



Volunteer Spotlight: Lara Pudwell, Indiana Iota Chapter Advisory Board Chair

What motivates you to volunteer?

I became a faculty advisor as a family favor to my cousin, Sean Wagner. I tell new members that when the chapter was forming in 2012, the province president and GHQ staff reached out to me to help because of the family connection to their current Executive Vice President and CEO, and that I kept telling them that they needed a more convincing sales pitch than that!

Through my volunteer experience, I learned more about the Fraternity's values and how the values reflect in each member. Watching the chapter grow, I get to serve as a sounding board and mentor to students I would not meet in my classes.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering for Phi Delta Theta?

The mentoring relationships. I enjoy listening to and helping problem solve in my weekly meetings with the chapter president. I love the interactions with members when we cross paths on campus as we go about our daily routines. At this point, half of the Indiana Iota CAB consists of alumni who knew me as an advisor when they were students themselves.

When I started as a faculty advisor for Phi Delta Theta, Valparaiso University expected each fraternity to have an annual program with a faculty member. Since then, the chapter has gotten in the habit of inviting me to present a program of math they would not otherwise see in a classroom.

I enjoy that the chapter supports my work – they showed up in force for my professorial promotion lecture in April 2022 and were active participants.

What is the most memorable accomplishment of your volunteer experience?
Watching Indiana Iota win "most improved chapter" at the Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Life awards in April 2022. This recognized a chapter-wide effort to raise the profile of Indiana Iota in multiple ways this year.

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LARA PUDWELL

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Indiana Iota
**CHAPTER ADVISORY
BOARD CHAIR**



"Lara goes above and beyond to communicate efforts between the CAB and the chapter at large. She shares her guidance and helps the chapter become the greatest version of itself. Lara is simply amazing!"
- Chris Azzarello