

**XI**  
Chapter



*Phi Gamma Delta*



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## Recruitment

Serving as recruitment chairs are four class of 22 brothers. These new chairs include, Ryan Althoff, Dom LeFante, Ryan Petrucci, and Hugh Mckee. Our chapter has been on a sharp incline over the past few years, and we wanted to make a goal of recruiting 30-40 quality pledge brothers in the Fall who value academics and can give back in plenty of ways on campus. We had a very successful rush with hundreds of kids showing interest in our chapter. This past spring we had 10 pledges. Our rush events proved to be a huge success this semester because of the great turnouts at all of them, and the vast amount of effort put in by the brothers. We held many events at our chapter house, whether it was eating wings and watching Monday Night Football or playing bags and cooking out. We also held sporting events such as basketball and broomball around campus. When looking for possible new members, we tried to find kids that we could see ourselves hanging out with, studying with, or even living across the hall from in the years to come. With our chapter growing so fast, the rush chairs have made a specific outline with goals for the future rush chairs that will ensure more success for our chapter in the future.

## Scholarship

In Spring 2019, we maintained an average chapter GPA of 3.27. Putting us in the top five of all fraternities on campus, and above the average undergraduate GPA.

To reward great academic accomplishments, we're rolling out a program called FIJI A's. Any brother who verifies that they received an A on an exam will be immediately put in a raffle to win a \$100 Cash Prize at the end of the semester. The more A's a brother obtains, the more their name will be entered into the drawing to win the prize. If you are interested in assisting in funding for this scholarship, please reach out to [efairfield4@gmail.com](mailto:efairfield4@gmail.com).

Every year, the University of Illinois has what's called the "Senior 100" list. This list is compiled of 100 seniors from this year's graduating class who have gone above and beyond during their time at Illinois with high academics and vast campus involvements. From Chi Iota, we had 3 individuals make this list. They are Jake Graham, James Doan, and Michael Frale.

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## Philanthropy

My name is Matthew Flanders and myself along with Luke Ahern are the Philanthropy Chairs for this year. This year our philanthropy event was Fiji sand volleyball. We donated to JED this spring and managed to raise \$4,000, which is the most we have ever raised. The JED Foundation is a nonprofit that exists to protect emotional health and prevent suicide for our nation's teens and young adults. We played on the sand volleyball courts on the west side of campus towards Neil. It was a great turnout and the weather made it an exceptional day to have fun and raise money. Everybody had a great time and donated to a great organization in the process. For more information in regards to the JED foundation, you can visit <https://www.jedfoundation.org>.



*Left: Team celebrates a victory  
Right: A beautiful set up for a spike*



## Service

The goals this semester for service are to provide achievable opportunities for members of our chapter to give back to the community. Our events this year include organizations like IlliniThon, Coaches vs Cancer, and the Salvation Army. During IlliniThon, Chi Iota raised money for the St. Johns Children's Hospital foundation by participating in its dance marathon that promotes fundraising for cancer care and research. We attempted to dance for a total of 12 hours along with others who have helped raise money in order to raise awareness towards cancer prevention. Finally, we have week to week Salvation Army opportunities for members of the chapter to attend. Here, members can help with packaging food at the food pantry or help in the thrift store by helping organize and maintain the store's supplies.



*Service chair Jack Watson and pledges pose after a long day of volunteering for IlliniThon*

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## Service cont.

Coaches vs Cancer is an event where we helped set up and fundraise alongside out Purple Legionnaire, Shane Allen. Coaches vs Cancer is a nationwide collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches, with the goal being to increase cancer awareness and promote healthy living year-round



*Above, brothers Ryan Althoff, Luke Ahern, James Fort, Jack Watson, and Robbie Malbon. In the middle is Head Basketball Coach Brad Underwood.*

## Intramural

This past Spring, the brothers of Chi Iota assembled its first intramural hockey team. The excitement for the new team gave everyone in the house something to look forward to each week. There were a lot of hard fought games this Spring and the whole house rallied around the brothers on the ice. The hockey team looks forward to another competitive season in hopes of bringing home a championship.



*Above, the FIJI hockey team poses in front of the fan section full of brothers.*

## House Manager

I am a rising junior and am studying Accounting. Next year, I will be serving as the House Manager at 201. I look forward to making improvements to the house and making sure that everyone is getting the most out of living in the Fiji house. My other involvements on campus include The Good Athlete Project, Illinois Sports Consulting Agency, and volunteering for the Gies College of Business Admissions. My main involvement outside of Fiji is in The Good Athlete Project. I will be serving as the President and am planning on improving the fundraisers and service events that we host. Outside of my involvement on campus, I enjoy following Illini sports, bowling and going on bike rides.



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## Presidential Address

Welcome to the 2019 Chi Iota Summer Newsletter! As the 2018-2019 school year has officially concluded, this letter is to inform you all on the status of our chapter and what our goals are for next semester. Before I begin, if you know of any family or friends who will be attending the U of I and or those who are interested in joining the Chi Iota chapter, we encourage you to contact us and we'll make sure our recruitment chairs and undergraduate chapter are helping them with their college endeavors. Thank you to all of those in attendance at the Spring 2019 Pig Dinner! We plan to send out further information for the Spring 2020 Pig Dinner next semester. Please be on the lookout for that.

This year, Chi Iota chose the USO and the JED Foundation as its charities of choice. In total, we raised almost \$10,000 for these organizations. Academically, Chi Iota excelled on campus, ranking 5th amongst the 40 fraternities registered in the IFC. Our chapter number continues to grow after two successful recruiting semesters. We've initiated 31 Fall members and plan to initiate 9 Spring members upon their completion of PIE.

After the graduation of our 2019 Senior Class, Chi Iota membership stands at 120 (150 before graduation). One goal for Fall 2019 is to recruit a class that increases our total member count to 160. Another is to improve 201 East John Street. A couple of additions we're striving to make for the chapter house is a flagpole (FIJI flag and U.S. flag would be displayed) in the front lawn and improving the conditions of our Jerry Groniger outdoor patio area by adding additional seating, painting, and landscaping. We look to make the house more identifiable for others in the campus community. If any brothers would like to assist the undergraduates with these items, please reach out to me personally!

A few individuals close to Chi Iota deserve some recognition. Our Housing Corp continues to help our chapter stand strong. Led by Steve Scott, Bill Goldstein, and Loren Mears, we appreciate everything the entire Housing Corp board has done and what they continue to do for our chapter. I'd like to extend a big thank you to our previous cabinet, which included John Ito, Jay Heininger, Eugene White, and Caleb DeRuiter--all led by former President Bob Krissinger. If you have the pleasure of meeting these individuals, I ask that you please thank them. Lastly, thank you to all the graduate brothers who have donated to Chi Iota. On behalf of all undergraduates at Chi Iota, we thank you for your generosity and your love for the chapter.

Brothers, I encourage all to feel welcome to contact Chi Iota if you'd like to connect with the chapter or would like to share anything with the undergraduates. I wish you the best of health and a great rest of your summer. I hope everyone is able to enjoy some warm weather. I-L-L!

Fraternally,  
James Fort Class of 2021  
fort4j@gmail.com

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## Our 2019 Cabinet



### President: James



I am a rising junior from Aurora, Illinois studying Communications and minoring in Business. I plan to take the GMAT and attend an MBA program after working a couple years after graduation. As well as being President, I work at the UIUC Career Center, providing Illinois students programs, services, and resources focused on career and professional development that give them the tools to be successful for their professional endeavors. After joining Chi Iota in the Fall of 2017, my early involvement as service chair made me want to do more for the chapter. As President, I'm certainly given the opportunity to do so. After being rechartered in 2008, this chapter has continued to grow. I'm mighty proud to be involved in moving it in a direction we can all be proud of. ILLINI FAN BOLD PREDICTION: Illinois Football surprises the BIG10 with 6 wins and Illinois Basketball will be playing in March. Yes, my optimism for Illinois Sports is high. Go Illini!

### Treasurer: Luke Johnson

I am a sophomore from Aurora, IL majoring in Accounting in the College of Business. I joined FIJI in Fall 2017 and have enjoyed every minute of it. As the Treasurer for the Chi Iota chapter it is my goal to ensure that our chapter is able to participate and excel in brotherhood, philanthropy, and social events. Most importantly I make sure that our chapter is sound financially for the foreseeable future. Other than FIJI, I am also involved in a professional business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi and participate in a couple smaller, low time commitment clubs. As a member on cabinet I want to be seen as a person my brothers can trust with anything. Becoming a FIJI has been the best thing I've done these past two years on campus and I hope those who follow will feel the same.



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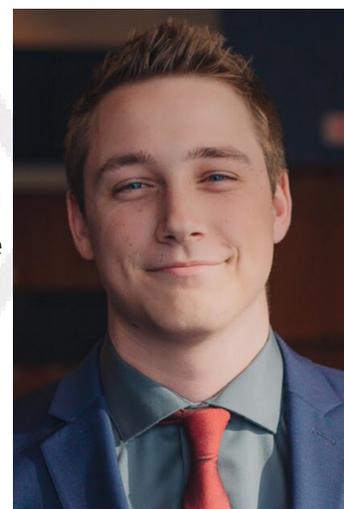
## Recording Secretary: Daniel Kang



Hi, my name is Daniel Kang and I am from Toronto, Ontario. I am currently a junior majoring in Econometrics and Quantitative Economics. I am also a Fall 2019 intern for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. After completing my undergraduate education, I plan on applying to law school and concentrating in corporate law. Aside from school, my interests involve watching sports, especially hockey, and working out. As the newly-elected Recording Secretary for the Chi Iota chapter, my goal is to promote and improve chapter participation campus-wide so that every brother has the opportunity to make the most of their time here. This includes ensuring brothers dedicate their service to Chi Iota. It is a great honor to have a leadership role within this fraternity. This chapter has given me so much, and it is my privilege to be able to give back.

## Corresponding Secretary: Connor Hankla

My name is Connor Hankla and I am the new Chi Iota Corresponding Secretary. I am going to be a Junior in the coming semester and am majoring in Accounting. I will graduate in 2021, but will stay for a 5th year to get my CPA. Before I was elected Corresponding Secretary, I was Chi Iota's Internal Philanthropy Chair. While in that position, Chi Iota raised \$4,575 for the U.S.O., the most we've ever fundraised for the organization since being rechartered. Outside of Chi Iota, I am a drug and alcohol safety teacher for incoming freshman and transfer students. I am also a part of Student Alumni Ambassadors. This organization sponsors campus wide events to bring students, faculty, and alumni, closer together. I am the Co-Director of Internal Engagement and sit on the organization's Executive Board. I am also involved in a sports accounting club where we create projects based on case studies given to us by the UIUC Athletic Department. This is a very strong cabinet and I'm excited to help move our house forward.



## Historian: Ian Wojcik



My name is Ian Wojcik and I am from Palatine, IL. I am currently a Junior studying Accounting and Finance. Besides Historian, on campus I am a member of Phi Chi Theta Professional Business Fraternity, The Business Honors Program, and Venture Capital Academy. Moving forward as Historian, my goal is to build upon what our last Historian did and establish more traditions that bring brothers closer together and that will be a part of the Chi Iota chapter for a long time. A big part of this will involve me working closely with our brotherhood chair to plan fun events. If any of you have old traditions or events that you would like to see brought back to our chapter feel free to reach out to me at [ianwojcik@icloud.com](mailto:ianwojcik@icloud.com). I look forward to meeting as many as you as possible and can't wait to hear your ideas.



## Pig Dinner Information

When: April 2020

Where: TBD

My name is Ryan Peplowski and I was the 2019 Pig Dinner chairman.

We had a great time catching up with grads and we appreciate the support each year. It is an honor to host such a special event to us all.

Next years event will be here before we know it. More details on the date and location will be provided in the coming months. Invitations will be sent via mail and email as well. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Ryan Peplowski at [PeplowskiRyan@gmail.com](mailto:PeplowskiRyan@gmail.com)



*Left: President James Fort announces chapter progress to last years attendees*

*Below: The pig prepared by our culinary staff*





## 34th Annual Tom Jump Open



What: 34th Annual Tom Jump FIJI Open

When: Saturday, August 10 with shotgun start at NOON (up an hour from previous years)  
(Registration starts at 10:30)

Deadline: Sign up ends August 1st

Where: Carriage Greens Golf Club, Darien, IL

Cost: \$125 - Includes beer, lunch, and golf  
20\$ for dinner only

It's not too late to sign up for the 34th Annual Tom Jump Open. This once a year event is a great opportunity for graduates and undergraduates alike to share their frustrations over golf.

There will be games and prizes throughout the course. Pizza and more beer will be served after the outing. If you are interested in playing, please contact **Shane Allen on Facebook** or at **allen.shane.m@gmail.com**.

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## Calling All Graduate Brothers!

Calling all graduate brothers! As the undergraduates continue their job search, we encourage any and all graduates who have a job to reach out with any job opportunities. Fortunately, the Chi Iota chapter has all kinds of major areas of studies ranging from business, to engineering, and communications. One of the values of Phi Gamma Delta is to "replace yourself". This concept, much like our membership in FIJI is not for college days alone! Our brothers are all very well rounded individuals who are both personable and academically driven. From our senior class all the way to our freshman pledge class, we are eager to find our career paths and are happy to accept any help available. In an increasingly competitive job market, knowing someone on the inside is never a bad thing. If there are any openings in your place of employment, please reach out if there are any positions that you would like to see a fellow brother succeed in. [Chiiota.gradrelations@gmail.com](mailto:Chiiota.gradrelations@gmail.com) if you find any entry level or internship positions available within your companies!

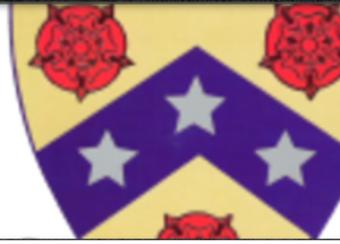
## Connect with Chi Iota

There are several ways to stay in touch with the Chi Iota chapter. We have an updated chapter website that has pictures and information regarding GPA and awards. A lot of new and exciting progress is being made each semester and we want you to be apart of our achievements and growth. Check out the website at [illinifiji.org](http://illinifiji.org). Also, feel free to reach out to our graduate relations chair by emailing [chiiota.gradrelations@gmail.com](mailto:chiiota.gradrelations@gmail.com). We want to hear any exciting news that our graduates are doing. Additionally, we ask that those of you receiving our newsletter, forward it to those that have out of date emails. The best way to get your information updated is to email our graduate relations chair, Evan Fairfield, at [efairfield4@gmail.com](mailto:efairfield4@gmail.com). Changes to contact information can also be done by visiting [phigam.org](http://phigam.org). We appreciate all the support from our graduates and want to share our continued success with you all.

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*2019 Pig dinner golf outing*



*Philanthropy volleyball team listening to coaches instruction*



*James Fort, Luke Johnson, Connor Hankla, and recruitment chair Hugh Mckee attending the 44th FIJI Academy held in St. Louis. Mighty Proud!*



*Several brothers hanging out on the Groniger patio during Mom's Weekend*