



THE TIGER SIG



PUBLISHED BY THE XI XI CHAPTER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

SPRING 2018

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

From Student Body President, Nathan Willett '18

Though March 8, 2017, now seems eons ago, it was on that date that my running mate, Tri Delt Payton Englert, and I, altered the direction of elections here at MU. Not only did two Greek affiliates win, we generated the highest turnout in the history of our school, receiving 4,637 of the nearly 8,500 votes that were cast. Recognizing that numerous interest factions ranged on our campus, we created the campaign "Tigers Together," and have lived that position during our term in office.

We ran on four pillars: stand up for our student community; build lasting campus relationships; bring more voices to the table; and build a system of support. We incorporated our vision into MU life immediately. There are more than 80 undergraduate positions on the Chancellor's standing committees; due to Payton's efforts, every one of these was filled for the first time in recent MU history. Instead of continuing former student leadership practices of assuming a passive attitude toward contribution, we no longer allowed decisions to be handed off to the university administration. If you had accepted the job, you came to the table and you contributed. The message we delivered was one of welcoming, diverse opinion, while expecting consistent accountability based on principled leadership.

Last summer, *The New York Times* published a derisive article regarding the protests at MU. I wrote one in response—one that focused on the author's inaccuracies. My article was published in *The Kansas City Star*. I wrote:



Nathan and Payton finished their term as student body leaders as it began, with the support of the Greek community, and embodying their credo, "Tigers Together."

"We live in the "Show Me" state and need to do a better job of showing off all that our university has to offer. The quality of our instruction at Mizzou and the integrity of our student body continue to be the envy of schools across the nation. We are the flagship university of the incredible state of Missouri, with groundbreaking research and exceptional academic achievements occurring each and every day here in Columbia. This is a university to be proud of and I, for one, cannot wait to see what the future holds for MU."

My response went viral, with over 15,000 shares on Facebook.

Payton and I negotiated the delay of moving the student section from the east side of Farout Field until the south end-zone project was finished. We wanted more undergraduate impact at football games. We made such an "impression" on the athletic department that Payton will call several

plays in the Black and Gold spring game.

I sit on Chancellor Cartwright's Leadership Cabinet and constantly advocated for showing more pride in our university and emphasizing the contributions we make to our state. Payton and I were instrumental in naming a new dorm after Lucile Bluford, a lady of great demeanor who was denied acceptance to MU due to her race. I was guided in this regard by the principles of respect, responsibility, discovery and excellence, which were engrained in me at 500 College.

Although my leadership term will end in the near future, I intend to continue my efforts of living our credo, "Tigers Together." I do wish to make final thanks to all my Sigma Chi brothers who supported me so strongly with their effort and financial backing. It was the lessons learned in Xi Xi Chapter that prepared me for this whirlwind and successful leadership role.



Belonging to the Community

Active Xi Xi's Have an Outstanding Spring

Dear Worthy Brothers, the men of the Xi Xi Chapter had a tremendous school year, one that's been filled with campus functions, philanthropic events, and brotherhood. As much as we accomplished in the fall of 2017, we are much more excited for what is to come in 2018.

Sigma Chi participated in several philanthropic events on campus this school year, including Delta Delta's pancake dinner, DHOP, and Gamma Phi Beta's grilled cheese event. We competed in Pi Beta Phi's Big Man on Campus, a basketball tournament for charity, and (Continued on page 2)

Left: Sigma Chi with the Rosemary Cup after defeating Beta 4-3 in the Slap Shot on Cancer hockey game.

Belonging to the Community

(Continued from page 1)

a kickball tournament hosted by Alpha Delta Pi. We also took part in Rockin' Against Multiple Sclerosis, to support both the MS Institute of Mid-Missouri and Rally for Rhyon, a pediatric cancer research fundraiser. This year, Mizzou's Greek organizations raised over \$50,000 for the Rally for Rhyon! Our annual Slapshot on Cancer hockey game against Beta was Saturday, March 10. While we were excited about our victory, we were more pleased to be able to raise money for the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center and Camp Kesem.

Some members were privileged to attend the Alumni Hall of Fame banquet and golf outing last fall and meet some of our great alumni. We enjoyed hearing of their accomplishments and spending a day on the course. We were pleased to reconnect with several of these same alumni at the Sigma Chi installation at Saint Louis University.

In December, our local Toys for Tots foundation discovered their storage unit broken into, with nearly all toys taken or destroyed. The active Chapter was devastated to learn of this news, but felt confident that we could help through a campus-wide campaign. Between our Chapter and several other fraternities and sororities on campus, we were able to donate over 250 toys and a sizable monetary donation so that the foundation could still provide gifts over the holiday season.

Our Chapter was excited to compete against Beta in the Slapshot on Cancer hockey game held on Saturday, March 10. Last year's event raised over \$20,000, which was divided up between the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center and Camp Kesem. We look forward to participating in Mizzou's Greek Week, when we are paired with the fine women of Delta Delta Delta, and our weeklong Derby Days, which takes place in mid-April, with proceeds benefitting the Huntsman Cancer Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri. The year will conclude with our annual Sweetheart Ball, which features a live band playing on our front porch while everyone dances in formal attire under a tent in our front yard. This was a great time for Brothers to be together one last time before the summer, and a fun way to send off our graduating seniors.

Xi Xi Brothers are actively involved on campus and abroad. **Nathan Willett '18** is finishing his term up as MSA president and former Consul **Berry Brooks '18** is on the Student Conduct Committee. Several men are studying abroad, including **Sam Pottenger '19**, who I'm sure is taking advantage of more leisure time following his tenure as consul. Others have taken initiative in the Chapter House, including **Frankie Gallardo '21** and **Nate Throne '21**, who will serve as Greek Week liaisons, and **Joe Pedrotti '20**, who is planning his attendance at the Horizons Leadership Summit in Snowbird. The active Chapter strives to sustain Sigma Chi's tradition of producing quality leaders and men.

On behalf of all the Brothers at the University of Missouri—Columbia, thank you for your continued support of the Xi Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi.

On a personal note, the men of Xi Xi Chapter would like to express our condolences to the Callahan family for their unexpected loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

In hoc,

Seth Crockett '19

Consul

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Study on Greek Needs Supports Xi Xi's Freshman Housing Practice

Dyad Strategies, at the request of the university, recently surveyed fraternity and sorority leaders on attitudes toward their relationships with Greek life. General, broader inputs to draw assessments on current conditions were used, as they affect operational success in the Greek system on campus. Because the conclusions covered 16 single-spaced pages, we cherry-picked those areas of greatest relevance to our Chapter.

It is not surprising that a prevalent attitude toward Greek life was that disciplinary functions overshadow cooperative guidance in chapter performance (i.e., a focus on negative reaction rather than positive pro-action). The report does offer a more strategically driven plan of action for the organization.

Greek life responded positively to the report, initiating a trained campus staff to serve as a third-party investigative arm that will look into reported hazing violations. An IFC Judicial Board composed of trained Greek members was also formed, with the purpose of adjudicating organizational violations. Additionally, two new staff members serve as Student Support Specialists, whose mission is to help students when emergency situations arise, such as accidents or family tragedies, and with conflict resolution. Immediate positive feedback has resulted from the initiation of this process.

Seven areas of change were designated by the report, with primary consideration being that freshmen reside in student housing, not in chapters. Xi Xi is the only major Greek organization currently following this practice at MU. The international fraternity has directed an even shorter period of formal pledging, reducing it to five weeks. Our combined moves virtually eliminate all opportunities for hazing in any form.

Dyad has found proof of superior scholastic performance and increased campus involvement when freshmen are separately housed. The university has espoused our practice for several years, but has met resistance from several major fraternities, which has slowed freshman movement to dorms and off-campus residency. We recognize the concern of freshmen being more removed from general Chapter life, but follow a strong program of freshmen presence at the house daily. It appears that we may see a general move by other chapters to our current practice.

Change is certainly in the air. Steps to be taken to protect and improve the function of the Greek system are a work in process. Regardless of future direction, we seem to be running ahead of the pack.

Other Actions Suggested by Dyad:

- Invest in hazing prevention programs.
- Educate house corporations on drug testing (now being done on three SEC campuses).
- Revamp recruiting—done on the basis of freshmen living out of chapter houses so that it is initiated during the school year when a firmer assessment of character can be made while the number of “social joiners” can be reduced.
- Eliminate Syllabus Week, which results in heavy partying because students know they don't have to study.
- Bring underground fraternities—recognized by their national organizations but not by the university—back to proper campus involvement. MU currently has two such organizations.
- Invest in sexual harassment training.

THE XI XI OF SIGMA CHI SCHOLARSHIP AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



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As the grand finale of the Mother's Club weekend this spring the annual Xi Xi Scholarship Dinner gave firm proof of the rewards returned from a more measured program of recruitment. More than 40 chapter members were recognized for their scholastic achievements as they received in total more than \$30,000, a larger level of support than given to any other fraternity chapter in the country.

Three factors are weighed most heavily in our consideration of the worth of recruits: grades, leadership and philanthropy in high school. Of the three factors, scholarship is given primary importance. This quantitative system of measuring potential is then weighed against other characteristics of the young men under consideration. It is our intent, after a candidate is supported by the chapter, to have selected alumni make the final decisions in terms of worthiness.

Since the goal of our chapter is to give preeminent attention to developing leadership qualities among our members, tangible recognition of scholastic effort is of prime importance to us. We essentially put our money where our mouths are. The strength of our educational endowment was abetted this year by major contributions from **John Qualy '70**, in honor of William E. Qualy and James M. Qualy; and **Rich Elias '72**, in honor of Richard M. Elias; and **John W. Dickey '50** who created a PALS scholarship in honor of Jim Whitacre, Bob Evans, Andy McCanse, and John Dickey, members of the pledge class of 1945, and Thaddeus McCanse, example and mentor to them all.

We also support Sigma Chi nationally in terms of leadership training by carrying the goal of consistently being named a Bell Chapter, a recognition given to those who give financial support to leadership programs executed nationally by our fraternity.

We trust that next year's scholarship dinner will be even more reflective of our long-term goals.



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Six members were rewarded for their academic excellence at this year's scholarship banquet. Alex Wagoner '18 (1) and Hayden Zadrozinski '19 (3) were awarded the Dickey PALS Award. Henry Sniezek '20 (2 and 4) was awarded both the John Qualy Award and the Shields-Tidd Award. Alex Karranbrock '19 (5) was awarded the John Qualy Award. Nikko James '21 (6) was awarded the Rich Elias Award.

AWARDS FLOW FOR XI XI ALUMNI

Joe Bednar '76, in a recent ceremony at the Reynolds Center, was named the recipient of the Mel Carnahan Public Service Award, an honor recognizing those who have served well above the norm in both paid and volunteer positions. In Joe's case, his accomplishments ranged from being an attorney for former Governor Carnahan to a prosecutor in Kansas City. His constant dedication to democratic ideals made him the choice of individuals and organizations that volunteer nominees. In his acceptance speech, marked by both laughter and tears, Joe indicated that his Sigma Chi experience had played a significant role in the pattern of his life.



Joe Bednar '76 receives the Mel Carnahan Public Service Award from the former governor's son, Russ.

Eddie Griem '99, a former International Balfour Award winner, continued his recognition after a jump of some years when he was recognized as the "Best of the Best" among attorneys in the Midwest. Eddie was nominated for the award by his peers who had seen him successfully sue the IRS for unfair taxes leveled against the Tea Party and lead the case for the establishment of right-to-work laws in Missouri.

Danny Kennedy '13, a graduate of MU's Journalism School who works in broadcast news in the Southeast, was honored with a Midsouth Regional Grammy award for his on-the-scene coverage of severe storms and subsequent flooding in the Tennessee area.

John Qualy '70 was recognized as a Significant Sig. He spent 21 years as a managing partner for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance in Missouri. During his 42-year career with the company, John served in various roles for the Managing Partner Association and became its president in 2010. He was on the board of the Children's Miracle Network, raising more than \$500,000 through Scramble for Kids over a nine-year period.

Robert M. Sloan '53 entered the Chapter Eternal on January 16, 2017, at the age of 86. A Kansas City, Mo., native, Robert attended Mizzou in pursuit of a degree in civil engineering. After graduating from college, he joined U.S. Air Force, where he served as a lieutenant. Robert enjoyed a rewarding engineering career at Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff (now HNTB Corporation) that spanned over four decades before he retired as vice president. He will be remembered as a man of many talents, including highway, airfield, and home design.

» Save the Date «

All-Class Reunion
Hall of Fame Banquet and Shootout
September 27-28

Join us for the Xi Xi banquet on the evening of Thursday, September 27, followed by our golf tournament on Friday, September 28. It will be a great time with great Sigs. Don't schedule anything else!



Sigs Bring Pennsylvania State Tragedy Witness to MU

led by Professor **Ben Trachtenberg, Yale '01**, an International Balfour recipient, Kordel Davis, was brought to our campus and sponsored by Sigma Chi for a Q&A session regarding the death of a student from forced alcohol consumption at the Beta Theta Pi chapter house on the Pennsylvania State University campus.

Davis, who witnessed to the tragedy, has since enrolled at Rutgers University. The purpose of the interface was to emphasize that opening the door for hazing, particularly when drinking actives are involved, can lead to horrific consequences. Such was the case at Penn State where Beta members were indicted following the death of a pledge. During his visit, Davis spent time with Xi Xi members and dined with Chapter officers. His appearance was also underwritten by the Greek Consortium.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Keep Xi Xi in Mind When Planning Your Estate

Our goal is to provide scholarships for our students through the tax-deductible Sigma Chi Educational Foundation of Missouri. To learn more, contact **Dan Slickman '77** at (816) 863-4400 or bogeyslick@aol.com.



THE TIGER SIG



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Remembering Ken Lambert '60 (1938-2017)

A Life of Zest and Accomplishment

It is appropriate that, considering the amazing life of **Ken Lambert '60**, we start with him studying in a jail cell. Having been successful selling make-and-bake pizzas from a converted truck at Mizzou, he invested in a bar. *How many college students own a bar?*

The law, in a great rarity for Columbia, had found his establishment serving minors. As proprietor, Ken was tossed in the clink, along with books and notes to study for law school exams. When the school got wind of the potential barrister being a major criminal, Ken was given the cold shoulder. Accordingly, he enrolled in medical school, and how fortunate a decision that was for so many with future body problems.

Before serving cell time, Ken lettered in four sports at Paseo High School in Kansas City, Missouri, and came to MU on a football scholarship. In addition to playing linebacker on a Dan Devine Orange Bowl team, he pitched in the College World Series and even found time to become a state handball champion. Just as physically demanding, he also was consul of our Chapter.

During his internship at Boone County Hospital, Ken was short on living space and tried to dwell at Boone, sneakily moving

clothes and books from one closet or empty space to another. He was incessantly hounded by a supervising nurse who kept confiscating his property. To get even with her, he married her daughter, speeding off from the wedding on a motorcycle to live in a one-car garage.

Upon graduating, Ken was offered an orthopedic fellowship in Sweden. In addition to honing his medical skills there, he took up skiing. After knocking down the flora, small buildings, ski lifts, and a fair quantity of people, he became so adroit at the sport that he moved to Missoula, Montana, to initiate his medical practice whilst continuing his time on the slopes.

Ken became one of the most talented surgeons in his field, attracting patients from across the country. His surgical techniques were such that they were adapted nationally and he also became renowned for the development of orthopedic devices.

Later in life, Ken moved back east to be near his children on the basis of, "Blood is thicker than scenery." There, he volunteered at the Rhode Island Free Clinic. Ken died suddenly in 2017, though it seems only proper a man who filled life with so much vigor wouldn't want to waste time leaving it.