# THE KEY OF ΠΚΔ

## SPRING 2010

## Message from the President

**Phillip A. Voight, Ph.D. – Gustavus Adolphus College**

I hope that the 2010 intercollegiate forensics season has been a good one for you and your entire squad. The past two years have been difficult for individuals and institutions alike. Partially as a result of his added administrative responsibilities during the economic downturn, our longtime Secretary/Treasurer Bill Hill reluctantly resigned last December. I know that the decision was a difficult one for Bill, and I'm sure that I join you in thanking him for his many years of dedicated service to Pi Kappa Delta. In Bill's absence, Michael Bartanen has agreed to serve as Interim Secretary/Treasurer, and Susan Millsap has replaced Michael as Interim Historian. I'm thrilled to have their wisdom on the Council, and grateful that each was willing to serve in a new role. Permanent replacements will be elected at the National Convention next year in Portland and the interim officeholders will be invited to run alongside others nominated from the floor.

The past year has been a good one for Pi Kappa Delta. More than 50 chapters attended the National Comprehensive Tournament in Minneapolis, which featured more than 1200 individual events slots, 154 debate teams and well over four-thousand five-hundred rounds of competition. Congratulations to all who participated! Our electronically-mediated experimental event was widely regarded as a success, and we believe that the event has great potential to facilitate undergraduate research presentations, international competition, and instructional video.

On that note, Pi Kappa Delta's new website will debut next Fall. The site will feature an improved visual and textual design, as well as many features that we currently lack – such as the ability to process financial transactions online, the ability to host streaming video, and vastly improved alumni relations and social media capabilities. Our new print and graphical communication plan will be

rolled-out gradually over the next several years, as old supplies are used-up and replaced with newly designed materials.

Looking ahead, the National Council will meet in St. Louis June 10-13 to plan for the upcoming National Convention in Portland, and also to make advanced plans for the 2013 tournament. These will both be wonderful events. The Portland Tournament will take place March 23-26, 2011 and will be hosted by Mt. Hood Community College. I hope that you will all be able to attend. To help squads raise funds for Portland (or for any other use), Pi Kappa Delta is producing a fundraising cookbook. Squads would keep all of the proceeds from any books sold, and samples of the book will be available in mid-May. Contact me for more information about the cookbook fundraiser, or about other national fundraising opportunities involving Macy's and Herberger's stores.

Finally, let me close by offering a glimpse of where I believe Pi Kappa Delta is heading. Over the next decade, the strategic plan that we have enacted will allow Pi Kappa Delta to do much more for its chapters and individual members. In addition to continuing to offer tournament opportunities that are vibrant, educational and competitive, Pi Kappa Delta will be in a position to provide institutional support, advocacy and capacity-building services. To cite just a few examples, we envision a point in the not-too-distant future when we can provide scholarships and professional development grants, host conferences for members concerning legal and financial matters, provide international service and competitive opportunities, and record and maintain benchmark data for individual chapters and for research purposes. We continue to strengthen our relationship with the NFL and to pursue opportunities of mutual interest to both organizations, and I expect that our membership will grow markedly during the next several years. This is an exciting time to be involved with Pi Kappa Delta, and I look forward to the year ahead.

Phillip Voight can be reached at: pvoight@gustavus.edu

# President-Elect's Report

**Gina Jensen – Webster University**

What a great time we had in Minnesota! If you were able to join us you know our hosts did a great job providing a tournament setting and experience that allowed for friendly competition and camaraderie. With summer quickly approaching, be sure to take time to relax and recharge. When school begins again, please consider supporting province tournaments and local Pi Kapp chapters. Also, be sure to leave room in your schedule to attend the Biennial Tournament and Convention hosted by Mt. Hood Community College in Portland, Oregon in March 2011. I know that the Great West is looking forward to hosting us! Each time we have been to the Great West, they have done a wonderful job with the tournament and the weather always seems to be perfect!

Looking into the future, St. Louis and Webster University have been chosen to host the Centennial Tournament and Convention in 2013. We are honored to be selected to host the 100th anniversary of Pi Kappa Delta. The centennial committee was put into place under President Sandy Alspach and has been faithfully working toward this great celebration. Look for details over the next two years as this committee puts its ideas into place for a memorable experience. In the meantime, the next National Comprehensive Tournament will be hosted by Bill Cue and Metropolitan Community College at Longview in Kansas City in spring of 2012. I am very excited about these upcoming events and hope to see you there! In the meantime, have a great summer and see you in the fall! Please feel free to contact me for any reason.

Gina Jensen
President Elect

Gina Jensen can be reached at jensen@webster.edu

# National Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Dr. Michael Bartanen – Pacific Lutheran University

Minutes – Ad hoc Meeting of National Council, Pi Kappa Delta
March 20, 2010 – Minneapolis Minnesota

**Note about minutes: Tournament constraints required the meeting to occur in three separate occasions: meeting one included the majority of the council: (Voight, Jensen, Bartanen, Millsap, West, Serfass, and Lisa Vossekuil); meeting two included council members working at the tournament: (Stoppenhagen, Luster, with Voight and Bartanen), and part three included Voight and the student council members.**

President Voight called the meeting to order and indicated that there would be separate meetings to communicate the business items and consider the motions. He discussed the progress of the web redesign process. Said that a mock up would be available by the Summer Council meeting. Issue to be resolved is whether on-line membership form could be included. At this point that is still a problem due to software interface with the national office. Discussed the progress of fundraising that is still going as scheduled. Announced summer council meeting dates: **June 10-13, 2010** in **St. Louis, Missouri.**

**Reminded council of his request for council members to rethink and specify their job descriptions for the summer meeting. Also, council members should prepare their FY 2010 budget requests. Reminded council of his request for council members to rethink and specify their job descriptions for the summer meeting. Also, council members should prepare their FY 2010 budget requests. Material for the Key should be sent to Dan West.**

Susan Millsap, new Historian, made the call for nominations for the Order of Attainment and Hall of Fame. Briefly discussed plans for updating Norton History in time for centennial. Described video of oral history interview with James Grissinger.

Tom Serfass reviewed progress on the mentoring project and expressed goal of including the project on the new website.

Gina Jensen discussed the 2012 NCT. Tentatively scheduled for Kansas City and hosted by Metropolitan CC – Longview. Would be a hotel tournament.

Dan West discussed the progress of the current edition of the Forensic. Should be printed by April 7. Key will tentatively be sent by May 1.

Lisa Vossekuil reported on activities in the National office. Expressed support for idea of putting membership applications on-line.

Michael Bartanen distributed printed copies of budget tracking information. Revised budget tracking will put all expenses in current year of expenditure made possible by bank information accessible on-line. Indicated that Council should prepare a FY 2010 budget and track progress.

**Indicated concern over the low number of chapters with dues paid in current year. Lower than expected even given the historically modest renewals in non-convention years.**

New Business:

**Motion One: MSP: That the PKD National Council commits itself to the philosophy that the "art of persuasion, beautiful and just" requires the organization to actively lead in promoting forensics beyond merely hosting tournaments/conventions and engaging in membership-related activities.**

**Motion Two: MSP: That the PKD National Council will create a revised organizational mission statement for the period August 1, 2010 to July 31, 2012.**

**Motion Three: MSP: That the PKD National Council will establish activity bench-marks for each mission element and create budget lines to support those activities.**

**Motion Four: MSP: That the PKD National Council will commit itself to on-going strategic planning in two-year cycles which will start in the second fiscal year of each succeeding presidential term and create two-year budget plans to support those activities.**

**Motion Five: MSP with clarification amendments: That the PKD National Council appoints the President and Secretary-Treasurer to negotiate the specifics of a contractual relationship with the NFL to establish, for a two-year experimental period, a staff position to recruit NFL**

**alumni members to become PKD members, with the specifics of the proposed agreement to be approved by the PKD National Council.**

President Voight will distribute "bullet points" for discussion with NFL and seek input of the Council prior to discussions. A suggestion was made for an "NFL liaison" position to act as an observer of NFL meetings with the expectation of a corresponding liaison-observer for PKD meetings. Council was cautioned to become familiar with NFL processes, strengths and weaknesses as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Bartanen
Interim Secretary-Treasurer

Michael Bartanen can be reached at: mbartanen@comcast.net

# Historian's Report

**Susan Millsap, Ph. D. – Otterbein University**

## Call for Coaching Award Nominations

Please nominate candidates for these awards, which can be made to deserving candidates at our Convention/Tournament in March 2011 in Shreveport, LA.

The National Council awards committee will complete review of nominations for the National Convention/Tournament awards by February 15, 2011, so nominations must be in my possession by February 1.

| | |
|---|---|
| Carolyn Keefe | For Outstanding Alumni (must be a member of Pi Kappa Delta) |
| R. David Ray | For Outstanding New PKD Chapter |
| Golden Gavel | For Outstanding Contributions to PKD |

Pi Kappa Delta is proud to recognize leaders in intercollegiate forensics annually at the NCA Convention. We would like your help in identifying those forensics leaders. Here is the list of the awards we can make to deserving candidates at the November 2009 NCA Convention in Chicago. Deadline for nominations for these awards is October 1, 2009.

| | |
|---|---|
| E. R. Nichols | For Outstanding Contributions to Furtherance of the Forensics Discipline; also, recognized as the PKD Outstanding Teaching Award |
| L. E. Norton | For Outstanding Scholarship (in forensics) |
| John Shields | For Outstanding Contributions to Pi Kappa Delta (must be a member of Pi Kappa Delta) |
| Bob Derryberry | For Outstanding New Forensics Educator |

You can find the list of past recipients at the pikappadelta.com website under "Coaches Awards".

Please send your nomination(s) to:

Dr. Susan Millsap
Otterbein College
Department of Communication
One Otterbein College
Westerville, OH 43081

If you have questions or suggestions, feel free to contact the Historian: SMillsap@otterbein.edu

# Professional Development Report

**Tom Serfass – Webster University**

Professional development has been continuing to work on a mentoring plan for PKD. Any thoughts or comments would be most welcome. Currently, the thinking is to offer mentoring support to new coaches or young coaches with new problems who might benefit from talking to a longer tenured coach. The other thought was that younger scholars might benefit from research advice from a voice outside their department that normally wouldn't be available and might be awkward to seek out.

The other idea being worked on is a way of increasing the scholarly participation, especially of young forensic educators at conferences. If you have any thoughts on either idea, please take a few minutes and let me know what you think.

Email me at tomserfass@yahoo.com.

# Province Coordinator's Report

**Jeffrey Stoppenhagen – Boise State University**

**Some Thoughts on the Importance of Provinces**

The backbone to any organization is not only the people who make up the organization, but it is the structures in place that support it. The role of the province to the future vitality and viability of Pi Kappa Delta as an entity for the next hundred years is in our hands, all of our hands. As members of PKD, it will take all of us thinking creatively and constructively to determine what each of us can do to strengthen the organization. One such avenue that exists now to help keep Pi Kappa Delta vibrant and relevant is to be active in your province. The question is: how can that be accomplished? Let's explore some ways that you, and your province, can play an important role.

1. Insuring existing programs to renew their membership. When one or more existing PKD members do not remain active in your province, it not only hurts them, but our entirety. By paying dues and being supportive financially, your chapter supports the mission of "the art of persuasion, beautiful and just" and keeps us financially stable and able to conduct important business such as hosting the opportunity for programs to conduct business at conventions and to expand our outreach to forensics around the world. If your chapter is not current or has become inactive, please make sure to remedy the situation to do your part to keep us financially strong.
2. Look for existing forensics programs in your area that are not part of the Pi Kapp family and invite them to join. The process is easy to complete, cost effective and value driven, and allows our organization to get "new blood" that will expand our footprint in the forensics world. Many of you compete throughout the year with colleges and universities that are not PKD members. Let them know of the benefits of becoming part of the nation's oldest honorary for speech and debate and that association with Pi Kappa Delta creates a win-win situation: for us as an organization and for them in being part of an important voice on campuses across the country.
3. Continue to sponsor regional and provincial tournaments in your area. One of the best ways to put a face to PKD is to hold a forensics tournament where competitors can experience, first hand, what being a member is all about. Doing that at the province level is the best way to introduce them to the benefits of Pi Kapp association. These tournaments

can, and should be, open to more than just current members. Take at look at your geographical area and consider hosting a tournament. Sometimes all it takes is for schools to be invited for them to consider associating themselves with us! What better sales people can we have in the field than current members themselves!

4. Promote attendance at the biennial national convention and tournament. Every two years, we congregate as an organization to discuss important issues, consider changes that will make us stronger and more relative, and celebrate being part of something very special. These events are challenging to plan, fun to attend and participate in, and absolutely critical to support so that we will be around to be that important voice in the forensics world. In 2011, I am hoping that the convention and tournament hosted by Mt. Hood Community College (the first 2 year school to host a national convention and tournament) and the host city of Portland, Oregon is a must attend on your competition calendar. It will only be a success if everyone commits to support it and attend. There is no experience quite like it!

Sound like a tall order, but these are the common sense things we all can participate in that will help strengthen Pi Kappa Delta to insure our survival. The important thing to realize is: we can't wait for someone else to do it! It must be us, and the time is now! I challenge all of you to become an active voice in your province and play a more active role in our organization. Together, we can, and will, achieve great things!

I will be working with the existing province leadership to identify ways that I, and the national council, can be more supportive of your program and others in your province. What resources do you need? Is there something that we, as a national council, can be doing better to help our organization grow? Your input is critical. As your council, we do not pretend to have all the answers. However, we are passionate about Pi Kappa Delta and want to do what is best for all concerned. Please make sure you reach out to me, or your province leadership, to let us know what we can do better to keep your province strong and vibrant. That is what we are here for. Use us!

**Update on the 2011 National Convention and Tournament – "Coastal Conversation"**

Plans are progressing nicely for what promises to be a great event next March in Portland! The Province of the Great West leadership team is working to put together events that will celebrate our organizations' heritage and progress with an eye on celebrating our upcoming centennial in 2013! The student leadership team of the province is thinking outside the box to revitalize the student mixer event. The province officials are working hard to create a kickoff social that will be energizing and fun and welcomes everyone to the Great West in a very

special way! In addition, alumni, coaches and judges will be feted and celebrated for the hard work they do year in and year out!

Our school hosts, Director of Forensics Shannon Valdivia and the entire Mt. Hood Community College leadership, are anxious to host you at a great venue for competition and show you some wonderful western hospitality! MHCC is honored to be the first community college to host nationals and know that their role in bringing two-year schools into the PKD family is an important one! Interest from schools in the west in attending our 2011 event is great! However, we cannot rely on just one geographical region of the country to make this event a success. The committee is going to do their part to make sure that the convention and tournament will be an experience you will look back on with fond memories. Your part is to encourage the attendance of your team and other forensics programs in your area. Portland is really a very easy place to get to, and with it being a major metropolitan area, airline costs will be relatively thrifty and our lodging accommodations will be first rate and budget friendly! All in all, it promises to be a great opportunity to celebrate where we have come from and prepare to launch our next 100 years of growth and giving to the forensics community!

Your feedback is valued. Input and insights from your experience at previous national conventions and tournaments is being considered to make the 2011 experience a better one for all. After all, it's your event. If you have specific suggestions or comments that you feel would be important for the planning committee to consider, please do not hesitate to reach out to the planning team for Portland. Please contact me at jstoppen@u.boisestate.edu or call me at (208) 440-1794 with your insight and input. Know that the time you take to contact us with your suggestions is appreciated!

**The Bottom Line**

You're reading this report and The Key because you care about your association with Pi Kappa Delta. The time to sit back and wait for someone else to play a role in the continued vitality of our organization is over. Each one of us must commit to do what we can to talk us up in the forensics community, help us grow and reach out to add new programs, keep existing programs active and participatory, and be willing and excited to continue to come forward with new ideas to help us challenge ourselves. When the founders of PKD gathered almost 100 years ago to form our organization, I am sure that none of them could envision what we are today or what role we could play in the importance of forensics activities and education on our campuses. Let's commit ourselves to work together at the chapter, provincial and national level to challenge ourselves and envision what the next century could be for Pi Kappa Delta.

Jeffrey Stoppenhagen can be reached at jstoppen@u.boisetate.edu

# Charter and Standards Report

**Andy Luster – McNeese State University**

Hello fellow Pi Kappa Delta members,

I am working diligently to bring new chapters into Pi Kappa Delta and I am pleased to announce that Utah State University is in the chartering process. I am also pleased to announce that there seem to be three other schools on their way to being chartered as well as an alumni chapter at my home of McNeese State University. Things are going well for the organization, but we need many more chapters to sustain the organization and I need your help. If you know of any schools that are interested in joining our PKD family... please e-mail me their contact information at pluster@mcneese.edu. Also, we are looking forward to an amazing 2011 Convention and Tournament in Portland, OR. I would like to take this opportunity to officially announce my candidacy for President of Pi Kappa Delta. I will deliver more on my platform in the Fall 2010 Key, but I believe in the ideals of Pi Kappa Delta and I would love to continue to represent you all in a higher capacity. I hope you all have a pleasant and recharging summer and I look forward to talking to you all in the Fall.

Andy Luster
Charter and Standards
Pi Kappa Delta National Council

# Student Representative's Report

**Ben Kaufman – St. Cloud State University**

Greetings!

As the year closes, we look back and I hope you all see a successful season as we have had a successful year as an organization. Your involvement with the activity and PKD has been instrumental to the legacy of PKD. Sam and I are very excited about the upcoming year and what it has to offer. We will be going to St. Louis, MO this June to discuss the convention in Portland next spring. We have a lot of exciting ideas and plans to implement and we look forward to seeing you all very soon. Look for more information in the fall key about new and exciting opportunities for the student body to be more active within the organization. Please feel free to contact Sam or me via Facebook or contact information on the PKD website. We would love to hear from you and bring your questions, comments and concerns to the board this summer and as the year unfolds. Have a wonderful, sunny summer and we will see you all in the fall!

National Student Reps
Ben Kaufman
Sam Pagano

Ben Kaufman can be reached at kabe0802@stcloudstate.edu

# Editor's Report

**Dan West – Ohio University**

The *Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta* invites authors to submit manuscripts related to scholarship, pedagogy, research and administration in competitive and non-competitive argumentation and debate.

The journal seeks to promote serious scholarly discussion of issues connected to making competitive debate and individual events a powerful tool for teaching students the skills necessary for becoming articulate citizens.

The journal seeks essays reflecting perspectives from all current debate and individual events forms, including, but not limited to: NDT, CEDA, NEDA, NPDA, Lincoln-Douglas debate, as well as NIET, NFA, and nontraditional individual events.

Reviews of books, activities, and other educational materials will be published periodically (as submitted), and those submissions are also sought.

As we approach our centennial celebration, *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta* is especially interested in historical accounts, oral histories and essay about the past, and future of forensics.

**Please NOTE**: There is a **new email address** (listed below) for PKD publications.

Please submit articles to:

Dan West, Editor *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*
School of Communication Studies, Lasher Hall
43 W Union Street
Athens, OH 45701

Email submissions to: PKDeditor@gmail.com

# Nominations Sought

Is there someone from your province that deserves to be recognized for their contributions to Pi Kappa Delta? Is that special person a coach, judge, fellow competitor, or alumni? If so, please consider nominating them for a The PKD Brightest Star Award, a recognition that will be given at the 2011 National Convention and Tournament in Portland! First given in Shreveport in 2009, this award is meant to recognize those individuals that have set themselves apart and are contributing to the "art of persuasion, beautiful and just". One person from each province will be honored.

Nominations are open now and will be taken until February 1, 2011. In your letter of nomination, include what makes this person worthy of the award, perhaps their achievements, contributions and involvement with Pi Kappa Delta in your province. All nominations will be reviewed by the Awards Committee and the special presentations will occur at the general business meeting in Portland. If you have any questions about this recognition, please contact Province Coordinator Jeff Stoppenhagen at jstoppen@u.boisestate.edu. Take a moment and let us know of the outstanding people who make PKD an even better organization!

# PKD National Tournament & Convention

March 23 - 26, 2011.

Host School:  Mt. Hood Community College, Portland, OR

Hotel: Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach, Portland, OR