



2025 Chi Chapter Hall of Fame

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025
PURDUE UNIVERSITY | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

WELCOME

TO THE 27th ANNUAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

The Chi Chapter Hall of Fame Awards are presented by the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity at Purdue University. Conceived as a means of honoring our alumni for outstanding achievements and service, this award has become an integral part of our tradition here at Chi Chapter.

Kappa Sigma is a national fraternity with great pride and a tradition of excellence that our many distinguished alumni have served to enhance throughout the years. Since its founding in 1885, Chi Chapter has seen many brothers rise to positions of prominence.

Congratulations to those who have been awarded this honor!

THIS YEAR'S HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES ARE:

Andrew Mance '71

Steven Luse '76

Karl Kraebber '00

Elias Ruvalcaba '01

AND, OUR ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR IS:

Doug Kowert '60



PROGRAM

WELCOME

Kevin Lichterman '01

GRACE

Omar Khayum '02

DINNER

INTRODUCTION

Kevin Lichterman '01

GPA INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Martin Roeder '01

STATE OF CHI CHAPTER

Sam McBroom '24, GM

STATE OF CHI CHAPTER HOUSE ASSOCIATION

Doug Kowert '60

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Andrew Mance '71

Steven Luse '76

Karl Kraebber '00

Elias Ruvalcaba '01

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Doug Kowert '60

Presented by: Kevin Lichterman '01

CLOSING

HALL OF FAME

Andrew Mance '71



Andrew Mance is the Owner and President of Executone Communications Systems LLC, a leading provider of cloud-based telephone solutions serving major healthcare institutions such as the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio. Under his leadership, Executone has become one of the largest suppliers in Ohio and Michigan, recognized for its innovation and commitment to service.

Andrew's distinguished career began after he earned his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University in 1974. He spent nearly 25 years at Owens Corning, where he ascended through various roles, culminating as Director of Product Development. Notably, he managed the successful and timely launch of one of the company's largest insulation lines and patented a tank leak detection system for underground petroleum storage. This innovation garnered national recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Fire Protection Association.

Throughout his undergraduate years at Purdue, Andrew was an active member of the Rotary Club and the Chi Chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity—an affiliation he continues to cherish. He remains closely connected with fraternity brothers and fondly recalls seeing his son, Anthony, join the Chi Chapter in 2002, creating a family legacy at Purdue. He and his family return annually to their alma mater, reflecting the strong bonds and traditions that have shaped his personal and professional journey.

Andrew is married to Melanie Mance and is the proud father of two sons, Anthony and Austen.

HALL OF FAME

Steven Luse '76



Steve Luse is a pioneering force in the orthodontic industry, recognized for his outstanding leadership, technical expertise, and entrepreneurial spirit. Since earning his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Management from Purdue University in 1980, Steve has shaped the future of orthodontic product development through a career marked by innovation and achievement.

Steve launched his distinguished professional journey at Johnson & Johnson's "A"- Company, where he managed the Computer-Aided Design and Machining Engineering group. Leading a multidisciplinary team, he was instrumental in developing cutting-edge orthodontic products and advanced manufacturing processes that set new standards in the industry.

In 1993, Steve co-founded Ortho Kinetics Corporation, where he continues to serve as President, Chief Technology Officer, and Co-Founder. Under his visionary guidance, the company has designed and manufactured FDA Class I, II, and III orthodontic systems, earning eight issued patents and contributing to more than fifteen additional patent applications over the past decade. His dedication to product innovation and excellence has positioned Ortho Kinetics as a leader in specialty orthodontic manufacturing.

Steve's entrepreneurial drive extends beyond Ortho Kinetics, having co-founded Mouth Widgets to provide contract product development and manufacturing services for dental companies worldwide. His consulting work has had a global impact, notably with the launch of JJ Implants & JJ Orthodontics in India, where he introduced innovative manufacturing and product design solutions. Steve's passion for product development spans every stage, from initial concept to market launch. His ability to bring complex systems to fruition has left a legacy on the industry.

Outside of his professional accomplishments, Steve has demonstrated a deep commitment to his community, serving as Assistant Troop Master with the Boy Scouts of America from 2000 to 2006. He credits his formative years at Purdue University and the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity for instilling the values of friendship, resilience, and leadership that have guided his life and career.

Steve resides in Vista, California with his wife, Eileen, and is a proud father to Tyler Alexander Luse.

HALL OF FAME

Karl Kraebber '00



Karl Kraebber is an accomplished leader in the healthcare and biotechnology sector. He has served as Vice President of Operations at Makana Therapeutics since 2021. Prior to joining Makana Therapeutics, he directed Xenotransplantation Operations at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Department of Surgery from 2016 to 2021. He also contributed as Project Manager for the Transplant Service Line at Indiana University Health between 2014 and 2016. His expertise extends into organizational leadership and continuous improvement, evidenced by Board and Chairperson roles with the Society for

Health Systems, Institute for Industrial and Systems Engineers, as well as Lean Certifications from the University of Iowa at Gold, Silver, and Bronze levels.

Karl earned degrees in General Health Science in 2003 and Organizational Leadership in 2008 from Purdue. His commitment to excellence was recognized early on with a Scholar Award in 2002, and his active involvement as a brother in the Kappa Sigma fraternity set the tone for a career rooted in collaboration and service. Being a member of the recolonizing Chi Chapter at Purdue provided an exciting opportunity that no other house on campus could. Along with 38 men, they embarked upon the challenge to resurrect a proud brand and establish a new legacy for Kappa Sigma at Purdue.

Karl's dedication to his alma mater and community is evident through his service on the Purdue Club of Hendricks County board and his ongoing contributions to the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma, where he has guided academic and alumni relations. He credits his formative fraternity experience with instilling enduring values of leadership, fellowship, and brotherhood—qualities that have shaped his career and personal life.

Karl is a devoted husband to Erin Kraebber and father to Allyson (15) and Hadley (12). He is driven by a passion for mentorship, innovation, and relationship-building, and he encourages our current undergraduate brothers to embrace risks, forge meaningful connections, and be open to new opportunities. You never know when you will meet your next mentor, business investor, or best friend. Faith in yourself, family, and friends will ensure that you can succeed in whatever happens next.

HALL OF FAME

Elias Ruvalcaba '01



Eli Ruvalcaba is a visionary leader in the technology services industry, recognized for driving innovation in artificial intelligence, data, cloud, and analytics. Eli attended Purdue University as part of the Founding Father class of 2000 and earned his graduate degree from St. Xavier University. He resides in Maryland with his wife, Megan, whom he met during his time at Purdue, their daughter Elle, and two beloved Victorian bulldogs.

Currently serving as Engagement Leader at Lovelytics, Eli continues to set benchmarks in technology solutions and business transformation. His prior leadership roles include Vice President of Sales at Egen, where he successfully scaled go-to market functions; America's Market Development Leader at Wipro; and Global Head of Google Growth at Atos.

Throughout his career, Eli has earned recognition for his outstanding achievements and leadership. He was named a Sales All-Star for Google Cloud, selected by a private equity firm to expand capabilities within portfolio companies, and invited to the Disney Institute of Leadership Excellence in recognition of his top performance as a technical analyst.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Eli is deeply committed to community service. He served on the Junior Board of the Academy of Urban School Leadership from 2012 to 2019 and actively supports The Diener School, which specializes in neurodiversity education and multi-sensory learning.

Eli's guiding advice to undergraduates is to build a strong network—both within and beyond campus organizations—as it can be a powerful asset both professionally and personally. He credits Chi Chapter for providing a diverse and supportive community dedicated to collective success and is proud to have contributed to its inspiring recolonization effort. Elias Ruvalcaba's career and character are a testament to the power of innovation, mentorship, and service. His commitment to advancing technology and uplifting the community continues to inspire colleagues, peers, and the next generation of leaders.

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Doug Kowert '60



Doug was initiated into Chi Chapter in 1960 and graduated Purdue University in Civil Engineering in 1963. Using the skills and education acquired at Chi and Purdue, Doug spent 50 plus years working in the construction industry in locations throughout the world. As the CEO of construction companies located throughout the US, the Middle East, London England, and the Caribbean, Doug oversaw a variety of projects including high-rise offices & residences, hospitals, hospitality venues, educational complexes and buildings, athletic facilities, industrial buildings and facilities, retail complexes, laboratories, prisons, heavy civils projects, golf

courses, interior build-outs, and single-family residential developments all totaling a present value in excess of \$5 billion

As a Director of the International Board of the Associated General Contractors of America, Doug got a taste of politics throughout the world. It did not taste good. Doug was also the sole arbitrator for the settlement of a very large claim against the Saudi government. He later trained with the American Arbitration Association. He learned that arbitration is not for the faint of heart.

The Purdue Kappa Sigma's exceptionalism has been something that has carried throughout the good and bad times of its existence as one of the oldest chapters in Kappa Sigma and at Purdue University. The life-long connections and shared reminiscences with brothers from various generations is something that cannot be replicated in any other organization. Special events that we all remember like homecoming signs, house dances, grand prix, coops with sororities, study hours, academic mentoring, and the regular sharing of experiences are memories that will last forever.

As a member of the team that raised the funds and rebuilt the Chi Chapter House in the late 1990's and early 2000's, Doug began his 25-year involvement in the Chapter House Corporation, Alumni Relations, and Active Chapter operations. During this time, the Chapter has experienced a few ups and downs. However, with the assistance, input, brotherhood, and support from some exceptional vendor/contractors and brothers like Joe Harshman, Lloyd L. Zickert, Bob Sorensen, Charlie Marshall, Steve Springer, Mike Cline, chapter GM's, Kappa Sigma Headquarters, and so many other alums and active chapter members, Chi Chapter has continued its record of achievements for this latest period in its 140-year history.



HALL OF FAME

PAST INDUCTEES

2024

Jeff Rigdon '79
Nick Hoppenjans '00
Brendan O'Connor '02

2022

Mike Pritchett '61
Steve Funk '69
Vince Shissler '00
Omar Khayum '02

2021

Walt Eversman PhD '56
David Danner '67
Kevin Lichterman '01

2020

Chris Monzel '87

2019

Mark McKechnie '86

2018

Jack Rozwat '80

2017

James C. Cloyd III '67

2016

Rich Adams II '83

2015

John Thatcher '67

2013

Mike Cline '84

2012

Sam Zimmerman '67

2011

Kent Pierce '51
Matt Brozovic '82
Tim Gonderman '83

2010

Seth Bogin '00
Conrad Hammond '00
James Shively '00

2009

Adam Fisher '59
Michael Pursley '65
Brad Edwards '83

2008

Joel Bates '53
Roger Mayes '66

2007

Dean Spencer '53
Dale Kramer '58
Frank Caputo '66

2006

Charles Aldag '52
Sam Smith '58
David Robinson '68
Don Dunbar '81

2005

Mike Gray '54

Dwight Abbott '55

Bob Worrell '66
Jeff Minner '81

2004

Allen Dickason '70
Bradley Edwards '83
Michael Griffin '90

2003

Ben Mottleson '45

2002

Daniel Evans '49
Charles Benner '66
David Derrick '66
Samual Rich Tiller '83

2001

Gene Grotnes '48
Bill Schulenberg '48
John Haimbaugh '52
John McCammon '62

2000

Robert Jones '61
Charles Marshall '61
John Prentice '66

1999

Robert Landis '30
James Hunter '54
Walt Richey '54
Bruce Storm '56

Eric Wenaas '59

Michael Zachary '67
Michael Eskew '68
Jan King '68

1998

John Feinler '47
Jack Houston '50
Kenneth Appel '54
Robert Schweikher '55
Alan Crebo '60
Walter Myers '61
Ronald Yara '66
Steven Beering '85

1997

Elmer Oliphant '11
George Goodwin '27
James Hill '31
George Burnell '33
Robert Keim '39
Byron Anderson '45
Lloyd Zickert '45
Richard Freeman '47
Robert Covalt '50
Walt Houston '51
Jerry Albrecht '54
Gordon Binder '54
Kenneth Bishop '54
Daniel Meyer '55
Russell Maier '56
William Topercer '58
Robert Sorensen '60

CHI CHAPTER

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

2020 Michael Cline '84

2019 James Shively '00

2018 Jim Zeitler '65

2017 Andrew Castor '84

2016 Ronald Tadashi Yara '66

2015 Steven Springer '67

2014 Charlie Marshall II '61

2013 Mike Eskew '68

2012 Steven Beering '85

2011 William Topercer '58

2010 Gordon Binder '54

2009 Lloyd Zickert '45

2008 Mike Griffin '90

2007 Stuart Williams '00

2006 Joseph Harshman '48

2005 Jim Milner '79

2004 Eric Wenaas '59

2003 Doug Kowert '60

2002 Robert Sorensen '60

2001 Scott French '81

2001 Mike Galt '82

2000 Joseph Harshman '48

CHI CHAPTER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Hello, my name is **Sam McBroom** and I am the current Grand Master here at the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. I'm a Sophomore studying Integrated Business & Engineering, focusing on Entrepreneurship and Financial Engineering. I am from Naperville, IL and have been working diligently to refine the culture and brotherhood of Chi. I truly love spending time with all of my brothers, which has made my job very enjoyable. My leadership style emphasizes big-picture thinking and I am always focused on delivering an inspiring message to the brotherhood.

Kappa Sigma isn't for a day or an hour or a college term only, but for life. For this reason, I will continue to support and improve our beloved Chapter wherever life takes me. AEKDB.



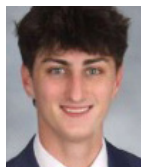
I am **Patrick Furey**, the current Grand Procurator of Chi. I am from Western Springs, IL in the west suburbs of Chicago and major in Cybersecurity and Network Engineering Technology. The brothers are what makes Chi stand out, and if I had to do rush rush all over again, I wouldn't have it any other way. I love hanging out with everyone, despite all the trouble some brothers can cause. This is why I am committed to making sure I leave the Chi chapter of Kappa Sigma in a better place at the end of my term than how it was when I got elected.



My name is **Artem Kolomiets**, I am the Grand Treasurer here at Chi. I am from Kyiv, Ukraine and am a junior double majoring in Applied Mathematics and Finance. This semester I have been diligently working on ways to reduce damages to the house, to allow for a more pleasant environment for the brothers to live in and alumni to visit. I am hoping this will also leave the chapter with more money to spend on activities. Looking forward, I hope to organize a couple of philanthropy and community service events before the end of my term.



Hello, my name is **Chris Kulas**, and I am from Park Ridge, Illinois. I currently serve as the Grand Master of Ceremonies for the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. I am a junior at Purdue University, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Economics through the Daniels School of Business. In my role, I help organize and oversee chapter events, coordinate membership development, and foster a strong sense of brotherhood and leadership within our organization.



Good evening, my name is **Carmelo DiTomasso** and I serve as Grand Scribe of the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. I'm a junior from Jefferson, New Jersey, double-majoring in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence. My priorities for Chi are improving academic performance and developing alumni relationships. I lead in a relationship-driven way, with an emphasis on proximity and trust. Staying accessible and maintaining day-to-day relationships with everyone gives me the reach to set standards and move culture. I'm excited about what this Executive

Committee will accomplish and for the progress we'll set in motion for Chi.

CHI CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS & OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Grand Master
Sam McBroom '24

Grand Procurator
Patrick Furey '23

Grand Master of Ceremonies
Chris Kulas '23

Grand Scribe
Carmelo DiTomasso '24

Grand Treasurer
Artem Kolomiiets '24

FACULTY ADVISOR

Michael Cline '84

ALUMNI ADVISORS

Alumnus Advisor
Michael Moody '87

Assistant Alumnus Advisor
Rob Grimes '81

HOUSE DIRECTOR

Kevin Boes '18

HOUSE CORPORATION

President
Doug Kowert '60

Secretary
Vince Shissler '00

Treasurer
Kevin Lichterman '01

Directors
Dave Druetzler '81
Mike Cline '84
Jeff Kamm '00
Bryan Searcy '01
Peter Evers '09
Benjamin Townsend '09

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

President
James Shively '00

Secretary
Matt Brozovic '82

Treasurer
Marty Roeder '01

Trustees
Rich Adams II '83
Kim Koning '83



**Not for an hour...a day...
or college term only...but for life.**

**FALL 2025
KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY
CHI CHAPTER
PURDUE UNIVERSITY**