



THE FOUNDATION FOCUS

A Newsletter of the Triangle Education Foundation

Alumni Gift Helps Chapters Grow

By Tom Pennington, Fraternity Executive Director

Triangle is blessed with some of the most loyal and dedicated alumni in the fraternity world. Never has that been more visible or important than during the pandemic crisis. With a significant drop in membership, alumni support was necessary to offset lower undergraduate income—at a time when undergraduates needed more help than the usual adjusting to a crisis and keeping chapters operating.

Through a generous alumnus gift, coordinated by Triangle Education Foundation leadership, we were able to offset income losses and hire two chapter support specialists to work with chapters over the last year. Their work was focused on helping chapters adjust back to in-person recruitment, relearn basic chapter operations and provide support and education in a variety of areas. The results have been impressive...

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, total new members is up 54% over the previous year and 28% over the year ended June 30, 2020. Total initiates is up 14% from fiscal year 2021 and 75% over fiscal year 2020. Top growth chapters included Illinois (28 new

members), Kentucky (25), Louisville (29), Michigan (23), Michigan State (37), Ohio State (24), Rose Tech (35), and Wisconsin (24), and our colony at Virginia Tech started the year with 16 members and pledged 18 men in EACH of the fall and spring terms, for a total of 36.

Many of these results are records for chapter recruitment, and some more than doubled the size of the membership, serving as a very strong testimony to the support our staff provided to chapters as they transitioned back to fully in-person. In addition, we made 40 on-site visits with ongoing coaching contacts, reconnecting chapters with Triangle HQ and providing in-person support to chapter leaders. For the new year, these staff will continue their work and focus efforts on getting chapters on firmer financial footing and improving alumni engagement.

An additional alumnus gift has allowed us to hire a new director of strategic growth, who will continue efforts to grow Triangle. Initially his focus will be on chapters underperforming on housing, teaching them the skills and planning they need to fill more of their beds. He'll also work to increase alumni trained as Triangle Recruitment Coaches (TRC), with the goal of at least one TRC at every chapter.

These staff positions would not have been possible without the generous support provided by alumni. We will have continued need after these gifts run out, so every donor is valuable and every gift is appreciated.

FOUNDATION TEAM WELCOMES NEW STAFF

By Ariel Tarosky, Education Foundation Sr. Director of Development & Marketing

The Triangle Education Foundation team welcomed three new staff members in February and March, including Ariel Tarosky, who is serving as the senior director of development and marketing, Alexandra Williams, assistant director of alumni engagement and stewardship, and Case Hamilton, director of development.

Ariel and Alex will primarily focus on how to best serve Triangle chapters alumni and share the story of Triangle chapters from across the country. Additionally, Ariel and Alex will continue to support the Triangle Fund and annual events, such as our Days of Giving.

Case is working hard to create a consistent fundraising program that aligns with the overall mission of the Triangle Education Foundation.

Ariel Tarosky –
atarosky@triangle.org

Alex Williams –
awilliams@triangle.org

Case Hamilton –
chamilton@triangle.org

Alumni Giving for Housing Projects Passes \$4,200,000

By Aaron Girson, CFRE Education Foundation Vice President

Alumni are making a major impact on helping chapters upgrade Triangle chapter housing stock. Over the past five years alumni gifts for chapter house campaigns total more than \$4,200,000. The Triangle Education has partnered with alumni groups and the Triangle Building & Housing Corporation to secure alumni donations for chapter house renovations and acquisitions, projects include:

- Iowa State – More than \$2.2 million raised to support
- acquisition of new chapter house.
- Illinois – \$1.6 million raised to date with a goal of \$2.5
- million to
- support
- renovation and addition to the chapter house.
- Michigan – \$340,000 raised for planned renovation of chapter home with goal of raising a total of \$1,000,000.
- Additional alumni giving totaling \$200,000 for projects at Michigan Tech, UCLA, and Rose Hulman.



Illinois chapter house exterior

Interested chapters and alumni groups can set up funds in the Triangle Education Foundation that allow alumni to make tax-deductible gifts that are used to fund the educational space in chapter house renovations/acquisitions. In addition to being tax-deductible, these gifts may be funded over several years or funded through Donor Advised Funds, employer matching gifts, gifts of appreciated stock, and there are other tax-advantaged giving options. For more information on how to support one of the existing campaigns or to discuss how the Triangle Education Foundation can support a chapter house renovation/acquisition effort, contact Triangle Education Foundation Vice President Aaron Girson at agirson@triangle.org.



Michigan chapter maker space

Together, We Conquered

By Scott Bova, CFRE Education Foundation President

Veni, Vidi Vici

An interesting set of Latin words that date back to Julius Caesar and mean I Came, I Saw, I Conquered. While not literal, it is how I look back on this past school year and the collective Triangle's collective response to returning to some level of normalcy.

In the past I have written of being nimble, adapting and overcoming the challenges that faced us. The war has yet to be won, but based on this year's performance in battle, we are strong, we are capable, and we are prepared for the future.

When I talk about Triangle I am thinking the collective organization representing the individual Brothers, the active chapters, our alumni boards, chapter volunteers and advisors, national volunteers, the National Headquarters staff, the Triangle Building & Housing Corporation, and the National Education Foundation. As ONE TRIANGLE we:

Came

...to support our chapters financially via donations to the Foundation, the local chapter, and the National Fraternity.
...to alumni events hosted on campus and in cities across the country.
...as volunteers to help advise and support our undergraduate members.

Saw

...the need and value of the Triangle Brotherhood.
...the impact we have had and can still have on future STEM leaders.
...how we can all impact the success of each and every Brother via our active participation in Triangle.

Conquered

...our negative growth by recruiting and initiating as many (if not more) men as pre-COVID.
...financial burden on our undergraduate Brothers by supporting new initiatives that lower the cost of membership.
...the negative stigma of being a member of a fraternity by showing that Triangle can not only be social but also serious about the STEM profession.

In the end, because of your support, your time, your talent, and your donations – You Came, You Saw, and You Conquered. We are forever grateful for all you have done and you answering our call of action. Without you I would not be thinking of Caesar's statement of victory.

Now is time to pause, be thankful, regroup, and reflect. This school year is now over, but the next battle (i.e., school year) starts in just under 60 days. We must not rest on our victories. We still have a war to fight, but together, I know we will be successful.

Thank you!

Scott Bova, CFRE
President

CLIP AND MAIL TO RENEW YOUR COMMITMENT BEFORE YEAR END!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ YES! You can count on my support!

☐ Enclosed is my gift of: _____

☐ My check is enclosed (made to Triangle Education Foundation)

☐ Please charge (circle one)

VISA MC AmEx Discover



SCAN ME

Number

Expiration

Signature

CVV

Appeal #2208B

A Minute With the Board

Featuring Chair, John Gargani pitt82



This year marks the 40th anniversary of my initiation into Triangle Fraternity at the Pitt Chapter house in 1982. I view my continued service to the Fraternity as a way of both paying back and

paying forward. In my days as an active, there were a number of alumni who greatly influenced me and instilled in me a desire to give back, whether it is to Triangle or to other worthwhile causes. Just like most people, I want to have an impact and change lives. The work that the Foundation does is one key way that we can develop the leaders of tomorrow that our world needs.

The Triangle Education Foundation is ultimately a service organization for the Fraternity. Everything that we do is for the benefit of our members, including providing top-notch educational and leadership programming, scholarships, and emergency loans for our active members and fundraising support for our Chapters. One of the newest things that we do is supporting the creation of a “Maker Space” at our Illinois Chapter House. I am optimistic that we are laying the groundwork for similar projects at other Chapters.

One of my primary goals as chair of the Triangle Education Foundation is to never forget who we serve. It is very important that we understand what our membership wants/needs and work to provide it. I have asked our directors to communicate with our membership as much as possible to ensure we are hearing what our members want along with building fraternal ties to all Brothers. I have met very accomplished men, especially through my involvement with the Triangle Education

Foundation, who I can only hope to emulate. I have also met young men who I immediately knew were full of potential and would excel at whatever they decided to pursue.

Another one of my goals is to provide support to our Chapter activities, including fundraising for the educational components of house projects and raising Chapter Endowment Funds for use by every Chapter. Along with its members, our Chapters are a very important part of what makes Triangle.

Finally, previous Foundation chairs and boards have made it a priority to work together with the Fraternity and the Triangle Building & Housing Corporation as “One Triangle.” This continues to be a critical part of keeping all of the organizations moving forward and improving.

In summary, Triangle Fraternity has had major impacts on my life; that’s where I met my wife of 35 years after all. I hope to continue serving the organization and have some positive impact and change the lives of our members.

John has over 30 years of experience in the oil and gas industry and holds a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering from the University of Pittsburgh (Pitt). Prior to retiring in June 2017, John held various senior management positions at Southwestern Energy Company including vice president of HR, vice president and general manager of Strategy, Performance & Innovation, vice president and general manager of Midstream Services, and vice president of Economic Planning and Acquisitions for the company’s Exploration & Production segment. Prior to joining Southwestern Energy in 1993, John held various engineering positions with Conoco Inc. in its Midland, Texas office. John is a registered professional engineer in the State of Texas and is a member of several energy industry organizations.

John has been married to his wife, Melissa, since 1987, and they share four children and three grandchildren. John has served as national president for Triangle Fraternity. He has also previously served as chairman of the Gulf Coast Section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and as chairman of the board of Child Legacy International. John currently serves as chairman of the advisory committee for the University of Pittsburgh Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering. He serves as secretary of the board of Seton LaSalle Catholic High School and as a director on the board of the Catholic Men’s Fellowship of Western Pennsylvania. John was awarded the Fraternity’s Distinguished Alumnus Citation in 2011, was named to Pitt’s Greek Hall of Fame in 2017, and was the 2020 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Department at Pitt.



Melissa & John Gargani Academic U Sees Refresh

Courtesy of iStock images

By Morgan Brickley, Director of Leadership Programs

Collegiate members of Triangle come to the fraternity for a place to belong, make friends, and create social and personal connections that last a lifetime. While this “home away from home” is the ultimate goal of fraternity, John and Melissa Gargani are passionate that students are in college for academics first, and Triangle is an environment that must offer both social and academic support to its members. Since its inception nearly a decade ago, the John & Melissa Gargani Academic U program has gone through a few iterations, and for the 2022–2023 academic year, the program is getting another refresh. The updated program, intended to help ensure that Triangle chapters are bringing in new members who already hold academic achievement in high regard, will consist of three components:

Academic U for New Members

As part of the new member education program, chapters will have access to online modules and programming that align with Ethic 6 – Maintain a creditable scholastic record. Students will review effective time management skills, enhance critical thinking skills, and learn about the free resources available on a college campus to help with student academic success. For example, how many libraries are on campus, and where are they? Where is the writing center, and what does it do? This component will also stress the importance of recruiting members who already highly value scholastic success.

Academic U for Academic Chairmen

The original Academic U program was geared toward the academic chairman of a chapter, to help him create effective programming. This component of the updated program serves that same function. Through these modules, academic chairmen will gain skills for teaching others effective study habits for various learning styles, write an effective personalized academic success plan for members who might be struggling, and get recommendations for setting up an effective mentor program for academic success that goes beyond the new member period.

Academic U for Member Success

The final component of the refreshed Academic U program focuses on members who are struggling academically. This program will review some of the basics and bring up the value of effective stress management and mental health, which can be barriers to academic success. This component can be used and implemented by the academic chairman in conjunction with the personal academic success plan for struggling individuals.

The recipe for academic success looks different for everyone, and the John & Melissa Gargani Academic U program aims to help chapters cultivate individual learning styles and needs so the chapter can uphold the promise to maintain a creditable scholastic record.



Alumni Communication Program

ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Strengthen your chapter through stronger alumni communications.

The Alumni Communications Program allows chapters to tap into alumni engagement and wisdom without having to manage it.

Simply provide content and leave the rest to the foundation experts.

Packages Provide:

- A consistent, comprehensive communication strategy
- Website support
- Easy customization
- Event consultation & support
- Social media support with strategy development

Cost:

- Three packages-basic, extended, and premium
- Ranging from \$1,500 to \$9,000, based on number of chapter alumni

For more information, contact Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement Alex Williams at awilliams@triangle.org.



Chairman's Circle Triangle Education Foundation

The Chairman's Circle honors the Foundation's substantial lifetime donors. It is the highest level of recognition from the Foundation. Members of this society have given significant gifts through the years or have pledged a deferred gift to the Foundation.

Order of the Pinnacle -

\$1,000,000+ or \$2,000,000 Deferred

Anonymous

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Garatoni pur58

Order of the Pyramid -

\$500,000 or \$1,000,000 Deferred

Mr. John Kikler marq38 *

Mr. Rick Landuyt #

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon K. Mortin mich63

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Tolliver ill70

Order of Old Rose & Grey -

\$250,000 or \$750,000 Deferred

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Hong #

William Kahlert minn46 *

Homi Kapadia msu55 *

Robert & Barbara Kleist kan49

Mr. Ed McCracken is64

Mr. & Mrs. James McShane marq65

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick R. Meyer pur46 *

Mr. & Mrs. Steven L. Miller ill64

Mr. Richard Soukup is65

Mr. & Mrs. Edward W. Wedbush cin50 *

Order of the White Chrysanthemum -

\$100,000+ or \$300,000 Deferred

Mr. Jim Ashbrook ill63

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Benziger ill61

Mr. & Mrs. Peter L. Bye PE cor72

Adm. & Mrs. Melvin Chiogioji pur58

Eugene Cummings nu59*

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Davidson pur61

Mr. Lynn Davis is65

Dr. & Mrs. William Deninger is88

Mr. William Engelbrecht ill77

James R. Favor *#

Melissa & John Gargani pitt82

Jacob Ganter cin36*

Robert Glauz mich47

Mr. Keith Gustafson is66

Dr. Chuck Bowman & Lynn Holleran ps56 *

Mr. & Mrs. Randy Kerns mom71

Mr. & Mrs. Lewis McDonald pur40*

Mr. Steve Newlin sdm73

Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Connor marq74

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Reed pur52 *

Mr. Chris Rorvick ill96

Mr. & Mrs. Alan G. Silver ucla61

Mr. & Mrs. Al Ver ar65

Mr. & Mrs. John Wakerly marq69

For more information on how to join the Chairman's Circle or your progress towards membership contact Vice President Aaron Girson at Agirson@triangle.org.

Order of the Slide Rule -

\$50,000+ or \$150,000 Deferred

Mr. Gifford Albright ps52*

Mr. James C. Anderson pur69

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Beaubien mich64

Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Butcher pur49 *

Mr. John & Anne Clifton os29 *

Mr. Charles L. Crowl cin50 *

Mr. & Mrs. Warren Deatruck ky54

Mr. Daniel Diesburg is64

Dr. & Mrs. Monte Dirks sdm71

Mr. & Mrs. Randy Drew rose67

Dr. Wayne Echleberger sdm54 *

Mr. Michael Foglesong ucla73

Mr. & Mrs. Donald S. Hatfield msu88

Mr. Joseph Hoefner ucla64

Mr. Robert Hoel ar67

Dr. Vincent Hoellerich, MD is75

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hostetler pur62

Mr. Donald Knebel pur65

Mr. Ronald Kollmansberger marq57

Mr. George Kunkel ucla60

Mr. Greg Lang mom74

Mr. Cary Laxer rose88

Mr. A. Harold Long kan27 *

Mr. & Mrs. John Malmquist wis72

Mr. Ronald Moore is66

Mr. Kurt Over pitt83

Mr. & Mrs. John Pritchard is82

Mr. William Rendahl ucla61

Dr. James H. Rust pur56

Mr. Joseph Salvucci pitt76

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Schier ky66

Mr. William Schmitt pur61

Mr. & Dr. Marcos Stocco ok93

Mr. & Mrs. John Storm pur73 *

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Sudheimer minn52 *

Mr. Lee Templin nu52 *

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Walker neb67

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wallace marq68

Order of the Transit -

\$25,000+ or \$75,000 Deferred

Mr. Don Harris ill78

Mr. Keith Lewitzke ill76

Mr. Mark Lu cal09

Mr. Ted Newton is67

Mr. Mark Pavlat ill79

Mr. Joel Allen is75

Mr. Brandon Bagwell ok04

Mr. Robert Balsbaugh is74

Mr. Jeffrey Basso msue89

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery Beehler pur87

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bleasdale mich79

Mr. Scott Bova #

Mr. Ted Bowlds ms72

Mr. Lloyd Bredvold minn35*

Mr. David Breeding pur43

Mr. John Clifton os29*

Mr. Stan Cook nu48

Mr. Franklin (Dee) Duncan ks64

Mr. Jon Eklund msue99

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Flannigan rose67*

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Frame mich57

Mr. Michael Galey is66

Mr. Aaron Girson #

Mr. Robert Goehring is76

Mr. Francis (Mike) Goeser is73

Mr. John Gould is66

Mr. John Greene is73

Mr. Don Harris ill78

Mr. Kurt Hagemeister mich78

Mr. & Mrs. George Hays cor57

Mr. Craig Henderson nu49

Mr. Dennis & Maureen Henderson #

Mr. Randall Herrel pur70

Mr. Jake Jakubowski tol74

Mr. Fred Johnson pur46*

Mr. James Kaboski wisc87

Mr. Jack Kelble pur63

Mr. Charles Lampman pur58

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Lewallen tol89

Mr. Keith Lewitzke ill76

Mr. Elvin (Ray) Lichty os55

M. Stephen Loftus-Mercer ok96

Mr. John Lonnberg kan27*

Mr. Mark Lu cal09

Mrs. Lori McClelland #

Mr. & Mrs. Bill McGovern marq55

Mr. Geoffrey Mendal mich80

Dr. David Meyer pur59

Mr. Chris Moe is92

Mr. Michael Morhaime ucla85

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mosborg ill45 *

Mr. Ted Newton is67

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Noon pur68

Mr. Mark Pavlat ill79

Mr. Daniel Rathmann cor53

Mr. Gerald Rauenhorst marq50

Mr. Eugene Rezabeck ar47

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Robins marq50

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sevic os29 *

Mr. Richard Shell wisc65

Mr. Ralph Smith wisc23 *

Mr. & Mrs. John Sonnenburg pur73*

Mr. Dick Stauble ps43*

Mr. Mark Tolliver ill70

#denotes Friends of Triangle

*denotes those who are deceased



FOUNDATION FOCUS

120 S. Center Street
Plainfield, Indiana 46168-1214

DONOR IMPACT WITH CASE HAMILTON

Featuring Merle Newlon III lou73



CASE: What motivates you to give back to Triangle?

MERLE: Triangle has been an important part of my life ever since I was initiated. I continue to see how important Triangle is in the life of all the undergraduates and alumni who I've been able to interact with over these many years. I constantly see on social media how Triangles talk about the reason that they joined was for academic and social support. I think it's important to give back to the Education Foundation and Fraternity because those funds help us and contribute towards positive development of our members.

CASE: What impact have you seen Triangle have on others?

MERLE: Most often I have heard from both actives and alumni that being a Triangle has made a positive impact on their lives. The positive impact started while they were in school, and now that they are alumni, they have been able to form lifelong friendships. Professionally, many Triangles have gotten a job through having a Triangle connection who works in the industry that they are seeking employment. I've also heard from Triangles who they talk about a Triangle Brother groomsmen or a best man in the wedding so I'm glad to see that the connections that our brothers make can really turn into a positive lifelong opportunity.

CASE: Why should others donate to Triangle?

MERLE: The financial support that the Education Foundation and Triangle receives from our donors, particularly our alumni, helps fulfill the mission of our organization. The Education Foundation provides scholarships, loans, and financial support to our educational programming such as leadership and training weekend and our consultant program. I think giving back financially also represents Triangle's commitment to see that Triangle continues to exist for the purpose that our founders envisioned.

CASE: Anything else you would like to add?

MERLE: I encourage everyone to donate to the Education Foundation. Even small donations add up to help support the work Education Foundation does in support of Triangle.