

2022

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2023

# THE HOOT


THE OFFICIAL SIGMA PI, IOTA-TAU CHAPTER  
NEWSLETTER





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# Year in Review

## Fall 2022

In the Fall 2022 semester, the Iota-Tau chapter picked up right where it left off. After securing its third consecutive Grand Sage Cup, the chapter continued its excellent philanthropic efforts, hosting its annual 9/11 stair walk and its marquee Sigma Puppies event.

In addition, mental health awareness became a priority for the brothers of Iota-Tau. On Mental Health Awareness Day, brothers spent the day encouraging strangers to write random notes of kindness to be later passed on to other strangers. This would only be the beginning of their push for mental health awareness.

Also in the fall was the chapters' first annual Alumni Golf Outing. The brothers, both active and alumni, spent a great day at Marine Park Golf Course for a fun day of golf and reconnecting with one another.

## Spring 2023

This semester, the chapter broke down barriers within the St. John's community by hosting Dr. Lauren Cook, a keynote speaker for CampuSpeak, to lead a discussion with the entire St. John's community regarding mental health and taking care of themselves in their daily lives.

Iota-Tau's philanthropy efforts continued into the spring semester, with their Valentine's Day "We Got Heart" fundraiser raising over \$2,000 for the American Cancer Society. They also raised money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Relay for Life, and many mental health programs locally and nationally.

This spring, the chapter also welcomed 23 new initiates into the chapter, their largest class since COVID-19. Unfortunately, 24 key seniors will be graduating, and while they will be missed dearly, the chapter remains in good hands with its youth.

# Philanthropy

The Iota-Tau chapter continued its great philanthropic success this school year. They hosted their annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Walk event, raising \$1,626 for the Stephen Siller Tunnels to Towers Foundation.

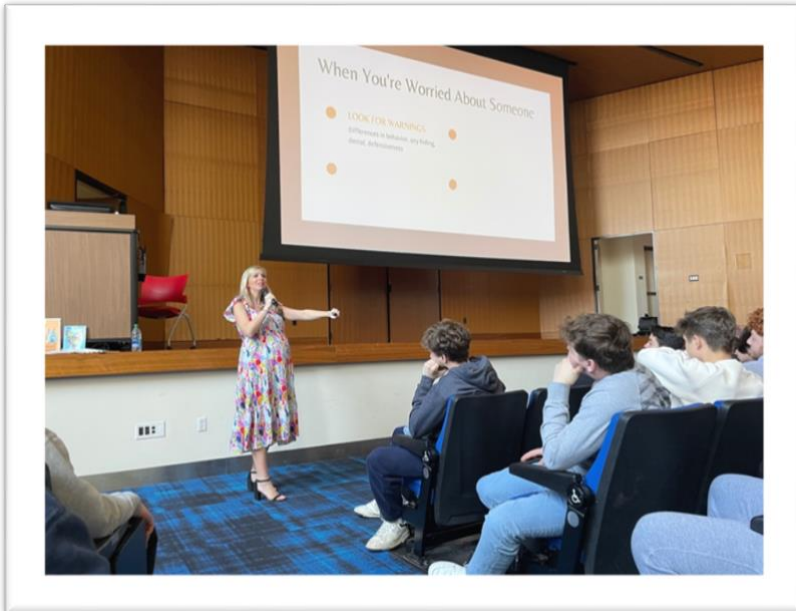


Along with the 9/11 Stair Walk, Iota-Tau hosted its many other philanthropy events as well. They also introduced a new event, hosting its first ever Lift-A-Thon. Brothers brought in sponsors to help raise money for many Mental Health Institutions both locally and nationally and spent the day lifting weights in friendly competition against one another in the school gym.



# Service

This school year, the brothers of Iota-Tau put a strong emphasis on bringing more mental health awareness to light. They did so in grand fashion, hosting Dr. Lauren Cook of CampusPeak to lead a discussion for the entire St. John's community on how to better take care of your mental health. Dr. Cook shared her "Name Your Story" presentation, which all attendees found very insightful.



The chapter also partnered up with the Pre-Vet club and Camp Happy Tails to host their first annual Dog Adoption Event at St. John's. The brothers spent the beautiful afternoon spreading awareness on safe dog adoption and animal care while also raising money for Camp Happy Tails. Dogs were even up for adoption at the event!

# Brotherhood



For its yearly alumni event, Iota-Tau hosted its first annual Alumni Golf Outing this Fall. The brothers, both active and alumni, spent the day at Marine Park Golf Course reconnecting with one another enjoying a great day on the course.

Also, this Fall, the brothers hit the Poconos for a fun brotherhood retreat before the semester began. The retreat was an incredible time for all that attended. The weekend was filled with barbecues and enjoying days by the lake and at the house.



# Xi and Omicron Class

## Congratulations to:

*Devin Ahearn, Domenico Antonacci, Aman Bathija, Teo Bek, Tyler Boos, Gerard Brezeau, David Cohen, Aaron Collins, Casey Corrado, Neil DeFelice, AJ Del Brocco, Tommy Dermody, John DiFranco, Sebastian Draguca, Zack Elgohary, Jackson Farrell, Phil Henry, Gabe Hinck, Dylan Hodgson, Clancy Lyons, Logan Palmer, Vin Sanacore, Cooper Smith, Max Smith, Zain Sohail, Anthony Viana, Matt Weber*

This school year, the brothers of Iota-Tau welcomed in two new classes, the Xi class and the Omicron class. In total, the chapter brought in 27 new members this year: 4 in the Fall and 23 in the Spring. These brothers all embody the high-level of character and leadership the chapter demands. Although many active brothers will be graduating this semester, the chapter couldn't be more excited for what the future holds with these two classes.



# Class of 2023

Congratulations to all the brothers graduating in the class of 2023. They have all been staples in the fraternity this past year and in years prior. The work they have given to the Iota-Tau chapter will not be forgotten, and each goodbye will be solemn. While the chapter will miss them dearly, they will continue to build upon the success being left behind.

Congratulations to:

*Mike Addeo, Greg Auteri, Mateo Betancur, Nicholas Campanaro, Dean Condoleo, Jack Corriea, Kyle Dixon, Anthony Evangelou, Anthony Ferraioli, Zach Hanzel, Jack Henson, Jeff Kamber, Clancy Lyons, Luke MacDougall, John Michael Mauceri, Kyle Perry, Josh Salvatore, Ben Sousa, Barinder Tiwana, Owen Williams*



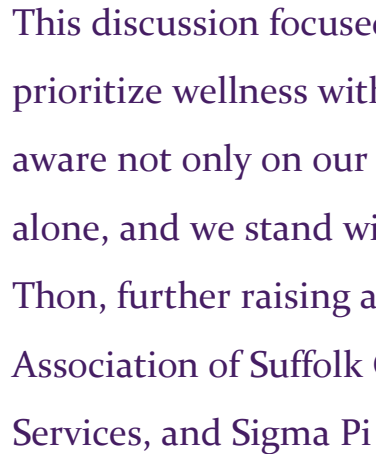


# A Presidential Address

“I never dreamed about success, I worked for it” is a quote from Estée Lauder that I firmly believe encapsulates the Iota-Tau Chapter. Becoming the newly elected Sage this Spring 2023, I was both eager and nervous to represent our chapter as Sage. Being only a sophomore, I was not sure if I was ready to take on this role and emulate the great work of the past Sages before me. However, I remained true to my values, put my nose to the grindstone, and set out to further the success of this chapter by bringing forth excellence from my fellow brothers.

One of the primary goals of this 2022-2023 academic year was recruitment. With much of our chapter graduating, I knew that we needed to give great attention to recruiting new members. We showcased Sigma Pi’s values, in which a Sigma Pi brother aims to promote fellowship, develop character and leadership, advance heightened moral awareness, enable academic achievement, and inspire service. As a result, we welcomed a total of 27 new members to our chapter, with 23 of them being initiated this Spring 2023.

Along with recruitment, another major focus was on raising more awareness on mental health nationwide. During the Fall 2022 semester, our brothers marked Mental Health Awareness Day by encouraging strangers to write notes of kindness that would be distributed to other random strangers throughout that same day, promoting positivity and friendship. During the Spring 2023, our chapter hosted Dr. Lauren Cook of CAMPUSPEAK to lead a discussion with nearly 150 members of the St. John's community present.



This discussion focused on the importance of mental health and how to prioritize wellness within our daily lives. Iota-Tau wanted to make all people aware not only on our campus, but across the country, that they are not alone, and we stand with them. Furthermore, we held our first annual Lift-A-Thon, further raising awareness and money for the Mental Health Association of Suffolk County, St. John's University Center for Psychological Services, and Sigma Pi University's Bonds of Brotherhood program.

In terms of our philanthropy, we have continued to build off and improve upon our annual events, such as the Tunnel to Towers Stair Walk and Sigma Puppies. In addition, we furthered the growth of our Walk to End Alzheimer's, Breast Cancer Awareness, MDA, American Cancer Society, and American Heart Association events. Overall, we raised \$10,000+ for these various charitable organizations and completed 400+ community services hours, in which we continue to strive in giving back to our community.

I am both proud and glad to be able to address you all, in which the Iota-Tau Chapter of Sigma Pi continues to improve and grow as time moves forward. As brothers, we continue to embrace how being part of Sigma Pi is about belonging to something greater than ourselves. That this lifelong quest for excellence not only builds character but improves the lives of those around us.

Fraternally,

Gunnar Mills

Sigma Pi Fraternity - Sage



# Executive Council



## Gunnar Mills Sage

Gunnar is a Sophomore Legal Studies major from Queens, New York. He also served as our chapter's Philanthropy and Public Relations Chair. On his free time, he can be found working out, spending time with his brothers and listening to music.



## James Cunningham Vice President

James is a Junior Marketing Major from Long Island, New York. He also serves as the President of IFC and as our Alumni Relations Chair. On his free time, he can be found playing sports and enjoying nights out with his friends.



## Zachary Simpson Treasurer

Zack is a Junior Homeland Security Major from Long Island, New York. He has also served as our accreditation chair. During his free time he can be found hanging out with the brothers or playing video games.



## Alex Cadden Secretary

Alex is a Sophomore Communications major from Cranston, Rhode Island. He has also served as our Social Chair. In his free time, Alex likes to play golf, listen to Koe Wetzels, and hang out with his dog Miller.



## Sean Flynn Sergeant at Arms

Sean is a Sophomore Psychology Major from Bridgewater, Massachusetts. He also serves as our Apparel Chair. In his free time, Sean likes to play soccer, go to the gym, and hang with the brothers.



## Anthony Cretella Herald

Anthony is a Senior Pharmacy Major from Staten Island, New York. He has also served as our Campus Involvement Chair. During his free time, he can be found in the gym with his brothers or studying at the library.

# Alumni Update

## *Where are they now?*

Conor Fagan - *I am currently in the Management Training Program for Broadridge Financial Solutions based in Deer Park, NY. Once the program concludes in June 2023, I will become a Business Analyst in Broadridge's IT Department.*

Nick Amster - *While still working for the Department of Education, I have returned to St. John's to pursue my 2nd master's degree, this time in Theology with a Concentration in Pastoral Theology. As I continue to learn and apply my knowledge within my classroom and my ministry, I continue to strive towards eventually earning my Doctorate in Education.*

Matthew Wieckhorst - *I recently started my new role as AVP, Actuary at Sompco International. I currently hold ACAS credentials and am working towards my fellowship with the Casualty Actuarial Society.*

Ryan Kasper - *I have been recently working with UBS Arena in operations and achieved my master's degree this year.*

Michael Campbell - *Michael joined Willis Re in 2020 after graduating St. John's University with a BA in Government and Politics. He is currently an Assistant Vice President with Gallagher Re, in our New York offices, working as a treaty reinsurance broker. He is responsible for marketing reinsurance placements to carriers on behalf of our clients, within the Global Casualty Team.*

*Additionally, Michael works on a variety of Professional Lines, Specialty, and Retrocession business.*

*Rob Thomas - I've recently started a new role as a Data Specialist in the Emergency Management field. In my free time I am still on the road, touring and booking shows. I will be a part of my 5th tour this May.*

*Colin Bronack - I am graduating law school from Campbell University this May and then working in finance.*

*Yugi Paul - Yugi is a founding father and graduated in 2017. Ever since he's been with CitiGroup, working in data analytics. In his off time, he enjoys getting outdoors as much as possible, and has recently been doing some Renovations around the house too. Yugi's currently our chapter director and is working closely with our Province Archon to identify new initiatives and other ways Iota-Tau can continue to contribute not only locally to St John's University's Queens campus but also at a national stage given our success over the past few years.*

*Daniel Vivolo – This year, I worked as a graduate assistant in athletic administration for St. John's and achieved my master's in sports management and business administration.*

*Kyle Cutler – Since graduating at St. John's, I have been working as an Operations Manager for Critical Response Group.*

*Jake Morro – I have been working with the New York Mets for a year now, first as an Inside Sales Representative, and starting in February as an Account Executive for Membership Services.*