

# NEWSLETTER



# Pi Gamma Mu

International Honor Society in Social Sciences

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.

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## In This Issue:

**ATTEND THE 2017 TRIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY, MO  
INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE  
SEEKING NEW CHAPTERS**

**PIΓM COLLEGIATE COFFEE MUG COLLECTION**

**FORMER PIΓM CHAPTER SPONSOR, DR. MICHAEL BOBIC, PUBLISHES NEW BOOK**

**GAIN ACCESS TO JOBS, INTERNSHIPS, AND MORE AT EXPERIENCE.COM**

**2015-16 NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT**

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR CHAPTER SERVICES CELEBRATES 20 YEARS**

**THE VALUE OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**PIΓM LIFETIME MEMBER DESIGNS BANNER FOR MARYLAND THETA CHAPTER**

**FormSwift \$1000 SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP — Apply Today!**

**KANSAS LAMBDA CHAPTER CELEBRATES ITS 2015 INITIATES**

**2015 INITIATION CEREMONY SNAPSHOTS**

**ACCESS THE *International Social Science Review* ONLINE, ANYTIME, FREE OF CHARGE**

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

**PIΓM LAUNCHES NEW FACEBOOK AD CAMPAIGN AND ASKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**REMINDERS FOR CHAPTER SPONSORS**

**ACHS MEMBERSHIP PROTECTS THE LEGITIMACY OF HONOR SOCIETIES**

**MISSION, IDEALS, and SYMBOLS OF PI GAMMA MU**

## NEWSLETTER EMAIL LISTSERV SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

[Click here to subscribe or unsubscribe to the Pi Gamma Mu listserv](#), and follow the instructions to leave or join the list.

## 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 send your new email address to [executivedirector@pigammamu.org](mailto:executivedirector@pigammamu.org) or go to our website ([www.pigammamu.org](http://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.

# SAVE THE DATE! November 2-4, 2017

## Attend the 2017 Triennial International Convention in Kansas City, MO

Mark your calendars! Plans are coming together for our next Triennial International Convention. Join us in Kansas City on November 2-4, 2017! Our hotel, the Marriott Kansas City – Country Club Plaza puts you in the heart of Kansas City's world famous Country Club Plaza, the Midwest's premier shopping, dining, and entertainment district. Situated between two distinguished art museums, The Nelson Art Gallery and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, the Marriott is an ideal location to get together to celebrate Pi Gamma Mu's rich history. Let the hotel's complimentary shuttle pick you up after a great meal or a shopping trip at the Plaza or travel just a little farther to visit Kansas City's Crown Center entertainment district, Union Station and Science City, the historic City Market, the



National World War I Museum and Memorial, Westport, the Power and Light district, and much more.

Up to 32 students will receive funding from Pi Gamma Mu to help cover the costs of attending the convention. This represents an approximate \$4,000 commitment to support students' travel to the convention. Many colleges and universities provide additional funding for students and faculty members to attend professional conferences. Why not take advantage of this great opportunity to participate in the 2017 Triennial Convention? Now is the time to start planning your trip to Kansas City!

**Student Paper Presentations** - Pi Gamma Mu student members may propose to present their research papers at the convention. Pi Gamma Mu will pay for one night's lodging at the convention hotel for up to 12 students selected to present their papers orally. Up to 8 additional students will be selected to present their research in a poster format and will receive free convention registration (a \$100 value). Proposals must be submitted in the form of a completed research paper. Complete instructions for paper proposals will be available on the website soon. Think about it... presenting at an international convention looks great on a resume and can provide a boost to your career!

**Leadership Program** – We will be launching the new Pi Gamma Mu Student Leadership Program at the 2017 convention. If you are interested in learning more about Pi Gamma Mu student leadership roles or leadership in general this program is for you! Pi Gamma Mu leadership positions include two student representatives on the International Board of Trustees (a three year term on the board) and a variety of student officer positions at the chapter level. 12 students who have submitted winning essays for the program will receive free convention registration (a \$100 value). Complete instructions to apply for this program will be available soon.

**Chapter Development Showcase** – Share your chapter's story at this unique event. Chapters can display their histories, service projects, and other accomplishments in this poster session. Help other Pi Gamma Mu chapters learn from you by submitting a poster for presentation at the convention!

**Convention Launch Party/Convention Opening** – This Thursday evening event will kick off the convention and will feature a Pi Gamma Mu trivia competition, door prizes, and the opportunity to meet and greet Pi Gamma Mu board members, chapter sponsors, and members from around the globe. The event will be immediately followed by the Plenary Session including the Roll Call of Chapters, the President's Triennial Report, and the Service Project Presentation.

**Awards Banquet Gala** – On Friday evening join us for the 2017 Awards Banquet Gala. The event will include dinner; recognition of top chapters, alumni, sponsors, and other contributors; recognition of chapter milestones; and a keynote address. There is no additional cost to attend the Gala. Please join us!

**Service Project** – We will be continuing the Pi Gamma Mu tradition of collecting stuffed animals for donation to a local shelter. Delegates are asked to bring a stuffed animal for donation to a domestic violence shelter or similar organization (to be determined). A representative of the organization will be in attendance to receive the stuffed animals on behalf of the children in the shelter. This program is a well-regarded Pi Gamma Mu tradition, and we hope you will help us achieve this service goal. Previous recipients include the Partnership Against Domestic Violence in Atlanta, GA, the Artemis House in Fairfax County, VA, and My Sister's House, Inc. in N. Charleston, SC.

**Invitation to Alumni** – Pi Gamma Mu continues to encourage alumni to attend and participate in the triennial international convention. If you are able to attend, we would love to see you at the convention!

**Registration** – The convention registration fee is \$100. This includes continental breakfasts on Friday and Saturday and a dinner banquet on Friday evening. There will be an additional fee for an optional tour of the city (details to be determined). Convention registration will open at a later date. The advanced registration deadline is October 12, 2017. Registrations received after that date including on-site registrations will be \$125.

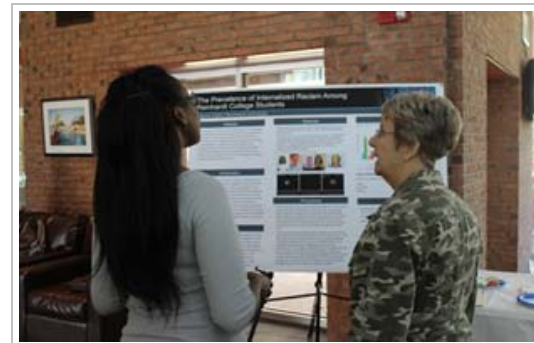
**Hotel** – We will be staying at the Marriott Kansas City – Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, MO. The room rate is \$139 per night (plus applicable taxes) for up to four people per room. The hotel is located at 4445 Main Street; phone 816-531-3000; [link to hotel website](#). Attendees can fly into Kansas City International Airport and take the SuperShuttle for \$19 one-way or \$33 round trip. Reservations are required – call SuperShuttle at 800-258-3826.

# INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Waleska, GA – Reinhardt University

October 16, 2015 - REGISTER TODAY!

The Georgia Rho chapter of Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences invites you to participate in the chapter's first annual Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference. The theme of this year's conference is "Bridging the Gaps: Building interdisciplinary connections within social science". It will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on October 16, 2015 on the Reinhardt University campus in Waleska, GA. Dr. Cheryl Brown will be the keynote speaker. She will share some of the insights she has gained in her many years of working with scientists from different disciplines. **All social science students, including those from other colleges and universities, are encouraged to submit research for poster presentations.**



Presenting your research at a scientific conference is important for several reasons. It is not only a great resume builder, but can also help advance your career in other ways. Professional presentations provide networking opportunities. You can meet other researchers in your field and potential contacts for future positions. Because Pi Gamma Mu is interdisciplinary in nature, you can get to know other social science students with specialties outside of your field. Participation in research conferences allows you to not only learn about advances in your field, but you can also become a contributor to the scientific process and become an advocate for your specialized field of study. Conference participation also gives you the opportunity to practice your presentation skills can help you develop the expertise needed to discuss your research in a clear and meaningful way. When looking for a job or applying for graduate school, students are often in competition with other high-performing students for top positions. Participation in research conferences will help you stand out from the crowd by demonstrating that you are an active participant in the scientific community.

Registration to the conference is free. Research submissions will be accepted between September 1 and September 30, 2015. The conference will include a poster session, a keynote speaker, and roundtable discussions. The conference website is [www.reinhardt.edu/conference2015](http://www.reinhardt.edu/conference2015). For more information contact:

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## SEEKING NEW CHAPTERS

Pi Gamma Mu is seeking to charter new chapters at colleges and universities around the globe. Call 620-221-3128 or email [ExecutiveDirector@PiGammaMu.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@PiGammaMu.org) to learn more. There is no cost to the university to host a chapter of the society and there are many benefits of membership. Members are eligible to apply for one of eleven annual scholarships, present research papers at international and regional conventions, submit articles for publication in our peer-reviewed professional journal, and those interested in federal jobs have the possibility for advancement in government service rating. Pi Gamma Mu is interdisciplinary in nature, allowing chapter sponsors and members to expand their professional networks by working collaboratively with society members from various fields of study. Each chapter is eligible to apply for up to \$300 in lectureship grants annually. Each chapter must have one or more faculty sponsors at the university. Contact us to learn more today!

# ΠΓΜ COLLEGIATE COFFEE MUG COLLECTION

Pi Gamma Mu celebrates its chapters through a unique display at the international office located in Winfield, Kans. Over the years, Pi Gamma Mu chapters have generously provided gifts of collegiate coffee mugs to the international office. A total of 46 coffee mugs in addition to other items such as a hand carved wooden spoon from the Philippines, collegiate lapel pins, paper weights, and more have been given to the society over its 91 year history. The most recent addition to the collection is a coffee mug from the Kansas Lambda Chapter at Wichita State University. The chapter was established in 2012 under the leadership of chapter faculty sponsor, Prof. Sheryl Chapman with the assistance of Pi Gamma Mu International President, Larry Heck of Newman University in Wichita, Kans. Chapman presented the mug to Pi Gamma Mu Executive Director, Suzanne Rupp, at the chapter's 2015 initiation ceremony in March. Rupp provided a presentation at the event entitled, "History and Benefits of Pi Gamma Mu". When she presented the gift, Chapman described that she saw the collection of coffee mugs when she visited the international office in 2012 and wanted Wichita State to be a part of this unique legacy.

Pi Gamma Mu coffee mugs are available for purchase on our [website](#). The white ceramic mugs are emblazoned with the Pi Gamma Mu Greek letters, name, and logo for \$7 each.

Take a look at the photos below and see if your chapter is represented! Pi Gamma Mu is proud to display these meaningful gifts from its chapters.



The complete collection.



The newest addition to the collection – Wichita State University.



**Top Row:** Southern Arkansas University; Salisbury State University; Georgia State University; Coppin State College.  
**Bottom row:** West Chester University; Wayne State College; University of Wisconsin; Fairmont State College.



**Top Row:** Huron University; Kansas Newman College (now Newman University); Wichita State University; Shorter College; Campbell University. **Bottom Row:** Bellevue University; Evangel College; Morgan State University (paper weight); Austin College; William Carey College.



**Top Row:** Grambling State University; Emory & Henry College; 2 original 1930 editions of *Who's Who in Pi Gamma Mu*; Ball State University; Hofstra University. **Bottom Row:** Radford University; Humboldt State University; East Tennessee State University; Valparaiso University; Bluefield State College.



**Top Row:** The University of Charleston; Salisbury University; The Association of College Honor Societies; Catholic University; University of Nebraska at Omaha. **Bottom Row:** Southwestern College; Pi Gamma Mu International; Pi Gamma Mu International; Southwestern College; Pi Gamma Mu International.



**Top Row:** University of the Philippines, Diliman (ceramic figurine); Western Carolina University; University of LaVerne; University of South Florida; Association of College Honor Societies. **Bottom Row:** Arkansas State University; University of Mary Hardin-Baylor; North Georgia College; Pace University; Rosary College.



< **Top Row:** California State Polytechnic University – Pomona; Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg; Appalachian State University; Baldwin Wallace College. **Bottom Row:** photos of Executive Director, Ina Turner Gray, and Executive Secretary, Effie B. Urquhart; a Certificate of Distinction from the Association of College Honor Societies awarded to the founder of Pi Gamma Mu, Dean Leroy Allen of Southwestern College, Winfield, Kans.; a photo of Dean Allen; and a letter to the society from the Association of College Honor Societies.

## FORMER PGM CHAPTER SPONSOR, DR. MICHAEL BOBIC, PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

Dr. Michael P. Bobic, former PGM chapter sponsor, explores Howard Baker's ability to lead the United States Senate at a time when it was divided by partisanship and ideology in his new book *With the People's Consent: Howard Baker Leads the Senate 1977-1984*. The book features a quantitative analysis of Senate leadership through roll call analysis, an evaluation of the advantages and difficulties in roll call data, and a discussion of data used to evaluate Baker's leadership in the 95th to 98th Congress. *With the People's Consent* addresses how the current instability of the Senate could be improved by looking toward Baker's own success during a tumultuous time.



Dr. Bobic is currently an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Glenville State College in WV. He is a former chapter sponsor of the West Virginia Epsilon chapter at West Virginia Wesleyan College. In addition to American politics and campaigns, he is also interested in American folklore and political allegory. *With the People's Consent* was published in December 2014 and is available from the publisher, Rowan and Littlefield, via [this link](#).

Dr. Bobic can be contacted at [Michael.Bobic@glenville.edu](mailto:Michael.Bobic@glenville.edu).

## GAIN ACCESS TO JOBS, INTERNSHIPS, AND MORE AT EXPERIENCE.COM

Pi Gamma Mu and Experience™ have partnered to provide you exclusive member-only access to jobs, internships, and other opportunities. Experience™ is one of the leading providers of career services for students and young professionals. Through this alliance Pi Gamma Mu members will enjoy some of the following advantages:

- Member to member job postings
- Access to hundreds of thousands of career paths, internships, and job shadow days
- Resume and interview tips and techniques
- Networking with thousands of Pi Gamma Mu members
- Resume posting – be as active or passive in your job search as you wish

The services are provided free by Experience™ to Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society members. There are many career advantages of being a member of the society and this service reinforces our commitment to enhance academic excellence and opportunities for our members.

Since 1996, Experience™ has helped to guide more than 5 million students and alumni nationwide into the workforce by matching their interests, skill sets, and core competencies with available positions. Today, more than 130,000 employers use the Experience™ network to recruit top talent. Create an account at [Experience.com](http://Experience.com).

We hope that you will take advantage of this unique partnership whether you are looking for a summer internship, a full-time position, or are seeking top talent to fill a vacant position.

## 2015-16 NATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT



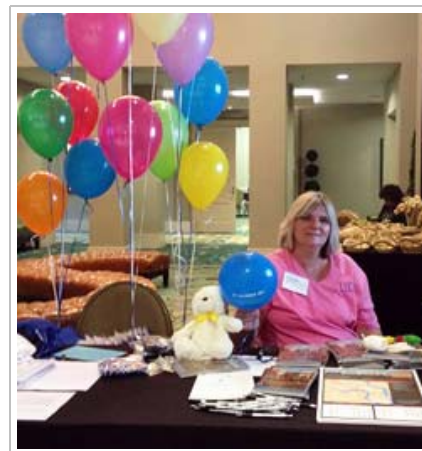
Part of the mission of Pi Gamma Mu is to foster cooperation and social service among its members. With this in mind, we urge you to join us with helping those in need. Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society is encouraging its chapters to start a donation box for a shelter during these last few months of 2015. Items needed most include: new pillows, diapers, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, blankets and comforters, gift cards, personal care products, baby supplies, and laundry detergent. Please contact a shelter in your area to find out what they need most. We are hoping to make this national service project a success by collectively helping people in need throughout our respective communities.

Should you have any questions about contacting an organization near you, please feel free to contact Allison G. S. Knox, Chancellor of the Southeast Region,

[Allison\\_G.S.\\_Knox@hotmail.com](mailto:Allison_G.S._Knox@hotmail.com)). She is also the sponsor of the West Virginia Iota Chapter and the chapter started a small collection box in June with the same intent. The Chapter is hoping to collect more donations in the future to help homeless organizations in the Washington, DC area.

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR CHAPTER SERVICES, BETH BIDDLE, CELEBRATES 20 YEARS WITH PI GAMMA MU

Beth Biddle, Associate Director for Chapter Services, celebrates 20 years with Pi Gamma Mu this month. Biddle started as a part-time office assistant in 1995 and took on additional responsibilities and hours over the years. She is now a full-time staffer at the society managing a variety of services for members and chapter sponsors. She faithfully fulfills all requests for membership credentials and insignia that come into the international office. She also monitors chapter activity levels and reaches out to chapter sponsors when the office hasn't heard from them when expected. This tracking and follow-up helps prevent chapters from becoming inactive and epitomizes the personal touch of Pi Gamma Mu. In 2013, Biddle served as Interim Executive Director of the society while the position was vacant. This allowed the society to continue to operate as usual during a time of transition. Executive Director of the society, Suzanne Rupp, said, "Beth's dedication to Pi Gamma Mu is exemplary. Her hard work has helped provide well-deserved recognition to thousands of students over the years and has helped the international office develop a reputation of excellence in service. She has made significant contributions to Pi Gamma Mu in the areas of chapter retention, member services, conventions, and much more in her 20 years with the society. It is true pleasure to work with Beth."



In April of 2015, the International Board of Trustees agreed by unanimous vote to recognize Biddle's dedication by making her an honorary member of the society. She was officially initiated into lifetime membership on May 2 at the spring initiation ceremony of the Kansas Lambda Chapter at Newman University. The chapter is sponsored by International Board of Trustees President, Larry Heck. This month, Heck will visit the international office to honor Biddle and celebrate her achievement.

Biddle resides on a family farm just outside of Winfield, Kans. with her husband of 31 years, Jess, and the youngest of their four children who will begin his senior year in high school this fall. Beth and Jess also have three grandchildren. Hobbies include horseback riding, ranching, and spending time with her family. If you wish to congratulate Beth on her 20 years with the society, please send her an email at [Beth.Biddle@pigammamu.org](mailto:Beth.Biddle@pigammamu.org).

## THE VALUE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

By Dr. Michael Smith, Kansas Iota Chapter Sponsor

*Dr. Michael Smith, sponsor of the Pi Gamma Mu Kansas Iota Chapter and Associate Professor of Political Science at Emporia State University, wrote the following column for **Insight Kansas**, a central link repository for statewide syndicated columns on Kansas politics by political scientists in Kansas. Insight Kansas' columns are published weekly and can be viewed at <https://insightkansas.wordpress.com/>*



### For Kansas Senators: A One Page Defense of Higher Education

April 2, 2015

by Michael Smith

The Kansas Senate wants a one-page explanation of higher education's value. Here goes:

Kansas Senate Bill 191 would require state universities to issue a "prospectus" to each incoming student. On one page, it would give job placement rates and median salaries, average time between degree completion and job placement, and the number of years to pay student loans, based upon major. This idea recalls Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker's recent attempt to erase the University of Wisconsin's hundred-year-old mission of statewide community engagement, replacing it with job training. It is a nationwide, Republican priority.

What about the students themselves? With apologies to Bob Dylan: there is something going on out here, and the state legislators don't know what it is.

This semester, my political philosophy students asked me to make the class *longer*. It seems they were not getting enough time to discuss the books and ideas in class.

Students could not stop talking about Herbert Marcuse, the mid-twentieth-century French philosopher who believed that our society was producing a "one dimensional man": one who feared imaginary enemies and focused solely on earning and spending income. They devoured the work of Hannah Arendt, a Jewish emigre from World War II Germany. Famous for studying Nazi official Adolph Eichmann, Arendt argued that modern-day society made the activities of "work" and "labor" so all-consuming that most people had little time, or interest, in discovering what it meant to live a genuinely fulfilling, complete life, including political action. Arendt feared a slide toward "rule by nobody": hardly any single person can be held accountable for the actions of business or government anymore. Whether or not Eichmann really was a thoughtless bureaucrat, it remains true that citizens who ask critical questions, think, and act in politics can offer us release from a one-dimensional life of graduation, working only for a paycheck, retiring, and eventual death. This class is no left-wing indoctrination: up

next are Leo Strauss, the intellectual godfather of modern-day American conservatism, and F.A. Hayek, the legendary libertarian economist who railed against government meddling.

Also at Emporia State, Dr. Joyce Thierer's Women of the West class is taught on one long evening each week, ending at 10 p.m. Still talking, the students invited their professor to a local all-night eatery for more discussion about the changing roles of women— and pancakes. Our students come from all over, many from rural or exurban Kansas: Emporia and Eldorado, Great Bend and Gardner. They tell us that they have never seen or heard these ideas before. They are hungry for all the material we can give them, and then some. This is the first time I have seen this, since I started teaching in 1995.

Many of our current politicians did not graduate from college themselves, yet they want to control higher education. Instead, our students want to know what it means to live a fulfilling, complete life. Good teaching, great books, and their own curiosity and hard work can help them achieve real intellectual development, preparing them for rich lives and meaningful careers. So ends my one page defense of higher education.

## ΠΓΜ LIFETIME MEMBER DESIGNS BANNER FOR MARYLAND THETA CHAPTER

Phillip Warlick, Pi Gamma Mu lifetime member and former Vice President of the Maryland Theta chapter, designed a new banner for the chapter housed at the University of Maryland University College. The sponsor of the chapter is Dr. Katherine Im, Program Chair, Gerontology and Social Sciences. The banner is pictured here. It features Pi Gamma Mu's colors, blue and white, which represent truth and light. It also includes a wreath suggesting 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.

Other symbols of the society include the blue and white cineraria, the official flower, and the following motto which is the epigram of the Master Teacher: "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." An official ritual for optional use in initiating new members, inaugurating officers, and installing new chapters is available on the [website](#).



The international office offers a society banner for purchase (\$75) via our [merchandise page](#).



Pi Gamma Mu banner. The polyester silk-screened banner measures approximately 20" by 32", and is supported by a twisted white cord with tassels. \$75

## FormSwift \$1000 SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP – Apply Today!

FormSwift.com, a young startup dedicated to creating personal and legal templates that are customizable, easy to use, and highly professional, is holding a \$1000 Summer Business Plan Contest. The contest is available to high school seniors, undergrads, and graduate students across the country. The company chose a business plan contest in order to provide students with a way to both pay for tuition and prove that they are startup savvy. The **application deadline July 30, 2015**.

The application requires a one to two page Business Plan or a Business Plan Infographic about one of the following business industries: a



bakery, a restaurant, a salon, a trucking company, or a personal training company. The Spring 2015 FormSwift Startup Scholarship Winner was Jennifer Fong Thai. Jennifer will be starting Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo this fall as a freshman. She will be using her award to help reduce the financial cost of attending school. Her award-winning submission included a two minute YouTube video entitled, "The Benefit of FormSwift to Schools & Colleges."

Visit <http://formswift.com/startup-scholarship> for more details.

## KANSAS LAMBDA CHAPTER CELEBRATES ITS 2015 INITIATES

The Kansas Lambda Chapter at Wichita State University (Kans.) welcomed 32 new members at an initiation ceremony on March 27, 2015. The ceremony was attended by new initiates and their families as well as guests from the university and the Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees. Chapter sponsor, Professor Sheryl Chapman, and student president of the chapter, Anna Blankenship, organized the event which was held in the Harvest Room at the Rhatigan Student Center. A welcome was provided by Ron Matson, Dean of the Fairmont College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the university. Larry Heck, President of the International Board of Trustees of Pi Gamma Mu, also provided opening remarks at the event. A presentation on the history and benefits of Pi Gamma Mu was provided by Suzanne Rupp, Executive Director of the society. Chapman presented each new member with a membership certificate, keypin, and membership card in a candle-lit ceremony. The celebration included a cake decorated in blue and white, Pi Gamma Mu's colors which represent truth and light. Chapman presented each new member with a membership certificate, keypin, and membership card in a candle-lit ceremony.



The celebration included a cake decorated in blue and white, Pi Gamma Mu's colors which represent truth and light. Chapman offered a gift of a Wichita State University coffee mug to the Pi Gamma Mu international office, headquartered in Winfield, Kans. The international office proudly displays a collection of collegiate coffee mugs that have been given to the society by chapters over the years. [Click here to learn more about the collection.](#)

Suzanne Rupp, Executive Director of Pi Gamma Mu, speaks about the history and benefits of membership in the society.

## 2015 INITIATION CEREMONY SNAPSHOTS: KANSAS LAMBDA; KANSAS THETA; NEBRASKA DELTA; and PENNSYLVANIA ALPHA NU

Enjoy these snapshots from a few of the 2015 Pi Gamma Mu initiation ceremonies. Email your chapter's photos to [ExecutiveDirector@PiGammaMu.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@PiGammaMu.org) for inclusion in a future issue of the newsletter.



New initiates and their families gather at the Kansas Lambda chapter at Wichita State University on March 27, 2015.



Larry Heck, chapter sponsor and president of the Pi Gamma Mu International Board of Trustees, addresses the new initiates and guests at the Kansas Theta Chapter's initiation ceremony on May 4, 2015.



Randy Bertolas (far left), chapter sponsor of the Nebraska Delta Chapter at Wayne State University, celebrates with the chapter's new initiates at a ceremony in April of 2015.



Steve Medvec, chapter sponsor of the Pennsylvania Alpha Nu chapter at Holy Names University, and members of the chapter celebrate their membership in Pi Gamma Mu on April 10, 2015.



Daniela Chacon, President of the Pennsylvania Alpha Nu chapter at Holy Names University, with her family at the 2015 initiation ceremony.

INTERNATIONAL  
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REVIEW



VOLUME XX  
DATE

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JOURNAL OF  
**PIGM** International  
PI GAMMA MU Honor Society in  
Social Sciences

## ACCESS THE *International Social Science Review* ONLINE, ANYTIME, FREE OF CHARGE

The *International Social Science Review (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. Visit <http://digitalcommons.northgeorgia.edu/issr/> or type "International Social Science Review" into any search engine to view the journal.

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](mailto:quinn.issr@gmail.com). Virtually every issue of the journal contains at least one article by a student member and one by a faculty sponsor. Professional publications are a great addition to any curriculum vitae or resume. The editor of the journal also welcomes Pi Gamma Mu members to share important updates for possible inclusion in the Pi Gamma Mu News section of the journal (members having new publications, new faculty positions, chapter research conferences, etc.).

## CONNECT WITH IIGM ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER, AND LINKEDIN



Like us on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter



Connect with us on 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 (such as the scholarship application deadline).

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 shown here to ensure that you have connected with the official pages managed by the Pi Gamma Mu international office.

## PI GAMMA MU LAUNCHES NEW FACEBOOK AD CAMPAIGN AND ASKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT



A significant goal of Pi Gamma Mu is to bring the ideals of scholarship, collaboration, and service to colleges and universities around the world through reactivating and establishing new chapters of Pi Gamma Mu at these institutions. In order to achieve this mission, society staff continually reaches out to college faculty to solicit interest in providing recognition to top social science students through establishing a chapter of Pi Gamma Mu. The society recently received three donations totaling \$500 to help launch a new Facebook advertising program to help increase awareness of the benefits of hosting a chapter. Within just two weeks of launching the ads, the Pi Gamma Mu website has received over 100 new visitors and over 15,000 Facebook users have been reached! The society plans to continue this effective advertising program and asks for your financial support. Chapters, sponsors, new members, and alumni are asked to send in donations of any size to help support the society's efforts to continue to grow through this new program.

Donations can be mailed to Pi Gamma Mu, 1001 Millington St., Ste. B, Winfield, KS 67156. Thank you for your support!

## REMINDERS FOR CHAPTER SPONSORS

The International Board of Trustees wishes to express their thanks to the chapter sponsors that help keep Pi Gamma Mu going. Pi Gamma Mu chapter sponsors donate their time and talents to provide the recognition social science honor students deserve. Pi Gamma Mu values the time, energy, and resources its chapter sponsors commit to their students every day. Serving as a chapter sponsor can be an incredibly rewarding job and our staff is dedicated to keeping sponsors informed of resources that can contribute to their success.

The following will provide information about how to work efficiently with the international office. **Please note that the sample invitation letters below include the \$50 lifetime membership fee that will become effective beginning September 1, 2015.** The fee due to the international office will remain at \$40 through August 31, 2015. We hope that you find this information helpful and we welcome your feedback. Thank you for your continued support of Pi Gamma Mu!

### Steps for successful membership recruitment:

1. Ask the Registrar's office for a list of students that meet the requirements to join:
  - a. Juniors, Seniors and Graduate Students in good standing (this includes alumni)
  - b. 20 hours in the social sciences (do not have to be social science majors) with an average grade therein of "B" or better
  - c. Rank in upper 35% of the class
  - d. No academic failures
2. Remember to invite alumni, graduate students, faculty, and staff whose scholastic records or outstanding achievements have rendered them worthy of an invitation to join.

3. Invite ALL eligible students to join.
4. Mail letters or send emails to invite eligible students to join. Include the Pi Gamma Mu membership application form with your invitation letter. We will mail you application forms and you can print forms from our website. If you are emailing invitations, you can attach the electronic version to your email invitation. The form must be signed by a chapter sponsor. The electronic form is one-sided for easy printing.
5. Have students return the membership application form and payments to the chapter sponsor.
6. Send all of the membership application forms and one check or money order for the full amount to Pi Gamma Mu.

#### Example Invitation Letter #1

Note: Items in red are to be tailored to your chapter.

Dear (Student),

Congratulations! Due to your outstanding academic progress and cumulative GPA, you are eligible to join the (insert the name of your chapter) of Pi Gamma Mu - International Honor Society in the Social Sciences. Membership in Pi Gamma Mu recognizes our top performing students' accomplishments in the social sciences.

Pi Gamma Mu is the oldest and is the leading honor society in the social sciences. Its mission is to encourage and promote excellence in the social sciences and to uphold the ideals of scholarship and service. There is a one-time membership fee of \$50 (this is the amount due to the international office; you can add chapter dues to this amount). Benefits of membership include:

- lifetime membership,
- a handsome certificate worthy of framing,
- a membership card,
- a gold-plated key pin,
- access to the society's online newsletter and peer-reviewed professional journal,
- the opportunity to apply for Pi Gamma Mu scholarships,
- the opportunity to present your research at Pi Gamma Mu conventions, and more!

We encourage you to review the Pi Gamma Mu website to learn more about the benefits bestowed to members [www.pigammamu.org](http://www.pigammamu.org) Please complete the enclosed membership application form and return it to my office with your payment. (Or insert your own instructions for payment.) If you have questions, please contact me at insert email address. We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to become a lifetime member of Pi Gamma Mu!

Sincerely,

#### Example Invitation Letter #2

Note: Items in red are to be tailored to your chapter.

Dear (Student),

I am writing to invite you to join the Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society for the Social Sciences. Your nomination for membership and this invitation to join acknowledge your academic accomplishments in the social sciences. Congratulations, and I hope you will consider joining.

Pi Gamma Mu is the oldest and preeminent honor society in the social sciences. Our mission is to encourage and recognize superior scholarship in social science disciplines and to foster cooperation and social service among its members. Pi Gamma Mu serves the various social science disciplines which seek to understand and explain human behavior and social relationships as well as their related problems and issues. Currently, there are around 150 active chapters in the United States and overseas.

You can obtain an application for membership from the Pi Gamma Mu website:

<http://www.pigammamu.org/chapter-sponsor-forms.html>

Please print and use the application.

Lifetime membership requires payment of a one-time initiation fee of \$50.00. (If your chapter has specific chapter dues, they may be added into this fee.) If you decide to join please complete the application (I will sign the Chapter Faculty Sponsor line after I receive it) and give it and your check for \$50.00 (made out to Pi Gamma Mu) to (Either yourself or an administrative assistant that will process payment). The mailing address is:

(Person)

(University)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip Code)

Please send your application and check by (Date). Note: You must return your application and payment to (University), since all memberships originate through local chapters. DO NOT send your memberships to the international office.

Pi Gamma Mu has an optional honor cord (the group cost is \$15.00--if you buy it as an individual it is \$17) that can be worn at graduation. If you would like an honor cord, please add \$15.00 to your check, for a total of \$65.00. If you would like to order your honor cord

individually, you may follow this link to order Pi Gamma Mu merchandise: <http://www.pigammamu.org/store.html>. (This paragraph is optional depending on how you and your chapter prefer to purchase honor cords. To offer cords at the \$15 rate, the chapter will need to make a bulk purchase from the international office, and then resell the honor cords to members. If you prefer, students can simply be directed to our merchandise website to purchase honor cords individually.)

You can learn more about Pi Gamma Mu by visiting the web site at [www.pigammamu.org](http://www.pigammamu.org).

If you have any problems printing the application or if you have any questions, please send a message to (faculty email).

Sincerely Yours,

## ACHS MEMBERSHIP PROTECTS THE LEGITIMACY OF HONOR SOCIETIES

Pi Gamma Mu is one of 66 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.achsnaatl.org](http://www.achsnaatl.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.