Sigma Pi Fraternity
Beta Chapter
At
Indiana University

3rd Annual
Hall of Fame

Friday, October 15, 2010
Indiana Memorial Union
Welcome.....

TO THE 3RD ANNUAL BETA CHAPTER HALL OF FAME AWARDS

The 3rd Annual Beta Chapter Hall of Fame Awards are presented by the Beta Chapter of the Sigma Pi Fraternity at Indiana University. Conceived as a means of honoring our alumni for outstanding achievements and service, this award will become an integral part of our tradition here at Beta Chapter.

Inductees are selected based upon several factors, including success in their professional career, commitment to philanthropy and their community, and commitment to the fraternity – whether it be at the national or chapter level.

The 3rd Annual Hall of Fame Inductees are:

Bill Brattain ’60
Reggie Laconi ’61
Bill McGinnis ’69
Jeff Young ’89
Welcoming Remarks
Andy Hahn ’01

Sigma Pi Creed
“I Believe in Sigma Pi, a Fellowship of kindred minds, united in Brotherhood to advance Truth and Justice, to promote Scholarship, to encourage Chivalry, to diffuse Culture, and to develop Character, in the Service of God and Man; and I will strive to make real the fraternity’s ideals in my own daily life.”

Prayer/Invocation

Alumni / Undergraduate Update
Andy Hahn ’01
Will Mason ’12

2010 Hall of Fame Induction
Bill Brattain ’60
Reggie Laconi ’61
Bill McGinnis ’69
Jeff Young ’89

Closing Remarks
Andy Hahn ’01
Dr. William E. “Bill” Brattain is Associate Vice President Emeritus for Student Services and Professor Emeritus of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Administration at Western Illinois University. He served on the staff at Western from 1971 to 1998. Prior to coming to Western he served as an Assistant Director of the Indiana Memorial Union and as Director of the Manchester College Union. During his time at Indiana, he served as a member of the Beta Chapter Alumni Board. He holds four degrees from Indiana University ranging from a bachelor’s degree to a doctorate. He served as President of the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Alumni Association and as a member-at-large of the Executive Council of the I.U. Alumni Association. He was the recipient of the John R. Endwright Alumni Service Award and the Garrett G. Eppley Alumni Award from I.U. He has been honored by Western Illinois University by being named an Honorary Alumni in 2007. Bill was also the recipient of the Community Service Award and the Outstanding Administrator Award. He served as both the Lay Leader and as a Trustee of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Macomb. He has been a Rotarian since

Brother Brattain has been active in a number of civic and church activities. He served as the Tri Chair of the McDonough United Way Campaign and as Vice President and President of the McDonough County YMCA Board of Directors. He served as a Trustee of Carl Sandburg College and was awarded an honorary degree from the College in 2006. He served as the Board Chair on four occasions. He served as both the Lay Leader and as a Trustee of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Macomb. He has been a Rotarian since
the mid 1960’s and was named a Paul Harris Fellow. He received his 50 year pin from his Masonic Lodge last winter. He was appointed by the Governor to the Illinois Arts Council in 2004 and reappointed in 2009. He also served as a member of the Illinois Arts Alliance Board of Directors from 1991 until 2008. When he retired from Western both a student leadership and a community arts award were established in his honor and bear his name.

Brother Brattain’s father John Brattain (B55) and his uncle William Brattain (B57) were members of Sigma Pi in the mid to late 1920’s. His cousin Hal Brattain was a Sigma Pi in the late 1940’s and early 1950’s.

As an undergraduate Bill served as First Counselor for two years and edited “Beta Bits.” He also was a member of the Marching 100 and concert bands. Brattain was also a member of Kappa Kappa Psi (honorary band fraternity), Falcon Club, and Scabbard and Blade. He was commissioned through advanced Army ROTC. He also worked on the kitchen crew in the house.

Brother Brattain says “Sigma Pi was a very important part of my undergraduate education. It provided me with good role models and fellowship. Many of us had nicknames and mine was “Slats”. It has stuck with many of my brothers for over 50 years. We received a superb education but we also had a good time. He did enjoy the journey. Most importantly, I met my wife on a blind date. Her sorority mother was dating a brother and Jacquie had just pledged. Yes, sometimes blind dates do work out. Jacque and Bill celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last April. They have three daughters and eight grandchildren. Who says blind dates never work out?”

Bill's hobbies include golf, walking, and attending performing arts events.
Brother Laconi was born May 20, 1938 in Butler, PA. Upon graduating from Butler High School in 1956 he was awarded track scholarships from both Indiana University and Michigan State. While at Indiana he broke several track records and was a Big Ten Champion and had a personal best in the 440 yard dash of 46.4. During his junior and senior years he was a Captain of the track team.

Reggie received a B.S. degree in 1961 in Physical Education from Indiana University. He also received a MS degree from Indiana State University in 1969 and an E.D.S. degree in School Administration from Indiana State University in 1976. From 1961-1974, brother Laconi was a teacher, football, and track coach at Sullivan High School in Sullivan, Indiana. He was then Assistant Superintendent of Schools from 1975-1980 and then Superintendent of Schools from 1981-1990 for Southwest School Corporation in Sullivan, Indiana. In 1990-1998, he became Superintendent of Schools in South Madison Community School Corporation in Pendleton, Indiana. From 1999 to present, he is an Educational Marketing Consultant for Stair Associates, Architects and Engineers.

Brother Laconi served as pledge trainer during his time with Beta Chapter. He also served on the Board of Directors and Past President of the Indiana Pupil Transportation Association, member of the Indiana Public Schools Superintendent Association; Past President of the Indiana Educational Development Council; served on the Indiana Department of Vocational Education Task Force; member of the Indiana School Business Officials; member of BPOE, Elks
911; Rotary International; Indiana University I-Men’s Association; Indiana University Varsity Club; served on the Board of Directors of the South Madison Community Foundation; served as President, Vice President and Chairman of the Board of the Indiana Senior Golf Association.

Reggie received the Balfour Award from Indiana University in track for bringing honor and distinction to Indiana University in 1961; was inducted into the Butler High School Hall of Fame in 1980; received the Sagamore of the Wabash Award from Governor Frank O’Bannon in 1998; was inducted into the Southwest Sullivan High School Hall of Fame for coaching football and track in 2002. He was honored as a 50 year I-Men from Indiana University in 2008.

Brother Laconi married Sandra Sarteschi on June 13, 1959 and they celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary this past June. They have four sons, Brad, Bruce, Lance, and Joe, who all are Indiana University graduates. They have eleven grandchildren and two are presently attending Indiana University, Lindsey, a junior, and Nick, a freshman. Reggie’s hobbies are golf and football. One of his most memorable experiences was “being invited to the Green Bay Packers Training Camp in 1967 for a place kicking tryout and meeting the great Vince Lombardi. We developed a relationship that enabled me to communicate with him on a regular basis until his death in 1970.”

Brother Laconi says “The Beta Chapter of Sigma Pi has played a significant role in my life since the time I walked into the house during rush. I was treated very special with kindness, fellowship, and caring. Originally from the suburbs of Butler, PA, a little town of Saxonburg, some 500 miles away, Sigma Pi was my first family away from home. The comforts of a family helping in any way they could. Even after Sandra and I were married and moved to campus, the Brothers were very instrumental in helping us adjust. While in college participating in track at other campuses, I was able to meet many other Sigma Pi athletes. Sigma Pi helped me to adjust from high school to adulthood and, without the support of my Beta Brothers, I would have been lost. Now that I have been out in the business world, I come across this camaraderie on a regular basis.”
After graduation from IU in the spring of 1969, Bill went on to get a degree in pharmacy and an MBA from Butler University. He joined the pharmaceutical firm, Eli Lilly and Company. During his twenty-seven years, Mr. McGinnis served in a variety of assignments. He was General Manager of business units for Eli Lilly and Guidant Corporation based in San Diego and Toronto. He served General Manager of the Diabetes Alliance between Eli Lilly Canada and Boehringer Mannheim Canada; Vice President of the Endocrine Business Unit of Eli Lilly Canada; and Segment Leader of Institutional Accounts for Eli Lilly USA.

After retiring from Eli Lilly And Company, Mr. McGinnis served as President and Chief Executive Officer of six early stage healthcare companies in the United States and Canada. Currently, he serves as Chief Executive Officer of Esclapeus Biopharmaceuticals.

Mr. McGinnis served on the Board of Directors of the London Ontario Economic Development Corporation and was a founding member of the London Life Sciences Council. He is a past member of the National Board of Directors of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Canada. Mr. McGinnis served as United Way Champaign Chair for Eli Lilly and Company in San Diego and Canada. He served on the Life Sciences Committee of Governor Tim Plenty in Minnesota. He had not visited the fraternity in almost 40 years. He began a year-long search to find some of the guys he knew back then. In the end he connected with nine individuals from his initiation class.
“My memories of Sigma Pi are wrapped up in these nine gentlemen. They represent the best of what every individual strives to be. Each has been devoted to family, community, church and his fellow human being. All have served in leadership roles in their personal and professional lives. They have all given back.”

“Most of us in this room have our stories about individuals who had an impact on our lives, many of them were teachers, mentors, friends, family—folks who listened to us when others didn’t want to, who refused to let us slide into mediocrity, or who inspired us simply through their own example of excellence. That is what these nine men, members of Sigma Pi, have done and continue to do.”

“These men are all testimonies to what I regard as the truest Sigma Pi tradition, the ability to care more about brothers’ success than anyone else does. It is born of teachers and mentors who present challenges, and then help us meet those challenges. These are not values that every fraternity embraces. But we persist in holding to them at Sigma Pi. We see them deeply rooted in our tradition and heritage, not because we are here to serve a particular belief but because that tradition so deeply respects human intellectual and spiritual potential. That, to me, is the core of Sigma Pi.”
Jeff Young pledged Sigma Pi in the spring of 1985 and graduated from Indiana University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science from the School of Environmental and Public Affairs. In 2002, Jeff received his MBA in Global Management from the University of Phoenix.

While at IU, he held various positions within the Beta Chapter including IU Sing Co-Chair and Vice President. He joined the Beta Chapter during the rebuilding years of 1984-1985. At that time, there were only 18 to 20 members and by his graduation the house was full.

After college, Jeff joined The Quaker Oats Company (and subsidiaries) and held various positions in their manufacturing and supply chain areas. Upon leaving Quaker, he moved to Tones Spices to turn around their two largest brands in the supply chain area. After this accomplishment, Jeff entered the global supply chain systems consulting field with the company, Manugistics, now JDA Software. The supply chain consulting field has allowed Jeff to work in many parts of the world including Singapore, China, England, France, Canada, Washington DC, and several other cities in the US. He continues his supply chain consulting work today through his own company, Young Landis LLC. He travels to various client sites Monday through Thursday most weeks of the year.

Jeff has been very active within his church in various areas including choir, drama, and participation in the contemporary service. He has
also served as chairman of the organizational realignment committee and as local chair of logistics for the Christian Church Disciples of Christ denomination’s bi-annual convention. In addition, he has volunteered for community events like the NCAA Final Four basketball tournament. He has been a member of Rotary, and is a member of the Masons and the Scottish Rite.

His volunteering attitude has benefited Sigma Pi. While living in Illinois after graduation, Jeff served as the Chapter Director for a year. In February 2009, Jeff volunteered to identify and coordinate renovations to the chapter house facility for the House Corp. This role turned into a more full time volunteer position when it was determined that Beta Chapter needed an Alumni Facility Manager to monitor and identify issues with the facility, while reporting to the House Corp. In the fall of 2009, Jeff also became an Alumni Chapter Advisor for the new Sigma Pi undergraduates and has enjoyed his time working with and getting to know the young men of the fraternity providing guidance via email and phone conversations as well as live planning meetings.

Jeff is married to Elizabeth Powell Young and has two children, Charles Philip (23 months) and Margaret Ann (5 weeks old). They live in Noblesville, Indiana.

When asked what Sigma Pi and Beta Chapter means to him, Jeff said “it gave me and the rest of the guys from the mid 1980s the opportunity to build something special, while creating great lifelong friendships. Some people may not understand it, but this fraternity is a family.”
2008 & 2009 Inductees

2008
Paul Hertenstein ’43
James Elrod ’47*
Don Willsey ’51
Gene Newcombe ’51
Dale Craig ’52*
Ron David ’58
Gilbert Mascher ’67
Jerry Mutchler ’69

2009
George Buckingham ’60
Gordon Durnil ’60
Dan Wilcox ’71
Matthew Parmenter ’73

*Ad Astra