

Parent Pi Ides Newsletter

Phi Gamma Delta | Worcester Polytechnic Institute | Fall 2024



A Look at Last Semester!

Frank Norris Pig Dinner

With a full year in the books for our new chapter house, our annual Frank Norris Pig Dinner was held on Saturday April 27th with over 150 in attendance. Undergraduates and alumni gathered at New 99 for an open house with appetizers and refreshments served with special thanks to our brother and house chef, **Tim Friend, 2021** initiate.

The open house was followed by our annual Pig Dinner on the Hill in the **Steve Rubin '74** Campus Center. Our brothers shared accomplishments from this past year, introduced 15 new brothers, and presented this year's Owl recognitions.



Another Graduation in the Books!

On Friday May 10th more than 1,500 undergraduate and graduate students celebrated WPI's 155th commencement at the DCU Center. Among the proud graduates were over twenty Pi Iota brothers, several of whom will be continuing their education at WPI pursuing graduate degrees. Others are beginning their careers at notable places such as Pratt and Whitney, and National Grid. We wish these brothers well as they begin the next stages of their career and look forward to seeing their accomplishments. Mighty Proud!



Pi Iota Undergraduate Recognitions

Provost Award Winners

This year, Brother **Matthew Wofford '24** and Brother **Raman Kaushik '24** were recognized with the 2024 MQP Provost Award at the campus wide Undergraduate Research Projects Showcase. Their WPI Business School project, "Optimization of Tool Wear Versus Tool Change at Affordable Interior Systems (AIS)," was advised by Brother **Walter Towner '83**. Mighty Proud of these brothers!



IQP Award

Brother **Adam Giordani '24** received The Forum Award for Academic Achievement Abroad for his work in Melbourne, Australia last year. His team's project, "Reducing Waste Through Innovation: Engaging the Melbourne Community via Plastic Bottle cap Recycling" shows the global impacts that our brothers and community have.



Ekklesia 2024

Phi Gamma Delta's 176th Ekklesia was held this past August in Chicago, Illinois. Brothers **Carlos Jones '25**, **Joel Indipiginja '26**, and **Jack Forsyth '27**, joined by **Dave Willens '09** represented the Pi Iota chapter with distinction. The brothers voted on various topics, discussed the recent changes that Phi Gamma Delta has gone through regarding New Member Education, and Brother Jones was also recognized as a recipient of the Persistence Scholarship! The brothers concluded the weekend at the White Sox game where they had the opportunity to meet brothers from all around the nation. This event truly showed what it means to be a brotherhood and we are honored to have attended.



Recapping Spring '24 Philanthropy

Our Bright Future Inc. Gala

On March 2, 2024, brothers attended the Our Bright Future Hollywood Gala to show support for the local non-profit, *Our Bright Future*. The brothers volunteer for the after-school program daily and introduce Worcester students in grades 5 to 8 to robotics. The curriculum through *TRUE Robotics* was developed by graduate brother **Anthony Galgano '22**. Pi Iota was once again recognized with Our Bright Future's Volunteerism Award. Additionally, Brother **Daniel Barmakian '24** received the Volunteer of the Year Award. Mighty Proud!



Pie – A – Fiji

The brothers continued their yearly tradition of Pie-A-Fiji on the hill. Students and faculty were able to pay money to throw a pie in a brother's face and this year the brothers raised over **\$800** to which they donated to the American Cancer Society. The American Cancer Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating cancer. The brothers are honored to have been able to raise money for such an important organization.



Fiji Flowers

On Valentine's Day, brothers volunteered their time and sold roses on campus to show support for the V-Day Foundation. The V-Day Foundation is a global activist movement that stands to end all violence against women and show support for women's rights. Brothers raised **\$332** for the foundation.



Relay for Life

Along with Pie-A-Fiji, the brothers also went to the Relay for Life in which they spent the entire night in the recreation center and showed their support for the American Cancer Society. This fundraiser is more than a walk – it is a chance to celebrate cancer survivors, remembered loved ones lost, and fight back against every cancer.



Kicking off A-term!

The Brothers have had quite an eventful A-term these past couple of weeks! We began the term by helping the newest members of our WPI community move into their dorms for Freshman Move-In and quickly followed this with the popular Greek Carnival where we sparked interest in a lot of the potential new members! From the Interfraternity Council's pre-Rush events to our numerous Fiji Fridays on the Quad, the



brothers have set a great impression on the freshman and are excited for Rush to begin this B-term! The brothers have also been getting involved on campus with our intramural flag football team as well as attending numerous school sporting and social events as a brotherhood. A highlight of the term was



definitely our annual flag football competition with the sorority Phi Sigma Sigma and we look forward to doing it again next year! On September 11th, the brothers planted flags on the Quad to remember each of those lives taken from us 23 years ago; we also partnered with Phi Sigma Sigma to paint the Fiji Rock as a reminder to Never Forget. The brothers also

welcomed 4 graduates from the Class of 1967 on October 2nd for dinner and a tour of New 99. The brothers were grateful to have had this opportunity to meet the alumni and learned a lot about what Fiji was like in the 60s! This definitely shows that Phi Gamma Delta is Not for College Days Alone! House improvements have also been a top priority for the brothers this term. From painting, to repairs, to building new furniture,



the brothers have been hard at work to ensure that the house is in its best condition for rush in B-term. Winding down the term, the brothers began their third year of volunteering for Our Bright Future Inc. and started homing in on finals. As the new term begins, the brothers are excited for Rush and welcoming in a new class of members into our brotherhood!





Persistence

Brother **Rick Hughes '26**, a dedicated member of the house, an exceptional student, and a member of the Air Force ROTC, has left a lasting mark both in and out of the classroom. Brother Hughes is well known for his creativity and artistic talent. His most notable contribution is the stunning mural of President and Brother Calvin Coolidge that he painted for the house. This masterpiece serves as a proud representation of his creativity and passion for the house, reminding us that *Nothing in the world can take the place of Persistence.*



The Rock is Back!

Fiji's Rock has always been adored by the community and it is no different in the past year! Brother **Daniel Lenshin '25** is a dedicated member of the house who has taken on the role of Rock Chair. His artistic talents have shone brightly through his stunning paintings on the rock, earning him widespread praise from students and the local Worcester community. Each piece he paints has brought vibrancy and creativity to the space, becoming a highlight for all who pass by.



Not for College Days Alone...

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Stay in tune with the latest updates from Pi Iota

Learn about what's happening in the chapter more frequently by following us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. You'll see regular updates on chapter activities and important events. Don't forget to check out our chapter website at www.fijiwpi.com.



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