# Lambda Lyre

Lambda Chapter of Kappta Delta Rho * University of California, Berkeley * Summer 2026

lambdaofkdr@gmail.com | www.calkdr.com | IG: @cal_kdr


## In This Issue:


Founders Day Banquet Witnesses Great Turnout at Faculty Club .....1

Annual Meeting Elects Alumni Board for 2026-2027.....2

Congressional Bill Would Help Fraternity Housing Corporations.....4

Consul Statement – Lambda, UC Berkeley.....5

Alumni Seek Minutes, Lyres.....6

From the President.....6

Lambda Chapter Eternal.....7

Scholarships.....8

## FOUNDERS DAY BANQUET WITNESSES GREAT TURNOUT AT FACULTY CLUB

*Special to the* Lambda Lyre

Forty-three Lambdas assembled at the Faculty Club's O'Neill Room for the Founders Day Banquet and annual meeting of the alumni corporation on Friday, April 17. Except for 2024's Centennial Banquet, this was the best turnout in many years. Doors to an adjoining room even had to be opened to accommodate the overflow. Alumni from as far back as 1956 (Bill Jump) attended with every decade since then represented.

As an hour-long concert rang from the Campanile before dinner, brothers enjoyed libations outside on the Kerr Deck in the cool of the evening. Back inside, they feasted on very large New York strip steaks, salmon, and ravioli.

Before the corporation's business meeting, Consul Brady Suburu '27 conducted a slide presentation reviewing the chapter's year and reported on prospects for 2026-2027.

The financial viability of the chapter is not ensured. The alumni corporation has been subsidizing the collegiate brothers but cannot continue to do this for much longer, as was learned later in the evening in the alumni treasurer's report. Much depends upon a very successful fall rush and a good number of brothers and pledges living in the house in the fall.

According to Suburu, there are currently 20 actives with the spring pledge class having been inducted only the night before. Of those, four are graduating in May and two will be abroad in the fall.

His projected best case for the fall is 11 brothers living in with one boarder. Realistically, he sees five brothers living in the house with five boarders. The chapter is actively rushing current Cal students and is even in touch with international students in Sweden who were initiated into Lambda in 2025 to promote Kappa Delta Rho among other Swedes who will be studying at Berkeley in the future.

In response to a question about football game day social activities, he said that he is in discussions with Vitaliy Belevich '08 about the schedule for gin fix breakfasts before home football games and gatherings at the house after the games. The undergraduates are also considering season parking passes.

During the corporation's annual meeting, brothers hear the report of Jonathan Gray '05, who has been serving a treasurer for 22 years.

He was candid. "Currently, the financial health of the alumni corporation has reached the most precarious point" he has seen.

This is in part due to a “combination of required mediations to serious house issues, increased insurance costs, and two years of lower-than-expected live-in occupancy.”

While he would definitely prefer a full house in the fall, at least 14 occupied rooms will “put us onto a healthier trajectory” to rebuild the treasury.

Monroe McBride ’76 reported that the Lambda Scholarship Fund, managed by the Kappa Delta Rho Foundation, is on the verge of being able to grant stipends to students from Lambda. The threshold is $25,000. As of April 14, the balance had reached $20,952.54. All donations to the scholarship fund are tax deductible.

Two alumni—Chris Harley ’74 and Piotr Kula ’10—each announced their commitment to match the first $2,500 in donations received from the date of the banquet through June 30.

Donations may be made at https://www.kdr.com/donate/annual-fund/. The page is very user friendly. In the designation field, from the menu choose “Lambda Chapter Scholarship.”

## ANNUAL MEETING ELECTS ALUMNI BOARD FOR 2026-2027

*Special to the* Lambda Lyre

Simon Grille ’08 was unanimously reelected president of the alumni corporation at the annual meeting of Lambda of Kappa Delta Rho, Inc. during the Founders Day Banquet.

Other officers and senators with expiring terms were also reelected, with outgoing alumnus Adviser Brian Kawahara ’08 switching places with Senator Tim Maloney ’11, whose term did not expire until 2029. Chris Harley ’74 and Guillermo Murga ’08 were chosen to fill respectively the unexpired terms of John Nipp ’18 and Max Gilchrist ’21, both of whom had stepped down.

The Board of Directors for 2026-2027 is made up thusly:

| | |
|---|---|
| **President** | Simon Grille ‘08 |
| **Vice President** | Piotr Kula ‘10 |
| **Secretary** | Monroe McBride ’76 |
| **Treasurer** | Jonathan Gray ‘05 |
| **Alumnus Adviser** | Tim Maloney ‘11 |
| **Senator (2027)** | Tomas Eggers ‘03 |
| **Senator (2027)** | Chris Harley ‘74 |
| **Senator (2028)** | Guillermo Murga ‘08 |
| **Senator (2028)** | Jacob Strelnikov ‘18 |
| **Senator (2029)** | Chris Sanchez ‘19 |
| **Senator (2029)** | Brian Kawahara ‘08 |
| **Senator (2030)** | Vitaliy Belevich ‘08 |
| **Senator (2030)** | Noah Menz ‘25 |

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## CONGRESSIONAL BILL WOULD HELP FRATERNITY HOUSING CORPORATIONS

*Special to the* Lambda Lyre

The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act (HR 2355), if adopted, would enable donors to gift amounts to a body such as Kappa Delta Rho Foundation for the benefit of Lambda's housing corporation. The bill was introduced in March 2025.

It currently sits in the Houe of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, where it has sat since its introduction.

This is a bipartisan measure. Although introduced by a House Republican, there are 20 cosponsors, including seven Democrats. It is an initiative of the Fraternity and Sorority Political Action Committee (FSPAC), which has seen a couple of other of its proposals become law in recent years.

In introducing the bill last year, Representative Blake Moore, R-Utah, said, "While I consider high school my 'glory days,' my collegiate years were among the most formative of my life, and I want to ensure students across the nation are able to get the most out of their experiences without feeling burdened by housing costs. This commonsense legislation amends the tax code to allow non-profit organizations to provide quality student housing, enhancing students' affordable options, lowering their student loans, and removing financial barriers to higher education."

Moore's website observes, "Non-profit organizations, including fraternities and sororities, provide affordable housing to over 400,000 students nationwide, and yet the current tax code treats these organizations differently than other non-profits, disallowing donations from being tax deductible and limiting housing options.

Readers are urged to contact their representatives and senators to move this measure through the approval process and to the president's desk. If not passed by the end of the current Congress, the measure would die and have to be reintroduced in the new Congress that convenes in January

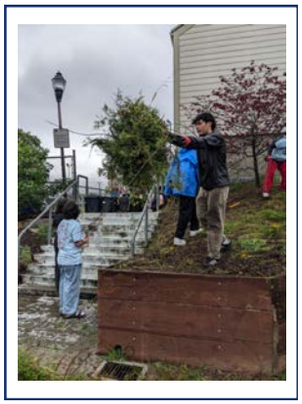
# CONSUL STATEMENT – LAMBDA, UC BERKELEY

*by Brady Suburu Consul, Lambda Chapter Kappa Delta Rho*
*Fraternity University of California, Berkeley*

To the Alumni of Kappa Delta Rho, Lambda Chapter, It is an honor to serve as Consul of our chapter and to contribute to the continued legacy of Kappa Delta Rho at UC Berkeley, a legacy that has remained strong since the founding in 1924. As we reflect on this past year, I am proud to share the progress we have made in strengthening our brotherhood, deepening our campus involvement, and building toward a sustainable future for the chapter.

This year, our brothers remained committed to service and engagement within the Berkeley community. We were proud to participate in the Berkeley Project, contributing to local community service efforts that align with our fraternity's longstanding values of service and leadership. Additionally, we strengthened our collaboration with the Interfraternity Council, working collectively to uphold and improve the standards of Greek life on campus.

One of our most impactful initiatives was our involvement with PartySafe@Cal. Throughout the Fall semester during game days, and again in the Spring during major campus events such as St. Patrick's Day and Cal Day, our brothers helped provide water and promote student safety. These efforts not only supported the well-being of the broader student body but also demonstrated KDR's commitment to responsible leadership and community care.



This year's Cal Day was especially successful for our chapter, serving as both a recruitment opportunity and a chance to showcase the values and culture of KDR to prospective members and the wider campus community. Equally meaningful was our Banquet Dinner on April 17th, the day prior. The presence and support of our alumni made a lasting impression on our newer members, reinforcing the strength of our network and inspiring our younger brothers to carry forward the legacy of the house.

Looking ahead, our focus is on growth and sustainability. We currently have 20 active brothers, with four graduating this semester. As we prepare for the Fall, recruitment and house occupancy are our top priorities. We are actively engaging with a strong pool of potential new members, with two individuals already committed to both rushing and living in the house. Our goal is not only to increase numbers but to bring in individuals who embody the values and long-term vision of Kappa Delta Rho.

We remain committed to building a chapter that honors its history while continuing to evolve with purpose. Your continued support, involvement, and guidance are invaluable as we work to strengthen the foundation for future generations of KDR at Berkeley.

## FALL 2026 CAL FOOTBALL PARKING

Collegiates will be offering parking spaces at the Chapter House. To coordinate parking, please reach out to us at **lambdaofkdr@gmail.com.**

## ALUMNI SEEK MINUTES, LYRES

The alumni corporation asks the help of alumni to make its records as complete as possible by furnishing copies of minutes from corporation board and annual meetings as well as copies of the *Lambda Lyre*. Currently, minutes from prior to 1970 are missing and there is a large gap from 1990 until 2010. The alumni corporation has no issues of the Lyre from before 1973 except for a stray number from 1946.

Alumni having any missing minutes or Lyres are asked to mail them to **Secretary Monroe McBride, 6377 West Antelope Flat Way, Herriman, UT 84096** or to e-mail scanned copies to him **atmonroemcbride@gmail.com.**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*By Simon Grille '08*

After recolonizing a couple years ago, our fraternity finds itself at another inflection point. There are six live-in brothers this fall and a handful of live-outs. Most of the actives are upperclassmen. While these men continue to impress with their commitment to our shared values, successful recruitment will depend on contributions from all of us. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to lambdaofkdr@gmail.com.

The actives have shown quite a bit of initiative over the past couple years and through this summer. Sonny Casteel (consul) and Noah Heiderscheidt (quaestor) have been leading meetings over the summer to plan for rush. Joey Leadon has organized an active-alumni workday at the house on August 23. I encourage you to attend if you are able. The chapter remains in good standing with the university and the national fraternity. Nathan Matthews (active) and Monroe McBride (alumni) will attend the National Convention this year. I know they will represent us well, and we will benefit from the things they learn.

On the alumni end, Tim Maloney has stepped up as summer house manager and kept the house in excellent condition. Piotr Kula has kept the house fully stocked with table games and other essential equipment. Vitaliy Belevich has revived our dormant Lambda Lyre. Critically, Noah Menz has spearheaded efforts to fill empty rooms with much-needed tenants and has done an excellent job of it. Thanks to these brothers and everyone who continues to contribute.

We have a good thing going here. We fuel it by staying connected. So, reach out to your brothers, grab a coffee, and embellish some stories.

# LAMBDA CHAPTER ETERNAL

*In Memory*

**Luke O. Brubaker '42**
Passed away on March 22, 2015 at Hemet, California

**Jose Filloy**
Passed away in 1989 in Costa Rica

**Joseph Suta**
Passed away on September 18, 2020 at Walnut Creek, California

**Gary R. Woo**
Passed away on September 2025 at Mission Viejo, California

**James R. Keefer '60**
Died September 30, 1999

**Neil A. Marshall '40**
Passed away on September 27, 2004, at Boulder, Colorado

**Brian H. Shoemaker '60**
Passed away on January 20, 2017 at Lacey, Washington

**Angus J. Whyte, Jr. '57**
Passed away on April 3, 2011 at Hoodsport, Washington

**L. Clarke Aaronson '45**
Passed away on January 24, 2022 at San Antonio, Texas

**Julian Phillipe '49**
Passed away on May 23, 1992 at Tulare, California

**Robert Hall ‘75**
Passed away on July 26, 2026

# MATHEWS, CASTEEL HAUL IN NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Lambda collegians Nathan Mathews and Sonny Casteel garnered $5,450 in scholarships awarded by the Kappa Delta Rho Foundation at the foundation's annual luncheon at the Chicago convention. Mathews was awarded the Wally T. Miller Memorial and the Michael A. McCarthy Architectural Scholarships, while Casteel received the Eta Chapter Dale Schaffenacker and the Lambda Scholarships.

Awarding of the Lambda Scholarship was a happy surprise to the chapter's collegiate and alumni delegations present at the luncheon. There had been uncertainty as to whether the corpus of the fund had increased to the requisite $25,000 for the granting of stipends. Thanks to many alumni donations and a very favorable stock market, the balance had grown to $25,487.46 as of June 30. The Lambda Scholarship is awarded to a member of Lambda Chapter so long as Lambda is an active chapter.

Fraternity-wide, scholarship applications were down slightly to 89, despite the money available for stipends exceeded $120,000, the most in many years.

The application window for 2027 awards will probably open in late March or early April.