



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.

Number 171

January 2011

TRIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

"Pi Gamma Mu Honors America's Past, Plans the World's Future" - October 20 – 22, 2011



Members of Pi Gamma Mu will take the nation's capital by storm this October when the 2011 triennial international convention occurs in the Washington, D. C., metropolitan area.

The convention will begin on Thursday, Oct. 20, at the Holiday Inn National Airport Hotel in Arlington, Va., with several energetic activities that include our mock constitutional convention for the drafting of proposals to amend the U. S. Constitution. But on Friday, Oct. 21, we take the action right to the U. S. government itself, as we ride the Metrorail into the District of Columbia and meet in the offices of the U. S. Congress. In one of Congress's office buildings, some of our student members will present their research papers and posters, under the watchful eyes of members and employees of the legislative branch. We'll even go on a tour of the National Mall.

We have all of the information about the hotel, registration, and the program ready for you now, so that you can plan to attend. The call of the convention appears in a Microsoft Word document that can be accessed at <http://apache.northgeorgia.edu/bdf/PIGamMu/ICOND.docx>. You can start raising funds for travel subsidies now, and remember that every chapter that has submitted initiation fees over the past 3 years has a travel fund to help to pay for delegates' travel costs.

Registration - the fee will be \$18 per person, which must be received at headquarters by Monday, October 3. This fee includes the dessert bar on Friday evening, October 21.

See <http://apache.northgeorgia.edu/bdf/PIGamMu/ICONF.pdf> for the Triennial International Convention registration form

Tour - Delegates are invited to participate in a Tour of the Mall: "It's a Mall World After All" led by Secretary-Treasurer Larry Heck.

Paper Proposals – Pi Gamma Mu student members may propose to present papers at the convention. Pi Gamma Mu will pay for one night's lodging at the Holiday Inn Airport Hotel in Arlington, VA for each student member whose proposal is accepted and who presents his or her paper at the international convention. Paper submissions should be *in the form of an oral presentation (with a PowerPoint presentation being an optional enhancement) or in the form of a poster* at the convention. Regardless of the presentation format, proposals for this convention must be submitted in the form of a *completed research paper or, at a minimum, a complete draft of a paper*. One should submit his/her proposal to Dr. Charles W. Hartwig, chancellor of the South / Southwest Region of Pi Gamma Mu by E-mail to hartwigc@astate.edu (and send a "CC" to convention-committee chairman Barry D. Friedman at bfriedman@northgeorgia.edu); attach the research paper as a *Microsoft Word document* and specify whether the student wishes to deliver an oral presentation or display a poster. Other word-processing software is unacceptable. Proposals *must be received* by the chairmen of the Committee of Readers and of the convention committee *no later than* June 1, 2011. (Other members of the Committee of Readers: Dr. Stephen E. Medvec, Holy Family University, Philadelphia, Penn., and Dr. Janice K. Purk, Mansfield University, Mansfield, Penn.)

If a student presents a **poster**, the poster must display (a) a summary of the research project, including the thesis statement or hypothesis, (b) an outline of the methodology and information discovered, and (c) the findings, including a statement of whether the thesis statement or hypothesis was supported or unsubstantiated.

Service Project – We are asking delegates to bring a stuffed animal to the convention. It would be nice to have the toys indicate what state they are representing (e.g., holding a state flag or wearing a ribbon with the name of the state on it). We will pretend to have a national Constitutional Convention for the proposal of amendments to the U. S. Constitution. The toys will be collected and donated to a local battered women's shelter. One of the ideals of Pi Gamma Mu is Social Service, and we want to leave Washington, D.C. knowing that we were able to help some children.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Anytime you move, such as after graduation, please notify the Pi Gamma Mu office immediately. This will prevent your mailings from being interrupted or discontinued. The *International Social Science Review* is not forwarded by the post office, so we don't know whether you receive it. Just mail a change of address card, post card, letter, email (pgm@sckans.edu) or go to our website (www.pigammamu.org) to change your address information. We need your name, as well as your old and new address.

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NOMINATE TRUSTEES BY FEBRUARY 15

The nominating committee invites all chapters to submit names of candidates for a position on the Board of Trustees to appear on the 2011 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 headquarters.

All nominations are to be made for the Board of Trustees. A chapter should not specify a position in its nomination. Positions to be filled for three-year terms are: president, first and second vice president, 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 next September.

Please give thought to candidates with the ability to fulfill responsibilities and who have been active Pi Gamma Mu workers. 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 nominee if he/she is willing to serve if elected. The nominee 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 making nominations by **February 15**, and then be sure to vote next September.

PI GAMMA MU INVITES ALUMNI TO CONVENTION

Because of the distribution of this newsletter electronically using the Pi Gamma Mu Listserv, the international office is in regular contact with thousands of alumni/alumnae at a dynamic level of communication that we used to just dream about. This means that thousands of you are receiving this edition of the newsletter in which we invite our members to our triennial international convention this October in the Washington, D. C., metropolitan area. To our valued alumnus/alumna members: Please, won't you consider attending Pi Gamma Mu's 2011 international convention? Let's get to know each other again!

When you were initiated to lifetime membership in Pi Gamma Mu, you were probably excited to receive this effective recognition of your outstanding academic record. Pi Gamma Mu's officers and chapter sponsors remain committed to providing similar recognition for honor students in the social sciences this year and for many years to come. Please come to our convention and

- Reaffirm your affiliation with your honor society.
- Meet some current students who are enjoying *their* affiliation with Pi Gamma Mu, and who will present research papers to showcase the accomplishments of today's scholars in the social sciences.
- Tell *us* what *we* can do to reach out to alumni/alumnae and include them in the activities and benefits of Pi Gamma Mu.

During the convention, we will have a gathering to recognize the alumni/alumnae who attend. We will also have a workshop to discuss the role of alumni/alumnae in our organization. The officers are contemplating the creation of an Alumni Council, to formally involve our alumnus/alumna members in the operation of the society.

This is a historic development in the history of Pi Gamma Mu. Please attend, and share your ideas with us. And what better time to attend a Pi Gamma Mu convention than when we take the nation's capital by storm? We look forward to seeing many of you this fall.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank You for Supporting Our Pi Gamma Mu International Membership Directory!

I am delighted to hear reports that members have been receiving their copies of the magnificent "Pi Gamma Mu international membership directory" in the mail. Harris Connect has advised us that 86,067 members will be in the biographical, school, and geographical sections of the directory, and 179,622 members will be listed in the alphabetical section. With 7,249 members providing extensive biographical information and 17,000 members already receiving our electronic newsletter due to Harris Connect providing member E-mail updates for our listserv, the success of the project is already being felt in major ways.

For the first time in our history, we are planning activities for alumni/ae at our next Pi Gamma Mu Triennial Convention, which will be held on October 20-22, 2011, in the Washington D. C., area. Our organizational history has been updated in the directory, and we are now able to contact lifetime members on a large scale. The project was not without challenge! The membership application forms that you filled out when you were initiated were sent to Harris Connect over vast distances so that Harris Connect could enter your data into an electronic data base. Our officers and staff were in continual communication with Harris Connect as the project progressed. Angie Dailey at Harris Connect has been an extremely effective project liaison. Our board and staff supported the project, which involved extensive planning and overtime work. We are grateful for our staff's dedication. All our files are currently electronically preserved and updated for the first time in our history.

Directories are major financial undertakings, and the ultimate success of the project depended on the support of our membership, as we needed a sufficient number of copies of the directory to be ordered in a difficult economy at levels meeting Harris Connect's expectations. Did our members care about Pi Gamma Mu enough to support the project? Harris Connect had advised us that some projects fail, and the development of many organizations' directories is discontinued if participation is not substantial enough to warrant the completion of the project. This project was a major test for the Pi Gamma Mu international honor society. Our members and faculty advisers responded by ordering directories and providing updates of their contact information. Our staff responded with "overtime" efforts, and our board fully supported the directory and our desire to communicate with members at a level never before possible.

The critical point was at an early stage in the project, when "proof of concept" must be negotiated with Harris Connect. At this stage, the president of the organization must convince key corporate officers at Harris Connect that the project will succeed and has membership support. Harris Connect had already gathered some data. The total backing I received from our staff members; our student, alumnus/a, and faculty members; and the members of the international Board of Trustees enabled us to negotiate the project to completion.

I now thank all of our members, board, and staff as well as Harris Connect for a successful project. We have a great future ahead. Without your active involvement, we would not have a marvelous membership directory, copies of which are now arriving at the homes of our members. We deeply appreciate those who ordered directories and took the time to update their information for our directory. In the last five years, at a time when many honor societies have been experiencing difficulty, we have grown from 123 active chapters to over 150 active chapters. It is the unique spirit and "can do" attitude of our members, board, faculty advisers, and staff that have enabled us to succeed in this important project and many other undertakings. Our Pi Gamma Mu Flag is waving high in celebration!

Gordon Mercer

Pi Gamma Mu International President

STUDENT SHADOW PRESIDENT UPDATE

Extending Tax Cuts Politically a Good Move

Last month, President Obama signed into law an extension of the Bush-era tax cuts. In doing so, he broke a major campaign promise: ending the Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. In negotiating with GOP leaders, this is what Obama had to give up in order to obtain legislation that extended unemployment benefits and tax cuts for the rest of us who are not among the nation's richest.

This act showed that the economy is by far the most vital issue today for the president. This package will help with unemployment numbers and will hopefully stimulate the economy by giving taxpayers extra money to pump into the market. The midterm elections proved just how disappointed voters were with the economy, and so breaking a major campaign pledge in order to help the economy may actually be acceptable to anyone other than die-hard progressive liberals.

In addition, many lawmakers, including some Democrats, said they simply would not support any bill which raised taxes on any American during a recession, regardless of financial class. Therefore, a bill which proposed ending tax cuts for Americans making over \$250,000 appeared doomed.

The enactment of these extensions also demonstrated Obama's ability to negotiate with the GOP, a controversial strategy yet absolute necessity in my opinion. Examples of compromise can be found throughout America's history, and I believe that compromise is necessary for a democracy to be successful. Many thought that this bill would never get enacted after the midterm elections and the cries for less government spending. Still, Obama's skill to organize and rally votes for this legislation became apparent in much the same way in which it did with the healthcare bill.

While Democrats are upset with Obama for not sticking to his guns, Obama achieved his primary aim: tax cuts for the lower and middle classes. Some concessions had to be made, but in the end he accomplished his goal. In today's world of polarized politics, Obama obtained about as much as he could have hoped, which equals a victory for the president.

So ultimately, extending the tax cuts was a good move by Obama politically. It shows that he is listening to legislators on both sides of the aisle in dealing with the economy's sluggishness, and he is willing to negotiate – a talent that more politicians need, in my opinion. And in the

end, he kept the tax cuts that are there to assist a majority of American taxpayers.

However, I can see why many politicians, especially tea-partiers and liberal Democrats, were upset with the legislation because of its implications for deficit budgeting. A bipartisan deficit commission recently presented its findings to Congress, and the mounting national-government debt seems to be a major issue for all those hoping to be elected. I am not one to solve one of our nation's biggest problems, but it seems like raising taxes for the nation's wealthiest people is a simple step in the right direction. Someday, politicians will have to deal with the deficit, but, unfortunately, last month was not that occasion.

Eric Knutson

Shadow President

CHAPTERS IN ACTION

CONGRATULATIONS TO PI GAMMA MU INDUCTEES

Wilmington University's Delaware Beta Chapter inducted 104 new members last November. Nearly 300 people attended the event. The chapter was established in 2007 under the auspices of chapter advisor Johanna Bishop. Membership is open to students who meet stringent academic requirements and agree to participate in service projects. Each member is supposed to contribute 10 hours of volunteer time to a cause or organization of his/her choice.

Please check out the [PowerPoint presentation](#) the chapter shared with headquarters to give an idea of the variety of projects chosen by the members since the chapter was chartered.

Other projects to be accomplished this year at the Delaware Beta Chapter include one member who is volunteering for a mental health association at the chapter's booth at a Lung Walk, a Relay for Life, and a Kidney Walk. Another member volunteers as a student mentor at an elementary school. One member is organizing a Polar Bear Plunge for February 6, 2011, and another member has volunteered to be a cheerleader at the Polar Bear Plunge. This student has recruited five others who are committed to volunteering with food management and teaching cooking classes at a nearby YWCA. Chapter members are volunteering at a hospital to provide social/mental support to families in crisis; coordinating a free Health & Wellness seminar in their county to discuss heart disease, prostate cancer, cervical cancer, obesity, and more; one is working with a foundation that awards one-time scholarships to high school students planning to attend college as well as holding annual events (Spelling Bee, 5K Run/Walk, educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth, and promote healthy lifestyles); and another student is participating in the Easter Seals Volleyball Challenge this March as well as working in the respite program at Easter Seals.

The Vermont Alpha chapter at the **University of Vermont** had a wonderful ceremony last spring, and another great group of new people were inducted into their chapter this fall. The chapter sponsor, Dr. Richard G. Johnson III, is on Fulbright leave from January 1, 2011, to August 1, 2011, teaching & researching at Hong Kong Baptist University.

The West Virginia Theta chapter at **Bluefield State College** made a monetary contribution to the Bluefield Va., Rotary Club's student scholarship fund. One chapter member was a featured speaker last fall at a campus-wide forum on immigration policy which was well attended.

At **Grambling University**, the Louisiana Eta chapter will be busy in February. It is planning to host two workshops: a Black Male Empowerment Forum and Seven Ideals of Pi Gamma Mu Empowerment Workshop. The chapter will also host a joint Pi Gamma Mu Collaborative Induction Ceremony for Grambling State University, Alcorn State University and Southern University, and then the conference participants and inductees will attend services at New Rocky Valley Baptist Church.



Vermont Alpha Chapter Inductees

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Two Pi Gamma Mu members — Dr. Frances Staten, professor of sociology at Grambling State University and Pi Gamma Mu governor for Louisiana, and Dr. Alma Thornton, professor of sociology and director of the Center for Social Research at Southern University and A&M College — have initiated a Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society Family Empowerment Scholarship campaign. The scholarships will benefit students attending Grambling State University. The first two of these \$1000 scholarships will be named "The Ed and Lucille Staten Empowerment Scholarship" and "The Richard and Lula Thornton Empowerment Scholarship." Donors will donate in memory of those who touched their lives. Drs. Staten and Thornton are seeking contributions from Pi Gamma Mu members, family members, friends, colleagues, and graduates of Grambling State University who would like to sponsor a scholarship in honor of a relative or friend.

To this date, additional verbal commitments to meet the challenge of establishing a designated memorial scholarship have been received from Mr. Kenneth Rayford, Dr. Thomas Durant, Dr. Raymond Hicks, Ms. Deborah Staten Robinson, and Mrs. Lottie Davis Prudhomme. Drs. Staten and Thornton's goal is to recruit 100 Black families over a five year period.



Picture from Left to Right: Lula Thornton (Mother of Dr. Thornton), Dr. Thornton, Dr. Staten, and Lucille Staten (Grandmother of Dr. Staten)

GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

★ UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SUMMER RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Overview

The goals of the program are to provide rising juniors and seniors an opportunity to increase their interest and learn about doctoral-level training, and provide basic research skills that can be applied in the social, behavioral and economic science fields. The program has a special emphasis on population groups underrepresented in these fields (i.e., African Americans, Hispanics, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders).

The University of Maryland, College Park is located just nine miles from downtown Washington, D.C. and approximately 30 miles from Baltimore, provides access to some of the finest libraries, research centers, and professional opportunities in the country. The D.C. metro area is nationally regarded for its dense population of highly educated and trained professionals, diversity, culture and entertainment.

Program Details

This 8-week program will be held on the University of Maryland, College Park campus from May 31 through July 22, 2011. Students will be provided a meaningful research experience by working with a faculty mentor in one of our nine academic departments: African American Studies, Anthropology, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Economics, Geography, Government & Politics, Hearing & Speech Sciences, Psychology and Sociology. We will also supplement their research experience with lectures, workshops, and networking opportunities.

Students will be provided round-trip airfare, meals, room and board in University on-campus housing and a stipend of \$2,700.

How to Apply

Basic eligibility requirements include (but are not limited to) junior or senior status by Fall 2011; U.S. citizen or permanent resident status; and a strong intent to immediately pursue a Ph.D. in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences upon completion of the Bachelors degree. We are especially interested in applications from students underrepresented in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences.

The application deadline is February 15, 2011.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/diversity/summer-research-initiative.aspx> or contact SRI@bsos.umd.edu

★ ENGALITCHEFF INSTITUTE ON COMPARATIVE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS - www.DCinternships.org/ICPES

INSTITUTE ON BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS - www.DCinternships.org/IBGA

June 5 – July 30, 2011

Held at Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Priority Deadline: February 3, 2011

Final Deadline: March 3, 2011

Sponsored by The Fund for American Studies, ICPES and IBGA combine a substantive professional experience for 30 hours a week with a challenging academic experience at **Georgetown University**. These fast-paced, eight-week residential program provides students from around the world with the opportunities to gain an edge in today's competitive job market and graduate school admissions, and experience the excitement of Washington first-hand.

SAMPLE PAST INTERNSHIP SITES

Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems

- American Family Business Institute
- Atlas Economic Research Foundation
- Civic Enterprises
- Congressional Offices
- DC Mayor's Office
- Federal Agencies
- Southern Governors' Association
- Tax Foundation

Institute on Business and Government Affairs

- Aerospace Industries Association
- Healthcare Leadership Council
- NASDAQ
- National Federation of Independent Business
- Quinn Gillespie & Associates, LLC
- Qwest Communications

- Siemens, Corp.
- U.S. Telecom Association

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- **Internships** – Competitive placements in public policy and government affairs
- **Classes** – Up to 9 credit hours from Georgetown University
- **Housing** – Roommate matching and furnished on-campus apartments in the heart of DC
- **Guest Lectures** – With Washington's top policy and industry experts
- **Exclusive Briefings** – At the State Department, World Bank and Capitol Hill
- **Leadership & Professional Development** – Leadership, mentoring and career building activities
- **Networking** – Interaction with seasoned professionals and student leaders from around the world
- **Scholarships** – Approximately 70% of students receive generous awards based on merit and financial need

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Students will be accepted on a rolling basis until the Final Deadline of March 3, 2011. Students applying by the Priority Deadline of **February 3, 2011** will be given preference in admissions and priority scholarship consideration. For more information and an online application, please visit our website www.DCInternships.org or contact Elizabeth Matecki, Recruitment and Admissions Assistant at admissions@tfas.org or 1-800-741-6964.

ROLLS ANNOUNCED

During the annual meeting of the international Board of Trustees in October 2010, the board approved the recommendation of the Awards Committee concerning which chapters are recognized on this year's Roll of Distinction and Roll of Merit.

The Rolls are the result the Awards Committee's evaluation of the annual reports filed by responsible chapter officers. Among the criteria reported are facts indicative of the activity and effectiveness of the chapter on its campus, as well as its efficiency of operation according to procedures suggested or required by the international board. This includes chapter organization and participation by faculty members and students, election and initiation of members, and financial responsibility. Local initiative in developing new activities or methods of operation is considered. These lists are in alphabetical order.

ROLL OF MERIT

Florida Eta, University of South Florida, Ann Morris, Janet Monroe

Maryland Epsilon, Coppin State University, Elias Taylor

Maryland Gamma, Salisbury University, Clara Small

North Carolina Lambda, Western Carolina University, Gordon Mercer

Virginia Delta, Emory & Henry College, Jack Roper

ROLL OF DISTINCTION:

Louisiana Eta, Grambling University, Frances Staten

Nebraska Delta, Wayne State College, Jean Karlen, Randy Bertolas

New York Tau, Pace University, Linda Quest

Pennsylvania Kappa, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, Janice Purk

Pennsylvania Alpha Omicron, Washington & Jefferson College, Yongsheng Wang

Virginia Epsilon, Radford University, Sharon Roger Hepburn, Charles McClellan

OPPORTUNITY FOR GIVING

Pi Gamma Mu is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and able to accept tax-deductible donations. If you would like to make a donation 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 10 scholarships to students going into a graduate program in social science each year. You can mail your donation to Pi Gamma Mu, 1001 Millington, Suite B, Winfield, KS 67156.

For more information, visit the Web page at <http://www.pigammamu.org/donate.html>.

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.

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