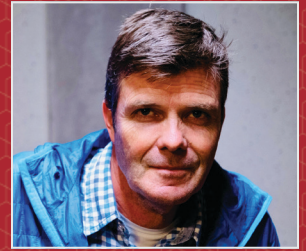




# THE HAWKEYE

IOWA ALPHA CHAPTER OF PHI KAPPA PSI • SPRING 2023

## From Phi Psi to the Golden Age of Television



### Morgan Sackett '87 Shares How Iowa Alpha Prepared Him for the Entertainment Industry

Although **Morgan Sackett '87** is a fairly private person with no social media presence, you've likely heard of or seen his work. Morgan has two Emmy wins under his belt for Outstanding Comedy Series as an executive producer on *Veep*, and he has 14 Emmy nominations in total for his work on *Veep*, *The Good Place*, *Parks and Recreation*, and *Hacks*.

To Morgan, though, it's not about the awards. The director and executive producer, who was lucky to land a production assistant role on *Seinfeld* early in his career, tries to find fun projects with people he likes to work with. Take the 2016 film *Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping*, which struggled at the box office but became a revered comedy hit in the years since, for example.

"When you're making these, it seems like a silly job working so hard to tell a joke on camera," he said. "But people love them and watch them over and over again. To me, it's more about hearing from and engaging with those people."

Morgan is quick to note how many factors play into industry success, including hard work, talent, and plenty of luck. For every big-name project he can count himself a part of—he's also produced many pilots that went nowhere.

"Like so many things in life, there are countless little twists and turns that make luck."

#### A LEARNING PROCESS

Coming from "small town" Iowa, Morgan feels lucky to have found the positive group of Brothers in Iowa Alpha. At the time, the Chapter House seemed like a fun place, and he felt comfortable with the young men living in it. Iowa Alpha gave him a core group at a large university to make it feel more like home. Morgan remains close friends with lots of those Brothers today, including pledge Brothers he didn't think he'd click with in the early days; one friend, **Bowen Campbell '87**, even helped Morgan meet his wife.

"I wasn't always successful in Phi Kappa Psi," Morgan recalls. "But you learn important skills as you go, and I think that is an important part of the process." Roles like recruitment chairman (for Iowa Alpha and later the IFC) and house president taught him to work with large groups of people with disparate personalities and move in the same direction. Several of Morgan's Brothers turned out to be talented, funny writers, preparing hilarious recruitment letters or instruction lists around the house. Those comedic tendencies made Morgan feel more comfortable when he started working with comedians in his career.

#### FINDING OUR PEOPLE

The skills Morgan picked up from Phi Psi helped him find connections in California, where he moved, without knowing a soul, for work. Today, the process of working on a project reminds him of Fraternity life as well.

"When you do a show, you work with, like, 120 people on a job that's usually a few months long," he explained. "Then you're working with another 120 people—sometimes the same, but a lot of new faces. It's a good way to meet people very quickly."

Many of those projects have led to lasting professional connections. Morgan met Julia Louis-Dreyfus through *Seinfeld*, and both later worked together on *Veep*. He grew up watching Ted Danson on *Cheers*, worked with him and producer Mike Schur on *The Good Place*, and now all three have a Netflix comedy series in the works. Morgan also has a commercial production company with Kristen Bell, and he's worked with *Parks and Recreation* stars Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman on numerous other projects.

"That's the most satisfying thing: you attract like-minded people from every show," he said. "And then, once you've done it as long as I have, you have a lot of great people to do projects with."

#### A PAST WORTH PRESERVING

As a young college graduate, Morgan was ready to pursue his ambitions outside of Iowa. While moving away from "home," he stayed in touch with a core group of Brothers, though, who enjoyed a reunion not long before the pandemic. Occasionally, he'll call Brothers he hasn't seen in years and feel an immediate comfort level—almost as though they're in college again.

Iowa Alpha has had its ups and downs throughout its history, yet Morgan wants to perpetuate his experience through the young men today. While Morgan's not able to lend his time (proximity and capacity), he is happy to lend some financial support to the chapter as a way to help members and their journey at Iowa.

"I don't know what motivates humans to keep preserving their past, but I think it's a good thing," he said. "I remember times when funds were tight, and if I can give a little something to take the burden off these students, that's worth it."

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

Currently, Morgan produces the comedy series *Hacks*. He's also producing the second season of the Apple TV+ series *Loot* with Maya Rudolph as well as the new Amazon comedy *Primo*. Morgan lives in Los Angeles, where he loves spending time on the water and going on trips with his family.

There's no clear path to success in Morgan's line of work, but he suspects the "Midwestern Work Ethic" he learned from his parents was a big help. To that end, Morgan's biggest advice to Brothers is to stay curious and work hard.

Sometimes, Morgan is still amazed by the major cultural impact these shows can have. "When I'm making them, it feels like they shouldn't be so important," he said. "But it's entertaining—it makes people think or makes them happy, makes them laugh or cry. Watching stories is a big part of what we all do."

# Shaping Our Home and Brothers

## The Role of the Iowa Alpha House Director



**G**reetings from your incoming and outgoing house directors! Our job is much like what you may recall as a “house dad” or “housemother.” Iowa reinstated the requirement of a house director in the 2010s to help provide accountability, guidance, and mentorship to undergraduate members. Iowa Alpha has been fortunate (unlike other chapters) to have a Brother hold the role since implemented; **Matt Logan '06**, **Asa Klien '09**, **Adam Parker '09**, **Coleman McCarthy '12**, **Jason Woodruff '14**, and **Marcelo Melo '15** have all served in this capacity before us. Through the role, it’s a joy to witness the personal and professional growth of the Brothers as they live in the Chapter and pursue their degrees.

Throughout the year, we have many responsibilities. At the beginning and end of each semester, we check Brothers into and out of their rooms as part of their lease with the Chapter. These inspections and the formal check-in process ensure the House Corporation monitors damages while assessing needed improvements. We also guide the elected undergraduate house manager to ensure general home maintenance, upkeep, and overall functionality.

Aligned with our maintenance and upkeep responsibilities, you’ll be pleased to hear we assisted the alumni House Corporation in updating the kitchen! We now have new cabinetry, countertops, appliances, and serving buffets. Such a renovation allowed us to contract a chef for the Chapter. The introduction of the house chef and new meal plan has provided Brothers with quality home-cooked meals to enjoy throughout the week, a luxury often limited to the sororities on campus. We feel



*First look at the updated kitchen!  
See more photos on page 6.*



this is an economical improvement, producing less waste while adding a valuable draw to potential new members during recruitment.

While most of our responsibilities revolve around the Chapter House, we also offer mentorship formally to executive officers and informally to everyone else at 363. We attend weekly executive officer meetings and full Chapter meetings, taking note of the Chapter’s goals and keeping them accountable to those goals and our Chapter values. The house director is the liaison between the Chapter and the advisory board, ensuring the goals of both are aligned.

Right now, one crucial goal is the rededication to Phi Psi rituals; these are at the foundation of our membership. The impacts of COVID can be seen everywhere, and our Chapter is no exception. The lack of in-person rituals created an experience unlike the one most of you recall. With our help and the guidance of our newly established advisory board, we’re hosting ritual seminars for the Chapter to relearn and perform these ritual ceremonies.

I, Eugene, believe the role of house director gave me invaluable perspectives and experiences while allowing me to counsel our younger Brothers. These experiences will be with me for life.

And I, Max, as a former house manager, am eager to take on this enhanced role as an alumnus. While I know it will be beneficial personally, I am excited to be a role model, setting an example for the undergraduate Phi Kappa Psi members.

Through all our work, you should know any investment from alumni in our men helps uphold the great name and legacy of Iowa Alpha Phi Kappa Psi.

LIVE EVER, DIE NEVER!

Fraternally,



**Eugene Caporale '18**  
Outgoing House Director



**Maxfield Eck '19**  
Incoming House Director



*Brothers suit up for Dance Marathon at the Iowa Memorial Union.*



*Fall Bid Day on September 15, 2022. We are happy to have these young men as Brothers and cannot wait to see what they do in the future.*



*Brothers gather for the 26th annual Kinnick Scholarship Brunch. Scholarships were given to 14 worthy recipients, six of whom accepted a bid to our brotherhood.*



*Brothers join Kappa Alpha Theta in the Run for the Young 5K in October.*

## Cultivating Quality

### Iowa Alpha Grows and Excels on Campus

Iowa Alpha has had another successful year of philanthropy, academics, and campus involvement. The University of Iowa Dance Marathon is our largest philanthropic event each year, and 2023 was no different. We raised over \$25,000, winning the Mary Pearson Award for the most money raised of all Greek chapters. This money will benefit children receiving treatment at the Stead Family Children's Hospital.

In addition to Dance Marathon, Brothers participated last fall in the Run for the Young 5K with Kappa Alpha Theta, raising over \$15,000 for CASA and The Boys and Girls Club of America.

Our Brothers continue to excel in the classroom: 48 Brothers made the dean's list with a GPA of 3.5 or above, and we had the fifth-highest GPA among active fraternities (plus second in chapters with 50-plus members and first in chapters with 90-plus member). Multiple Brothers are involved in professional business fraternities at UI, with several being accepted to the prestigious Hawkinson program.

The Chapter welcomed 40 new members during fall 2022 recruitment. The new Brothers had a combined 3.4 GPA in the first semester, which is the best new member GPA in the last five years. We are confident these men will uphold the beliefs and values of Iowa Alpha and will leave it better than they found it. We would also like to congratulate one of these Brothers, **Carson Petrick '22**, for getting elected to the Interfraternity Council as VP of finance and operations.

Sadly, the school year is coming to a close, but we can wrap up knowing that we accomplished a lot. We graduate 25 seniors this spring and know they will continue to uphold the values and beliefs of this Brotherhood throughout the rest of their lives. Amici!

Fraternally,  
**Mitch Joines '22**  
Chapter President

# Welcome New Members!

## Spring 2023

**Adam Hasan**  
Waukee, Iowa

**Cade Rounds**  
Waukee, Iowa

**Jacob Stoffel**  
Eden Prairie, Minn.

**James Mattar**  
Chicago, Ill.

**Chase Sannes**  
Cedar Falls, Iowa

**Ethan Walz**  
Kansas City, Mo.

**Ben Migley**  
Maple Grove, Minn.

**Owen Schneider**  
Arlington Heights, Ill.

**Nick Williamson**  
Chicago, Ill.

**Conor O'Mara**  
Chicago, Ill.

**Tyler Skrabis**  
Orland Park, Ill.

**Joseph Zaccariello**  
South Elgin, Ill.

**Jackson Potts**  
St. Charles, Ill.

## Thank You for Your Support

We appreciate our alumni who have financially supported Iowa Alpha this year. Your gifts totaled more than \$7,800 which improves the experience for our brothers while maintaining our competitiveness on campus. Join these men by making a gift today!

McKenzie Pendry  
James E. Lichty '53  
Stephen P. VanHouten '60  
Robert L. Gamrath '62  
Richard W. Lozier '63  
John D. Curtis '65  
Steven K. McGuire '66  
David C. Hansen '79  
Robert C. Love '82  
Raymond E. Kivett '82  
Stephen A. Wright '83  
Mark R. Easler '86  
Michael R. Lang '86  
William Davison '87  
Morgan M. Sackett '87  
Eric R. Bridges '97  
Brand Newland '00  
Adam Flagg '01  
Charles E. Bartlett '04  
Michael Doyle '05  
Aaron C. Parker '05  
Adam G.L. Parker '09  
Bradley Bleeker '10  
Michael P. Doty '10  
David Cray '14  
John A. Hurley III '18



## CHAPTER OFFICERS

President  
**Mitch Joines '22**  
(712) 635-4548

Vice President  
**John Leonard '22**

Treasurers  
**Johnny Buenz '22**  
**Charlie Doubet '22**

Risk Management Chairman  
**Joseph Donovan '22**

Alumni Relations Chairman  
**Max Simmons '22**  
(515) 864-8922

House Manager  
**Blake Anderson '25**  
(612) 747-5516

Philanthropy Chairmen  
**Cael Duey '22**  
**Jack Starr '25**

Social Chairmen  
**Joe White '22**  
**George Wolfe '22**

Community Service Chairman  
**Sam Swenson '22**

Health and Wellness Chairman  
**Brady Tiran '22**

DEI Chairman  
**Charlie Roach '22**

Career Development and  
Scholarship Chairman  
**Mason Zwiefel '22**

Corresponding Secretary  
**Hayden Huntley '22**

Brotherhood Chairmen  
**Rohan Shah '23**  
**John Barton '24**

Recruitment Chairmen  
**Ben Hill '22**  
**Matthew Riedl '22**



### BY THE NUMBERS

<b>48</b>	Brothers on the dean's list
<b>5th</b>	Highest fall GPA among fraternities
<b>\$40,000+</b>	Raised across philanthropy events
<b>40</b>	New members from fall 2022 recruitment
<b>25</b>	Graduating seniors

## Why Iowa Alpha Was the Right Choice

"In these first few months, I have not only seen myself grow as a student but also as a person. Being around like-minded individuals has helped me excel in the classroom and allowed me to grow as a leader. I can pursue executive leadership positions as a freshman not only to help my résumé, but to leave the position better than when I came into it and help the Chapter as much as I can. I look forward to my next three years at Iowa and the connections that will last a lifetime."

—**Max Simmons '22**,  
Alumni Relations Chairman



# Alumni Updates

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

**James R. Walker '52** – December 7, 2022

**James A. Jones '58** – March 19, 2023

**J. Allen Carley '63** – April 16, 2022

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Alden S. Bean '54** lives in Midlothian, Va., and had a successful TAVR surgery in 2022. He lost his wife of 64 years in 2023 from Alzheimer's disease.

**Robert A. Bailey '57** lives in Eagan, Minn., and is still going at 85!

**David W. Abbott '58** lives in Matthew, N.C.; he goes to the gym three times a week and enjoys hanging out with his grandchildren. "At 84, I just keep on keeping on."

**Howard G. Hershey '61** is semi-retired from UNC and serves on two boards, meaning he gets to travel several times a year! Howard lives in Chapel Hill, N.C. Email: garland\_hershey@unc.edu

**John C. Lisle '63** celebrates his 60th year of membership this year. He snowbirds in Arizona from Clarinda, Iowa. Email: johnl@lislecorp.com

**Steven R. Caswell '67** is a tour guide at Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum. He lives in Elkhorn, Neb.

**Michael W. Barnes '80** has published an action-adventure novel, *Off the Algo*. It's a classic thriller interweaving a rich assortment of personalities at the cutting edge of politics, terrorism, extortion, and technology. Michael comes from a family of Phi Psi Brothers: his late father, **Dr. Wayne '53**, and his brother, **Matthew '86**. Michael lives in New Orleans, La. Email: mbarnes@barneslaw.us

**John T. Mathews '82** moved to Houston, Texas, to be a part of his first grandchild's life. Email: jmath12@comcast.net

**John M. Loughlin '04** moved back to his hometown of Cherokee, Iowa, after law school. "Raising two kids and enjoying life with my wife as much as possible. Very lucky!" Email: jmloughlin@gmail.com

# KINNICK SCHOLARSHIP DATES

**R**eminder to all Iowa Alphas: it's time for incoming students to apply for this year's Nile C. Kinnick Scholarship! Any incoming male student with a minimum GPA of 3.4 and minimum ACT score of 25 or SAT score of 1130 (if applicable) are eligible.

## ▶ IMPORTANT DATES ◀

**Scholarship deadline:** May 21, 2023

**Notification times:** May 28-29, 2023

**First Round of Interviews:** June-July 2023\*

**Semifinalist Interviews:** June-July 2023\*

\*Interviews are typically held during University of Iowa orientations or via Zoom.

To apply, donate, or find other info and resources, visit the scholarship website at [kinnickscholarship.org/apply](http://kinnickscholarship.org/apply).

## ▶ KNOW A POTENTIAL BROTHER? ◀

One of the best ways to support Iowa Alpha each year is with recruitment referrals. If you know a new or incoming U of I student who may be Phi Psi material, we'd love to meet them!

Referrals can be sent at any time of year to [phikappapsiowaalpha@gmail.com](mailto:phikappapsiowaalpha@gmail.com). Please include the student's name, hometown, field of study (if known), and some of their hobbies.

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**



**FINALIST  
BRUNCH**

**You, as an alumnus, are invited  
to attend to help celebrate  
our Kinnick finalists!**

**Sunday, August 20, 2023**

*Hancher Auditorium*

# SEEKING

## Iowa Alpha Alumni Speakers



Iowa Alpha believes every alumnus has a valuable perspective. Did your Phi Psi experience or connections help you land a job? Do you have advice for Brothers on your industry (or simply navigating life after college)? You could be a great fit for our Iowa Alpha Speaker Series!

Each semester, we look for alumni guests to speak about their career/industry. 15 minutes on your Sunday evening helps prepare our brothers for their life after college.

Submit your interest to speak by completing our survey at [tinyurl.com/iowaalphacareers](https://tinyurl.com/iowaalphacareers) or simply scanning this QR code.



SCAN ME

# Onward and Upward

## A Senior Shares His Phi Psi Journey

*"The impact that this brotherhood has had on me is indescribable; it has given me great friendships I will carry for the rest of my life. Membership within this brotherhood provided me with a community of like-minded, driven individuals who were motivated to be positive leaders on campus, which undoubtedly accelerated my advancement as a man and young professional."*

*After graduation this coming May, I plan to move to Dallas to pursue a career within the wealth management industry, beginning in the role of portfolio management analyst with EPIQ Capital Group. I can say with confidence that I would not be the man I am today without this brotherhood, and I will carry the memories from these last four years for the rest of my life."*

—Austin Quinn '23



# THE HAWKEYE

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**First look at the  
updated kitchen!  
See more on page 2.**

