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# SPRING 19 NEWSLETTER

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*Spring Formal*

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## Chapter Stats

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**Man Power:** 88

**Chapter GPA:** 3.01

**Fall Fundraiser (Big Brothers and Sisters):** \$12,000

**Spring Fundraiser (EAT):** \$2,500

**Brother Mentors:** Simon Pilato, Jackson Shumway, Nolan Below, John Louis Chiappe

**Epsilons:** 26

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## Presidential Update

As the first semester for our new Executive Board concludes, I am very excited to update everyone on what we have been able to accomplish so far. We have a great board of 9 very eager and ambitious men, who are ready to take SigEp Cal Psi to the next level. Our past E-Board did a great job setting our chapter up for success, so it is our mission to take us from good to great.

The semester started well with a fantastic Spring Recruitment, leading to 12 new brothers. These new brothers include the captain of the Rugby team, several Dean's List scholars, and transfer/international students looking to get acclimated to the Pepperdine community. These young men just completed a very rewarding Sigma process and are now onto the Phi Challenge. With this class, we are now 88 men strong, which is on track to hit our 5-year goal of 100 men by next Fall.

Other strides our chapter has taken include: Adding a new philanthropy for a brother's family charity (raising thousands of dollars), great turnout at SigEp's Carlson Leadership Academy, stellar RLC talks from our favorite Pepperdine professors, and some really fun chapter programming. Along with all of this, our greatest accomplishment is that we submitted our first Buchanan Cup application in years. After a lot of encouragement from our Cal Psi alumni and our Regional Director, our Executive Board realized that we are in a great position to win this Most Outstanding National Chapter Award. After countless hours of data collection and essay writing we are proud of what we put forth to nationals. We look forward to seeing if all this hard work pays off when the trophy is handed out at our National Conclave in July.

We are very excited with the work we have gotten done this past semester and are ready to continue this success next year. I want to conclude by saying thank you to all of our awesome alumni for the support and donations we have received this semester. A large portion of our success can be credited to your help and past success from your collegiate days. Thanks again! HFF

## Carlson Leadership Academy



### CLA: Building Leaders

**Elected board:** President Simon Pilato, VP Programming John Louis, VP Brotherhood development Nico Toracca, VP Finance James Rominger, VP Communications Nick Mason

**Rising Leaders:** Justin Rorick, John Komars, Blake Frederickson, Braden Sprenger, DJ Coronado, Saeed Djalilov

Pictured with Alum Frank Ko

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# E-BOARD UPDATES

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## John Louis Chiappe (VP Programming)

Coming off of an exceptional year for our fraternity, my number one priority as VP of Programming was maintaining and strengthening the relationships we have with the other Greek organizations at Pepperdine. Over the last semester, we mixed with every sorority in various ways. From casual cupcake outings, to fun afternoons paddle boarding at the beach, our brothers have enjoyed getting to know all of the lovely ladies that Pepperdine has to offer. On top of that, we had yet another outstanding formal in downtown Los Angeles. This spring we transitioned to a new event planning company which worked beyond expectations. We look forward to being more creative and adventurous this fall and in the years to come.

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## Nico Toracca (VP Member Development)

The position of Vice President of Membership Development holds a lot of responsibility in overseeing the continual development of our members from the time they join SigEp to preparing them for their post-graduation lives. As our development programs on the Malibu campus continue to thrive, we put an emphasis this year on supporting the development of our brothers in all aspects of their lives. Not only have challenges and opportunities been provided for them to further immerse themselves in their respective environments, we continue to enhance our connections by encouraging leadership positions both on campus and abroad. Leadership experience encourages their growth as young men with an extremely unique learning opportunity. In addition to leadership, we put an emphasis on creating a better environment for our new members. By implementing coordinators that have specific focus areas, our new members have been able to receive the guidance necessary to maintain healthy habits in college. Specifically, we have incorporated a sound mind, sound body, and sound spirit coordinator, respectively. The sound mind coordinator's focus is to provide resources and tips for students adjusting to the rigor of Pepperdine's academic environment. With a heavy emphasis on academics and the autonomy of college that is new to many, it is easy for students to put healthy habits on the back burner. Our sound body coordinator holds the goal of implementing health exercise habits into new members' schedules. Though physical health is incredibly important to our success, so is our mental health. Our sound spirit coordinator uses faith and spirituality to provide mental clarity in a period of life where students can become so focused on their external responsibilities. In the near future, our unique developmental programs intend to continue improving on our programs for new members, the brothers entering career fields, and growth for all members in between.



## Ryan Razavi (VP of LC)

If there is one thing that the SigEp Cal Psi Chapter can improve upon the most it's increasing our overall GPA. Last Fall, we ranked third out of four in overall fraternity GPAs. We hope to embody the essence of having a sound mind and we hold ourselves to a higher academic standard. That being said, our executive board and I have taken numerous steps to improve our academic performance for this past Spring semester.

We began the semester by suspending three brothers for not adhering to our academic standard of excellence stated in our chapter bylaws. We are happy to report that those three brothers' GPAs have improved since being suspended and we are excited to reinstate them in the fall - for they have each surpassed our standards. Brothers below a 3.0 GPA were required to complete study hours through the MyGreekStudy App. In addition to this, I did bi-weekly check-ins with brothers who were on study hours to remind them to complete their hours, prepare them for upcoming exams, and offer them studying tips from brothers who may have already taken their course. I booked study rooms in the Payson Library for our brother's to study in during heavy midterm weeks and finals week. I also created a master list of every brother's major so that anyone can refer to that list and see who has the same major as them. I highlighted the brothers within each major who had a GPA higher than a 3.5 so that younger members can reach out for help. Moving along, our new Spring Sigma class was advised to sit in the front row of each of their classes and met with each of their professors one-on-one in.

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## Maxwell Rickard (Director of Philanthropic Affairs)

This semester: We have had many improvements to our areas in service and philanthropy participation. We won 7 out of 9 total philanthropies offered by sororities, unheard of for our organization in recent years considering in the past semesters we have won 1 maybe 2 philanthropies. Participation has gone up with the integration of more chair positions to help facilitate our involvement with sorority events as well as with the addition of an enthusiastic freshman class. Besides just sorority event participation, we have become the first fraternity on campus to have two philanthropies instead of one. With the addition of Super SigEp Bros, we were able to host a Super Smash Bros tournament that was very well received by the freshman class guys at Pepperdine. We partnered with a new organization, End Allergies Together, and worked with them to raise over \$2,500. An event like this had never been thrown on campus, but now more people are organizing them now that it is apparent there is a high interest in the activity. Lastly, we continued a new tradition made by Mando to participate in the All-Abilities Fair and help run fun games and activities for those with special needs.



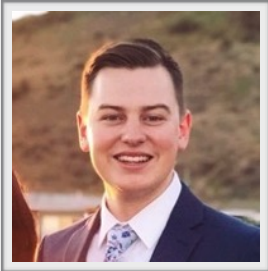
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# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## Alumni Spotlight

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*Matthew Dorle 18'* after graduating with a degree in Integrated Marketing Communications began working as an intern at the world's largest video production company, Activision – Blizzard. There he was a public relations assistant on their emerging franchises team where they developed and launched games such as: Crash Bandicoot N' Sane Trilogy, Spyro the Dragon: Reignited Trilogy, and soon to be released, Sekiro: Shadows Die Twice. After working at Activision he began a new career path in the entertainment industry where he is currently the assistant to Global Director, Toni Wallace, for music

brand partnerships at United Talent Agency. In his current role he coordinates day-to-day communication and pitches brand partnerships between hundreds of brands and artist-clients from the likes of Post Malone, Marshmello, Pitbull, Mariah Carey, Toby Keith and many other highly esteemed artists on UTA's music roster. Most notably his office was responsible for securing all sponsorship for Post Malone's inaugural festival Posty Fest, selling out over 20,000 tickets in just a few hours without a lineup even being released.

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## Our New Sweet Heart (DG)

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Our new sweet heart pictured with our former president Ben Harmon (class of '19). Anna Clare is a current Junior who went abroad with several brothers to Florence, Italy. In her words "I've been best friends with the chapter since freshman year. Others, we grew closer than ever while abroad. And this year, I've had the privilege of getting to know the genuine, passionate gentleman of Sig Ep. I'm so incredibly honored to be your sweetheart for the next year, and can't wait to do the most for you guys."

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# Chapter Involvement

## On Campus our Men Continue to be Leaders

An underlying core of principles, the undergraduates strive to live a life of purpose, service, and leadership. This can be seen in our data for the coveted Buchanan Cup. Our men have put in more than 10,000 hours of community service over the two years. This service included many members that are leaders for their respective organizations. Below are a variety of the organizations our men serve and lead.

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|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Swipe Out Hunger                     | Pepperdine Food Committee              | Won by One                         |
| Student Alumni Organization          | Pepperdine Food Insecurity Team        | Club Tennis                        |
| Pepperdine Pick Ups                  | Indian Student Association             | Club Golf                          |
| Intramural: Volleyball, Basketball,  | International New Students Orientation | Art Club                           |
| Football                             | Coordinator                            | Accounting Society                 |
| IFC                                  | Microfinance Club                      | Psi Chi (Psychology Honor Society) |
| Songfest                             | Dance in Flight                        | Pepperdine PVC                     |
| NSO: Orientation Leader              | Pre-med Club                           | Red cross blood drive              |
| Phi Alpha Delta (Law Fraternity)     | Club Convo Leaders                     | Pepperdine Ambassadors Council     |
| Delta Sigma Pi (Business Fraternity) | Student Government- Freshman President |                                    |
| Newswires                            | Theatre Program                        |                                    |
| Graphic                              | Black Student Association              |                                    |
| Rugby Team- (captain)                |  |                                    |

## Distinguished Leader

### John Louis Chiappe (Junior)

Over my years at Pepperdine I have sought involvement anywhere I could find it. I started out as a Rally Crew member at home games, went abroad as a RA in Florence, and came back to serve on the Pepperdine Ambassadors Council my junior year. But my favorite throughout all of this has been Greek life. In the spring I took over as President of the Interfraternity Council while stepping into VP of Programming because of the relationships I have made with all of the organizations on campus. None of this would have been possible without my fraternity. SigEp has been the largest factor in my growth as a leader. From upperclassmen giving me opportunities as a freshman to events like Carlson and Ruck, SigEp has afforded me practical experiences as well as new ways of taking on leadership. This year is the culmination of my experiences as I strive to leave an appreciated legacy with my fellow executive board members.



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# STAY CONNECTED

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Have you recently moved, changed your number, or gotten a new email address? Do you know an alumnus who isn't receiving our mailings? Help us keep our records current by sending updated contact information via [sigepavc.org](http://sigepavc.org) or to CA Psi Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, P.O. Box 442100, Lawrence, KS, 66044-2100. Update [here](#)

If you have suggestions or questions for Alumni reunions with Pepperdine, contact Hannah Dean at [Hannah.Dean@pepperdine.edu](mailto:Hannah.Dean@pepperdine.edu)

Any suggestions or desire to get involved with the undergraduate chapter contact Nick Mason, this year's VP of Communications: [Nicholas.p.mason@pepperdine.edu](mailto:Nicholas.p.mason@pepperdine.edu)

