



Delta Dispatch

A PUBLICATION OF THE DELTA ALUMNI OF SIGMA PHI DELTA, INC.

Delta Chapter • University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois • Fall 2019

Additional Alumni Donations Essential to Campaign Success

Delta Chapter's Future Is in Your Hands—Will You Take Action?

- Who was your best friend at ΣΦΔ?
- Who inspired you as an undergraduate?
- What did you learn about leadership?
- How is your life different because of Delta Chapter?

If we were to ask every brother these questions, it's guaranteed their answers would vary. We hope they would all agree that while each ΣΦΔ experience is unique, they are all a positive reflection of their time spent at the University of Illinois. We hope you're able to look back on this truly life-changing experience at Delta Chapter and recall the many benefits your ΣΦΔ membership brought into your life.

We thank the 110 donors to date for their generosity and unwavering support of the place that helped us grow into capable leaders in college and beyond. And to those who have delayed your support, we hope you'll look back at your ΣΦΔ experience and see what gifts it has given you. Remember, all donors who pledge \$2,500 or more will receive permanent recognition in the chapter house once the renovation is complete.

To date, just over 81% of our campaign goal has been committed. While this is an outstanding accomplishment at this point in the campaign, closing the gap between signed pledges and the campaign goal balance of \$180,427 is imperative to keep our chapter on solid financial footing and reduce the burden of debt incurred by construction costs. **We must raise these remaining dollars—we need your attention and action right now.** Each additional gift brings us closer to achieving our campaign goal and ensuring the bright future of Delta Chapter.

PROJECT PROGRESS

The design of the renovation is underway, and we are working through various schemes with Reifsteck Reid Architects. The alumni chapter voted and overwhelmingly approved the following plan earlier this year:

- Base option is a total interior rehab including maximizing bedrooms on the third floor, new HVAC with individual heating/cooling, new plumbing with new bathrooms, new electrical, accessibility with ADA-compliant bedroom and bathroom, workshop and study/meeting space. Exterior improvements to roofing, windows, timbers/siding, concrete, etc., would also be completed.
- Alternate option for a west addition to increase bedroom quantity and first floor common space provided sufficient funds are raised.
- Since the summer alumni meeting, we have engaged an architectural firm, and the design phase is underway. We remain on schedule for construction to begin in 2020 after school lets out.

WRITING THE NEXT CHAPTER OF DELTA

There's still time to make your mark. Please consider making a first-time gift or extending your pledge, if you have already made the leap. Take a moment to look at the donor list in this issue and reach out to any brothers from your time at the house—we would be grateful to have even more brothers help us secure Sigma Phi Delta's future at the U of I.

Fraternally,
Mike Rohan '93
Era Campaign Chairman
mprohan@comcast.net
(708) 420-8972

Thank You, Generous Delta Chapter Donors!

We are deeply grateful to the 110 donors listed below for committing \$819,573 to *The Castle Renovation: Engineering the Future of Sigma Phi Delta*. These brothers recognize the importance of ensuring Delta's future and have demonstrated a sense of gratitude for their personal experience. Commitments are still needed from the rest of our alumni to achieve our goal and complete this major project.

All donors with gifts of \$1,000 or more will be recognized in campaign mailings, and donors with gifts above \$2,500 will have their names placed on a plaque in a prominent area of the chapter house. (Text to be engraved on the plaques at conclusion of capital campaign subject to board approval.) Additionally, gifts of \$25,000 and above are considered leadership-level contributions and qualify for special room naming opportunities.

Russel C. Smith
Founders Circle
(\$75,000 and above)
Donald R. Buckner '89

Dr. Robert Beals
Leaders Circle
(\$50,000 to \$74,999)
Eric P. Messerschmidt '86
Joseph "Sam" Cox '00

Rev. Dave Vosecky
Investors Club
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)
Active Members of
Delta Chapter
Joseph F. Kennell '58
James McMahon '85
Scott A. Steele '90
Michael P. Rohan '93
Eric S. Daugherty '98

Castle Contributor
(\$15,000 to \$24,999)
Jeffrey Schneider '78
Scott M. Morrison '82
Donald J. Nelson '82
Michael Burke '83

Mark S. Fier '85
Rick Woods '86
Paul A. Lindner '88
Eric Anderson '90
David Kintz '90
David L. Sohl '94
Pat Cox '01
Jeffrey M. Leesman '03

Cog Supporter
(\$10,000 to \$14,999)
John W. Kistenbroker '57
John S. Perry '59
Ronald D. Davis '69
Robert S. Giurato '71
Steve Denny '72
Bruce D. Purvis '88
Shawn G. Thomas '93
Michael G. Golden '02
Derek A. Price '03

Delta Chapter Associate
(\$5,000 to \$9,999)
Anonymous
Ross Talbot
In memory of
Aaron Phelps '02
F. A. George '58

David Bunting '60
Gary Hunt '65
Thomas F. Hintz '67
Thomas E. Kusnierz '82
Christopher L. Rudolphi '83
Ron Carmichael '84
Jack L. Howard '88
Douglas Knapp '88
Randall J. Hein '90
Douglas S. Stirrett '92
Carlos Jimenez '93
Tom Dagenais '99
Erik N. Schultz '01
Ian P. Santarinala '02
In memory of
Aaron Phelps '02
Christopher R. Garner '11
Christopher A. DeFlumeri '12
In honor of
Rogue Nation, New Mexico
Pawel Fudala '17
In honor of the
Fall '14 Pledge Class

Black Level
(\$2,500 to \$4,999)
Ernest C. Karras '60
Gary G. Klein '69

Benjamin L. McCash '70
Duane P. Larson '71
Randolph M. Freeman '72
Thomas Durkin '75
Fred P. Baker '77
Mark B. Snyder '79
William J. Broersma '82
Timothy Staber '87
Andrew J. Cich '90
Dino E. Tsoukatos '96
Brett D. Durbin '99
Morgan R. Coates '03
Kyle Ives '07
Michael T. Coe '10
Ryan Johnson '10
Steven Jastrzebski '12
Brody Schofield '17

Red Level
(\$1,000 to \$2,499)
James T. Ephgrave '52
Raymond Mueller '54
Raymond F. Siewert '54
Robert K. Waddick '56
Robert N. Deem '57
Hubert C. Edfors '57
Theodore W. Johnson '62
Glen A. Zumwalt '63

CAMPAIGN STATUS

AT-A-GLANCE

As of November 12, 2019

CAMPAIGN GOAL
\$1 MILLION

TOTAL COMMITMENTS
\$819,573

TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS
110

MAILABLE ALUMNI
525

Roy R. Johnson '64
J. Bradley Hull '69
William A. Birtcher '70
Richard R. Parry '70
Terrence R. Phelan '72
Mark A. Ray '79
Matthew W. Schlichter '80
Marc Van Dyke '82
David L. Hulsman '88
Matt Braun '94
Eduardo C. Depaz '95
Christopher M. Newman '95
Justin D. Durfee '98
Bryan M. Stolze '02
Homer Carter '04
Matt Hewitt '09
Erik V. Lynch '10
Dean D. Santarinala '12

Closing In on the Gap – Brothers, We Need You Help Us Complete the Castle Renovation

Greetings, fellow Delta Chapter alumni! In our spring 2019 newsletter, we announced a membership-wide vote had ratified our proposed *Castle Renovation* project. **Jeff Leesman '03** is heading up a team of alumni which has provided definition to the project and submitted RFPs to several architect firms across the country.

This team and our executive board reviewed the proposals, narrowed down the list and conducted interviews with the two leading architectural firms from our assessment. Coming out of these interviews, we selected Reifsteck Reid of Champaign to be our *Castle Renovation* architect. If that name sounds familiar, it's because Reifsteck Reid, formerly

known as Gorski Reifsteck, was the lead architectural firm and construction management lead for our two fire escape projects. Prior to our *Castle Renovation* campaign, Reifsteck Reid assessed the current condition of the chapter house to provide guidance on the state of the house and rough figures on how much certain repairs and new equipment would cost. We feel very confident that the selection Reifsteck Reid gives us the best opportunity for a successful project while also providing us the most "bang for our buck."

Looking ahead, we have embarked into the *Castle Renovation* design phase with the goal to have the overall design drawn up, bid out and general contractors selected by January

or February in order to break ground on this important project by May of 2020 when the spring semester concludes.

We have not yet achieved our capital campaign goal of \$1 million in pledges. As we begin detailed planning and move closer to groundbreaking in the late spring, it is critical that we line up donation pledges to fill this gap. Please, if you haven't yet made a pledge, join us in helping make this once-in-a-lifetime project a reality.

Fraternally,
Rick Woods '86, President
Delta Alumni of Sigma Phi Delta, Inc.
rwoods613@gmail.com | (815) 262-1602

Castle Renovation Project Timeline

October 2019:

Complete Schematic Design

Schematic design consists of a viable concept(s) that can be used for preliminary pricing and as a basis for proceeding into detailed design. Ideally floor plans would be generally set at this point. We plan to have a concept with and without an addition, per the direction from membership in January 2019.

November-December 2019:

General Contractor Selection, Architects Proceed with Design Development

Design Development consists of firming up the concepts in the schematic design. Engineering disciplines will be integrated into the design.

January 2020:

Complete Design Development, Estimating

Plan to have general contractor selected and have estimate complete on the design development design.

February-March 2020:

Architects and General Contractor Proceed with Construction Documents

Construction documents to incorporate all necessary details required for construction. Include the general contractor in the design process to provide cost and constructability feedback. Any cost saving/value engineering measures if necessary, based on general contractor's design development estimate.

April 2020:

Complete Construction Documents and Submit for Permits

Late May/Early June 2020:

Begin Construction

June 2021:

Construction Complete

July-August 2021:

Move In

Campaign Donor John Perry '59 Thankful for Illinois Delta Experience

As with anything in life, it often takes time to find the right fit. That was the case for **John Perry '59**. After going through recruitment as an incoming freshman and finding no match, John finally found a perfect fit with Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Delta. The chapter expressed a sincere interest in him, and John found Delta a place where he could learn, contribute, and be a part of a group.

John's undergraduate years were a rigorous learning experience from all points of view — academically and socially. Within Sigma Phi Delta, he learned from chapter leadership roles, being a part of a great group, and doing some serious problem solving.

That love of problem solving stayed with John throughout his profession and is one of the most rewarding aspects of his rich and varied career. After spending three years in the Air Force with a focus on wire communications, John moved on to spend 25 years with Westinghouse Electric Corporation in sales, marketing, and planning. After an early retirement at age 50, he switched gears to focus on starting businesses.

As an entrepreneur, John has been responsible for launching several companies. For nine years he operated a business with his wife providing outplacement and marketing consulting. He then co-founded the Westminster Economic Development Initiative, before moving on to co-found several other related startups.

Thanks to **Rick Woods '86**, John has reconnected with Delta Chapter. "It has been interesting to become involved again and to think about what actually has happened in my life." When approached to donate to *The Castle Renovation*, John was more than happy to contribute.



"The fraternity greatly enhanced my undergraduate experience and I was happy for the opportunity to show my appreciation." John said. "It's great to talk with brothers about the experience and what has happened since."

John and his wife, Jane, live in Chicago, and have two children: Steven, who lives in Philadelphia, and Carolyn, who lives in Chicago. John enjoys being a grandparent, especially seeing his grandchildren grow but "being able to walk away when things get out of hand."

As *The Castle Renovation* continues, John looks forward to what the project will bring not only to future undergraduates, but also to alumni. "Besides the building project itself, capital campaigns really benefit in bringing us together again." With a new house on the horizon, generations of brothers are bound to find the right fit in Sigma Delta Phi just as John did.

Find out more about why John believes in the campaign by connecting with him at johnperry3@mac.com or learn more about his professional life and current partnership opportunities at www.johnperry.co.



Front: Tom Parkinson '14, Pat Cox '01, Paul Lindner '88, and Don Buckner '89 share time together at a Cubs game.

ΣΦΔ, A Leading Factor in Success

We often like to say that college days were the best days of our lives, but for **David Sohl '94**, they truly were. Sigma Phi Delta stood out to him as a freshman at the University of Illinois because of the engineering and professional aspects the fraternity offered. "That, combined with the friendliness of the people I met there, made it an easy choice to make," he recalled.

David thrived in the more challenging and interesting subjects he studied while also participating in activities from Homecoming to concert band, as well as playing euchre with my brothers. "ΣΦΔ really helped me orient myself to the challenge Illinois and my professional life presented," he said. "It started with mandatory study time each day, but more than that, it was being around others who worked hard (and played hard)."

His dedication to academics and professional development led him to his role today as executive director of information architecture at Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC). "I lead a team of 50 data architects and data modelers within our Enterprise Architecture group, and I am focused on transforming/modernizing HCSC's data analytics capabilities," he explained. It's most rewarding for him to articulate a strategic vision with his team and across multiple teams to make that vision a reality.

Even with his busy schedule, David still finds time to connect with his Delta brothers. "I know that life can be very busy, but connecting with your contemporaries is almost like being back in school again (just with more stories to tell now)!" he said. It's not just the experiences shared together in the Castle, but the bonds forged through those experiences that have made all the difference for David. ΣΦΔ remains an important part of his life, and it's where he made lifelong friends.



When it came down to it, there was really no question if he would give back to *The Castle Renovation: Engineering the Future of Sigma Phi Delta* campaign. "I think ΣΦΔ really helped me pivot and be successful at Illinois, which in turn positioned me well for future success," he said. "I am proud to be able to give something back and support future generations."

David enjoys biking, traveling, playing in the local band, and photography. He and his wife, Amy, have two children: Alexandra, who now attends Mizzou, and Andrew, who is still in high school. While balancing work and family life keeps him busy, there is always a place for Sigma Phi Delta.

You can connect with David at david.sohl1@gmail.com.

Recognizing More Than \$300 Million in Support

Written by Bill Bell

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's College of Engineering has become The Grainger College of Engineering, recognizing a new \$100 million gift from The Grainger Foundation and more than \$300 million in total support, after consultation with the Chancellor's Joint Advisory Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights and with approval by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees.

Article originally published on www.illinois.edu.com. For full article go to <https://grainger.illinois.edu/news/features/grainger-naming>.

Delta Chapter by the Numbers



Brothers with a 4.0 GPA + their credit hours:

Jonathon Wexler '19 - 13 hours
Zach Fishman '19 - 14 hours
Justin Frank '20 - 14 hours
Joseph Zabinski '19 - 14 hours
Richard Machado '19 - 15 hours
Michael McGinnis '20 - 15 hours
Mason Rosenburg '21 - 16 hours



For our highest GPA scholarship, the tie-breaker is credit hours.

Mason Rosenburg '21 - Scholarship Award Winner



Delta Chapter Spring GPA: 3.344 (among 76 members)

Rank: 5th among All Fraternities

Outpaced the All-Fraternity/Sorority GPA of 3.282

Outpaced the All-Undergraduate GPA of 3.17

Rank Last Fall: 7th place - 3.243

Triangle Rank: 29th place - 3.029 GPA



Brothers Connor Lake '19, Gordon Foley '20, Matthew Weberski '20, Alexander Krysl '18, Jack Panella '19, Mason Metzkes '19, and Jonathan Wexler '19 finish the $\Sigma\Phi\Delta$ broomball season strong at the ice arena.



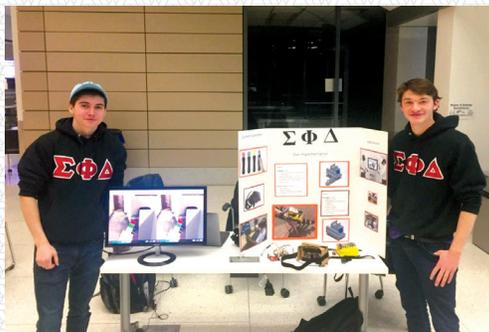
Brothers Sahil Morrow '20, Paul Pagos '19, Jacob Anderson '20, Gordon Foley '20, Theodore Reimann '19, Jonathan Bernstein '20, Brett Lofendo '22, Drew Waldecker '19, and Matthew Weberski '20 join the orange crush for a basketball game at the State Farm Center in the spring.



Brother Thomas Ng '21 interning for the Chicago Cubs this summer.



Delta brothers take a trip to an escape room in April.



Brothers Robert Ernst '20 and Samuel Atac '19 show off their force resistive AR glove at this semester's engineering open house.

Change Is Coming to 302 Gregory Dr. Delta Chapter Brothers Advancing

Delta Chapter is thriving. With over 60 active members, the chapter has numbers that haven't been seen in years. We've been active in intramural sports, the engineering community, strengthening our brotherhood and preparing for the Castle renovation.

Our brothers have been extremely active in on-campus intramural sports as well as being heavily involved in the engineering community. Delta Chapter fielded an intramural broomball team in the spring and created a booth to present on force resistive AR gloves last spring. Delta Chapter has been active in other areas of campus, with groups of brothers attending sporting events to cheer on our Fighting Illini basketball team.

Our brothers have extended the influence of Delta Chapter to all areas of the market, representing our brotherhood in both engineering and non-engineering sectors, including the Chicago Cubs, where brother **Thomas Ng '21** interned over the summer. The relationships among brothers continue to be strong, with numerous brotherhood events such as attending paintball arenas and escape rooms.

This fall, the chapter is being led by an excellent leadership consisting of **Robbie Ernst '21** as vice chief engineer, **MJ**

McGinnis '22 as secretary, **Sahil Morrow '20** as business manager, and **Nick Weger '20** as house manager. Brother Sahil has also been awarded the esteemed position of Supreme Council intern, and he will be assisting the International Fraternity Supreme Council facilitate their duties.

Preparations are being made for next school year when the Castle will be under construction, securing an office at Engineering Hall for executive board meetings and lecture halls for chapter meetings. Heading into the Castle renovation, the active chapter has generously pledged \$40,000 toward renovations. In addition, Delta actives have been working to secure a large house to rent next year, ensuring that the chapter has a "home away from home" while our Castle is renovated.

This fall, Delta Chapter recruited another 13 engineering students as new members, all of whom are excited about contributing to the brotherhood in their own unique way. With the renovation on the horizon, the state of Delta Chapter is strong, and the future is bright.

Fraternally,
Brandon Chiodini '20
Chief Engineer
btc2@illinois.edu

Chapter Officers

Chief Engineer

Brandon Chiodini '20
btc2@illinois.edu
(815) 985-9963

Vice Chief Engineer

Robbie Ernst '21

Secretary

MJ McGinnis '22

House Manager

Nick Weger '20

Business Manager

Sahil Morrow '20

Pledgemaster

Andy Vanthournout '20

Risk Reduction

Nick Weger '20

Recruitment Chairmen

Brett Lofendo '22

Shyam Upadhyay '22

Rohan Suresh '22

Enrico Ruffalo '22

Social Chairmen

Robert Zajac '19

Ian Goodwin '21

Assistant Business Manager

Shyam Upadhyay '22

Assistant House Manager

James Ruth '22

Philanthropy Chairmen

Jonathan Bernstein '22

Tyler Huang '22

Historian

Evan Sacks '21

Athletic Chairman

Shar Alamagir '21

Expansion

Paul Pagos '19

Chaplain

Jacob Rajilich '20

Commissar

James Ruth '22

External Relations

Yogin Patel '22

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Brothers at the chapter house in fall 2018.