



HERE and THERE

PI OMEGA PI

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



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President's Message



Emma A. Faulk, PRP
Alabama State University
Montgomery, AL

Greetings Pi Omega Pi Members:

It is amazing how time flies. This semester has gone by so fast and a new year is right around the corner. I pray that you all have had an engaging semester.

Your president believes that teaching is a noble profession. For many reasons, this is an exciting time to be an educator. Our world is facing so many challenges and issues of complexity, that it is in our best interest to stay abreast of them. Remember these issues that are facing us are "teachable moments" for our students. Being a member of POP has prepared you to be that solid rock for our students as well as the your community.

Our biennial convention is scheduled for April in Chicago, and you have until December 31, 2016, to complete your projects.

Your reporting forms were sent to you in September. If you cannot retrieve those forms, they are located on our website. Please contact Dr. Elizabeth Hodge if you are interested in presenting a student workshop.

The nominating committee has been selected and the members are Drs. Ivan Wallace, Pamela Scott-Bracey, Tamra Davis and Nancy Zeliff. The committee will be in contact with the members concerning the nominating processes.

If you are interested in proposing amendments to the POP Bylaws, an amendment can be found on page 8 in this newsletter. Please review our bylaws so that we can make sure that they are current and relevant.

Again, your Council would like to thank our members for their dedication to the society's mission statement. Thank you for a job well-done.

- Emma A. Faulk, PRP
President



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Chapter News



Alpha Pi Chapter News Mississippi State University

The Alpha Pi Chapter at Mississippi State University is getting prepared to sell Business Education T-shirts again to help promote the great field of Business Education on local, statewide, and national levels. Contact an Alpha Pi member to purchase your shirts today! More information may be found in the announcement segment of this newsletter.

Beta Chapter News Northwest Missouri State University

The Northwest Missouri State Beta Chapter initiated three new members during the October meeting. Abbey Kriz, Jennifer Nixon, and Kassidy Stark are the newest members of our chapter.

Two former members of our chapter, Kirsten Applegate and Sierra Jones, talked to the chapter about their first and second year experiences as teachers. We talked about the details for the Biennial Convention such as cost and when and where it is taking place. We also started to write our presentation proposals for the convention.



(Pictured in featured photo from Left to right – Trey Frey, Madison Foxx, Marina Hayner, Drew Bruner, and new members Jennifer Nixon, Abbey Kriz, and Kassidy Stark.)



Beta Kappa Chapter News East Carolina University

Beta Kappans have had a very eventful year here at East Carolina University. We inducted two new members this Fall, Ezequiel Jaramillo and Lynn Harrington. Beta Kappa is also finishing up its service project. Our members will be helping at the BITE ACBMITE conference in February in Raleigh. We are also looking forward to the national biennial convention in Chicago in April.

Psi Chapter News University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

This semester has been very busy for Psi Chapter. We hosted two mini-DECA competitions and the Business Education National Hall of Fame luncheon at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. We are also putting the finishing touches on our annual report and our national competition entries.



Articles

“Opening Doors and Making Birds Fly”

by Abbey Kriz, **Beta Chapter**, Northwest Missouri State University

“Ms. Kriz, I know what the problem is... but I can't find it and nothing is working!”
“What a wonderful problem to have!”

This answer is never what students want to hear, but it's one of many responses in my arsenal of ways to make students think and problem solve on their own. How interesting it is that we can help our students think so elaborately that they want to know what makes Angry Bird fly. How fascinating that students of all different races, genders, backgrounds, countries, cities, and even continents are interested in the most basic form of how something works. The how and why. The “Oh! I understand now.” The code.

Code.org is a nonprofit organization dedicated to offering, at no cost, curriculum and resources so that everyone, with computer and internet access, has the opportunity to learn computer science skills (Code.org, 2016). From an educator's standpoint, there should be nothing stopping students from growing in this knowledge and skill set that will help move them along in their education and professional careers.

Code.org offers many different puzzles for all grade levels. This starts with the lowest readers who don't yet understand how to read words to students in high school that are working with Java or other software writing programs. While the main focus of Code.org's teachings are on the computer, there are also “Unplugged Lessons” that present computer skills and concepts away from computer screens. Code.org covers many state- and school-based standards that educators work to incorporate in lessons. During the time students spend working on a puzzle, they are reading, evaluating, and processing, using real life problem solving skills and collaborating with other students.

The opportunities that Code.org offers for collaborating with other students is a large draw. New in 2016, Code.org has added an option for Pair Programming, which allows students to work together on a puzzle but still get credit on both accounts for completion. The use of their term “Driver” and “Navigator” pushes pairs to work on social communication skills along with problem solving skills through real world problem-solving scenarios.

While becoming the next world-class programmer may not be the goal of all students, it's important that students are exposed to possible career options. Code.org opens the door to opportunities in the computer science field. Solving a puzzle to get a Zombie to the Plant may be an inspiration for a student that will change his/her world and maybe even the whole world.

Resources:

Code.org Terms of Service. (2016). Retrieved November 29, 2016, from <https://code.org/tos>

Articles (continued...)

“Why I Want to be a Business Education Teacher—The Perspective of an Ex-Army Sergeant” by Ezequiel S. Jaramillo, **Beta Kappa Chapter**, East Carolina University

Twenty-two years ago I had never thought of becoming a teacher. During my last year of high school, I had carefully considered becoming a police officer with the purpose of helping others and protecting our society. Soon after graduation I reached the decision to join the U.S. Army and to become a Military Police Officer where I could fulfill my personal goals. After spending over eight years in the military, I realized the source of problems that law enforcement face today is the lack of teaching ethics, values, and academics to our adolescents. I then felt the best way to help our society was to become a teacher, thus fulfilling my personal and professional goals.

The life transition from a military career to an educational career will bring many positive changes in my life. There are many traits of military training that will benefit and enhance my teaching skills and teaching experience. While being a Sergeant, I learned the importance of well designed training curriculum and how to present those training courses in an effective manner to my soldiers. In the position of Sergeant, I also learned professionalism as a training instructor and I will be able to utilize those acquired skills in a practical application to my academic position.

By having a military background, there will be many self-rewarding benefits of becoming a teacher in the public-school system. I will be able to make a difference in a student's life by motivating them to succeed in life skills and academic studies. Also, I will be able to be a positive male role model in their lives. Today, there is an increasing number of students who are living in a single parent home in which a male role model is missing. In addition, there are countless attributes that will be a benefit of becoming a teacher. For example, I will be encouraged to be abreast of current events, to keep myself on my toes both physically and mentally while interacting with students, and it will also give me an opportunity to share my beliefs and morals to the students.

Overall, being a teacher will give me an opportunity to change the future by influencing student's minds and encouraging them to become leaders of tomorrow. Personally, it will give me a satisfying feeling of being a civil servant serving community's youth as I transition back into civilian life. Finally, I will be able to instruct students in ways of becoming responsible citizens and therefore allowing them to contributing their knowledge back into their community and allowing them to reach their full potential as productive citizens.

References:

Personal Perspectives of Ezequiel S. Jaramillo

Articles (continued...)

“Teaching Students How to Analyze the Material-Not Memorize”

by Garrett Sterken, Psi Chapter, University of Wisconsin—Whitewater

Most high school classes that I was enrolled in were based on memorizing as many facts, places, dates, names and vocabulary words as possible. Then there was also homework practicing the memorization, followed by quizzes reinforcing memorization and of course ended with a test proving how much you can memorize. Seemingly most high school classes are now designed to memorize as much information as possible in as little amount of time as possible. The problem with this process is that it does not lead to successful students down the line. Instead when students go to college or take tests based upon analyzing information, these very students struggle; which has led to the country's test scores to drop nationally and force lawmakers to come at it from another angle.

Instead of focusing on memorizing information, high school classes are now trying to create developed critical thinkers. An AP Biology teacher in Pennsylvania for 17 years explained that due to the amount of material she had to cover the only way was through focusing on memorizing information. Now the AP standards were cut in half so she is now able to focus more on making sure the students completely understand the material and are prepared to move on.

Another subject taking a huge shift is mathematics. The subject disliked by so many students for not being relevant or usable knowledge will try and answer that call. The shift will include less lectures and much more hands on deep thinking. For example, students in geometry will use equations to create bridges, students studying statistics will conduct and analyze surveys. When looking at the national math testing scores, math is the overwhelming weak point, especially compared to foreign competing countries. The solution being used right now is the idea of leaning away from memorizing equations and numbers to creating critical thinkers that fully understand the information and know how to use it. The hope is to not only boost national testing scores, but to also boost student's readiness for tougher college courses that demand higher level thinking.

As future educators it is critical that we understand the importance of developing our students. It will not always be easy and the students may not enjoy every second of it, but it is our job to prepare them for their future. As business educators we have a very unique ability to reach students who in most situations choose to be in the class and/or do not have to focus on preparing for standardized tests. We must take advantage of that opportunity and prepare our students to be successful in the future. The best way to do that is to focus on creating critical thinkers, even if the student does not plan on pursuing further education critical thinking is still a high demanded ability for the job force.

Reference:

<http://www.usnews.com/education/high-schools/articles/2012/09/17/high-school-students-need-to-think-not-memorize>

Pi Omega Pi Announcements

Submit a Proposal!!!

Call for Presentation Proposals Pi Omega Pi Concurrent Sessions

45th Biennial Convention
Friday, April 14, 2017
3:15 p.m. – 6:05 p.m.
Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile
Chicago, IL

Chapter members are encouraged to submit proposals for student-led and student-delivered presentations for the Pi Omega Pi concurrent sessions that will be held on Friday, April 14, 2017. These presentations are excellent professional development activities. Presentations will be 15-20 minutes in length. A computer projector system will be provided and Internet connection through convention hotel will be provided. If other equipment is needed, it must be provided by participants. Attendees appreciate handouts.

To allow more flexibility for chapters in submitting proposals, there will be two rounds of Proposal Reviews – **December 5, 2016**, and **February 13, 2017**. Chapters may submit more than one proposal.

Round 1 - Submit a proposal using the format described below by **December 5, 2016**. Chapters will be notified via email by **January 9, 2017** of the acceptance or denial of the proposal.

Round 2 - Submit a proposal using the format described below by **February 13, 2017**. Chapters will be notified via email by **March 13, 2017** 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.

Elizabeth M. Hodge
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Note: All printing costs of handouts are the responsibility of the presenters. This professional activity is your reward for presenting. No compensation or registration waiver is provided for presenters.

Note: There is a \$250 incentive for chapters to do a presentation in conjunction with attending other convention activities. (See the Biennial Convention webpage at the Pi Omega Pi website) <http://www.piomegapi.org>

Pi Omega Pi Announcements

Annual Electronic Filing Requirement for Small Tax-Exempt Organizations: e-Postcard (Form 990-N)

Each chapter sponsor needs to file the Form 990-N for his/her Pi Omega Pi chapter. This form is available in electronic form only and is called an e-postcard. You need to file in **January or February**. If you filed last year, you do not need to create an account again.

All Pi Omega Pi Chapters must file a 990-N Form each year (not the 990 or the 990 EZ). Because we are a subchapter and are tax exempt with receipts less than \$25,000 a year, we need to submit Form 990-N. The form is informational only but must come from you as the local chapter sponsor. This requirement is a result of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 and is for tax periods beginning after December 31, 2006.

If you fail to do so, you will lose your tax-exempt status after three warnings. Each subchapter fills out a 990N form because it is safe to assume that we do not have receipts of more than \$25,000. Please go the new IRS Form 990-N webpage to file Form 990-N www.irs.gov/990n

Purchase Your Business Education T-Shirt TODAY!



Here is your chance to promote the great field of Business and Technology Education, while also supporting the community service and travel fund of the Alpha Pi Chapter of **Pi Omega Pi** honor society at Mississippi State University!

Order your Business Education T-shirt Today for only \$15 or \$17 (pending size) by visiting the following website:

<https://squareup.com/market/BusinessEd>

Pi Omega Pi Announcements

Updated Form for Proposed Bylaws Amendments

PI OMEGA PI *PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS*

April 2017

Amendment #1:

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ

Amendment #2:

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED WILL READ

Proposed by:

Rationale: