

DELTA TAU

OF PHI GAMMA DELTA FRATERNITY

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY | FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 Career Network & Speaker Series
- 2 Volunteer Boards & President's Report
- 3 FIJI 5K & Support Delta Tau
- 4 Letter from the BCA
- 5 Undergraduate Profiles
- 6/7 Alumni Updates
- 8 Keep in Touch with Delta Tau

JOIN DELTA TAU'S NEW CAREER NETWORK!

Over the last year we have all been met with unexpected challenges due to the coronavirus. One such challenge has been navigating a new and evolving recruiting process under the "new normal". Many undergraduates were thrust into this difficult process and had to rely on any and all resources to help them through it. Once such resource has been the Fiji Career Network found on our website, [fiji-smu.org](https://www.fiji-smu.org). Updated and maintained by the Fraternity Management Group, the Fiji Career Network provides undergraduates and alumni alike of Fiji with countless resources aimed to help you navigate your career path. For instance, there are resume reviews, networking tips, and interview prep to name a few. There is also a job board where employers can post openings directly to the site for the sole use of our network. Most importantly is our mentoring platform, however.

This is an amazing resource that matches our undergraduates with an alumni mentor in an industry of interest to them. From there, you can build whatever type of relationship suits you through one-time or continuous meetings. You can cycle through multiple mentees or stick with one. The platform provides expert career guidance in a flexible and personal manner. We strongly encourage all alumni, parents, and undergraduates to participate in the Career Network, so go check it out for yourself at <https://www.fiji-smu.org/career> (password: [deltataucareers!](https://www.fiji-smu.org/career)) and see all that it has to offer. Also, please contact Pete Parker at pete.parker@fmgtucson.com if you are interested in any of the following:

- Enlisting as a mentor for other alumni and/or undergraduates
- Joining as a mentee to get advice from other alumni and/or parents
- Posting openings on the job board

P.S. If you haven't already please join the Fiji SMU Delta Tau LinkedIn group at

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1880963/>



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2021 | 2022 BOARD VOLUNTEERS

Executive Board

President

Robert Baisch II '22

VP/ Treasurer

Ryan O'Connor '22

Historian

Connor Goode '22

Corresponding Secretary

Mark Sears '22

Recording Secretary

Ryan Davis '23

Risk Management

Lucas Fernandez '23

Philanthropy Chair

Reed Kearins '22

Scholarship Chair

Max Henninger '23

Brotherhood Chair

Ricky Levy '22

Board of Chapter Advisors

Interim President

Robert Wood '78

Treasurer

Turner Massey '14

Purple Legionnaire

Turner Massey '14

Pig Dinner

VACANT

Brotherhood

Joseph Mira '88

Fiji Housing Corp

Ralph Shanks '63

Ritual/Scholarship

VACANT

Pledge Education/Risk Management

VACANT

Section Chief

John D. (Jade) Metcalf



ROB BAISCH '22

Dear Brothers,

This past year has been both very unpredictable and unexpected for everyone across the country. That being said, the brothers at Southern Methodist University have been able to continue to improve as individuals, as well as a chapter. Our GPA from the past semester reached a record high 3.43, ranking in the top five fraternities on campus. Along with this accomplishment, we have also been very active in our philanthropic work at SMU. We have partnered up with Erika's Lighthouse and The Real Project, to raise money for mental health awareness. We are very pleased

to announce that we have raised a total of \$31,000 throughout our week of fundraising.

Even though COVID-19 has brought many challenges upon us this past year, we have still been able to get closer as a chapter and as an organization. Our fraternity has been able to host chapter meetings over zoom, while still maintaining a strong attendance. Along with this, we have also been able to participate in activities while also abiding by the COVID-19 guidelines brought upon us. In the fall, we were able to have multiple golf tournaments where we have had many members of the chapter participate. With limited options throughout the past two semesters, I believe the fraternity has shown a strong sense of unity by making the most out of the situation and checking in on each other frequently.

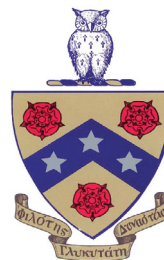
Looking into the future, I am very excited to see what our group can accomplish. With a strong leadership team and a cohesive unit of members within the fraternity, I believe our chapter is in the perfect position to succeed. We know as FIJI's there is a lot that we can continue to improve on as individuals and as a chapter, and we look forward to the challenges that have been presented in front of us.

Press on!

Rob Baisch '22



SUPPORT DELTA TAU



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT DELTA TAU

FIJI 5K

On March 20th, the fraternity hosted our very first Fiji 5K for Mental Health Awareness. In our combined efforts, the Fiji fraternity was able to raise over \$31,000 for such a prevalent cause. The proceeds benefited Erika's Lighthouse and The Real Project, two organizations based out of Chicago and St. Louis respectively. These non-profit organizations are both dedicated to educating and raising awareness about adolescent depression, encouraging good mental health, and breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health issues. With over 50 participants, it was a very special event for our fraternity. Now more than ever, we need to be looking out for one another and we realize how lucky we are to have our brothers.



Volunteer – Join other volunteers on the Advisory Board, Foundation Board or Housing Corporation Board

Career Network – Register onto the brand new Delta Tau career network! Register here (<https://smufgd.mentorease.com>) to become a career mentor for 1 to 3 undergraduate brothers. Let us know if you are willing to present on a career panel and/or serve as a career mentor to one or more undergraduates. For more information please email pete.parker@fmgucson.com.

Recruitment Recommendations – - Provide a recruitment recommendation to Ryan O'Connor at roconnor17@cbastudents.org. You can also fill out this recruitment recommendation form: <https://www.fiji-smu.org/recruitment-recommendation>

One-Time or Recurring Gift – Please consider a one-time or recurring gift. You can give online here: <https://www.fiji-smu.org/donate-now>.

Leave a Legacy – Charitable gifts help you meet your current philanthropic goals and extend your generosity well into the future. But did you know that a planned gift can also protect your assets, provide for your family and guarantee you income for life? You can even make a significant impact through a gift that costs nothing in your lifetime (through a charitable bequest under your will).

Make a Contribution – Please consider a one-time gift to our House Corporation here: <https://www.fiji-smu.org/donate-now>. Also, you can support our chapters scholarship needs through a gift to the Phi Gamma Delta Educational Foundation here: <https://www.phigam.org/Donate>. In the comment section note the following: Reed Haygood scholarship for those that want to give to this specific account or Chapter Educational Account #201301 for those who wish to give an unrestricted scholarship gift. Note: for anyone who would like to establish an endowed scholarship of \$25,000 or more, please contact Matt Noble at matt.noble@fmgucson.com or 520-990-3250.



LETTER FROM THE BCA

FIJI



I won't bore you with details on COVID and how operations have gone over the past year in regard to fraternity life as a whole. While it was a very odd year (for all of us), I am happy to announce that everything is pretty much back to normal over at 3064 SMU Boulevard for the Phi Gams at SMU.

Instead, let's look forward to what we have to accomplish as a chapter. There is one key piece we are missing, that involves YOU.

Over the past three years, the Board of Chapter Advisors has DESPERATELY lacked graduate involvement. We need your help, and the BCA would be greatly appreciative of anyone that is willing to lend some time to the chapter. Whether it's a small role or a big role, a bi-monthly check in with a member of the exec leadership, we can find a way for you to get involved. If you have any interest, please shoot me an email, call, or text anytime and I would be happy to speak with you.

The Chapter and BCA are in the process of starting to plan a Spring 2022 Pig Dinner, so please tentatively mark your calendars for Saturday March 19th, 2022. We intend to hold this event at the Bush Library on SMUs campus. Speaking of involvement, the BCA needs someone to lead the planning for the event. Any takers?

Even amongst COVID, the Chapter had a Spring 2021 rush class of 38 new members bringing the total member count to 139. The FIJI chapter at SMU remains one of the larger chapters Nationally.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new Section Chief John D. (Jade) Metcalf (Section Chief XXXII) to the BCA. Jade will be helping us fill-out the BCA positions and is excited to hit the ground running.

The long and short of it is WE NEED YOUR HELP. Having held the Purple Legionnaire role now for about four years, it's rewarding to make a difference and help these young men become better individuals and a stronger chapter as a whole.

I am always available and hope to hear from you all very soon. We will see you at Pig Dinner next spring.

Best,
Turner Massey '14
Purple Legionnaire
Twmassey.dt@gmail.com
858-353-9153

RECENT GRADS PROFILES



COLE FRANTZ '20

Cole Frantz is from Atlanta, Georgia and is a senior finance major with a concentration in real estate.

During his time at Fiji, Cole was the recipient of The Reid Haygood Memorial Scholarship. In addition, Cole had the opportunity to make relationships with SMU Fiji alumni in Dallas who work in the commercial real estate industry. He notes that this was extremely beneficial for his career progression and that many of them will serve as mentors for him for the rest of his career.

Outside of Fiji, Cole was involved with the SMU Undergraduate Real Estate Club where he served as Vice President and Head of Alumni Relations.

After graduating this upcoming May, Cole is working for TriGate Capital, a Dallas-based real estate private equity firm. Cole is excited to continue to be involved with both SMU and the Fiji chapter on campus.



KEVIN MARTIN '20

Brother Kevin Martin was born and raised in Massachusetts and came to Southern Methodist University to further his education, make lifelong friends, and set up a Dallas network. He rushed Phi Gamma Delta in the Spring of 2017 and has been very involved ever since. He was a Rush Captain Fall of 2018, Philanthropy Chair from Spring 2018-Fall 2019, Rush Chairman Fall of 2019, and President from Winter 2019-Winter 2020.

He is proud to be a Phi Gam and has helped the chapter out as much as possible during his time as an undergraduate and looks forward to helping the chapter as an alumnus. He will be graduating this May as a triple major in Accounting, Economics, and Public Policy.

He is planning on interning for KPMG this summer in their Deal Advisory practice and then going on to get his Masters of Science in Accounting at Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business. He plans to get his CPA after his master's program and plans to continue in the Accounting, Finance, and Business world.



CATCH UP WITH OUR ALUMNI



CHARLES NEUMANN '68

Charles was initiated into the Delta Tau of Phi Gamma Delta chapter at Southern Methodist University in 1966. Since graduation in 1968, he has become the Vice President of Impact Advisors LLC in Lake Bluff, Illinois. Charles has two children named Julie and Christopher Neumann and is married to his wife Linda.

WILLIAM RYAN '80

In 1980, William graduated from Southern Methodist University with a degree in business. He was initiated into the Delta Tau in 1997 and began work following graduation in the Clergy. Today, William is retired from his job as a Vicar for Our Savior Episcopal Church and resides in Rowlett, Texas.

DANIEL CARR '83

While attending Southern Methodist University, Daniel studied biology and was involved in the Tri-Beta biology organization. In 1980 he was initiated into the Delta Tau of Phi Gamma Delta chapter and graduated in 1983 to pursue a career in biomedical research. Daniel most recently worked for the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center as a George Lynn Cross Research Professor and is married to his wife Amy.

ADAM MACDONALD '87

As an alumni of Delta Tau, Adam graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in business public relations. During his membership, he was voted as one of Phi Gamma Delta's top 5 intramural athletes of the class of '87. In 1992, Adam received his masters degree in psychology from Pepperdine university finishing summa cum laude. Today, he is the chief executive officer at Car Wash Pass located in Corona del Mar, California.

GREGORY COUSINS '91

In 1988, Greg was initiated into the Delta Tau and received his bachelor of science in economics degree from Southern Methodist University in 1991. While working in the financial field, he has worked as an account executive, partner, and vice president. For the past 18 years, Greg has been a Financial Advisor at Morgan Stanley in West Palm Beach, Florida where he lives with his wife Morgan.

RICHARD DERKSEN '01

While attending Southern Methodist University, Richard was an active member of the Phi Gamma Delta chapter and graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in business administration and management. Following graduation, he received his certificate in



prosthodontics and MS from Texas A&M. Richard then went on to pursue a career as a dentist and now is the owner/prosthodontist at Dallas Esthetics.



GAVIN GILL '12

Gavin graduated from Southern Methodist University in December of 2012 and was initiated into the Phi Gamma Delta Chapter in 2009. While an active undergraduate member, he held the position of Rush Chairman and graduated with a degree in Economics. Gavin entered into the Commercial real estate brokerage field following graduation with a focus on the disposition, acquisition, and leasing of commercial properties. Today, he holds the position of an associate broker in the Los Angeles area.

COREY RASMUSSEN '13

In 2013, Corey graduated from Southern Methodist University with his bachelor's of Economics degree in Finance Applications Specialization and a minor in sports management. He proceeded to become an associate sales representative, accountant administrator, associate agent, and partner. For the past four months, Corey has worked as a commercial Loan officer for Convoy Capital in Newport Beach, California.

PROFILES OF TWO GRADUATED BROTHERS

CORBIN BLOUNT '14



An economics and sociology major, Corbin has pursued a career in commercial real estate and is currently a Principal at Lee & Associates Commercial Real Estate where he initially started his career in 2014. Corbin has represented tenants in many major markets across North America, as well as, both private and institutional Landlords across DFW.

As an undergraduate, Corbin was a rush captain in 2012, and believes “It’s not the grade you make, but it’s the hands you shake. Networking is the key to being successful. Corbin enjoys networking with young professionals, and he remains actively involved in the SMU Real Estate Society.

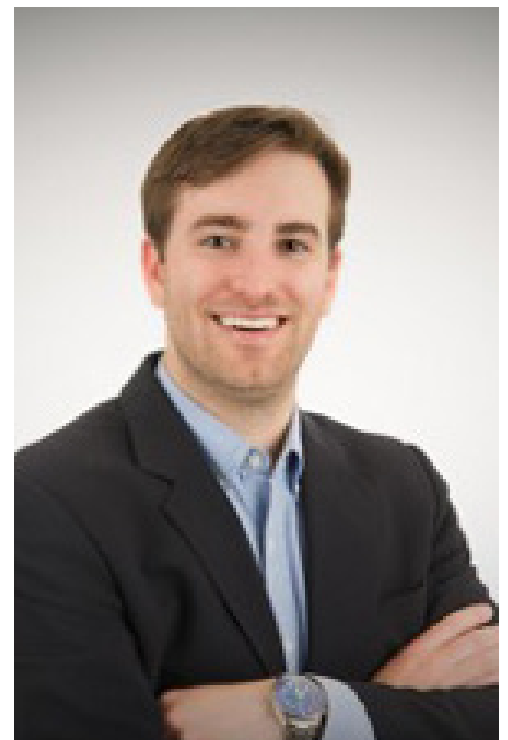
Corbin is also heavily involved with Box 4 Firebuff Association (www.box4.org) which is a non-profit offering rehabilitation services to the Dallas Fire Rescue Department and in departments in surrounding cities.

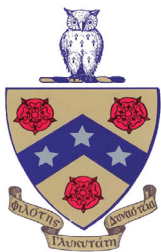
JORDAN PIERSON '14

After being initiated into Delta Tau in 2011, Jordan continued to pursue a major in Marketing along with minors in Sports Management and Applied Physiology. Applying his passions of sports and golf to his career, Jordan started by working at charity golf tournaments, and was a student representative in the Dedman Center Fitness Club back in his undergraduate days. On most weekends when he is not busy, you can often find Jordan squeezing in a round with his pledge brothers for whom he served as the pledge class secretary in 2011. Outside of his professional career Jordan volunteers with the Dallas Fort Worth Search Engine Marketing Association where he is on the board and serves as their Vice President of Sponsorship

A very active undergraduate member, Jordan lived in the chapter house with many different roommates including his little brother in the chapter, Jack Brizendine. As for advice for undergraduates, Jordan’s lasting piece of advice is “Don’t take yourself too seriously. Make real connections in the chapter and around campus. But most importantly, the people you make friends with here are the people you’ll have to attend weddings with for the next decade-plus, so choose wisely.

Jordan is an avid Boston area sports fan as well as a supporter of the Chelsea Football Club.





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Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity
c/o Fraternity Management Group
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Tucson, AZ 85732*

Address Service Requested

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HELP US FIND MISSING INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE BROTHERS

LOST GRADS

<https://www.fiji-smu.org/lost-brothers>

MISSING EMAILS

<https://www.fiji-smu.org/no-email-brothers>

MISSING CELL PHONES

<https://www.fiji-smu.org/no-cell-phone-brothers>

JOIN THE DELTA TAU CAREER NETWORK

<https://smufgd.mentorease.com/>

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

<https://www.fiji-smu.org/graduate-update-profile>

STAY IN TOUCH

WEBSITE

<https://www.fiji-smu.org/>

FACEBOOK

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/115885148514550/about/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/115885148514550/about/)

INSTAGRAM

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