Pi Delta Phi

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NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL FRENCH
HONOR SOCIETY
http://www.pidelephi.org

Member of
The Association of College & University Honor Societies

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The Pi Delta Phi Newsletter is published twice a year to inform each chapter about the activities and events of the organization. It is hoped that this information will inspire members to improve their roles as promoters of the French language and francophone cultures.

Please send all news items to:
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Pi Delta Phi History: Louis E. Richter, M.A., Zeta

Louis Earl Richter obtained his B.A. from the University of Minnesota in 1940, where he was a member of LAMBDA ALPHAPSI. Richter also completed advanced language study and research in Guatemala at the Universidad de San Carlos Borromeo. In 1941-42, he was on the staff of the superintendent of schools in Pendleton, California and served as the director of the Spanish instruction program at the Pendleton Air Base. From 1942-45 Richter served in the military signal corps. After the war, he served as an Instructor in the Department of Modern Languages at Oregon State University for three years where is also obtained his M.A. in 1947. His thesis was titled The Influence of Lamartine on the Lyric Poetry of Gomez de Avellaneda. He then taught for five years in the Department of Modern Languages at Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon before joining the Modern Foreign Languages Department at Oregon State University in 1953. Richter served as department chair and taught French and Spanish. He was honored by the French government and ministry of education for leadership in language training and international cooperation. Former Northwest Pacific chapter president of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), Righter also served on the editorial board of the Oregon Foreign Language Teachers Bulletin. Besides his long and distinguished service to Pi Delta Phi, Richter was also the OSU faculty advisor for Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, and was a special invited guest at the Sigma Delta Phi 1959 triennial convention in Chicago, held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) and the Modern Language Association (MLA). Sadly, Richter suffered a fall while traveling on the coast in 1970; the fall was so serious that he was disabled and forced to retire, spending the rest of his life in a nursing home. Mr. Richter passed away on March 13, 1976 at the age of 57.

Tribute to Dr. Pamela Park

It has been a tremendous pleasure to work with Pamela Park on the Pi Delta Phi Executive Board. She is a true professional in every sense of the word. I wish her the best for success and tremendous joy in all that she undertakes as she transitions into the next chapter of her life.

Cheers,
Eileen Angelini,
East Vice President

Pamela Park will be sorely missed by the board of directors. It has been a pleasure to work with her for twenty years as our vice president and as our executive director. She shared her time and talent, especially helping those who were new to the board. Her advice, help and guidance were always appreciated. Bonne retraite, ma chère amie.

John J. Janc,
North Vice President
“Un grand merci à Pamela Park”

Dr. Pamela Park a dédié de façon généreuse et exemplaire presque vingt ans au Comité exécutif de la Société d’honneur française Pi Delta Phi. Elle a été élue Vice-présidente de l’ouest en 1997. En 2004 le Président Dr. Paul Wood l’a nommée Directrice exécutive pour remplacer Dr. Mary Gutermuth. Puis, en 2011, parce qu’aucun autre modérateur n’avait posé sa candidature pour le poste de Vice-présidente de l’ouest, Pamela a accepté de reprendre ce poste et a continué à servir la Société jusqu’à ce qu’elle ait pris sa retraite de l’Université d’Idaho en 2015 et du Comité exécutif cette année. Bien qu’il ne soit point possible de remercier Pamela pour tout ce qu’elle a fait pour Pi Delta Phi pendant presque vingt ans, j’aimerais lui exprimer un très grand merci de tout cœur.

Scott Fish, President of Pi Delta Phi

Dear Pamela,
I do not know how to sufficiently describe your myriad contributions to the promotion of the francophone world and your energetic, phenomenal and ongoing support of Pi Delta Phi. You have been a dynamic and extremely actively involved individual whose loyal dedication to our honor society will not go unnoticed. We all have benefitted from your careful leadership and advisory assistance. Thank you for your numerous years of intense participation in our organization, and we all wish you well in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Karen Renick, Newsletter Editor

We all owe Pamela Park a tremendous debt of gratitude for her deep commitment to Pi Delta Phi’s mission and her dedicated leadership over the past two decades. I have only the highest praise for the way she facilitated the transition from her term as Executive Director to mine. I could not have imagined a more supportive or more patient mentor as I assumed the multiple responsibilities that she had always handled so well. Heartfelt thanks, Pamela, and best wishes for a wonderful retirement.

Beverly J. Evans, Executive Director

From the President:

On behalf of the Executive Board, I hope that all of our chapter moderators are having a wonderful and productive academic year. I have the luxury to be on sabbatical this year (my first full-year sabbatical in twenty years) which has enabled me to spend a bit more time on Pi Delta Phi and to complete several items on my to-do list. One of those items is our new national website (www.pideltaphi.org). I hope that you’re finding the website useful and easy to use. We’ve added a new history section that includes a great deal of information about the early days of the Society. We’ve also updated the documents section to include more items that moderators may find useful, such as: a How to Use the Database illustrated guide, sample chapter constitution, an informational brochure about the Society, and more.

Dr. Evans, Executive Director of Pi Delta Phi, and I have also been through most of the database and encouraged many dormant chapters to reactivate. There were, in fact, many more inactive chapters than anticipated. (Chapters become inactive when the current moderator retires, moves to take a new position, or sadly passes away and no faculty member is able or willing to step forward to lead the chapter.) A department may intend to keep the chapter active, but after a few or many years, the local Pi Delta Phi chapter is simply forgotten and as such, French students lose the benefits from membership in a national French academic society and the generous scholarship opportunities that Pi Delta Phi offers. Keeping local chapters active is essential; without a good number of active chapters the Pi Delta Phi scholarship funds would need to be drastically reduced.
While French is doing well in some parts of the country, our database work has discovered a number of Pi Delta Phi chapters that we’ve had to place on permanent inactive status because the institution’s French, French Studies, Romance Languages, etc. major has either been cut or reduced to a minor or certificate status only. The additional chapters now placed on inactive status are:

#28 ALPHA DELTA Saint Catherine's University, St. Paul, MN 1949  
#60 BETA MU, Carson-Newman University, Jefferson City, TN 1956  
#65 BETA RHO Judson College, Marion, AL 1956  
#66 BETA SIGMA, Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY 1956  
#80 GAMMA THETA North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC 1962  
#99 DELTA GAMMA Maryville College, Maryville, TN 1964  
#103 DELTA ETA University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha, OK 1964  
#131 EPSILON LAMBDA Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 1967  
#143 EPSILON PSI, Maryville University, St. Louis, MO 1969  
#156 ZETA MU, University of Charleston, Charleston, WV 1970  
#173 ETA EPSILON, Georgia Southwestern University, Americus, GA 1971  
#175 ETA ETA, Thiel College, Greenville, PA 1972  
#221 IOTA EPSILON, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL 1979  
#264 LAMBDA ALPHA, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN 1991

On a brighter note, we have been contacted by some schools that plan to reactivate this year or early next fall; they include:

#09 IOTA, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 1934  
#36 ALPHA MU, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC 1950  
#182 ETA XI, St. Augustine's University, Raleigh, NC 1973

Finally, a special note to faculty moderators living in the West region; despite a couple of calls for self-nominations, no interest has been forthcoming for our open West Vice President position on the Executive Board. If you’re living in the West region, or know of a faculty colleague who does and believe that she or he would be a good fit with Pi Delta Phi, we urge you to help us fill this important post; Pi Delta Phi is not able to function fully with only a partial Executive Board.

Thank you to all of the faculty members who are serving as chapter moderators this year. We greatly appreciate your service, passion, and energy in promoting French. *Avançons amis fidèles de la culture française!*

My Best Regards,

Scott Fish, Ph.D.  
National President & Webmaster, Pi Delta Phi
Grand’ Merci from the Newsletter Editor

Each year I again wholeheartedly thank each and every contributor to the PI DELTA PHI Newsletter, for without you there would be no news: the Summer Scholarship recipients whose unique personalized thank you letters recreate their unforgettable summers in francophone areas and encourage others to persevere in their studies of French; the individual chapters themselves, each constantly adding new members and lending their time and efforts to promoting French and francophone studies; the diligent and dedicated chapter moderators, some of whom have served the organization for over twenty years; the student chapter officers with their enthusiastic reports of field trips to films, concerts, and all things francophone; and those without whom you would not receive these pages: my departmental assistant Becca Callahan, the layout staff in the university’s graphics services, the printers in their publications department; and the bulk mailers with whom final arrangements are made for labeling and mailing to each chapter moderator a set of more than three hundred newsletter copies. Ultimately, the PI DELTA PHI Newsletter that you receive is the result of the combined efforts of individuals like you. I personally am indebted to all contributors, and ask that you continue to send newsworthy material to us to make the Newsletter even better. Merci infiniment.

Karen Renick
Newsletter Editor

Summer 2016 Scholarship Recipients

Mary E. Gutermuth Award: Abby Elston

Abby Elston studies French and linguistics with a minor in speech and hearing sciences at Indiana University [IU] in Bloomington. She is a junior from Crown Point, IN who hopes to one day become a speech-language pathologist. She has always had a passion for French, so she helped found the undergraduate French club at IU for which she serves as treasurer. Abby also works in a phonetics and phonology lab as a research assistant. Aside from these interests, Abby likes to listen to Frank Sinatra and is a coffee addict.
Aix-en-Provence Scholarship Winner:  
Tristin Herup-Wheeler

Tristin Herup-Wheeler was born in Ontario, Oregon but lived most of his life in a small town called Kuna, Idaho until he was 18. He graduated in the top 5% of his class in 2013 within the Kuna School District. He is currently a full-time student attending Idaho State University [ISU] on merit-based scholarship and in his third year of studies in both French and Medical Microbiology. He hopes to use his French and Medical education to become a practicing physician in France; a goal that he has had and maintained since beginning his secondary education. His inspiration for this goal stems from his love for the French community and his desire to help others.

In addition to pursuing language studies and sciences, he also enjoys other arts and activities, like playing the viola and cello, participating in skiing competitions, actively debating through the ISU Rupp Debate Team, learning and studying other languages and aspects of language culture, conducting independent research on various topics, and being engaged with many clubs and activities on and off campus. He is an active member in other organizations and honor societies like Golden Key, Pi Kappa Delta, Phi Kappa Phi, and Omicron Delta Kappa.

He was inducted into the LAMBDA OMEGA Chapter of Pi Delta Phi during the Spring semester of 2015. As a result of his excellent professors and tireless dedication to the language, this induction put him one step closer to attaining his life long goal of studying in France.

Paris Scholarship Winner:  
Patricia Cepeda

Patricia Cepeda is currently enrolled at the University of Puerto Rico with a triple major in French, German and International Relations. She studied a year abroad in New York, where she learned English and worked as an intern in Bank of America Merrill Lynch. She is a member of Model United Nations in Puerto Rico and as a former delegate, she participated in the international conferences in New York City. She is also a member of Pi Delta Phi and has been the first student in Puerto Rico to win a Pi Delta Phi award. Learning languages has always been one of her greatest passions, and French is her favorite one since the first day she started freshman year. Along with her passion for languages, she enjoys researching and debating on international political affairs. She also loves traveling and exploring different cultures. She is currently working as a German and French tutor in the Department of Foreign Languages at the University of Puerto Rico. Patricia is planning to graduate in 2017 and then continue graduate school in International Law.
OMICRON chapter at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida had their induction ceremony on April 15 and inducted eight new members. The ceremony included a tasting of three French and Swiss chocolates where they discussed the texture, taste, aroma, and how to properly eat chocolate.

EPSILON IOTA chapter at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas celebrated its first National French Week from November 4 through 10. Activities included the screening of Les Intouchables (2012), a lecture on religious violence during the reign of Henri IV and a music and costume party. The winner, Erick Carrizales, dressed as Marcel Zanini from his “Tu veux ou tu veux pas” music video, was awarded an Amazon gift card, while other characters, such as Vincent Van Gogh and Marianne won smaller prizes for second and third places. The French sector at Lamar also inducted two new members into the EPSILON IOTA chapter at the end of November 2015.

EPSILON IOTA chapter’s Erick Carruzales as Marcel Zanini

EPSILON IOTA’s Semaine du Français event at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas


ZETA CHI chapter at California Lutheran University: Deanna Dakar
ZETA CHI member Dr. Lisa Loberg has been invited to serve on the Council of Academic Advisors for the Institute for American Universities [IAU], France. Loberg is Senior Lecturer of French in the Department of Languages and Cultures at California Lutheran University [CLU] and CLU Director of Study Abroad. She is an alumna of the IAU Avignon program and a former recipient of the Joseph W. Yedlicka scholarship award for summer study in France.

Dr. Lisa Loberg of ZETA CHI at CLU

MU ALPHA chapter at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, inducted five students to their chapter of Pi Delta Phi, Ella Ng Kai Ni, Amber Ellis, Conovan Fravel, Connor Auch, and Caroline Beck. Each inductee read in French a short passage from a French poem, play, or novel. The Chapter Moderator is Dr. Scott Fish.

MU ALPHA (From left to right: Ella Ng Kai Ni, Amber Ellis, Conovan Fravel, Connor Auch, and Caroline Beck)

MU GAMMA chapter of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has the distinct honor of inducting Madame Christiane Taubira into Pi Delta Phi as an honorary member on January 30, 2016. Madame Taubira – who has served as a member of the European Parliament, in the French National Assembly, and as Minister of Justice in France – was on the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee campus to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Laws and Human Rights. She spoke with great eloquence to an audience of about 150 guests, on the
history of justice and human rights, on the role that France and the United States have played in promoting them, and on the importance of maintaining a constant vigilance to preserve and expand justice and human rights throughout the world.

Madame Christiane Taubira with UW-Milwaukee French Program faculty members Larry Kuiper (L) and Nicolas Russell (R).

MU UPSILON chapter at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO held its induction on Friday, January 22.

PI ALPHA chapter at the University of Missouri held their induction on March 11, 2016. The ceremony took place at 5:30 pm. The chair of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and the chair of the French Section were present. Twenty-four students and three faculty members were inducted into Pi Delta Phi. They were very interested in the ceremony and stayed afterwards to chat and enjoy the appetizers. The two students who started the process of getting a chapter of Pi Delta Phi at the University of Missouri talked about plans for the remainder of the current academic year as well as next year. They shared numerous ideas about what they could do as an organization.
N.B. The 2016 Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Friday November 4 at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront hotel in Jacksonville, Florida. The Board will meet during the South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA) annual conference. If you will attend the conference, we hope that you’ll stop by and meet the Board. Pi Delta Phi will also be sponsoring a conference session.

Our social media groups continue to grow (Facebook and Linkedin). Please invite your students to join one or both groups, or to follow us on our Twitter account. The groups share occasional news articles of interest, scholarship deadlines and job announcements.

If you are not yet a member of our free listserv or if your email address has changed, please (re)join. The listserv is the best means of communication to inform chapter moderators quickly of any important news, reminders, elections, etc. See the faculty section of the website for information on how to join the listserv.

N.B. If you do change moderators, please fill out the New Moderator Form to insure that the name and address of the new person will be added to the official list of Chapter Moderators and that s/he does receive a hard copy of the Pi Delta Phi Newsletter, and any other necessary information.

GUIDELINES FOR PI DELTA PHI CHAPTER WEBSITES AND SOCIAL NETWORKING GROUPS
(Available in the Networking section of the national website.)

1. Please verify that your chapter webpage or Facebook® group/page clearly displays your chapter Greek letters or school name, and does not simply state “Pi Delta Phi” which can potentially cause confusion with the National website or official Facebook® group. For example, consider using a variation of: Pi Delta Phi (Mu Alpha), or Pi Delta Phi, Augustana College Chapter.

2. You may use Pi Delta Phi images (e.g., key) for your chapter website or Facebook® group, as well as on initiation programs or chapter meeting agendas that you might create and print. Unless, however, permission is granted by the Executive Board, chapters may not use the Pi Delta Phi name or any of its images on products that they wish to create and to sell (e.g., t-shirts).

3. Please do not copy and post information or lists from Pi Delta Phi publications or the National website that would be likely to change or be updated, such as: the constitution and bylaws, history of the Society, list of the members of and contact information for the Executive Board, the complete chapter list, etc. Rather, create a link to the National website so that your visitors can access the most current information.

4. Should students wish to create their own Facebook® or other social networking group, we suggest that the Chapter Moderator serve as one of the group’s administrators so that over time, student administrative responsibility of the group can be assured.
To recognize outstanding scholarship in the French language and literature

To increase the knowledge and admiration of Americans for the contributions of France to world culture

To stimulate and encourage cultural activities which will lead to a deeper appreciation of francophone cultures and peoples

Inquiries concerning PI DELTA PHI should be addressed to:

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All of us from PI DELTA PHI wish you and your chapter a safe and prosperous summer.