

# TEXAS★FIJI

The Longhorn Fiji—The University of Texas at Austin  
Established 1883

Spring/Summer 2017



*PC '15 fresh out of the water after their canoe trip through St. Elena Canyon.*

## Texas Fiji Celebrates Another Amazing Year at UT

I am beyond honored to serve as president of the Tau Deuteron Chapter for the 2017-18 school year. I would like to thank last year's cabinet and president, **Pierce Durham PC '14**, for leaving us in such a great position. We are very proud of our involvement on campus and our academic and philanthropic goals for this upcoming school year.

### INVOLVEMENT ON CAMPUS

Our Chapter is very happy to say that a large number of our members are heavily involved not only within Fiji, but also in many other organizations on campus. Six of our members hold leadership positions on UT's Interfraternity Council (IFC), including

**Danny McNamara PC '14**, who is the current president, and **Michael Fletcher PC '15**, who is the VP of Greek Relations. Danny also serves as a university representative on UT's student government. Our members have also taken active roles in spirit and service organizations as well, with **Max Canon PC '14**, new Bevo handler and member of Silver Spurs, and **Scott Uhl PC '14**, who was recently elected to be a member of the Texas Cowboys Cannon Crew. In addition to our campus involvement, our Chapter's GPA stands at a 3.25, which ranks as the 11th best on campus and is above the IFC average.

### ATHLETICS

This year, Fiji is proud to say we have

representation in many of the athletic programs on campus. Some of these members are **Omar Barakat PC '15**, who recently made the football team, **Garrett McCullough PC '16**, **Charlie Highum PC '15**, and **Danny Koudelka PC '13**, who play lacrosse, and **Travis Ola PC '15**, who's president of the club golf team.

### PHILANTHROPY

This year, our philanthropy chairmen have done a wonderful job. Over the last two semesters, Tau Deuteron has raised more than \$25,000 in our philanthropic efforts. Fiji

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# SUMMER RUSH AT TEXAS FIJI

**F**iji Rush is well underway and the Rush Team is confident in getting another strong new member class for next fall. We have received many recommendations from various alumni and made it imperative for the Rush Team to meet every one. Please continue sending any recommendations, comments, or questions you may have to [rush@txfiji.com](mailto:rush@txfiji.com).

The list at one point was well over 150 young men, including 16 legacies and/or little brothers, as well as 12 from out of state. Our two summer rush parties this year were Space Jam (which occurred on July 7, where 37 bids were given out and 29 have already been

accepted) and Fiji Island held on July 22, where Cory Morrow performed. Austin State was held July 29 and concluded rush.

Thank you very much for the many donations we have received thus far; all donations are much appreciated and helpful.

GTBO,

**Jack Britton PC '15**

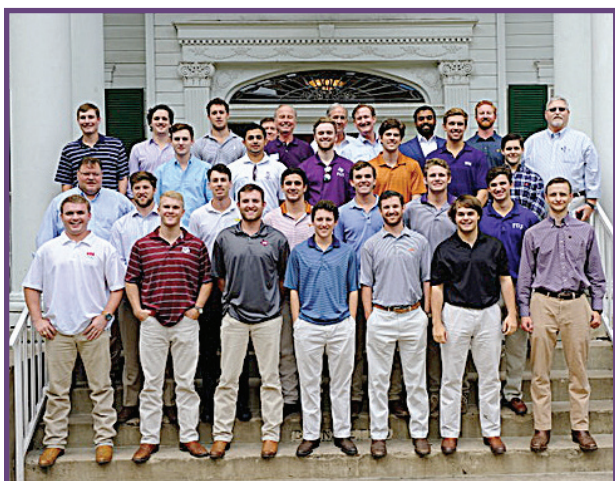
**Richard Comeaux PC '15**

**Austin Delarosa PC '15**

**Scott Hurwitz PC '15**

**John Albert Mansour PC '15**

**Marshall Thurmond PC '15**



*Fiji chapter officers alongside Fiji leaders from SMU, Texas A&M, and TCU.*



*Some of Fiji's IFC members on the front steps of Buen Retiro. Pictured from left: Ryan Tahmassebi PC '16; Will McNulty PC '15; Cooper Barnes PC '15; Danny McNamara PC '14, IFC president; Michael Fletcher PC '15, VP of Greek Relations.*



*Garrett McCullough PC '16, Danny Koudelka PC '13, and Charlie Highum PC '15 at Texas lacrosse practice.*

## Texas Fiji Celebrates Another Amazing Year at UT

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was the leading fundraiser for the B+ Foundation at UT with approximately \$22,000 and second-highest fundraiser at UT for the Movember Foundation with \$5,267.

I am so happy to have the opportunity to be the president of this revered Chapter. The cabinet and I will do everything in our power to ensure that Fiji's legacy lives on unscathed and generations to come have the same opportunities we are fortunate enough to have. I appreciate everyone's support and look forward to seeing all of you soon.

GTBO,

**Patrick Dowell PC '15**

Chapter President

[txfijipresident@gmail.com](mailto:txfijipresident@gmail.com)





# New Alumni Leadership Oversees Maintenance at Buen Retiro

**C**ongratulations to **Tom Shirley PC '78** and **Jimmy Rodman PC '78** for serving as presidents of Phi Gamma Delta's Board of Chapter Advisory and the Purple Owl House Corporation (POHC), respectively. Tom and Jim have served as presidents for the past three and five years, and we are very grateful for their hard work and dedication to the fraternity.

**Robert Canon PC '72** has taken over as interim president of the BCA, and **Kevin Snodgrass PC '78** of the POHC effective immediately. Both have served previously on their respective boards and there should be a seamless transition moving forward.

The POHC reports that the capital campaign five-year pledge contributions will be completed prior to 2021. The new addition totaling \$6.5 million has been successfully paid down to below \$1 million in debt, and we are expected to retire the remaining debt within four years. The addition has been a tremendous success for housing an entire pledge class, fraternity functions, parent weekends, and tailgates. More importantly, it has taken a tremendous amount of wear and tear away from our beloved Buen Retiro.

We are now focusing our attention on the repair and maintenance of Buen Retiro, including the chapter room expansion, paint and carpet in the rooms and hallways, as well as painting the exterior and replacing the hard wood floors in the near future.

In addition, we have added security lighting around the perimeter of the complex, as well as electronic gates to all parking areas, which will fully secure the entire facility.

In regard to the BCA, the position of president will be run by committee until a permanent president can be selected. That committee consists of **Robert Canon PC '72**, **Bryan Campbell PC '78**, **Mark Winter PC '79**, and **Bob Butchofsky PC '80**.

As many may have heard, vandalism has taken root in the West Campus area of Austin. The fraternity houses have been the main focus, with the Fiji house in the center of the bullseye. We have taken extra precaution by hiring full-time security staff. This addition has broken up many attempts to harm the Fiji house and has already led to the arrest of four individuals. This security staff consists of ex-TDPS and APD officers. They are licensed security specialists and are armed. This security staff will remain in our employ for the next 12 months.

The summer rush captains completed a superb job this summer pledging 55 new members. We have outlined the names of the new members on page 4.

GTBO,  
**Kevin Snodgrass PC '78**  
Purple Owl House Corporation President

**Robert Canon PC '72**  
BCA Interim President

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

### President

**Patrick Dowell PC '15**

Austin, Texas

(512) 695-1373

patrickdowell@utexas.edu

### Recruitment Chairman

**Marshall Thurmond PC '15**

San Antonio, Texas

(210) 422-5464

### Corresponding Secretary

**Charlie Eikenberg PC '15**

Dallas, Texas

### Recording Secretary

**Will McNulty PC '15**

Houston, Texas

### Treasurer

**Griffin Doyle PC '15**

Houston, Texas

### Historian

**AJ Peters PC '15**

Houston, Texas

### House Managers

**Sam Barre PC '15**

Corpus Christi, Texas

**Robert Larkin PC '15**

Houston, Texas



## TEXAS FIJI MEMBER RECEIVES DEAN'S DOZEN AWARD

**C**ongratulations to this year's Dean's Dozen Award recipient, **William Deer PC '13**. The Dean's Dozen Award recognizes students who are altruistic, responsible, committed, and involved in transforming the lives of their fellow students. It is in the spirit of UT that these students reach out to others in a time of need, exhibit model citizenship, foster fellowship among our community, embrace diversity, and promote a fair and equitable campus. Finally, these students utilize strength, initiative, and ambition to persevere, to overcome obstacles, and to seek and enable personal growth.



# TAU DEUTERON CONTINUES MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE CHAPTER RECRUITS 55 NEW MEMBERS

The recruitment team, led by Marshal Thurmond, once again exceeded expectations. This fall Tau Deuteron welcomed 55 new members consisting of men from as far away as Los Angeles, California and Memphis, Tennessee. Also, the Chapter is proud to announce that the **Delgado Scholarship** will give out \$186,230 to 16 worthy recipients this year. We even have two new members who are part of the Longhorn football team. All in all, another great year led by a great recruitment team!

## NEW MEMBERS

### Edwin Ault\*

San Marcos  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Tucker Azar

Alamo Heights  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Harrison Black

St. John's  
*Houston, Texas*

### Charles Britton\*

St. John's  
*Houston, Texas*

### Will Brumley\*

Fort Worth Country  
Day School  
*Forth Worth, Texas*

### Shawn Butler

Strake  
*Houston, Texas*

### Chandler Capshaw

Stratford  
*Houston, Texas*

### Barrett Chambers\*

Westlake  
*Austin, Texas*

### Jaime Clyde

Robert E. Lee  
*Tyler, Texas*

### Finn Corbett

Westlake  
*Austin, Texas*

### Will Cotton

St. Mark's  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Colin Crawford

Trinity Christian  
*Lubbock, Texas*

### Robert Crenshaw

Episcopal School of  
Dallas  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Rob Crow\*

St. Mark's  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Alex De La Fuente

Westlake  
*Austin, Texas*

### Russel Freed\*

St. Mary's Hall  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Adam Gerrie

Hyde Park  
*Austin, Texas*

### Matthew Grow

Stratford  
*Houston, Texas*

### Duncan Guinn

Memorial  
*Houston, Texas*

### Joe Heironomous

Westlake  
*Austin, Texas*

### Baron Holmes

Highland Park  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Max Holsomback

Highland Park  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Gary Horton

Jesuit  
*Dallas, Texas*

### John House\*

Highland Park  
*Dallas, Texas*

# TEXAS★FIJI

## PHI GAMMA DELTA

## BUEN RETIRO COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 4769

AUSTIN, TX 78765

*Address Service Requested*

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LAWRENCE, KS  
66044  
PERMIT #570



**ATTENTION:** This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Texas, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

### Will Krenger

Alamo Heights  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Shriji Lalji

Alamo Heights  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Trey Landsdale

The Episcopal School  
of Texas  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Byrn Ledbetter

St. John's  
*Houston, Texas*

### Matthew Leggett

Episcopal  
*Houston, Texas*

### Joe Levin

Harvard Westlake  
School  
*Los Angeles, Calif.*

### Cullen Lowder

Westlake  
*Austin, Texas*

### Case Lowry

St. Mark's  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Bo Mannon\*

Episcopal  
*Houston, Texas*

### Will Mcelroy

Kinkaid  
*Houston, Texas*

### Patrick McNulty\*

Memorial  
*Houston, Texas*

### Jackson Meadows

Beaumont Kelly  
*Beaumont, Texas*

### David Minton

St. Thomas  
*Houston, Texas*

### Robert Oelman

Kinkaid  
*Houston, Texas*

### Dylan Overby

Cy Fair  
*Houston, Texas*

### Nix Park

Alamo Heights  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Mason Parker

Robert E. Lee  
*Tyler, Texas*

### Daniel Perrier

St. John's  
*Houston, Texas*

### Fred Proctor\*

Victoria High  
*Victoria, Texas*

### William Proctor\*

Victoria High  
*Victoria, Texas*

### Will Rhymer

Alamo Heights  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Jordan Rice

Jesuit  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Joey Severt

Westlake  
*Austin, Texas*

### Jack Shepherd\*

Memorial  
*Houston, Texas*

### Ben Sherman

Longview High  
*Longview, Texas*

### Jack Solberg

Memphis University  
School  
*Memphis, Tenn.*

### George Stewart\*

Highland Park  
*Dallas, Texas*

### James Tyng\*

Alamo Heights  
*San Antonio, Texas*

### Eli Ware

St. Mark's  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Garret Wingrove

Highland Park  
*Dallas, Texas*

### Bobby Wunderlick

Jesuit  
*Dallas, Texas*

*\*Legacy*

Visit [www.texasfiji.com](http://www.texasfiji.com) for all things Texas Fiji!