

OUR LEGACY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FY 24-25 • VOL. 3



Above: New #1s, facilitators, and staff at the 2025 Istock Mid-Year Leadership Retreat outside Nashville, Tennessee.

A NOTE FROM THE ADVANCEMENT TEAM:

Chi Psi and its Alphas are off to a good start in 2025. As usual, this issue of *Our Legacy* includes updates on the impact of supporting Chi Psi, an alumnus donor profile, a snapshot of the Trust's financial position, Alpha Dedicated Fund balances, and more.

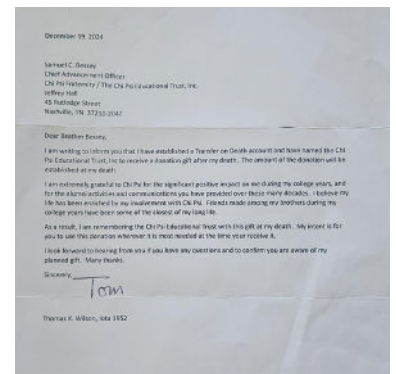
The Trust produced two printed publications this fiscal year; one about **planned giving**, and one about **Chi Psi's scholarship program**. I encourage you to click those links to read them. Alumni are responding positively to both. Tom Wilson, I '52, wrote us that he has made The Chi Psi Educational Trust a beneficiary of his estate, and I encourage you to read his letter below. In a conversation with Tom, I learned that he's also designated the **Iota Court Preservation Association** a beneficiary (this is Alpha Iota's alumni entity that owns the Lodge at the University of Wisconsin). Tom had a great Chi Psi experience that enriched his life, and he is helping to ensure that the same experience is available in future years.

On the scholarship side, the newest restricted fund of the Trust is the John G. Acker Alpha Psi Delta Scholarship Fund. Brother Acker, ΨΔ '83, made a gift to establish this undergraduate scholarship award, which will reward strong academic performance at Alpha Psi Delta at the University of Colorado. John is a Manhattan Beach, California resident, and he recently reached out to all Chi Psis with an address in Pacific Palisades to offer succor and assistance.

The actions of Tom and John exemplify what it means to be a Brother in Chi Psi. Of course, there are many ways to be a good friend and Brother. Our #23 Kyle Phillips recently challenged Central Office staffers to reach out to five Chi Psi friends we haven't communicated with in a while. This was a wonderful exercise for me, and I extend the challenge to you. If you need help finding contact information for anyone, please let me know! I would be happy to help.

YITB,

Sam Bessey, HA '97 | Chief Advancement Officer
sbessey@chipsi.org | 615-405-7623 (cell)



[Click to view Brother Wilson's letter.](#)



Special Match Challenge for Young Brothers and Alumni who make their first gift to Chi Psi!

Thanks to the generosity of the five alumni listed below, all 2024-25 gifts from undergraduates, alumni from the classes of 2019–2024, and alumni who have never made a gift will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000 total.



CLICK OR SCAN QR CODE TO GIVE

Chi Psi thanks these five Brothers for making this match challenge:

Robert A. Dearth, Jr., A '66
Dr. Daniel B. Ahlberg, N '67
Richard R. Burns, E '68
H. Murray Sawyer, Jr., Σ '68
Richard W. Kauffled, Jr., Ψ '80

IMPACT

VERNE AND JUDY ISTOCK MID-YEAR LEADERSHIP RETREAT (MYLR)

The Fraternity welcomed more than 30 undergraduate leaders to Nashville for the 15th annual Verne and Judy Istock Mid-Year Leadership Retreat. Participants spent four days together at Camp Lake Benson outside the city bonding as Brothers, playing basketball, and growing as leaders. Programming included an analysis of key leadership challenges, an overview of Educational Trust programming, discussion groups, risk management and prevention strategies, professional development, recruitment support, and self-care tips. Brothers learned about servant leadership, packing over 11,000 meals for Tennesseans experiencing food insecurity through a partnership with Meals of Hope. Executive Council Member Michael Gustafson led an impactful session on Chi Psi's Ritual and how our Ritual can strengthen their role as a leader. Trustee of the Educational Trust James Haltom delivered a powerful closing speech on leadership drawing on his career in public service and overcoming personal challenges.



UNDERGRADUATE ATTENDEE TESTIMONIALS:

“This opportunity allowed me to connect with Brothers on levels I couldn't even fathom. The everlasting support the Central Office gave me along with the other Brothers is something I will never forget.”

“The Istock MYLR is a fantastic experience for leaders of their Alpha to learn about how to better manage their Alpha. On top of this, they can use ideas from other Alphas and from the programming to better improve their Alphas.”

“This retreat changed the way I look at being #1 of an Alpha. It readily prepared me to take lead and be effective throughout my entire tenure.”

“These past few days have absolutely lit a fire under me to continue my involvement with Chi Psi and work towards the growth/betterment of my Alpha.”

FUTURE IMPACT

OLIVER AND MARIE ROWE REGIONAL CONFERENCES

'In February and March, five Alphas will host the annual Oliver and Marie Rowe Regional Conferences. These events are accessible experiences with the National Fraternity, giving Brothers the opportunity to connect with Alphas closest to them. The hosting Alphas will be Mu Delta (Rollins), Nu (Minnesota), Kappa Delta (Yale), ta Delta (Oregon), and Sigma (North Carolina). See more about each below. Programming is relevant to the Alphas in each particular region and customized with those groups' unique challenges in mind. Alumni in those areas are welcome to attend programming; please register in advance using the links below so we know you are coming. Thank you!



SOUTHEAST (FEB. 7-9)
ROLLINS COLLEGE
WINTER PARK, FL

PROGRAMMING



MIDWEST (FEB. 21-23)
UNIV. OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

PROGRAMMING



NORTHEAST (FEB. 28-MAR. 2)
YALE UNIVERSITY
NEW HAVEN, CT

PROGRAMMING



WEST COAST (FEB. 28-MAR. 2)
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
EUGENE, OR

PROGRAMMING



MID-ATLANTIC (MAR. 21-23)
UNIV. OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL, NC

PROGRAMMING

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Chi Psi events allow attendees to connect (and re-connect) with Brothers in their region and grow their Fraternity networks. Click the links below for more on each existing event. We are also working with local volunteers to plan events in **Chicago** and **Los Angeles** this Spring. Visit www.chipsi.org/events for a full listing.

Interested in hosting or sponsoring an alumni event in your area? Contact Andrew Vail (avail@chipsi.org) to get started. The Central Office can provide assistance with event coordination, marketing, and registration.

Interested in starting an Alumni Club in your area?

Email: avail@chipsi.org

Sarasota/Tampa,
FL Gathering
(Mar. 8)

Greenville, SC
Event
(Mar. 13)

SAVE THE DATE

New York City
Event
(Mar. 28)

SAVE THE DATE

184th Annual
Convention of
Chi Psi
(July 30 - Aug. 3)

FUTURE IMPACT



\$450K AVAILABLE THROUGH 2025 TDS GRANTS



With his transformative gift, T. Denny Sanford, N '58 (pictured above and left), created a fund that provides educational grants to enhance Chi Psi Lodges to be better homes for students. Applications for 2025 grants were due on February 1, and the impact of 2025 grants will be available later this spring. Since 2020, the TDS Fund has provided over \$1.2M in educational Lodge improvement grants and \$450K more will be awarded this year.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: JAMES VAN DYKE, E '01



Entering the University of Michigan in the Fall of 1997, I had no designs on joining any particular fraternity or even participating in the Greek system at all. That said, in the first weekend on campus, a few folks on my dorm floor were planning to attend a social event at Chi Psi and invited me to join. Little did I know walking out of my room that my life would be forever changed.

One of the first Lodgers I met that evening that was Dave Stern, E '00, for whom the Trust's David G. Stern Scholarship is named. He encouraged me to return to the Lodge again for dinner the following week. He knew that Chi Psi truly shined not in the large events, but in the routine personal interactions of a weeknight meal. Upon my return to the Lodge, I found a true Brotherhood, interested in each other's lives, getting to know me and my background, and understanding that only in forsaking the throng of the larger University, could such relationships even be possible.

My time at the Lodge was spectacular. Nothing can compare to those four years living under the same roof with a group of men with whom I cultivated my life's most meaningful friendships. We strove to extract every ounce of enjoyment the experience had to offer. Part of that strategy included attending the Annual Convention, where a whole new level of the Fraternity opened up – connecting with our fellow undergraduates and alumni from across the country and generations.

After graduating, I wanted to find opportunities to ensure that the experience I enjoyed was available to anyone seeking it. As a real estate developer, I knew there were ways to apply my professional know-how to the needs of the Fraternity. That first materialized at the local level serving on Alpha Epsilon's Alumni Corporation, which is tasked with ensuring that the Alpha continued to have a home at the University of Michigan in perpetuity. Then in 2011, I joined the Executive Council of the national Fraternity, serving for nine years, the last two as its Chairman. On the Council, I was able to work on a variety of issues affecting the undergraduate experience and in 2020 helped navigate the Fraternity through the challenges of the pandemic. After leaving the Council, I've stayed active chairing Spencer Properties, which manages the Fraternity's real estate holdings nationally and offers assistance to Alphas seeking lodging solutions. I've also rejoined the local effort serving on the board of the Epsilon Educational Endowment.

Looking back on my now 28 years as a Chi Psi, there is no doubt that you gain more by giving. Give your spirit as an undergraduate in the activities of your Alpha. Give your time as an alumnus serving on local and national boards. Give your available resources to The Chi Psi Educational Trust, either unrestricted or toward your Alpha's Dedicated Fund. Your life will be enriched for having done so, and your commitment will make Chi Psi possible for generations to come.

YITB,

James Van Dyke, E '01



Pledge Brothers (from left to right) Shane, Van Dyke, Carroll, and Starnes.



Brothers Fisher, Van Dyke (center), and Briggs at the annual Van Dyke Boat Party.










Brothers sing "Maid of Chi Psi" to Katie Van Dyke at the Van Dyke wedding.

ASSETS OF THE CHI PSI EDUCATIONAL TRUST

As of 12/31/24 (unaudited)

TOTAL: \$37,927,824.70



	TDS & OTHER GRANTS	\$11,109,540.52	29.29%
	TDS GENERAL (NON-SCHOLARSHIP)	\$10,911,518.74	28.77%
	SCHOLARSHIP	\$4,163,044.67	10.98%
	FUNDS FOR GENERAL SUPPORT	\$3,971,210.15	10.47%
	DEDICATED FUNDS	\$3,564,021.00	9.40%
	EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS	\$3,500,720.63	9.23%
	UNRESTRICTED	\$707,769.00	1.87%

ASSETS OF THE CHI PSI EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TDS & Other Grants – 29.29%: Half of the annual support from the TDS Fund is awarded in educational grants to Chi Psi entities to improve or repair Chi Psi Lodges. Lodge Corporations have been encouraged to complete a study of their Lodge to determine its educational percentage, which enables grants to be made to ownership entities from a foundation. The annual submission date for applications is February 1. The Trust also maintains other named funds that provide for annual grants to specific alumni entities.

TDS General (non-scholarship) – 28.77%: The other half of annual support from the TDS Fund allows the Trust to provide educational support and resources to Chi Psi.

Scholarship – 10.98%: The oldest restricted funds of the Trust as well as several newer ones make up the Trust's scholarship endowment. In addition, an alumnus set up a foundation that provides annual scholarship support to the Trust. In 2024, the Trust awarded 155K to 43 deserving graduate and undergraduate applicants. The Trustees have set a goal to increase annual scholarship support to \$500K, which will require approximately \$9M in new scholarship endowment. This will be a priority until the goal is met.

Funds for General Support – 10.47%: The Trust holds some named restricted funds for which 4.5% of the balance is released annually for educational support.

Alpha Dedicated Funds – 9.40%: Begun in 2020, Alpha Dedicated Funds (DF) are restricted funds for the educational benefit of specific Alphas. Whereas some Alphas established local Alpha foundations many years ago, now all Alphas have a foundation through the DF program. Alpha Alumni Corporations are the entities that may direct the use of DFs, and there are two questions asked by the Trust when considering requests: 1) is the request for funds to be used for a legitimate educational purpose, and 2) does the DF have the necessary assets to fund the request. Through the DF program, The Chi Psi Educational Trust is serving all of Chi Psi as a community foundation.

Educational Programs – 9.23%: Several of the programs of the Trust such as the Oliver and Marie Rowe Regional Leadership Conferences, the Verne and Judy Istock Mid-Year Leadership Retreat, and the O. Neill and Parkie Emmons Alpha Management Retreat have restricted funds, which support the annual expense of those programs. Programs without a named fund are supported by the unrestricted funds of the Trust.

Unrestricted – 1.87%: The smallest fund of the Trust, these are assets of the Trust that can be allocated at the discretion of the Trustees to best serve the mission of the Trust. A priority goal of Trustees is to increase unrestricted endowment.

DF BALANCES

In 2020, The Chi Psi Educational Trust began soliciting and accepting gifts restricted for the educational benefit of specific Alphas. These gifts are held within Dedicated Funds (DFs) of the Trust, and each Alpha has one. An Alpha's Alumni Corporation is the only entity that can submit DF requests, and as long as the request is acceptable for a foundation to fund and the DF has the money to cover the expense, the request will be approved. Every Alpha now has a foundation whereas only some did before. The work to build an adequate balance in each is before us! Alumni volunteer leaders are the driving force in this effort, and the Central Office staff and Trustees are here to help.

FUND NAME	FUND BALANCE (12/30/24)
Alpha Alpha (Wesleyan University)	6,073
Alpha Alpha Delta (University of Georgia)	18,757
Alpha Beta (University of South Carolina)	340,814
Alpha Beta Delta (Lehigh University)	288
Alpha Chi (Amherst College)	1,498
Alpha Chi Delta (Clemson University)	17,577
Alpha Delta Delta (University of California, Berkeley)	23,501
Alpha Epsilon (University of Michigan)	1,065
Alpha Epsilon Tau (Purdue University)	10,519
Alpha Eta Delta (University of Oregon)	508,385

Chart continued on next page

FUND NAME	FUND BALANCE (12/30/24)
Alpha Gamma (University of Mississippi)	8,998
Alpha Iota (University of Wisconsin)	50,158
Alpha Iota Delta (Georgia Institute of Technology)	26,784
Alpha Kappa Delta (Yale University)	18,138
Alpha Mu (Middlebury College)	144
Alpha Mu Delta (Rollins College)	16,518
Alpha Nu (University of Minnesota)	563,009
Alpha Omega Delta (George Mason University)	8,299
Alpha Omicron (University of Virginia)	8,273
Alpha Omicron Delta (Washington and Lee University)	8,553
Alpha Phi (Hamilton College)	2,269
Alpha Phi Delta (University of Kentucky)	8,532
Alpha Pi (Union College)	3,763
Alpha Pi Delta (North Carolina State University)	14,902
Alpha Pi Tau (S. Dakota School of Mines and Tech.)	8,874
Alpha Psi (Cornell University) - GENERAL FUND	212,690
Alpha Psi (Cornell University) - JOHNSON FUND	411,688
Alpha Psi Delta (University of Colorado)	74,483
Alpha Rho (Rutgers University)	15,190

Chart continued on next page

FUND NAME	FUND BALANCE (12/30/24)
Alpha Rho Delta (Miami University)	13,237
Alpha Sigma (University of North Carolina)	14,679
Alpha Sigma Delta (Duke University)	55,262
Alpha Tau Delta (University of the South (Sewanee))	1,386
Alpha Theta Delta (University of Washington)	111,778
Alpha Upsilon Delta (Wake Forest University)	5,315
Alpha Xi (Stevens Institute of Technology)	352,730
Alpha Xi Delta (Texas Tech University)	312
Alpha Zeta Delta (University of Illinois)	646,581
TOTALS	3,564,023

Questions? Please email gifts@chipsi.org or call/text:

Sam Bessey (615) 405-7623

Chief Advancement Officer

Steve Habat (803) 622-2489

Director of Advancement

To give: <https://my.chipsi.org/give-trust>



SCHOLARSHIPS FELLOWSHIPS

NOW OPEN

Visit www.chipsi.org/s-f to apply to undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships.

