafayette, IN, pledged as a Sophomore after transferring to Purdue following a one-year D-III football career at Carthage College in Wisconsin. Zeh knew he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps (Jeff Zeh, Lambda Iota '92) and accepted his invitation to join Phi Gamma Delta! It wouldn't be long before Colin became heavily involved in the fraternity as well as on campus.

After Colin's first year at Purdue, he earned an Army ROTC scholarship for his commitment to the program and excellent performance. The following year, he served as the Pledge Educator for Lambda Iota and worked diligently with PC 22 to ensure that their pledge class was held accountable for all that needed to get done! After serving as Pledge Ed, Zeh became more involved in ROTC, serving as the Command Sergeant Major the fall of his senior year and as a Platoon Leader this past spring. In addition to his leadership positions, there are two thing you are guaranteed with Zeh. 1. Scorching hot sports takes such as "Dakota Mathias is a better shooter than Kyle Korver," and 2. That the conversation will end talking about football.

Zeh, who will be graduating this spring, will be fulfilling his ROTC duties and serving our nation as a part of the 101st Air Assault unit at Fort Campbell Kentucky. All of the brothers can agree that Colin's leadership and presence in the chapter is unrivaled, and that he has certainly impacted us all. Graduate Relations Correspondent, Ben Uhrig '21, shared via GroupMe, "Not one person I can think of that I look up to more as a leader but also can sit and have a beer with." Former and current cabinet members agreed in that they could always count on Zeh whenever something needed to get done. After his time in the Army, Zeh hopes to "coach football at the highest level possible." When asked what his favorite part of FIJI is, Colin answered with the most cliché answer possible, "the guys."

Colin is one of Lambda Iota's most loyal brothers, and we know he will go on to achieve great things! Best of luck as you start this new journey and remember that all of us will always be here for you!

- Chapter Awards
 - o Beta Graduate Chapter State Day
 - Most Improved Chapter Runner up
 - Most Outstanding New Member Jack DeWolf '23
 - o Purdue Greek Honors Night Awards
 - Interfraternity Council Scholar of the year Nick Frawley '21
 - Interfraternity Council Brother of the year Zach Mutchner '21
 - Interfraternity Council Outstanding Chapter President Liam Bettez '21
 - o Purdue Student Activities and Organizations' Awards
 - Emerging Leader Award Jack DeWolf '23
- ♦ Campus Involvements: The brothers of Lambda Iota are involved all over campus! This goes to show the chapter is not only thriving internally, but across Purdue's campus as well. Below are just a few of the many organizations are brothers dedicate time to outside the fraternity.
 - o Aviation Ambassadors: Andrew Bettner
 - o Black Cultural Center: Gideon Lawson
 - o Campus House Servant Council: Zach Mutchner and Jacob Ruby
 - o Chi Epsilon: Pat Sowinski, Peter Treesh and Liam Bettez
 - o Engineers without Borders: Kyle Wisler, Zach Butz, and Nate Droessler
 - o Gimlet Leadership Honorary: Pat Sowinski, Nolan Ellsbury, and Jacob Clidence
 - o Global Engineering Brigades: Colin Merriott (Co-founder)
 - o Green Greeks: Yash Singh and Kevin Sarhage
 - o Interfraternity Council: Liam Bettez (President) and Zach Mutchner (Justice)
 - o Mortarboard Senior Honor Society: Liam Bettez (Class of 2021 Inductee)
 - o Rising Professionals: Nate Droessler (Host)
 - Student Managed Investment Fund: Shota Tsuda (Undergraduate Executive), Jack Deahl and Mark Prechtel
 - o Teaching Assistant: Jack Deahl (Venture Capital and Financial Management)
- ♦ **BROTHERS AT WORK:** Amidst the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, brothers were still successful in locking up full-time and internship offers for this summer and beyond! Here is a list of some of the many different companies and locations our brothers are headed!

Jack Deahl (Full-time, Crowe – Indianapolis), Nolan Ellsbury (Full-time, Raytheon Technologies – Aurora, CO), Jade Fisher (Full-time, Lockheed Martin - Golden, CO), Sam Heneseley (Full-time, McCarthy Building Company - San Fransisco, CA), Dan Hipskind (Full-time, Lockheed Martin – Littleton, CO), Collin Noll (Full-time, Calhoun Construction – Louisville, KY), Mark Prechtel (Full-time, Zimmer Biomet – Warsaw, IN), Tim Sarhage (Full-time, Supervisor of Operations, Purdue Baseball - West Lafayette, IN), Peter Treesh (HNTB, Indianapolis, IN), Michael Bamrick (Shiel Sexton – Indianapolis, IN), Thomas Crocker (Delphi Technologies – Kokomo, IN), Liam Bettez (ARCO/Murray – Chicago, IL), Jon Maddox (Perry Foam Products - Lafayette, IN), Zachary Mutchner (Red Gold – Elwood, IN), Konner Hamilton (Pepper Construction - Indianapolis, IN), Jacob Ruby (Zimmer Biomet – Warsaw, IN), Sam Smith (Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, IN), Nate Droessler

(OSF St. Anthony Medical Center - Rockford, IL), **Drew Gray** (Pepper Construction – Chicago, IL), **Ryan Gray** (Pepper Construction – Chicago, IL), **Mike Maglio** (Raytheon Technologies – Andover, MA), **Colin Merriott** (Reynolds – Atlanta, GA), **Sean Evans** (Birge and Held Property's – Indianapolis, IN)

♦ Graduate Relations

Are you or your class planning an upcoming trip to campus? The chapter loves hosting graduate brothers, touring them around the updated chapter facility, and sharing 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 Graduate Relations Chairman Liam Bettez at liambettez@yahoo.com, with any questions or suggestions!

♦ New Initiates

We are proud to inform you all that our spring semester brought us the pledge class of 2023, comprised of 30 fine young men in their freshman or sophomore year. We are pleased to be joined by 7 legacies and brothers from coast to coast (Portland, OR to Marshfield, MA). This diverse group has already shown great promise, and we cannot wait to see the impact they have on the chapter!

♦ Recruitment

Lambda Iota is looking forward to our upcoming rush which will begin at the start of the next school year. We would like to give our graduate brothers a chance to participate in rush, and we feel that your recommendations will directly result in quality young men coming to Phi Gamma Delta. If there are any young men that you feel live up to the ideals of Friendship, Knowledge, Service, Morality, and Excellence, please feel free to contact our Recruitment Chair Jon Maddox '21. He can be contacted via mail at the house address, email (rushpurduefiji@gmail.com), or by phone (765-418-6257) <u>It is important that we receive recommendations as soon as possible, recruitment starts the Sunday before class, and happens very quickly!</u> We are grateful for your assistance and anticipate another strong rush!

Please contact Liam Bettez with any questions or comments at: <u>liambettez@vahoo.com</u>

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