Phi Kappa Phi News and Updates

Phi Kappa Phi Newsletters

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Phi Kappa Phi Updates

Spring 2015 Graduate Candidates Inducted

Chapter 316 conducted its graduate student induction ceremony on Tuesday, April 7 in the McDermott Suite. PKP chapter members attended the event in full regalia as per tradition. Fifty-four graduate students were inducted into the Society this academic year.

Chapter President and Dean of Undergraduate Education Dr. Andrew Blanchard welcomed the assembled inductees and their families. Past-President and Associate Vice President for Research Rafael Martin informed the audience of the selection criteria for invitation. This year, nine distinguished faculty, staff and alumni were inducted into the Society: Dr. Poras Balsara, Dr. James Coleman, Dr. Gene Fitch, Dr. Varghese Jacob, Dr. Eva LaDow, Dr. Dennis Miller, Dr. Alex Piquero, Dr. Monica Powell and distinguished alumni Dr. Cynthia S. Sherry.

Dr. Blanchard took the podium again to introduce the keynote speaker, Dr. Cynthia S. Sherry. Dr. Sherry, a diagnostic radiologist, is Chairman of the Department of Radiology at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas and has also served as President of the medical staff and a member of the hospitalís Board of Governors. Dr. Sherry also serves as Medical Director of Body MR and CT at Southwest Diagnostic Imaging Center, where she has been on the management committee since 1994. Dr. Sherry is immediate past president of SIIS. Dr. Cynthia Sherry serves as the President of the American College of Physician Executives and also served as the 2008-2009 President of the Texas Radiological Society.

Blair Flicker, Assistant Provost and chapter Secretary, took the podium to explain the values of Phi Kappa Phi as symbolized by the gifts of membership. Dr. Edward Harpham, chapter treasurer, announced each candidate by school while Dr. Hobson Wildenthal, UTD Provost, and Dr. Blanchard presented each inductee with their honor cord and pin. Dr. Blanchard then called the inductees to affirm their membership by reciting the Phi Kappa Phi oath. Dr. Wildenthal spoke to the new inductees before Dr. Denise Paquette Boots, founding chapter president, provided the closing remarks.
Chapter 316 Earns Chapter of Excellence Award

For a third year in a row, The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi has recognized UTD Chapter 316 as a Chapter of Excellence, the highest commendation a chapter can receive. The Chapter of Excellence award was bestowed upon twenty-nine chapters across the United States. This award is granted to chapters that maintain active, thriving organizations. UT Dallas regularly holds annual initiations, maintains an active social media presence, offers multiple nominees for national and local fellowships and awards, and sponsors events which include an annual luncheon and the Honors Convocation.


Chapter 316 Holds Second Annual Luncheon

Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 316 held its second annual luncheon on Tuesday, November 18 in the Faculty/Staff Dining Hall in the Student Union. The keynote speaker was Dr. James Blanchard, Executive Director of Comparative Medicine and Head of the Clinical and Research Medicine unit at Tulane National Primate Research Center at Tulane University. Dr. Blanchard's speech, entitled “Testing Disaster Plans: Preparations, Successes, and Challenges Associated with Hurricane Katrina” delved into the university response to Hurricane Katrina, how the disaster directly impacted his research team, and how these responses can offer insight into disaster planning for universities.

Last year’s event, featuring Dr. David Daniel’s engaging and detailed account of the Deep Water Horizon disaster, had been a great success thanks to strong faculty and staff presence. These events are held once a year and are for the Phi Kappa Phi membership or by invitation only.

Fall 2014 Undergraduate Candidates Inducted

Chapter 316 conducted its undergraduate student induction ceremony on Thursday, November 6 in the Galaxy Rooms of the Student Union. PKP chapter members attended the event in full regalia as per tradition. One hundred and thirty-two juniors and seniors were inducted into the Society. Dr. Bruce Gnade, Vice President for Research and chapter member, explained the selection of criteria for invitation. Dr. Walter Voit, Assistant Professor of Material Science Engineering and PKP member, gave the keynote address. Other speakers included chapter president Rafael Martín and chapter secretary Blair Flicker. Dr. Douglas Dow, PKP vice president of scholarships and awards, announced each candidate by school while Mr. Martín and Dr. Wildenthal presented each inductee with their certificate, honor cord and pin. UTD Provost and PKP member Dr. Hobson Wildenthal provided the closing remarks. Congratulations to our newest members!

University 'Taps' Top Students for Phi Kappa Phi Membership

Wearing full academic regalia, UT Dallas President David E. Daniel and Associate Vice President for Research Rafael Martín, the chapter president, participated in a tradition known as itapping, inviting students for membership in Phi Kappa Phi. The tapping occurred September 15-16. Faculty and administrators visited several classrooms to itap or invite some of the 184 juniors and 264
seniors on their list of candidates; others were invited by email. Those who decide to join will be honored at a reception in November. Graduate students will be invited during the spring term.

Having a Phi Kappa Phi chapter is part of UT Dallasí effort to highlight academic achievement and continue its drive toward becoming a Tier One research university. The UT Dallas chapter has 380 active members this year. Since March 2011, the chapter has inducted 46 faculty and staff, 583 students, 72 alumni and two honorary lifetime members.


**UTD Students Earn More Awards**

Two more UTD Students have earned Phi Kappa Phi awards. The 2014 winner of the Study Abroad Grant is Marisa Campain, a biology major. Only fifty $1,000 study abroad grants are awarded nationally each year. The 2014 winner of the Love of Learning Grant is Husain Mustafa Mogri, who graduated this spring with a bachelor of science in biology, summa cum laude. One hundred sixty Love of Learning awards, at $500 each, are distributed each year.

**UTD Student Wins PKP Fellowship**

Kayla Klein, a spring 2014 graduate with degrees in neuroscience and biology, has been recognized with a $5,000 Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship. While she pursues her medical degree, Klein will also work toward a master's degree at the University of Michigan, School of Public Health. Her goal is to become a pediatrician and a public health advocate.

For the third year in a row, a student from UTD Chapter 316 has received a fellowship from the national honor society. The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi awards fifty-one fellowships of $5,000 each and six at $15,000 each to members entering the first year of graduate or professional study. Each chapter is allowed to nominate only one candidate per year. Last year, Dina Shahrokhi won the Marcus L. Urann fellowship of $15,000. In 2012, Emily Lichtenheld received a $5,000 fellowship.


**Love of Learning Award Deadline**

Applications for Love of Learning Awards are due June 30. Love of Learning Awards help fund post-baccalaureate studies and/or career development for active Phi Kappa Phi members to include (but not be limited to): graduate or professional studies, doctoral dissertations, continuing education, career development, and travel related to teaching or studies. Recipients of the Fellowship award are not eligible to apply. To apply, please go to: [http://apply.phikappaphi.org/Awards](http://apply.phikappaphi.org/Awards).

**Fall 2014 General Assembly Meeting**

A Phi Kappa Phi general assembly meeting will be held on Monday, April 21, 2014, at 4:00pm in Room 2.208 of Founders Hall. One of the main agenda items will be the nomination and selection of Student Vice Presidents. If you would like to nominate yourself or another member, please contact Blair Flicker
(bflicker@utdallas.edu) and do your best to make the meeting. If you have class or some other conflict but would still like to be considered for the position of Student Vice President, you can submit a written statement of intent to Blair via email prior to Monday's meeting.

**Graduate Candidates Inducted**

Chapter 316 conducted its graduate student induction ceremony on Tuesday, April 8 in the McDermott Suite. PKP chapter members attended the event in full regalia as per tradition. Sixty-nine graduate students were inducted into the Society this academic year.

Chapter president and Associate Vice President for Research Rafael Martín welcomed the assembled inductees and their families. Dr. Denise Paquette-Boots, Associate Professor, Criminology and the chapter's past-president informed the audience of the selection criteria for invitation. Next, Dr. Bert Moore, Dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and PKP chapter member, introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Susan Jerger, Ashbel Smith Professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and charter member of the chapter. Blair Flicker, Assistant Provost and chapter secretary, took the podium to explain the values of Phi Kappa Phi as symbolized by the gifts of membership. Dr. Edward Harpham, chapter treasurer, announced each candidate by school while Mr. Martín and Dr. Andrew Blanchard presented each inductee with their honor cord and pin. The inductees were then asked to rise and recite the Phi Kappa Phi oath. Dr. Blanchard, Dean of Undergraduate Education and president-elect of the chapter, provided the closing remarks.

**Cyrus D. Cantrell III Academic Travel Grant Winners**

We are happy to announce the winners of the $500 Cyrus D. Cantrell III Academic Travel Grant for Autumn 2013. In alphabetical order, this semester's five recipients are:

- Maria Burbano-Salazar
- Benjamin Farnia
- Katherine Huston
- Michael Lau
- Katelyn McWilliams

Congratulations to our winners!

**Cyrus D. Cantrell III Academic Travel Grants for Phi Kappa Phi at UT Dallas**

The University of Texas at Dallas chapter of Phi Kappa Phi is happy to accept applications for the Autumn 2013 Cyrus D. Cantrell III Academic Travel Grants for academic and research-related travel. Each academic year our chapter awards ten grants of $500 each, five per semester for the Fall and Spring. The PKP at UT Dallas Academic Travel Grant is designed to help supplement travel expenses incurred for academic research or participation at academic conferences and meetings. Each $500 grant can be used to offset expenses of air travel, food and lodging, car rental and gas, and/or conference fees.
Eligibility for application to the Cantrell Academic Travel Grant is limited to undergraduate, graduate, and alumni members, in good standing, of the UT Dallas chapter of PKP. All PKP applicants must be current on their local and national dues at the time of award and at the time they request reimbursement for their travel-related expenses. Any PKP members who have won a Travel Grant in the past will be ineligible for this competition. All applicants are responsible for submitting the following material:

1. one to two page curriculum vita, containing full contact information
2. 500 word essay explaining the purpose of the travel, how travel funds will be used, and the meaning of the travel for the applicant's broader research agenda.
3. current unofficial student transcript of academic work done at UT Dallas
4. a short letter from a UT Dallas faculty sponsor, including an explanation of significance of the applicant's travel plans. Please have your professor deliver this letter to you in a sealed and signed envelope.

Deadline for the online receipt of a full application will be Monday December 9, 2013. Each complete packet will be reviewed by a committee of PKP faculty and administration members. Each applicant shall be evaluated on their record of academic success and the significance of the travel project toward their future academic achievement. Please drop off one copy of your complete application, including the sealed letter of recommendation, to Ms. Helen Roth, on the second floor of Green Center. Awards will be announced by Tuesday, December 17, 2013.

Any questions may be addressed to:

Dr. Douglas C. Dow  
UT Dallas Chapter of PKP Vice President for Scholarships and Awards  
800 W. Campbell Road, GC10  
Richardson, TX 75080  
972-883-4934  
dougdow@utdallas.edu

Links to Other Phi Kappa Phi Stories

- [Alumna, McDermott Scholar Wins Top Honor Society Fellowship](#)
- [Fall 2013 Initiation is Now Underway.](#)
- [UT-Dallas Chapter 316 Recognized as Chapter of Excellence](#)
- [Tapping Ritual Invites Students to Join Academic Honor Society](#)
- [Phi Kappa Phi Connection Spans Generation](#)
- [Honor Society Uses Old Ritual to Welcome the New](#)
- [Phi Kappa Phi Brings Scholarship Opportunities](#)
- [Phi Kappa Phi Chapter Installed at UT Dallas](#)
- [UT Dallas Earns Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Chapter](#)
- Find more photos and information about our latest activities on the [Phi Kappa Phi Facebook page](#).
You do not need a Facebook account to view the content.