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National Newsletter  
PI OMEGA PI

National Business Education Honor Society  
Member of the Association of College Honor Society

Volume LX

February 2014

Number 1

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## New Chapter Inducted! Zeta Lambda Chapter



*Pictured: Pi Omega Pi President Ivan Wallace presents Dr. Smith with the charter of the Zeta Lambda Chapter.*

On Thursday, January 23, 2014, a new chapter was added to Pi Omega Pi! The Zeta Lambda Chapter was officially inducted by Pi Omega Pi President Ivan Wallace and National Editor Dr. Elizabeth Hodge, both from the Beta Kappa Chapter at East Carolina University.

In his comments President Wallace indicated Zeta Lambda was the first chapter added to the organization since 1993. Wallace presented the chapter advisor with their charter and inducted the charter members of the newly formed chapter.

The ceremony was attended by the College of Education Dean Jayne Fleener and Department Head Dr. Ellen Vasu along with other administrators from the College.

Seven students were inducted into the Zeta Lambda Chapter. Dr. Jimmy Smith will serve as the chapter advisor. Dr. Smith became a member of the Beta Kappa Chapter during his undergraduate studies at ECU where he also served as the chapter president. The ceremony was followed by a reception and the evening was a huge success!

Dr. Wallace also presented Zeta Lambda with an engraved gavel from Beta Kappa Chapter.



*Pictured: Front row left to right: Penelope Spanos, Dean Jayne Fleener, Department Head, Dr. Ellen Vasu, Caroline Reed, Sharon Howell, Back row: Advisor Dr. Jimmy Smith, Christopher Ghiold, and Michael Hackney. Not pictured: Mandy Bowers and Nicolle Maurakis.*



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## Chapter News

### Zeta Eta Chapter Kansas State University

Zeta Eta chapter has a good start on the new semester. Members are busy with fundraisers for the trip to Los Angeles to attend the National Business Education Association conference in April. The chapter met this week and initiated four new members. Members are in the process of writing a grant to help fund the trip.

### Beta Kappa Chapter East Carolina University



Beta Kappans have been planning spring activities. In February they will be judging the national projects. Also, they will be assisting the Department of Information and Library Science in conducting registration at the Atlantic Coast Business, Marketing, and Information Technologies Education Conference in Raleigh. They are planning a spring induction of new members at the conference as well.

Additionally, Drs. Hodge and Wallace traveled to North Carolina State University to induct the new Zeta Lambda Chapter.



### Beta Chapter News Northwest Missouri State University

In February, 2014, Beta Chapter is helping plan the FBLA district leadership conference for Missouri District I FBLA. Many Pi Omega Pi members will be helping plan the contest as well as judging competitive events. We look forward to helping with the conference, so we gain insight on advising an FBLA chapter.

### Theta News Illinois State University

The Chapter elected officers for the remainder of the school year.

Chris Anderson, President, Class of 2014 (Fall)

Andy Holloway, President-elect, Class of 2015 (Spring).

Sara Shadid, Secretary/Treasurer, Class of 2014 (Spring).

Nick Davis, Historian/Social Media Chair, Class of 2014 (Spring).

In addition, Theta Chapter is excited to welcome Dr. Tamra S. Davis-Maxwell as their newest member and advisor. Dr. Davis is an assistant professor in the Business Teacher Education program and assumed the advising duties of Theta Chapter in November, 2013. Theta Chapter is planning a membership drive, fundraisers, and a community service project for the spring semester.



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## Articles

### Another way to Use “Cloud Computing”

By Madeline Newman

Beta Chapter

Northwest Missouri State University

Need something fun to do with middle school business classes? Middle school students love a good challenge and love technology! Here’s a lesson developed using Tagxedo, a word cloud online tool.

For the bell ringer, students write on paper 20 things that describe themselves. Students then access [www.tagxedo.com](http://www.tagxedo.com) on a computer that has had the proper flash player downloaded. Once the site opens, students click “Start now” or “Create.” At the top of the page, students click “Load.” In the large section where it says “Enter Text:” students type the twenty words written for the bell ringer. Students are given seven minutes to explore the color, theme, font, and orientation. The circle with the arrow is a re-spin option that changes the color, theme, and font. Next, students click the circle with the arrow button until happy with the outcome. Once completed, students select a shape the words will form. At the bottom, students have the option of uploading a shape or typing a word that will fill with their descriptor words. Students will love how they can personalize their word cloud to fit their personality or interests. Modelling the procedures through a computer projector on a screen or electronic whiteboard will be helpful to students.

Tagxedo provides a variety of options for saving the word cloud. Students should save it in the highest resolution in case the image is stretched and made bigger. A printout or electronic submission is possible. A rubric or scoring guide can be used to evaluate the finished work. Suggested requirements for the word cloud include changing the default color, shape, theme, and words. This assignment can be modified for varied classes and varied learners. Every student’s word cloud will be unique and different. An example of a word cloud is to the right.



A second assignment on the following day might include students creating their own word cloud in Microsoft Publisher. Students are to create a word cloud from Microsoft Publisher for a teacher of choice. Features of Publisher to be used include word-art, changing the color, and picking an overall theme for the design. A review of Publisher features may be necessary. Students will LOVE this project and may choose to frame finished works for display!



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## Articles

### From Blackboards to Whiteboards to...

By Emily Lemke  
Zeta Eta Chapter  
Kansas State University

In the past, a common sight in most classrooms was the blackboard that allowed for a two-way transfer of information between the teacher and students. Today's classroom creates powerful learning and teaching with projectors and interactive white boards. As is common with technology, these may soon be outdated and replaced with more interactive technology.

In recent years, innovative technologies allow projector manufacturers to implement an interactive function directly into a projector in such a way that the entire surface becomes an interactive workspace that brings easier and more convenient use at a lower cost to schools.

Texas Instrument's Pointblank technology brings interactive function directly into a projector in such a way that the entire surface becomes an interactive workspace.

Promethean is a global company that produces technology for classrooms. It strives to enhance the education system by integrating state of the art, 21<sup>st</sup> century technology into classrooms around the world. ActivWall is an interactive system created by Promethen that is available for classrooms and can be used by students and teachers simultaneously. A screen designed for multiple groups of students is placed in the front and back of the room and can process up to 20 touches at once. They have paired with Light Blue Optics. Light Blue Optics is one of the world's most innovative companies when it comes to educational technology.

These types of companies are essential in the growth of our education system. Technology is always changing and so are students. Students have grown up with technology at their fingertips and having it in classrooms means opportunities for better learning.

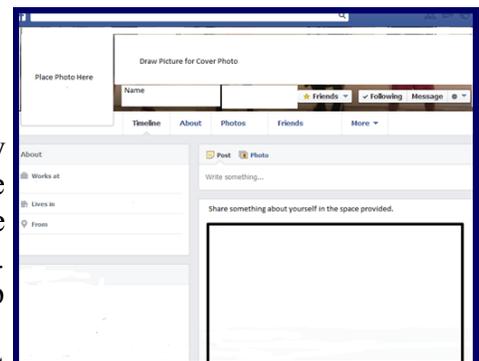
Companies such as Texas Instruments, Promethean and Light Blue Optics can truly enhance the

### Social Media in the Classroom

By Amy Wimer  
Beta Chapter  
Northwest Missouri State University

Everyone loves using social media and technology. Why shouldn't business teachers use social media or similar tools in the classroom? Social media is technology based, and students will love working with tools they use for social and entertainment reasons. Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, and Pinterest are great ways to spice up the classroom and can be used in many varied formats.

Facebook is undoubtedly blocked on most school district





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## Articles

### From Blackboards to Whiteboards to...

(Continued)

learning community with this new technology. It can improve group work and include all students at once, engaging students like never before. Reaching students who may have fallen through the cracks is essential and technology has the opportunity to change that.

#### References: □

Wiley, Eric. "The Future of Interactive Technology in the Classroom." ViewSonic, September 7, 2010.

[http://www.projectorcentral.com/interactive\\_classroom\\_projectors.htm](http://www.projectorcentral.com/interactive_classroom_projectors.htm)

Business Wire, "Promethean Integrates Light Blue Optics' Touch and Pen Technology into New Range of Interactive Classroom Products." Sys-Con Media, Inc., January 22, 2014.

[http://www.projectorcentral.com/interactive\\_classroom\\_projectors.htm](http://www.projectorcentral.com/interactive_classroom_projectors.htm)

### Social Media in the Classroom

(Continued)

networks. Facebook can be incorporated into the classroom without actually using it. One way for business teachers to get to know their students at the beginning of the school year is to have students create a Facebook profile on paper.

A profile template can be used where students write in their information. A picture can be provided and or a cover picture drawn. This simulated Facebook profile is a great relationship builder for the beginning of the year.

Twitter, too, is often blocked on school networks. If not, teachers can use Twitter as a bell ringer. Depending on the district's policy on the use of mobile devices, Twitter could be used on smartphones and tablets, too. Teachers can have a bell ringer posted to their professional Twitter page and students would answer the bell ringer in 140 characters or less. This is a good way to get students' attention and begin a class effectively. Teachers need to use a professional Twitter account separate from their personal account.

If Twitter is not allowed, blogs can be used for the bell ringer. Since most business classrooms have computers, students can at the beginning of class add their post to the business teacher's blog post. Blogging teaches students how to blog, and when used as a bell ringer, gets them on the right track for the day.

Pinterest is a great tool for teachers to gather teaching and motivational ideas, but students can also get to know each other through Pinterest. Boards can be created to introduce business teachers to their students and share great ideas with both teachers and students.

The author, Amy Wimer, has created a professional Pinterest account where she posts educational content and teaching items. Follow Amy's boards at: <http://www.pinterest.com/amywimer1/>. Social media isn't always a negative technology; it can be used in the classroom in many ways!





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## Articles

### Embrace New Technologies and Applications in the Classroom

By: Tarryn Rutherford

Beta Kappa Chapter

East Carolina University

Technology has been fast growing in the past decade. Our newest generation has grown up knowing how to use tablets, smartphones, and computers. Children today tend to know how to do more things on a computer than the average adult. All of these new gadgets have taken a hold on students' attention. Students get in trouble today for being on their cell phones during class, playing with their tablets, being on social media and much more. These new technologies don't have to be a burden on the classroom, but rather, teachers should learn to take advantage of these new technologies.

Technology provides teachers with many different tools they can use to keep their students informed, entertained, and well rounded. This article is only going to focus on a few of the many technological tools that are offered. One of the first tools is Lore.com. This application is set up much like a Facebook page, but without the complete social media aspect of Facebook. This technology allows teachers to set up a page for their classroom and students can friend their teacher on the site. On this website students and teachers can discuss class work, lectures, and ask questions. This site allows teachers to upload documents, share calendars, and provide a grade book option.

Kidblog is another great application. Kidblog was made by teachers, and provides a safe space for students to share their work. Teachers set up an account and each student gets a code that allows them to access the site. These blogs are automatically private and can only become public by the teachers discretion. This site also provides an option for teachers to give parents a password-protected account in which the parents can view their students' work. Lastly, Kidblog always keep the most current conversations at the top of the site so students never have to go searching.

The last technology to be discussed is Glogster EDU. Glogster provides a fun and engaging way for students to create online presentations through text, videos, sounds, drawings, attachments, and more. This site is great for making creative book reports, research projects, presentations for the classrooms, etc. Glogster gives students a fun way to express and challenge students' creativity, while enhancing their presentation skills.

These are only a few of the many applications that are available to teachers. It is important for teachers to become knowledgeable of these new applications and use them to their advantage. Allowing the use of technology will make students more engaging and interactive in the classroom. Overall, technology in the classroom is a great resource as it provides an opportunity for new skills while grasping the attention of students.

### References:

Staff, Teach Thought. (2013) 15 Examples of New Technology in Education. Retrieved from <http://www.teachthought.com/technology/15-examples-of-new-technology/>



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## Articles

### **Business Teacher Education. Professional Development School Student Teaching Experience**

By Sara Shadid and Nick Davis

Theta Chapter

Illinois State University

#### Experience for Sara Shadid

For student teaching, I decided to complete the Professional Development School program (PDS). This is a yearlong experience, unlike traditional student teaching. During the first semester, I was able to meet and interact with my cooperating teacher, students in the business classes, and other teachers, students, and faculty. The PDS program also allowed me to interact with student teachers in other content areas such as science, math, and language arts. Through this program, I developed professional as well as personal relationships.

Student teaching is one of the most important, fun, useful, and difficult experiences for teachers. Along with building relationships, I learned about different school atmospheres, communities, extracurricular activities, content, and how to be a better educator. The PDS program allowed me to spend more time at the school I was assigned for student teaching. During the fall semester, I was able to get to know the students before returning in the spring semester. The PDS program was a great way to become more experienced in teaching.

#### Experience for Nick Davis

One major benefit that I had in my PDS experience is that I had already made connections when I started my second semester in the program. I was already teaching all five classes on my first day back of the new semester and I knew that I could not do this without the support of my CT. I was kept in contact with him during the break in order to get ready for when I returned. To have to go through this planning experience without that contact, I would be lost. The resources that were given to me from my CT from first semester and his phone number are two tools that I was very happy to have already gained going into my second semester of student teaching.

This support continued as I walked in the door on my first day back. All the other teachers in the business department already knew me and as soon as they saw me they asked what I had planned and if I needed any help. My resources and ideas began to increase. Different suggestions were being offered by the other teachers. Some of them suggested that the first day be an all introduction day to get the students a little more comfortable with me and make it so they knew what to expect and how it would be different than the teacher that they are used to having in this class.

Based on the experiences that I have shared with you, which is only through my first day of student teaching, I would say that the biggest advantage of the PDS program is the connections that I already made before having to begin the “real” semester of student teaching. Support from the teachers around me is still an important tool for me, and I already had that tool on day one.

#### References

*Secondary Professional Development Schools (PDS)*. Retrieved from <http://education.illinoisstate.edu/>



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## Call for Presentation Proposals

### Pi Omega Pi Student Sessions

2014 Pi Omega Pi Los Angeles Meeting

Thursday, April 17, 2014

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE

Los Angeles, California

Chapter members are encouraged to submit proposals for student-led and student-delivered presentations for the Pi Omega Pi sessions that will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2014. These presentations are excellent professional development activities. Presentations will be 15-20 minutes in length. A computer projector, overhead projector, screen, and Internet connection through a Verizon HotSpot will be provided. If other equipment is needed, it must be provided by participants. Attendees appreciate handouts. *Each Chapter that is selected to present will receive a \$250 stipend.*

Submit a proposal using the format described below by **February 28, 2014**. Chapters will be notified via email by **March 7, 2014** of the acceptance or denial of the proposal.

***Submit the following items in a one-page, single spaced proposal, 11- or 12-point font.  
Remember that Pi Omega Pi members-prospective business teachers are the intended audience.***

- Proposal Title
- 20-word description of the proposal for the program
- Outline of major points of proposal
- Presenter(s) name(s), email address(es), mailing address(es)
- Chapter Name and Number
- “Signature”/Endorsement of Chapter Sponsor, sponsor email, and phone number
- Equipment you would provide if additional items are needed than those described above

**Email in an attachment the above items in the proposal format to the National President-Elect on/ before the deadlines indicated above. Please put Pi Omega Pi Proposal and your chapter name in the email’s subject line.**

**Mrs. Emma Faulk**  
***President-Elect***  
Alabama State University  
Montgomery, AL 36101  
**[efaulk@alasu.edu](mailto:efaulk@alasu.edu)**

# Pi Omega Pi

**JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE**

Los Angeles, California

Thursday, April 17, 2014

*Plaza III*

5:30—5:50 p.m. Social and Award Presentations

6:00—7:00 p.m. Student Session Presentations

7:00—7:30 Advisor Meeting



## *Program*

Welcome and Introductions	Samantha Shirley, Student Representative
Roll Call of Chapters	Samantha Shirley, Student Representative
Presentation of 2013 Chapter Awards and Service Awards	Dr. Ivan Wallace, President
Chapter Presentation #1	<i>(To be determined)</i>
Chapter Presentation #2	<i>(To be determined)</i>
Chapter Presentation #3	<i>(To be determined)</i>
Advisors' Session	Dr. Ivan Wallace, President
Dinner with POP Members	Samantha Shirley, Student Representative