



Alumni Newsletter March 2022

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Sigma Phi Epsilon

Alumni Newsletter for May 2022

- **Spotlight on Fred Karlinsky 89'**
- **Fall 2022 Sigma Phi Epsilon Alumni Reunion**
- **Where are they now**
- **Who am I**

Fred Karlinsky Class of 02'



Fred and Autumn Karlinsky

The Florida Gamma chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon has many distinguished alumni. In this issue we highlight one who is not only extremely active with the chapter but is also accomplished in his profession and in the community at large, Fred Karlinsky, University of Miami class of 1989. Fred attended private and public schools in Miami and then matriculated to the U. Fred Karlinsky or as he was affectionately nicknamed by his fellow brothers - 'Derfinski' or "Linski" was introduced to SigEp by one of his best friends not only then but still to this day - Barry Kates. Fred put it best that "SigEp seemed like a place that people wanted to be. I was a very serious and ambitious person even back then and, during that time, SigEp was not only serious about being the best fraternity on campus, with very high goals set for GPA, student government, athletics, etc, but SigEp was an extremely fun experience for its Brother's as well. That is what pushed me to pledge my sophomore year."



Fred, Barry Kates, Bobby Scotland, and Sebastian
At The Wastco Center The U Basketball

During his time at the U, Karlinsky was known for being an extremely active member of a number of U organizations. Fred was the Anheuser-Busch campus representative — the ‘Bud Man’ — a position that Barry Kates passed down to Fred once Barry graduated. This is a position that Fred 3 years later would pass down to his SigEp and actual brother, Lee Karlinsky. Fred also chaired the Rathskeller advisory board that brought talent like Jerry Seinfeld, other comedians, and bands to the U. In addition to his role with the Rat, Fred was also a member of the U student government Senate and a Justice on the U Supreme Court. Based in part on his roles and interactions with the U’s administration, Karlinsky would act as an informal liaison for SigEp to the administration. Karlinsky’s early advocacy skills were called on to help get SigEp out of hot water with the administration on a number of occasions, benefitting SigEp greatly. During Fred’s SigEp undergraduate years, we elected Brothers Joe Garcia and Bill Barzee Student Body Government presidents. Fred was instrumental in both of their elections as well as other elections that benefitted SigEp.



Some of Fred's favorite memories were the Friday nights after the Brothers Chapter Meetings. Back then the Chapters would have a weekly meeting at 4:30pm at the suite and once it was over EVERY ONE of the Brothers and Pledges would go to the Rat for Happy Hour! There would be 100 SigEp amongst the 400 – 500 students there. An avid 'Canes fan, Karlinsky was known to never miss a single football game during the glory days of football at the U while he was in school. Like Barry Kates, he also spent several years producing "The Jimmy Johnson Show" while in school. When asked how Sigma Phi Epsilon contributed to his time at the University of Miami, Karlinsky stated that the brotherhood he formed while in school has truly lasted him a lifetime. "SigEp gave me brothers who I still know and trust. Brothers who care about me and that I care very much about to this day". To Karlinsky, there are never any pretenses. Fred said "whenever we all get together, no matter the successes or the pitfalls of everybody's lives, we act as if we were just together the day before and it's 1988 all over again. I love that." He is jubilant over the brotherhood, true friendship, and camaraderie that as a Brother of SigEp Florida Gamma Chapter; sharing experiences that can be talked about 30 years later like they happened

yesterday. The recent Michigan State SigEp Alumni reunion last September has shown him that the virtue, diligence, and brotherly love of Sigma Phi Epsilon is truly a lifelong gift.



Fred, Autumn, Allie and Spencer

After his time on Biscayne's wondrous shores, Fred attended Law School at Florida State University where he attained a very prestigious and competitive internship in the State of Florida House of Representatives. From there Fred, although never looking for a public political office, has ingrained himself into political arenas. Not only long-time friends with many state and federal political leaders, he counts both Senator Rick Scott and Senator Marco Rubio as longtime friends. Fred also has been a regulatory and transactional attorney for many years representing insurance companies and their interests. This role has allowed Fred to travel extensively over the past 30 years. For the last 8 years, Fred has served the State of Florida as a member of the for Judicial Nomination Committee for the Florida Supreme Court, which he currently chairs. Fred also served on the 2017/2018 Constitution Revision Commission for the State of Florida. Fred is a shareholder in the international law firm Greenberg Traurig and serves as Global Chair of its Insurance

Regulatory and Transactions Practice. Fred is a member of the firm's Executive Committee and primarily works out of the firm's Ft Lauderdale and Tallahassee offices.



Fred speaking on the Senate Floor

Fred has lived in Weston, Florida for the past 23 years with his wife Autumn, and their 2 children. Their daughter Allie is currently a freshman at FSU and their son Spencer is a sophomore at American Heritage High School who aspires to study Architecture at The U.



Fred and his family with Sen. Rick Scott

This spotlight is one of dedication, commitment, and determination. Truly a balanced man, Fred helped to elevate the Florida Gamma Chapter, along with every organization that he has been a part of throughout his life. When asked what advice he would give to current SigEp Brothers in school, he said to “work hard and be serious about all of your ambitions, while simultaneously balancing the fun. Take full advantage of the freedom, and the many opportunities that come with a strong brotherhood and alumni. Networking has been extremely important in my experiences; the world is a circular place where who you know is often more important than what you know. Most importantly when you get into business – give value to your customer. If you always add value, you will have a customer for life.” Fred Karlinsky’s deeds and acumen have never ended. He is truly a lifelong brother and friend to all of us accepted into the SigEp fold.



Fred Karlinsky Class of 89'

**2022 Sigma Phi Epsilon Alumni Reunion Weekend
Scheduled for November 4, 5 and 6**

It's the Florida State Game – Homecoming Weekend

Please circle that date on your calendar and make plans to be in Miami that weekend.
It's going to be **EPIC!!!**

Where are they now

Barry Fink “Binky” 87’

I am in Marina Del Ray, CA

Television Proiducer

“35 years flies by...”

?Who am I?



I do the last thing anyone thought I would end up doing when I went to The U

Favorite day of the year is St. Patrick's Day

I bust everyone's balls and they love it!

The 2022 Chapter Executive Board – Thank you brothers for your service to the chapter.

Sonny Stevenson - President, Philadelphia, PA, Class of 23' sjs365@miami.edu

Gavin McKenna - VP Programming, Medford, NJ, Class of 24' gpm49@miami.edu

Kyle Pearson - VP Finance, Stamford, CT, Class of 24' kxp691@miami.edu

Connor Fox - VP Member Development, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ, Class of 24' cxf635@miami.edu

Massimo Feroce - VP Recruitment, Cranston, RI, Class of 24' maf45223@miami.edu

Max Ackerson - VP Communications, Louisville, KY, Class of 24' mwa38@miami.edu
Arya Sandella - Chaplain, Louisville, KY, Class of 24' ans218@miami.edu
Anthony Mesi - Prior Year Chapter President – Park Ridge, Chicago. Class of 22' -
amm687@miami.edu

Closing Remarks

What a pleasure sitting in on the spotlight interview with Carlos Curbelo last month. Carlos created a huge dilemma for me back in 2015. Fellow Brother Joe Garcia 87' was running for re-election against Carlos, truth be told I was rooting for Joe because he and I were in the chapter at the same time, but for SigEp it was a Win – Win. Carlos won that election and served 2 terms, from 2013-2019 SigEp Florida Gamma was represented in the United States House of Representatives, and I find that to be very cool. Carlos Curbelo has done so much in such a short time and was wonderful to hear about his experiences both in SigEp as well as afterwards. Also we held an amazing event at the end of February, a group of Alumni spoke at the 1st SigEp Florida Gamma Career Roundtable. A motivated group of undergrads, I say this because when I was 20 years old at the U on Saturdays at 10am I was usually just waking up, these SigEp brothers showed up in force and the event went extremely well. A huge thank you goes out to all of the Alumni who organized and spoke at this what will be an annual Chapter Alumni event. Lastly for fun I have included 2 new sections in the Newsletter

Where am I now

?Who am I?

Enjoy the Newsletters and Spotlights.

H.F.F.

Bobby B.J. Scotland 90'

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Past Alumni Spotlights

May 2021 - Jim Schneider (RIP) Class of 70'

July 2021 - Barry Kates Class of 87'
August 2021 – Jose “Pepi” Diaz 02'
September 2021 – Alumni Reunion Weekend Information
October 2021 – Alumni Reunion Weekend Recap/Photos
November 2021 – Col. USAF Bob Bilik 63', Col. Army Chuck Samaris 88'
& 2nd Lt USMC Brett O'Connell 21'
February 2022 - Rob Finizio 94'
March 2022 – Carlos Curbello 02'