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NEWSLETTER EMAIL LISTSERV SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members who receive the Pi Gamma Mu Newsletter by email are subscribed to the Pi Gamma Mu Mailing List.

Go to https://pigammamu.org/newsletter/subscriptions.html to subscribe or unsubscribe to the Pi Gamma Mu listserv, and follow the instructions to leave or join the list.

DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 15

If you are a member of Pi Gamma Mu, you could qualify to be the recipient of a $1,000 or $2,000 scholarship to attend graduate school. Pi Gamma Mu awards up to 10 scholarships each year. Why not be one of the next recipients?

Pi Gamma Mu scholarships are intended for the first or second year of graduate work in the social sciences. If you are interested in applying, you should start putting your information together right away. Applications must be fully completed and received at the Pi Gamma Mu office in Winfield, Kans., with a postmark on or before February 15. Winners will be notified in the spring, with the grants awarded in the fall. Please check the Pi Gamma Mu website for information and the application form. http://www.pigammamu.org/scholarships.html
Grambling State University's Pi Gamma Mu graduating seniors and chapter advisor are pictured in front of the administration building at the University before commencement ceremonies. From left to right: Trevon Dunn, Mustapha Yoosuf-Akinlaja (Valedictorian), Dr. Frances Staten (Pi Gamma Mu Advisor), Tionna Baker (Valedictorian), and Janie Green (Magna Cum Laude).

Members of the Louisiana Eta Chapter at Grambling State University celebrate after 2019 commencement ceremonies.  

Dontavious D. Joseph, member of the Louisiana Eta Chapter at Grambling State University, meets American civil rights activist and religious leader, Al Sharpton.
SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

The Florida Lambda Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu at Saint Leo University consists of several "education centers" located in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia. During the last academic year, each campus participated in a variety of activities which are aligned with the seven ideals of Pi Gamma Mu including: Scholarship, Science, Social Science, Social Idealism, Sociability, Social Service, and Sacrifice.

At the Virginia center, Dr. Michelle Boone-Thornton and Dr. Amina Abdullah, along with the Human Services club members, spearheaded the Food Bank of Southampton Roads canned food drive at the Chesapeake and Newport News Center. Members of Saint Leo University's Virginia center also participated in the Southeast Community Day Parade & Festival which is hosted by the Southern Christian Leadership Coalition of Newport News Virginia. The event is a celebration for citizens who live in the most economically deprived area of the City of Newport News. Many of them would never get to see area marching bands, school and local officials, and of course, Saint Leo University and Pi Gamma Mu members, in person. The event offered students the opportunity to engage with residents, view the neighborhoods, understand the need for human services programs, and possibly visualize themselves working to improve the southeast community. Faculty Advisors include Dr. Amina Abdullah and Dr. Michelle Boone-Thornton. Other activities included the Out-of-the-Darkness: Suicide Prevention Walk, Feeding 5000 Thanksgiving Dinner event, a Race for the Cure event, and more.

Members at the Savannah and Atlanta Georgia centers participated in the Salvation Army Adopt-A-Family event and collected and donated nearly 10 bags of clothing for local churches and other groups.

Members from the South Carolina center provided dinner for the Samaritan House, an emergency homeless shelter, collected food, cash, and other items to donate to the Salvation Army, and three members of the chapter presented their research at the Annual Southern Organization for Human Services Conference in Miami, Florida.

ATTEND THE PI GAMMA MU TRIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

November 12-14, 2020, Washington, DC (Crystal City, VA)

The Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees is busy preparing for the 2020 Triennial Convention to be held next fall, Thursday, November 12th through Saturday, November 14th, 2020 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Events will include student paper presentations at a special location in Washington, DC, a Student Leadership Development Program including a trip to the Marine Corps Museum (registration required), student poster presentations, chapter poster presentations, a keynote address, an awards ceremony, roundtable and panel discussions, student elections, and more! On Friday, we will enjoy convention activities in some very historic and beautiful locations in Washington DC including an Awards Banquet at the Catholic University of America on Friday evening.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Crystal City-National Airport in Arlington, VA. The hotel is situated just 1 mile from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, three blocks from the Pentagon City Metro Station, and 4 miles from historic sites of Downtown Washington DC. Complimentary shuttle service is provided between the Airport and the hotel. The hotel provides a complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast, a complimentary evening reception with drinks and light snacks, a fitness center, an indoor pool and whirlpool, and a business center.

Would you like to highlight your chapter by becoming a convention sponsor? There are several levels to choose from with increasing benefits for each level. You can also post your school logo on our Pi Gamma Mu website as a convention sponsor. The levels are:

- Bronze $50
- Silver $100
- Gold $250
- Platinum $500

Contact Executive Director Suzanne Rupp for more information about chapter sponsorship levels at (620)221-3128 or executivedirector@pigammamu.org.

The convention registration form will be available soon. Stay tuned!

We hope to see you in Washington!
2020 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Thinking about attending the Triennial Convention in Washington, D.C., November 12-14, 2020? Consider participating in Pi Gamma Mu's Leadership Development Program. Open only to Pi Gamma Mu student members, the Leadership Development Program will visit several aspects of Leadership including leadership under pressure, leadership in the literature and leadership in academia. The program will consist of several lectures from social science academics and professionals, with a special field trip included. Student grant applications to attend the program will become available later this year.

Stay tuned!

ACCESS THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE REVIEW ONLINE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!

Visit http://digitalcommons.northgeorgia.edu/issr/ or type "International Social Science Review" into any search engine to view the issue. The ISSR, Pi Gamma Mu's peer-reviewed professional journal, transitioned from a print format to a digital format in 2014 making the journal accessible to everyone – no subscription required.

You can also submit articles and book reviews to be considered for publication via the site or by simply emailing the article to the journal's editor, Candice Quinn, at quinn.issr@gmail.com. Dr. Quinn also welcomes Pi Gamma Mu members to share important updates for possible inclusion in the journal (members having new publications, faculty positions, etc.).

THE ACHS ADDRESSES PROBLEM OF UNACCREDITED GROUPS CALLING THEMSELVES "HONOR SOCIETIES"

Honor Societies have existed as a part of the higher education tradition since 1885. In 1925 the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) was established to help colleges and universities assess the value and credibility of these organizations.

Over the past few years there have been several groups that have emerged that are calling themselves honor societies but do not meet the standards to be certified by the Association of College Honor Societies. Based on the calls and questions that come to the ACHS office, these organizations are marketing themselves as honor societies and possibly creating confusion for students.

In order to help students and administrators make more informed decisions, the ACHS has asked us to share with you basic questions to ask or assess before determining any organization to be an honor society:

- **ACHS certification** – this link lists all member honor societies that are certified and meet the standards: http://achsnatl.org/member-directory.asp
- **Minimum scholastic standards for membership** – make sure there is a reason that the student is being honored and is not just being invited to join a group with no standards or criteria for membership
- **Non-profit status** – a certified honor society will always be a non-profit, 501 c3, organization. Don't be deceived by the organization having a .org website address. These groups often don't disclose that they are for-profit in their marketing materials. You have to ask them, or you can check here: https://www.guidestar.org/Home.aspx.
- **Campus chapters** – make sure the organization is a registered and recognized chapter on your campus with on-campus leadership from students and/or faculty.
- **Fees** – all collegiate honor societies have a membership fee. The fee may be solicited from the invited student or, in some cases, paid for by the institution. Having a fee is comparable to your institution having tuition. The key factor is that the student should be paying to affiliate with an organization that has been certified to meet high standards the same way your institution has been accredited.
- **Transparency** – check the organization's website to make sure that it states it is a non-profit and that there is a phone number and address listed. Is there a listing of a functioning board that provides oversight to the organization?
- **Member participation in governance** – are members of the organization involved in governing the organization?

You can find more information about how to judge the credibility of honor societies at http://www.achsnatl.org/standards_alert.asp

Please help us share this with individuals on your campus who can help students make better informed decisions.

Thank you for making a difference with Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences.
NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT

Participate in the National Service Project and Be Considered for the Roll of Merit and Roll of Distinction Awards!

Pi Gamma Mu chapters around the world are banding together this year to serve others in the Pi Gamma Mu National Service Project!

The National Service Project consists of three parts: supporting our nation's veterans, supporting our nation's homeless population and supporting animals in our nation's shelters. Chapters may either choose to do one or all three of the service project components. Chapters are encouraged to participate in the National Service Project September 1 through June 30, 2020 and to include a description of their activities in their Annual Report. (Remember that submitting the Annual Report not only allows for the International Office to know about your chapter's fantastic activities, but submitting your report also makes you eligible for one of the Pi Gamma Mu Awards!)

What's Required?

To Support the Homeless - chapters will put together a donation for an organization of their choice that works to support those that are homeless. (Chapters will need to coordinate with the organization of their choice when they bring their donation).

Veterans - Chapters collect toiletries and softcover books and donate them to a Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital. (Chapters will need to contact the hospital directly to coordinate bringing the donation to the VA Hospital).

Animals - Chapters will put together a donation for an animal shelter or animal rescue organization of their choice. (Chapters will need to coordinate with the animal shelter or organization of their choice).

When?

Chapters are encouraged to participate September 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Annual Report

Chapters are encouraged to include the details of their service project in their Annual Report. Chapters that submit their Annual Report will be considered for Pi Gamma Mu's Roll of Distinction and Roll of Merit Awards! Be sure to turn your Annual Report in by August 15, 2020!

Questions?

Questions about the Pi Gamma Mu National Service Project should be directed to Allison G. S. Knox, Chancellor of the Southeast Region: Allison_G.S._Knox@Hotmail.com.

Get Involved and Help to Make Your Community a Better Place!

2020 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Thinking about coming to the Triennial Convention in Washington, D.C., November 12-14, 2020? Consider participating in Pi Gamma Mu's Leadership Development Program. Open only to Pi Gamma Mu student members, the Leadership Development Program will visit several aspects of Leadership including leadership under pressure, leadership in the literature and leadership in academia. The program will consist of several lectures from social science academics and professionals, with a special field trip included. Student grant applications to attend the program will become available next year.

Stay tuned!
SHOW YOUR PI GAMMA MU PRIDE

Pi Gamma Mu’s exclusive merchandise not only allows you to proudly display your achievement and affiliation with the society, but merchandise purchases also support the activities of Pi Gamma Mu and help us finance our programs and awards.

Show off your high academic achievement in the Social Sciences by wearing Pi Gamma Mu Honor Cords or a Stole or both to commencement! You may order your regalia as soon as you are a member of Pi Gamma Mu. Order online at https://pigammamu.org/store.html

**Pi Gamma Mu stole.** This white satin graduation stole is 76 inches in total length and has royal blue embroidery. On the left side are the Greek Letters and Society name and on the right is the Society’s key. $24.

**Pi Gamma Mu Honor Cords.** The Society’s royal blue and white honor cords include four tassels in royal blue. $17.

Buy a Pi Gamma Mu stole and honor cords **bundle** and save! $44 $36

*Only members of Pi Gamma Mu may wear this regalia.*

**Pi Gamma Mu Store**

Other items include t-shirts, coffee mugs, bumper stickers, tote bags, wooden Greek letters, and more.

NOMINATE TRUSTEES BY FEB 15

The nominating committee invites all chapters to submit names of candidates for a position on the Board of Trustees to appear on the 2020 ballot. Chapter participation is essential because the Pi Gamma Mu constitution states, “Each candidate whose name appears on the ballot must be nominated by a chapter.” Nominations for board members may be sent to Suzanne Rupp at the international office.

All nominations are to be made generally for a seat on the Board of Trustees, without specification of a particular title. Positions to be filled for three-year terms are president, first and second vice presidents, secretary-treasurer, and chancellors for each of the regions. From those persons suggested by the chapters, the nominating committee will review the nominations and select candidates for each office solely on the basis of their qualifications. The chapters will vote on these candidates this fall.

Please give thought to candidates with the ability to fulfill responsibilities and who have been active Pi Gamma Mu volunteers. When a person has proven to be effective in shaping the local chapter, he/she might want to consider playing a role in shaping the future of the whole organization. That is what a trustee does.

Upon receipt of your chapter’s nomination, the committee will ask the individual if he/she is willing to serve if elected. Those individuals whom the nominating committee nominates will be asked to provide a vita and a brief campaign statement to be printed with the ballot. Exercise your constitutional right to make a difference in the upcoming election by submitting nominations by **February 15**, and then be sure that your chapter casts its ballot this fall.
**SCHOLARSHIP MEDAL**

The Pi Gamma Mu scholarship medal is a time-honored tradition of the society. This award has been in use since the early days of the organization. Once a year chapters have the privilege of awarding one medal to a person who has distinguished him/herself in the social sciences. It has usually been given to an outstanding student as a prize for scholarship and/or service. However, it may also go to some other person deserving recognition in this field or to a faculty officer of a Pi Gamma Mu chapter.

Finished in gold plate, the award is available to chapters at a cost of $35. The name of the recipient and the date can be engraved on the back of the medal for no additional charge. You can order via the Pi Gamma Mu website.

**SUPPORT THE SOCIAL SCIENCES BY DONATING TO PI GAMMA MU**

Pi Gamma Mu is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation and can accept tax-deductible donations. If you would like to donate to our organization in honor/memory of a professor, sponsor, loved one or friend, or to support our scholarship program, you are encouraged to do so. Pi Gamma Mu gives scholarships to students going into a graduate program in social science each year, and much more.

To make a donation, go to our website and click on the Donate Now! button from any page, or use the form below. Online payment is by major credit card or PayPal account. Transactions are handled securely at the payment processor site. Pi Gamma Mu does not receive your sensitive financial data.

If you prefer to mail your donation, please complete the donation coupon below and mail it with a check payable to Pi Gamma Mu, at the following address: Pi Gamma Mu, 1001 Millington St., Suite B, Winfield, KS 67156.

**CONNECT WITH ΠΓΜ ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER, AND LINKEDIN**

Here at Pi Gamma Mu, we see social media as another way for us to carry out our mission to encourage scholarship and to foster cooperation and service among our members. Now you can connect with us and other members and supporters of Pi Gamma Mu on the social networking sites you like to use. We welcome your comments, posts, and photos of chapter activities. Be sure to like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and connect with us on LinkedIn to see announcements, opportunities, and deadlines.

Please note that several Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn accounts will come up when you search for "Pi Gamma Mu" as we encourage our chapters to stay connected via social media. Use the links below to ensure that you have connected with the official pages managed by the Pi Gamma Mu international office.

- **Like us on Facebook** - https://www.facebook.com/PiGammaMuHonorSociety/
- **Follow us on Twitter** - https://twitter.com/PiGammaMu1
- **Connect with us on LinkedIn** - https://www.linkedin.com/in/pi-gamma-mu-international-honor-society-45733695/
CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

Pi Gamma Mu communicates with its lifetime members via email. Anytime your email address changes, such as after graduation or when you change jobs, please notify the Pi Gamma Mu office immediately. This will prevent your emails from being interrupted or discontinued. Simply email your new email address to executivedirector@pigammamu.org or go to our Web site (www.pigammamu.org) to change your address information. We will need both your old email address and your new email address to update our records. Thank you very much for taking a few minutes to keep your information current.

ACHS MEMBERSHIP PROTECTS THE LEGITIMACY OF HONOR SOCIETIES

Pi Gamma Mu is one of 69 members of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), which is the authority on standards and definitions for the honor society movement. ACHS has stepped up efforts to alert the higher education community to the standards of traditional honor societies. In contrast, some new so-called honor societies exist online and allow self-nomination, accepting fees with no questions asked. If in doubt about an organization, you can check out the ACHS website (www.achsnatl.org) for the list of honor societies that are members.

MISSION OF PI GAMMA MU

The Mission of Pi Gamma Mu is to encourage and promote excellence in the social sciences and to uphold the ideals of scholarship and service.

IDEALS OF PI GAMMA MU

There are seven ideals of Pi Gamma Mu. Do you know them?

1. **Scholarship** – it is basic to all the rest. With knowledge, we can build society and better understand humanity and what has been thought and said and tried in all generations.
2. **Science** – we need and admire the spirit of science – the firm belief that the problems that confront humanity can be solved if we will search out the facts and think clearly on the basis of those facts.
3. **Social Science** – we shall never understand or solve the problems of human association until we examine the souls of people, the passions, prejudices, hopes and fears.
4. **Social Idealism** – we believe in a human society fit for human life that humans themselves can build. “Where there is no vision the people perish.” We will not give up our vision.
5. **Sociability** – specialization makes us narrow. Our social problems are complex. They will never be solved without the cooperation of all the social sciences and of those who study them.
6. **Social Service** – the primary purpose of science is to know and to enable us to do. What we know we want to put to work for the benefit of humanity.
7. **Sacrifice** – we are engaged in the greatest and finest of all the arts, the building of human society. Without giving freely, fully, and sacrificially of means, time, talent, energy and passion, all our other ideals will fall short and the contributions we hope to bring will never come.
SYMBOLS OF PI GAMMA MU

The **motto** of the Society is the epigram of the Master Teacher, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

The society's **key** has a wreath at the bottom to suggest that social science is the outgrowth and fulfillment of natural science. The running figure is reminiscent of the ancient Greek torch race and symbolizes humanity bringing knowledge to the solution of its own problems and passing on the light from generation to generation.

The **colors** are blue and white - for truth and light.

The official **flower** is the blue and white cineraria.