



FOCUS

FALL 2020 SPECIAL REPORT

A CLEAR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

March 2020 changed all of our lives forever. Never before, in our lifetimes, have we experienced a pandemic as drastic as COVID-19. Many brothers' lives were altered. Employment was lost and businesses closed. There were also those who entered the Chapter Eternal after losing their fight with the coronavirus. Whether directly or indirectly, the pandemic has impacted all of us.

It greatly impacted the lives of our young undergraduate brothers, who were on campus midway through spring semesters when they were sent home, many without jobs, many displaced from their dorms, many unable to purchase groceries or pay their rent. And think of those young men arriving to campus settings this fall after their senior years of high school closed without a prom, without a graduation, without final moments with their friends.

This virus created great uncertainty, elevated stress levels, induced anxiety and developed a

narrow focus on the present rather than a positive outlook on our future.

In the face of these challenges, Sigma Chi has taken action. With college students returning to campus, whether in-person, online or a blended setting, the Fraternity has prioritized support for our members in need, built and communicated resource libraries, pivoted to virtual learning, accelerated our leadership accreditation and partnered with our chapters to enable a safe and effective return and a strong future for our Fraternity.

As we look to our future, the work of your Sigma Chi Foundation and the work of our Fraternity in providing much needed resources for our members is perhaps more important today than it was in February before our world shifted. Our Board of Governors is stepping up and increasing our presence to remain responsive and effective for our members:

CHAIRMAN

John K. Forst, **GEORGE WASHINGTON 1984** ■

VICE CHAIRMAN

Jeffrey T. Gill, **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 1978** ■

TREASURER

Kim Caldwell, **OREGON 1969** ■

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Robert E. Joseph, **WILLAMETTE 1967** □ ● ■

— — —

Mark V. Anderson, **ILLINOIS 1977** ●

C. Loren Butler, **IDAHO 1963** ●

Joseph J. Durzo, **SYRACUSE 1967** ■ ◆

Randall S. Coppersmith, **SOUTH FLORIDA 1979** ■

Robert J. Georges, **FLORIDA SOUTHERN 1973** ● ■

Stephen W. Goodroe, **GEORGIA 1971** ■

Michael A. Greenberg, **ILLINOIS WESLEYAN 1982** □ ● ■

Robert D. Johnson, **MIAMI (OHIO) 1969** ● ■ ◆

Hon. John A. Koskinen, **DUKE 1961** ■

Joe W. Martin, **HOUSTON 1976** ● ■

Jeffrey S. Muir, **GEORGIA 1971** ● ■

John C. Pasquantino, **NEVADA-LAS VEGAS 1984** ■

— We are agile, rigorous and results oriented in our response to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to fundraising.

— We're keeping the focus on your voice, that of our membership, both alumni donors and undergrads, to ensure we provide scholarships and fund high-value leadership programs for our brothers — now and for generations of Sigma Chis to come.

Brothers, we see and know the need of our undergraduate members and that's why we are stepping up.

This fall, our board has collectively committed to match the first \$165,000 in gifts to the Sigma Chi Foundation through the Life Loyal Sig Annual Fund — gifts that immediately impact every facet of the Foundation's work for our members.

We remain dedicated to funding leadership

programs that provide our undergraduate brothers with actionable and verifiable leadership skills and abilities, but we can't do this without you.

Yes, this pandemic has affected each of us. However, with your support today, we send a message to our undergraduate brothers that we have not forgotten about them and we are ever committed to their future and the success of Sigma Chi.

For the good,



John Forst, **GEORGE WASHINGTON 1984**
Chairman

Sigma Chi Foundation Board of Governors

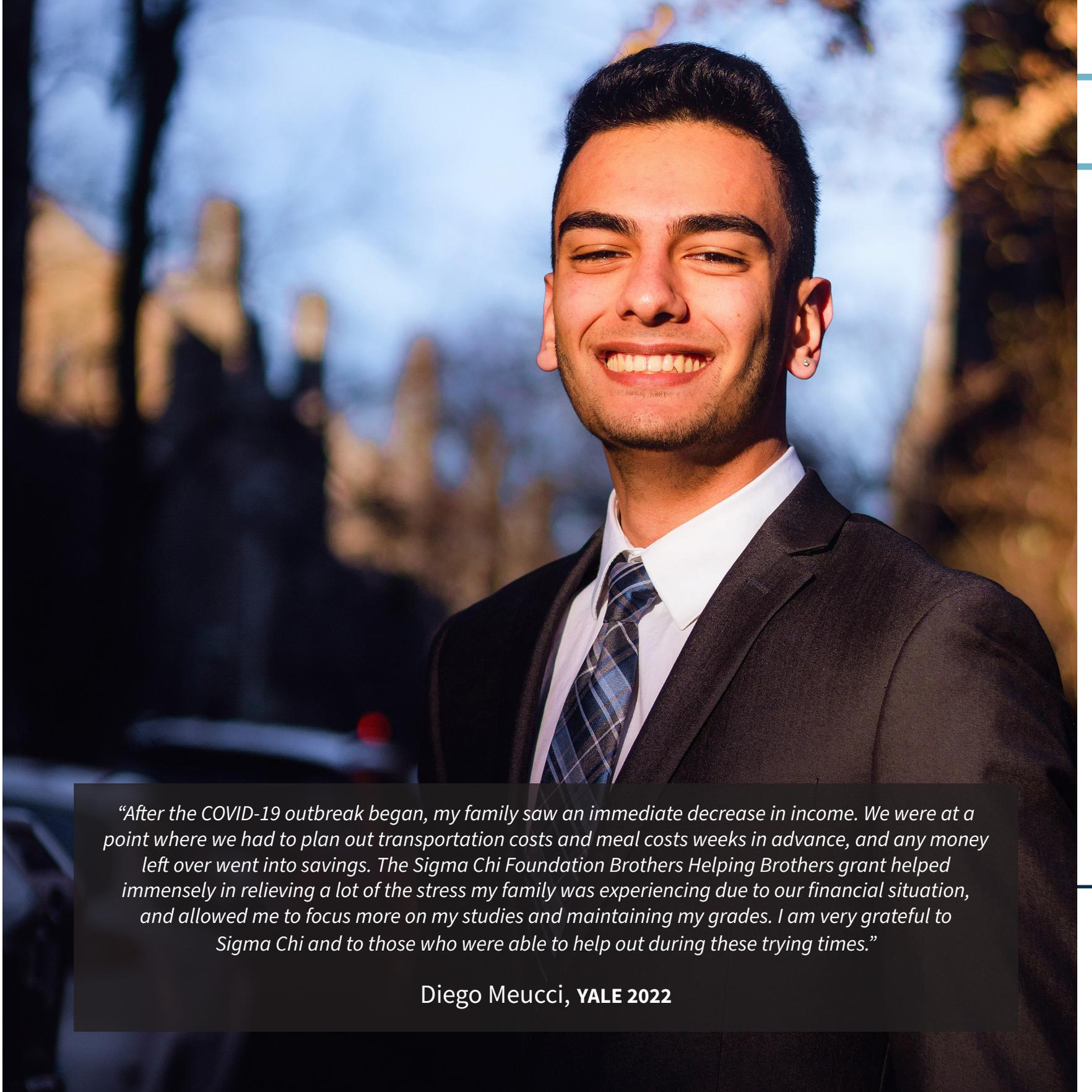
2020 to 2021 SIGMA CHI FOUNDATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

John D. Peterson, **INDIANA 1955** ●■◆
Charles R. Stamp, Jr., **SOUTHEAST MISSOURI 1971** ■
Michael A. Ursillo, **BROWN 1978** □●■
Dr. Daniel P. Walsh, **SOUTHEAST MISSOURI 1971** ■
Christopher M. Walters, **ROANOKE 2000**

Ex-Officio
FOUNDATION PRESIDENT & CEO
J. Ashley Woods, **EAST TENNESSEE 2000**
FRATERNITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Michael J. Church, **ILLINOIS 2005**

71ST GRAND CONSUL
Steven G. Schuyler, **ARIZONA 1979** ●
IMMEDIATE PAST GRAND CONSUL
W. Thomas Geddings, Jr., **SOUTH CAROLINA 1985** □●
CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE
David A. McNicol, **WESTERN ONTARIO 1986**
FBOG SECRETARY
John A. Price, **OKLAHOMA STATE 1991**

● Order of Constantine Sig ■ Significant Sig
◆ Past Foundation Chairman □ Past Grand Consul



“After the COVID-19 outbreak began, my family saw an immediate decrease in income. We were at a point where we had to plan out transportation costs and meal costs weeks in advance, and any money left over went into savings. The Sigma Chi Foundation Brothers Helping Brothers grant helped immensely in relieving a lot of the stress my family was experiencing due to our financial situation, and allowed me to focus more on my studies and maintaining my grades. I am very grateful to Sigma Chi and to those who were able to help out during these trying times.”

Diego Meucci, YALE 2022

COVID-19 RESPONSE

From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sigma Chi assessed the issues and set clear priorities during the first critical 90 days of the crisis.

The number one priority was the well-being and health of our members. As the pandemic spread and campuses closed, the decision was made to postpone annual in-person summer leadership programming such as the five-week Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit in Snowbird, Utah, and move the Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop to a virtual setting for the first time in the event's history.

With brothers being displaced, losing work and struggling to make end's meet, your Sigma Chi Foundation provided ground level financial support for 160 undergraduates in dire need through the Brothers Helping Brothers fund. Formerly known as the Strong Arms Fund, created following Hurricane Katrina, this initiative provided educational grants to brothers in need following a natural disaster or pandemic.

The fund took on a new meaning during the pandemic with brothers across the United States, Canada and in abroad programs receiving much needed help to cover basic needs such as rent and meals following displacement or loss of employment.

Programming funds earmarked for the annual in-person events were used to provide the platforms and creation of virtual programming for the Krach LTW as well as COVID-19 inspired modules for virtual recruitment (utilizing the Mission 365 program) and mental health during the pandemic.

As chapters returned to campus for the fall semester, Sigma Chi implemented guidance for their safety and reopening following the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and others. The Constantine Housing Initiative developed and provided a resource page for housing corporations to prepare for, provide and implement safe measures for our undergraduate members.

Did you know? The Sigma Chi Foundation awarded more than \$85,000 to 160 brothers in need during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic through the Brothers Helping Brothers fund.



“The Zeta Phi chapter was honored with the highest recognition a Sigma Chi chapter can receive, the J. Dwight Peterson Significant Chapter Award. This award is not won by an individual. It takes the whole chapter for their hard work and dedication to the white cross. ... Keeping the ritual at the center of our brotherhood allows us to focus in on dedicating our work to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and improve the Las Cruces community as a whole. The distinction that the Peterson award gives our chapter pushes us to continue to break the mold of what a fraternity is and be the best versions of ourselves.”

Mario Martinez, NEW MEXICO STATE 2021

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

As chapters closed across the United States and Canada due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many were forced to finish their academic years without a Derby Days fundraising event or a pivotal year-end volunteer effort within their campus communities.

Despite being unable to meet in person, conduct fundraising events and give back in a physical setting the final quarter of their academic year due to COVID-19, the work our undergraduate brothers accomplished to that point speaks for itself.

- Members combined to raise more than **\$3.8 million for philanthropic endeavors** including the Huntsman Cancer Foundation
- They also delivered more than **189,000 hours of community service**, and were on pace to top last year's mark of 244,660 prior to March
- **More than 12,800 of our 14,237 undergrad members were involved on campus**; 2,118 of these brothers were officers in campus organizations, including 502 within the IFC and 289 in student government. Ten of these

brothers held the position of student body president

- Sexual misconduct cases among chapters were at an all-time low (2), while substance abuse issues were the lowest since Sigma Chi began tracking the data in 2015.

In spite of the pandemic, brothers held virtual fundraisers, meetings and worked with alumni to give back to Huntsman, among others. And as they returned to campus this fall, brothers were eager to give back and lead:

- The University of Louisiana chapter and Louisiana State University colony assisted with Hurricane Laura relief efforts in St. Charles, Louisiana
- The New Haven chapter coordinated a clean-up for a local campground impacted by Tropical Storm Isaias
- Multiple chapters, including Baylor, provided a move-in service for students on campus, while others have provided food for students, first responders and healthcare workers.

Did you know? Since 2005, Sigma Chi undergraduate chapters have raised more than \$11 million toward research at the Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City. The Fraternity has committed to raise an additional \$20 million to this cause.



“As Sigma Chi continues its never ceasing campaign to advance the meaning of what a fraternal organization can and should be, the need for our brothers to help meet the capital requirements that these lofty goals and aspirations will require continues to be front and center. During the 2019 to 2020 academic year, while at the same time our Fraternity started facing one of the biggest challenges we have faced in our 165 year history, SCLI received its first, of hopefully many, accreditations. We are committed to raising the bar to fundamentally transform fraternity membership such that our members will not only reap the benefits traditionally associated with fraternity membership, but to provide first in class personal and professional development during their tenure as an undergraduate. Although some may question the value of affiliation with a fraternity in the modern collegiate environment, we are committed to enhancing that experience culminating in our graduates being better prepared to face the rigors of the modern world and be contributors to their local communities. Sigma Chi Fraternity has ambitious goals for the coming decade and beyond. We welcome those brothers who will invest in this dream through supporting The Sigma Chi Foundation. Please join us in this campaign to change what it means to be a Fraternity Man.”

71st Grand Consul Steven G. Schuyler, ARIZONA 1979

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

Thanks to your annual contributions, we are able to provide nearly \$10,000 in leadership program and academic scholarship support to every undergraduate chapter every year, which is far beyond what any other Greek-letter fraternity has been able to accomplish.

SIGMA CHI LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (SCLI)

Since the launch of Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit in 1999, we have committed to developing and funding values-based leadership programs and opportunities for our undergraduate members. The validation of more than 20 years of work and financial support from our donors arrived in May when Sigma Chi became the first fraternal organization to operate a state-licensed institute of higher education thanks to the Sigma Chi Leadership Institute receiving accreditation by the Illinois State Board of Higher Education. Thanks to your support — more than \$3 million provided during the 2019 to 2020 fiscal year, Sigma Chi undergrads will now have the ability to earn certificates in leadership through the programs provided through SCLI.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Last year, we provided \$517,500 to grant more than 300 academic awards to our deserving undergraduate and graduate brothers and sweethearts. Providing scholarships furthers the Foundation's goal to promote academic success and volunteerism. We proudly award brothers who show outstanding leadership, academic motivation and commitment to their chapters, campuses and communities.

CHAPTER SUPPORT

The Fraternity also received \$630,000 last fiscal year to support the continued growth of the regional chapter support program. The chapter support team covers 10 regions and provides operational guidance and assistance to the undergraduate chapters in each region.

INTERFRATERNAL INVESTMENT

As the Greek-letter world faces the threat of the "Abolish Greek Life" movement, your support for Sigma Chi is as important as ever. Last year, we committed \$67,248 towards causes including support for the Freedom of Association Act.

Did you know? According to the 2020 Pennington & Co. Fraternity and Sorority Foundation Report, the Sigma Chi Foundation has provided more total annual support to our members than any Greek-letter organization over the last decade.



“Go on with the good work until the White Cross is known and honored in every nook and corner of the educational world and you shall accomplish greater things than the Founders could ever have hoped or dreamed.”

Founder Benjamin Piatt Runkle, MIAMI (OHIO) 1857

From 1915 letter to 16th Grand Consul Newman Miller, ALBION 1893

BE THE DIFFERENCE

Hand in hand with the Fraternity, with your support, we are working to do everything possible to help our young brothers deal with university life in positive ways — especially through changes during the pandemic. Our financial and alumni engagement opportunities are crafted to align Sigma Chi's needs with the broad goals of our donors.

LIFE LOYAL SIG ANNUAL GIVING

These contributions annually support our many programs provided by SCLI, general academic scholarships, as well as the opportunity for every Sigma Chi chapter to request one of the many workshops concerning everything from drug and alcohol abuse to recruitment. It also allows us to better communicate with alumni and operate the Sigma Chi International Fraternity Headquarters and historical facilities.

DONOR-SCHOLAR AWARDS

Donors contributing to this effort at an endowment level (a one-time gift of \$25,000) have helped the Foundation expand scholarship support annually since 2008. Donors have an

annual academic scholarship named for them or an honoree for a minimum of 30 years.

SIGMA CHI LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

By providing our members with world-class leadership curriculum, Sigma Chi is developing young men into character-based leaders who are committed to the betterment of their chapters, campus and community. By supporting a major initiative, such as the Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop, Horizons Huntsman Leadership Summit or an individual leadership module, you can fund the tools necessary to expand and continually improve educational opportunities for our undergraduate brothers.

MAJOR GIFTS/LEGACY GIVING

A major or planned gift to the Foundation enables a brother to define his legacy and directly impact the lives of future Sigma Chis and our Fraternity. By including the Foundation in your estate plan or making a major gift, you will help expand world-class leadership programming and scholarships. Please reach out to your regional Foundation Development Officer for more information.

Did you know? Every gift to the Sigma Chi Foundation qualifies you as a Life Loyal Sig. For more information on the Life Loyal Sig annual giving program and how it benefits both Sigma Chi and yourself, visit <https://sigmachi.org/lifeloyal>.

