

McVoy Scholarships

Extend Alpha Delt's Literary Traditions

A man of letters and a sportsman, Martin M. McVoy, Jr., Class of 1892, founded two companies in his lifetime and served as the first president of a third. Brother McVoy helped establish the Locke Steel Belt Company, a chain factory in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Next he founded the Industrial Underwriters, and insurance, bond, and real estate company. He also served as first president of V. and O. Press Company, a machinery manufacturer in Brooklyn.

As a dollar-a-day man in the demobilization program after World War I, Brother McVoy was attached to the Annexation Commission in Hawaii, taking part in the successful effort to bring those islands under the protection of the United States. He regularly commuted between Honolulu and Berlin for many years in connection with his various businesses.

Martin McVoy had a wry sense of humor, once describing himself in answer to an alumni questionnaire as "chief slave and president" of the chain factory.

As an undergraduate at Cornell, he belonged to Alpha Delta Phi, and he continued to serve the chapter in later years. Immediately after graduation he acted as chairman of the fraternity's building committee. His leadership led to the fundraising and planning that resulted in constructing, in 1903, the first Alpha Delta Phi lodge at 777 Stewart Avenue.

Brother McVoy later demonstrated his loyalty to the Phi by establishing the McVoy Alpha Delta Phi Scholarships at Cornell. His other gifts to the University include the Martin McVoy Jr. Graduate Fellowships and the Martin McVoy Jr. Fund, established to offer prizes for creative writing.

The McVoy Alpha Delta Phi Scholarships are awarded once a year. Award amounts vary from year to year, most dramatically based on the number of applicants eligible in any given year and the investment return on the University portfolio in which McVoy funds are managed. Awards also vary from individual to individual based upon the applicant's financial need, existing educational loans, participation as a house officer, grade-point average, tenancy within the Phi, and volunteer and leadership activities in the Cornell University community. Since the mid-1980s, the McVoy Alpha Delta Phi Scholarships have replaced loan and work-study obligations for our deserving fraternity brothers in excess of \$150,000. In that same period of time, financial grants from McVoy funds to students eligible for financial aid has replaced general Cornell University grant money in excess of \$1,500,000.

For more information on scholarships and academic loans managed by the Adelpic Cornell Educational Fund (ACEF) contact Steven D. Ritchey '81 at 610-738-4404 or SDR11@Cornell.edu.