

Fall 2009

Phi Beta Kappa Triennial Report

The chapter sent two delegates, Dr. Jason Houston and Ms. Monica Sharp, to the Phi Beta Kappa Triennial Council October 1-4 in Austin, Texas. The PBK Society Constitution charges the Triennial Council with electing national officers, voting on the creation of new chapters and associations, and voting on changes to the Society's constitution and bylaws. Dr. Fred Cate of Indiana University was elected to serve as president of the Society, and Dr. Katherine R. Soule of Dartmouth was elected vice president. Both will serve three-year terms. The Phi Beta Kappa Society approved the establishment of four new chapters at Butler University, Indianapolis, IN; The College of Saint Benedict-Saint John's University, St. Joseph, MN; Elon University, Elon, NC; and James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. The addition of four new chapters will bring the total number chapters to 280 nationwide.

Chapter delegates attended the South Central District meeting, where a vote passed to establish monetary grants for the purpose of facilitating Phi Beta Kappa events that foster collaboration among multiple chapters and associations. Houston and Sharp also met with fellow Oklahoma delegates, Dr. Bruce Willis from the University of Tulsa, and Emily Pomeroy, president of the Oklahoma City Phi Beta Kappa Association.

Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter
<http://www.ou.edu/pbk>

Calendar of Upcoming Activities

December 3, 2009	Thursday 3:30 PM	Founder's Day Event OMU Scholars Room—see page 4 for more details!
April 2010	Time and Date TBD	Spring Business Meeting
May 14, 2010	Friday 3:00 PM	Initiation Ceremony Oklahoma Memorial Union Meacham Auditorium
	Immediately Following Ceremony	Reception for New Initiates Oklahoma Memorial Union Beard Lounge



OU Rhodes Scholar Update

Ms. Andrea DenHoed (above, next to the statue of Carl Albert, Alpha of Oklahoma member and 1931 Rhodes Scholar) graduated *summa cum laude* in May 2008 with an honors degree in Letters and International and Area Studies. Andrea was initiated into the Alpha chapter in spring 2008. She is OU's twenty-seventh Rhodes scholar, currently studying at Oxford University toward a B.A. degree in English Language and Literature. She hopes to also obtain an M.Phil at Oxford before pursuing a Ph.D. in English. We congratulate Andrea, and are certain we will be hearing more from her in the future!

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Standing Committees

Members-in-Course

Dr. James Thompson, Chair
Craig Hayes
Dr. Jason Houston
Dr. Lynne Levy

Scholarship Committee

Dr. Ron Schleifer, Chair
Dr. Sam Huskey
Nanette Hathaway
Heather Lehman

Honorary and Alumni Membership

Sherry Cox, Chair

Visiting Scholars Program

Dr. Kermyt Anderson, Chair

Newsletter Editor

Monica Sharp
Director, International Student
Services

2009 Scholarship Winner Updates: Where Are They Now?

It is important to remember that the scholarships that are awarded thanks to the generosity of chapter members influence young scholars' careers in very real ways. Below please find recent updates on a few of last spring's scholarship winners.

Hoest Heap of Birds graduated with a BA in Sociology and a minor in History in May 2009. Over the summer, he was a EDGE-SBE research fellow at the University of Southern California. This past August he was an Honor's Program participant at the American Sociological Association's annual conference in San Francisco, where he presented the paper that earned him his scholarship as described below. Hoest is now a first-year graduate student in Sociology and Provost's Fellow at the University of Southern California.

Jensen Mecca is currently a senior at OU and will graduate in May. In Fall 2010, she will begin studying Industrial-Organizational Psychology with an emphasis in Leadership Psychology in the hopes of pursuing a career in Leadership Consulting. Jensen thanks Phi Beta Kappa for helping her achieve the financial security to pursue her passion for leadership here at the university, saying "Since I am blessed with the help of scholarships, I have been lucky enough to be free of the responsibilities of a job while attending classes."

Paige Hoster is currently working as the Director of Outreach at a local non-profit organization, The Xenia Institute. She is in the process of applying to law school, and is completing her training with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates).

Many thanks again to our chapter members and their families who have so generously given to endow scholarships for outstanding students. Your gifts make a difference!



2009 PBK Scholarship Winner Report

Endowed Scholarship Recipients

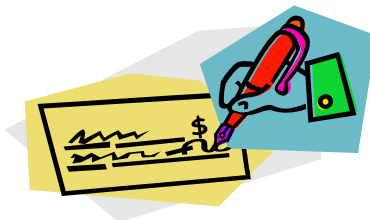
The Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter competitively awards a number of endowed scholarships each year to winning applicants.

The Mary Esther Selby Saxon Award is presented to graduating Phi Beta Kappa seniors who plan to do graduate work in any field of the humanities or the social sciences. The committee named three recipients for 2009 who received \$1000 each, **Paige Hoester** (Religious Studies), **Kelly Sheline** (Psychology), and **Daniel Tippin** (Political Science).

In addition to the endowed scholarships, two Undergraduate Research Awards were given in the name of Roland Lehr to students judged to have presented the best papers at Undergraduate Research Day. The winners were chosen by a system of ranking by faculty members in attendance. The first Roland Lehr Prize (\$300) went to Amanda Waters, a senior Chemistry major from Altus, for her paper "Isolation and Chemical Characterization of Four Briarane-type Diterpenoid Natural Products from the Marine Coral *Briareum* sp." The second Roland Lehr Prize (\$200) was awarded to Hoest Heap of Birds, a Sociology major from

Moore, OK, for his presentation titled "Cultural Identity and Cultural Knowledge: An Exploratory Study of Young Native American Males in Urban Areas."

Two Amy Taylor Sewell Memorial Scholarships of \$1000 each were awarded to Amy Boyd (English) and Jensen Mecca (Anthropology/Psychology). We again congratulate these outstanding students!



Phi Beta Kappa Junior Scholarships

Phi Beta Kappa junior scholarships are open to all juniors with a 3.7 GPA or greater at OU. Early in the spring semester, an invitation to apply for the junior scholarships will be sent to all students via OU email. The scholarship committee will then review all applications and select the best ones for awards, regardless of the student's potential membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

2010 PBK Visiting Scholar

The Phi Beta Kappa visiting scholar for the 2009-2010 academic year will be **Dr. Faye Ginsberg**. Her visit, postponed last year for economic reasons, will take place March 10-11, 2010 and will be jointly sponsored by the Department of Anthropology and other departments.

Dr. Ginsburg is David B. Kriser Professor of Anthropology, founding director of the Center for Media, Culture and History, as well as of the Graduate Program in Culture and Media, and co-director of the Center for Religion and Media, which she established in 2003. Her research includes cultural and visual anthropology, ethnographic film, indigenous media, and social movements in the US. She has published widely on the topics of reproductive rights, gender issues, and abortion. In 2005 she was co-curator of "First Nations First Features: A Showcase of World Indigenous Film and Media." She was named a MacArthur fellow in 1994 and the same year received the Distinguished Alumni Award of the Graduate Center, CUNY. She has produced five documentaries based on her fieldwork in Australia, North Dakota, and northern Thailand.

PHI BETA KAPPA | 2009-2010 | Dues and Contributions

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Annual dues: \$25 (payable to Phi Beta Kappa) \$ _____

Additional Contributions* \$ _____

*Specify "undergraduate research prize," "subsidies for low-income initiates," and/or "general fund." *Donations made in support of the Roland Lehr Fund should be made out with a separate check directly to the University of Oklahoma Foundation, indicating Roland Lehr Fund #0042002 in the memo line.*

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Return this form to: Phi Beta Kappa
Attn.: Craig Hayes
Jacobson Hall, 550 Parrington Oval
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019



Roland Lehr Memorial Scholarship Fund Update

The Dr. Roland Lehr Memorial Scholarship fund account has reached our goal of \$10,000, providing means for the chapter to begin giving an annual scholarship from the fund! The scholarship will be given to a graduating initiate who plans to pursue work in the natural or physical sciences or in medicine. Roland Lehr was a distinguished and highly regarded professor of Chemistry, twice interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a loyal and active member of the Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter, serving for several years as its secretary. A scholarship will perpetuate his name for years to come and is a fitting tribute to a man universally admired and esteemed.

Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter Updates

Founders' Day Event 2009

Our annual Founders' Day event will be held on Thursday, December 3 in the OMU Scholar's Room. The reception will begin at 3:30 PM, and program at 4:00 PM. The topic of the Founders' Day Panel is "Perspectives on Health Care Reform: A Public Discussion." Panelists will include Brian Carnes of Health for Friends, Dr. David Kendrick of OU Health Science Center, and Jason Sanders of McKinsey and Company.

PBK Listserv

The Alpha of Oklahoma chapter has an email listserv! If you would like to be added to the chapter's listserv to receive intermittent e-mail updates of chapter activities, send your request to pbk-1@lists.ou.edu.

You may update your mailing address online at <http://www.pbk.org/members/info.htm>, or via email to Craig Hayes (rchaves@ou.edu).



2009 Initiation Ceremony

The Alpha of Oklahoma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa voted to invite a total of 204 students to membership at the spring business meeting. On May 15, 2009, 130 of the invitees were initiated in the ceremony at Meacham Auditorium in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, including seven junior initiates, two alumnae initiates (Professor Peggy Chambers and Dr.

Cindy Rosenthal), and one honorary initiate (Dr. Pamela Genova). Following our chapter's tradition, after the ceremony an elegant wine bar reception was held in Beaird Lounge for new initiates and their families.

The seven junior initiates, recognized for outstanding scholarship prior to the final year of their undergraduate career, were Amy Boyd (English), David Burget (Letters), Elizabeth Cooper (Chemistry), Jensen Mecca (Anthropology/Psychology), Veronica Sauer (Anthropology/Film and Video Studies), Kelsey Seale (French/Letters), and Richard Swearingen (Zoology-Biomedical Sciences). Our congratulations go to all the newest members of the Phi Beta Kappa Alpha of Oklahoma chapter!