

# THE PEGIS TIMES

a SigEp - IL Beta newsletter



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## The Re-Chartering Initiative

*Jeff Bednarz, Chapter Counselor*

Hello all, my name is Jeff Bednarz (Class of 2009) and I am the new Chapter Counsel for SigEp - IL Beta. I first got involved with volunteering for IL Beta when Reggie Maynigo approached me to join the mentoring committee when IL Beta was becoming a SigEp Colony. For those who do not know the mentor committee, they work with the Alumni Volunteer Corporation (AVC) to support the undergraduates. While the AVC focuses mainly on operation of the chapter, the mentor committee works directly with the executive board. We each have an exec position that we mentor directly and help with goal setting, defining positions and expectations and helping the UGs with any challenges they face in their positions.

Originally Reggie asked me to join the mentor committee as the Chaplin Mentor. From there I began interacting with the chapter and learning more about the undergraduates. Nationals recruited a great initial group of UGs! The guys put a lot of effort and time into the chapter. They continued their campus involvement while impressing national. They redefined IL Beta and the Balanced Man Program. They integrated the BMP to Chicago and created specific challenges that tailored to the challenges of the day. Nationals noticed how strong our BMP was by recognizing them at Carlson last spring. They also continued their recruitment and achieved great success even when the world shut down. They were even able to recruit several members virtually!

After seeing the strong commitment and dedication from the UGs, it was easy to accept the Chapter Counselor position when Reggie asked me. I knew I would be able to help the UGs continually achieve their goals and strive to make IL Beta the best SigEp chapter. It has allowed me to give back to a chapter and organization that gave me so much while I was at IIT. SigEps has led to lifelong friendships and many personal skills that I use every day. I feel grateful to be able to give back and allow the new UGs to have the same opportunities I had. It gives me a chance to help an organization that I genuinely believe in.

It is great to be communicating with the IL Beta alumni again because we still need some more help. We always welcome new ideas and opinions to both the mentor committee and the AVC. Both the mentor committee and AVC could use more volunteers. It is an extremely rewarding experience and a way to give back to a great organization. If anyone is interested in volunteering please contact either Reggie or me. It is not a major time commitment and we all could do a lot of good helping the UGs!

## State of the Chapter

*Henry White, Chapter President*

It is no surprise that this semester is not what we expected it to be a year ago, and that it has called for us to change the way we go about creating the fraternity experience. However, I am happy to report that the state of the chapter is continually optimistic. Even though we are faced with new challenges, our chapter of 18 undergraduate members have demonstrated creativity and commitment in their pursuit of the balanced man ideal.

Because of COVID-19 concerns, most of our meetings and programming are now being conducted in a virtual format. This includes chapter meetings through Zoom, Balanced Man programming on Google Meets, and social hangouts using Jackbox Games, Among Us, or other multiplayer online activities. Additionally, not all our members live on or near campus, reinforcing the need for this type of programming. However, when opportune, we have been able to engage together with in-person socially distanced activities, such as study nights in the lounge of the new Kacek Hall or conducting the ritual for our Sigma members. Though the platforms we are using have changed, our goals have not.

Another challenge we have faced this semester is attrition, losing a few members whose extenuating circumstances caused them to withdraw. However, I am happy to report that the new members that joined this semester not only offset this loss but have brought fresh energy and ideas to the chapter and helped recharge it with new life. Of the five members who joined since May, four were elected to the new executive board. There is no better indicator for the bright future of the chapter than the enthusiasm our newest brothers bring with them.

Looking towards the future, we are cognizant that a virtual experience will still be required for the immediate coming months, but we are confident in our ability to execute it with zeal. We are strongly committed to setting the chapter on course for accreditation as a learning community, hopefully laying the groundwork for a Buchanan Cup in a few years. Already this semester we have begun conversations with upper University administration to ensure a strong ongoing partnership between the chapter and them, engaging in mutually beneficial programs and sharing our vision of leading with virtue. Our members continue to live our cardinal principles daily, and I am so proud to call them all brothers.

I would like to commend everyone for their hard work this semester, and I cannot wait to see what the next year will hold.

## Growing the Alumni Network

*Lee Fink, Class of 2007*

Gentleman, as we continue our re-chartering efforts, it is no secret that one of the fraternity's biggest strengths is its alumni network. There is an alumni contact list that is managed by myself, Reggie Maynigo, and Josh Buck. We hope this newsletter may re-ignite the connection between the current UG's and Alumni. We hope to expand our Alumni list of contacts, so please reach out if you believe there are brothers who may not have received this newsletter. HFF.

### Questions or Comments? Please contact:

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