



HERE AND THERE

PI OMEGA PI

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



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President's Message



Dr. Ivan Wallace
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC

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Greetings on behalf of the National Council of Pi Omega Pi. I know you are all busy with final exams and making plans for summer. Best of luck to you as you finish the semester. Please be reminded of the May 15 deadline of the \$1,000 Pi Omega Pi scholarship for members who will be student teaching during fall, 2015, or spring, 2016. The application form can be found on the Pi Omega Pi Web site (piomegapi.org).

The 44nd Pi Omega Pi National Convention was held on April 2-4, 2015, in Chicago with members and advisers attending from across the country. Special thanks and congratulations go to Mrs. Emma Faulk, the president-elect of Pi Omega Pi and Zeta Delta Chapter, who planned an excellent convention and to our student representative, Samantha Payne, of Zeta Eta Chapter for planning the interactive icebreaker for the Thursday evening social which was a terrific success.

Special thanks go to Ms. Linda Edwards, Chief of Payment Analysis and Systems for US Retirement Railway Board, Chicago, Illinois, and Mrs. Kesha M. James, Director of Online Education, Lawson State Community College, Birmingham, Alabama, who were the motivational general session speakers on Friday and Saturday.

The National Council thanks the chapters who presented excellent presentations at the Friday afternoon sessions. These chapters were Beta, Chi, Alpha Pi, Beta Kappa, and Zeta Delta.

Finally, congratulations go to the following top chapters in our 2014 National Competition who were recognized at the Saturday morning session and the NBEA Closing Session:

1. Beta, Northwest Missouri University
2. Zeta Lambda, NC State University
3. Theta, Illinois State University
4. Alpha Chi, Eastern Illinois University
5. Alpha Pi, Mississippi State University

Beta Chapter at Northwest Missouri State University received the Participation Award, with five members attending and traveling 481 miles. Congratulations!

Alpha Rho Chapter of Wayne State College and Alpha Chi Chapter of Eastern Illinois University were recognized with the Golden Award for 75 years as a chapter.

Mrs. Emma Faulk (5 years) and Dr. Ivan Wallace (30 years) were recognized with advisor anniversary certificates.

All in all it was a great convention with thirteen advisors and eighteen students in attendance.

44nd Pi Omega Pi Biennial Convention — Chicago



Meet the Other National Council Members



Samantha Payne
Student Rep.
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS



Mrs. Emma Faulk
President-Elect
Alabama State University
Montgomery, AL



Mrs. Darla Stone
Secretary-Treasurer
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS



Dr. Elizabeth Hodge
Editor
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC

The President-Elect plans the biennial convention. Membership reports go to the Secretary/Treasurer, and news and articles go to the editor.

Biennial Convention Highlights



Samantha Payne and Dr. Wallace present the 1st place certificate and plaque to Beta Chapter.



Samantha Payne presents the 2nd place certificate to Zeta Lambda Chapter advisor Dr. James Smith. Zeta Lambda Chapter was just formed in January, 2014.



Samantha Payne presents the 3rd place certificate to Theta Chapter. Alpha Chi placed 4th in the competition. (no photo)



Samantha Payne presents the 5th place certificate to Alpha Pi Chapter.

Biennial Convention Highlights (continued)



Biennial Convention Highlights (continued)



Samantha Payne, Student Representative, led the “ice-breaker” activity on Thursday evening.



Dr. Wallace presented the “Participation Award” to Beta Chapter who brought 5 students.



Samantha Payne, Student Representative, introduced Ms. Linda Edwards, Chief of Payment Analysis and Systems for US Retirement Railway Board, Chicago, Illinois, as the General Session Speaker on Friday morning. Ms. Edwards’ topic was “An Employer’s Wish List.”



Michelle Gianvito, Student Representative candidate from Beta Kappa Chapter introduces herself to the delegates.



Mrs. Kesha M. James, Director of Online Education, Lawson State Community College, Birmingham, Alabama, was our General Session Speaker on Saturday morning. Mrs. James’ topic was “Reigniting the Sparks in Business Education.”



Above Left: Dr. Wallace presents Samantha Payne, with a plaque recognizing her for her service as the outgoing student representative, **Above Right:** Samantha presents Dr. Wallace with a plaque recognizing him for his service as outgoing pres-



Samantha Payne presents Dr. Wallace with a certificate recognizing him for 30 years as a chapter advisor.



Dr. Wallace presents Mrs. Emma Faulk with a certificate recognizing her for 5 years as a chapter advisor.

Dr. Wallace presents Mrs. Darla Stone with an engraved crystal bell recognizing her for dedicating 15 years of service to Pi Omega Pi National Council. The Council also recognized Darla as an Honorary Pi Omega Pi Member. Thank you Darla for all that you have done for Pi Omega Pi over the past decade and a half!!! We wish you a terrific retirement!!



Biennial Convention Highlights (continued)



Left: Dr. Wallace gives the gavel to President Faulk.. **Right:** Outgoing Council Members—**L to R:** Mrs. Emma Faulk, President-Elect; Mrs. Samantha Payne, Student Representative; Mrs. Darla Stone, Secretary/Treasurer; and Dr. Ivan Wallace, President. Not pictured: Dr. Elizabeth Hodge, Editor.



Left: New President Faulk addresses the assembly. **Right:** Incoming Council Members—**L to R:** Mrs. Emma Faulk, President; Dr. Pamela Scott-Bracey, Editor; Ms. Michelle Gianvito, Student Representative; and Dr. Ivan Wallace, Secretary/Treasurer. Not pictured: Dr. Elizabeth Hodge, President-Elect.



Chapter News

Student Representative Message Samantha Payne



Hello! I hope that the last half of your semester is going well and you are in the position to finish strong! This time of year can be hard as students and teachers. A little bit of “Spring Fever” may be starting to set in, as we got a taste of summertime with Spring Break. Projects and

tests may feel like they are starting to pile up, but remember there is an end in sight! Sooner than you think, you will be stepping foot in your very own classroom for the first time with a group of young minds looking to you for knowledge and support. Speaking from experience, this is both an encouraging and scary thought. But not to worry, you all are receiving an education from the top schools in the nation and I have no doubt you will be well-equipped to be successful.

NBEA and our 44th Biennial Convention was held this year in Chicago, Illinois. It was a pleasure getting the opportunity to meet several of you throughout the convention. We kicked off the conference with a social event on Thursday, April 2, where we enjoyed snacks and each other’s company. Friday morning we had the opportunity to hear Ms. Linda Edwards, Chief of Payment Analysis and Systems for US Retirement Railway Board, speak on the topic of “An Employer’s Wish List.” That afternoon, we held our concurrent sessions, presented by the students. The sessions were

relevant to the needs of today’s classroom and I was very impressed with the professional manner in which students conducted themselves. Saturday morning was our final general session. We heard from Mrs. Kesha James, Director of Online Education at Lawson State Community College, speak about “Reigniting the Sparks in Business Education.” We also recognized the top chapters of 2014, which you can read more about below. Overall, the convention was a great learning experience for all involved. I hope you all start making preparations now to attend NBEA 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The 44th Biennial Convention also brought to a close the 2013-2015 term for the National Council. In particular, I want to recognize Mrs. Darla Stone. She has been a part of the National Council for 15 years and served in every position available. I have a particularly close tie to her, as she served as my mentor during my time at Kansas State University. She is the reason I am in business education to begin with and for that I will be forever grateful. Those of you that have had the pleasure of working with Darla know that she is leaving some big shoes to fill. However, I know that the National Council is in good hands as we installed our new officers in Chicago.

It has been a pleasure serving as your National Student Representative these past two years. While I am sad to be leaving the council, I know that you all are in good hands as Michelle Gianvito of East Carolina University takes on the role for the 2015-2017 term. Thank you all for such an amazing experience. Remember – Finish strong!

Beta Kappa Chapter News East Carolina University University

Beta Kappa Chapter held an induction ceremony on February 27 in conjunction with the Atlantic Coast Business, Marketing, and Information Technologies Education Conference in Raleigh. Three new members, all of which are in our DE program, were initiated. Additionally, plans have been made to attend the 44th Biennial Convention in Chicago.

Alpha Pi Chapter News Mississippi State University

Alpha Pi Chapter is pleased to announce the initiation of one new member in February—Rebecca Vuyovich. Rebecca is our second member initiated from our online business teacher education degree.

Recently, three members and two advisors attended the National Pi Omega Pi Convention in Chicago. The members presented an excellent presentation at the convention. Congratulations on a job well done!

Articles

Enhancing Online Student Involvement in Business Education

Alpha Pi Chapter

Mississippi State University

This article focuses on innovative techniques used by Mississippi State University (MSU) to enhance student communication, involvement in extra-curricular, and co-curricular activities, and recruitment in the online Technology Teacher Education program.

Online Education evolves more and more each year as technology advances. In 2014, nearly 98% of public colleges offered online programs. Online programs are beneficial in many ways, all of your work can be done on your own schedule which gives you freedom to do things you would not normally be able to do in a face-to-face program. In contrast, people who enroll in online degrees often miss out on the “ideal” college experience. Can online education truly replace the traditional face-to-face programs? If so, what steps can we take to enhance online student involvement in Business Education?

At Mississippi State University we offer four, fully online undergraduate degree programs, two of these are teacher education programs: Elementary Teacher Education and Technology Teacher Education. Technology Teacher Education was first offered fully online in the fall of 2014, and has been successful in recruiting Students from all over the nation. Through this online program you can earn your B.S. degree online while working, you can open the door to a rewarding teaching career by earning a teaching license, and it is the equivalent to the face-to-face comprehensive teacher education programs (distance.msstate.edu, 2015).

In distance courses the instructors use a variety of channels to efficiently communicate with students, and allow students to communicate with each other to build a sense of community. The most common method is through Blackboard Collaborate. Missy Worrells, a current distance student at MSU states: “As an online student, the courses that I have taken have used Google Plus to complete group projects. It makes it easy to share documents and communicate with other distance students. In one Methods course I took we videotaped ourselves teaching a class and uploaded our videos to YouTube so we could critique each other.” Skype and Google Hangouts are also excellent means of communication through video conference.

All MSU students have access to all the same social opportunities. This includes invitations to social groups and honor societies. In the fall of 2014, Alpha Pi chapter initiated their first online students, Amanda Skinner and Missy Worrells. In February we initiated Rebecca Vuyovich, who is also a distance learner. Amanda Skinner, states: “Pi Omega Pi has made a huge effort to make me feel included in on-campus activities. I receive emails and other invites but have yet to really act on any of them due to the fact that I am unsure how they will be able to accommodate me being in another state.” It is important to recognize that online students may not always feel included. This is an area where our program and programs alike are working to improve.

Recruitment, being one of our bigger challenges, has proved to be our primary focus in this Spring Semester. We have successfully recruited students not only in Mississippi, but also in other states, including Missouri, North Carolina, and South Carolina. We use several methods of recruitment including high school career fairs, on-campus classes, ads in campus paper, recruiting banners, brochures, flyers, and videos. In the previous fall semester we participated in planning our new annual *Digital Dawg Byte* competition. This event was hosted by Pi Omega Pi and Phi Beta Lambda. It focused on high school students who have an interest in technology. At this event the students participated in different competitions to win prizes for their schools, they also participated in workshops and were given a campus-wide tour. This event and events like these prove to be the most successful in recruiting students for online and face-to-face programs.

We are continually trying to improve our distance program by communicating with our distance students and asking them what works and what does not work. Learning from our distance students and keeping them involved is one of our biggest resources in improving our program. It is a growing and learning process. In conclusion, our main goal as an institution is to be globally aware and involved, and we plan to fulfill this vision by implementing these techniques one day at a time.

Articles

Project Implicit

by Sierra Jones

Beta Chapter

Northwest Missouri State University

In 1998 Project Implicit was founded by three scientists by the names of Tony Greenwald, Mahzarin Banaji and Brian Nosek and launched by Harvard. “In regards to this study, implicit means the social norms, actions, and things that we say to one another without realizing what we are actually doing” (What is Project Implicit, 2014). These tests on this website look in depth to our everyday thoughts and feelings and how they make us do what we do. This study allows us to have a better understanding of our unconscious mind and how that affects our interactions we have every day. Not only does Project Implicit allow us to have a deeper understanding of ourselves, it also works with educating how to handle diversity and inclusion.

An important word which people need to understand when they use project implicit is what bias is. “Implicit bias is any hinted at or implied bias that a person experiences or participates in. Often, this type of bias is not something that you realize is happening which makes it a part of the unconscious mind” (What is Project Implicit, 2014). This bias is a more common occurrence that you would imagine, and is often the main type of bias that people deal with on a daily basis.

Project Implicit collects a majority of its information through the use of the internet. On their site people can participate in quizzes which are easy and even fun in some cases. Project Implicit does collect information through studies and college universities as well, it is just less common. This data which they collect is used to compare that information which they already have from previous studies. They create charts, graphs, and papers to discuss that information.

Wanting to be a part of Project Implicit? The easiest way to do that is to take a series of test where afterwards your responses will be entered into their database. “The information you provide helps researchers see what differing demographics feel, think, and see when they interact and can provide valuable information that will help the study progress” (What is Project Implicit, 2014). You can take these quizzes for free and it is also a valuable tool to learn more about yourself.

References

What is Project Implicit. (2014, October 30). Retrieved from NoBullying.com: <http://nobullying.com/project-implicit/>

First Year Teacher Stress

by Scott Haddock

Beta Kappa Chapter

East Carolina University

In the education field there are many different factors that teachers have to contend with. While there may be many factors, the one that teachers must learn to deal with quickly is stress. Stress can cause harm to anyone and can hurt them physically and mentally. First year teachers have even more stress. In college, future educators learn many things about curriculum and instructional methods, while also receiving some first-hand experience. Even with this education, some things will only be learned once you have your own class for the first time. Finding out how to deal with the stress is one thing first year teachers must learn or they will have difficulties being successful. Stress can cause many problems for first year teachers, but there are many ways to deal with the stress.

Stress can be harmful mentally, but it also harms people physically. Most people do not think about the physical harm it causes people. One of the most common ways stress impacts us physically is by weakening our immune system. This can lead to becoming sick easily and more often. Sickness leads to more stress because teachers are not able to go to work and they get behind. Stress leads to more stress and can become a

Articles

First Year Teacher Stress (Continued)

cycle. WebMD has a list of the physical side effects and or symptoms stress causes on its victim.

☞ Low Energy	☞ Headaches
☞ Upset Stomach	☞ Tense Muscle
☞ Chest Pain	☞ Insomnia
☞ Sickness (Colds and Infections)	☞ Nervousness
☞ Clenched Jaw and Teeth Grinding	

These side effects can be very harmful and can cause even more stress. Many people believe teachers have an easy job, but they are wrong. It is just as stressful, if not more stressful, than anyone else's job. Teachers must prepare all of their students for the next grade and for the real world they will one day live in. If teachers cannot perform their jobs effectively children's futures are at stake.

First year teachers must find ways to deal with stress, because it will be one of the most stressful times of their lives. First year teachers can become so overwhelmed with stress, they may quit after their first year (Helms-Lorenz). When stressed, it is easy to want to quit and give up. One of the best ways to deal with stress is to remember there are some things that are just out of our control. The only thing we can do is to try to do the best we can. There is no certain way to deal with stress because we are all different and deal with things in our own way. Another way to deal with stress is to find what works for you. It may be listening to music, playing sports, or just spending time with family. Finding a stress reliever can be important for first year teacher so they do not become overwhelmed and frustrated.

Stress is very harmful to anyone. Teachers face many stressful situations at any level of education. For future educators, this article is not to scare you, but to help you be aware of what lies ahead. It is inevitable that first year teachers will have stress, but knowing it is coming and knowing how to deal with it is half the battle. Finding ways to deal with stress now could be very beneficial when starting a new career. First year educators may feel a lot of stress, but when they can control that stress they can become very successful at their job.

References

Helms-Lorenz, M., Slof, B., & van de Grift, W. (2013). First year effects of induction arrangements on beginning teachers' psychological processes. *European Journal of Psychology Of Education - EJPE* (Springer Science & Business Media B.V.), 28(4), 1265-1287. doi:10.1007/s10212-012-0165-y