The Patterson School Seal

The original Patterson School seal, designed by Director Vince Davis had a very 70’s feel to it, incorporating a large P and S in appropriate University of Kentucky blue and white inside a funky oval.

The graphic was redone in the 90’s by Theresa Shear. The new seal featured a floating image of three blue stars and three yellow “bananas?” No particular meaning was attached to the seal components. Of course, this was the Nintendo® era with the Super Mario Brothers™ and Donkey Kong™ and that may have been a significant – albeit uncredited – influence.

The modern seal corralled the stars and stripes elements into a circle with the school’s name, reflective of the seals of the many US government agencies that employ Patterson School graduates. The font, colors, and elements of the seal were further tweaked by Keith Cavanaugh (Ambassador Cavanaugh’s son), resulting in the present version. We now equate the symbol as highlighting the three key characteristics emphasized in our motto: **Personal, Passionate, Professional**.

“Patterson Fifties” and the US Bureau of Engraving

Many have noticed that the key elements of our seal – 3 floating stripes, a 5-pointed blue star, and gold-colored $5 lettering – are prominently featured on the new $50 bill. This was done when the Bureau was operating without a confirmed Treasurer of the United States and a Patterson grad was Chief of Staff at Treasury. We have no comment regarding this … umm … coincidence. We do, however, believe our program’s high value and low cost will leave many of these “Patterson Fifties” in your pocket. That doesn’t mean that our competitors’ tuition is unduly high. We’re just saying …