## TIGER



# FIJI

#### State of the Chapter

by Da'Jeal Willaby-Partee '20 | **Chapter President** 



Brothers, am pleased to announce that the Lambda Chapter continuously growing and I am not solely referring to membership,

but growth in terms of campus involvement as well as morality. We continue to receive recognition by the student body as well as the DePauw administration for being one of the most welcoming and inclusive chapters on

We have opened our doors to the less fortunate members of the Greencastle community as well as marginalized student groups on campus. We are constantly expanding our diversity among the brotherhood in regard to culture, religious identity, area of studies, and athletic affiliation.

Due to generous alumni donations by charitable brothers, FIJI Forum has been enhanced with the service of an additional meal on Sunday afternoons. FIJI Forum is a recent development to the brotherhood here at the Lambda chapter. Every Sunday, brothers gather to discuss and share their unique perspectives on controversial topics such as politics, religion, and current events.

We continue to remain in good standing with the university and look forward to having two brothers work closely with the administration on IFC's alcohol initiatives board as well as the scholarship board. As the semester quickly approaches its end, I am reminded each day that I am damn proud to be a FIJI.

#### This Year's Pig Dinner a Huge Success

by Aaron Worley '21

The 2019 Frank Norris Pig Dinner was a huge success! The Lambda Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta is always proud to host Pig Dinner in our chapter house each year. We are thankful for the coordination between our chapter's chef, Mike Bostick, and our roast master, Gary Grathwohl. We would like to thank Nick Dimos '05, Ryan Etter '05, Andrew Porter '10, and Daylon Weddle '17 for their roles as our speakers and coordinators during the pig dinner ceremony. Without these brothers, our event would not have been able to occur.

This year, the undergraduate award winners for the five values of the fraternity were Chuck Behr '19 for Friendship, Solomon Alhakeem '22

(continued on page two)



2019 Frank Norris Pig Dinner guest speaker Nick Dimos '05.



Aaron Worley '21 and Blake Miller '21, who received the undergraduate award for Morality.



Aaron Worley '21 and Chuck Behr '19, who received the undergraduate award for Friendship.





Class of 2022 - Newly Initiated Members gather around the pig.



Aaron Worley '21 and Connor Berry '19, who received the undergraduate award for Excellence.



Aaron Worley '21 and Solomon Alhakeem, who received the undergraduate award for Excellence with a GPA of 3.85.



Aaron Worley '21 and Evan Grathwohl '20, who received the undergraduate award for Service.







#### HOUSE CORPORATION **BOARD MEMBERS**

President | Doug Mitchell '70

Vice President | George "Kit" Lortz '62

Secretary | Timothy Zaletel '15

Treasurer | Russ LaMore '88

Steve Jacobs '71 Wade Nichols '72 Paul Qua '82 John Axelberg '83 Jay Moore '74 Peter Fellegy '05

Emeritus | Joe Carney '50

#### BOARD OF CHAPTER ADVISERS

President | Garth Anderson

Vice President | Kevin Milne

Purple Legionnaire | Orlando Ramirez

Recruitment | Willie Brooks

Alonzo Gamboa

Graduate Relations | Leif Anderson

Finance | Kevin Milne

Ryan Edelen

Philanthropy/Community Service

Timothy Brooks Willie Brooks Brian Chan

Education | Will Calderwood

Brian Chan

Social/Brotherhood | Andrew Porter

**Timothy Brooks** 

#### **UNDERGRADUATE OFFICER** CABINET | SPRING 2019

President | Da'Jeal Willaby-Partee '20

Treasurer | Farukh Sarkulov '20

Recording Secretary | Tom Strasser '21

Corresponding Secretary | Aaron Worley '21

Historian | Trip Apley '21

#### **Pig Dinner**

(continued from page one)

for Knowledge, Evan Grathwohl '20 for Service, Blake Miller '21 for Morality, and Connor Berry '19 for Excellence. These brothers went above and beyond the expectations of the fraternity to exemplify these values each and every day. We hope to see you at Pig Dinner next year!



#### Lambda Welcomes 15 New Brothers

by Farukh Sarkulov '20

Recruitment season 2018-2019 has ended, and with it Lambda welcomed 18 new pledges. Out of those 18 pledges, we have initiated 15 and they are now brothers. The new pledge class is from all different walks of life and everyone brings a special skill and charisma to our Lambda family. We have new brothers from Nepal, Syria, Pakistan, and throughout the United States. We are excited to see what these new brothers will bring to our lovely home and we are equally excited to create memories with them when they move in next fall.

As recruitment chairman for this year, I would like to say thank you to all the generous donors who helped the undergrads get through this recruitment season. Many thanks to Tom Grooms, Aaron Gottway, and BCA for helping to pay for the expenses that come with recruitment and winter term. Without their contributions, Lambda would not have been able to successfully recruit. Alongside their financial contributions, their time and opinions were very helpful and there were many days when they really helped provide valuable insight about recruitment.

Recruitment 2018-2019 is in the books and I can say with full certainty that it was very much a team effort with brothers coming together to keep our home growing.

#### **Riders Prep for This Year's Little 5**

by Connor Berry '19

I have been blessed for my final semester with only having to take one class, my environmental fellows seminar, though for learning's sake—as well as keeping my financial aid—I'm also taking Spanish conversation and phonetics. What do I do with my newfound spare time, you ask? Train for Little 5, of course!

This year we have four riders: William Harsha '19, Richard Brainerd '19, Nikita Polyakov '22, and, of course, me. As I'm writing this, we are just coming back from spring break and picking right back up where we left off in training. We have based our training routine on one given to us by Lambda grad Luke Beasley '10, who was part of the FIJI team that ended DU's 15-year reign in 2008.

This routine puts us on the bike five days a week for about an hour each day, from simple steady pace rides to sprint workouts that leave us exhausted, just waiting for our glorious rest days. When you combine our commitment to training



(L to R) Will Harsha '19, Rick Brainerd '19, and Connor Berry '19. FIII prepared a team of three dedicated riders in order to participate in this year's Little 5 competition, which kicked off on April 27.

with most of DePauw's seriously fast riders graduating last year, I expect we'll be serious contenders. However, by the time you read this, the race will be over, so ask around or do a Google search and find out! In any case, I'll be glad to have gotten in shape, strengthened the brotherhood, and represented FIJI well as we work our way to consistently strong showings.

#### **Get to Know Lambda's Newest Brothers**

Written by the pledge class of 2022 | Assembled by Aaron Worley

Solomon Alhakeem | I am from Houston, Texas. Six years ago, I moved to the U.S. from Damascus, Syria. I joined FIJI because I sought a welcoming house and a true sense of fraternity, as these were things that reminded me of my homeland. I found both of those things at FIJI and many more great things. My favorite memories at the house as a pledge consist of conversing with others about their passions. On campus, I seek to major in vocal performance and archaeology. In the future, I hope to do research on the origins and development of music as a form of expression. I also hope to bring the languages and musical styles of the ancient Near East back to life through composition, because I believe that there is a lot to learn from our past. I am a member of the classics club on campus, and I am a chapel intern at Gobin United Methodist Church. I also work as a stage manager at the Green Center for the Performing Arts and as a music library assistant.

Nikita Polyakov | I came to DePauw from Washington State. I joined FIJI because I really enjoyed learning and hanging out with the house members.

Max Henderson | I'm from Louisville, Kentucky. I joined FIJI because I saw how it helped others develop into a better version of themselves while at the same time not pushing them to become a specific type of man. Since I'm a pledge, I can't speak much about my time at FIJI since I haven't been there for long, but a lot of the good memories I have are of spending time with the active members of FIJI and fellow pledges. I plan to major in computer science and psychology with a focus on cyber security, and have a potential internship with Raytheon for sophomore year lined up. I've participated in multiple programming competitions and entrepreneurship and internship programs with a focus on computer science, and hope to continue in the future.

Brandon Jordan | I am from Columbus Ohio. I joined FIJI because of the members of the house—the guys have always been super welcoming and fun to be around. So far as a pledge, I have not been able to do near as much as the other guys in the house, but some of my favorite memories from this school year were created in the house or from hanging out with my future brothers. I do not do sports here, but I go to the gym quite often and have been interested in starting a weightlifting club. Outside of the gym, I am a management fellow and I do quite a bit of theater—I have done multiple different plays here, and I am currently acting in two different plays. I am the pledge cabinet treasurer, and I cannot wait to help the house even more in the future. Although I have not declared my major, I plan to major in eco-



nomics and theater, with plans to get my MBA at graduate school after DePauw. Over the summer, I love to caddie for my friends and family and play video games with my friends.

**Peyton Dewaelsche** | I am from Fishers, Indiana. I joined FIJI because I was searching for a sense of community and I found it in the brotherhood of the house. I have yet to be initiated, but have spent a good amount of time within the house just getting to know the brothers better. I am a big sports fan, and I hope to create a fantasy football club here at DePauw next year. At this point, I am planning to major in geology and physics and minor in astronomy and in the future go to graduate school to earn a master's degree in geology.

Patrick Amaro Rivera | I am from Charlotte, North Carolina. I joined FIJI because I believe it's the house that can let me be myself and grow as a person. I also love the sense of brotherhood that comes from the house. I plan to major in pre-engineering and computer science and minor in math and physics.

Taha Imran Ameer | I am from Lahore, Pakistan, but was originally born in San Jose, California. I joined FIII because I believe and know for a fact that this is the most diverse house on campus. It's not an all-white fraternity and it welcomes people from every ethnicity and background. Whenever I go to FIJI it reminds me of home because of the amazing people in the house who are eager to talk to you and welcome you. I plan to major in preengineering with a minor in math.

**Etienne Ruiz** | I'm a sophomore here at DePauw University. I've journeyed my way here from Phoenix, Arizona. FIJI reminds me of home, and I am happy to be here.

Bryan Murillo | I am from Chicago, Illinois. I joined FIJI because I wanted a band of brothers to bond with and do great things for the community with. I do many things on campus as part of my co-curricular. I am the first year chairman for Committee of Latinx Concerns, I'm on the Green Dot Committee, and I am my pledge class recording secretary. I do all this and more to enrich my skillset, to get to know people, and to establish a positive legacy for myself in the eyes of the university and the student body.

Robin Bista | I am a freshman from Nepal, which is 7,000 miles away from DePauw. Being at FIJI has been an awesome experience.

John Berkley | I'm from Evanston, Illinois. I'm a first year and joined FIJI because they've been my favorite people on campus since I got here. I plan on majoring in econ and possibly

**Breagan Craig** I'm from Louisville, Kentucky. I joined FIJI because of the brotherhood and emphasis on individuality and ambition to grow young men into future leaders. I plan on majoring in pre-engineering and computer science. These men I've surrounded myself with have become brothers to me, and are some of the most helpful, trustworthy people I've ever met.

Alex Walton | I'm from the East Coast. I work in New York City as an analyst. My number one hobby is skateboarding, I've been doing it for 12 years. Being a FIJI is more to me than a brotherhood. It is a family in which I feel welcome, comforted, and challenged in the best ways.

Barry Zhao | My name is Zichen Zhao and I am from China. I love to practice Chinese martial arts and calligraphy. I love my college a lot, but I prefer my brotherhood in FIJI because it gives me a sense of belonging. My brothers and I will build the best community a DePauw, and I believe that I will contribute to my family.

#### GRADUATE BROTHER NEWS

Bill Graham '62 and wife Lori have moved to 4555 E. Mayo Blvd., #48102, Phoenix, AZ 85050. Reach Bill by email at crackers5@me.com.

"At 72 I'm still going strong," begins Kirby Whyte '70, "leading a company that has evolved and grown into a leader in our market, the Washington, D.C., area, and servicing events all over America." The company, CVW Event Productions (formerly Creative Video of Washington Inc.), began in 1981 as a video production company doing video projection for association annual meetings, replacing slide projectors with video. Writes Kirby, "Over the years we have weathered 9/11, grown from a three-person staff to a full-time staff of 10 and a freelance staff of 20-plus. We have clients we've provided uninterrupted support to for over 38 years." He continues, "We have grown with each new presentation and production technology as it came into the market. Our clients continued to push us to provide more and more services. Today, we are leader in providing more than just video. We now own some of the finest audio equipment, including large arrays and encrypted wireless technology. Our stage lighting has evolved to be all LED, including moving computer controlled instruments. Our HD video projection equipment has evolved to 5,000 ANSI HD projectors for breakout rooms up to 20,000 ANSI HD projects for use at the Kennedy Center and for large-screen presentations. Our HD inventory includes 18 Christie DLP HD projectors and 38 AV Stumpfl projection screens. Our HD camera inventory includes eight HD cameras and two 4K interview cameras. We have two warehouses and three large trucks to service events across the country." Last September the company rebranded as CVW Event Productions to reflect that it is now a fullservice presentation and staging company servicing associations, not-for-profits, busi-

> nesses, and corporations with their annual meetings, expositions, corporate presentations,

> > meetings, special events, and traditional video production. He and wife Bonnie have lived in Glen

Echo, Maryland, for over 41 years. Contact him at kw@cvwevents.com or 39 Wellesley Circle, Glen Echo, MD 20812.

Craig Wallace '18 is currently pursuing a master of music in choral studies at University of Cambridge in the U.K. Catch up with him at craigerwallace@gmail.com. His new home address (stateside) is 10717 Carpenter Run Lane, Knoxville, TN 37932.

#### AD ASTRA

Eldon S. Wright '46 October 4, 2018

Richard R. Savage '48 June 24, 2018

Charles R. McKibbin '50 April 9, 2013

David McCormick Dirks '63 November 28, 2018

> Bradford R. Fleig '66 September 19, 2016

### A Brother Explores His Career Options Abroad

by Jason Veloz '20

A major factor in my decision to study abroad in Denmark was to pursue my passion of becoming an independent video game developer. As a computer science major, I've always had a feeling that this is the direction I wanted my career to go in, but until I came to Copenhagen it was only ever a hobby. Through various experiences, such as visiting Crytek Studios in Frankfurt, Germany, and a GameJam (an event in which contestants are given 24 hours to conceive, design, and develop a game), I have learned of the trials that come with turning a beloved hobby into a career.

Copenhagen is such a beautiful city, and I am glad I have been able to tackle these challenges in an environment that is equal parts friendly and foreign. Some of the best



Jason at the LEGO House in Denmark.

times I've had here thus far have been with Danes, ever eager to learn about me and my culture while teaching me how to not stick out like a sore thumb. I am especially grateful to my visiting host family (pictured below): Tina (standing next to me), and her two sons, Jonas (older brother all the way to the right) and Kasper (youngest brother standing in the center). They taught me much about what its like to grow up in Copenhagen, and their hospitality was beyond heartwarming.

I am eager to share my experiences with my brothers back in FIJI next semester.



#### www.depauwfiji.com

TIGER FIJI

is published regularly by Lambda Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta. News and photos should be sent to Alumni Records Office, Lambda Chapter, Phi Gamma Delta, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876, or alumnirecords@fijiatdepauw.org.