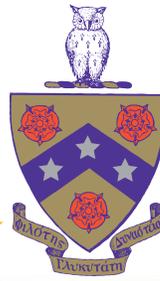


# TIGER FIJI



## STATE OF THE CHAPTER

by Gage Smitley '21



I am proud and honored to be able to write my first state of the chapter for *Tiger FIJI*. For those of you who I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Gage Smitley. I am currently majoring in philosophy with an intended

double major in political science, and I am scheduled to graduate in 2021. I plan to attend law school after I graduate.

I first would like to inform all of our graduates that our thoughts and prayers go out to all of you and your families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay safe and press on! With online classes and all of us sent home from school, it has been difficult to effectively run and manage the chapter (since none of us are there) during these times. However, we are looking at alternative ways to host remote/virtual chapter meetings, much like we did with the impromptu virtual Pig Dinner happy hour put on by some of our graduate brothers. (Shout-out to Andrew Porter for putting that together!)

The best update that I have on “what effect will this have on the chapter?” is the following: we truly have no idea. Cabinet, along with the brothers in the house, are taking this situation day by day.

Now that we’ve gotten the pandemic part out of the way, cue the typical state of the chapter!

Things are looking very good for our chapter. After incorporating a new scholarship plan for the foreseeable future, I am very excited to say that it seems the plan is working. While numerous other fraternities on campus had their house GPA decrease by 0.2 points, Lambda’s increased by that same amount.

In previous years, our retention rate has been detrimental to the chapter: losing brothers who drop out due to mental health problems, the stress of DePauw’s rigorous academics being some of the key factors. Last semester, our chapter implemented a new mental health chair and

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*Pictured (left to right): Samuel Johnson '22, Brandon Collins '23, Alec Stevenson '22, Christian Jones '23, Alejandro Flynn '23, Tyler Morris '23, Siddhanta Phuyal '23, William BonDurant '23, Will Cole '23, Elton Aguilar '23, Bold Enkhbaatar '23, Hamza Cherqaoui '23, Achraf Tai '23. Not pictured: Riley Reed '23 and Christian Soto '23.*

## Phi Gam Looks Forward Following Strong Spring Recruitment

by Gage Smitley '21 | Recruitment Chair

Greetings, brothers! I am proud and excited to say that between formal recruitment and open bids, we have added 15 new members this year! Our new members are a very diverse group. We have some who are from as close as Plainfield, Indiana, (30 minutes from campus) and some who are from as far away as Morocco, Nepal, and Mongolia. Their intended majors vary from pre-med to tuba performance in the School of Music. While the number we got was on par with what we expected, due to overall numbers being low yet again, I want to stress the importance that the new members who have joined are the highest

quality group of guys on this campus. I am not exaggerating when I say that they have the initiative to take the Lambda Chapter to heights it has never been before.

I would like to give thanks to brother Avery Archer for dedicating his time to give a speech during round two of formal recruitment this year. I would also like to thank the current brothers for taking formal recruitment numbers with a grain of salt and continuing to press on by recruiting so many people through open bids. The guys never gave up this year and it made me damn proud to be the recruitment chairman.

## HC & BCA Work With Eye Toward a “New Normal”

The House Corporation and Board of Chapter Advisors would like to express our deepest sympathies as the brothers of Phi Gamma Delta, the student body, and the university deal with the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and its fallout. As you are likely already aware, all fraternity and university-related activities have been

moved to virtual, cancelled, or postponed as DePauw made drastic yet necessary steps to limit in-person meetings following the guidelines provided by the CDC. The House Corporation, Board of Chapter Advisors, House Director Daylon '17, and a number of our dedicated graduate brothers have been

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## HOUSE CORPORATION BOARD MEMBERS

### President

Doug Mitchell '70

### Vice President

George "Kit" Lortz '62

### Secretary

Timothy Zaletel '15

### Treasurer

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Steve Jacobs '71  
Wade Nichols '72  
Paul Qua '82  
John Axelberg '83  
Jay Moore '74  
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### Emeritus

Joe Carney '50

## BOARD OF CHAPTER ADVISERS

### President

Andrew Porter '10

### Scholarship Advisor & Vice President

Leif Anderson '15

### Advisors to the Treasurer

Ryan Edelen '11  
Kevin Milne '11

### Advisors to the Secretaries & Historian

Willie Brooks '13  
Timothy Brooks '14

## UNDERGRADUATE OFFICER CABINET SPRING 2020

### President

Gage Smitley '21

### Treasurer

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### Recording Secretary

Nicholas Williams '21

### Corresponding Secretary

Solomon Alhakeem '22

### Historian

Noah Mack '21

## STATE OF THE CHAPTER

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started FIJI Circle. This is a time where brothers meet up each week and speak about what they are struggling with and could use help on, or can be used to just be there for brothers and help them through their tough week. This has been a key factor in how we have brought back such a strong brotherhood presence to the Lambda Chapter, and will be essential in how Lambda succeeds going forward.

Earlier this semester, we had a graduate panel for our new members that went over very well. I would like to thank the graduate brothers who



Graduate panel for new members.

dedicated their time to talk about their experience in the house, and would love to see the chapter implement this on a yearly basis going forward. If you would like to be a part of the next panel, please reach out to Corresponding Secretary Solomon Alhakeem.

Finally, I would really like to give a shout out and a huge thank you to our Board of Chapter Advisors, Housing Corporation, Purple Legionnaire, and brothers Daylon Weddle and Tom Grooms. I had this part included in my first draft of this report, but after all of the help and advice these brothers have given in helping our cabinet try to effectively navigate this pandemic, I thought it was even more important to include spotlighting these groups/individuals. Without all of your help, my job would certainly be a lot harder than what it currently is, and it shows our undergraduate brothers that Lambda Phi Gamma Delta is truly "not for college days alone."

Perge!

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: GERALD PINEDA '20



Gerald Pineda

I am from Chicago, and I am a computer science major and a studio art minor. I am also the president of Computing Opportunities for Students of Color (COSOC). My time at FIJI started really early in my freshman year.

By week two, I had already been to my first fraternity house ever and it was FIJI. It didn't take long for this organization to become my second home.

I have a lot to thank this organization for, specifically, the brothers who I have met over these past four years. They have been an influence in shaping me into the man I am today and I will forever be grateful for that.

I am pleased to announce that I will be working full time after graduation for West Monroe Partners as a technical consultant. Our five values became the embodiment of my development throughout college. However, like we say, that growth is "not for college days alone."

Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, it is truly devastating and I expected it to affect us. At first, what started as just a virus abroad quickly had me anxious every time I felt sick. Adding to this anxiety was that my parents own a business in which they come into contact with various people on a daily basis. Despite missing out on the full experience of being on campus with my brothers for the rest of my senior year, I have been much more worried about the real world problems that surround me, my family and those I love.

## ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT: NIKITA POLYAKOV '22

I am a sophomore computer science major from Sammamish, Washington. Alongside being a member of Lambda, Phi Gamma Delta, I also represent DePauw in the pool.

Being part of two communities that change the way you live your daily life drastically is difficult but very rewarding. Balancing these two communities that I care about can prove to be very difficult at times, and finding the right way to impact both programs in a significant and helpful way can be frustrating.

However, my brothers at FIJI have consistently been there to support me at my swim meets. The relationships that are made through my experiences in FIJI are what I value the most and what make the journey enjoyable.

Nikita Polyakov at the pool, right.



# Get to Know Lambda's Newest Brothers

**Elton Aguilar '23** I am from Chicago, Illinois, and my intended major is computer science. I joined FIJI because I was accepted and pushed to be a better individual. It also became a home where I can come anytime after a long day and be with people who share a common interests. I also enjoy the amount of diversity and culture that is not present in other fraternities.

**William BonDurant '23** I am from the lovely expanse of cornfields we call Southern Illinois. My intended majors are tuba performance and computer science. I joined FIJI because it would allow me to network with many great people from diverse backgrounds and gain a broader and more enriching perspective of my own life, and those around me.

**Hamza Cherqaoui '23** I am from Rabat, Morocco, and I am double majoring in computer science and mathematics. I joined the Lambda Chapter because it fosters both brotherhood and friendship and is also a top fraternity at DePauw. I am proud to be a brother amongst great individuals here in Phi Gamma Delta. I believe that joining FIJI will not only give me a true sense of fraternity, but guide me toward my professional career with the values it has to offer.

**Will Cole '23** I am from Columbus, Ohio, and I plan on majoring in computer science. I also play the piano. I joined FIJI due to the welcoming feeling I received from the brothers. The unique diversity of the brothers' backgrounds makes FIJI a vibrant brotherhood, which I hope will allow me to grow in ways I have never imagined.

**Brandon Collins '23** I am from Clarksville, Tennessee, and I joined FIJI because I enjoyed getting to know a few of the guys on my first visit. I really enjoyed the atmosphere and felt really welcomed. I intend to major in neuroscience with a minor in computer science. I am a Bonner Scholar and I volunteer most of my time at Asbury Towers. I am also an Environmental Fellow and interested in sharing part of my liberal arts education with a focus on the environmental sciences, arts, and literature.

**Bold Enkhbaatar '23** I am from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, and I joined FIJI because the house has brothers from diverse backgrounds who support you. At the same time, it feels like a home, with brothers having close relationships with one another. I intend to major in computer science and minor in economics. I

believe that joining FIJI can be a valuable lifetime experience.

**Alejandro Flynn '23** I was born in Chicago and moved around the country when I was younger, having lived in Illinois, Texas, and, eventually, Massachusetts. I'm pursuing a degree in economics, and want to get an MBA and work in the financial world. The people are truly what brought me to the house. FIJI seemed to be full of well rounded guys who could enjoy intellectual debate and exchange of ideas while still being a fun group. Unlike other fraternities on campus, I always felt welcomed at FIJI.

**Samuel Johnson '22** I am originally from Chicago, but my family moved to the western suburbs as I got older. I am majoring in computer science with a sociology minor. I joined FIJI because many of the men I look up to are in this house. The house is extremely diverse and the members are a warm, welcoming group who make me excited to be among their ranks. I am both a Posse and a Bonner scholar. I am also a member of the Robotics Club and I am on the executive board of Computing Opportunities for Students of Color (COSOC).

**Christian Jones '23** I am from Pendleton, Indiana, and I plan on majoring in either Kinesiology or psychology. I joined FIJI because of the brothers and the atmosphere. The guys in this house are second to none. Back home, I played varsity basketball and football and was captain of both teams. I was also involved in my local church and my local food bank. All of these things helped me become a better leader and that's what I believe I can bring to FIJI.

**Tyler Morris '23** I'm from Avon, Indiana, and my intended major is psychology with a pre-law track. I plan on attending law school after DePauw. I joined FIJI because they were the only fraternity that went out of the way to make me feel at home. I believe that Lambda is a solid chapter, and that we can make our chapter the best in the state. Back home, I was a youth minister, leading petty officer in a naval ROTC program, and a lifeguard; I have over 500 hours of community service over the last five years.

**Siddhanta Phuyal '23** I am from Kathmandu, Nepal. My intended majors are actuarial science and computer science. I joined FIJI

because it is a very diverse house where brothers from different cultural and social backgrounds live together, learning and respecting each others' values. Regarding my campus involvement, I take part in the Information Technology Program (ITAP).

**Riley Reed '23** I'm from Indianapolis, and I joined FIJI because of the smaller house size that allows for greater opportunities to build relationships among brothers. I intend to major in biochemistry and minor in Spanish and theatre. I enjoy working in theatre productions as both an actor and a crew member, and I play multiple instruments. In joining FIJI, I hope to be able to change the DePauw community for the better while forming meaningful relationships.

**Christian Soto '23** I am from Round Lake Beach in the northern suburbs of Chicago, and I joined FIJI because of the unique friendships I was able to develop during my first few weeks on campus. The brothers are very welcoming and there is a well-established sense of brotherhood in the house. I plan to either major in neuroscience or biochemistry and minor in Spanish. My goal is to go to medical school to achieve my dream of becoming a surgeon while bridging the language barriers that are present in the medical field. On campus, I am a part of Students of Color in STEM (SOCIS) as well as Minority Association for Pre-Medical Students (MAPS). I also volunteer monthly at the Non-Food Pantry.

**Alec Stevenson '22** I am from Quincy, Illinois, and I transferred to DePauw last semester from Southern Methodist University. I joined FIJI because I liked the guys I met during recruitment. I am majoring in computer science here at DePauw and maybe minoring in math and/or economics. I would like to attend graduate school after college, and plan on deciding what to do with my life then.

**Achraf Tai '23** I am from Casablanca, Morocco, and I intend on majoring in computer science and film studies and probably minoring in anthropology and French. Meeting the guys at FIJI right after moving to DePauw was a big factor that got me into joining the fraternity because it felt like home. I believe FIJI will give me access to many opportunities in the future, but also be an unforgettable journey that I will cherish for life.

## Academic Awards and Honors

**Evan Grathwohl '20** is a graduating DePauw Management Fellow.

**Farukh Sarkulov '20** received the Conditional Math and Science Prize, GLCA Global Crossroads Initiative Grant, and the Asher Endowed Research Fund in Social Sciences.

**Samuel Johnson '22** received the Pullman Scholarship

**Da'Jeal Willaby-Partee '20** is a graduating Bonner Scholar.

**Jason Veloz '20** is a graduating Posse Scholar.

# GRADUATE BROTHER NEWS

Tom “Set” Swanger ’75 writes, “I’ve been retired for five years now, after 40 years working in the OR, 38 of those years administering anesthesia. Being the first male nurse in DePauw, I got a lot of ribbing from my FIJI brothers, but it worked out great! Me and 25 girls in my class. They stopped when they found that out.” (1314 Dietrich Oaks Dr. Manchester, MO 63021 or tomswang1953@yahoo.com)

Alan “Al” Fisher ’61 writes, “Carol and I have moved from Michigan to Massachusetts

to be nearer family.” (74 Essex Ct., Bedford, MA 01730 or rumeli34@gmail.com)

David “Dave” Hinshaw ’67 sent along a clipping from *INSTEP*, the monthly newsletter of the Calumet Region Striders. Some highlights: “Hinshaw enlisted in the Army right out of college. Going into the military was something he always wanted, serving in the Vietnam War in 1969-70. While in Vietnam, a battalion moving through the valley attacked his compound. David took a mortar round in the back

of his legs and the back of an arm. He was taken to a military hospital where he was operated on and spent about four months in the hospital. After Vietnam, David spent about four years in Fort Ord, California, then joined the National Guard. He was grant qualified as an engineer and made major. He then went into the Reserves in Chicago for a period before returning to the National Guard where he commanded the Infantry Battalion in South Bend. After going back to the Army

## AD ASTRA

- Joseph M. Lumpkin ’34  
May 10, 2010
- George D. Strockman ’37  
August 23, 1976
- Herbert F. Kixmiller ’39  
April 29, 2003
- John M. Sutherland ’48  
October 17, 2019

Reserve, David made colonel.” (7304 Hohman Ave., Hammond, IN 46324 or madapro@aol.com)

## BROTHERS ABROAD



Farukh Sarkulov ’20

### FARUKH SARKULOV ’20

During winter term, I was a panelist at Urban ARC 2020 at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) in Bangalore, India. I was honored with the chance to present on my research from my summer internship with the Center for Financial Accountability in Delhi, India.

My focus was on the Indian Smart Cities Mission and the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor and I

looked at the financing of infrastructure projects for both large scale national schemes.

I presented to big names in the field of urban studies and furthered my position in the world of urban studies academics. I got to speak with the likes of Colin McFarlane, an urban studies celebrity, and managed to cause some excitement around infrastructure finance.



Dale Apeley III ’21

### DALE APELEY III ’21

As a member of the Management Fellows, I spent my spring semester working as an intern for PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in core tax. As someone who has had most of their internships in government and public policy, this was a slight change for me. Being introduced to the business world was a difficult step, but a nice challenge. It was especially useful to be exposed to a company like PwC that has numerous opportunities for career growth. Over the semester, I was trained in tax accounting at the state and federal levels, but my

experience did not stop there. Projects I worked on ranged from being involved in mergers and acquisitions to learning more about business development and client relationships.

PwC also provides training and certification learning opportunities. This training included learning how to use Alteryx and other software packages. I am grateful for the experience given to me by PwC, especially to the PwC alumni from DePauw, who took the time to provide valuable career guidance.

## BCA (continued from page one)

working very closely to help the chapter take immediate actions and adapt to the new normal. It has been a collaborative effort that speaks to the principles of what it means to be a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

### ACTIONS TAKEN TO-DATE

Over the past two months, we have been working closely with our undergraduate brothers to facilitate vacating and cleaning the chapter house, helping brothers return home, re-negotiating contractual agreements, working with the Small Business Administration,

and refunding room and board payments. Though Pig Dinner was cancelled, about 20 brothers held an impromptu videoconference gathering on that evening, capped off with a timely Exile’s Toast from brother Donald Smith ’11. Currently, three brothers remain on DePauw’s campus who are waiting for travel restrictions to lift or are School of Music students.

Looking toward this fall, we are anticipating and planning for changes to the recruitment processes, living arrangements, communal-style dining halls, and the worst-case scenario of the possibility of remote classes for the 2021-22 school year.

## CALL TO ACTION

An emergency fund is needed immediately to cover monthly mortgage payments and other fixed expenses, totaling around \$21,000 per month. Please carefully consider a significant donation to help Lambda through this crisis.

Smaller (<\$1,000), non tax-deductible checks can be sent payable to Lambda Corporation to:

Alumni Records Office  
Lambda Chapter  
Phi Gamma Delta  
P.O. Box 876  
Ithaca, NY 14851-0876

Larger (>\$1,000), tax-deductible donations can be

sent, payable to The Phi Gamma Delta Education Foundation, with a designation in the memo line for Lambda Chapter House Educational Fund, to:

Phi Gamma Delta  
Educational Foundation  
1201 Red Mile Road  
P.O. Box 4599  
Lexington, KY 40544-4599

Note: Will Shier at 859-255-1848 can help if brothers want to donate appreciated stock, RMDs, estate gifts, or from their charitable gift funds.

Credit card donations for non tax-deductible gifts can be made through depauwfiji.com.

## TIGER FIJI

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