



Ray Orians (Pi Kappa Alpha) and Jon Williamson (Lambda Chi Alpha) Awarded NIC Top Honors

INDIANAPOLIS (4/23/09) - Former NIC Executive Vice President Jon C. Williamson and Former Pi Kappa Alpha Executive Vice President Raymond L. Orians were honored by the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) with the 2009 Gold Medal during its annual meeting in Washington D.C. The presentation of the NIC Gold Medal is one of the oldest traditions of the NIC and dates back nearly 70 years. It is presented for a lifetime of work within the fraternity movement and is the highest interfraternal honor bestowed by the NIC.

A member of Pi Kappa Alpha, Orians' tenure as Executive Vice President of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity was highlighted by success in many areas including his work for student Freedom of Association rights, his work on Capitol Hill within the Government Relations initiatives of the NIC's work, and his commitment to interfraternalism.

One of Orians' nominators was Hon. Pete Sessions (R-TX). Representative Sessions stated in his remarks, "Mr. Orians has been a tremendous ambassador and advocate for all fraternities, it is an honor for me, as one of his brothers and a colleague in the collegiate Greek movement, to acknowledge with gratitude his distinguished career and service."

A member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, Williamson's nine years as Executive Vice President of the NIC has been heralded for advances in the adoption of industrywide Standards, increased financial management, growth in both size and membership of the conference, and the further evolution of the role of the NIC.

NIC President and CEO Pete Smithhisler stated, "Jon was instrumental in creating today's NIC. His commitment and dedication to the fraternity movement is evident in the legacy that he has left for our organization. It is appropriate that we honor Jon at our Centennial celebration because so much of what we have to celebrate is the result of Jon's hard work."

Among the others honored were Silver Medalists Mark Anderson (Sigma Chi) and Mike Long (Sigma Nu), and the recipient of the Laurel Wreath Award, Beck and Company.

Each year the NIC accepts nominations for the Gold and Silver Medal along with the Laurel Wreath Award. Honorees are chosen by the NIC Awards Committee chaired by the immediate past chairman of the conference. The medals are presented at the closing banquet and the Laurel Wreath during the luncheon that is named for the award. For more information regarding NIC recognition efforts please contact the headquarters at 317-872-1112.