

# The Oriole FIJI

## Beta Mu Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta

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Johns Hopkins University – Spring 2025

### Chapter Update

The Beta Mu Chapter has had a remarkable year of growth, achievement, and brotherhood. We began the spring by welcoming a new pledge class, with brothers joining us from across the country and around the world.

Athletically, FIJI brothers played pivotal roles in Johns Hopkins' athletic success, helping capture an eighth Centennial Conference title in track and field and a back-to-back title for the soccer team. On the national stage, **Chakor Rajendra (2027)** earned ITA All-American honors in tennis, finishing the season ranked in the top-25 singles players in the country. Beta Mu brothers also distinguished themselves professionally. This year, seniors and undergrads alike secured highly competitive internships and jobs at organizations such as Google, Amazon, NASA, and Capital One. We are especially proud of Brother **Dayann D'Almeida (2025)**, who will be joining Google full-time as a Software Engineer in New York after graduation.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank Brother **Ethan Insler (2027)** for his dedicated service as Chapter President over the past year. His leadership and commitment to FIJI have left a lasting mark on the Chapter as we continue to build momentum under our new cabinet, led by President **Chakor Rajendra (2027)**. As we look ahead, we remain focused on strengthening our undergraduate and graduate brotherhood, celebrating the accomplishments of our members, and carrying forward the values of Phi Gamma Delta at Johns Hopkins. Perge!

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### SKIJI



Last November we teamed up with Phi Kappa Psi for SKIJI, our joint Après Ski party celebrating the Jefferson Duo Partnership that founded our two fraternities. The photo above shows a group of brothers at the after party, this time without the ski attire but still marking one of the semester's most memorable nights.

### Formal



This year's FIJI formal was held at Zen West in Towson, a great night of food, music, and brotherhood. Pictured here are **Alex Tellez (2027)**, **Ethan Insler (2027)**, **Madjid Dahmar (2027)**, and **Bryan Braga (2027)** with their dates – suited up for the occasion, which might be the only time you'll catch this group in jackets and ties.

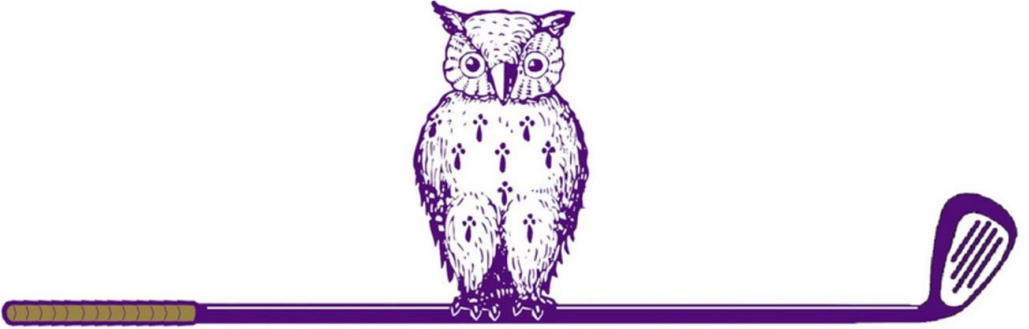
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### Islander 2025

Beta Mu Brothers, both young and old, gathered on the Beach on Homewood Campus (aka Fiji Island) after a Jays OT lacrosse game against Ohio State during Homecoming weekend. This year's Islander raised \$1800 for Alex's Lemonade Stand, a charity fighting childhood cancer. It was great catching up with Graduate Brothers at Islander, and we hope to host even more next year!

# Graduate Brother News



We're putting together a Johns Hopkins Phi Gamma Delta golf outing on Friday, September 19th in Baltimore—and we'd love for you to be part of it!

Friday, September 19th  
Forest Park Golf Course  
2900 Hillsdale Rd, Baltimore, MD 21207  
Tee times start at 12pm

- Open to all Beta Mu Graduate and Current Brothers
- Casual, fun, and a great chance to reconnect
- All skill levels welcome – rental clubs available

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Mark your calendars

Hopkins has announced that the 2026 Homecoming will be the weekend of April 17<sup>th</sup>!

Please email [jhuphigams@gmail.com](mailto:jhuphigams@gmail.com) if you are going.

## Senior Spotlight



**Dayann D'Almeida (2025)**, born in France and raised in Cotonou, Benin before moving to Bowie, MD, graduates from Johns Hopkins with Honors in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Cognitive Science.

During his time at Hopkins, he worked as a researcher in the Whiting School of Engineering, served as a course assistant and later lead course assistant for Intermediate Programming, and mentored high-achieving, low-income high school students through Matriculate. Outside FIJI, Dayaan was a member of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and Theta Tau Engineering Fraternity. Professionally, Dayann gained experience at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab and spent two summers at Google – first as a STEP intern and later as a Software Engineering intern – before accepting a full-time role as a Software Engineer at Google in New York.

Reflecting on his time in the fraternity, Dayann shared: “*FIJI gave me a real community at Hopkins, and I’ll always value the friendships I made here. Google’s lucky to have a few of us.*”

We are very proud of him and look forward to all he will accomplish.

## Congrats to the following Brothers for securing jobs and internships this year:

**Blaise Colberg (2026)** – Genworth  
*Actuarial Development Program Intern*

**Bryan Santana (2026)** – Capital One  
*Software Engineering Intern*

**Daniel Collum (2026)** – Amazon  
*Area Manager Intern*

**Pranav Kaginele (2027)** – Garnaut Global  
*Intern*

**Alex Kroumov (2027)** – Minerva Neurotech  
*Data Science Intern*

**Carter Chui (2027)** – Pava Center for Entrepreneurship  
*Strategic Consultant*

**Chakor Rajendra (2027)** – Doner  
*Strategy and Ad Ops*

**David Benjamin (2027)** – NASA  
*Software Engineering Intern*

**Joseph Gonzaludo (2027)** – NASA  
*Software Engineering Intern*

**Justin Blumenthal (2027)** – Event Medical Solutions  
*Emergency Medical Technician*

**Kiran Shay (2027)** – Delineo Disease Modeling  
*Simulation Team Engineer*

**Spencer Irwin (2027)** – University of Singapore  
*Research Intern*

**Daniel Dobin (2028)** – Kennedy Krieger Institute  
*Clinical Assistant*

**Krishay Goyal (2028)** – Johns Hopkins Hospital  
*Systems Biology Intern*

**Alastair Thompson (2028)** – Ziegler  
*Investment Banking Analyst*

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## Student Athlete Spotlight

### Track and Field



With **Ted Richards (2026)**, **Owen Takahashi (2027)**, **Carter Chui (2027)**, and **Daniel “Dobby” Dobin (2028)** leading the charge, our track program powered its way to Johns Hopkins’ eighth Centennial Conference Outdoor Track & Field Championship, clinching the title with eight medals and a dominating performance across events.

Off the track, excellence continued in the classroom: Owen Takahashi (Economics) and Carter Chui (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering) earned coveted Academic All-Centennial Conference honors, while the team as a whole landed on the Spring Academic Honor Roll. And on the national stage, our Blue Jays maintained a stellar 3.63 team GPA, earning USTFCCA All-Academic Team honors – marking the fifth straight year of GPA-standing at 3.60 or higher. Pictured above is Ted Richards hitting his stride (left) and a team photo of the conference champions (right).

Together, they exemplify the FIJI values of perseverance and excellence, and we are very proud of them.

## Soccer



Beta Mu brothers **Jacob Sardinha (2027)**, **Simon Turner (2027)**, **Lucas Hammond (2027)**, and **Turner Orvin (2026)** stand proud as part of the Blue Jays' back-to-back Centennial Conference Championship – a hard-fought victory decided in penalty kicks over Muhlenberg this past November. The team is pictured above (right) celebrating the win.

Jacob “Deanio” Sardinha (Midfield), earned a spot on the Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll last season. Simon Turner (Goalkeeper), stepping up between the posts, also earned Academic Honor Roll recognition and was named Defensive Player of the Week in late October after a stellar performance, marked by nine saves in a win over Franklin & Marshall squad. Simon is pictured above (left) mid-save. Turner Orvin (Midfield) likewise joined the Academic Honor Roll, contributing key minutes and an assist that set up a game-winning goal.

## Tennis



**Chakor Rajendra (2027)**, pictured above, has had a standout year on and off the court. Chakor, who is also the new president of the fraternity, earned ITA All-American honors in singles, reaching as high as 9th in the national rankings and finishing the season in the top-25. He also advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Singles Championship and was named CSC Academic All-District.

With his leadership and competitive drive, Chakor continues to set the standard for FIJI student-athletes at Hopkins.

## Fencing



FIJI brothers **Ethan Insler (2027)**, **Alastair Thompson (2028)**, and **Vir Gogoi (2028)** helped carry Hopkins to victory for its third straight Mid-Atlantic Conference (MACFA) Championship title.

Insler, former FIJI president and the 2024 USFCA Epee Co-Newcomer of the Year, earned his 100th career win at the Philadelphia Invitational and went 12-2 to tie for third at the MACFA Championships. Thompson (pictured above) went 5-0 at the JHU Invitational, swept all nine of his bouts at MACFA B vs. C, and placed 27th at NCAA Regionals. Gogoi posted 11 wins at MACFA B vs. C and added eight victories at the Vassar Invitational.

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## 2025 Newly Initiated Brothers

**Alastair Thompson** – London, UK  
*Economics and Public Health*

**Connor Feng** – San Diego, CA  
*Public Health*

**Daniel Dobin** – Long Island, NY  
*Neuroscience*

**Krishay “Krish” Kotihbaskhar** – Jaipur, India  
*Chemical and Biomedical Engineering*

**Vir Gogoi** – Northville, MI  
*Electrical Engineering*

**William Bowers** – Seattle, WA  
*Molecular and Cellular Biology*

**Daniel Lee** – Atlanta, GA  
*Chemical and Biomedical Engineering*

# Graduate Brother News

## Jimmy Receives Distinguished Service Award



**James "Jimmy the Fish" Del Monaco (2001)**, was honored with the ASHRAE (the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers) Distinguished Service Award at the Phoenix Annual Meeting. This honor reflects his extensive service to ASHRAE and the industry.

## Graduate Brothers on the River



**Brent Ricks (1971)** met up with **Eric Smith (1969)** in Bluff, Utah this May. Brent was setting out on a four-day river run, while Eric was camping and hiking in Canyonlands National Park. Eric made the drive into Bluff to join Brent and his crew for dinner, swapping stories and catching up before the adventures ahead.



## Class of '75 Graduate Brothers Reunited at Alumni Weekend

**D. Craig Blizzard (1975)** and **Phil Driscoll (1975)** caught up this April during their 50th JHU class reunion at Homewood, part of Alumni Weekend which hosted the Blue Jays' lacrosse game against Ohio State. As Craig reflected: *"Brother Phil Driscoll '75 and I had a great time attending our JHU class of 1975 50th reunion this past April at Homewood! We missed seeing all our other JHU Fiji '75 Brothers. Perge!"*

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## Reflections from an OG FIJI

"Thanks Beta Mu and Phi Gamma Delta. Without you I would not have been able to graduate from Johns Hopkins. During my sophomore year I was debarred from classes and kicked out of the dorms because my parents had financial problems. Fortunately, I was able to move into the Fiji house for \$10 per month and get a job at Sears, 20 hours per week at \$1 per hour. This enabled me to continue my education. In my junior year I was house manager (free room) and started a food plan. I took seven courses the first semester and eight the second. In my senior year I was Treasurer, free room and dues.

I was the first Asian Fiji to be initiated before they changed the fraternity laws barring non-whites in 1958.

I retired as a Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve and as Executive Vice President with Kaufman and Broad Home Systems, a manufactured housing company.

Thanks again, Beta Mu. The opportunities I was afforded by Phi Gamma Delta made it possible for me to complete my degree at JHU."

**David Shigekawa (1959)**

# Graduate Brother News

## Cheech's Annual Summer Bash



Brothers gathered in June for Steve "Cheech" Cicchino's annual summer reunion in Kennett Square, PA

Row 1: **Larry Hochberg (1992) and Cheech**

Row 2: Fred Conroy and Lou Giangulio

Row 3: Chris Chirieleison, Mark Dressel and Tom Wojack

Row 4: Emmett Harkins and **Mike McGarvey (1990)**

## Bouloubassis gets married

Several brothers attended **George Bouloubassis'** wedding in Washington DC on April 4th, 2025. From l. to r. **Alex Donovan (2018), Daniel Camous (2017), Bryan Riccardi (2016), George Bouloubassis (2016), Patrick Tilson (2016), and Kyle Spangler (2016)**



## Showing off the new house



Tony Golsorkhi hosted Rick Rauschmeier and Danny Organek for dinner at his recently renovated home in San Francisco in mid-July.

l. to r. **Rick Rauschmeier (1994), Danny Organek (1994) and Tony Golsorkhi (1994)**

## From the FIJI Archives



Freshmen year picture of self-proclaimed studs **Dan Blynn (2000)** and **John Del Monaco (2000)**. Dan and John would go on to glory both on the soccer field and in their second floor love nest at 344 East 33rd St.

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## New Leadership

Chapter President: Chakor Rajendra (2027)

Cabinet: Ian Park (2027), Alex Tellez (2027), Alastair Thompson (2028), Will Bowers (2028), Daniel Lee (2028), Daniel Dobin (2028), Rushil Srirambha (2028)

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## Continuing our Momentum

As always, Beta Mu wants to enhance our connection with the Graduate Brothers. Please visit [www.OrioleFiji.com](http://www.OrioleFiji.com) to:

- Donate to the Chapter
- Share a Graduate update or an old memory
- Get more involved in Chapter involvement or career networking