

The Iota Iota Messenger

SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA | EST. 1876

SPRING 2022

TAKING THE PATH LESS TRAVELED

Entrepreneur David Kiger '85 Commends Iota Iota for Kickstarting His Future

If you would have asked the undergraduate version of **David Kiger '85** what he planned to do after college, he never would have guessed he would be where he's at now. As a successful entrepreneur and investor, David credits Iota Iota Chapter for opening doors to learn, take risks, and excel.



"Being in Sigma Chi certainly helped me get hired for my first job out of college," David began. "It turned out that the vice president of sales with American Hospital Supply Corporation was a Sigma Chi, so it set in motion the events that would take me to where I am today."

In the mid-2000s, David started a company called Worldwide Express. Like many entrepreneurs can account, no business is smooth sailing all the time. The financial crisis of 2008 jeopardized the state of the company, creating devastation across the board; when one of their largest clients left, Worldwide Express's sales dropped from \$300 million to \$150 million in six weeks.

"I had to find a replacement or risk going out of business. So, after several feverish trips to meet with FedEx and UPS, I ended up signing a deal with UPS; in turn, this partnership saved the

company. That contract is the bedrock of our company to this day," David elaborated.

David recalls the experience of potentially losing something he worked so eagerly toward as brutal. "I hope nobody has to experience that type of stress," he added. Nearly 15 years later, however, Worldwide Express is thriving: "When I started this venture, I had no idea it would become a \$4 billion company employing more than 3,000 people," he explained.

Recently, David started a Bitcoin mining company, Blockmetrix.com. "We are the fastest-growing Bitcoin miner in the U.S., and we plan to go public in the next 12 to 18 months," David shared. He actively invests in companies, such as edge computing and insurance technology. Some of his Iota Iota brothers have invested in the venture as well. Taking advantage of opportunities has taught David what it means to excel in business, to root for the underdog, and especially to create meaningful interactions with peers.

Being in a fraternity with a high reputation for producing a multitude of bold, upstanding gentlemen, David learned the importance of diversity and varying perspectives. "Engaging in interactions with people of different temperaments, talents, and convictions is something I learned early in my time at Iota Iota," David expressed. "I've kept that thought in mind as I've pursued entrepreneurial endeavors throughout my life."

When he's not spearheading business strategies, David enjoys adding to his car collection, running, going to the gym, and prioritizing his well-being. Turning 60 this September ("I still feel at the top of my game!"), David has taken time to reflect on how his path led him here: "I thought I would be a lawyer like my father—which would have been just fine—but I took the path less traveled, and that made all the difference."

To learn more about David and his vast experience as an entrepreneur, you can connect with him at davidkiger1@gmail.com.

DAVID'S ADVICE TO YOUNGER ALUMNI?

Put effort into friendships you create at Iota Iota—brotherhood lasts a lifetime.

Utilize Sigma Chi's guiding principles as a foundation for your life after college.

Take advantage of the time you have with brothers.



Iota Iota would like to congratulate Brother **Joseph Tucker '23** (center) for being tapped into the 109th Class of Jasons Men's Honorary! Also pictured are Brothers **Will Stiers '22** (right) and **Ryan Shamblin '22** (left), members of the 108th class! Congratulations on this great honor—and thank you for representing us so well.



Congratulations to Brother **Jack Pierson '22** right and his team for winning first place in the Edward K. Aldag Business Plan Competition and receiving \$5,000! Jack is the Chief Financial Officer of Banded, a blockchain technology startup company. With more than 40 pitches total, Jack and his team were placed in the grand prize room flight, the highest level, after their initial pitch-to-pitch in person at the EDGE in front of a panel of judges, followed by a 15-minute Q&A. Banded is halfway through development and is expected to be finished by August. Congratulations, Jack, and keep up the good work!

The Iota Iota Messenger

Stay Connected
with Iota Iota!



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ANNOUNCING YOUR 2022 INTRAMURAL 4V4 FLAG FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS:



Fraternity Champions – Sigma Chi
Women's Champions – AOPi

Men's Champions – Team D1 Rejects
Co-Rec Champions – Theta Tau

Shout-out to all our teams who participated this season and made it a great one!

FALL 2022 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

9/3	vs.	Utah State
9/10	at	Texas
9/17	vs.	ULM
9/24	vs.	Vanderbilt
10/1	at	Arkansas
10/8	vs.	Texas A&M
10/15	at	Tennessee
10/22	vs.	Mississippi State
11/5	at	LSU
11/12	at	Ole Miss
11/19	vs.	Austin Peay
11/26	vs.	Auburn

Update Your Biographical Information And Tell Us What You've Been Up to!

This The Iota Iota Messenger newsletter includes a bio update insert. Please review the information we currently have for you; if it has changed or if we are missing any info, please fill out the form and return it to us as soon as possible. You have the option of mailing the form back via USPS or returning it digitally. Check the insert for more detailed instructions.

We would also like to hear about what you've been up to! News items about you and your Iota Iota Chapter brothers could be included in the alumni news section of our next newsletter.

As an effort to update our alumni records so we can better serve our members, Iota Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi at The University of Alabama is asking you to review the current information listed on this form. If you need to update this information, please cross out the old and write the new below.

Iota Iota Q&A

Please answer the questions below about your bio info. To help us keep our records in the most recent of the Iota Iota bio database, please answer the following questions:

What three words come to mind when you think about Sigma Chi?

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What are your favorite memories from being at the chapter from earlier in your life? (Please list 3-5 items with Sigma Chi brothers at The University of Alabama)

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