

CE&CF BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2023

Present: Dick Fenstermacher, Bill Giesler, Bill Hoeb, Wayne Gilsdorf, Jerry Lang, John Strobach, Jim Sparrow, Steve Simendinger. Excused: Mike Dever, Bernie Meese, Barry Wanninger. Quorum. Guests: Wiley Lyons, Alpha Xi Chapter SMC, Trey Waltz, Alumni Engagement Chair.

Approval of February 17, 2023 Board Minutes -Bill Giesler moved to approve, Dick Fenstermacher seconded. Unanimous approval.

President's Report – Bill Giesler

The Nominating Committee has been going through the process of identifying candidates for the CE&CF Board. In our latest meeting (May 10) we reviewed credentials of 18 candidates recommended to the NC for consideration. We narrowed down the list to five that will continue going through our process to determine if any of those brothers are ready, willing, and able to serve on the CE&CF Board. We hope to have a selected candidate to recommend to the Board in our August meeting.

Jerry Lang decided after 25 years +/- on the Board he's ready to step aside and open up a slot for a new Board member. I understand Jerry's desire to retire from the Board, however we'll lose a very engaged and valuable Board member.

Mike Marker introduced me to one of the Chabad House Board members. The Chabad House owns the 2 lots on Digby next to the lot UCPHC owns. The lot is not on the market but Ian Guttman said he would take an offer to his Board if he thought it was worth consideration.

Trey Waltz will bring us up to speed on the potential plans for the Digby lot that we currently own. He'll also update us on the newly created 1910 Society (Young Alumni giving).

Wiley Lyons (SMC) was welcomed to present the Active Chapter report.

Active Chapter

By: Wiley Lyons, Active Chapter President

I am honored to summarize the active chapter before you all for the Spring of 2023. My name is Wiley Lyons and I will be serving as the SMC for Alpha Xi this year. Originally from Chatham, NJ, but my family moved to Cincinnati when I was 10. I graduated from Mariemont High School in 2020 and came to UC not expecting to join a fraternity. I was a member of the Fall 2020 Upsilon 28 pledge class and have served as Fundraising chair and Treasurer. I just wrapped up my 3rd year out of 4.5 pursuing my degree as a double major in finance and accounting. I have been involved in many organizations outside of PIKE, from planning career fair to VP of Finance for IFC; but I have recently picked up a passion as an admissions tour guide.

In February, VP of Membership Development, Amun Tanveer, brought 44 Brothers to Chicago to take part in the annual PIKE University hosted by PIKE Nationals. These Brothers attended sessions covering topics to help them develop as fraternity leaders, as young professionals, and as young men. Alpha Xi had the highest attendance by nearly double and were strong participants all throughout the education sessions.

Recruitment Chair, Jackson Howe, alongside assistant chair, Michael Cimmarusti, dominated recruitment this spring, shooting 17 bids with 17 accepted! Brother Matthew Mohn ran an efficient 4-week New Member Process centered around teaching the Pledge Class about the history of Pi Kappa Alpha, Alpha Xi, and introducing them to all the current actives. On March 8th, 12 men were ritually initiated into the bonds of Pi Kappa Alpha.

Thank you all for the incredible Founder's Day on February 24th. It is always one of the hallmark events of this semester. This scholarship program CE&CF created is unparalleled. It encourages Brothers to perform in the classroom, day over day, as the competition is high amongst these men. It enables them to lead, in PIKE and/or across campus. It reminds us that being your brother's keeper is just as, or more important, than anything else.

Spring Break was from March 12th to March 19th, where Brothers could be found around the globe relaxing and recharging. The young guys made the trek out to Fort Lauderdale to embrace the sun and the ocean, while the graduating men headed west to Scottsdale, AZ for a relaxing, poolside vacation.

One week later, elections for our new exec team took place on Sunday, March 26th. Many of the positions were very heavily contested and highly discussed, the brothers below were elected to serve the Alpha Xi chapter for the 2023-2024 year.

President – Wiley Lyons

Internal Vice President – Ryan Caplinger

External Vice President – Jacob Stiens

Treasurer – Luke Benscoter

Secretary – Kevin Krebs

New Member Educator – Charlie Eckert and Baylor Boehnlein

Recruitment Chair – Michael Cimmarusti

Sergeant at Arms – Joe Schmidt

Membership Development – Brady Leugers

Exec at Large – Leo Smith

As the weather warmed up, Philanthropy Chairman, Evan Vollmer & Jacob Stiens, programmed an amazing Karen Wellington Foundation Week that ran March 1st – 7th. This week comprised 8 events in 8 days with all proceeds going to KWF.

Friday, March 31st: Brother Derek McCormick hosted his senior capstone projected at Ladder 19. Derek leveraged the university and his part time job to promote KWF at a popular bar and bring in over \$700 that was donated to KWF!

Saturday: Mom's headed to the Nest to partake in Mom Prom. After group dinners, Mom's were welcomed through the South Parlor with a beautiful string trio before the dance floor formed.

Sunday: 130+ actives, dads, and siblings maxed out the golf outing at California Golf Course.

Monday: heavily promoted our head shaving contest. After over \$2,200 was donated, 15 brothers were looking clean and shaven. Many of these donations came from Mom's at Mom Prom, where they were given the opportunity to shave their son's head!

Tuesday: brothers took part in our poker tournament to identify the top gambler in chapter.

Wednesday: the ladies made their way out to Nipper Stadium for PowderPuff!

Thursday: we biked! Brothers of Alpha Xi and Women of Kappa Alpha Theta headed to Body Alive for a cycle competition and raised money on a "Pledge per mile" system.

Friday: we hosted our concert, paired with Sigma Chi, in the parking lot. 900+ people showed up for an incredible night of live music. We will be donating over \$10,000 to KWF. Bringing our charitable donations for the 2022-2023 academic year to **\$17,500**.

Following KWF Week, PIKE Nationals Chapter Consultant, De Shannon. De graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma in May 2022 on a pre-law route. He has served the International

this Fraternity year by leading two expansion projects. Alpha Xi was the first chapter he got to visit, and he was ecstatic. De sat down with old and new exec to dive into how this chapter operates. He loved how coordinated our exec and position holders were and was admirable for the caliber of events we can churn out and a consistent basis. With his praise, De also gave us a few points of improvement, most notable to our chapter:

1. Increased alumni engagement events
2. Installing a recruitment committee to work with the recruitment chair.

De provided us with a 17-page report on what he saw at Alpha Xi. The new exec board has read through and filtered these suggestions into action plans for this upcoming year.

De also mentioned a few works to us that his boss shared with him "When you are at Alpha Xi, you will learn way more about successful chapter operations than you can teach them."

PIKE received two awards from the University. This year, PIKE was named as the recipients of 2 of those 8 awards, including Scholarly Initiative and Healthy and Safety.

On April 27th, Brother Baylor Boehnlein, Ryan Caplinger, Alex Dragas, and myself headed down to West Virginia University to assist Nationals with installing the chapter onto campus. Alex's younger brother, Dimitri, was being initiated and Alex had the idea to be apart of it for his brother. The four of us were able to initiate 20/82 of the Brother's and had National's astonished with how much excitement was in our initiation room. We were able to share this lifelong moment with these new Brothers and create an incredible experience for all.

To round out this semester, 22 Brothers graduated from Active Chapter. These men have been staples in chapter, and it is hard to see them go, but encouraging to know they are doing incredible things, and will always be Brothers. These graduating seniors enjoyed dinner and drinks at Cincinnati Distilling in Old Milford. To have retained all these men as members of Active Chapter through all the craziness of the past few years is truly a testament to the Brotherhood that can be found within Alpha Xi. This will put us at a chapter size of 140 men heading into our next semester.

The new exec team is working hard to harness the chapter's energy and ideas going into the summer, to create the Fall semester we will talk about forever. We are forever grateful for all the alumni support we receive, from the donations to the advice, to the stories and everything more. Thank you and we are very excited to continue this relationship and elevate this Fraternity.

SHA

By: Mark Wood, SHA President

- SHA recently partnered with CECF, UCPHC and Active Chapter's Alumni Chapter to plan a senior dinner for graduating brothers. We're using that dinner as a recruitment opportunity for new volunteers on SHA. This helped stimulate golf outing planning (moving courses as prices increased substantially at last year's location). We look forward to welcoming some new SHA members and continuing to build programming for the coming year.

UCPHC

By: Alex Glutz

- With the new A/C exec board sworn in, we will be executing the Chapter Master lease this month.
- Planning is underway for summer maintenance and room turns.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Sparrow

As of this morning, the value of the CE&CF Investment Account was \$1,639,000. The lawyers for the Jack Pecsok Estate have indicated that there is a remaining gift to CE&CF that will be derived from the sale of real estate.

Fundraising Report – Bill Hoeb

Annual Fundraising Program (AFRP)

Contributions for the current fiscal year 2022-2023 total \$141,523 as of May 5, 2023.

The 2023 Founders' Day Banquet realized a \$6,812 profit. Attendance and spirit were high this year and we had 140 reservations for the event.

A new initiative directed at young alumni was kicked-off on April 20. Trey Waltz and Christian Wall chaired the event and introduced the **1910 Society**. It was indeed a successful evening. Several young alumni committed to a pledge of \$19.10 a month with a future goal of creating and endowing scholarship fund. Next step will be an email blast to young alumni and Trey Waltz is carrying the ball on this effort. Mark Wood and Alex Glutz were in attendance and made a pitch for the active chapter seniors to get involved in SHA or UCPHC. This event is a keeper moving forward.

Association Connection (A/C)

Sandy Hatmaker assisted with our 2022 Christmas Scholarship Luncheon and the 2023 Founders' Day Banquet. Her event planning experience has been very helpful. She has created our email messages and has recently moved us to Constant Contact. It is far more professional program for our emails including event announcements and reservations. Most of our active alumni are now "online" and electronic communications reach more brothers than in the past.

Investment Committee Report – Steve Simendinger

The CE&CF investment account had a total value of \$1,662,971 as of April 30th, 2023. Year to date the fund is up \$76,797 or 4.73%. The current asset allocation target is 60% equities and 40% fixed income. Presently stocks are 56.7% of the portfolio, with bonds and cash 40.2%, and real and alternative assets totalling 3.1%. The portfolio continues to have a significant Value orientation with a heavy focus on quality stocks and bonds. Contributions since January 1st have totaled \$20,670. Year to date, equities have trailed the S and P 500 with large cap technology stocks providing over 80% of the return in the first quarter. The CE and CF portfolio was significantly underweighted technology (-8%) and was also overweight non-bank financial stocks (+6.4%). The portfolio has returned 6.18% for the fiscal year to date (July 1, 2022-April 30, 2023). Johnson as a firm had significant outperformance in 2022 as the S and P 500 was down 18.11% for the year and the Bloomberg aggregate bond index was down 13%. The CE and CF portfolio was down 13.21% for calendar year 2022, benefiting from high quality stock selection and a significant emphasis on international stock exposure (currently 17.6% of the stock position). International stocks have outperformed U.S. indexes in both 2022 and 2023 year to date. The portfolio continues to be conservatively positioned with stocks slightly below target allocation and a generally defensive stock selection. Earnings expectations are flat for stocks in 2023 and up 12% in 2024 but continue to

moderate. Bond returns have been quite volatile given persistent Federal Reserve rate hikes although the Fed may finally be approaching peak interest rates.

Scholarship Committee Report – Barry Wanninger

We will be sending out blanket emails to our full Alpha Xi brother's contact list starting the end of this month to promote the CE&CF "UC Bearcat" Scholarship. The online applications via the UC Pikes website will be due no later than midnight on Monday, July 31st. The scholarship will be presented at the Alpha Xi Scholarship Dinner during the fall semester to the recipient. Also, another young Alpha Xi alumnus will be added to the CE&CF Scholarship Committee over the next couple months.

Bill Giesler added that he attended the Scholarship Committee session to select this year's winners and was impressed with the overall organization, dedication of each member and the process to give consideration to each application to select award winners.

Old Business:

1. Update - Digby Lot Plans - Trey Waltz

The committee to develop the Digby lot has been busy and has worked with Ed Wright Designs to create four early scenarios for development. All four options comply with city and county codes. The committee has selected a preferred design and will work with the architect to further build out the plans, including the addition of bedrooms. Competitive fraternities have significant endeavors ongoing to upgrade their facilities: Sigma Chi (\$4 - \$5m); Beta Theta Pi (\$6m); and SAE (major renovation).

2. Update - 1910 Society (Young Alumni Giving) - Trey Waltz

As presented at the February 17, 2023 Board Meeting, the purpose is to connect graduating seniors with alumni activities and encourage them to "give back" financially by contributing \$19.10/month to endow a new CE&CF scholarship.

The first presentation was made to graduating seniors at the dinner event noted in the SHA and Fundraising reports above. Eight graduating seniors signed up. Next steps are to roll out the program via an email blast to young alumni.

3. Oath of Office for Board Trustees - Dick Fenstermacher

Development of an Oath of Office for Trustees was discussed at the February 17, 2023 Board meeting. Such a document is not uncommon for charitable organizations (and others dealing with private monies) and is seen as a positive attribute to earning a donor's trust. With input from Attorney Tom Cuni, the attached draft was presented to the Board. After discussion, Bill Giesler moved that the Board approve the Oath of Office effective with current Trustees. Bill Hoeb seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business:

1. Board Elections -

The Nominations Committee recommended: Bill Giesler be reelected to the Board for a four year term June 2023 - June 2027 and be elected to serve as President for a two year term June 2023 - June 2025; Jim Sparrow be elected to a four year term to the Board June 2023 - June 2027 and be elected to serve as Treasurer for a two year term June 2023 - June 2025; Dick Fenstermacher be elected to serve as Secretary for a two year term June 2023 - June 2025. Bill Hoeb moved to accept the Nomination Committee's recommendations. Wayne Gilsdorf seconded. Unanimous approval .

2. Jerry Lang Recognition -

After many years of service to the fraternity and representation on the Board, Jerry has elected not to seek reelection. Bill Giesler thanked Jerry for his long-time commitment and dedication to Alpha Xi alumni endeavors at all levels and noted his many contributions and service over the years, concluding with his meritorious service on the Board of Trustees for the last 25 years. Jerry was presented with a "Certificate of Appreciation" acknowledging and thanking him for his service. Jerry has committed to staying involved in alumni endeavors and will be missed on the Board.

3. John Strobach Retirement -

John submitted his letter announcing his retirement from the Board effective May 19, 2023. John thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Investment Committee and celebrate the collective achievements, progress, and growth in increasing financial support for our CE&CF scholarship program. He likewise thanked the Board for their assistance and support. The Board thanked John for his untiring efforts to responsibly manage and evolve our investment strategy to realize the \$1,639,000 we have today and also noted his leadership in championing the increase both in the number of and dollar level of scholarships awarded as our investment portfolio increased.

Adjourn - 12:55 PM - Dick Fenstermacher moved to adjourn. Wayne Gilsdorf seconded. Unanimous approval.

Next Meeting: August 18, 2023 - KCC - 11:30 AM

Attachment: Oath of Office Declaration

COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

OATH OF OFFICE

The Board of Trustees of the College Educational and Charitable Foundation (the "Board") has adopted an Oath of Office encompassing rules of conduct, standards of behavior, ethical rules, and enforcement procedures that are applicable to all Trustees:

1. Violations of this Oath of Office may result in the remaining board members voting to remove the offending member from the Board.
2. Each new board member will be given a copy of this document and will be asked to acknowledge that they received it, read it, and agree to abide by it.
3. Board members will conduct business in a highly ethical and responsible manner, acting honestly, truthfully and with integrity in all transactions and dealings, and avoiding undisclosed conflicts of interest.
4. The Board will always use its best efforts to operate and make decisions that are consistent with the spirit and letter of the law.
5. Board members will abide by the Declarations and roles and responsibilities as approved by the board and noted in the College Educational and Charitable Foundation Board Manual.
6. No drugs or alcohol will be used during Board meetings and Board members will not be under the influence of any drug or alcohol immediately prior to the beginning of a meeting.
7. No board members may use their position to enhance their financial status with certain contractors or suppliers or in any other manner whatsoever. Any potential conflict of interest must be immediately disclosed.
8. No contributions will be made to any political parties or political candidates by the Board.
9. Any Board member under investigation for a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude may be placed on a leave of absence from the Board by a vote of the remaining Board members during the investigation and trial period. Any board member convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude may be permanently removed from the Board by a vote of the remaining Board members.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of this Oath of Office for Board Members and agree to abide by its terms.

(NAME) _____
(DATE) _____