

News from the 151st Chi Phi Congress

Chi Phi's 151st Congress in Columbus, Ohio was especially exciting for Iota Delta. There were many congrats, handshakes and some courtesy frosty libations recognizing our undergraduate Chapter's return to IU in 2018.

And for the first time in Chi Phi history, the Chi Phi Grand Alpha is one of our own. By unanimous decision and a roaring round of applause, the fraternity's membership voted "AYE" to making Brother Robert ("Bob") K. Walker '70 the leader of the Grand Council and visionary for the future of our organization. So, next time you see Brother Walker, tell him congrats, offer him a drink and tell him your vision for the future of Iota Delta and Chi Phi. He can help make it happen!

In other Congress news, a number of important topics were addressed, presented by individual committees and ultimately approved by Congress:

- **New Member Education:** A four week to six week New Member Education test program will be applied to all new undergraduate chapters (including Iota Delta in 2018), and chapters under sanctions for hazing. The test program was developed by Chi Phi's Total Membership Education Committee and approved to address the fact that in the past 18 months, Chi Phi had lost six chapters and ~10 percent of its membership to hazing infractions.
- **Membership Committee:** Clarified the definition of "Male" in our bylaws to acknowledge the gender represented upon State and Federal documentation as sufficient to obtain membership within our all-male organization. Hence, Chi Phi is the first Fraternity in history to address transgender identity within its constitution.
- **Membership Committee:** As a result of their growing importance to the success of an undergraduate Chapter, the New Member Educator and Recruitment Chair have officially been added to the Executive Council as Theta and Iota, respectfully.

Finally, despite the unfortunate loss of six Chapters in the past 18 months, there have not been any infractions in the past six months (as of Congress). Chi Phi also will welcome 12 new chapters – including Iota Delta – in the next four years, in addition to the current 53 Chapters and Colonies. This 22 percent increase is representative of the hard work that has been put in by the National Office and alumni throughout Chi Phi.