



# THE e-COMMUNICATOR

OF THE PHI DELTA CHI FRATERNITY

MAY 2024 [VOL 15; ISSUE 5]

The May 2024 e-Communicator of the Phi Delta Chi Fraternity is now available. This month's issue includes Grand Council from July 31 to August 3 in Charleston, SC, the Schlegel Award for graduating Brothers, changes to *The Communicator*, and more! Previous editions of the e-Communicator can be found [here](#) as a link/PDF.



**GRAND COUNCIL 2024 WILL BE IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.**  
**START PLANNING NOW!**



[Grand Council registration is live!](#)

Grand Council is the Ultimate Fraternal Experience and brings together Brothers from across the country to conduct the business of the Fraternity.

**The 75<sup>th</sup> Grand Council in 2024 will occur from July 31st through August 3rd in Charleston, South Carolina!**

**What happens at Grand Council?** During Grand Council, our Chapter's Collegiate and Alumni delegates as well as Alumni Chapters will vote on business. Brothers will be able to participate in reference committees, Regional Caucuses, Regional Correspondent elections, officer training courses, professional development opportunities, the Leader Development Day, continuing education, and more. **Start planning and fundraising now to attend the Ultimate Brotherhood Experience!**

#### **Registration Fees:**

**Early Bird registration ends June 15.** Prices will increase on June 16.

#### **Collegiate/Candidate Early Bird Registration**

\$325.00 (\$395 after June 15) · Includes Wednesday ice cream social, Thursday through Saturday lunch, and the banquet on Saturday. DOES NOT INCLUDE LEADER DEVELOPMENT DAY.

#### **Alumni Early Bird Registration**

\$425.00 (\$495 after June 15) · Includes Wednesday ice cream social, Thursday through Saturday lunch, the alumni reception on Friday, the banquet on Saturday, and all Continuing Education sessions. DOES NOT INCLUDE LEADER

DEVELOPMENT DAY.

**Alumni WEEKEND Early Bird Registration**

\$275.00 · Includes Friday lunch and alumni reception, Saturday lunch and banquet, and all Friday/Saturday Continuing Education sessions. DOES NOT INCLUDE LEADER DEVELOPMENT DAY.

**Banquet Only**

\$100.00 · Join us at the awards banquet on Saturday night!

**Leader Development Day**

\$200.00 optional add-on · Don't miss this exciting session filled with fun activities and engaging discussion that will teach you the secrets of preventing and addressing the most common breakdowns to effective teamwork. This optional session will take place on Wednesday from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (before Grand Council begins). Space is limited to the first 30 participants. Must purchase this ticket to attend.

**Child (3-12 years old) Full Registration**

\$162.50 · Includes all meals including the awards banquet.

**Child (under 3 years old) Full Registration**

\$0 · Includes all meals including the awards banquet.

**Please remember that according to the Bylaws -**

Chapter VI, Number 5 (b) "Any collegiate Chapter failing to be represented by a Delegate in at least one Grand Council, one Regional Conference, and one Leader Development Seminar within a four-year fraternity cycle may be declared inactive and its Charter forfeited and vacated."

See you in Charleston, SC!



**What is the Leader Development Day (LDD) with the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI)?**

**JOIN US**

**LEADER DEVELOPMENT DAY**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024**

**This day-long session will cover the essentials of creating a high functioning team.**

**PRESENTED BY:**

Pharmacy  
Leadership &  
Education  
Institute



We've all been on teams for as long as we can remember. Unfortunately, many of us think this vast experience has taught us everything we need to know about teamwork. Yet one only needs to recall all the missed deadlines, interpersonal conflict, poor quality, insufficient resources, unbalanced workload and lack of accountability to see that most of us actually have a lot to learn about making teams work. During this day-long session, you'll join a small group of 25-30 other individuals in fun activities and engaging discussion to learn the most common causes of team breakdowns and the proven tools and strategies you can use to address them, or even prevent them from occurring in the first place. [Register for the Leader Development Day.](#)



## REGIONAL CORRESPONDENT ELECTIONS

Each Region will elect its next Regional Correspondent (RC) at [Grand Council 2024](#) (July 31 to August 3 in Charleston, SC)! The Regional Correspondent is a vital resource for chapter growth and promotion of Brotherhood, providing insight from the student perspective and assisting with the [Achievement Award Program](#). You must be a collegiate Brother (note: APPE students are collegiates) during the 2024-2025 academic year to be able to run for RC. **The application to run can be found [here](#).** If you have any questions, check out the description [here](#) and reach out to [your RC](#) or [Grand Vice President for Student Affairs Kali Cira](#).



## RALPH SAROYAN MUSTACHE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

**Are you Team SHAVE or Team SAVE?**

Ralph's iconic mustache has been a staple since 1970. But, now, it's up to you to determine its fate. Will you join Team SHAVE or Team SAVE? Your donation not only helps PLEI grow but also decides whether Ralph keeps or shaves his legendary 'stache.

Since Ralph Saroyan's generous donation in 2006, the endowment for the Brothers of Phi Delta Chi has flourished into a remarkable \$1.25 million reserve. This invaluable resource empowers our Brothers through Achievement Awards, grants, and scholarships, ensuring their success within our Fraternity. With your help, we will elevate our support even further by raising \$25,000 by Grand Council 2024.

Learn more and make your donation [here](#).



## CHANGES TO THE COMMUNICATOR

To create a higher-quality, more engaging *Communicator* experience for all Brothers, *The Communicator* will now be published annually rather than multiple times a year. While **the e-Communicator serves as the Fraternity's newsletter**, a monthly publication with a focus on important updates and recent highlights, ***The Communicator* will be transitioned into the Fraternity's yearbook**, a highlight of the past year with a focus on commemorating our events and achievements. Additionally, *The Communicator* will become fully digital to increase its capability and reduce costs. If you have any questions, please contact [Grand Vice President for Communications Ethan Rawl](#) or [Project Director for \*The Communicator\* Josh Murdock](#).



## AAAE CAMPAIGN

As collegiate Brothers move to alumni status, they owe to this Fraternity their support and their advice. Our common bond is never severed, and our oaths and obligations persist. So long as each of us is a true Brother, we are Brothers for Life! The purpose of the AAAE Campaign is to increase National Alumni Dues paying Brothers. **Collegiate chapters will receive credit for each alumnus paying their National Alumni Dues. Life Member dues will count double and are included for 5 years.**

**For the first 15 dues-paying alumni, the collegiate chapter will receive one complimentary Grand Council/LDS registration that summer.** Additional registrations can be earned with 25 more dues paying alumni. Chapters will be notified by email when they reach these levels. Newer collegiate chapters will receive one complimentary registration for their first two national meetings. This will allow time to graduate Brothers and begin the process of building their alumni base.

More information and up-to-date standings can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact your [Regional Director for Alumni Affairs](#).



# John F. (“Jack”) Schlegel Leadership Development Award - Call for Nominations

*Collegiate Brothers who conclude their final professional year of study in spring 2024 are eligible!*

CALLING ALL CHAPTERS! Nominate a young leader for the Schlegel Leadership Development Award. Thanks to the generosity of Alpha Psi alumnus Jack Schlegel and his wife, Priscilla, PLEI established the Schlegel Leadership Development Award to recognize collegiate Brothers of  $\Phi\Delta\chi$  who demonstrate exceptional leadership potential in the pharmacy profession. The award includes a \$1,000 honorarium and is open to collegiate Brothers who are concluding their final professional year of study in spring 2024.

In establishing the award, Jack noted that many student pharmacists are so focused on working their way through their educational program that they do not have time to take on formal leadership positions with organizations, but instead demonstrate their potential by exhibiting leadership in other than elected positions. He distinctly wishes all forms of leadership to be considered for this award.

We encourage you to identify and nominate a deserving candidate from your chapter for this prestigious award. It is a wonderful opportunity to recognize the outstanding leadership potential of our collegiate Brothers. To be eligible for the award, the nominee must have exhibited exemplary behaviors and actions as a student and professional in training that have gained the respect of their peers. Once your nominee has been identified, you should work with them to complete the nomination packet. Nomination packets should contain the application form, a personal statement (not exceeding 500 words) from the nominee including a vision of what they aspire to accomplish within 10 years after graduation, and three letters of recommendation addressing the nominee’s potential for exceptional leadership in the profession after graduation. One letter of recommendation must come from the Chapter Advisor.

**The deadline for receiving nominations is May 31, 2024.** The award will be presented by the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI) at the 75th Grand Council in Charleston, South Carolina on August 3, 2024. **The pathway for submitting nomination packets can be found at <https://plei.org/schlegel/>.**



## I AM PHI DELTA CHI: AN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

What does “Each Needs the Help of the Other” mean to you? When was the first time you sang the Spirit Song with people outside of your Chapter? What is your fondest memory as a collegiate Brother? Who mentored you as a collegiate Brother or young alumni?

Whatever the story is, we want to hear it!

We have partnered with PCI (also known as Publishing Concepts) to produce **I am Phi Delta Chi: An Oral History** Publication for the Phi Delta Chi Pharmacy Fraternity. Over the next few months, PCI will collect stories from our Brothers to memorialize the history of the fraternity experience through the years. Hardbound books and digital publications will be available for our Brothers to purchase. **To participate, please call the Phi Delta Chi Pharmacy Fraternity Hotline at 1-866-579-2787 by May 24, 2024.** If you have questions about the project or how you can get involved, please contact [Executive Director Kenny Walkup](#).

### STORY COUNTER

How many Brothers have submitted a story so far?

**1,704**

**97.4% of respondents would recommend others call in!**



## GLIMMERS



Brother Chris McCurdy was recently the subject of a piece published by Academic Pharmacy NOW, regarding his research to create a treatment for stimulant use disorder. Read about Brother McCurdy [here](#).



Brother Dianne Ash recently inquired if Gamma Chi's mascot meets the requirement to be out of a booster seat, or if they should invest in one. Don't worry though, the mascot was sent home with the newest WMA, in a proper 5 point harness. We're not quite sure if he's eligible for forward-facing, but we'll let them get away with it for now.

The term "glimmers" can be thought of as small moments which spark joy or peace in an effort to calm our mind or promote a feeling of safety. One could call "glimmers" the opposite of triggers. Glimmers from Brothers all over the country are featured in this month's e-Cator!

Phi Delta Chi would love to hear about glimmers from your everyday life, both large and small.

**You can submit glimmers by either filling out [this form](#) and starting it with the word "Glimmer" or by contacting the Project Director for the *e-Communicator*, Sophie Jacome-Singletary ([pdec@phideltachi.org](mailto:pdec@phideltachi.org)) with the subject "Glimmers" to be included on the next *e-Communicator*.**

**More glimmers from this month can be found on our [Facebook page](#)!**



## Alumni Reports & Outstanding Alumni Chapter Nominations Due May 31

**Alumni Chapters should submit their [Alumni Foundations Program \(AFP\) report](#) between now and May 31.** The Alumni Foundations Program is the primary tool by which Phi Delta Chi assesses Alumni Chapter activity, maintains communication, and identifies opportunities to support chapters. **The AFP report is required of all Alumni Chapters wishing to maintain active status.**

Nominations for the [Outstanding Alumni Chapter Award](#) are also due May 31. For Alumni Chapter convenience, nominations may

be [submitted](#) on the same form as the AFP report. See the submission form for guidelines. The Outstanding Alumni Chapter Award will be presented at the 75th Grand Council in Charleston, SC.

Please contact [Kate Grafel](#), Project Director for Alumni Relations, with any questions.



## GRAND COUNCIL 2024 POLICY DEVELOPMENT TOPICS

The following are the policy development topics to be discussed at Grand Council 2024 in Charleston, SC. These can be found on GreekTrack using the links below.

[Organizational Affairs](#)

[Collegiate Affairs](#)



## ALMIGHTY CHIEF COUNSELOR OF THE UNIVERSE: WHO OR WHAT IS IT?

Hello Brothers,

The National Office has been getting more and more questions about the Almighty Chief Counselor of the Universe, and I wanted to share a formal explanation created by past Grand President John Grabenstein. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns after reading this article.

AAAE,  
Grant T. Stimes, PharmD, MPA, BCIDP  
Grand President of Phi Delta Chi (Psi #1299)

### Almighty Chief Counselor of the Universe: Who or What Is It?

For many decades, Phi Delta Chi's Ritual has directed our attention to the Almighty Chief Counselor of the Universe. At Fraternity banquets, we express thanks for a bountiful table by invoking the name of the Almighty Chief Counselor. That name echoes the title of our presiding chapter officers, the Worthy Chief Counselors.

Who or what is the Almighty Chief Counselor? Is it a deity? Do we call on people to worship false gods? No, no arcane voodoo here.

As our Ritual Book notes, "References to the 'Almighty Chief Counselor of the Universe' do not refer to any specific deity, but rather to the common aspects of wisdom, guidance, solace, vibrancy, values, and fellowship encompassed by the world's great faith traditions."

Phi Delta Chi is not a religious organization. We do not require that Brothers worship in any specific way. Indeed, atheists are welcome as Brothers. Yet the Fraternity recognizes the depths of human spirit that inspire and soothe, and we give that essence a name: Almighty Chief Counselor. This is not unlike the use of "Higher Power" in Alcoholics Anonymous and other organizations, referring to a power greater than ourselves, intentionally vague, focused on loving and caring without ties to a specific doctrine or theology.

So, fear not. Recall other portions of the Ritual where you were promised that your obligations to Phi Delta Chi will not conflict with duties you owe to your religion, your country, your neighbor, or yourself. If considering the wisdom and values encompassed by the Almighty Chief Counselor can help you with your daily life, it is well.

John D. Grabenstein (Beta Gamma #235)



## **Are you interested in sponsoring the e-Communicator or *The Communicator*?**

If your organization would like to sponsor and be featured in the e-Communicator or *The Communicator*, please email any of the following:

Grand Vice President for Communications, Ethan Rawl ([gvpc@phideltachi.org](mailto:gvpc@phideltachi.org)),

Project Director for the *The Communicator*, Josh Murdock ([pdtc@phideltachi.org](mailto:pdtc@phideltachi.org)),

Project Director for the e-Communicator, Sophie Jacome-Singletary ([pdec@phideltachi.org](mailto:pdec@phideltachi.org)).



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