

CHI BETA CHI – SIGMA PHI EPSILON

The Red Door



OHIO IOTA CHAPTER OF SIGMA PHI EPSILON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO – APRIL 2021

Collin Mischak

Undergraduate President's Message

My name is Collin Mischak, and I am bestowed with the honor and privilege of serving as the 71st President of the Ohio Iota Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon. I am a Junior studying Political Science, on a Pre-Law track, and am a graduate of Cuyahoga Heights High School in Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio, where I was born and raised. I joined Sig Ep in Fall 2019, and have previously served as our Vice President of Communications. As a chapter, we have stayed busy in the pursuit of our successes, while continuing to live every day with our cardinal principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love.



This past fall semester was one of great success for the chapter. We once again were atop the IFC ranks for chapter GPA. That now marks 38 semesters straight for Ohio Iota being the top GPA among IFC! Furthermore, we received the top recognition for all of the Greek Standards of Excellence at UT. Essentially, the UT Greek Life evaluates Ohio Iota on categories such as Recruitment, Leadership, Member Education, Leadership, and Civic Engagement. We were awarded the top level of honors in all of the categories.

We began the spring semester by assembling with the AVC board at brother Ted Behnken's (OGH) lake house for our annual executive board retreat. This was a great bonding experience for the eight new executive members and the Alumni Board, and a lot of great ideas to continue

to propel the chapter forward were discussed! We all left feeling very excited and well prepared for our term ahead.

Navigating throughout the COVID-19 crisis has been a priority since March 2020. Because of great guidance from the AVC board and older members, we have successfully created a culture and have been able to operate to the maximum limit that were allowed. Chapter meetings are being held both in-person and virtually. Ritual has been in-person while having masks and social distancing enforced. Recently we have been able to do social events with other chapters in Greek Life with lower numbers. Brothers are feeling inspired and engaged more than ever the past few months.

In the near future we will be hosting our Philanthropy Dinner, Sig Ep Stacks in which we will be offering pancakes, eggs, and sausages to the Toledo Community. All of the proceeds will be going to Backpacks for Humans, an organization that helps the less fortunate of downtown Toledo. We are going to be able to utilize the Corpus Christi Parish to host the dinner, which will take place on April 8, 2021.

On February 28, we held a Semi-Formal event at the Maumee Bay Brewing Co. The event was a great success and we awarded Sara Lewandowski (sister of Mark Lewandowski '19) as our Sig Ep Sweetheart. The event gave the brothers a greater sense of normalcy as times have been so uncertain.

Moving forward, we have a lot to be excited for as we continue to build upon the momentum that Preston Ewald's executive board had! The executive board that I am lucky

continued on next page

2021 Senior and Alumni Annual Awards Dinner

All are welcome!

Join us for a night of brotherhood and celebration

Table Forty 4

610 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604

Friday, 23 April 2021

6 p.m. cocktails | 7 p.m. dinner | \$30.00

RSVP via sigep Toledo.com

continued from page 1

to serve alongside is Jacob Chinthagada, Vice President of Programming; Tate Testa, Vice President of Finance; Donny Griesmer, Vice President of Member Development; James "Nick" Wischmeier, Vice President of Recruitment; Evan Hartman, Chaplain; Jason Drees, Vice President of Operations; and Alex Santoro, Vice President of Communications.

On April 17 we will be taking the stage at SongFest, the University's second oldest tradition. Directors Preston Ewald and Kyle Chudzinski have been working very hard to orchestrate the best possible performance and defend our first-place finish from last year while also fundraising for the amazing cause that is the Zepf Center.

On April 23 at 7 p.m. we will be having our Senior Alumni Dinner at Table Forty 4 in downtown Toledo. We

hope to see you all in attendance!

This summer we are very excited for the opportunity to send undergraduates to attend Grand Chapter Conclave in late July in Denver, Colorado. We look forward to the Buchanan Cup ceremony, and are working diligently on the application to give us the best opportunity to bring home Gold once again!

We appreciate your unbroken support for this chapter, past, present, and future. Our successes are not possible without your continued support as we continue to build upon the foundation of greatness you all set before us. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events, and you are always invited to stop by the on-campus house and get to know some of the undergraduate brothers. The Red Door is always open.

Sigma Phi Epsilon Scholarship Report

Someone asked me the other day how long we have been giving out Sig Ep scholarships. It got me thinking about how far our scholarship efforts have reached. I decided to do some digging into our scholarship past.

Toledo Sig Ep's first scholarship effort began in 1984 and eventually became our cornerstone Balanced Man Scholarship, supporting Toledo Sig Ep recruiting year after year. The Mandula Sig Ep Challenge Scholarship was born in 2003 by Mandula brothers Mark, Jack, Tom, and David in memory of their parents' support for education and Sig Ep values. In 2005, Dick and Gail Springer launched the Sig Ep Springer Leadership Fund promoting leadership and training opportunities for Sig Ep undergraduates. Just five years later, Dick and Kay Bensman established the Sig Ep Bensman Scholarship recognizing Sig Ep upperclassmen with notable scholarship and activities. In 2013, Ted Behnken began a drive for the Sig Ep Presidents Club Scholarship in Memory of Robert Gates. As undergraduate President, Bob Gates led our local chapter's transition to national affiliation with Sigma Phi Epsilon. Ted's vision of this scholarship gives financial help to undergraduate executive committee members. Ted led the drive to ask past presidents of Ohio Iota to prime the fund which is now our third largest fund despite its short life. Most recently, our Sig Ep Club 335 Fund remembers our house at 335 Winthrop Street which sourced countless memories of Sig Ep from that era. This fund supports general operations for both the undergraduate and alumni.

To give just a little more perspective, in just the last five years, Toledo Sig Ep has awarded more than 80 scholarships totaling over \$60,000 to undergrads and helped many to attend leadership conferences including National Conclave and Carlson Leadership Academy. At the same time we've grown our endowed base by almost \$50,000. Our total endowed base yields over \$14,000 per year in new scholarship money.

What a legacy from Toledo Sig Eps to Toledo Sig Eps! It's inspiring to remember past initiatives from brothers paying it forward and to think these scholarships and funds will continue past all of us. I've said it before, but I can't say it enough...our Toledo Scholarship program

helps to set us apart from all of the other organizations on UT's campus. Our thanks go out to all who support our scholarship efforts.

If you would like to help make a difference for Sig Ep, please give. If you have questions, please contact me for more information.

Recent scholarship awards 2020-2021:

Logan Perlaky, majoring in professional sales and finance
Evan Hartman, majoring in exercise science
Alex Mejias Santoro, majoring in healthcare administration
Jarod VanHersett, majoring in exercise science
Jonathan Kopacz, majoring in biology and pre-med
Joud Obri, majoring in biology

Here is a summary of our Sig Ep funds:

Sigma Phi Epsilon Ohio Iota Chapter / Balanced Man Scholarship (1300144)
Dick and Kay Bensman Scholarship for Sigma Phi Epsilon (1301894)
Richard L. and Gail W. Springer Sigma Phi Epsilon Leadership Fund (1301386)
Sigma Phi Epsilon Margaret R. and John Mandula Jr. Challenge Fund (1301204)
Sigma Phi Epsilon President Club Scholarship – In Memory of Robert Gates (1302113)

Remember:

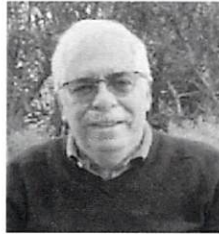
- If you have questions or need help, contact me at Randy@TheMcCulloughs.us.
- This link will allow you to give directly online: <https://give2ut.utoledo.edu/default.asp>.
- Be sure to designate your gift to one of our Sig Ep funds
- Your gift is tax deductible.
- You can give as much or as little as you want.
- You can put it on your credit card or write a check.
- You can do a recurring gift on your credit card.
- You can be a part of this!
- You can help make a difference!

Founders' Circle Award

The Founders Circle Award was created by the Sigma Phi Epsilon – Ohio Iota Chapter to honor Brothers with a Lifetime of Sig Ep Brotherhood. These two award winners represent the perfect model of a Sig Ep Brother:

FOUNDERS' CIRCLE RECIPIENT – RICHARD FELL

Rich joined Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1967 and graduated in 1969. After graduation, Rich attended Loyola Stritch Medical School and graduated in 1973. He then completed an Internal Medicine Residency at The University of Hawaii from 1973 to 1976. Rich practiced Internal Medicine for one year in rural California. He completed a Cardiology Fellowship at The University of Michigan from 1977 to 1979. Rich moved back to Toledo where he practiced cardiology at The Toledo Clinic until 2008, when he retired. Since retiring, he and his wife spend winters in Nevada and summers in Ohio. They enjoy traveling and outdoor activities, especially our wonderful national parks. Rich and his wife have three daughters: one is a lawyer in Chicago, one is an Internal Medicine Resident at The University of Wisconsin, and one is a fashion designer for Calvin Klein in New York City. While only a Brother of Sig Ep for 2 years, joining as a junior, the time was memorable -- some of the best years of his life with great memories and wonderful friends.



FOUNDER'S CIRCLE RECIPIENT – BARRY ALCOCK

Barry joined Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1970 and graduated in 1974. Barry began and ended his career as a high school English teacher. Sandwiched in between those positions



were years spent in graduate school, at Bowling Green State University and THE Ohio State University, positions as a counselor at BGSU, a counselor and lecturer at OSU, and an assistant professor at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Even in his years at the university, Barry appreciated the possibilities and promises of teaching in public schools, so he returned to public school classrooms in 1990, and finally retired from full-time teaching in 2014. His teaching career began in Bucyrus, Ohio in 1975, fired up again in the Columbus City Schools, and for the most part occurred in the South-Western City Schools, in Grove City, Ohio, a Columbus suburb. During his career, Barry taught Language Arts and English to students from 8th grade through twelfth grade, as well as serving as adjunct professor at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio, teaching courses in philosophy of education, social foundations of education, the teaching of writing, and adolescent literature. Barry earned both National Board Teacher Certification in English, and Ohio Master Teacher Award in English.

Barry became integrally involved in the teachers' union, at the local, district, state, and national levels. He served on the Executive Boards of his local, district, and state Associations, and was a longtime delegate to the state and national assemblies. Barry served his local association as building representative, and on the team that negotiated collective bargaining agreements with the School Board.

Barry's late wife, Martha, was a renowned Professor of Education at Capital University, and fifteen years after her death Barry still runs into teachers and educators regularly who remember her and were influenced by her, professionally and personally. Barry's son Mike and his wife Racheal live in Columbus, where both work for the Columbus Metropolitan Library, and where Mike is also director of a non-profit supporting the public schools of Columbus' South Side, and the education coordinator of the South Side Area Commission.

In his retirement, Barry continues his involvement in schools and education, teaching periodically at his old school, and supervising student teachers for Capital University every semester. Barry is also the Central Representative of the Ohio Education Retired Advisory Committee, which puts him on various other boards in and around central Ohio. Barry tries to read two books a week, now that he is no longer grading papers or planning lessons. Barry will go to a baseball game, anywhere, any time.

Career Achievement Recipient

Joel Tschantz '84

Joel Tschantz has been a Financial Advisor of Savage and Associates since 1984. In addition to holding a management position at Savage, Joel provides business owners and professionals with employee benefit plans. He meets one-on-one with his clients to design an estate plan that works for their future. Joel's individual skill sets on retirement income planning are integral to creating a solid foundation for the needs of his clients and their loved ones.



Outside of Joel's work at Savage, he is also a lifetime qualifying member in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT). Qualifying membership in the MDRT is based on minimum commission and gross business generated within a year. Each MDRT status designation is granted for one year only. All members must apply every year to continue their affiliation with the Million Dollar Round Table.

Joel and his wife, Patty, live in Maumee, Ohio. They have three children: Niklas, Mikenzie, and Danielle. Joel is active in his children's lives, including coaching their athletic teams. He also supports local charities, and is a past board member of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio.



Sigma Phi Epsilon
 Ohio Iota Alumni Association
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Hasler FIRST-CLASS MAIL

04/12/2021
US POSTAGE \$000.51⁰



ZIP 27514
 011E10675770



Randy Neil McCullough
 7229 Hidden Lane Ct
 Lambertville MI 48144-9453



Volunteer Excellence Recipient

Don Warnke '78

Don has lived in Dallas, Texas for the last 35 years. He has been married to his wife Debbie for 31 years and has a son Adam, a graduate of Texas A&M University, and a daughter Sarah who graduated from The University of Texas in Austin. Don was very involved with his kid's sports when they were younger which included traveling to club volleyball and tennis tournaments all over the state. He has also enjoyed going to college football games at Texas A&M and the University of Texas.

As a professional engineer Don has had the role of Project Manager and Design Lead on hundreds of land development and infrastructure projects in North Texas. Several of the major projects he was a team member on include a new runway complex at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, multiple large scale commuter rail



expansion projects in Dallas and Fort Worth, and the expansion of the Western Currency Reserve in Fort Worth. Don is a senior project manager for Huitt-Zollars, Inc. in Dallas.

Don graduated in 1978 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He pledged in the spring of 1974 and was active in the chapter to graduation, then served as chapter counselor from 1978 to 1983.

Don was an active pilot for over 30 years. He flew single and multi-engine aircraft and had an instrument rating and a commercial pilot license. He was part of the Sig Ep Air Force in college along with Captain Kent Ernsberger. They flew brothers and friends to numerous University of Toledo road sporting events, along with other destinations.