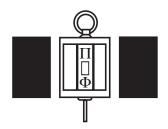
PI DELTA PHI

VOL. XXXVII No. 1

FALL 2005

NEWSLETTER



NATIONAL FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY

http://www.pideltaphi.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 and correspondence to:

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Fall 2005 National News

Pi Delta Phi Official Website:

http://www.pideltaphi.org

Pi Delta Phi Welcomes its New Executive Director

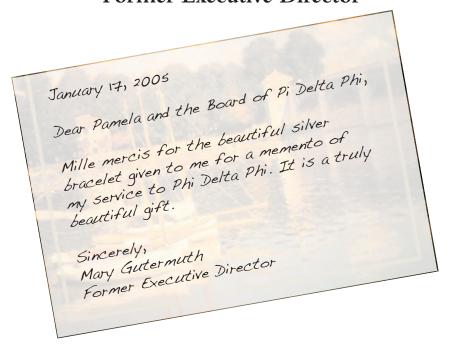


Dr. Pamela Park, the new Executive Director of Pi Delta Phi

Members of the Executive Board of Pi Delta Phi heartily welcome its new Executive Director, Dr. Pamela Park, former Vice-President of the Western Region. Her lengthy vita includes a Doctorate in French Language and Literature from the Graduate School of the City University of New York, a *Licence ès Lettres Modernes* from l'Université de Nancy, France, and a B.A. from Fordham University. A recipient of myriad grants and honors among which are a Fulbright Teacher Exchange at the Lycée Fragonard (L'Isle-Adam, France), two NEH Summer Seminars (Harvard and the University of Washington), and two University Fellowships from the Graduate School of the City University of New York, Dr. Park currently teaches at Idaho State University (ISU) in Pocatello, ID. She has taught several French courses ranging from Elementary and Intermediate, Advanced Grammar, Seventeenth through Twentieth Century Literature (in addition to Survey of French Literature) to an Honors Course and

a course entitled "The Civilization of Revolutionary France". Her publications are numerous and include articles, book reviews, and translations. Holding memberships in the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, and the Modern Language Association (MLA), Dr. Park serves her university and her community in exemplary fashion, as witnessed by her varied committee appointments and advisory assistance at ISU and her active support of and participation in Pocatello school affairs.

Thank You Card from the Former Executive Director



Thank You Letters from PI DELTA PHI Summer Scholarship Recipients

LUKE HANKINS

I would be lying if I said that I knew how to summarize the six weeks I spent in Avignon this summer. I would be an even bigger liar if I said that I knew how to explain the emotions I've experienced or the changes I've undergone. So I'll do

my best to describe, rather than explain.

The Institut Américain Universitaire, where I studied, could not have provided me with a better host family. "Mad" (short for "Madeleine") is one of the kindest and most honest people I've ever known – and she loves to talk and to cook (two things that are very important for a foreign student staying in France!) and she is full of wise advice. Her daughter, Adèle, was also great – "super sympa," as the French say. We traded books – she gave me Camus' *Lettres à un ami allemand*, and I gave her Billy Collins' *Sailing Alone Around the Room*. What these two books have in common would be hard to say – but sharing our books helped create a bond of friendship. Saying goodbye to Mad and Adèle was painful, though I'm proud to say that I maintained my male dignity and didn't cry like they did! (At least not while they were looking…)

So many wild things seemed to happen while I was there. After a couple weeks of relative calm, the annual theater festivals came to Avignon, along with their more than 750 plays, musicals, dances, and concerts. About a hundred billion people, whose only job seemed to be to crowd the streets, decided to show up for the festivals! Virtually overnight, Avignon became a completely different town. Every conceivable space – abandoned buildings, churches, parks, whatever – was converted into a theater. Performers filled the streets and cafés, dancing and singing in an attempt to lure spectators to their theaters. Posters wallpapered the city. Tracts carpeted the streets. It was crazy and out of control, and utterly exhilarating! I went to as many performances as possible, and saw some horrendous productions, some amazing ones, and a lot of in-between ones. Sometimes, our professors would take us as a class to a play that was relevant to the coursework. This was an exciting way to study.

Suddenly one evening, I heard about deadly explosions in the London subway. The next day, one of our professors was not in class. We found out later that she was trying to contact her son, who lives in London, and would have usually been on the "tube" where one of the bombs went off. When she finally contacted him, she found out that he had decided to work from home that day.

I went to a barbeque with Mad one afternoon, and one of her friends showed me "des vrais fromages" – real cheeses. They smelled rotten. I tried them, and they were very strong to me, being as I am used to "fake" American cheeses! I decided that I had had enough when he informed me that one of the cheeses sometimes has worms in it, and that it's extra good if it does. I told him that I think I preferred "fake" cheese.

I saw a version of Camus' *L'étranger* adapted for the stage in a tiny chapel-turned-theater. The actor was talented and powerful. I saw it twice. After visiting the Roman arena at Arles, I bought some *pommes de terre provençales* at the open-air market – it was one of the best things I have ever eaten. I went to a few hours of a play by a well-known playwright/director that was supposed to last 9 hours. It was awful. I hitchhiked back into centre-ville along with two girls from Montpellier who had also had more than enough.

I visited a Protestant church. There were few people there, and they were almost all old. A very old lady looked at me and said, "It makes me happy to see a young person like you here!" We all drank from the same cup at Communion.

One night, there was a murder at Place de l'Horloge.

I spend hours preparing my thoughts on the relationship between Nietzsche's concept of Dionysian art and the work of the American poet Richard Wilbur for one of my mid-term exams.

I walked by the Rhône at sunset, watching the birds fill the air, diving at insects and fighting the mistral all the while.

The police evacuated the main street, Rue de la République, one evening because of a bomb threat.

Mad took me and some other students who were staying with her to a restaurant for dinner. She gave us all beautiful knives and told us that we had to give her a small coin in return so that the friendship would not be "cut." This exchange, apparently, should happen whenever one gives or receives a knife as a gift.

I asked my professors for names of important modern and contemporary French poets. I came back to the States weighed down with books.

The evening before I returned home, I was completing one of the interviews that my school in the States required. One of the friends of the man I was interviewing showed up. His name was Pascal. He began to talk, and he said very interesting things. He was pleased to know that I was American, that I actually spoke some French, and that I had had a positive experience in France. He asked me to share it with my friends and professors in the States. He believed that there can be a good, amicable relationship between the French and the Americans, if people would get to know each other and stop constantly thinking in terms of politics. I agreed wholeheartedly.

My last night in Avignon, I stood at my fourth-story window, looking at the cobbled street below, the tiled rooftops all around, and the darkening sky above beginning to show its stars. For a few moments, I could have sworn that it was my very first night there, and that I had not yet experience anything in Avignon. I think I felt that way because there had been too many things to process, to try to understand, to try to organize and fit onto the appropriate shelves in my mind for safekeeping. I also think I felt that way because I did not want to leave.

Does this short list of experiences and events help explain why these six weeks were so wonderful, so terrible, so enlightening, so confusing – and so important? I hope so.

I would like to thank Pi Delta Phi and the National Dean's List for providing the scholarships, which allowed me to study in Sauvignon with the wonderful professors and administrators of the Institute American Universities. No classroom can reproduce the total immersion that studying abroad offers. I thank Dr. Pamela Park in particular for allowing me to have this valuable experience. Lastly, thank

you, Dr. James Wilkins, for nominating me for the scholarships and for all that you have taught me, in the classroom as well as outside of it.

Steven "Luke" Hankins

JEANETTE HALM

My stay in Sauvignon, France during the summer of 2005 was met with great anticipation and preparation. After studying French for eight years, I felt I was well prepared to immerse myself in French culture and society.

The IAU program, academically speaking, was outstanding. My professors and the director of the Avignon program were very helpful and available to all the students in the program. My two courses, The Representation of Trials in French literature and cinema and France Under the 5th Republic, were challenging. I appreciated the challenge, as I was determined to learn and improve my conversational skills. Professor Moulinas and Dr. Benjamin made the classes interesting for all the students. They met us on a personal level and were available whenever needed to answer questions, pertaining to the class or otherwise.

The home-stay portion of my trip was not as outstanding. It had its shortcomings. The woman with whom I was living was frequently visiting her children two hours north in Valence and thus, I had little chance to engage in conversation with her in her home. In addition, I got the impression that me living in her house was more of a job for her than it was a pleasure. I found myself always commencing conversation. It s not that she was not welcoming, far from that. However, I found that many students in the IAU program had complaints about their home-stay families. In addition to the home-stay families, I found the program in general lacking as far as cultural exchange activities. It would have been better suited for American students if they were paired up with a French student to exchange conversation. Packing 19 American students in a building every day for a month and insisting they "parlez français" is almost silly to ask. Even if we were expected to speak French amongst each other, I found it ridiculous, as nobody would know when to correct the other.

Despite the grievances I had about trivial things, my stay in Avignon was a pleasant one. The excursions on the weekends allowed us to discover Provence and the Cote d'Azur and allowed us to grow as a group. The teachers and professionals at the Institute were extremely welcoming and helpful. I am extremely grateful for having had the opportunity to finish my undergraduate degree in such a manner. Thank you again!

AUBREY JONES

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TERESA MAYBEE

For seven fabulous weeks in Summer 2004, I was Joni Mitchell's "free man in Paris – I felt unfettered and alive." After years of juggling family, work, and studies, I had just received my B.A. in French and was the incredibly proud recipient of the Pi Delta Phi's Yedlicka award for summer study at the American University of Paris (AUP). I rented an apartment on the Rue des Fossés Saint Bernard in the Latin Quarter and at first, jokingly called the studio/loft my "Barbie Dream Apartment." However, after visiting others, I was soon to realize that — by Parisian standards — it was not only enormous, but also positively decadent, since it was equipped with a washer-dryer. Not for the first time, I made note of my American tendency to take large spaces and modern conveniences for granted.

I explored as much of Paris as possible and after seven weeks, only scratched the surface. The bus and metro systems are not difficult to master; and I love the

talented musicians who entertain travelers in the corridors and on the trains. One of my classes through AUP was *History of Art Through Paris Museums* and we met every morning at the Louvre, Orsay or Cluny museums. It was nothing short of fabulous to be able to see first-hand the art and antiquity in this city, which is a museum unto itself. Thanks to my AUP card identifying me as *étudiante en beauxarts*, I was granted free admission to all of the museums I visited, even when I was not with my class. I viewed the "Paris 1400" exhibit at the Louvre and, among other treasures, was thrilled to see original Christine de Pizan manuscripts and illuminations that I had studied in medieval literature.

I received a superior education in French language and culture at Florida Atlantic University, so I had no difficulty communicating in French. In fact, I found most Parisians polite, friendly, and appreciative of my speaking French, as opposed to assuming that they spoke English (which most do). I spent days investigating the museums and shops and walked for miles daily. I attended concerts at the Cluny by the medieval group *Ultreia* and emerging after one concert, was swept down the Boulevard Saint-Germain into the middle of the Gay Pride Parade. I walked along the Seine and visited the *bouquinistes*, wandered the gardens at *Chatelet/les Halles* and watched old men playing *pétanque*. I was lucky enough to be in Paris for *le 21 juin Fête de la Musique* and was exposed to the talents of hundreds of French musicians, occupying every street corner, playing through the night for thousand of festive spectators. I sat at cafés with friends watching people, drinking coffee, and splurging on *croissants aux amandes*. I collected an entire suitcase of French *realia*, invaluable resources that I now use to teach French at FAU.

I am incredibly grateful and wish to thank Pi Delta Phi for providing me with the opportunity to have made this fantastic journey, a journey that is still only beginning. I would also like to thank Professor Maud Nicolas, formerly a professor at AUP and sponsor of their Pi Delta Phi chapter. Mme Nicolas is the epitome of all things superb about France and I shall always be appreciative of her *courtoisie* while I was in Paris.

Teresa Maybee, septembre 2005

Donations to Pi Delta Phi

Please remember that Pi Delta Phi is a nonprofit organization that allows many qualified students in French to greatly benefit from its generous Summer Scholarship programs to selected francophone universities abroad. If you value what Pi Delta Phi gives to these students, the organization would be indeed grateful for any support you could provide our French honor society. We all know that giving makes a difference.

La Semaine du Français

Pi Delta Phi would be very appreciative if you would notify us as to what innovations your chapter has created to make the most successful and attended attractions at your institution. Films, dinners, plays, singers, any francophone activities and displays whatsoever will be described in our fall edition of the Newsletter. Thank you in advance for your participation and enthusiasm.

Annual Executive Board Meeting Of Pi Delta Phi Held In Baltimore, Maryland

Executive Board members met in the Pratt/Calvert room in the Baltimore Hyatt Regency Hotel on Saturday, November 19, 2005 in conjunction with the annual convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Those present included the former Executive Director, Dr. Mary Gutermuth (Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, TX), the new Executive Director, Dr. Pamela Park (Idaho State University in Pocatello, ID), the President, Dr. Paul Wood (St. Bonaventure University in St. Bonaventure, New York), the Newsletter Editor Dr. Karen Renick (California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA), and the following Regional Vice-Presidents: Dr. Carleen Leggett from Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD [Southeast Region], Dr. Clayton Alcorn from the State University of New York College of Cortland, NY [Northeast Region], Dr. Pat Hopkins from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX [South Central Region], and Dr. Scott Fish from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota [North Central Region]. After the welcome and approval of the minutes of the November 20, 2004 board meeting in Chicago, Illinois, reports were presented by the Regional Vice-Presidents, and subsequently the President, the Executive Director, and the Newsletter Editor. NU RHO chapter at Washington College in Chesterton, Maryland was installed on March 15, 2005 by Dr. Carleen Leggett. The board voted to raise membership dues to \$30 beginning next scholastic year.



Executive Board Officers at the PI DELTA PHI Executive Board Meeting in Baltimore, MD – Front row from left to right: Drs. Pat Hopkins, Mary Gutermuth, and Clayton Alcorn; back row from left to right: Drs. Paul Wood, Pamela Park, Scott Fish, and Carleen Leggett (Photo taken by Dr. Karen Renick) 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 Clarice Hammett, 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.

Kasen Ranick Newsletter Editor

Fall 2005 Chapter News

DELTA BETA of Georgian Court College in Lakewood, NJ, recently inducted four new chapter members: Heather Walker, Deirdre Amato, Alissa Stewart, and Stephanie Di Zenzo.



DELTA BETA inductees: Heather Walker, Deirdre Amato, Alissa Stewart, and Stephanie Di Zenzo

EPSILON TAU of Texas State University in San Marcos, TX, sends us the following news: Our Epsilon Tau chapter of Pi Delta Phi at Texas State University at San Marcos is proud to have a very famous French artist who has come to present her artwork and talk to students about what inspires her creation.

The chapter is very proud to announce that this year's French National Honor Society (Pi Delta Phi) Lecture for the November 11, at 2pm featuring Christiane Baccou Pettersen come from Paris to talk to us about her artwork. Christiane is a French, Norway-based, modern artist who has sold works all over the world (to notable people like former president Bill Clinton & Nelson Mandela).

Additionally, the chapter also planned to visit one of the world's largest collections of Vatican art, documents and historical objects to be displayed at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center from October 15, 2005

through January 8, 2006, in San Antonio, Texas (30 miles South from us).

This highly anticipated exhibit is called "Saint Peter and the Vatican: The Legacy of the Popes." San Antonio is the only city in the south to host The Vatican exhibit in a limited three-city tour that began in June in Montreal and will end in Milwaukee in May 2006. More than 300 authentic pieces trace 2000 years of Catholic leadership, beginning with Saint Peter through Pope John Paul II, as well as new items from the recent election of Pope Benedict XVI. Objects on display include tiaras, sketches, jewelry, vestments, and sculptures; art by Canova, Bernini and Giotto; and gifts to the popes from notables Napoleon and the Dalai Lama. All items are on loan from the Vatican, the Vatican Museums, the archives of the Propaganda Fide, the Pontifical Sacristy, the Sistine Chapel, and Roman churches administered by the Vatican. The exhibit has something for everyone: people of all faiths, historians, art lovers and students who come to admire the various elements, which include history, art, architecture, design and culture.

Christiane Baccou Pettersen Born in Charente, France in 1943. Diploma Baccalaureat St. Céré, Lot, France, in 1961.



After a period of living and working abroad from 1971 to 1983 in Iran, Tunisia, Costa Rica, Iraq and Norway, Christiane presented her own works at the "Salon Prêt à Porter" in Paris, 1984. A show of her paintings took place at

Echaugette, Giroussens, near Toulouse in 1988. The large one-person show displayed 54 works, at the Château Sédières, Corrèze, France in connection with the bi-centennial celebration of the 1789 revolution in France. The exhibition, opened by Jacques Chirac, now President of France. Christiane has exhibited paintings at the University of Tampa, FL., Lee Scafone Gallery, at Court Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark, at Interiorgalleriet, Oslo, Norway, as well as shown her works at various local shows in France during the late 1980's and early 1990's.



One of Christiane Baccou Pettersen's many works.

In 1993, two of her large paintings from the Copenhagen show were presented to Nelson

Mandela at a ceremony in Oslo, Norway, and were shipped for display at Nelson Mandela's offices in South Africa (Christiane later, in 2004, personally met Nelson Mandela in Africa as a "mémoire" of the paintings). In 1994, Christiane submitted 2 paintings to President Bill Clinton , showing the "American Inspiration", for which he wrote Christiane a warm thank you note.

Following the exhibitions and "gallery works" of the early 90's, Christiane became engaged in a new area of artistic expression, - that of creating art for the decor and interior design of cruise ships. This started in 1994 by working from her studio at her house in Marco in Florida, for one of the world's leading cruise lines, i.e., Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Over the years she has worked on a total of 6 of their ships. This has been in various media, - painting on canvas and on paper, as well as large size sculptures, the latter executed in Carrara, Italy. Later, she was asked to provide a large number of works with scenes from Italy for the Italian luxury ship Silver Seas, and later for another of their ships, totaling more than a hundred works. Color Line of Norway added a luxury ship, the Color Fantasy to their fleet in December of 2004, and Christiana was asked to paint 4 large, 3 by 12 foot paintings for the first class restaurant. 10 years have passed, and a very large number of Christiana's works are sailing the 7 seas. Another, and favorite, area of artistic creation for Christiana is interior design, creating living spaces....She has over the years done a large number of apartments, houses and even offices in the USA, France, UK and Norway. Just this fall (2005) she is finishing her own house in Bordeaux, - no one knows where or when the next project will surface. Christiane is still a young artist, still looking for new means of expression and new ways of application. And, she loves to communicate her passion!

ZETA CHI chapter at California Lutheran University [CLU] in Thousand Oaks, CA, in conjunction with the CLU French Club, participated in several activities during the fall semester. In addition to the semesterly attendance at Fall Showcase, various members volunteered to work for several hours on a Saturday evening in October at the Community Leaders auction "An Evening in Tuscany") held at the Westlake Hyatt Plaza Hotel In addition to a campus showing of



ZETA CHI and French Club members at the October 22 Community Leader's Auction at the Westlake Hyatt. From left to right: (Standing) Tracy How, Hnin Zaw, Delia de la Cruz, Blythe Cherney, Cynthia Cardona, Clarice Hammett, Jacob Jensen. Kneeling are Roseanna Mitchelle and Melissa Anderson.

the feature film "Un long dimanche de fiançailles" they experienced a real treat by sampling over thirteen kinds of French cheeses, among which were mimolette, chaumes, tête de moine, brie, raclette. port-salut, doux de montagne, camembert, chèvre in dill, Roquefort, bleu d'Auvergne, bucheron, emmental and gruyère (*Incroyable!*). In November they celebrated *La Semaine du Français* by advertising the events campus-wide with large posters, a francophone display in a large case in the Pearson Library,



Mme Britt-Nicole Peterson serves cheese to students in the foyer of California Lutheran University's Pearson Library during "La Semaine du Français."

a film festival with showings of "Les Choristes", and "Le battement d'ailes du papillon". During that week, one French/francophone dish was served per day in the cafeteria and on Friday, November 11, a small "dégustation" took place in the foyer of the library with Mme Britt-Nicole Peterson. a native French-speaker from Normandie and information specialist in the library. French music was played while students sampled Saint-André triple cream, various types of brie and chèvre. Several students were interviewed and photos were taken at most all events. In addition, on December 3, they planned a visit to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to see the special exhibit entitled "Cézanne & Pissarro: Pioneering Modern Painting." The Chapter Moderator of **ZETA CHI** is Dr. Karen Renick.

ZETA PHI chapter at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, Rhode Island inducted six new members on Friday May 6, 2005. The ceremony took place in URI's Hodge Forum at the Multicultural Center. The society moderator, Dr. Lars O. Erickson, welcomed Nicholas Mandler, Brian K. MacDonald, Kristen Murphy, Amanda Brooke Bischoff, Nicole Verrier, and Kelly McBrien to Pi Delta Phi. The induction ceremony took place at the same time as the celebration for the Promotion Marguerite Yourcenar, with the 2005 graduating class of French majors. Of the 20 graduating French majors, 25% are Pi Delta Phi members.



ZETA PHI members at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, Rhode Island

ZETA MU chapter at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, NC, sends us the following: This has been an exciting year for the Zeta Mu chapter of the French Honor Society. It was filled with senior trips, French weeks, and new member inductions. At the end of this year, all we can say is, "Whew, is it really over?" In the beginning of the school year, during Fall Break, our chapter took a senior trip to New Orleans. We actually spoke 100 hours of French in honor of Gardner-Webb University's centennial year. We spoke it on the drive there, in the hotel rooms, in restaurants, and all along the French Quarter. We spoke it so much that our return to campus brought on a sense of culture shock.

This year our chapter also sponsored the French week activities outside of the cafeteria. We had surveys to see how much people knew about France, French food, French culture, and French people. It was so impressive to see just how much our faculty and students knew. Tom Jones, a professor from the science department actually answered all of the questions on the survey correctly.

The French Honor Society conducted 2 honorary inductions this year. We inducted 5 members in the beginning of the year. Those members include French lab worker Isabelle, Lauren Beckett, Sylvie Soulier, Sarah Walker, and Lauren Poole. However, we realized that the majority of our members would be graduating, including the president, Jovan Freeman. Therefore another ceremony took place at the end of the year, which brought in 3 new members who immediately became newly elected officers. The inductees were Benjamin Curry (new president), Alicia Hinson, and Lauren Walden (new secretary/treasurer). Lauren Beckett is the new vice-president.

This year has been the most memorable for our society by far. We bid "au revoir, félicitations, and bonne chance" to our graduating seniors and "salut" to their worthy replacements.



ZETA MU members at the University of Charleston, in Charleston, West Virginia

NU RHO chapter at Washington College in Chesterton, Maryland was installed on March 15, 2005 by Dr. Carleen Leggett. The Faculty Moderator is Dr. Pamela Pears.



NU RHO members with their new banner and chapter certificate.

Editor's Note

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding your specific chapter, or PI DELTA PHI in general, please contact the PDP Executive Director, Dr. Pamela Park, who may be reached at any of the following:

- 1) **e-mail address:** parkpame@isu.edu
- postal mail:

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 Box 8350
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All of us from **PI DELTA PHI** wish you and your chapter

"Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année"



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PI DELTA PHI http://www.pideltaphi.org

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

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