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Stanford HEALTH CARE STANFORD NEDICINE SPRING 2020





Mu Chapter Update on Recent Events

By Sigma Pi Mu Chapter Alumni Board

The alumni board of Mu Chapter has been working closely with the undergraduate e-board during these unprecedented times to implement the directives from Cornell University regarding the shutdown of the campus and transition to virtual classes this spring. We agree with Cornell that the highest priority must be the health and welfare of students and the larger Cornell community. Mu Chapter followed Cornell's directive to close the fraternity during this health crisis.

Cornell canceled all academic instruction on March 13, requiring students to leave campus and to return to their permanent residences to complete their semester online. Online classes and instruction began on April 6.

A special thanks to Sage **Chris Cavanaugh '21**, Vice President **Mat Pullano '21**, and the e-board members, whose leadership was key to a successful and orderly move-out process in a very difficult and challenging environment. They were assisted by Elevate, our fraternity services partner, in the room check-out process.

Alumni Kitchen and Dining Chair

Steve Pirozzi '80, in partnership with Steward **Drew Mangan '22** and the cook, Pat, worked diligently to wind down, clean, close, and secure the kitchen and dining operations.

John Haggerty '78, alumni corporation treasurer, worked with Adi Ramachandran '21, house treasurer, and our accounting firm to ensure that undergraduates who lived and/or took meals in the house would receive appropriate financial credit for the shortened semester. Rent refunds of 40% of the semester cost are being processed through the Cornell bursar.

Many of the undergrads dealt with various challenges in terms of getting home safely, only then to face challenges in their local communities and, in some cases, families dealing with the serious risks from COVID-19.

A number of the undergraduate brothers were finalizing summer internships or, in the case of seniors, jobs post-graduation. The Sigma Pi Educational Foundation and the Alumni Career Committee have sent out a survey to all undergrads on the status of jobs or internships impacted by the pandemic. No surprise that there were a number of students who needed assistance due to jobs/internships being cancelled. If you are interested in possibly speaking with undergrads about internship and career opportunities etc., please email **Sackett Terry '21** at **swt53@cornell.edu**.

For the seniors in particular, we understand this is an especially difficult time with the loss of senior spring at the Pi house and graduation on Memorial Day weekend. Cornell is hoping that the health crisis will not impact scheduling graduation at some unspecified future date. Once things are clarified, we will make efforts to reopen the house for the seniors and their families.

Reunion 2020 was also cancelled. Mu Chapter is offering the Reunion classes of 0s and 5s to either celebrate at fall Homecoming, September 25–26, or to join with the Reunion classes of 2021 next year, June 10-13, 2021. For more information, visit the Reunion page on our website.

The Mu Chapter alumni board would like to thank the undergraduates, parents, alumni, and friends for your cooperation and assistance during this challenging time. We would also like to express our hope that each of you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy.

Sigma Pi Brothers and Family Making a Difference

BERT HURLBUT '74

Vice President, New Stanford Hospital Construction, SHC

Alum **Bert Hurlbut '74** finished construction of the New Stanford Hospital in Palo Alto just before his retirement. The timing of the opening couldn't have been planned any better. He led a construction team of over a thousand workers on site for the completion of the 368-bed facility.



Burt Hurtlbut with PPE.

Stanford started treating patients in mid-November, about four months before the big crunch hospital for beds, and the facility is up and humming and doing well. Bert is now hunkered down at home, rebuilding a fence in



Burt signing the beam.

his backyard, which, he jokes, might take as long as it did to finish the hospital.

NICK VOJNOVIC '81

President, Little Greek franchise

Nick has made it his mission to provide hot meals to students of the University of Southern Florida who are experiencing food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "The university has supported my company so much, so I want to give back," Vojnovic said. "When I saw an article about the Feed-A-Bull food pantry running short on food I said, 'We can help that."

JOHN SCHOR '83

Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeon and Chair, Dept of Surgery, Verde Valley Medical Center, Cottonwood, Arizona

"Running low on PPE. First pic is from Home Depot, second pic is homemade hat and mask, and the last pic is from the Darth Vader Collection. We are at a small community hospital in Northern Arizona. We've been busy with many patients from the Navajo reservation, which sadly has one of the highest infection rates in the U.S. As a side note, my wife has insisted that I wear my mask even while I'm home. Guess she's had enough of my face the last 20 years. Take care all."



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ALAN ROSEN '91

As coronavirus sparked layoffs across the New York City region, the bulk of the first wave consisted of hospitality workers.



Alan Rosen (on left in image), owner of Junior's Restaurant, bumps elbows with an employee who picked up a paycheck.

SETH MOSNER '10

Seth Mosner and family work to keep the food chain going. A statement from Mosner Family Brands states:

"If you're in the food industry, especially at the wholesale level, NYC's Hunts Point Markets and their many meat, seafood, and produce companies have likely been connected to your experience. We're known to be many things, but what we really are is a group of several hundred business owners and thousands of local-mostly Bronx-based-employees working daily to service the largest, most fast-paced and demanding food market in the world. Thank you to The New Yorker for spotlighting the spirit of the workforce that has kept our essential businesses running during this unprecedented crisis. It's not a miracle that our food supply has remained strong throughout the last two months, despite the dynamic challenges Mosner Family Brands and our neighbors have faced. It's been the result of tremendous perseverance and courage on the part of the men and women who have come to work every day to meet the needs of our communities. Their dedication, along with the other food manufacturing, transportation, and distribution workers around the country, deserves our recognition and gratitude."



CAROLINE MOTSCHWILLER '14

Caroline Motschwiller, former Sigma Pi Sweetheart, is at NYU/Bellevue as a pulmonary and critical care fellow. She is spending all her waking hours in the ICU and ER, providing care to those patients infected with COVID-19. Caroline is a daughter of Mu Chapter brother **Donald Motschwiller**, and his wife, Amy, who are both class of 1980 grads.

NICK WINT '15



Above left, Tania Gazarian, mother of **Nick Wint '15**, giving the two thumbs up. Tania works at Elmhurst Hospital in Queens, New York, which was the epicenter for the COVID-19 crisis in New York City. The hospital was hit so hard that President Donald Trump spoke about it in one of his daily COVID-19 briefings.

JOSEPH MANZI '16

MD candidate, Class of 2021, Weill Cornell Medical College

My role has been based in research. I am working on three different projects:

 PREVENTION: BCG treatment is used in patients with certain types of bladder cancer, as well as a TB prevention shot in other countries, and has possible immune boosting effects that might prevent contraction of the virus/ serious illness. I am studying patient popu-

lations who've received this medication and observing if their incidence of COVID illness is less than the normal population.

- MANAGEMENT: Correlating certain blood biomarkers with severity of COVID ICU patients with potential applications to physician decision-making in patient care.
- TREATMENT: You might have heard of the drug Remdesivir in the news as a

potential treatment for the virus. My team and I are currently in clinical trials, giving the drug to patients at NYP and studying effectiveness and clinical safety of the drug. My job involves monitoring a handful of patients' kidney, liver, and heart functions to assess the safety profile of the drug and ultimately to see if there is a mortality benefit.

CHRISTIAN ZOLLNER '16

PhD Candidate, Corona Research, University of California, Santa Barbara

As COVID-19 continues to ravage global populations, the world is singularly focused on finding ways to battle the novel coronavirus. That includes UC Santa Barbara's Solid State Lighting



& Energy Electronics Center (SSLEEC) and member companies. Researchers there are developing ultraviolet LEDs that have the ability to decontaminate surfaces—and potentially air and water—that have come in contact with the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

"One major application is in medical situations: the disinfection of personal protective equipment, surfaces, floors, within the HVAC systems, et cetera," explains Zollner, whose work centers on advancing deep ultraviolet light LED technology for sanitation and purification purposes. Read more about this resarch at https://tinyurl.com/Zollner-SigmaPi.



Brother **Cal McKinney '20** offers cooking classes for kids during coronavirus.

https://tinyurl.com/CalCooks



Sigma Pi Legacy Leadership

STEVE DECKER '85 AND SON, ARTHUR DECKER '22, NEWLY ELECTED SAGE

Steven Decker '85 is from Staten Island, New York, and attended Cornell's ILR school. From Cornell, he went on to Brooklyn Law School and now practices law at his own practice in Staten Island. During his time at Cornell, Steve served as a pledge trainer on the executive board for Sigma Pi and held a number of minor board positions.

Arthur Decker '22 is a rising junior in the Hotel School and the newly elected sage of Mu Chapter for the 2020-21 academic year. He served as one of three rush chairs last year, and was pledge class president for the Spring 2019 PC. In their free time, both Steve and Arthur love watching sports and trading stories of life in the Pi house, which has changed in some ways since Steve lived there and not at all in others.

Steve, why did you decide to join Sigma Pi?

STEVE: I joined as a sophomore and was deciding between three houses at the time, but I connected most with the Sigma Pi brothers and felt the most comfortable there.

What are some of your favorite memories during your college days?

STEVE: I really enjoyed the pledge banquet my sophomore year—Rock n' Roll Tea was always a blast—and particularly hanging out with my brothers down by the kitchen.

Are there any specific values that you believe where cultivated during your undergraduate education that have made a major impact on who you are today?

STEVE: I would say that loyalty was the biggest one. I learned what it meant for people to have my back and to support me no matter what I was going through.

What was it like as a father during the college selection process, trying to advise Arthur on where to attend?

STEVE: Well, I always hoped that Arthur would go to an Ivy League school, and because I think Cornell is the best, I always wanted him to go to Cornell. Even if I didn't say it to him, that was always my hope, and so I was thrilled when he got into Cornell.

Could you ever have dreamed that your son would decide to join the brother-hood of Mu Chapter?

STEVE: Arthur was always a leader growing up: mature for his age and cared



for others. Once I knew he was active in the pledge class and became pledge class president, I thought it was a possibility and would be a great next step for him to become Sage.

Did you hold any offices?

STEVE: I was the pledge trainer my senior year. We didn't call it a "herald" back then.

What made Sigma Pi special to you, and why were you so excited for your son to experience it himself?

STEVE: I had a lot of friends at Cornell, but all the people I continue to keep in touch with are my brothers. I still have five or six whom I talk to on a regular basis; I look forward to seeing them and hearing about their lives. When I saw that Arthur wanted to go to Cornell, I reached out to some of my brothers and found that everyone was willing to help in any way they could. Additionally, seeing all that **Jarett Wait '80** and the alumni board have done with career treks to New York City and organizing various opportunities for undergrads to land jobs made me excited for him to experience it.

What do you believe are Arthur's strengths as a leader?

STEVE: Arthur is intelligent, he's



caring, he worries about others, he is very cautious in many ways, and he is willing to put himself on the line for others.

Arthur, what attracted you to Sigma Pi?

ARTHUR: I think there's a unique combination of fun, loyalty, and dedication to academics and career prospects instilled in the Sigma Pi culture. I saw this early on from the upperclassmen and felt that they were the sort of men I wanted to be in four years.

Were there any stories that you heard during your childhood that impacted wanting to follow in your dad's footsteps?

ARTHUR: I can't point to a particular story, but I do remember walking through the Pi house with my father during my senior year of high school while visiting Cornell. He was so excited to be back, and for the rest of the day launched into story after story about Dolly, **Jim Keene '57**, and afternoons on the beach. It all made me feel connected to the house and was a big reason why I chose Cornell.

As the newly elected sage, what are your goals for the next year? How do you plan on accomplishing them?

ARTHUR: Next year, my biggest priorities are to have a strong rush class and to keep risk management at the stellar level that Sage **Chris Cavanaugh '21** has set for the house. Obviously, we're unsure of what the 2020–21 academic year will look like, but I know that the brotherhood will come back excited to see one another and to get back into a normal routine.

What do you believe are your biggest challenges ahead? How do you plan on taking them on?

ARTHUR: I think that adapting to Cornell's new event policies will be difficult at first, yet I know that I have the support of the house in navigating these changes.



The 2020 Adolphus C. Hailstork Prize Recipient: Alex Ewald '20

Every year, Sigma

Pi awards the Adol-

phus Dolly C. Hail-

stork Jr. Brother of the

Year award to a senior

class member of the

chapter. The Brother

of the Year (or BOY)



Alex Ewald

is awarded to honor a brother who has demonstrated his unwavering commitment and unparalleled leadership throughout his time as an active member of the fraternity. This year, the chapter chose Alex Ewald '20 as the recipient.

During his time on campus, Alex made significant contributions to Sigma Pi and the greater Cornell community. During his first two years on campus, he helped lead a team in developing relationships with underprivileged children from local elementary schools with the goal of inspiring academic enthusiasm and helping develop a vision for the future while serving as activity director and transportation director through College Mentors for Kids Inc. As a sophomore, he took the reins of the Philanthropy Chair position, for which he facilitated over 20 community service projects. One of his favorites included hosting a charity volleyball tournament

and cookout, which raised over \$4,000 toward autism awareness.

An avid competitor, Alex has also developed valuable leadership skills on the ice as president, captain, and treasurer of the club hockey team at Cornell. This past year, he tallied 40 points while also balancing the books, which included managing a \$60,000 budget. All of these experiences prepared him for the honor of being elected sage during the 2018-19 academic year. He demonstrated selfless commitment to the betterment of Sigma Pi through his role as an officer and through his role as a brother and friend.

Alex was enrolled in Cornell's College of Arts and Sciences while majoring in economics and minoring in business and computer science. At the time of this article, Alex was still weighing his options regarding his future plans.

During Alex's time in the house, he made innumerable contributions to this organization. The biggest of such was his term as sage. Alex stepped up at a time when no one was willing to take on the responsibility of being president. As sage, he worked extremely hard to ensure that the house was safe and that, while the Cornell community was changing, the brotherhood experience at Sigma Pi remained intact.

Sigma Pi Chef Pat Spirawk Retires

Pat Spirawk, the Sigma Pi fraternity house cook for almost a quarter of a century, has retired. With the support of the alumni board, the undergraduate brothers have decided to use a corporate meal

service provider. beginning in the fall of 2020. This decision was motivated by the increasing need for greater meal service flexibly



Chef Pat, then and now.

and more modern meal and food options. An alumni committee consisting of Felix Tabary '14, Mat Pens '00, and Liviu Risu '98, among others, has begun planning ideas on how the fraternity should recognize and thank Pat for his many years of service and friendship to the brotherhood. Further information will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, if you have any photos, memories, or quotes to share, please send them to felixtabary@gmail.com.



New Regulations Regarding Greek Life Leave Questions

By Peter Muth '74

In January, as students returned from break (it seems a decade ago), the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Life met to update fraternity and sorority leaders on enhanced rules governing Greek social life at Cornell.

A driving force was the October death of Antonio Tsialas, a freshman found dead in Fall Creek Gorge after a "Christmas in October" party at Phi Kappa Psi. Antonio had attended an unauthorized rush event at which freshmen were allegedly required to drink their way through six differently themed rooms, topped off with the forced consumption of a full bottle of vodka.

A lawsuit soon followed in which Cornell, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity Inc., the chapter adviser, and eight fraternity

officers and members were named defendants. Strikingly, the alleged hazing incident occurred the day after Phi Kappa Psi appeared at a university judicial hearing for prior misconduct. A week before Christmas, President Martha Pollock announced a series of "reforms for Greek

slowly squeeze Greek life out of existence. Indeed, when one of the fraternity presidents asked "Can you give me an example of one problem-just one-that arose over the last year on which the existing rules and regulations didn't already work?" OSFL simply responded "We get

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The Greek reception of the "reforms" was less than resounding. The OSFL inadvertently left an impression at the meetings that university's intent was to

lots of phone calls." The fraternity member asked, "Phone calls related to an approved event?" Again, "We get lots of phone calls. Next question."

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Interview with New Alumni Board Director Felix Tabary '14

A Brief Background on Felix:

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: Felix currently works for Riskified, an NYC-based Israeli financial technology company that builds payment-fraud prevention software. Prior to this, he worked at Bloomberg for several years. Felix graduated from Cornell's School of Hotel Administration in 2014.

CORNELL INVOLVEMENT: At Cornell, Felix joined Sigma Pi as a freshman and had several leadership roles, including social chair, rush chair, herald, and vice president. Felix then joined the Interfraternity Council as VP of community relations, acting as a liaison between Cornell's Greek system and Ithaca's community representatives

Q: Why did you decide to become a Sigma Pi brother?

Before coming to Cornell, I hadn't spent much time in the U.S. Fraternities were a very foreign concept to me, but I met a fellow foreign hotelie, Tareq Ali, who showed me that Sigma Pi While there are a lot of memories that stand out, some that I cannot share and some that I can, I'd have to say my favorite memory was our Christmas party in 2011. It was my first semester living in the house as a fully initiated brother, it was getting cold and snowy, and we had a lot to celebrate. Hours before the party, everyone was helping get the house ready, the seniors were in the kitchen making drinks, and the brotherhood gifts were under the giant tree in the West Lounge. There was a very different and special feeling about this event; it was unlike any other party or event we'd organized up until that day. It felt like a family Christmas, except with 40 brothers.

Q: I see you had a history of holding leadership positions as an undergraduate, why did you decide to join the alumni board?

During my undergraduate years, **Jim Keene '57** had a big impact on my understanding of the alumni board. I knew that he was part of a group of older guys who had our best interests in

"During rush week, I would end up back at Sigma Pi every day, and it was the only place where everyone I met was genuinely happy to be there, happy to meet me, and overall very welcoming. I already knew I wanted to be Sigma Pi, and by the end of the new-member education process, I couldn't wait until the following fall semester in order to start living in the same house with all my pledge brothers."

could be my home away from home. During rush week, I would end up back at Sigma Pi every day, and it was the only place where everyone I met was genuinely happy to be there, happy to meet me, and overall very welcoming.

I already knew I wanted to be Sigma Pi, and by the end of the new-member education process, I couldn't wait until the following fall semester in order to start living in the same house with all my pledge brothers.

Q: What does it mean to be a Sigma Pi brother?

To be a Sigma Pi brother means that I share a special bond with a whole host of guys from very different backgrounds, different aspirations, and different life paths. Over time, I also discovered that this connection exists across brothers from pledge classes, spanning multiple decades.

It feels like I have more in common with so many of these guys than I do with my own extended family. That is an incredibly special feeling, one that is hard to put in writing, and I know I am extremely privileged to be able to feel this.

Q: How did your experience as an undergraduate impact who you have become?

Most of my attention and involvement went to Sigma Pi, and a big handful of other extracurricular activities. With hindsight, I probably could have been more diligent with my studies. However, it always felt like time was limited. I wanted to make the most of everything, and Cornell had so much to offer; for the first time, everything was new and exciting, and it was all available in the same place!

That had a pretty big impact on my outlook after college. Today, although my work is important, I try to do as many new things as I can outside of work as often as possible.

Q: So, what's one of your favorite memories from being in the house?

mind-they were looking out for us more than we ever knew-but at the time, I was a bit intimidated.

In the summer of my junior year, I stayed on campus and helped prepare the house for graduation, and I met some brothers from older pledge classes, some of whom were on the alumni board. They made it seem more accessible. When **Jarett Wait '80** asked me if I wanted to get involved, I was honored and excited to have the opportunity to give back to a house that gave me so much.

Q: What do you think you can bring to the board?

Most recently, my contributions to the board have mainly been to offer the perspective of a younger graduate. Beyond that, I hope to make the current undergraduates a bit more comfortable approaching the alumni board, because it feels like my undergraduate experience was perhaps a bit more similar to theirs.

Q: What is your focus as a board member?

I care deeply about the physical house and the grounds, and I hope to get involved in discussions surrounding the house's wellbeing. It is the very first place I go whenever I head back up to Ithaca. Beyond that, my focus is on helping undergrads and young alumni with career readiness in whatever way they need, the same way that I was given advice and assistance with my job search back in the day.

Q: How did Cornell prepare you for your current position in e-commerce fraud prevention?

An important skill I picked up at Cornell was the ability to connect with people quickly. Sigma Pi was extremely important in that respect, but the wide array of other activities I pursued was also helpful. In my role as a sales leader in my company, I have to connect with new people all the time. Beyond this, I have to also mention that simply having Cornell's name on my resume has been more influential than I could have ever imagined.

Educational Foundation Student COVID-19 Relief Fund

By Joseph M. Zanetta '75

As many of the members of the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi are aware, we had to close the fraternity house for the semester in response to the terrible coronavirus. Many of the current undergraduate students have been negatively impacted. Six brothers lost their summer internships or jobs, and 30 are still seeking opportunities.

In response to this, the Educational Foundation has launched a special \$25,000 campaign to provide financial support to our Mu Chapter undergraduate members. We have received \$5,000 from the members of the board of directors of the educational foundation and are asking the brothers to make generous gifts.

We need funding to support activities such as sponsoring brothers in unpaid internships and other summer opportunities. These employment opportunities are a significant enhancement to the undergraduate brothers' education.

"We have received \$5,000 from the members of the board of directors of the educational foundation and are asking the brothers to make generous gifts."

The board of the Mu Chapter Educational Foundation asks that you consider a special gift to support our brothers in need. "Working together" has been our mantra, and we ask you to direct your gift to: www.sigmapicornell.org/ 150-giving-edufound.asp or send an email to the Foundation President: **josephzanetta@yahoo.com**.

We are sure that you have many worthwhile causes to support during this unprecedented crisis, but the foundation believes that providing resources to the undergraduates is a worthy and noble endeavor.

New Regulations Regarding Greek Life

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That over-arching theme apart, this article will focus on two of the many legal issues arising from the "reforms." The first issue is the right to inspect properties inhabited by Greeks at will. Cornell is organizing a "university-staffed, roving security team" to undertake nightly random spot checks of on-campus and off-campus properties for potential violations of the university's "event management policies." "Any indication of misbehavior will result in immediate notification of appropriate law enforcement agencies with a request that noncompliant events be shut down."

Many at the OSFL presentations questioned the right of either campus or Ithaca police to demand to enter fraternity houses, particularly those off campus, or to Collegetown apartments without a warrant or without any clear evidence that a crime was being committed. Repeatedly, audience members asked, "What legal jurisdiction do you have that allows you to demand to enter our apartments or sorority or fraternity houses?" There was never a good answer.

The other legal issue involves new rules which now require fraternity holding an off-site event, such as a party at a local restaurant with over 99 people (where, incidentally, a complete list of attendees, including all guests, must be handed in at least 15 days in advance) to hire a security firm to monitor the event. OSFL claimed at the meetings that this would totally inoculate a fraternity against any liability if a tragedy occurred from someone's alcohol or substance abuse. Even first-year law school is enough to reveal the holes in this approach.

To be continued when life at Cornell returns to normal.

Mu Chapter Welcomes New RA, Luke Williams



I am proud to be the new R.A. for Mu Chapter. I'm looking forward to living with the men of Sigma Pi and learning more about them and their brotherhood.

I was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. elected to the executive board of Cornell's American Constitution Society, Environmental Law Society, and Native American Law Students Association.

This summer, I'll be teaching criminal law to New York City high schoolers as part of the Legal Outreach Summer Law Institute. After graduating, I plan on practicing corporate litigation at a New York law firm.

My fraternity experience taught me valuable lessons that I hope to pass on to Sigma Pi. The ongoing changes in Cornell Greek life will present unique challenges that we must tackle together.

"My fraternity experience taught me valuable lessons that I hope to pass on to Sigma Pi."

Chapter of Kappa Sigma. My junior year, I held positions in new member development and risk management. I graduated in 2019 with a B.A. in political science and minors in economics and national security studies.

I attended the University of Nebraska-

Lincoln where I pledged the Alpha Psi

In August, I will begin my second year at Cornell Law School. This semester, I made the Dean's List and was Any members of the Mu Chapter community can feel free to reach me at **Iw698@cornell.edu**.

I am grateful for the opportunity to promote Sigma Pi values and advance man's quest for excellence. Roll Pi!

> Yours truly, Luke Williams

Alumni Board Treasurer's Report

By John Haggerty '78

Similar, I am sure, to many of you, our spring semester was thrown into a scramble by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the situation unfolded, Cornell responded by first suspending classes, then by repeatedly asking all students to leave campus and return to their permanent residences to complete their coursework virtually. While many students did in fact leave, many did not. As I write this column, there are still a fair number of undergraduates in Ithaca. Many perceived Tompkins County to be a safer place than their permanent home.

As the issue continued to evolve, the alumni board made the decision to close the house. Cornell offered those students who could not "go home" space in the dorms. All that was required was to fill out an exception form. While a few Mu Chapter undergraduate brothers wanted to stay, all were able to find housing in Collegetown apartments, and none took up the university offer of dorm space. 730 University Avenue officially closed on March 29, 2020.

Following Cornell's lead, the decision was made to refund approximately 40% of the dining and rent monies paid for the spring semester. The refunds will be processed through the Cornell bursar.

While this was the "fair" thing to do from a brotherhood standpoint, the reality is that our expenses continue without regard to the change of occupancy. Taxes and insurance, two of our most significant expenditures, are unaffected by the pandemic. Fortunately, we are in a position to continue to stay current on our bills even after processing the student rebates. And we should be stable through the summer, provided the fall 2020 semester and the bursar billing associated with that semester proceed as normal. In fact, we are still planning to replace the roof (deferred from last year) and are actively seeking multiple bids.

If, however, the fall semester does not proceed as normal, a contingency plan is needed. During the summer, as more information becomes available about plans to restart the university, the various board committees will be asked to evaluate how to lower and/or delay cash outlays until we again begin to see regular rent payments. While we have long paid premiums for "loss of rent" or business interruption insurance, current guidance is that our insurers will not pay claims initiated by the pandemic. Creativity will be needed to remain financially strong if this situation continues past the summer.

No doubt many of you are facing similar situations across your network of family and friends. We are determined to keep Mu Chapter viable, but we would welcome your help. This might seem to be an odd time to ask for contributions, but anything you give will help us keep the house in top condition for the post pandemic return to "normal," when that occurs. Please think about helping.

Brothers Seek Assistance with Internships and Jobs

After conducting a survey of the undergraduate brotherhood, we have discovered that, due to the outbreak of COVID-19, six undergraduate brothers have lost their summer internships or fulltime job offers. More than 30 brothers are still actively looking for positions, of which many were in the final rounds of recruitment at several firms.

In response, the Educational Foundation reached out to alumni in an effort to assist the undergraduates find employment for this upcoming summer. Since this initial effort, six alumni brothers have graciously created positions for this initiative in industries ranging from hospitality and cybersecurity to tech and real estate. We look forward to successful placements of undergraduate brothers in the coming weeks.

If you are in a position to offer an internship to an undergraduate brother (paid, unpaid, or virtual), please reach out to undergraduate brother and Educational Foundation career services intern Sackett Terry '21 at **swt53@cornell.edu**.

Undergraduate brothers are looking for opportunities in, but not limited to, real estate, tech, data science, consulting and finance.

Kitchen and Dining Update

By Steve Pirozzi '80

In accordance with the guidelines issued by Cornell, the alumni board decided to close the Pi house early. As a result, the normal kitchen closing procedures were undertaken and completed soon after the brothers left the house. The cleaning service was brought in and a thorough cleaning of the dining room and grab-and-go was completed. The kitchen received an initial cleaning. Now that all on-campus reunion activities have been canceled, we will schedule and complete the full end-of-semester cleaning of the kitchen when nonessential work is permitted.

We continue to receive positive feedback from the brotherhood regarding the impact of the changes the D&L

campaign has made. The final D&L campaign punch list item, replacing the defective dining-room exit door, was to take place before the semester ended. Unfortunately, that work will be delayed until nonessential work resumes. After that warranty work is completed, we will make the final payment to the contractor. We have not completed the D&L campaign fundraising, so please consider making a donation.

After much discussion, the brothers have decided to move to a corporate meal provider, Greek House Chefs. The brothers have calculated that this change will significantly reduce their food and beverage costs. **Drew Mangan '22**, the steward, assisted by **Christian Lippey '21**, **Jacob Wigdor '21**, and **Adi Ramachandran** **'21**, the treasurer, have nearly completed an investigation into Greek House Chefs. The brothers' investigation has been aided by **Leo Timms '79**, **Dave D'Orlando '79**, **Dennis McNamara '83**, and **Peter Muth '74**, who donated their time and expertise. When the investigation is successfully completed and any uncertainties regarding the fall semester are resolved, the brotherhood will engage Greek House Chefs to provide meals for the upcoming school year.

Pat Spirawk, the long-time Sigma Pi chef, has been kept appraised as the process has moved forward. We are all very grateful to Pat for his decades of providing much more than just meals to the brothers of Sigma Pi!

Best of Health to everyone and their families!

Undergraduate Reports

SAGE

By Chris Cavanaugh '21

This semester, spring of 2020, has truly been like no other. Long before the COVID-19 response, the Pi

house was well aware that this semester would be full of unprecedented and difficult obstacles to navigate. Yet, as always, the men of Sigma Pi were determined to preserve and fully enjoy the Sigma Pi Mu Chapter traditions, celebrations, and lifestyle.

The first challenge that presented itself was new regulations set forth by Cornell President Martha Pollack, which greatly altered our rush process. While adjusting to new policy is never easy, we were not alone in our endeavor. Not only did the Sigma Pi alumni board provide guidance along the way, they even orchestrated a presentation on risk management and liability control given by Liam Murphey, an attorney from Shaw and Murphy PLLC in Ithaca. Murphy was a very valuable resource, having had a plethora of experience defending fraternities that failed to properly mitigate risk at their chapter. The entire brotherhood left that meeting with a better understanding of liability, risk management, and personal responsibility. These lessons were critical in the culture shift my executive team was cultivating to keep our chapter in line with current regulations.

I am happy to announce that we were able to adapt and overcome in order to recruit **14** new Pi men to our ranks. The 2020 pledge class is led by **Cosmo Gigante '23**. Cosmo has already made significant contributions to the chapter and has been effective in our risk-management transformation under new policy changes.

After rush was completed, social chairs Mikha McAllister '22 and Jack Samett '21 put together an impressive schedule of social events for the brothers to enjoy. Even more impressive were the flexibility and creativity that they displayed, because most of these events had to be completely dry. Despite the uncharted changes stacked against them, these two kept the brotherhood entertained and engaged. Similarly, our date night chairs, Nico Capalongo '20 and Jake Miola '20, used the changes in status quo to present to the brotherhood multiple new and exciting date-night events, one of which included a trip to Catherine Valley Winery in Burdett, New York. My entire executive board and risk-management team were

very impressed with how well our event planners adapted to the new rules and regulations to provide an extremely entertaining semester.

The semester was shaping up to be as productive and enjoyable as ever when things were abruptly altered. News about COVID-19 quickly went from changing our event plans to canceling events entirely, until this trend finally culminated with the closing of the Cornell campus. The undergraduate executive board had to act quickly; suddenly, a whole semester left on campus with the brotherhood was cut down to only a week. My leadership team coordinated with the university and the alumni board, and it was apparent that keeping the house open for the remainder of the semester would not be an option. This meant, first and foremost, ensuring that all our brothers living at 730 University Avenue had a safe place to go. It also meant that we would have to orchestrate a move-out procedure, which traditionally takes weeks, in a matter of days. This was no easy task, but thanks to the guidance of brother Slater Goodman '18 and the hard work of Vice President Matt Pullano '21, my team was successfully able to close down 730 University Avenue, ensuring that it would be safe and ready for our return in the fall.

One silver lining is that, before leaving campus, the brotherhood insisted that we have elections for the Brother of the Year (BOY) Award. It was important to the undergraduates that the best of the best of the class of 2020 were recognized for all that they did for Sigma Pi. Brothers Alex Ewald '20, Omar Nesheiwat '20, and Max Cook '20 were all nominated for their contributions to the Pi house during their time as undergraduates. After much deliberation, Sage Emeritus Alex Ewald was selected as the undergraduate recommendation and has recently been selected by the alumni board to be the recipient of the award. The brothers take solace in the fact that we can carry on traditions such as this one during such uncertain times.

While this semester might have been like no other, I am proud to say that I have been inspired by the response from our brotherhood. My heart is heavy for all the seniors who lost so much of their last year as an undergraduate. It is truly unfair that they were forced to miss out on experiences they looked forward to for years. While there's nothing that can be done about this, I know that all of the brothers who will return to Cornell in the fall are committed to ensuring that the Pi house will be there for them whenever they might need it and that the work they put in and the experiences they shared will be preserved. Sigma Pi Mu Chapter, like everything else in our world, might have been disrupted by this virus, but the entire undergraduate brotherhood patiently awaits the day we can come back to campus and fully appreciate all that Sigma Pi has to offer once again.

VICE PRESIDENT



The Cornell Greek community shared many new challenges this semester with an overhaul of

By Mathew Pullano '21

rules and regulations coming down from Cornell. Despite the difficulty of such drastic and rigorous change, the Mu Chapter has responded extremely well to the positive culture transformation. With an increase in focus on risk management, I am happy to report my satisfaction in the quality and safety of all events, especially those hosted at 730 University Ave. Working diligently with social chairmen Jack Samett '21 and Mikha Macallister '22 to optimize this combination, the undergraduate brotherhood has been responsible, pragmatic, and unified in its decisions within the walls of the house, leading to compliance above and beyond the new standards set by the university.

The minor board grew this year, adding two new sustainability chairs. With **Patrick Angle '21** living in the house and **Jonah Hutchinson '20** living in Collegetown, the chairs were able to work together to improve the quality of environmentally friendly activity in both locations. They also worked internally with House Manager **Stuart Thornton '22** and externally with Greeks Go Green to implement better systems for recycling and to give brothers information on ways they can improve their behavior and habits.

Drawing inspiration from former house manager and sage, **Jake Howell '18**, house-improvement projects were re-introduced this semester. These projects included repairing the wooden Sigma Pi Greek letters displayed in front of the house, replacing the swing in the front yard, and removing litter from

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hard-to-reach places around the outside of the house. Future projects were cut short with the semester ending prematurely. However, I am confident that brothers will continue to volunteer their time and enjoy these projects moving forward.

STEWARD

By Drew Mangan '21

This has been an exciting year for the kitchen and dining experience at Sigma Pi. The brothers have continued to enjoy

the new facilities, such as the Learning Commons, **Stephen Pirozzi '80** storage closet, and grab-and-go. These areas have been greatly utilized for cooking throughout the day, studying for exams, or hanging out with fellow brothers. In conjunction with brotherhood chairs **Max Cook '20** and **Barron Brown '22**, we organized daily brotherhood dinners, which were great opportunities to relax and catch up with brothers.



This year, I worked closely with chef Patrick Spirawk to create new tasty meals and to continue fan favorites. Some popular new dishes included Buddha bowls, Chick-Fil-A fried-chicken sandwiches, and lemon pepper chicken. It was a pleasure serving as steward this year, and I look forward to seeing what the new steward, **Christian Lippey '21**, will create next year.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

By Will Nuga '21

This past semester, **Jai Baghat '22** and I were the Diversity and Inclusion (DNI) chairs. As recently initiated brothers, Jai and I immediately wanted to take on leadership roles and were extremely humbled to have been elected. Despite the shortened semester, we made great use of our time in this position by leading weekly, near-full attendance DNI office hours. Some of the office-hour topics included riveting discussion about income inequality at Cornell and in America, food insecurity on campus, and the developing coronavirus and its affect on xenophobia. Moreover, aside from more serious discussion, our office hours also consisted of multiple historical movie screenings, such as *Malcolm X* and *1917*, in the West Lounge to provide the brotherhood with the opportunity to relax and to learn something new.

Ultimately, the most disappointing result of our tenure as DNI chairs was the fact it was so short; Jai and I had a lot more ideas in store for the brotherhood! In the future, especially after a couple newly initiated brothers have held the position, Jai and I would not be opposed to running again for this position. It was a unique opportunity and privilege for us to hold a leadership position for one of, if not the most, important minor board chairs in the Sigma Pi Mu Chapter.

PHILANTHROPY

By Dillon Razler '22

This semester continued our involvement in Loaves and Fishes, and we planned to have some bigger philanthropy events as well. An open-mic night was scheduled, with the proceeds going to the Tompkins County Mental Health Association. The last Friday of the semester, we had our annual Rock The Casa volleyball tournament, scheduled with Theta. However, in these trying times, we plan to give back as much as we can. We have decided to raise money to donate to "No Kid Hungry," an organization that deploys funds to ensure that access to free meals continues for children in need, especially with schools closed. It is providing \$5 million in emergency grants immediately-with more to come-to help schools and community groups feed kids during the outbreak and to make sure families know how to find meals while schools are closed. We are very sad that our big events have been cancelled this semester, but we are still proud of what we can do in these times.

ACADEMIC

By Richard Benjamin '22

Sigma Pi Mu Chapter academics have gone above and beyond this semester. However, it has not come

without challenges. The COVID-19 crisis has left us all without proper instruction spaces and without the readily available materials we had grown dependent on in Ithaca. In order to combat these developments and to remain true to the educational tenets we believe in, we have found ways to adapt during this online-teaching era. We have maintained and created new online subscription learning resources outside of Cornell's network. The academic chair works in tandem with the treasurer to provide the best online support services (Chegg) to brothers in need.

Many online lectures provided by the university are structured in such a way that makes it an impossibility for our international brothers to view. Even while separated by time zones, the online services Sigma Pi provides allows these brothers to maintain, and in many cases surpass, the academic achievement of brothers who can access these lectures conveniently.

There were many plans to expand academic chair's responsibilities the before this crisis hit. Specifically, the idea to create a database of notes reaching far back into the chapter's history. This anthology was meant to serve as a historical reminder of the studies of brothers before and as a living resource for brothers to use toward the chapter's collective achievement. I am sorry to report that, due to COVID-19, this database was not completed this semester, but I am fully confident that the next academic chair will continue the project in a way that highlights the scholarship we all pledged to.

I am proud and heartened to see the strength of character exhibited by my brothers during this time. It reminds me that, even in the crisis we face today, the chapter's hearth is truly burning bright.

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UNDERGRADUATES HELP FEED HUNGRY KIDS

Undergraduate brothers raised \$3,390, exceeding their goal of \$2,500, to support the No Kid Hungry campaign to end childhood hunger in America.

Here is the link to donate if you would like to contribute or forward:

https://tinyurl.com/NoKidHungry-UG



Sigma Pi Newly Elected **Executive Board**

Sage: Arthur Decker '22 Lnddecker99@gmail.com

Vice President: Stuart Thorton '22 sthornton29@gmail.com

Treasurer: Mikhael Macallister '22 Mikhael.macallister@gmail.com

Harold: Richard Benjamin '22 rbenjamin1@outlook.com

Alumni Secretary: Jack Samett '21 Jacksamett@gmail.com

Steward: Christian Lippey '21 Christianlippey@gmail.com

Minor Board Positions

Diversity & Inclusion Will Nuga Jai Baghat

> Social Mikha Mcallister Jack Samett

Intramural Colvin Dunteman

Philanthropy **Trevor Faulk Dillon Razler**

Academic **Richard Benjamin**

House Manager Stuart Thornton

Rush Arthur Decker Alex Frank Andre Mcallister

Health & Wellness Ian Atkinson Evan Fischoff

Sustainability Chair Patrick Angle Jonah Hutchinson

Scholarship Chair Alec Jautz

Apparel **Cameron Peterson Aaron Angeles**

Formal Chair Nico Capalongo Jake Miola

Brotherhood Chair Max Cook **Barron Brown**

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RUSH

By Alex Frank '21

For all brothers of the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi, rush ushers in a terrific opportunity to meet and bond with potential brothers for Sigma Pi. After a very successful fall rush class, the brothers of Sigma Pi were excited for another opportunity to bring in new Pi men. Throughout the IFC's organized rush events, the brothers of Sigma Pi were able to meet a multitude of potential brothers. Unfortunately, due to exogenous factors, the number of prospective members for Cornell Greek life was lower than in past years. Nevertheless, the brotherhood was able to welcome in 13 new Pi men.

This group of new members is athletic, knowledgeable, diverse, and eager to be members of Sigma Pi. The class includes seven freshman and six sophomores. Of the sophomores, three are members of the Cornell varsity football team. Additionally, one is a member of the Cornell spring football team, and another is a transfer from Wesleyan, where he was a member of their varsity football program. Among the freshman is another Cornell spring football player. The hometowns of the new Pi men range from Saudi Arabia to Virginia, California, and Chicago. A wide variety.

BROTHERHOOD

By Max Cook '20

This year's annual Parents Weekend was cancelled due to COVID-19. It was poised to be an excellent weekend, with roughly 80 parents and family members planning to attend. Activities were to include a brunch at the Pi house, an afternoon at Ithaca Beer Company, and dinner back at the house.

While it is disappointing that we did not get to have event as planned, we appreciate that canceling was in the best interests of all parties involved.

Brothers Hold Virtual E-Board Elections



Arthur

Sage





Richard Benjamin '22 Herald Alumni Secretary

Christian Lippey '21 Steward

Stuart Decker '22 Thornton '22 Vice President

Mikha McAllister '22 Treasurer

By Chris Cavanaugh '21

While 730 University Avenue is currently closed for business, the brothers of Mu Chapter are learning the meaning of "the show must go on." Our chapter plans to be fully ready to hit the ground running for next semester in August. This means that it was necessary to elect a new Executive Board without the traditional house meeting style election. After much thought amongst the current e-board, we decided to hold a Zoom conference and do our best to run elections virtually. This took the form of candidates pitching their campaign, responding to questions, and eventually being voted into office over the course of a three-hour virtual conference call.

I am proud to announce Arthur Decker '22 as our incoming sage, Stuart Thornton '22 as incoming vice president, Mikha McAllister '22 as incoming treasurer, Richard Benjamin '22 an incoming herald, Jack Samett '21 as incoming alumni secretary and Christian Lippey '21 as incoming steward. These brothers will be onboarded virtually throughout the rest of the semester and will take on the full responsibilities of their roles in the fall.

Jack

Samett '21

These elections went so well that we even elected the portion of the minor board that was most critical to preparing for next semester. Will Roth '22, Aaron Angeles '22, and Kai Merritt '23 were elected as rush chairs. Cosmo Gigante '23 and Zain Fazal '23 were elected as social chairs. Ethan Wood-Thomas '23 was elected as house manager. Finally, Trevor Faulk '21 and Kirk Hachigan '21 were elected as date night chairs for the fall. Each of these brothers are very excited about their new roles, and I look forward to all that they will accomplish as leaders of Sigma Pi.

Introducing the Spring '20 Pledge Class

Ermias Tadesse

Washington, D.C.

Policy Analysis and

Management



Koby Kiefer Bridgeport, WV Communications



Zain Fazal Dhahran, Saudi Arabia Industrial and Labor Relations

This past March, the 13 member

spring 2020 new member class was initi-

ated. The group consists of seven fresh-

men and six sophomores, hailing from



Cosmo Gigante New York, NY Applied Economics and Management

Kyle Neputy Chicago, IL Chemical Engineering



Kyle Conover Pittstown, NJ Industrial and Labor Relations



New York, NY Hotel Administration

economics and management, one in bioengineering, two in economics, one in psychology, one in chemical engineering, one in mechanical engineering, one in communications, one in policy analysis and management, and two in industrial labor relations.

Furthermore, one of our new brothers is housed within the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, two in the Statler School of Hotel Administration, three in the College of Engineering, three in the College of Arts & Sciences, two in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations, one in the College of Human Ecology, and one in the College of



Kristóf Vass Budapest, Hungary Hotel Administration



Ethan Wood-Thomas McLean, VA Mechanical Engineering



Kai Merritt Los Gatos, CA Bioengineering



Justin Mandel Harrison, NY Economics

Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Tyler Huygue

Additionally, **Kyle Neputy '22**, **Koby Kiefer '22**, and **Thomas Ferrara '22**, are athletes on the Cornell Varsity Football Team. The class is made up of many bright, unique minds with different goals for their lives and careers. Outside of the classroom, many of our new brothers pursue a range of hobbies and extracurricular activities: **Zain Fazal '23** is a Cornell tour guide, **Ermias Tadesse '22** recently founded Cornell's latest investment club, BlackGen Capital, and many other new brothers fill their free time with music and craftsmanship.

Brothers Adapting to a New Environment

By Anders Jensen '22

Brothers are coping with their new living arrangements in different ways. Whether they stayed in Ithaca or reluctantly boarded a plane to fly home, by April first, binging Netflix started to get old. Most brothers were relieved when classes started up again on April 6, as it returned structure to the days.

This period of self-quarantine has been the perfect time to try new things and learn new skills, with many brothers picking up instruments for the first time, taking online masterclasses for a hobby, or just working on their relationship with their family. Looking back, an interesting moveout story came from a handful of brothers who work at Student Agencies Inc., the oldest student-run cooperation in the

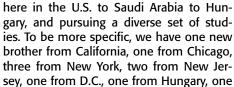
circumstances, they partnered with the university as soon as the move-out logistics were released to offer free storage to every single student living in campus

"This period of self-quarantine has been the perfect time to try new things and learn new skills, with many brothers picking up instruments for the first time, taking online masterclasses for a hobby, or just working on their relationship with their family."

nation. In particular, two Sigma Pi brothers are the co-managers of Big Red Shipping and Storage, a subsidiary of Student Agencies, that normally facilitates moveout in May.

Because of the extraordinary to

housing. With such a promise came a lot of work, as the two managers worked around the clock for two weeks straight, staying an additional week after most of the Cornell student body had relocated, to tie up loose ends.



By Cosmo Gigante '23

one from Florida, and one from Virginia. Two new brothers are majoring in hotel administration, one in applied

from Saudi Arabia, one from West Virginia,

An Experiment in Remote Learning

By John Haggerty '78

I teach a variety of human resources elective classes at both the undergraduate and graduate level in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. In the classroom, I leverage over 25 years of real world HR practitioner experience and a Ph.D. in human resources studies. Having lived the life that most of my students aspire to be part of, my classes are not lectures but active discussions of how theory says the world should behave and how I found the world actually behaves. While not a strict application of the Socratic method, I how to administer and proctor exams via Zoom to questions about how to replicate classroom interaction through technology mediation, the initial reaction by many of my colleagues was essentially, "This will never work."

Now, in our third week of strictly online delivery, I say again, organizations are far more resilient than we generally give them credit for being. Granted, there are some issues. I have a handful of students who do not have a persistent highspeed internet connection where they are sheltering. The screen sometimes freezes

"The 'Brady Bunch' Zoom screen of smiling faces that I see each day is affirmation that we are making this work."

employ a lot of debate and devil's advocate in my teaching. One phrase that seems to find its way into many of our discussions is this: "Organizations are far more resilient than we generally give them credit for being."

When Cornell announced in mid-March 2020, less than halfway through the spring semester, that all classes were to move online by April 6, many said this was impossible. From questions about the ability of our IT infrastructure to handle the sudden load to questions about and the audio can get a bit wonky, but in general, we are able to carry on the business of teaching, and if I am to believe them, my students indicate they are learning. The "Brady Bunch" Zoom screen of smiling faces that I see each day is affirmation that we are making this work.

Hidden in this necessary reaction to the real threat of the coronavirus on a densely populated campus is a much bigger question. I have always believed and still want to believe that the best form of education is face to face and in person. I



John Haggerty teaching virtual class during COVID-19

gauge student interest through body language. I walk to the back of my classroom to look at the laptop screens and to see who is vetting what I just said on Wiki and who is watching TikTok videos. I use that feedback to modulate my delivery. I often stop what I am trying to teach and ask the class what they would like to learn, and I adjust, if I can, on the fly. All of this is made much more difficult when teaching on Zoom: not, in most cases, impossible, but more difficult. I still adjust; I just do it differently.

And then there is the unexpected upside. My normal commute to central campus from the idyllic village of Aurora,

(continued on page 16)

Students Begin Virtual Classes

ADAPTING TO ONLINE LEARNING IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC

Thomas Ferrara '23

Adaptability is a key trait in the foundation of success. Having the ability to adjust to changing conditions is paramount in most situations. As the coronavirus continues to run its course and derail the norm as we know it, we must stay flexible in our approach to learning. This flexibility takes the form of online lectures, group projects over FaceTime, and other distance-learning initiatives. As a result, students must be as diligent as ever in order to keep up with the demand from professors.

Each one of the around 15,000 undergraduate students at Cornell brings a unique perspective to online learning. Students come from different backgrounds, speak numerous languages, and are in all time zones. Despite such a diverse student body, one idea seems to remain constant: adapting to the circumstances will guide your academic success during this "great lockdown."

It is not an ideal learning environment for most, but all students share this same situation. I think it is important for each student to figure out what works best for him during this unprecedented semester.

The first few days of online class for me took some adjustment. Taking notes for a lecture on the computer isn't quite like an in-person lecture, and group collaboration isn't the same through a video conference. However, as classes progressed, I feel I've learned how to navigate this new normal. I've found that I can more easily do work right when it's assigned now that I'm working from home. Over time, I also developed a routine that has helped me stay ahead of assignments and exams.

Doing school from home is quickly becoming natural. Although this semester will be spent at home, nothing rivals the experience of learning and spending the semester at Cornell. I'm sure all of the brothers agree, and I look forward to being back in Ithaca.



Graduating Seniors Look Toward the Future



Omar Nesheiwat

MAJOR: ILR **MINOR: Business, Law** and Society

POST GRAD PLANS: Law School FAVORITE MEMORY: Ireland trip fall break 2018



Cameron Peterson

MAJOR: ILR **MINOR: Business, Law** and Society

POST GRAD PLANS: University of Colorado, Boulder Law School

FAVORITE MEMORY: Oasis 2018



Connor Brett Duffy MAJOR: Applied Economics & Manage-

ment with a concentra-

tion in Finance POST GRAD PLANS: Investment Banking at Guggenheim FAVORITE MEMORY: DJing PLP senior year



Eric Hu

MAJOR: Economics & Biology

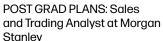
POST GRAD PLANS: Investment Banking at Evercore FAVORITE MEMORY: Omega Chi



Elvis Wambua

MAJOR: Information Science **MINOR:** International

Relations, Business, African Studies



FAVORITE MEMORY: Omega Chi junior year



Forest Colerick MAJOR: Hotel

Administration MINOR: Real Estate

POST GRAD PLANS: Investment Banking at HSBC in New York City

FAVORITE MEMORY: Orchid Ball 2019



Nico Capalongo MAJOR: Near Eastern

Studies

MINOR: Real Estate POST GRAD PLANS: CMBS Originations at Bank of America FAVORITE MEMORY: Halloween 2017

www.sigmapicornell.org



MAJOR: ILR **MINOR: Business, Law** and Society

FAVORITE MEMORY: Senior spring semester in Ithaca with those who stayed



MAJOR: ILR **MINOR: Business** POST GRAD PLANS:

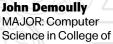
Investment Banking at JP Morgan **FAVORITE MEMORY: Montreal** trip February '18



MAJOR: Mechanical Engineering POST GRAD PLANS:

Consulting at Transom Consulting Group in Los Angeles FAVORITE MEMORY: Parking Lot Party

John Demoully



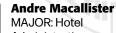
Engineering **MINOR: Dyson Business Minor** for Engineers

POST GRAD PLANS: Quantitative Analyst at Bank of America FAVORITE MEMORY: Coming back to Cornell after a semester off and being welcomed back with open arms.



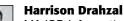
Science **MINOR: Computer** Science

POST GRAD PLANS: Forward Deployed Software Engineer at Palantir Technologies **FAVORITE MEMORY: Post-Oasis** 2018



Administration **MINOR: Real Estate**

POST GRAD PLANS: Working for **PIMCO in Miami** FAVORITE MEMORY: Kisses from Omar



MAJOR: Information Science **MINOR: Business** POST GRAD PLANS: Corporate

FX and Rates Structuring at Bank of America FAVORITE MEMORY: PLP



MAJOR: Computer Science **MINOR: Policy Analysis**

and Management POST GRAD PLANS: Software **Engineer at Facebook** FAVORITE MEMORY: Omega Chi freshman year



Jonah Hayes Hutchinson MAJOR: Hotel Administration

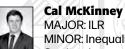
MINOR: Real Estate POST GRAD PLANS: Fiancial Analyst at Davidson Hotels & **Resorts in Atlanta** FAVORITE MEMORY: Late nights in the grotto



Caleb Klausner MAJOR: Hotel

Administration

MINOR: Real Estate POST GRAD PLANS: Undecided **FAVORITE MEMORY: Oasis on** the beach



MAJOR: ILR **MINOR:** Inequality Studies, Law and

Society

POST GRAD PLANS: Undecided FAVORITE MEMORY: Open mic night

Travis Fristoe



MAJOR: Economics MINOR: Business POST GRAD PLANS:

Teacher at Success Academies High School in Manhattan FAVORITE MEMORY: Freshman year Omega Chi



Ian Atkinson MAJOR: Biology and Society

POST GRAD PLANS: Clinical research and volunteer work during gap year before medical school

FAVORITE MEMORY: Sunday house meetings

Logan Goddard

MAJOR: Animal Sciences **MINOR: Business** POST GRAD PLANS: Two gap years before medical school FAVORITE MEMORY: Snow day at the Pi house last spring



Lucas Goldman

MAJOR: AEM **MINOR: Real Estate** POST GRAD PLANS:

Business Analyst at McKinsey FAVORITE MEMORY: Omega Chi freshman year



Luke Balistrieri MAJOR: Interdisciplinary Studies

MINOR: Business POST GRAD PLANS: Undecided **FAVORITE MEMORY: Puerto** Rico trip



Max Cook MAJOR: Applied Economics & Management

MINOR: Concentration in Finance

POST GRAD PLANS: Consulting in NYC

FAVORITE MEMORY: Brotherhood pregame before Halloween party sophomore year



Max Mailman MAJOR: ILR

MINOR: Business POST GRAD PLANS:

Citigroup's Sales and Trading Program

FAVORITE MEMORY: When the house showed up to my last squash match on Senior Day.



Efficio Consulting

out in the West Lounge

Alex Ewald MAJOR: Economics MINOR: Business,

POST GRAD PLANS: Undecided

FAVORITE MEMORY: Omega Chi

Research

FAVORITE MEMORY: Hanging

Joseph Brogan

MAJOR: Hotel

Administration

POST GRAD PLANS: Undecided

FAVORITE MEMORY: Learning

how to do the renegade dance

MINOR: Real Estate

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Alex Schmack

MAJOR: Operations

POST GRAD PLANS:

How Seniors are Coping During These Unprecedented Times



By Omar Nesheiwat '20

When choosing which undergraduate institution to attend, not a single senior ever imagined we'd be in the situation

we're in today. Friendships, relationships, classes, and professors we grew to love over the past couple years, all taken away withHowever, there was indeed much to look forward to for us seniors this spring semester. Our last formal, wine tour, hangouts on the beach, parents' weekend, all taken away. It's sad to know that we were experiencing the homestretch of our time at Cornell without even knowing it. Having our time cut short has, however, made us much more appreciative of the time we did have together.

"Whether it's constantly FaceTiming friends who live across the country, having virtual Zoom happy hours, or playing video games together, we Sigma Pi seniors have a bond that cannot be broken or strained due to time cut short as a result of COVID-19."

out much notice. It's saddening, yes, but we're all smart enough to know that students returning home was the safest thing to do. In the grand scheme of things, the disappointment of missing our second semester senior year cannot compare to the trials others are facing throughout the world: family members falling ill or passing away, individuals losing their jobs and now unable to provide for themselves or their loved ones, essential workers risking their lives daily so that we can have the luxury of feeling some sort of normalcy when going to the supermarket. Whether it's constantly FaceTiming friends who live across the country, having virtual Zoom happy hours, or playing video games together, we Sigma Pi seniors have a bond that cannot be broken or strained due to time cut short as a result of COVID-19.

We, as seniors of Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi, want to thank our brothers and the organization for everything it has afforded us: friendship, trust in others, mutual respect, and, most importantly, brotherhood. We hope everybody stays healthy and safe during these troubling times.

Undergraduates Learning the Law and Greek Life

HOW TO MITIGATE LIABILITIES

By Omar Nesheiwat '20

A few weeks ago, the members of Sigma Pi had the privilege of inviting in a law firm from the Ithaca area to speak to our chapter. During this meeting, we were given a presentation on incredibly important topics such as alcohol consumption, underage members at our events, sexual assault and the importance of preventing such instances at our events, and new rules and regulations within the IFC. The meeting was extremely informative and engaging. We had brothers asking an abundance of questions regarding new rules and regulations concerning alcohol, the rights that we have as a privately owned house, and more.

We, as brothers, understood that this meeting with the guest speaker came at a very important time. After the passing of a fellow Cornellian earlier in the year, many individuals' eyes opened to the severity of many of the topics that we may have overlooked or underestimated in the past. This meeting ultimately served as a measure taken by the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi to ensure that we are being responsible adults in a time where rules and regulations are becoming more and more stringent.

Why I Joined Sigma Pi

KYLE NEPUTY '22, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, VARSITY FOOTBALL

"College is where you learn the most about yourself" is a phrase often used to describe how attending university affects your life. The main aspect that lets you



#4 QB Kyle Neputy seeing action in the Empire State Bowl Victory versus Columbia.

learn about yourself is the people. I spent my entire life playing sports and making all of my friends through them, forming bonds that I will have for the rest of my

life, and it was for this exact reason I joined Sigma Pi. Joining a fraternity was an opportunity to enter myself into a social circle I would have never been a part of through sports. It would allow me to meet new people, have a different style of social interaction, and create relationships with fellow brothers in a way that I would not have been able to do before. I joined Sigma Pi for many reasons, but the most important to me was the style of friendship and brotherhood that the members have.

Though my brothers and I share many traits and similarities in our choices, preferences, etc., we also have distinct



Kyle Neputy

differences that I have learned to love and value that make this aspect of the fraternity the most special to me. Being able to not just celebrate what we have in common, but cherish our differences, has truly always stood out to me at Sigma Pi and I believe it will continue to do so for the rest of my time here. Mu Chapter Website & Social Media Outlets



The alumni board continues to invest in enhancing our social-media outreach.

The Mu Chapter website:

- increases the ability for our alumni to stay connected and to be kept up-to-date
- has a robust section for our undergraduate brothers to enhance new member recruitment
- has a section for parents to find the information they need, whether their son is a current or prospective member
- has better support for mobile devices.

If you haven't visited the site, please go, check it out, and register for the members-only section to gain access to the full range of content.

In addition, the alumni board is keen to make the most of existing social media channels. Please visit our current social media outlets.

facebook: facebook.com/groups/250850591718094



Twitter: @CornellSigmaPi



Alumni Speaker Series

ZOOM VIDEO TOPIC: WHAT IS YOUR CORONA QUARANTINE STORY FOR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS?

By Terry Sackett '21

Jarett Wait '80 led a Zoom video chat with 30-plus undergraduate brothers. Jarett's presentation was titled, "What is Your Corona Quarantine Story for Prospective Employers?"

The key takeaways from the discussion were:

After life returns to some level of normalcy, every student interviewing for internships or full time employment will be asked for their story on how they spent their time during social distancing/ shelter in place during the coronavirus pandemic.

In addition to taking virtual classes, did you spend the majority of your time watching Netflix, playing video games, or making TikTok videos? How you answer this question maybe determine if you get the internship or job you want.

How can you use this time to demonstrate leadership, initiative, creativity, empathy, etc.? Is there some relevant community engagement you could speak to? Is there a service, enterprise, or business you could start, or possibly partner with, to showcase your skills to prospective employers?

This narrative could be key to how you position yourself with prospective employers.



Experiment in Remote Learning

(continued from page 13)

27 miles north, takes about 40 minutes without snow. The walk from the parking garage to Ives Hall can be miserable in the frequent cold rain you all remember being part of Ithaca "spring." I'm somewhat old fashioned, so I wore a freshly laundered shirt, pressed slacks, and a sport jacket to every class session. I frequently went to my classroom 10 to 15 minutes before class to test my slides and make sure the hyperlinks were active. I often hung around class for 10 to 15 minutes after to answer questions or just catch up with students on their job-search activity. That entire routine is gone, and these days, I wander from my kitchen to my small office and start my Zoom session in a sweatshirt moments before 8:40 a.m. My cats have been known to wander across the screen. I have to say, I like this commute much better!

On LinkedIn, when this all began, I referred to this as an educational "experiment." How much of the unique value of highly selective in-person (Ivy League) education would we be able to duplicate without the "in-person" part? And if we can duplicate a significant amount of the value of residential education, why should students from far away countries have to come to Ithaca for a Cornell education? Or students from California? All the data is not yet collected, but I say with confidence, Cornell has proven far more resilient than I would have predicted it to be.

But a spring semester without Big Red hockey playoffs and LAX is not something I ever want to experience again! Seeing 730 University Avenue shut down as the weather starts to improve is depressing. I hope you are all well and safe and, like me, looking forward to as much of "normal" as we are able to recover soon.

Please Support DIMING and LEARNING for the 21st CIENTURY

CAMPAIGN AND PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than \$548,639 has been raised out of the \$725,000 project goal
- Mu Chapter's Educational Foundation has committed a \$144,500 grant toward the project.
- + More than 200 alumni have already contributed.
- + Remaining fundraising needed: **\$176,361**.
- + 100% of undergraduates have already contributed.
- + Construction was completed in summer 2018.
- Building and renovation work includes upgrades to all kitchen and meal-service equipment, the new Adolphus "Dolly" C. Hailstork Dining Room, and the new Learning Commons.
- + Rooms, spaces, and equipment can still be named in honor of a class, oneself, or in memory of a brother.
- Many alumni have made contributions in memory of brothers Jim Keene '57, Reber Carroll '75, and Ed Finnerty '82.
- Alumni got to see and use the facilities this year at the 2019 Reunion in June.



REMAINING NAMING OPPORTUNITIES:

There are still opportunities to fund rooms and equipment! Opportunities can be funded as a group or class, and pledges can be made over three years. Show your brothers what Sigma Pi means to you. Check out our website for details: www.sigmapicornell.org/150dininglearning.asp.

As of May 2020

- + Kitchen (\$100,000)
- + Dining and Learning Commons (\$100,000)
- + Grab and Go (\$75,000)
- + Storage Room (\$50,000))
- + Bathroom (\$25,000)
- + 60-inch Gas Range with Oven and Griddle (\$11,000)
- + Lighting (\$10,000)
- + Table and Chairs for Dining and Learning Commons (\$7,500)
- + Steamer (\$6,000)
- + Food Slicer (\$3,500)
- + Under-Counter Freezer (\$1,700)
- + Split-Pot Gas Fryer (\$1,500)
- + Cappuccino Dispenser (\$1,500)
- Hands-Free Sink Unit (\$1,000): 2 opportunities



LEADERSHIP GIVING LEVELS:

Major Benefactors: \$10,000 or more Leadership Gifts: \$1,000-\$9,999 Supporters: \$999 and under

Contributions can be made online using a credit card through Sigma Pi's website (www.sigmapicornell.org/ 150-DiningLearning.asp#Xdonate), or you can mail a check to the address below and write "Dining and Learning Campaign" in the memo field .

Mail checks to: Dining and Learning Campaign Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity P.O. Box 876 Ithaca, NY 14851-0876



Show your brothers what Sigma Pi means to you. Check out our website for details:

www.sigmapicornell.org/150-dininglearning.asp



Left: Opening up the Learning Commons! Right: Mike Reiner '78, Brian Finneran '81, Bill Strusz '73, Dennis McNamara '83.

Please Support DIMING and LEARMING for the 21st CLENTFURY

HONOR ROLL OF CONTRIBUTORS as of April 20,2020

Total Raised to date: \$548,639

Major Benefactors (\$10,000 OR MORE)

Kevin Fountain '68 Kent Sheng '78 Rob Novo '79 Gordon Pugh '79 Neal Douglas '80 Stephen Pirozzi '80

Jarett Wait '80 Mike Rantz '81 P. Kevin Morris '85

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Mu Chapter Educational

Foundation

H. Laurance Fuller '60

Leadership Gifts (\$1,000-\$9,999)

Peter Wright '77 Mark Barmasse '78 John Haggerty '78 David Hanssens '78 Steve Mongeau '78 Lawrence Paglierani '78 Michael Reiner '78 Robert Ruhlman '78 Sandy True '78 John (Jack) Welch '78 Wayne Buder '79 David D'Orlando '79 Jim Horn '79 Kevin Kruse '79 Larry MacLennan '79 Keith Molof '79 Christopher Olie '79 Luc Chabot '80 Thomas Cherner '80 Joseph Dervay '80 David Feldbaumer '80 Wayne Forman '80

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Please Support DUNING and DEARMING for the 21st CLENTFURY

HONOR ROLL OF CONTRIBUTORS continued from previous page

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Alexander Feldman '17 Timothy Jalbert '17 Danny Janeczko '17 David Kogan '17 Agustin Martinez '17 William McGrane '17 Zane Mokhiber '17 Marko Nikolic '17 Reid Paoletta '17 Steven Siegel '17 Samuel Strang '17 Andrew Walsh '17 Jonathan Wu '17 Alexander Yablonovich '17 Sanjay Banda '18 Sam Barnum '18 Matthew Blakley '18 Charles Byrnes IV '18 Isaiah Duck '18 Josh Even '18 David Golding '18 Zac Goldman '18 Jacob Howell '18 Susan Howell, P('18) Drew Lord '18 William Murphy '18 Ezra Pak-Harvey '18 Griffin Py '18 Colin Roche '18 Alex Rodriguez '18 Gabriel Samuel '18 Joshua Sones '18 Patti & David Sones P('18) Alex Stotter '18 Patrick Wang '18 Alexander Wood-Thomas / 18 Hakim Ali '19 Dexter Amadasun '19 Brian Barr '19 Landon Budenholzer '19 Jonathan Caen '19 Jack D'Agostino '19 Jack Daly '19 Abdo Dergham '19 Shailen Doshi '19 Connor Duffy '19 James Goodman '19 Justin LaClair '19 Elliot LaGuardia '19 Aaron Lauer '19 Clouse Lee '19 Christopher O'Dore '19

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Mu Brothers' News & Notes

David Silverstein '68 writes: "This is a shout-out to Ted Chen '74, whose 'letter from alumni' in the fall Muse reminded me of the important part he played in my life without even realizing it. Ted, in early September 1972, after dinner at the house, you convinced me to join you and some other brothers going to the annual Sigma Alpha Mu open-campus lawn party instead of going back to the law school library. (I was then a third-year law student.) That proved to be a life-changing decision. At that lawn party I met Leslie '73-truly the love of my life-and we have now been happily married for over 35 years, with two sons, both with Cornell degrees. Thank you, Ted, for making that night the most important of my life-and sorry for taking so long to tell you so. Perhaps we will meet again at a future Sigma Pi event. In the meantime, I would love to hear from you." Reach David at hihosilver@comcast.net or 53 Twin Oaks Dr., Mashpee, MA 02649.

We thank Jim Miller '69 for his recent donation "to support the Dolly Hailstork dining facility" in memory of classmate **Dick Lloyd**. He writes, "Dick and I were good friends with Dolly. Dick and I were roommates at the Party Shop on North Cayuga Street adjacent to the old Northside Liquor. We ran the Party Shop our junior and senior years. We paneled it with barn siding from an old barn of his family's in Fine, New York. At Sigma Pi I was social chairman for a couple of years and was instrumental in promoting Hurlothrumbo in its heyday, including the football game flyover in 1967 or '68. Dolly was a good friend, a fellow Ithacan. I enjoy listening to his son's music on our classical FM station. Although estranged, he has a unique name that disallows trying to hide from his dad." Catch up with Jim at jgm27@cornell.edu or 318 Strathmore Dr., Syracuse, NY 13207.

A telecomm executive with expertise in planning and operating fiber networks, Ford Fay '81 is now director of Network Access Management.

Congratulations to Steven Hobbs '80, who's started a new position as vice president and general counsel at Financial Accounting Foundation.

Brian Finneran '81 has started a new position as managing director at Mazzone Hospitality.

Mtř

Congratulations to Carlos Santiago '83, who became the head of credit for the ViaNova Capital Group, a mortgage conduit that trades residential fix & flip and related bridge loans. He oversees the executive credit responsibility for the company, and also oversees all due diligence activities for loan purchases, holds decision-making authority for eligibility and credit waivers, and manages approval processes for new correspondent lenders.

Nick Vojnovic '85 was recently inducted into the Florida Hospitality Hall of Fame. Nick was a season-one guest on the Top Restaurateurs Podcast.

Check out financial columnist Andrew Ross Sorkin's ('99) March 18th piece on our current economic crisis, "This Is the Only Way to End the Coronavirus Financial Panic," in Deal-Book, published by The New York Times.

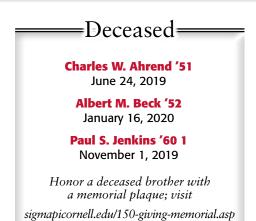
After a three-hour Zoom call with 22 (of

28) members of the 2003 pledge class recently (photo at right), Quinn Garcia '05 wrote: "One of the silver linings of coronavirus is its unexpected ability to bring us closer to the people we most care about. There are similarities between pledging and coronavirus in that they both involve in several months of spending an inordinate amount of time in a house with people you care about, helping one another endure the challenges, and emerging on the other side with lifelong memories and stronger

bonds. This small window in history might be the best chance we'll have in our lifetimes to reconnect with so many of our brothers. I hope other pledge classes also take advantage of this chance to reunite virtually during the lockdown. Maybe we could even arrange a full brotherhood Zoom call, creating the largest virtual gathering of Mu Sigma Pis in the history of the fraternity." Reach out to Quinn at qg@autotechvc.com.

Kudos to Giorgio Piccoli '07, who is is now president of AMFLAT Logistics.

Invesco CFA Tim Horsburgh '08 recently shared his company's Capital Markets update in Albany.



Robert Attia '16 was recently promoted to implementation and database specialist at Fluxx, a grants management software company based in San Francisco.



Andrew Wald '16 will be starting a JD/MBA at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern in the fall.

David DellaPelle '17 will be beginning an MBA at NYU Stern School of Business in the fall. His focus will be on technology and entrepreneurship.

David Kogan '17, Samuel Adam Schreiber '17, and Yordanos Goshu '18 will all graduate with Master of Engineering degrees from Cornell Tech this May.

is published regularly by Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity at Cornell University for its friends and members. Alumni news is always welcome and may be emailed to alumnirecords@sigmapicornell.org, or sent to: Alumni Records Office, Mu Chapter of the Sigma Pi Fraternity, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

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