

Adelphic Cornell Educational Fund

Preserving the Past ... Enhancing the Present ... Protecting the Future

Fall 2014 • www.AdelphicFund.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

ACEF SPRING MEETING

Semiannual Trustee Meeting

Friday, April 24, 2015

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Contact Steven Ritchey to be added to the agenda for presentations.

Traditional Dinner

Friday, April 24, 2015

6:30 PM

John Thomas Steakhouse
Dutch Treat

Seating in the private dining room is limited, so notice that you might join us is helpful.

CORNELL REUNION

June 4 – 7, 2015

ACEF FALL MEETING

Semiannual Trustee Meeting

Friday, September 18, 2015

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Contact Steven Ritchey to be added to the agenda for presentations.

Traditional Dinner

Friday, September 18, 2015

6:30 PM

John Thomas Steakhouse
Dutch Treat

Seating in the private dining room is limited, so notice that you might join us is helpful.

Annual Meeting

Saturday, September 19, 2015

Time and location to be determined.

Homecoming Football

Saturday, September 19, 2015

1:00 PM

Time subject to change.

NEW TEAM-BUILDING AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Cornell's outgoing president, David Skorton, drastically shortened rushing and pledging programs in 2012. This move fundamentally compromised Alpha Delta Phi's new member program and required Alpha Delt to redesign it without sacrificing the value inculcation and character formation it affords. ACEF Trustee-Board President Steven Ritchey worked with undergraduate officers and other ACEF trustees to develop a team-building alternative supervised by Cornell's Outdoor Education Team-Building and Leadership Center (<https://ctlc.cornell.edu/>). A small group of ADPhi leaders did a preliminary trip in the Finger Lakes in the Fall of 2013. The first full leadership development trip, an Outward Bound-style Adirondack Mountains hiking and climbing

to look at themselves and their behaviors, taking them to a deeper place than most people would go so quickly. Having built in structure and accountability was a great



Cornell's Outdoor Education Team-Building and Leadership Center guided ADPhi leaders during a fall excursion in the Adirondacks.

thing for this group. It broke down cliques and set the tone for introspection and reflection. Each person saw themselves and their brothers in a new way."

The participating brothers, a number of whom had never hiked nor spent a night out-of-doors, also found themselves transformed and rewarded.

excursion held over four days at Fall Break, proved quite successful at fortifying brotherhood unity and identity.

As one of the COE trip leaders observed in the instructor debrief notes:

"This is a great group of guys. It is often difficult to get such a large and active group together in one place at one time, but they were very engaged. Given the closeness of the group, people were willing

The participating brothers, a number of whom had never hiked nor spent a night out-of-doors, also found themselves transformed and rewarded. As one commented, "We are not all that you see on the surface and maybe what people think of us when they originally start

talking to us. It takes something like the woods for us to realize that."

Given the foreshortened rush and

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THE ADELPHIC FUND SPONSORS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE IN THE HOUSE AND ON THE HILL.

The ACEF supports myriad leadership development, academic, and public service projects at Alpha Delta Phi and throughout Cornell. We do so with enthusiasm and integrity and hope this newsletter will encourage you to support us in these efforts.

Awards and Grants

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Every semester, the ACEF confers academic achievement awards, valued at \$100-\$500,

“I was most blown away by the fact that an organization affiliated with a fraternity would offer compensation for something as rudimentary as good grades.”

~ Greg Zalevsky '15

“Thank you for ... the Adelpic education award Again, I cannot thank the Adelpic Cornell Educational Fund enough for the [Academic Achievement] Award and hope that the program continues to help others as they graduate.”

~ Ruben A. Garcia '10

upon undergraduates who 1) live in the Alpha Delta Phi Chapter House at 777 Stewart Avenue, and, 2) carry at least 13 semester hours while obtaining Dean's List status from their respective colleges. The awards are designed to encourage upper-classmen to reside in the House and therefore contribute to its life and governance.

You can support these awards with one-time or repeating annual donations totaling \$2,500-\$5,000.

MARTIN McVOY, JR. SCHOLARSHIPS

Along with Cornell, the ACEF administers

a trust named after Martin McVoy, Jr., Class of 1892, and directs income distributions from it to reduce student loans and work-study. The trust income affords more than \$75,000 in financial aid grants annually. It also directly benefits qualifying Alpha Delta Phi undergraduates, who collectively receive \$7,000-\$15,000 annually to reduce loans and work-study.

STUDENT LOAN REDUCTION INITIATIVE

ACEF also offers \$500-\$5,000 loan reduction awards to qualifying Alpha Delta Phi seniors in their final semester of undergraduate study. Consideration is given to: years as active leaders in the house, years in residence at 777 Stewart Avenue, academic achievement, and total indebtedness.

We offer one or more of these awards every year, depending upon the number of applications and available funding. Funding for the student loan reduction has come from a combination of donors.

INTERNSHIP, RESEARCH, AND PUBLIC SERVICE SUPPORT

As part of our commitment to public service, the ACEF provides \$1,000-\$2,500 in grants or matching funds to support undergraduates interning in public service

positions, participating in qualified, non-credit research projects with faculty oversight, or sponsoring on-campus public speaking events.

The ACEF sponsored the following projects in 2014:

Academic Research and the Greek System

Philippe Simard '15 surveyed literature regarding self-governed independent living and university Greek communities. His research supports undergraduate and alumni IFC efforts to develop statistical data benefitting Greek life. His report, “Academic Research and the Greek System: Missing Pieces and Unanswered Questions,” concluded, inter alia, that Greek life fosters leadership skills and that “leaders in fraternities and sororities reported that their experiences helped them with their organizational skills, leadership skills, problem solving skills, decision making skills, and conflict management skills later in their careers....” ILR Professor William Sonnenstuhl oversaw the project.

Big Red Relief/Voices of African Mothers

Michael Rothbaum '15 is a leader of Big Red Relief (<http://bigredrelief.blogspot.com/>), a “student-run organization that

“The opportunities I was able to create through ACEF help played a huge part of my collegiate experience. It was an immeasurable benefit.”

~ Garrett Loh '13

hosts creative, innovative and culturally relevant collaborative events to raise funds for development projects” in Africa. He traveled to Ghana to assist Voices of African Mothers (VAM) (<http://www.elr.cornell.edu/student-project-spotlight/voices-african-mothers>). VAM is an “African NGO whose mission is ‘to establish a peaceful African continent by using the methods of conflict resolution and diplomacy through gender empowerment.’” Although Rothbaum received some travel support from Cornell's Engaged Learning and Research Center, the cost of vaccinations, food, and other travel expenses still left a significant expense for participants to carry. The ACEF stepped in to fill this gap, allowing Rothbaum to participate. ACEF

Leadership & Team-Building Program, continued

pledging periods, these trips are essential to Alpha Delta Phi's cultural integrity and brotherhood. At our fall meeting review, the ADPhi undergrads and the ACEF Trustees agreed to continue the program with ACEF sponsorship.

A generous donor agreed to jump-start this effort based on the preliminary development. Now that it is up and running and its potential can be seen, we invite your assistance to continue the program. When a full class of newly initiated brothers joins, we anticipate annual costs upwards of \$10,000.



Awards and Grants, continued

funding also helped bring VAM Founder Nana-Fosu Randall to campus this fall.

Garo Armen

Using ACEF funding, Garrett Loh '13 brought to campus Garo Armen, the Chairman and CEO of Agenus, Inc. (a biotech firm) and Founder of the Children of Armenia Fund (<https://www.coafkids.org/>). He spoke to classes and had a private session for 15 students interested in his line of work.

MATCHING GRANTS AND AWARDS

To encourage excellence in all manner of academic endeavors (including participation in the Alpha Delta Phi International Literary Competition), the ACEF matches the prizes for the Dyson Citizenship Award and any winning Literary Competition entries submitted by Cornell Alpha Delta Phi undergraduates. Matching prizes range from \$50-\$1,000.

“Often, students would love to participate in academic research; it’s very interesting and is something you — unless you’re on a PhD track — will never get to do. ACEF funding eliminates some of the barriers to academic research, and it let me dive into the research surrounding Greek life, research that has since been used in IFC literature and will, hopefully, continue to benefit the Greek community.”

~ Philippe Simard '15

RHODES SCHOLAR GRANT

ACEF will award a \$10,000 matching grant to any Cornell Alpha Delta Phi winning a Rhodes Scholarship. As many know, the Rhodes Scholarship covers a student’s tuition and expenses going forward and, as such, the matching grant is targeted to reduce the recipient’s existing student loan debt and awarded to assure that application.

KNIGHT WRITING PROGRAM SUPPORT

The ACEF has long sponsored Cornell’s John S. Knight Institute for Writing in

the Disciplines (http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/), particularly by financing prizes for the best essays coming from its First-Year Writing Seminar Program (http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/fws/fws.htm). Our support includes sponsorship of *Discoveries*, the Knight Program’s journal of student writing (see below). Donors seeking recognition for their gifts may have their names published in *Discoveries* or on the Knight Program’s web pages.

You may fully support the Knight Writing Program awards by giving \$1,800 annually through the ACEF.

SHA WRITING AWARDS

We also sponsor the School of Hotel Administration Writing Awards, which recognize excellence in writing at the SHA. Submissions come from professors and lecturers who may select one or two pieces of exceptional work done for their classes. The submissions have numbered as many as 30 in a year, all of which are then read and judged by a panel

including SHA alumni.

You may fully support the Adelphic Fund SHA Writing Awards by giving \$1,500 annually through the ACEF.

The ACEF supports many programs via “pass-through” donations allowing givers to earn donor credit for themselves and for their Cornell classes. Ideally, we seek three-year support commitments; however, we still welcome partial support and one-off annual donations.

“ACEF’s investment in Alpha Delta Phi has set the standard for effective alumni-student interaction in the fraternity setting ACEF’s programs helped me immensely by lightening the burden of rising college tuition ...[,] significantly reduced my college expenses, and they increased my desire and flexibility to get involved in the fraternity’s affairs ... ACEF is defining the ideal fraternal experience going forward, and I am grateful for its role in my undergraduate education.”

~ Alfonse Muglia '14

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY

We welcome your support of our numerous award, grant, loan reduction, and research support programs. To make your gift today, please return your check with the enclosed donation form in the envelope provided. Please be sure to update your contact information to ensure your timely receipt of future ACEF communications. Or visit AdelphicFund.org.

The Spring 2014 Edition of *Discoveries* Is Available!

Click on “Discoveries” in the right-hand column under Publications & Prizes at:

www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute.



ACEF Principles

INTEGRITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Mission and Purpose of the Fund

The Mission and purpose of the Adelpic Cornell Educational Fund is:

- to promote the work of Cornell University in the development of intellectual and moral integrity among its students,
- to assist needy and deserving students at Cornell University,
- to promote literary and scientific education and the development of character and the responsibilities of good citizenship among the students at Cornell University,
- to provide educational facilities for students at Cornell University (and in the promotion of the above objectives), with preference given to those students of Cornell University who are members of the Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity.

The ACEF is committed to promoting scholarship and public service benefitting Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell and Cornell University. We also seek to ensure that our functioning is purposefully transparent so that donors who so desire may understand how we manage the Fund and their donations. Accordingly, our semiannual Board meetings and Annual Meeting are open. Our tax records are available for review at the independent non-profit monitoring and directory service Guidestar.org.

We work for free because we love Alpha Delta Phi and Cornell. Moreover, we cut costs by challenging ourselves at every meeting to maximize every donation. We also abide by the Donor's Bill of Rights shown below.

Donor's Bill of Rights

Philanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. To ensure that our philanthropy, the Adelpic Cornell Educational Fund (ACEF), merits the respect and trust of the Cornell community and the general public, and that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in the nonprofit organizations and causes they are asked to support, **we declare that all donors have these rights:**

- I. **To be informed of the organization's mission, of the way the organization intends to use donated resources, and of its capacity to use donations effectively for their intended purposes.**
- II. **To be informed of the identity of those serving on the organization's governing board, and to expect the board to exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities.**
- III. **To have access to the organization's most recent financial statements.**
- IV. **To be assured their gifts will be used for the purposes for which they were given.**
- V. **To receive appropriate acknowledgment and recognition.**
- VI. **To be assured that information about their donation is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.**
- VII. **To expect that all relationships with individuals representing organizations of interest to the donor will be professional in nature.**
- VIII. **To be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers, employees of the organization, or hired solicitors.**
- IX. **To have the opportunity for their names to be deleted from mailing lists that an organization may intend to share.**
- X. **To feel free to ask questions when making a donation and to receive prompt, truthful and forthright answers.**

If you have concerns or suggestion about how the ACEF or its Officers and Trustees may better honor these principles, please share them with us directly and without hesitation. Donors with questions regarding Fund management, investment principles, program support, or allocations may contact Steven Ritchey (at SDRitchey@AdelpicFund.org) for further information, explanation, and discussion.

ACEF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We are Cornellians representing many decades of Cornell and Alpha Delta Phi. We seek to advance the ideals and academic and literary traditions of the Alpha Delta Phi and Cornell.

Steven D. Ritchey '81

President, Trustee
Cornell, AB, 1981; Whitman School, Syracuse, MBA, 1990

J. Thomas (Thom) Chirurg '64

Vice President, Trustee
Cornell, AB, 1964; Harvard, MBA, 1969; Oxford, MLitt, 1972

Ron E. Schaefer '78

Member, Treasurer
Cornell, BS, 1978

Jim Harberson '95

Member, Secretary
Cornell, AB, 1995; Yale, MAR, 1997; Pennsylvania, JD, 2000

David L. (Dave) Ryan '68

Trustee
Cornell, AB, 1968

Douglas J. (Doug) Smith '78

Trustee
Cornell, BS, 1978; Ross School, Michigan, MBA, 1980