



*Newsletter*  
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Spring 2019

# Pi Delta Phi

The French National Honor Society, est. 1906

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

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As we draw to the close of another academic year, a sincere thank you to all of the faculty chapter moderators who, although having busy teaching schedules and committee assignments, nevertheless work hard to maintain an active chapter of Pi Delta Phi at their college or university campus, encourage students to apply for our summer scholarships, and share chapter news with us. If your chapter will have a new moderator next year, please have her or him fill out the *Change of Moderator* form available within our database.

In this issue, in addition to chapter and other news, you'll discover some recent discoveries about the history of Pi Delta Phi. When I first joined the Executive Board in 2002 as the North Vice President, almost nothing was known about the early days of Pi Delta Phi and we had very little information about the Society prior to the 1970s. We knew only the 1906 founding date and location and had a few random names and other dates. Many questions remained unanswered. Who were the earliest national officers? Why is our Society named Pi Delta Phi? Who composed the initiation ceremony text?

Unlike some larger academic honor societies that benefit from full-time and permanent paid staff, membership on the Pi Delta Phi Executive Board is unpaid and voluntary. Over the decades, with frequent changes in membership on the Executive Board, files and information have been lost, forgotten or destroyed. Because I believe it to be important to recognize those early faculty members for their service to Pi Delta Phi, it has been my task over the last two decades to try to piece together the complete history of the Society. I've poured through old university yearbooks, written to numerous university archives, and conducted research at the Bancroft Library on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. Thanks largely to increased access to university information and archives via the internet, I'm pleased to share that we now have a nearly complete history of the Society. Information on our traditions and former members of the Executive Board is available in the [history](#) section of our national website, and I'm happy to share some interesting news in this issue.

While we all know how faculty busy are, I encourage us to remember the Pi Delta Phi motto—*Probaïnomen Diakritoi Philogálatoi* (*Avançons, amis fidèles de la culture française*)—and to strive to keep local chapters—your chapter—active in order to promote the French language and the literatures and cultures of the French-speaking world.

Finally, if you held or are holding a late spring induction ceremony, or have any chapter or student news or successes to share, please send your news and photos (with captions) for inclusion in our next *Newsletter* to: [news@pideltaphi.org](mailto:news@pideltaphi.org)

Thanks again to all of our chapter moderators.

Scott Fish, Ph.D.  
National President

## PI DELTA PHI HISTORY: DID YOU KNOW?

### Why is the Society named Pi Delta Phi?

Three language honor societies, all founded at the University of California, Berkeley, chose Greek letters based on the original non-Greek names or mottos of the societies:

Pi Delta Phi–French–*Pour défendre le français*  
 Pi Mu Iota–Italian–*Pro musa italica*  
 Sigma Delta Phi–Spanish–*La Sociedad del Prado*

Ph.D. candidate in Spanish and Romance Philology Leavitt Olds Wright (1891-1980), who was inducted into Pi Delta Phi in 1927 and served as President of the Alpha chapter of Sigma Delta Phi, believed that non-Greek mottos for the Berkeley language honor societies were inappropriate.

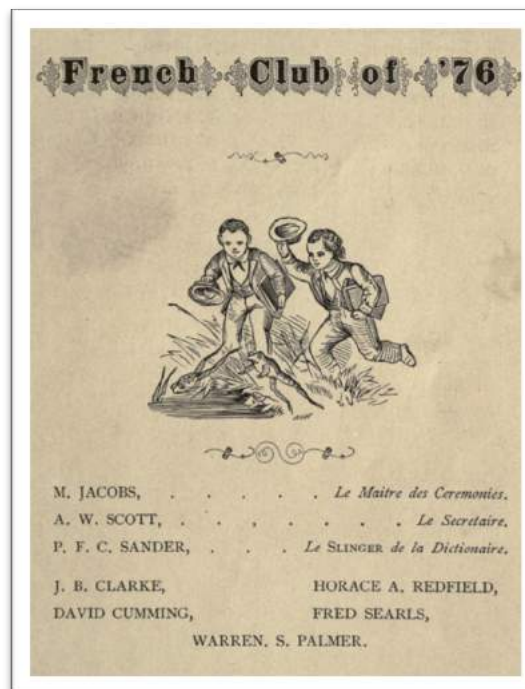


Dr. Leavitt O. Wright

Well versed in several languages including Latin and Greek, Wright created new mottos in Greek for the three language societies including: *Probaínomen Diakritoi Philogálatoi* (*Avançons, amis fidèles de la culture française*; Forward, faithful friends of French) for Pi Delta Phi; and *Spanías Didagéi Proágomem* (Let's go forth/continue teaching/guidance of the Spanish Language) for Sigma Delta Phi. Leavitt also fostered very close ties between the language societies and organized one joint meeting during his term as Alpha chapter president of Sigma Delta Phi. He later taught Romance languages at the University of Oregon and served as President of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in 1948.

### Who was the first President of Pi Delta Phi?

A French club existed at the University of California, Berkeley as early as 1876.



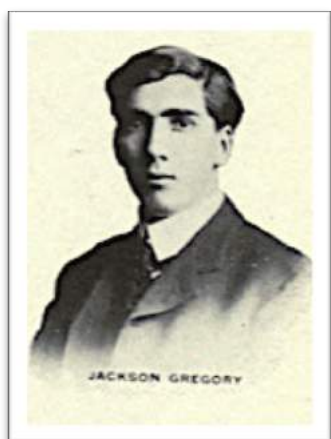
UC-Berkeley French Club 1876  
*Blue & Gold* yearbook page

The first recorded *Cercle Français* was organized in 1903 to foster French conversation opportunities for students. It is, however, to the 1906 reorganized *Cercle Français* that later *Blue & Gold* yearbooks refer when stating that Pi Delta Phi was founded as a departmental society in 1906. The 1906 reorganized *Cercle Français* was, however, quite different from our modern notion of a French club. In addition to a faculty director (Prof. Alfred Solomon), the club was governed by elected student officers and two committees. While a program committee arranged a series of activities for each meeting (conversation, songs, games, presentations, etc.), a membership committee approved student requests to join. The club was not open to all; only those individuals "who are connected to the French department of the university" and who had completed at least six months of French language study were considered for membership. Community members who were

proficient in French were also invited to attend as special guests. As such, while called the *Cercle Français*, the organization operated in many ways like an academic honor society and functioned as such until the first appearance of the Pi Delta Phi key and Greek letters (that were incorreced labeled Pi Lambda Phi) in the 1921 *Blue & Gold* yearbook. The appearance of the key, Greek letters, and the roster of seniors, graduate students, and faculty is accompanied by the first recorded statement "Organized in 1906 as Le Cercle Français. Reorganized in 1920."

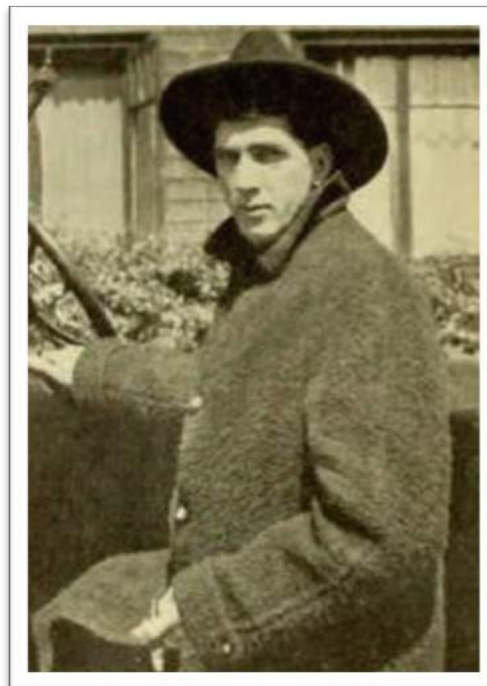


The 1906 reorganization of the *Cercle Français* into a more exclusive and serious society may be due to longtime faculty director Prof. [Alfred Solomon](#), and the individual that we can consider to be the very first president of the early predecessor of Pi Delta Phi, [Jackson Gregory](#).



Jackson Gregory, *Cercle Français* President, 1906

During the early twentieth century, UC-Berkeley clubs and organizations that desired their own pages in the University's *Blue & Gold* yearbook were responsible to bear all costs for the creation and layout of the page. The 1906 *Cercle Français* occupied an entire yearbook page, perhaps because Gregory, in addition to serving as President of the *Cercle Français*, was also the Editor of the University's *Blue & Gold* yearbook.



Jackson Gregory in 1919

Gregory graduated in 1907 and served as a California high-school principal before becoming a journalist in Illinois. He was a prolific writer of western and detective stories, and authored more than forty novels, several of which were made into movies including: *The Man from Painted Post* (1917, from the story "Silver Slippers") and *Hearts and Spurs* (1925, from the story "The Outlaw"). He passed away in Auburn, California in 1943.

Eventually, the Alpha chapter at Berkeley ceased to function as the national committee, and separate national officers were elected or appointed. Later an executive board was established. By 1947, with the death of Professor Alfred Solomon just prior to his retirement, the Alpha chapter at Berkeley closed and has, most unfortunately, been inactive since that time.

## LISTSERV

Moderators, make sure to receive occasional and important messages and reminders from the Society by joining our free listserv:

<http://www.pideltaphi.org/listserv>

## NEW CHAPTERS

Pi Delta Phi welcomed four new chapters during the 2018-2019 academic year:

#400 PI SIGMA—East Carolina University, Greenville, NC (Oct. 18, 2018)

#401 PI TAU—Northeastern University, Boston, MA (April 5, 2019)

#402 PI UPSILON—University of Rochester, NY (April 12, 2019)

#403 PI PHI—University of Maryland, College Park, MD (May 9, 2019)

# Chapter News

## INDIANA UNIVERSITY, OMICRON UPSILON

Margaret E. Gray, Chapter Moderator

The Omicron Upsilon chapter at Indiana University held its induction ceremony on Friday, October 26, 2018. The following photo, published in our fall *Newsletter*, has been updated to include the names of the individuals pictured:



**L-R, back row:** Margaret Gray, Moderator; Barbara Vance, Founding Moderator (partially obscured); Andrew Brown, Jessica Dvorscak, Megan Crow, Rose Guingrich, Benjamin Ibrulj, Emily Helbing, Cristina Robu, Department of French and Italian Chair Massimo Scalabrini, Ludovic Mompelat.

**L-R, front row:** Jade Siwei Liu, Katharine Adams, Jamie Frederick, Joanna Winstone, Arielle Paré, Olivia DeCrane, Lily Weaver, Bavi Sarda, Apoorva Sarmal.

**Not shown:** Alexandria Bougher, Anabella Cloutier Chaine, Samuel Day, Molly Fogle, Anna Groover, Audrey B. Hood., Cindy Lee, Tammie Ma, Ashton Murray, Nicholas Petry, Hannah Pitcher.

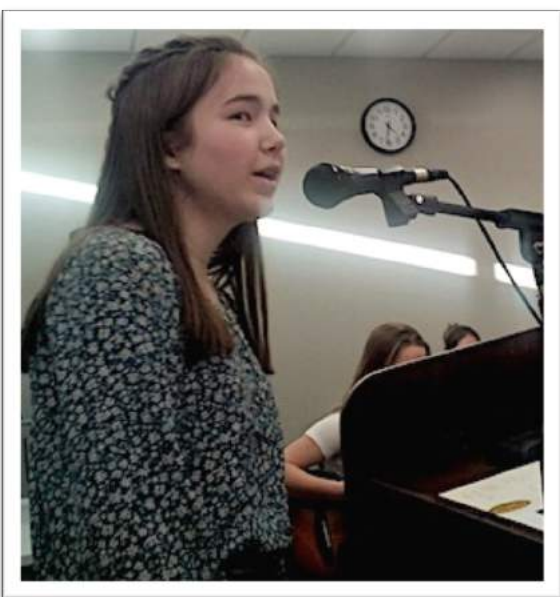


## ROCKHURST UNIVERSITY, MU UPSILON

M. Kathleen Madigan, Chapter Moderator



Mu Upsilon at Rockhurst University in Kansas City celebrated its twentieth anniversary at our induction ceremony on Friday, February 8, 2019 on campus. Five new regular members were inducted, six graduating seniors received honor cords, and alumni who returned to campus for the event, one with children, shared memories of their senior French capstone presentations and study abroad. Two local high school students from one of our partnering French ACCP (Advanced College Credit Program) High Schools sang a song in French “*On écrit sur les murs*” by Kids United, and colleagues read a poem by Raymond Levesque and a reading as well as on the importance of French in the world.



20 Years of Pi Delta Phi at Rockhurst University

## TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, EPSILON TAU

Moira Di Mauro-Jackson, Chapter Moderator



Texas State University Modern Languages faculty and chapter Epsilon Tau moderator Dr. Di Mauro-Jackson helped to induct French major Marisa Luna into Pi Delta Phi in December 2018. Marisa was praised for her outstanding scholarship in the French language and Francophone literatures during the French Club's *Le Repas* dinner. Dr. Jennifer Forrest, Dr. Carole Martin and Dr. Valérie Masson were also in attendance to cheer Marisa on, as well as all the Texas State University French Club officers and members. Poems by Verlaine, Baudelaire and Rimbaud were read and a wonderful meal followed.

## MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY, ETA RHO

Antoinette Barffour, Chapter Moderator



On March 20, 2019, Eta Rho inducted eight outstanding French major and minor students at Missouri State University. Chapter Moderator and Eta Rho Chapter Executives presided over the ceremony. Former Eta Rho Chapter Moderator, Dr. David Lee, Former Modern and Classical Languages Department Head, Dr. Madeleine Hooper, and current French program Director, Dr. Tonia Tinsley attended the event. The latter invited guests shared their experiences with French language and encouraged inductees to continue their pursuit of French language and francophone culture learning. Also in attendance were families and friends of inductees and executives. The ceremony included captivating performances by the inductees: role-plays, and the recitation of poems and proses authored by Jacques Prévert, Antoine De Saint-Exupéry, Théophile Gautier, Simone Weil and Jean de la Fontaine. New members were treated to delicious French desserts, thanks to Dr. Jason Jolley (Department Head).



French Desserts



Nicole and Grace performing  
"La Cigale et la Fourmi"

## UNIVERSITY OF THE CUMBERLANDS, LAMBDA GAMMA

Laura Dennis, Chapter Moderator

The Lambda Gamma chapter inducted one new member, Tara Routliffe, during our annual World Languages Honors Night. A Southwest-themed dinner was served with chocolate mousse for dessert. Current Pi Delta Phi members were also present, graduating seniors were recognized, and awards in both French and Spanish were presented. Pi Delta Phi member Cea Jae Dykes won the AATF Outstanding Senior in French award. I have attached two photos, one of myself with Tara Routliffe, our new inductee, and the other with Cea Jae Dykes, this year's outstanding senior.



Dr. Laura Dennis with Cea Jae Dykes, winner of Cumberland's *Outstanding Senior Award*, sponsored by the AATF.



Dr. Laura Dennis with new Pi Delta Phi member Tara Routliffe.



## HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY, KAPPU MU

Virginia Leclercq, Chapter Moderator

On April 2, chapter KAPPA MU inducted five new regular members and one new honorary member, Dr. Dennis Carroll, Provost of High Point University.



Current and New Members of PDP at High Point University. From back left: Lindsey Edwards, Alec Campbell, Dr. Benoît Leclercq, Sawyer Lyons, Dr. Denis Dépinoy, Ariana Breckinridge, Violet Pendzuk, Dr. Virginia Leclercq (moderator), Amanda Moreau, Courtney Smith, Leah Vadas, and Isabelle Diez.



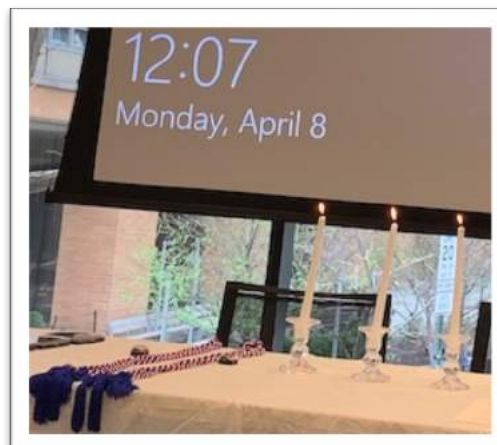
Above photos: Dr. Virginia Leclercq inducting Dr. Dennis Carroll, Provost of High Point University into Pi Delta Phi in recognition of his love of the French language and culture and his enthusiastic support of French students and the French program at HPU.



## **PACE UNIVERSITY, ETA KAPPA**

Ying Wang, Chapter moderator

Chapter Eta Kappa at Pace University (NYC campus) held its initiation ceremony on April 8, 2019, at the Student Center, One Pace Plaza. Two new members were inducted this year: Jose L. Luna and Gabrielle C. Boone.



Photos from the 2019 induction ceremony at Pace University.

## **SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, PI ETA**

Genevieve Waite, Chapter Moderator

Syracuse University chapter Pi Eta held their annual induction ceremony on April 12, 2019. Chapter moderator Dr. Genevieve Waite is pictured with new inductee Michael Lucy.



## PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY, ETA PHI

Kelle Marshall, Chapter Moderator

Pepperdine University's Eta Phi Chapter of Pi Delta Phi inducted 6 new members during the Spring 2019 semester. They are Arseniy Matveev, Jillian Mielke, Moriah Hall, Hattie Pace, Nicole MacDonald, and Jerry Ashotyan. Professors Kelle Marshall and Mina Soroosh and Chapter President Claire Balkan were at the ceremonies.

Pictured left are new members (L-R) Arseniy Matveev and Nicole MacDonald, and Claire Balkan (President PDP).



Pictured (L-R): Dr. Kelle Marshall, new members Jerry Ashotyan, Hattie Pace, Moriah Hall, Jiji Mielke, Claire Balkan (President PDP), Dr. Mina Soroosh.

## SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY, EPSILON DELTA

L. Cassandra Hamrick, Chapter moderator

The Saint Louis University chapter of Pi Delta Phi, Epsilon Delta, inducted seventeen new members on March 26, 2019. This Spring, Pi Delta Phi organized, among other activities, a *Mardi Gras* celebration, a *Raclette* tasting, and a French cultural Trivia Night.



The Saint Louis University chapter of Pi Delta Phi (L-R): Lauren Michèle Paul, Theresa Schneider (President), Rio Tenori Kalish, Molly Catherine Ward, Hannah Denise Dippel, Yesenia Sanchez (Vice-President), Angelique B. Kuentler, Nina Ann Emerson, Julia Fatica (Treasurer), Sidney Graham (Secretary), Thomas Phinehas Pratt, Joshua William Kackley, Caitlin Mary Murphy, Michael Vega. Not shown: MaryCait Dolan, Grace Elizabeth Kleckler, Melissa Dale McDaniel, Bridget Catherine Moran, Danielle Marie Seifert, Amber Joy Elizabeth Wiens, Margaret Mary Woods.



Member MaryCait Dolan was decorated with emerald beads after discovering the baby figurine in her slice of New Orleans King's cake at Pi Delta Phi's Mardi Gras celebration!



Grace McDonald and Haley Londrigan react to the results of Pi Delta Phi's French Cultural Trivia Night (April 15, 2019). Created and organized by members of Pi Delta Phi, the event was open to all students studying French. "This was such a fun activity," remarked Grace, currently in her second semester of French. "The French Trivia Night really helped me feel more immersed in the French culture. This new knowledge has made me want to learn more about the culture!"



## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, LAMBDA ETA

Michèle A. Schaal, Chapter moderator



Chapter Alpha Lambda at Iowa State University held their annual induction ceremony on Monday, April 22, in Pearson Hall, where the Department of World Languages and Cultures is located. The new inductees included (L-R) Ian Grunig, Edita Habibic, Emily Hammer, and Lena Menefee-Cook. The ceremony was also attended by Maggie Mack (inducted 2016, last person on right), Dr. Michèle Schaal (Chapter Moderator), and Senior Lecturer Mr. Jean-Pierre Taoutel.

### GUIDELINES FOR CHAPTER WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA GROUPS

1. Please assure 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 similar variation:
  1. Pi Delta Phi (Mu Alpha), or
  2. Pi Delta Phi, Augustana University 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, mugs, stickers, keychains, etc.).

3. Much of the information on the National Website changes or is updated frequently. Therefore, **do not** copy and (re)post information, documents, PDF files, or lists from Pi Delta Phi national website to your own chapter webpage or social media group, including:
  - the PDP national constitution and bylaws
  - extensive history of the Society or information about former Board members
  - the current names of Executive Board members and their contact information
  - the complete chapter list
  - scholarship details (PDF applications, dollar amounts, etc.)

Rather, create a link or point to the National website—[www.pideltaphi.org](http://www.pideltaphi.org)—so that your students and 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.



## Pi Delta Phi Annual Scholarship Deadlines

Graduate—**February 15**

### The President's Graduate Student Scholarship

- A \$1,000 award to conduct research abroad in a French-speaking country or region.

Undergraduate—**November 1**

### The Joseph W. Yedlicka Awards

- American University in Paris.
- American University in Aix-en-Provence.
- 

### The Mary E. Gutermuth Award

- University of Québec at Chicoutimi.

For complete details, eligibility requirements, and applications, visit the national website:

[www.pideltaphi.org](http://www.pideltaphi.org)

## Got Chapter News?



Please send any chapter news and photos, (and don't forget to include captions with student names), to be included our next *Newsletter* to:

[news@pideltaphi.org](mailto:news@pideltaphi.org)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER MODERATORS



### Making Payments by University Check?

A reminder to Pi Delta Phi faculty moderators that if ask your university to cut a check to pay for memberships, it may take days or even weeks for your institution to have the check ready. Please remember to build in extra time to your annual ordering process. We encourage faculty to order memberships at the beginning of the semester to avoid the busy and hectic end-of-semester period, for both faculty and the Pi Delta Phi National Office. We are not able to send out membership supplies until full payment is received.

### Making Payments by Personal Check?

If making a payment by a personal check, remember to identify the university and PDP chapter in the memo line. While we do sometimes recognize moderator names, that is not always the case. Therefore, it is essential to include some kind of identifying information on the check in addition to the moderator's name. Attach an official supplies [invoice](#) with your order if you are not placing your order via the Pi Delta Phi database.



## Annual Reminders for Chapter Moderators

- 📌 Hold at least one meeting a year, including an annual initiation ceremony for any new members.
- 📌 Have candidates for membership submit membership forms and checks to you—the Chapter Moderator—by **October 15** (for any fall ceremony) or **March 15** (for any spring ceremony).
- 📌 Enter new member information into the online database (at least student names and induction date).
- 📌 Place a **single**--not multiple--order for memberships and supplies using the [database](#). Online payment via Paypal is preferred. Place any order at least **3 weeks** prior to your ceremony, and no later than **November 20** (for any fall ceremony) or **April 20** (for any spring ceremony).
- 📌 Encourage your best students to apply for a Pi Delta Phi [scholarship](#) for summer study abroad.
- 📌 Send chapter news and photos to: [news@pideltaphi.org](mailto:news@pideltaphi.org)
- 📌 Join the Pi Delta Phi [listserv](#) in order to receive occasional reminders and important information.
- 📌 Assure that any new chapter moderator complete the database *Change of Moderator Form*.
- 📌 Download the most up-to-date forms, brochures, scholarship applications, posters, etc. from the [website](#); they are subject to change and annual updates.



## 10-Year Moderator Gift


As a special thank you for any faculty member who has served at least 10 years as chapter moderator, Pi Delta Phi is pleased to offer a beautiful black-enameled Pi Delta Phi charm. The charm can be fashioned into a pin or tie tack, added to a key chain, etc. Moderators who have served at least 10 years are invited to [contact](#) Dr. Beverly J. Evans, Executive Director, and request their 10-year thank you gift. The charm is reserved for faculty moderators only.



## URGENT REMINDER FOR MODERATORS

Every year Pi Delta Phi discovers hundreds of missing new student member names that have not been entered into the Pi Delta Phi database. If chapter moderators do not enter names into the database, the national office has no record of memberships. The Executive Director often receives requests for attestations of membership and replacement pins from people who were inducted years ago, but who have lost their certificate. Obviously, no attestation or replacement pin can be provided if there is no record. Moderators, if you have already entered your inductees' names for the 2018-2019 academic year, **THANK YOU!** If you are not sure whether your chapter membership list is up-to-date, you can easily check by logging into the [database](#) and selecting **Member List**. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.








### Pi Delta Phi Database

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**Pi Delta Phi Member Registration Form**

School Name	Augustana University		
Chapter Name	MU ALPHA		
Moderator			
Membership Type	Regular Membership 		
Date of Initiation	January 	01 	
First Name			
Last Name			
City, State Zipcode	City	Sta	Zip
Reset	Submit		

## CALL FOR SELF-NOMINATIONS

Pi Delta Phi seeks self-nominations from qualified candidates for the open position of **Digital Media Editor** (formerly *Newsletter* Editor). The Digital Media Editor, appointed by the President, serves as Editor of the online Pi Delta Phi *Newsletter*, and assists in administering and adding occasional content to the Pi Delta Phi social media accounts.

### Requirements

- ✦ Current member of Pi Delta Phi.
- ✦ Faculty member, any rank, at a college or university with an active chapter of the Society.
- ✦ Advanced proficiency in English and French.

### Desired Skills

- ✦ Previous editing experience.
- ✦ Expert knowledge of Microsoft Word (or other software for *Newsletter* preparation), including: tables, columns, shapes, borders, hyperlinks, etc.
- ✦ Proficiency in basic photo editing, including: cropping, color enhancement and saturation, image frames and borders, image sharpening, etc.
- ✦ Ability to contribute occasional news, links and content to Pi Delta Phi social media accounts (Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter).

### Benefits

- ✦ Attendance at the annual Executive Board meeting (flight, two nights lodging, and \$40/day per diem for food included), held every fall during meetings of regional MLAs, ACTFL, and other academic conferences with significant French content.
- ✦ Editor may also take advantage of the Executive Board meeting location to organize a conference session or to present a paper, and thereby save limited faculty conference funds from the home institution.

### Application Process

- ✦ Send a brief letter of interest and a copy of a CV (PDF files) to the President: [info@pideltaphi.org](mailto:info@pideltaphi.org)
- ✦ Open until filled.

## JOIN US

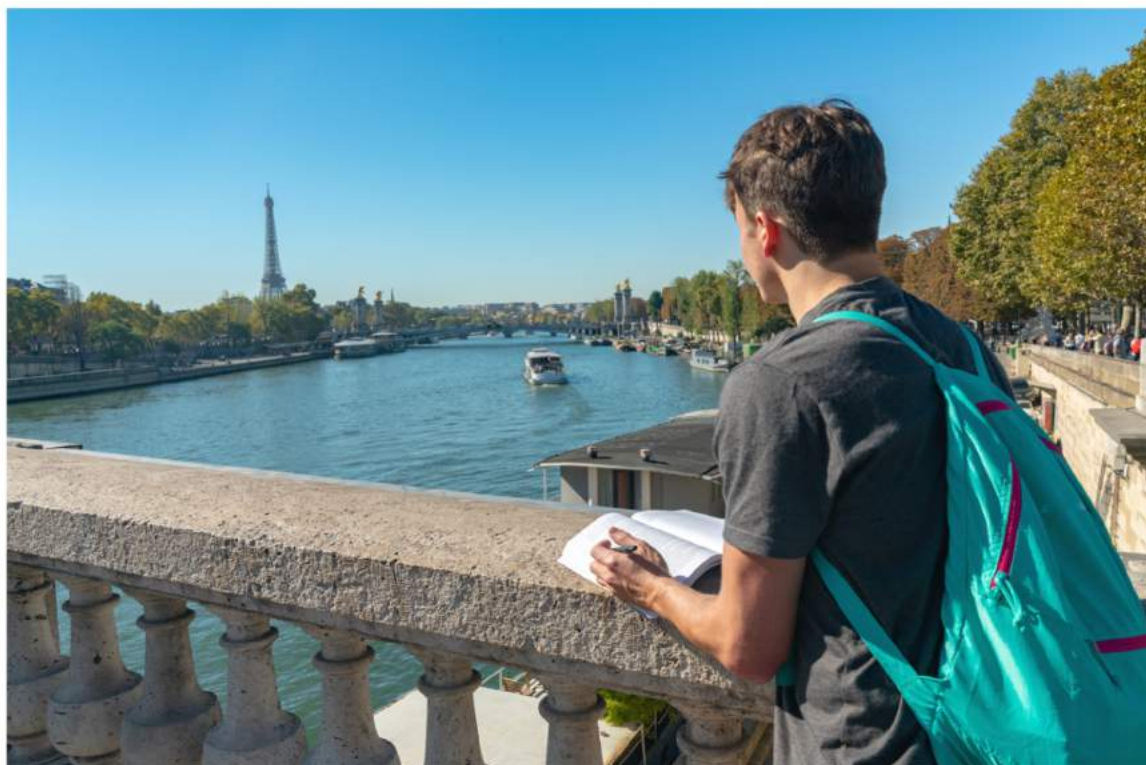


The Pi Delta Phi Executive Board will hold its 2019 meeting during the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies [conference](#)—October 16-19—at the Hotel Château Laurier Québec in Québec City. If you're planning on attending the CSECS conference, we hope you'll stop by and meet the Board during the opening of our meeting; date, time and location to be announced via the [listserv](#).

## AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PARIS SUMMER PROGRAMS

Pi Delta Phi is pleased to share information on the French summer immersion program offered by our longtime and important partner, the American University of Paris, which hosts one of our undergraduate scholarship recipients each summer.

Do your students want to jump-start or deepen their French language practice this summer? Consider The American University of Paris' French Immersion program. With three-week courses in June and July, AUP's carefully crafted French programs offer rigorous instruction in the French language—reviewing grammar and vocabulary, improving pronunciation—while allowing a firsthand introduction to French culture both in and outside the classroom. Each three-week session includes daily coffee and croissant breaks, six afternoon walking tours around Paris, a *dégustation de bienvenue*, and a dinner with the professors. There's still time to apply for both 2019 sessions, and your students can visit [www.aup.edu/summer](http://www.aup.edu/summer) to secure their place today.



## COURSE INFORMATION

- June and July courses can be taken separately or consecutively.
- June dates: June 5-26, 2019
- July dates: July 2-20, 2019
- Students will be placed in one of four French levels (Elementary I, Elementary II, Intermediate I, Intermediate II) via placement exam when they register.