

The Special For Alumni and Friends of the Colorado Gamma Chapter Fall 2013

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, SIGMA PHI EPSILON CURRENT NEWS | WWW.CSUSIGEP.ORG



Members during the brotherhood hike.

Defining SigEp for Future Generations

his summer five House Corporation and Alumni Volunteer Corporation (AVC) members numerous Conclave activities with the undergraduates. During a goal-setting activity, the board identified that there may be a need to educate our alumni on what SigEp is today.

The young men in the fraternity today are looking for the same things we did in our past through the extracurricular activities of the fraternity. They are involved in campus activities, working through the challenges of leading their peers, and learning more about themselves as they prepare for life after college. The ritual and focus on brotherhood have not changed. The men are always excited when they meet alumni brothers and hear about their experience in the chapter. They are also hungry to learn about you and your career since your days at Colorado State.

We would also like to use this *Spear* as an opportunity to familiarize alumni brothers with SigEp today and some of the terminology that has changed over the past few years.

ALUMNI SUPPORT STRUCTURE

The Red Door House Corporation is made up of five board of director members and is focused on property management and fundraising. The AVC advises and mentors the chapter executive board members.

THE RESIDENTIAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (RLC)

Established in 2000, the RLC's purpose is to enrich the SigEp experience for undergraduate brothers by delivering a powerful living-learning environment and a strengthened member development program. RLC chapters embrace the relationship with their host university and local community in recognition that learning does not begin and end in the classroom, and we can do more to bring unique learning opportunities into the chapter house. RLC incorporates collaboration between

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Brothers Find Inspiration at 2013 Conclave

This summer, 10 undergraduate members of Colorado Gamma and four members of the AVC and house corporation attended the 53rd Annual SigEp Conclave in Dallas, Texas. This event was an incredible learning experience for all undergraduate brothers in attendance. Through professional seminars, conversing with other brothers, and developing an internal action plan to apply all these lessons, we were able to truly evaluate what it means to be a Colorado Gamma SigEp and how we can better ourselves in the future.

Many informative leadership seminars were held over the course of the week, giving lessons in personal finance, communication, professional wardrobe, and many other topics. These presentations were beneficial; however, we absorbed the most information from other undergraduate members of SigEp from across the nation.

By the end of the week we were brimming with ideas and inspiration, and we needed an effective plan to outline all these ideas. We wanted to convert them to quantitative, achievable goals. To accomplish this, we created a definitive action plan to put in place after returning from Conclave. The plan broke down the priorities for the chapter, AVC, and house corporation. Each of these priorities was followed by a list of actions that would contribute toward the ultimate success of the chapter. This has proven to be very effective, and we have succeeded in many of the action areas.



Defining SigEp for Future Generations

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academic professionals, undergraduates, alumni, volunteers, the university, and the chapter facility, creating an incredible opportunity for personal growth and educational development for all involved.

BALANCED MAN PROGRAM

The program is designed as a continuous development experience focused on scholarship, leadership, and life skills to complement a university's classroom curriculum. The refinement of these crucial skills helps our brothers succeed upon graduation and prepares them to achieve balance and satisfaction in every aspect of their lives. The Balanced Man Program is designed to provide a sufficiently structured, supportive experience with a brotherhood of high achievers, close friends, and mentors to provide personal and professional guidance.

In addition, the national fraternity puts on a series of programs along a leadership continuum for the undergraduates. These programs include:

- **EDGE** is a program for new members with a curriculum that stresses how to overcome obstacles and create healthy habits for a lifetime of achievement. EDGE is about building the foundation.
- The Carlson Leadership Academy (CLA) is an interactive training for executive board members on running committees, organizing, and meeting chapter goals. CLA is conducted with chapters across the country; CSU attends with the chapters in the west.
- Frank J. Ruck Leadership Institute is an intense five-day event for SigEp's top rising leaders. Participants must apply and be selected to attend. They are stretched both mentally and physically, and pushed to explore their potential.
- Tragos Quest to Greece participants are stretched mentally and physically during a 10-day journey through Greece in mid-June. Each scholar prepares for the trip with multiple books, and various classic writings and plays. Once there, they get to see the very mountains and seas that serve as settings for these stories.
- **Conclave:** is the largest gathering of fraternity brothers in the world and is conducted every other year. Conclave activities include the undergraduate delegation to vote on new bylaws that govern the fraternity and distinguished alumni awards.
- Life After College is SigEp's newest leadership event focused on preparing upperclassman to be successful personally and professionally as they transition from college to the real world. Through the workshop men focus on finding a career they are passionate about, best practices for finding a job, and strategies to manage their finances.



To learn more about SigEp today, please visit www.sigep.org, and to see how the Colorado Gamma members are living it, please visit www.csusigep.org.

Fraternally,

Tony Mauro '99

AVC President / anthonymauro@yahoo.com



Celebrating a Fallen Brother

Brothers Remember Samuel Berenbeim '14

n Friday, June 21, Brother Samuel J. Berenbeim '14 entered Chapter Eternal after a lifelong battle with diabetes. Sam was a Colorado Gamma senior set to graduate in spring 2014. He was pursuing a degree in chemical and biological engineering with minors in biomedical engineering and chemistry. We miss our brother dearly; his life brought an incredible amount of joy to everyone who knew him. While we mourn our loss, we continue to celebrate his life each and every day. Samuel was a passionate and talented musician, and the chapter hosted a music-centered philanthropy at Avogadro's Number on November 9 in his memory. The event featured multiple bands that were kind enough to donate their talents for the cause, and all proceeds from the event went toward diabetes research and education. Our goal is to make this philanthropy an annual occurrence and have it grow into something much grander in future years.

Alumnus Remains Committed to Academic Excellence at Colorado State

Building Named After Suzanne and Walter Scott '53

On September 12 the Suzanne and Walter Scott Jr. Bioengineering Building opened on the Colorado State University campus. Named after Brother **Walter Scott '53** and his late wife, Suzanne, the building is the second Engineering building on the Fort Collins campus.

"The Scott Bioengineering Building, with its innovative design and state-of-the-art technologies, will allow us to better educate our students and better prepare them to make an impact on our world," said Colorado State President Tony Frank in an official press release to the university community. "We are enormously grateful to the students and donors – particularly Walter and Suzanne Scott – who believed in this project and made it such true success."

The \$75 million, 122,000-square-foot building occupies the southeast corner of Laurel Street and Meridian Avenue. The Scott Bioengineering Building contains classroom and high-tech research space for about 40 faculty members in the disciplines of biomedical engineering; bioanalytic devices, which are sensors to detect

a host of organic agents; synthetic biology, which works to solve problems related to the environment, health and energy; and environmental engineering.

The building, which has been built to LEED Gold standards, also includes teaching labs, design studios where student teams can work to solve specific problems, and a 24-hour study space. We are so thankful that Brother Walter Scott and his family remain committed to Colorado Gamma and to the university. Thank you!

BALANCED MAN SCHOLARSHIP ATTRACTS TOP LEVEL MEN

On September 6, the Colorado Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon hosted the Balanced Man scholarship banquet at CSU's own Hughes Stadium. The Balanced Man scholarship was developed to recognize and honor incoming freshmen that exemplifys academic, athletic, community service, and leadership achievements. The scholarship is unique in the sense that applicants are not required to join SigEp to be eligible. No other fraternity offers anything similar. We received 36 applications and the selection process was very difficult. This year three scholarships were awarded.

Michael Warbiany and Kyle Johnston were both recipients of \$500. Michael had a 3.78 high school GPA, received many academic awards, completed over 100 hours of community service, participated and held a captains position in lacrosse, and worked two jobs while in

high school. Kyle had a 4.0 high school GPA, completed over 120 hours of community service, participated in track and soccer, received an MVP award for soccer, and has work experience at several places, including Hassler Law Firm. Josh Cook was the recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship and is an outstanding gentleman. He had a 4.0 high school GPA, was involved in student government all four years, had over 150 hours of community service throughout several organizations, was the varsity starting quarterback and linebacker for three years, and was the starting pitcher for his baseball team. Josh received many athletic awards including all-district and all-state honors.

Congratulations to the outstanding students!

Fraternally,
Stephen Grant '16
Balanced Man Scholarship Director



Balanced Man Chairman Steve Grant '14 and scholarship recipient Josh Cook '17.

Alumnus Joins Board to Help Provide a Better Fraternity Experience for Undergraduate Members

Mitch Christ '79 joined SigEp in the spring of 1975. During his time at Colorado Gamma he made lasting memories with lifelong

friends. "I remember singing at the sororities to get our composite back, Monday-night chapter meetings going into the early hours of the morning, activation week, building SigEp lake and dance floor in the front yard for Flower Dance, and working in the kitchen on Crew with tunes cranked."

He graduated with an industrial construction management degree in 1979. Mitch founded Suntex

Construction, a residential framing and siding subcontracting business in Fort Collins while in school. Upon graduation he traveled around the country managing the design and construction of industrial and high-tech projects including oil refineries, natural gas plants, nuclear waste repositories, hospitals, and semiconductor manufacturing facilities for Litwin Engineers and Constructors, Stearns-Roger Engineering Corporation, CH2M Hill-IDC, as well as construction claims and project management consulting for Kellogg Corporation.

In 1994, Mitch founded Integrated Companies Inc., a professional construction management

organization specializing in industrial and hightech facilities. In 2005 he co-founded The CPI Group, a joint venture between CompPlan

Associates and Integrated Companies to provide medical equipment planning, procurement, installation services. In 2007, CompPlan Associates and The CPI Group merged into Integrated Companies, which is now doing business as The CPI Group, specializing in total program management and designbuild services for the healthcare and industrial high-tech markets. In 2009 he co-founded Internation LLC,

which is a robust cloud-based asset management database platform that spun out of Integrated Companies. Mitch sits on the CSU Construction Management Professional Advisory Board and is also on the board of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Design-Build Institute of America.

In 2013, Mitch joined the SigEp Colorado Gamma Alumni Board of Directors as building committee chairman. He was involved in some planning efforts to renovate the house in the 1980's that never gained enough traction to support a full alumni fundraising campaign initiative. "One of my very best friends and hunting companions Dave Damhoff '79, who

has been on the board for many years, persuaded me to re-engage with the board. The friends I made living in the SigEp house are lifetime friends and the SigEp fraternity experience is priceless. I am proud to be a SigEp, and I want to be able to give back to the organization in order to help support the new generations of Colorado Gamma SigEps in hopes that they will have as memorable an experience living at 121 East Lake as I had."

Mitch attended his first SigEp Conclave this year in Dallas, Texas, and said it was a very exciting and emotional experience. "I had the opportunity to meet some awesome actives and alumni from all over the country. I heard some excellent speakers talk about what SigEp means today, and visions into the future and I experienced some very moving SigEp ceremonies including the eccrinology honoring our departed brothers where I got to honor the passing of our brother John R. Hughes '80."

Mitch and his wife of 32 years live in Littleton, Colorado, and have a 30-year-old daughter who is a licensed architect in Denver and a 27-year-old son who is a lieutenant in the Navy and a SEAL stationed in Coronado, California. E-mail: mitch.christ@theCPIgroup.net



121's Winter Wonderland

SU SigEp will be hosting our annual holiday light show and Toys for Tots toy drive December 13, 14, 20 and 21. The show will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at 121 E. Lake Street. Hot cider and cocoa will be served. We are looking to shatter our previous record of more than 400 toys donated, and we need as much help as possible to achieve this goal. If you have any questions or would like to make an outof-state donation, contact VP of Programming **Joe Pearson '15** at (925) 785-2004. Be sure to follow @CSUSigEp and @121wonderland on Twitter for the latest information, and shows from past years can be seen on www.youtube. com/csusigep. We hope to see many alumni, family, and friends there!



The Spear

Colorado Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon

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Busy Times at 121

Colorado Gamma Continues to Thrive at CSU

The CSU SigEps have been very busy this fall. We have continued traditions, as well as engaged in new events that have made us better men, better brothers, and a better chapter.

BROTHERS ASSIST FLOOD VICTIMS

The massive flooding that occurred had a drastic impact on Fort Collins and the surrounding areas. A group of brothers went to the Flood Distribution Center of Loveland and helped distribute donations to residents of the hard-hit Loveland and Estes Park areas.

CHAPTER PARTNERS WITH ALUMNUS FOR PHILANTHROPY EVENT

The largest event of the semester was the 2013 Disability Pride Fest, where members joined **Dave Swinehart '75**, who works for Disabled Resource Services. Dave was very appreciative of the chapter's support and willingness to help. "Not only was I impressed by their character, but they made a great impression on my co-workers, as well," Dave said. "They were polite, eager to do whatever was asked, and were true gentlemen. You made me proud to be a SigEp." This is an event that SigEp hopes to continue in the future, and we are eager to do similar events, especially

if it connects the actives with alumni and can help give back to the community.

SIGEPS BOND THROUGH BROTHERHOOD ACTIVITIES

This semester we have stressed the aspect of brotherhood and have been encouraging brothers to do things together off campus, and to do unique things that they otherwise would not do. This fall, many brothers got together and went paintballing. This was a day full of fun that brought us together, and we hope to do another event like this next semester. Another fun event that many brothers put together was a hike to Horsetooth Reservoir. The event was a "date-dash" in which every member brought a date with him. We have enjoyed spending time together in fun and unique ways.

We would like to thank alumni, for our success could not happen without your support. I encourage any alumni in the area to visit chapter house and share your memories with us.

Fraternally, **Jordan Koslosky '16** jkos1293@gmail.com



Members at the Disability Pride Fest.



Brothers at the paintball event.