



PHI BETA KAPPA

NEWS

Fall 2018

“Love of wisdom, the guide of life”

Phi Beta Kappa Founders’ Day Event

Since its founding on December 5, 1776, the Phi Beta Kappa Society has celebrated excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and championed freedom of thought. As America’s most prestigious academic honor society, PBK is uniquely equipped to advocate for the value and benefits of liberal arts and sciences education. The elected members of this chapter do this because we believe the curiosity and creativity cultivated by a liberal arts and sciences education are essential to making the most of life’s experiences, and that knowledge and learning frees us from the shackles of prejudice and ignorance.

In honor of the founding of Phi Beta Kappa on December 5, 1776, our chapter’s Founders’ Day event will be held on Thursday, December 6th, at 3:30 p.m. in Beaird Lounge in the Oklahoma Memorial Union.

David Levey, will present a lecture titled: “Twenty-one Months of Hell: The Practice of Jim Crow at OU”

David Levey, is a David Ross Boyd Professor of History, Emeritus at the University of Oklahoma and OU Historian. The talk focuses on George McLaurin and the practice of segregation at OU.

2018 PBK Honorary Member

Dr. Maria del Guadalupe (Lupe) Davidson, Director, Women's and Gender Studies, Co-Director of the Center for Social Justice, and a Fellow in the Faculty Leadership Academy and the Center for Teaching Excellence at the University of Oklahoma, was nominated for Honorary Membership. She is deserving of recognition based on her outstanding contributions to public service in the vital area of public education. The core of her outstanding service centers on improving the experience of students and actually bringing people together to better understand issues of race and diversity. Her activities have been transformational for faculty, staff and students alike. Dr. Lupe Davidson obtained her BA in English from St. Bonaventure University and two Master’s degrees and a Doctorate from Duquesne University. We are pleased to present her as the 2018 honorary member of the Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

PBK New Members— Spring 2018

At our spring chapter meeting, the Alpha of Oklahoma voted to invite 238 students to membership. The invitees included 215 seniors and 23 juniors. While the primary criteria for invitation is breadth of coursework in the liberal arts and sciences, this impressive group of seniors had an overall average GPA of 3.89. And as is almost always the case, the juniors invited to membership were the best of the best – all had 4.0 GPAs to go along with their well-rounded academic records.

On May 11, 2018, nearly 100 of the invitees along with their guests were present for the formal initiation ceremony the chapter conducts once annually in Meacham Auditorium of the Oklahoma Memorial Union.

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha of Oklahoma.

2019 PBK Honorary Member

Dr. Jill Irvine is President’s Associates Presidential Professor of International and Area Studies at the University of Oklahoma, the founding director of the Center for Social Justice, and currently the Director of Community Engagement in the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost. She received her BA in History from the University of Michigan and her PhD in Government from Harvard University. Dr. Jill Irvine joined the University of Oklahoma as a faculty member in 1992. Dr. Irvine will be honored at the spring 2019 PBK initiation ceremony. We are pleased to present her as the newest honorary member of the Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

News from Fall 2018 Chapter Business Meeting

News and Notes from the Fall Chapter Meeting

The Alpha of Oklahoma gathered for the annual fall business meeting on October 11, 2018. Announcements made included: Sherry Cox filling the vacancy in the Vice President position; the National PBK new member fee increasing from \$75 to \$85; a good financial position for the chapter; and, even with changes in the academic advising community, there are no expected changes in the way the Members in Course committee will receive academic records to review in the spring. Additionally, Ron Halterman reported on his attendance at the 2018 Triennial Council in Boston (see full report in this same newsletter).

In new business, Dr. Jill Irvine was unanimously approved as an Honorary Member of Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Irvine is President's Associates Presidential Professor of International and Area Studies at the University of Oklahoma, the founding director of the Center for Social Justice, and currently the Director of Community Engagement in the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost. She received her BA in History from the University of Michigan and her PhD in Government from Harvard University.

Following discussion of potential speakers for the annual Phi Beta Kappa Founders' Day event and the possibility of

inviting Dr. Fred Lawrence, CEO and Secretary of the national Phi Beta Kappa Society, to speak on campus in the spring, the meeting was adjourned.

Call for Honorary Members.

Calls are made for Honorary and/or Alumni members for consideration at the Fall business meetings. Honorary elections may be made from time to time, but they shall be limited in number and confined to persons of distinction. Additionally, alumni of any division of the University from classes of more than ten years' standing may be considered. Such graduates must be persons who have won distinction in letters, science, education, or other intellectual pursuits, or who have rendered to the nation or the region in which they live signal public service of such a nature as to manifest the possession of high intellectual attainments and scholarly interests. If you have a worthy candidate, please contact Dr. Sherry Cox, scox@ou.edu for more information on nominations.

Thank you to all who attended and participated in our fall business meeting. The chapter meets twice annually – once in the fall (usually October) and once in the spring (usually early April). We hope to see you at a future meeting. Join our listserv to get notifications of meeting details (info in “Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter Updates”).

Report from Phi Beta Kappa Triennial Council - Summer 2018

PHI BETA KAPPA 2018-2019 Contributions

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

An annual contribution of \$50, \$75 or \$100 is suggested; however, any support is gratefully accepted.

Contributions to the general fund also defray initiation costs for students with financial need. A contribution of \$105 fully supports one Phi Beta Kappa initiate.

Contribution: \$105 _____ \$100 _____ \$75 _____ \$50 _____ Other _____

You may mail a financial contribution to the Alpha of Oklahoma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa using the attached form, along with your check made out to the OU Foundation (note Phi Beta Kappa #0032000). Online contributions may be made at giving.oufoundation.org; find "Phi Beta Kappa" in the "Search for a fund" field. You may also direct your gift to the Roland Lehr Memorial Fund #0042002.

For member contact updates return this form to:

**Phi Beta Kappa
Attention: Craig Hayes
University of Oklahoma
1000 Asp Avenue
Norman, OK 73019**



Contributions Matter

The mission of the Alpha of Oklahoma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa is to promote education in the liberal arts and sciences. Through the national Phi Beta Kappa visiting scholars program, we invite distinguished scholars from all over the world to share their work with us. We annually celebrate our Founders' Day with public lectures and discussions on a variety of timely and important topics. Perhaps most importantly, we recognize academic excellence in undergraduate students through our scholarships and annual initiation of new members.

The Alpha of Oklahoma cannot provide these events and activities without your support. Please contribute to the continued support of the liberal arts at the University of Oklahoma.

Calendar of Upcoming Activities - www.ou.edu/pbk/calendar.htm

December, 6, 2018	Thursday 3:30-5:00pm	Founder's Day Event Beaird Lounge, Oklahoma Memorial Union
April 2019	TBA	Spring Business Meeting
May 11, 2018	Friday 3:30 PM	Initiation Ceremony Oklahoma Memorial Union Meacham Auditorium
	Immediately Following	Reception for New Initiates Oklahoma Memorial Union Beaird Lounge

Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter Updates

Member & Affiliate Member Moments:

Emily Johnson, Eta of California Chapter 1987, Published a book and several articles in 2017. A short excerpt from the book, “Arsenii Formakov, *Gulag Letters*, edited, translated, and introduced by Emily D. Johnson (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017), appeared in the April 2017 issue of *Harper’s Magazine*.

Sherry Cox, Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter 2002, and Glenn Hansen, Alpha of Oklahoma 2017, were awarded the 2017 Institutional Research Leadership in Student Retention Award, by the Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange (CSRDE).

Join our listserv to get notifications of meeting details (info in “Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter Updates”).





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Chapter Officers 2018-2019 www.ou.edu/pbk/officers.htm

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Standing Committees

Members-in-Course

James Thompson,
Ph.D., Chair
Peggy Chambers
Lynne Levy, Ph.D.
Julia Ehrhardt, Ph.D.

Scholarship

Ron Schleifer, Ph.D.,
Chair
Nanette Hathaway
David Levy, Ph.D.
Laurie Scrivener

Chapter Listserv

If you would like to be added to the chapter's listserv to receive intermittent email updates of chapter activities, send your request to pbk-l@lists.ou.edu. Update your mailing address with the chapter by emailing Craig Hayes at rchayes@ou.edu.

Check out our new Twitter Account

PBK ALPHA of OK
@OU_PBK

Honorary and Alumni Membership

Sherry Cox, Ph.D.,
Chair

Communications

Paula Baker
Sherry Cox, Ph.D.
Amy Davenport, Ph.D.
Susannah Livingood
Molly Strothmann

Visiting Scholars Program

Kermyt Anderson, Ph.D.,
Chair

Website Editor

Molly Strothmann

Newsletter

Sherry Cox, Ph.D.
Amy Davenport, Ph.D.
Craig Hayes