



# *Christopher H. Ackerley '91*

*Has been elected to membership in the*

## *Beta Phi Hall of Honor Class of 2006*

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Brother Ackerley pledged the Beta Phi Chapter in the Fall of 1987. During his undergraduate years, he was very active in the Beta Phi Chapter including serving as Derby Days Chairman and Pro-Consul.

Brother Ackerley started his professional career in the Capital Markets Group of Bank of America in London, England in 1992. After his time abroad, he returned stateside and continued pursue his career in banking at Bank of America in Seattle, WA (his home-town) where he worked in a number of different areas including commercial lending and investment securities.

After several years in banking, Brother Ackerley went to work for Full House Sports & Entertainment (a subsidiary of The Ackerley Group, Inc. – NYSE: AK) which managed all of the business and marketing work for the Seattle SuperSonics (NBA). His primary responsibilities were tied to the financing of a public/private partnership between Full House and the City of Seattle to develop a new arena for the Sonics which would become known as KeyArena. The arena opened in the fall of 1995 and would later that year host the NBA Finals between the Sonics and Chicago Bulls.

Upon completing a successful stint at Full House, he moved to the corporate offices of the parent company of the Sonics – The Ackerley Group, Inc. (a diversified media and entertainment company with operating subsidiaries in outdoor media, broadcast media and sports & entertainment). Over the course of the coming years, Brother Ackerley served in a number of roles ranging from VP – Corporate Development & Marketing to serving as the company's President and COO where he oversaw the daily operations of the national media and entertainment company. In addition to serving on the company's board of directors, he was the point person in expanding and developing the company's relationship with the analyst community and Wall Street. In 2001, Brother Ackerley led the negotiations and completion of The Ackerley Group's sale of the Seattle SuperSonics and the Seattle Storm (WNBA) to The Basketball Club of Seattle which was led by Mr. Howard Schultz – Chairman of Starbucks Coffee Company. In 2002, he successfully co-led the merger between The Ackerley Group and Clear Channel Communications, Inc. Today, Brother Ackerley is a Partner in a Seattle based private media and entertainment investment company called Ackerley Partners, LLC.

Brother Ackerley has been and continues to be involved with many civic and community organizations in Seattle. He is an Emeritus Board member of Seattle Works and was presented with their Outstanding Alumni Board Member Award in 2004. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Lakeside School, the Pacific Science Center, and the Downtown Seattle Association. Additionally, he was appointed by City of Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels to Chair the Alaska Way Tunnel Coalition to lead the business community's effort to redevelop Seattle's waterfront. He is a member of the Young Presidents' Organization and in 2001 was recognized by the Puget Sound Business Journal as one of the region's most influential "40 under 40" business leaders. He resides in Seattle with his wife Diana and daughter Anabelle.

"I felt very privileged to have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of several other family members as I became a Sigma Chi. The experience I have had with Beta Phi has been and continues to be a very meaningful one. From the core of the Sigma Chi ritual to the values my parents have instilled in me, I have both learned and benefited from the importance of giving back to and maintaining strong ties with my family and community. When feeling a bit wayward, I still to this very day seek the wisdom and counsel of The Norman Shield. To that end, as Sir Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living out of what we earn, we make a life out of what we give." I have been given much, and I will do my best to reciprocate the blessings that have been bestowed on me including my affiliation with Beta Phi and Sigma Chi."