



# THE TRAVELER

## Acacia Fraternity, Cornell Chapter

Spring 2019  
Volume 114 | Number 1

**VENERABLY SPEAKING PG.8**

Connections in the House of Acacia

**NEW FACES TO CALL BROTHERS PG.10**

7 new brothers inducted into the Halls of Acacia!

**A BRIEF INTROSPECTION IN THE HALLS OF ACACIA PG.23**

Jacob Padilla's path within the Halls of Acacia







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## Journey Within Northcote

**ALWANY ANGELES TAVERAS (1235) '21**  
**DEAN OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS**

As the new Dean of Alumni Affairs, I wish to continue the excellence my predecessors have performed. I would like to thank those who have assisted me in completing The Traveler and meet the expectations of many. I would also like to express my gratitude to those before me who have continued to serve as an example of fine, respectable gentleman who have sustained this fraternity among us.

Throughout the semester, Acacia has welcomed 7 new members into the brotherhood. Young men who wish to belong to the Acacian Fraternity and to serve for eternity. Amongst this process, the brothers have accomplished goals of serving the community, expanding upon the social scene, and sustaining the home we call Northcote. These are few of the many accomplishments that we would like to display to you alumni.

I would like to extend my hand out to those who have once called Northcote their home and ask of you to continue supporting the Active Chapter. As much as we would like to inform you all of updates within the house, we also want to learn from those before us.

The Traveler is the official newsletter of the Cornell University Chapter of Acacia Fraternity. It is published semi-annually and mailed to alumni, fellow chapters, friends, and family of the active members of the chapter.

The current and past issues of The Traveler can be found on our website: **[www.cornellacacia.org](http://www.cornellacacia.org)**.

The statements made and the opinions expressed in this publication are independent of the University and Interfraternity Council (IFC). The chapter is solely responsible for the contents of this publication.

We welcome correspondence regarding this publication, as well as any other questions, comments, or concerns. They should be addressed to:

**Acacia Fraternity**  
**c/o Alumni Affairs**  
**318 Highland Road**  
**Ithaca, NY 14850-2302**  
**(607) 257-7055**

Alternatively, we can be contacted via email:  
**[acacia@cornell.edu](mailto:acacia@cornell.edu)**

# Spring 2019 Chapter Roll

## Executive Board:

**RAYMOND LIAO (1228)**  
**Venerable Dean**  
Operations Research  
2021  
Staten Island, NY

**DAIKI TSUNODA (1229)**  
**Treasurer**  
Hotel Administration  
2021  
Tokyo, Japan

**LUCAS ANTHONY FRANCIS WESSELIUS (1232) Senior Dean**  
Government  
2021  
Stroudsburg, PA

**DARIAN PENICHET GARCIA JASSO (1216) Co-Recruitment Chair**  
Hotel Administration  
2019  
Guadalajara, Mexico

**TYLER SANDERS (1236) Co-Recruitment Chair**  
Atmospheric Sciences  
2021  
Niagara Falls, NY

**ALEJANDRO HERNAN FLORES (1231) Junior Dean**  
Industrial and Labor Relations  
2021  
Staten Island, NY

**JOSE COVARRUBIAS (1202)**  
Chemical Engineering and Biochemistry  
2019  
Veracruz, Mexico

**GREGORY SCHULTZ (1211)**  
Information Science  
2019  
Holtsville, NY

**TOBY LEUNG (1212)**  
Design and Environmental Analysis  
2019  
Hong Kong, Hong Kong

**IAN WAINAINA (1213)**  
Applied Economics and Management  
2019  
Nyahururu, Kenya

**NISHANT GOEL (1214) Dean of Scholarships**  
Operations Research  
2019  
New Delhi, India

**JAE WOO KIM (1218) ATHLETICS DIRECTOR**  
Economics  
2020  
Maputo, Mozambique

**KENT TAKADA (1222)**  
Mechanical Engineering  
2020  
Harrison, NY

**ADRIAN WONG (1223)**  
Hotel Administration  
2019  
Hong Kong, Hong Kong

**TOMO TOKUYAMA (1225) Secretary**  
Computer Science  
2020  
Yokohama, Japan

**AUSTIN MACK (1226) Technologist**  
Computer Science  
2020  
Tokyo, Japan

**JULIAN MANEGAL SILVERIO (1230) Senior Steward**  
Chemical Engineering  
2021  
Astoria, NY

**BYUNG JOON KANG (1233)**  
Policy Analysis and Management  
2021  
Queretaro, Mexico



**DEREK DONGKYU MIN (1234)**

Fine Arts  
2021  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

**ALWANY ANGELES TAVERAS (1235)**

Dean of Alumni Affairs  
Biological Engineering  
2021  
Lindenhurst, NY

**LORENZO DE ALBA (1237)**

Economics  
2022  
Manhattan, NY

**GILBERT AKUJA (1238)**

Applied Economics and Management  
2022  
Nakuru, Kenya

**MATTHEW BLOCK (1239)**

Government  
2021  
Miami, Florida

**TOSHI TOKOYUMA (1240)**

Computer Science  
2022  
Yokohama, Japan

**ANDREW NKUBITO (1241)**

Civil Engineering  
2021  
Kigali, Rwanda

**VASILIOS ZAHARIOUDAKIS (1242)**

Hotel Administration  
2022  
Ionnina, Greece

**ARMONY BRIGHTLY BAILEY (1243)**

Biological Sciences  
2022  
Brooklyn, NY



# Message from Our Corporation Board President

The 2018-2019 Fiscal Academic Year has flown by. The Corporation Board focused on a couple of strategic maintenance projects that should provide a more inviting and attractive facility. Our focus was on what we originally classified as a “mini-renovation” of the Wing Bathroom, concentrating on the front (non-shower) area where the vanity, toilets, and urinal are located. The renovation started just before Christmas and was about 90% completed when Rush began the third week of January. The shower area was renovated back in the summer of 2012 and is in excellent condition. The mini-renovation plan involved replacing the original, 3-sink vanity top (from 1961), toilet partitions (we had replaced the originals at least 20 years ago), vanity wall, and electrical and lighting. However, as the demolition began, it became obvious that there were some serious issues with existing wall tile, drywall, radiator, and doors. If we simply focused on the vanity wall, the rest would look dated in comparison. We weighed the additional material and labor costs with the costs of simply repairing what was broken plus ongoing maintenance costs (wall repairs, painting, etc.). Rather than spending about \$16,000, we invested over \$23,000 but ended up with great looking, functional, nearly maintenance-free showcase. We now have a quartz vanity top with 3 integrated sinks, new faucets (one is hands-free) and related plumbing, new mirrors, battery-operated paper towel dispenser, stainless steel toilet paper holders, LED lights, 2 GFCI outlets, new wiring, new urinal, and 2 new solid oak doors. The project was performed by Flower Contracting (who did the majority of the 2017 Kitchen Renovation).

Apparently, some of the other bathrooms were jealous and decided to rebel. The Suite Bathroom toilet started leaking, one of the Center Room Bathroom shower water supplies leaked into the Commons ceiling, and the End Room Bathroom urinal flush valve was constantly letting water into the bowl. In addition, one of the Wing Bathroom toilet flappers failed, self-flushing regularly and wasting a lot of water. These plumbing issues were detected and resolved in the 1st week of March. The Commons ceiling was repaired a couple of weeks later after everything had dried out. On March 16, the Center Room Bathroom sink was clogged and resisted plunging, so Drain Brain was called in. It seems to never end...

Another project that had been on our maintenance schedule for a number of years was replacing all of the pushpin compact CFL light fixtures that had been installed back in the early 90's. Compact CFLs were touted as a revolution in lighting back then, but nobody realized that the ballasts would become noisy over time, the bulbs generated quite a bit of heat, which took its toll on the light sockets, and the bulbs needed replacement every 2-5 years. I personally replaced at least 1,000 bulbs (which cost about \$2.50/each), 50 sockets, and dozens of plastic diffuser globes. Today, LED is all the rage and I have just replaced all 50 CFL fixtures with fixtures utilizing an integrated LED (no bulbs to replace) which should last at least 25 years. They generate very little heat, are much brighter, are attractive, use very little electricity, and were relatively easy to install. They cost about \$35/each and, since I installed them, cost Acacia nothing for labor. At the request of an Active, I installed LED lights over the showers in the Suite and 2 nd Floor Landing bathrooms, but this required a contractor to provide a junction box with power over each shower.



The most recent planned maintenance was installing a doorbell for the main entrance as well as picture rails (as we did in the Wing Hallway a number of years ago) in the 3rd floor hallway and Mailbox Area. We simply ran out of wall space to hang composite photos. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we have no expensive, surprise maintenance issues in the next couple of years, as our maintenance funds have been greatly depleted.

The Active Chapter recently initiated seven new Brothers, which is a great accomplishment as participation in the Greek System continues to dwindle. The house is still not completely filled, nor will it be in the fall. The future of Cornell Acacia will hopefully be positive, but without Alumni financial support, it will not be. I remain perplexed by the fact that the majority of our 600+ alumni choose to NOT even pay their annual dues (which can be done via snail-mail or PayPal [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com) to [AcaciaCorpBoard@cornell.edu](mailto:AcaciaCorpBoard@cornell.edu)). Also, please check out the Cornell Acacia website (<https://www.cornellacacia.org/>) which is undergoing a major overhaul. We need your financial assistance, and we need it now. I realize some percentage of you might have financial, personal, or health issues, but not most of you! To those alumni who generously financially support Cornell Acacia, our thanks! To the rest of you, what's up?

Please email or call me if you have comments, concerns, suggestions, want to get involved, or simply want to say hello. It would be wonderful if I heard from some of you so I know you are as concerned, yet encouraged, as I am about the future of our beloved Acacia. The Mailbag column continues to be extremely short of news to share! Certainly there must be news (good and bad), so please share it.

## Fraternally,

**Steven L. Stein 1973 (787)**

*[339 E. Miller Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850-9431; 607-277-3125; cell 607-351-3901; [sls8@cornell.edu](mailto:sls8@cornell.edu)]*



## Venerably Speaking

RAYMOND LIAO (1228) '21

VENERABLE DEAN

*“Friends are as companions on a journey, who ought to aid each other to persevere in the road to a happier life.” - Pythagoras*

I reflect upon this quote often as I go about serving the Cornell chapter. Whether it's my journey thus far in college or where I'd like to go beyond it, I always ground myself by thinking of the people I surround myself with. Acacia has existed at Cornell for well over a hundred years and I hope it prospers for well over a hundred more. As life ebbs and flows, I like to imagine the many connections made by the brothers before me and the plentiful laughs shared at Northcote. I'm sure our brotherhood will cultivate more life-long companions and facilitate new connections between both young and old.

On behalf of the active chapter, I'd like to thank **Brother Padilla** for his time here as our chapter advisor and I hope he won't miss us too much as he starts work at Amazon in Seattle. We're also happy to have **Brother Leung** serve as chapter advisor for the next two semesters. I'd like to announce that I made well of my promise from the last Traveler. Last semester, the IFC started a new philanthropy initiative called GIVE, in which the IFC sponsors a number of service events for the semester. Our chapter led the rest of the fraternities on campus in terms of philanthropy and was recognized with GIVE Gold, the highest distinction. I'm very excited to welcome seven enthusiastic newly initiated brothers into our chapter and I hope to learn much from them. **Brother Stein** has been working tirelessly to improve Northcote, replacing all the ceiling lights with LEDs lights and spearheading the renovation of the wing bathroom. It's been appreciated by actives and alumni alike. In the past two months, we've had a brother from LSU and a brother from the University of Illinois visit, both of which were very impressed by the house. As the school year comes to a close, I'd like to reminisce on my memories with the graduating brothers, starting with fellow ORIE **Brother Goel**, **Brother Schultz** the last of the Schultz lineage, sharing photography visions with **Brother Wainaina**, and conversing in Cantonese with **Brother Wong**. I know each one is destined for a great future. With Slope Day inching closer, we're excited to welcome any and all alumni to stay at Northcote and enjoy this year's lineup with us. I had a blast meeting alumni last year and I'm definitely looking forward to this year. For the summer, I'm proud to share that I'll be studying abroad at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Additionally, we'll have representatives at this year's Acacia Leadership Academy. My journey at Acacia has just started and I'd love to see what the future holds.

Feel free to contact me anytime, and I hope to speak to some alumni during Slope Day or at the Annual Corp Board meeting!

Fraternally,

Raymond Liao





# Directing the Social Scene

**ALEJANDRO FLORES (1231) '21**  
**JUNIOR DEAN**

As social chair last semester, I have seen spring semester as a chance to further establish the reputation of ACACIA. It is of great significance to me to communicate our values and through that, expand our circle. Taking that into account, I took the initiative to throw some themed parties so the Cornell community can know our interests, our brothers, and last but by no means least, our values. Our first party followed a “Heartbreak” theme. It was accompanied with rose wine and chocolates with a Valentine’s Day inspired decor. It was meant to emphasize the relationships built between Acacian brothers and to continue building upon our foundation of honesty and trust. Overall my goal for this semester is to organize recreational activities to maintain but also expand our social activities. By establishing a theme, we can make sure that the people attending will know our brothers background, culture, and interests and thus find people that share them and have a GREAT TIME.

Another fantastic event was for Super Bowl LIII. The brothers and Gio worked together to decorate the dining room with a projector screen, finger foods, and football decor. Although the game itself was surprisingly upsetting, the crowd had bonded amongst each other to create yet another successful event at Northcote.



# New Websites & Fresh Press

AUSTIN MACK (1226) '20  
TECHNOLOGIST



## CORNELL ACACIA

First and foremost, the machine that binds our hearts in love, the House Printer, is working properly thanks to a new drum unit. I would also like to give thanks **Brother Christian Choi** for his dedication to the new ACACIA website. We are making progress on our Website and will soon be updating it. It is going to include active brother's biographies as well as an improved interface.

I hope to keep Northcote's technology in a great condition as we travel along life's pathway.



# Lean Machines

**JAE WOO KIM (1218) '20**

**ATHLETICS CHAIR**

The semester started off with an enthusiastic group of brothers participating in the Intramural Basketball league. Another sport that a few of the Acacians have brought back into the house is golf. Although the beginning of the semester had been too cold to play out in the field, many of the brothers have been getting involved in intramural golf tournaments. Furthermore, as spring break has been approaching, the brothers have been quite eager to hit the gym. The brothers have been holding each other accountable and motivating each other to work out and get active at least once a week. As a result, not only do we have a bigger and buffer house but also a healthier friendship among the actives. As athletics chair I am delighted to see this move towards a healthier lifestyle and enthusiasm in a variety of activities. I am sure we will all be looking in great shape for those Spring Break pictures.

# Sustained Sustainability

**JULIAN MANEGAL SILVERIO (1230) '21**

**SUSTAINABILITY CHAIR**

In my second semester as sustainability chair, I have sought to continue the progress made last semester toward a more sustainable Northcote. The importance of recycling is continually stressed, and the recycling shed that was cleaned out last semester has proven handy in storing our recycled items between collections. I also made sure that the new brothers learned what can be recycled and what to do with recycling. Additionally, the lights in many rooms around the house have been replaced with more efficient LEDs. All of these efforts should ensure that Northcote continues to become a more sustainable house.



# Cashing In

**DAIKI TSUNODA (1229) '21**

**TREASURER**

**W**ith 7 new brothers joining our journey as Acacians this semester, the financials of the house are looking brighter. Though we are far from our ideal state where we are financially capable of owning an annex or holding larger social events, I believe that we have taken a large first step in doing so. As the newly-elected treasurer, the challenge for me will be to stay on top of Northcote's financials as well as allocating resources efficiently to further the chapter's success. In doing so, the past treasurer, **Brother Mack**, has been an extremely helpful resource, and it has reminded me of how supportive the brotherhood is.



# It's In The Motto

**JULIAN MANEGAL SILVERIO (1230) '21**

**PHILANTHROPY CHAIR**

**S**ince last semester philanthropy has been a focal point for Cornell Acacia. Last semester we excelled in philanthropy, meeting IFC's GIVE standard and more. Now that I am taking over as philanthropy chair, I look to continue this. I feel philanthropy is very important, as philanthropy events offer an opportunity for the brothers to come together and learn more about themselves, all the while having an impact on both the Cornell community and the larger Ithaca community. I plan to make this semester a fruitful one in terms of philanthropy, so that we can live up to the principles of human service.

A successful chapter  
continues to show  
its efforts



# How to Contribute to Our Chapter of Acacia Fraternity

Northcote has been and will continue being the home of all 1243 of us brothers. If you would ever like to make a contribution to the house, it could be done so in 2 simple ways!

## DONATING BY MAIL

### STEP 1:

Make a check out to the Corporation Board

### STEP 2:

Mail the check to:

**Alumni Affairs  
318 Highland Rd,  
Ithaca, NY 14850**

### STEP 3 (Optional):

Say Hi! Attach a short letter about yourself and what you've been up to lately; we will make sure to add it in the alumni mailbag section of the next Traveler!

## DONATING BY PAYPAL

### STEP 1:

Log in to your PayPal account

### STEP 2:

Click the Send & Request tab

### STEP 3:

Choose the 'Send to friends and family in the US' option

### STEP 4:

Address the payment to:

**AcaciaCorpBoard@cornell.edu**

### STEP 5:

Enter any amount (with an optional attached note) and click 'continue'

### STEP 6:

Finalize the payment! Click 'Send Payments Now'

# Brotherhood

**DARIAN PENICHERT GARCIA JASSO**  
**BROTHERHOOD CHAIRMAN (1216) '19**

**B**rotherhood is the bond between many different young men that thrive together with a single goal: to help each one another succeed in all our endeavors. Brotherhood chairman is a position I have long wanted to occupy because I believe it to be not only the most fulfilling but one of the most important. It rewards the officer because a higher kinship is blissful. Why? Because it improves moral and brings us all closer to one another. That idiosyncratic energy inspires us to be better for the sake of the others, Acacia, and Northcote. It is the reason why we clean our home today to why we took up commitments of office in the fraternity. Brotherhood is an enviable and candid bond that will also bring others to join our ranks.

This semester I have the privilege to spearhead our Acacia pride. During the initiation period we had our first pong formal tournament! Brother Jacob Padilla, now moved out of the house and in Seattle, was crowned Pong Best In The House. It was only fitting of him to win and then leave us without the chance to reclaim that title. We already have other Best In The House tournaments scheduled for video games and a talent show. I think these events foster a healthy rivalry amongst us that pushes us to be better. Moreover, it makes us proud to be Acacians. To top that off I am planning on developing some signs such as the metal "President's Room" one for each house position. This will serve not only as a reminder of our duties, the trust given unto us, but a mark of honour.

Typically the brotherhood chairman has a small budget so I have to get creative to find ways to bolster our ego. My overarching goal is to push people to be better not because we are reminding them of their duties or through chastising, but through an internal drive. For we will not make sacrifices for a house that we do not love and we will not love a house that does not love us back. We will celebrate each and every brother as individuals. We all come from so many different places and I want to stress that as the incredible feat it is. What else but brotherhood could bring so many countries under a single roof and with a single purpose? That is why I asked each active to send us postcards from home. So that we can display them in the mailroom board for all to admire. Additionally, a calendar marking each one of our birthdays so that we shall always be reminded to cheer one another.

This is just the tip of the iceberg, by getting crafty with resources I want to do movie and sports nights. If we are lucky enough we want to go camping once the infamous Ithaca weather gives us sun and tank-top temperatures. Yet, when we are truly all already home, how can we make it better than that?

- CASINO NIGHT
- FRUIT SMASH AND BASH
- SMASH TOURNAMENTS
- BOWLING
- FIFA AND FINGERFOOD
- HIBACHI NIGHT
- SUPERBOWL EVENT



**Highlights of Spring  
Rush Activities**



# Northcote Grows

JAE-WOO KIM (1218) '20

EX-CO-RECRUITMENT CHAIR

**“Rush is not a season but a lifestyle,”** is the motto which the brothers of Acacia live by. Through the enthusiastic contribution of the brothers throughout the year, this Spring we have initiated 7 new fine young gentlemen into the halls of our brotherhood. Our major rush events such as hibachi dinner at Sumo, bowling, karaoke and a night at the Casino served as a great way to acquaint ourselves and bond with viable candidates. Furthermore, our annual participation in the international orientation program PREPARE allowed us to further our international network of potential candidates who we maintained a strong connection with. This has privileged our brotherhood with an exceptionally diverse pledge class with NIBs from Greece, Rwanda, Japan just to mention a few.

Overall, living by our motto “Rush is not a season but a lifestyle,” has definitely brought back outstanding results and I am pleased to have initiated the fine young men.

New Spring Rush Tactics  
Attract 7 New Members





## Lorenzo de Alba (1237) '22

Manhattan, NY

Lorenzo de Alba is a Freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences, pursuing a major in Economics. Born and raised in the center of Manhattan, he chose Cornell to get away from the busy city life. In his free time one would likely find him producing music, a pastime which he has been extremely passionate about since middle school. Because of this interest and a similar musical interest among many brothers in the house, he is striving to make Cornell Acacia a place which nurtures this by creating a home studio in the chapter.

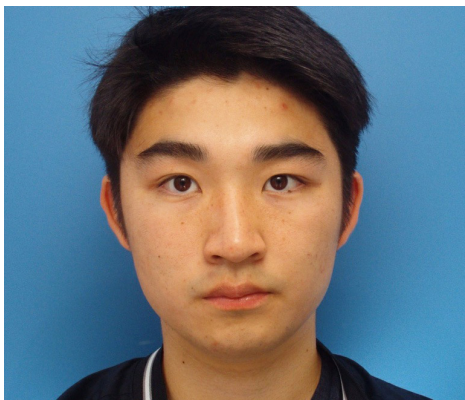


## Gilbert Akuja (1238) '22

Nskuru, Kenya

Gilbert Akuja is a freshman studying Applied Economics and Management in the SC Johnson College of Business, CALS. He is from Nakuru, Kenya and enjoys running, hiking, swimming, reading philosophy, and volunteering.

He believes that being part of Acacia is a one in a lifetime opportunity that will give him a holistic college experience and create long lasting relationships with brother and alumni that are worthwhile and genuine. For him, becoming an Acacian brother will be the first step of living the values and ideas that form the basis of our fraternity.



## Toshi Tokuyama (1239) '22

Yokohama, Japan

Toshi Tokuyama is very excited to be one of the newly joining brothers of the Acacia Fraternity. He's spent his entire life in Yokohama, Japan until coming to Cornell University to study computer science and information science. He was introduced to Acacia through his brother, Tomo, who is also a member of the Acacia fraternity. His hobbies are playing and watching sports and playing console games. He enjoys watching and playing basketball and soccer, while his favorite console is the ps4. His goals for Cornell is to participate in more activities or project teams.



## Matthew Block (1240) '21

Miami, FL

Matthew Block is a sophomore from Miami, Florida, and he has always had a passion for politics and government. He has been interested in government for nearly 6 years, having started with Model U.N. during middle school, and having been dedicated ever since. He plans on becoming involved in International Relations, and hopes to work with philanthropic organizations once he graduates. He likes to spend time with his brothers at Acacia, watching video essays on a variety of subjects on YouTube, or just playing Smash Bros or Red Dead. He loves film and cinematography, and is an avid reader as well. The most recent book that he's read was The Stranger, by Albert Camus. He says Acacia has helped him be more comfortable and confident here at Cornell, both academically and socially, as some of his closest friends.



# New Brothers



**Andrew Nkubitol (1241) '21**

Stroudsburg, PA

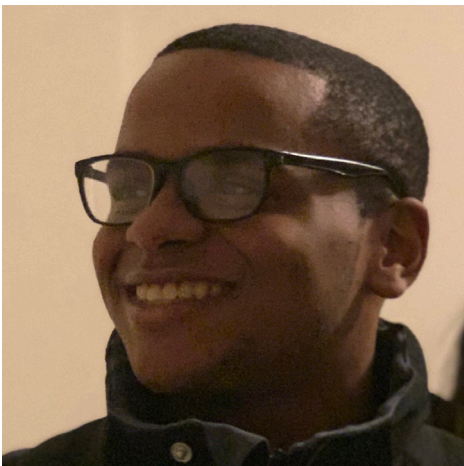
Andrew Nkubitol was born and raised in Kigali-Rwanda and is currently majoring in Civil Engineering and Minor in CS. He loves reading books especially in the area of leadership and entrepreneurship. His favorite book so far is Good to Great by Jim Collins. He enjoys talking about leadership and learning what makes a good leader. He loves all kinds of music, however, acapella music comes on top of his list. He believes that all music is unique and distinctive which makes him appreciate it. When he has time, he goes to the gym to enjoy a good work out especially lifting. In the future, he plans to start a construction company in Rwanda. I believe that it's a great challenge and at the same time an opportunity for me. There are all kinds of infrastructural gaps that need to be filled and I want to be at the forefront and tackle this worthwhile challenge head on. I will end by saying VISIT RWANDA if you haven't, because it's a beautiful country.



**Vasilios Zaharioudakis (1242) '22**

Queretaro, Mexico

Vasilios Zaharioudakis is a Freshman in the College of Hotel Administration. His career goals involve establishing a better tourism culture in his home country of Greece. He is a very artistic-minded individual and seeks to bring his creative aura to the house. He made his commitment to ACACIA in order to create long term relationships but also learn from the diverse ideas and thoughts that each individual brother in the house has to offer.



**Armoni Bailey (1243) '22**

Brooklyn, NY

Armoni Brightly Bailey is a Biological Sciences major from Brooklyn, New York. He is studying biology to become an emergency physician. As a child, Armoni had severe asthma and would like to give back to the profession that saved his life on numerous occasions. His goals at Acacia are to strengthen the ties of brotherhood being formed and to better the Cornell community for all. In his short time at the Cornell chapter, he has seen how the brothers of Acacia work tirelessly to better themselves and their surroundings. He wants to contribute to making the campus a more safe and accepting space for all individuals, where they can learn in more than in the traditional sense. He would also like to better himself as an individual and learn to better every community that he is a part of.

# Cleanliness is the Simplest Form of Home Improvement

**JULIAN MANEGAL SILVERIO (1230) '21**  
**SENIOR STEWARD**

The cleanliness of the house has always been important to me, and now that I am senior steward, I can play a major role in keeping Northcote as clean as possible. Fortunately, the brothers have been very cooperative this semester, making my job much easier. The new brothers have been especially diligent in doing their assigned cleanups. Seeing this gives me confidence that Northcote will, both now and in the future, continue to be a cleanly and desirable place to live.

This semester saw some changes to Northcote. New LED lights were installed in much of the house. The new lights are much brighter and less noisy. However, the big change was to the Wing Bathroom. Starting during the winter break and continuing into the semester, the Wing Bathroom received several upgrades. The stalls, urinal, mirrors, both doors, and vanity top were all replaced, the electric upgraded and the walls were completely redone. Additionally, an automatic paper towel dispenser and automatic sink were added. The renovations were lengthy, and at times were an inconvenience, but were more than worth the wait. Seeing the newly renovated bathroom makes me optimistic about the future of the house and of Cornell Acacia.



# Mouth Watering Meals a la Maison

**NISHANT GOEL (1214) '19**  
**JUNIOR STEWARD**

This semester I served as the Junior steward for the house, and in the process, got more in touch with kitchen operations than I have ever been before. As a senior at Acacia, I have enjoyed many delicious meals in the Northcote kitchen over the past years, and it felt good to give back.

At the centre of it all is of course, our favorite chef Gio, who has once again made sure our bellies are full and our hearts are content with delicious entrees and desserts day in and day out. He has also helped out in our many social events, preparing meals and snacks that make sure our guests keep coming back!

I am also very pleased with the general commitment and responsibility shown by the brothers towards keeping the kitchen clean and organized. Towards the start of the semester, Gio had to take a week off due to health reasons, and the duo assigned to crew every day had to cook and serve food for the rest of the brothers. I was happy to see that everyone did their job diligently, and the house bonded over these self prepared meals. I am also happy to report that the new brothers inducted into the halls of Acacia this semester have shown great willingness to learn about kitchen duties, and have been performing their crew duties responsibly.

***Kitchen operations have been running smoothly, and the kitchen is still shiny!***



# Farewell Acacia

Sending our Seniors of Acacia off to complete more accomplishments in life



## GREGORY SCHULTZ (1211) '19

**A**s a senior, my time as an active Acacian is fleeting. I first walked into this house before my freshman year (courtesy of always-on-the-rush Brother Tom Schultz), and even back then I had always felt that there was something special about this unique house we call Northcote. It was the composition of the diverse brothers, with their own backgrounds, cultures, and tantalizing stories that kept me coming back to the house week after week. It never got old, and I was starting to understand what it meant to find my brothers at Cornell. After joining the house, I quickly achieved leadership positions and experienced an entirely different dimension of leadership and responsibility that came with being a member of Acacia. This responsibility was not without hardship, but as we “strengthened the ties of friendship, one with another”, we were able to work through our differences and become stronger in the end. This feeling, that of overcoming adversity and challenges, has epitomized my time as an Active of Acacia, and is a feeling I hope to perpetuate for all new brothers.



For the actives, cherish those around you, and cherish what makes our house special. There are infinite projects, p-sets, and presentations. But, there are finite late nights, wild adventures, and conversations that you will never forget.

Finally, embrace the rituals, for they are what links Acacians of past to present.

**T**o you, who are my brothers, I bid you farewell (for now)

Joining Acacia was a way for me to not only gain a community on campus, but also have a platform for academic growth and volunteer opportunities. Becoming part of this international community has allowed me to glean a unique perspective from spending time with people from all walks of life. Through leadership positions and brotherhood activities, I was able to develop meaningful relationships with my brothers. They offered me incredibly valuable advice on career pathways and largely told me the skill sets needed to succeed as an individual. Moreover, our conversations impressed on me the importance of introspection and due diligence, both of which I have extensively engaged in since joining Acacia. But the crowning jewel of being at Acacia would be its commitment to providing opportunities for cultural expression and service. I would like to thank all of the brothers, especially the seniors, for a memorable time at Cornell and for relationships that will last a lifetime.

**ADRIAN WONG (1223) '19**

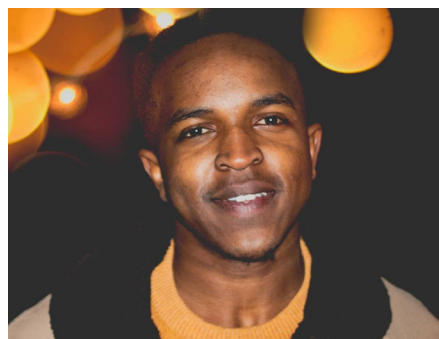


**IAN WAINAINA (1213) '19**

Acacia has been more than a home away from home for the four years I have lived here. Having joined in the spring of my freshman year, it's hard to believe that in two months I will no longer be at Acacia. As my time at Acacia winds up, I am happy to reminisce all the memories I have made, friendships I have forged and lessons I have learnt.

Born and raised in Kenya, attending Cornell was a new and exciting adventure for me; a new chapter in my life. As a freshman joining Acacia, I was looking for my place in the vastness of Cornell; a group I could fit in with, go back home to everyday and talk about my day with. Four years later, not only has Acacia been one of my most formative experiences of college but also one of the most fun facets of my life at Cornell. I have rubbed shoulders with and formed lifelong friendships with people from all around the globe, held leadership positions, pursued new interests and overall improved to be a better version of myself.

Seeing people come into Acacia and leave affords me the unique chance to offer advice to the brothers I leave behind, and those yet to join. Perhaps the biggest lesson I have taken from Acacia is openness. Openness to new ideas and experiences. During the time I was here, Acacia was a melting pot of backgrounds, experiences, cultures and thoughts; and looking back, I am happy I got to be a piece in the whole. It was thrilling to impart my mark on the house and share the same hallways with like minded, yet different people; and this aspect, is in my opinion, the very core to the Acacia experience that I hope everyone can feel.



### NISHANT GOEL (1214) '19

I remember when I first met **Brother Leung** at the international students pre-orientation program in Fall 2016. I was a Sophomore by then, guiding young, doe-eyed Freshmen from all corners over the world on how to go about their Cornell journey. Little did I know that I was about to start a journey of my own. After getting to know Brother Leung, I received an invitation to one of the house dinners, and I slowly started coming over to Acacia for parties and events. At once, I was struck by the uniqueness of this fraternity. It's intellectual vitality and diversity, not only in terms of race, but also in terms of thoughts, opinions and life experiences, was refreshing to me. These people weren't the cookie-cutter meatheads I expected from a frat. Every single person had depth, sincerity and a unique sense of style. It wasn't long before I started imagining myself being a part of this group of men, and ultimately ended up becoming one.

Through the years, Acacia has been a place of refuge and comfort for me. It has been an integral part of my life through both the good days and the bad. Everything from 4 am meals in the kitchen after a night of merriment to study sessions in the dining room, from deep conversations with the brothers to the endless games of FIFA, I have loved every second, and I am grateful. Like so many of the brothers, I hail from a different part of the world, and Acacia has been my home away from home.



Looking at the younger brothers around me, I feel a sense of contentment and relief that I am leaving this house in good hands. I know that they will give this house their own unique spin and sense of style while preserving its core traditions and philosophy, and will attract more young men to enrich their life. As the time to leave comes close, I can only look back and thank my stars that I was a part of this frat. Acacia changed my Cornell trajectory entirely and made it the best few years of my life. Even though my time as an active is limited, I will forever be a brother to this house. Now and always.

**F**raternally,

Brother Nishant Goel



# A Brief Introspection in the Halls of Acacia



**Jacob Padilla (1199)**  
**Chapter Advisor**

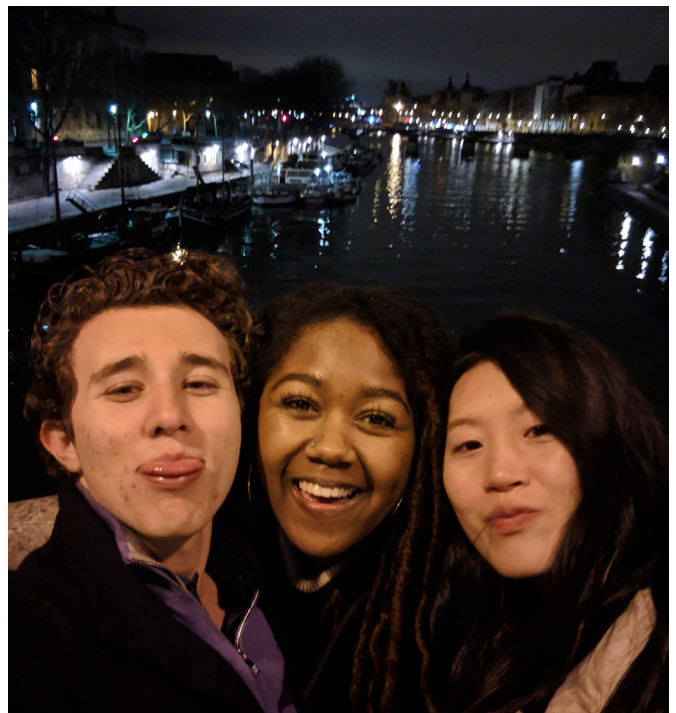
Having resided in Northcote for nearly three years, Acacia has been my home since my Sophomore year. I do not mean this in just a figurative sense; My current license and ARC listed the 318 as my primary address. The bond did not begin that way, however. It felt strongly commensalistic throughout my early years, and I found myself feuding with my brothers far more than building memories or engaging in any fraternal camaraderie. I gave perfunctorily minimal-assed efforts at sending out the crew poll at 4pm on Monday. When I did show up to cleanups, I was 45 minutes late and had to leave in half an hour to go to Office Hours. Whatever reason I had joined the house seemed to flicker away like a dying star, and I found myself asking myself if I truly desired to be in the house. Had the Senior Dean's speech rang truer for me? I was in the Underworld for my Acacian Journey. I was at the end of the Hall's of Acacia.

All of this, of course, was before I lived in the house. The apperception of the induction promises proffered finally beginning to manifest themselves came as one of the grandest revelations in my collegiate years. I began to truly find a place I can call home with a group of people I can call my brothers. This wasn't a binary bit switch though. If anything, my integration into Acacia was the final phase of my adolescence in its rawest form. It was my way of soul searching and figuring out what the f\*ck I wanted to do in my life. Brothers weave tales of the legendary pong victories and 2am domino pizza orders, but those stories aren't just rush pontifications or pointers to the house's ability to brodown...they are much more than that. They are the catalysts and respites that have guided my development outside of lectures and prelims. Despite all these great memories, just like one asks themselves, "is Acacia the house for me?", one eventually asks "was Acacia right for me?". Instead of looking for an answer I cannot find, I instead think back to the aforementioned memories and the photo above, and I wonder why I even asked myself that question. Every brother has their regrets and their reveries of their time in the house, but it is a spurious aphorism that such experiences require an ultimate judgment of their utility to one's life. My time in Acacia was precious, and has moulded me into the man that has made a life for himself today, and I wouldn't trade my experience for anything else, for better or for worse (I know this sounds like marriage, but think about the 3rd degree and tell me you weren't emotional).



It is important to note that the Halls of Acacia, unlike the wing hallway, do not have an end. Rather, they extend long into one's life, and even now, their path is unknown, and graduation does not signal their end, but provide another route along life's pathways.







# Halls of Acacia

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# Alumni Mail Bag

**James M. Symons** 1954 (534) [8400 Vamo Rd, Unit 1164, Sarasota, FL 34231-7830; dr.water@alum.mit.edu] informed us of the passing of **William Burnett** 1953 (490) with whom he shared a room one year at Acacia. James and wife, Joan, used to have lunch with Bill and his wife each spring in Florida. The Symons celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in early July by taking their family of 15 (children, grandchildren, and spouses) to Hilton Head Island for a week.

**Frank E. Tetz** 1955 (554) [16 Donegal Way, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-7500; fftetz@aol.com] wonders how he has become the oldest pledge on the "Honor Roll"! He asks that his living contemporaries bring us all up to date on their lives. Frank appreciates reading new of Acacia and brothers. In these days, when fraternities are coping with acceptance issues, the activities and accomplishments of the Actives makes him proud! Fraternities can be a very positive part of college life and maturing into adulthood.

**Robert T. Franson** 1961 (636) [216 National St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060-6519; rfranson@cruzio.com] and his wife, Mary Ann, had a delightful visit with **Dick Heine** 1961 (630) and wife, Cindy, last fall at the Heine home on Bainbridge Island, WA.

**Richard E. Brewer** 1965 (687) [17185 State Hwy 16N, Site 204, Medina, TX 78055; ricbrew7@frontier.com] enjoyed reading the Fall 2018 Traveler. He and his wife enjoy living in The Great State of Texas where they spend their winters, but also enjoy summer time at their camp on Piseco Lake in the NY Adirondack Mountains. Dick loves hearing of the activities of the Actives as they bring back many fond memories. He would like to hear from his Big Brother, **John Lutz** 1964 (676).



*Acacia circa 1910s*



*Acacia circa 1920s*

**Steven L. Stein** 1973 (787) [339 E Miller Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850; sls8@cornell.edu] continues to work full-time at Cornell and, it seems, almost as much at Acacia! He celebrated his 68 th St. Patrick's Day Birthday with family and friends, enjoying the traditional corned beef and cabbage meal.

**Mark Maltenfort** 1977 (831) [476 N Legacy Trail, St. Augustine, FL 32092-0613; maltenfo@sbcglobal.net] and wife cruised for 154 days in 2018. They went all round South America (60 days) and all around the Pacific (94 days). They especially loved visiting Brazil, Japan, South Korea, and China. They also spend 65 days travelling in the USA, so they were home only 40% of 2018. They are having a great time being retired.

**David J. Sangree** 1984 (917) [1052 Maple Cliff Dr, Lakewood, OH 44107-1252; dsangree@hladvisors.com] is still busy with his company Hotel & Leisure Advisors doing a range of feasibility studies, appraisals, and other consulting reports for hotels, water parks, and other leisure properties. David attended Hotel Ezra Cornell in mid-March and stopped by to see Acacia! He said that Acacia still is a beautiful facility and was really impressed by both the renovated Kitchen and Wing Bathroom.

**Mark A. Schaten MD** 1984 (923) [S4W31227 Hidden Hollow, Delafield, WI 53018; mschatenmd@icloud.com] continues to enjoy working as a traveling (locum tenens) hospitalist, currently working every other week in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Mark is glad to see Northcote being maintained so well.



***Acacia circa 1940s***



***Acacia circa 1950s***

# Honor Roll 2017-2018

DONOR	ROLL	CLASS	PLEDGE YEAR
Lane J Abrams	(915)	1984	PL 1981
Curtis B Alliaume	(919)	1984	PL 1981
Elie Yakov Bilmes	(1118)	2010	PL 2007
Richard E Brewer *	(687)	1965	PL 1963
Stewart L Burger	(738)	1970	PL 1967
Edward A Conroy	(592)	1957	PL 1955
L. Walter Deitrich	(627)	1960	PL 1957
Richard G Dobell	(558)	1955	PL 1952
David R Fischell PhD *	(800)	1975	PL 1972
Paul B Goldberg *	(755)	1971	PL 1968
Matthew S Harris	(1042)	2002	PL 2000
Charles David Hernandez	(1142)	2012	PL 2009
Charles S Hong	(1043)	2001	PL 2000
Steven R Horowitz *	(966)	1992	PL 1989
Alan L Jette	(895)	1982	PL 1979
Patricia M Kehe	(L1)	1979	PL 1979
William L Keltz	(632)	1961	PL 1958
Mark F Maltenfort	(831)	1977	PL 1974
Daniel R Merrill PhD	(907)	1983	PL 1980
Robert C Merritt *	(807)	1975	PL 1973
Stanley R Niman *	(783)	1973	PL 1970
Thomas L Ricketts *	(1051)	2003	PL 2000
Peter M Rimshnick *	(1060)	2005	PL 2002
Nathan 'Tommy' Thomson Roth	(1115)	2009	PL 2006
David J Sangree	(917)	1984	PL 1981
Mark A Schaten MD	(929)	1984	PL 1982
Bruce G Schneider *	(842)	1978	PL 1975
Neil Francis Sharp	(560)	1955	PL 1952
Frank F Tetz	(554)	1955	PL 1952
R. Marvin Townsend	(555)	1955	PL 1952
William A Utic *	(836)	1977	PL 1974
Howard S Zwiefel III *	(734)	1969	PL 1966

31 Donors      12 Brother Tree Leaf recognitions

\* after name indicates Brother Tree leaf recognition



# Annual Corporation Board Meeting

**SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019**

**11:00 AM**

**T**he Annual Meeting of the Cornell Chapter of Acacia Fraternity, Inc. will be Sunday, May 12, 2019 at 11:00 am, at Acacia Fraternity, 318 Highland Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. Brunch will be served.

For those who can't be present but wish to participate by phone, the dial in information for the meeting is:

North America (**NOT** Toll Free): **401-283-4842** PIN: **57164#**

**NOTE:** It is NOT toll free, but you can join using your computer's audio via a browser using link:

[www.uberconference.com/nsantorello](http://www.uberconference.com/nsantorello)

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**IT IS THE  
SECRET OF THE  
WORLD THAT  
ALL THINGS  
SUBSIST AND  
DO NOT DIE,  
BUT RETIRE A  
LITTLE FROM  
SIGHT AND  
AFTERWARDS  
RETURN AGAIN.**

*- Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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# Chapter Eternal



**Robert E. Lull 1939 (355) - 7/15/2018**



**William C. Burnett 1953 (490) - 10/26/2018**



**Robert C. Howe 1951 (494) - 6/14/2018**



**Richard P. Kirtland 1957 (587) - 12/12/2017**





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Cornell Chapter  
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