



---

# ΠΣΑ

# Pi Sigma Alpha

*The National Political Science Honor Society*

NEWSLETTER

---

Volume 13

Fall 2004

Number 1

---

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS FOR THE 2004-05 ACADEMIC YEAR ELECTION YEAR: A CAUSE TO CELEBRATE—AND REFLECT

*Christopher J. Bosso, Northeastern University*

Welcome to the new school year. The nation is about to embark on its quadrennial election for president, a ritual it has followed without interruption or delay starting with the election of George Washington in 1788. Think about that a moment. No war, no economic depression, no man-made or natural disaster has stood in the way of a national election. Even during the Civil War, when Abraham Lincoln faced the distinct possibility of defeat at the hands of George McClellan in 1864, the election went on as scheduled. Lincoln arguably could have suspended it, citing the great crisis confronting the nation. But he didn't, so I think we'll somehow manage to carry on this November regardless of any threats to the orderly functioning of the electoral process.

Elections are not only momentous political events; they are, or should be, important exercises in democratic discourse. Members of Pi Sigma Alpha are therefore urged to lead debate on their campuses this fall. By this I mean leading active engagement in open and honest discussion of the issues and the positions taken by the respective candidates for all offices. As students of politics on a college campus, you should seek to understand, not merely to reinforce already fixed beliefs.

Take, for example, the war in Iraq. Those who supported sending U.S. troops into Iraq should seek to understand why so many of their fellow citizens opposed the military action without reflexively responding with charges of "anti-Americanism" or "appeasement." More than a few anti-war activists have fought in America's wars, so their views are informed by experience. Try to understand their arguments, even if you still don't agree. For their part, those who opposed going into Iraq should not dismiss supporters as simple-minded "war-mongers" or "imperialists." After all, the issues that animated debate in the months before the armed forces entered Iraq—a barbarous regime, the threat of weapons mass destruction, etc.—are legitimate matters for discussion. Now that the nation's role in Iraq has entered a new and possibly more prolonged phase, debate should center on what the U.S. should do next, not just in the Middle East but throughout the world. The United States may be the global co-

lossus, but it cannot do everything everywhere. What is the proper U. S. role in the world? What does this role demand of Americans collectively, and as individuals? At what cost? How do we ensure adequate security while maintaining our cherished civil rights and liberties? These are serious matters, not readily distilled into partisan sound bites.

At home, issues like health care, social security, education, and the quality of life in general are in desperate need of frank discussion. How does the world's wealthiest nation ensure that its citizens have sufficient health care, access to good schools, affordable housing, a clean and safe environment, and a secure old age, even as it struggles with defining—and paying for—its global responsibilities? What is the proper role for government in these matters? Simplistic arguments—"government is the problem" or "the capitalist system is at fault"—aren't sufficient to explore issues of momentous relevance to your generation of Americans. Don't settle for slogans.

Finally, whatever your ideological or partisan inclinations, respect your opponents. They are your colleagues, not your enemies. Don't demonize each other. If the famously liberal Ted Kennedy and the equally conservative Orrin Hatch can be the best of friends (and they are), you can at least grab a cup of coffee together.

Since its inception in 1920, Pi Sigma Alpha has been dedicated to promoting student interest in public affairs and public service. Elections are great opportunities for campus chapters to sponsor appearances by candidates for local, state and national office, convene roundtables on important local and national issues, watch televised debates, and hold election-night parties. And have some fun along the way. An election is a serious matter, but it also should be treated as a celebration, the renewal of a legacy of democratic action stretching back to the origins of the Republic. Elections, flawed mechanisms for selection they may be, nevertheless embody the ideal that the people are smart enough to choose their leaders. This semester, affirm that ideal in your own small ways.

Have a great year.



### National Office

Pi Sigma Alpha  
1527 New Hampshire Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20036

Phone: (202) 483-2512

Fax: (202) 483-2657

Email: office@pisigmaalpha.org

WWW Home Page: www.pisigmaalpha.org

### Executive Committee

**President: Christopher J. Bosso**

Northeastern University

**President-Elect: Jon R. Bond**

Texas A&M University

**Executive Director: James I. Lingle**

Georgetown University

**Administrator, National Office: Nancy McManus**

**Newsletter Editor: John C. Kuzenski**

North Carolina State University

### Executive Council

**Paul Allen Beck**, Ohio State University

**James E. Campbell**, University at Buffalo (SUNY)

**David T. Canon**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Raymond V. Christensen**, Brigham Young University

**Rosalee Clawson**, Purdue University

**Barry D. Friedman**, North Georgia College  
and State University

**John Green**, University of Akron

**Paul Herrnson**, University of Maryland

**Brian Janiskee**, Cal State San Bernardino

**Ruth S. Jones**, Arizona State University

**Robin Kolodny**, Temple University

**Susan MacManus**, University of South Florida

**Paula D. McClain**, Duke University

**Shirley Anne Warshaw**, Gettysburg College

Newsletter Editorial Office: psanews@unc.edu

## NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

The Pi Sigma Alpha Biennial Business Meeting takes place in even-numbered years, so Chapter Advisors who gathered in Chicago for the APSA Annual Meeting this September had the opportunity to come together, meet the national office staff and PSA officers, hear reports on the progress of the honor society since the last business meeting, elect members of the Executive Council for the next two years, and share refreshments and fellowship. This biennial meeting is the occasion at which the chapters participate in the governance of Pi Sigma Alpha, and the national office traditionally encourages and rewards their participation with a modest travel stipend. This year 60 Chapter Advisors, plus current and outgoing Council members and nominees, were in attendance.

The newly elected Executive Council members are Jon Bond (Texas A&M University), president-elect; Barry D. Friedman (North Georgia College & State University); John Green (University of Akron); Paul Herrnson (University of Maryland); Robin Kolodny (Temple University), re-elected for a second term; and Shirley Anne Warshaw (Gettysburg College). Christopher J. Bosso (Northeastern University) succeeded David T. Canon (University of Wisconsin-Madison) as president.

Executive Director James I. Lingle gave the financial report and showed the tremendous increase in PSA programs for members and the profession over the past 10 years. The budget for the Chapter Activity Grants competition, for instance, has grown from \$10,000 to \$55,000; scholarships for members entering graduate school in political science and Washington internship programs have been added, as well as Best Paper, Best Chapter, and Best Chapter Advisor awards. Our honor society continues to be among the top ACHS societies in the proportion of its annual budget devoted to programs and services for chapters, members, and the profession rather than to operating expenses.

Pi Sigma Alpha was once again the proud co-sponsor, with Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, of the Reception Honoring Teaching at the APSA Annual Meeting. This event honors the achievement of political science professors who have received campus-wide undergraduate teaching awards from their own institutions. Because advising a chapter of our honor society is a labor of love and dedication to students, and is seldom rewarded in academic promotion and tenure decisions, we are especially proud that at least 13 of our own Chapter Advisors were among the 120 faculty so honored at their premier professional meeting this year. They are:

Lauren C. Bell, Randolph-Macon College (Chi Iota Chapter)

Michele DeMary, Susquehanna University (Theta Xi Chapter)

Michael P. Federici, Mercyhurst College (Chi Epsilon Chapter)

Ramona Grey, University of Montana (Epsilon Mu Chapter)

Gary Howard, University of West Florida (Rho Pi Chapter)

(continued on page 3)

## PICTURES! WE GET PICTURES! THE 2004 SPRING DINNER AT ALPHA ALPHA CHAPTER

*Alpha Alpha Chapter* of Pi Sigma Alpha at **The University of Akron** (OH) was chartered in 1933, and from the chapter name you can doubtless tell that it was the Honor Society's first double-letter chapter (to give you an idea of Pi Sigma Alpha's growth, it celebrated its first triple-letter chapter in late 2001!). It's also the third oldest chapter (of 27) in the state of Ohio! The *Newsletter* is pleased to share these images of their Spring 2004 initiation and banquet with you, compliments of the chapter's faculty advisor, Professor Gail Garbrandt.



A group shot of the participants at Alpha Alpha chapter's Spring 2004 dinner.



Past chapter President Dan Stimmel presents an award to Dr. Bill Lyons, who along with Dr. Cohen was inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha at the dinner.



Chapter member Michael Clarke presents a certificate of membership to Professor David Cohen.

(NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE continued from Page 2)

Young Kun Kim, Lehman College, CUNY (Epsilon Tau Chapter)  
 Joseph H. Lane, Jr., Emory & Henry College (Omega Phi Chapter)  
 John A. Maltese, University of Georgia (Alpha Pi Chapter)  
 Christine Pappas, East Central University (Rho Beta Chapter)  
 James F. Pasley, University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma (Alpha Alpha Pi Chapter)  
 Frank M. Sorrentino, St. Francis College (Psi Omicron Chapter)  
 Shirley Anne Warshaw, Gettysburg College (Nu Psi Chapter)  
 Julie A. Webber, Illinois State University (Kappa Sigma Chapter)

If we missed anyone, please let us know so that we may publicly congratulate you in the next issue of the *Newsletter*!

We've added a fifth videotape to the Pi Sigma Alpha Distinguished Speaker Series. Dr. Lani Guinier of Harvard Law School gave a fascinating and provocative talk at the APSA Meeting on "Reconstructing Brown's Faded Legacy: A New Paradigm for Race, Class and Equality," and her lecture is now part of the series. Dr. Guinier was nominated by Bill Clinton to be Attorney General, but her nomination was withdrawn after congressional opposition based on her "radical" philosophy.

This series of videotapes of notable speakers from APSA Annual Meetings is intended to provide  $\Pi\Sigma\Lambda$  chapters with alternatives to live speakers and to give undergraduate students a glimpse of the level of discourse at the APSA meeting. The first four tapes are available now to Pi Sigma Alpha Chapter Advisors at no charge — one copy per chapter — and may be ordered from the national office using the form on the back cover of this issue of the *Newsletter*. Dr. Guinier's taped lecture will be available next month, after editing and duplicating are completed.

## PI SIGMA ALPHA AWARD WINNERS FOR 2004

**Washington Intern Scholarships** for four Pi Sigma Alpha members spending the summer or fall semester in a Washington internship program:

*John Cryderman*, Mu Pi Chapter, Winthrop University  
*Ashley Schweizer*, Zeta Phi Chapter, Murray State University  
*Matthew Stack*, Chi Omicron Chapter, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
*Christine Watkins*, Beta Mu Chapter, Brigham Young University



**Howard Penniman/Pi Sigma Alpha Scholarships for Graduate Study in Political Science** for five Pi Sigma Alpha members entering graduate programs in political science in the fall of 2004

*Matthew Fischer*, Omicron Mu Chapter, Loyola College in Maryland  
*Chi Feng (Mike) Kung*, Psi Omega Chapter, University of California - San Diego  
*Mary-Kate Lizotte*, Epsilon Chi Chapter, Providence College  
*Medlir Mema*, Alpha Iota Chapter, Utah State University  
*Andrea Morrison*, Rho Zeta Chapter, University of Houston



### Best Chapter Awards

*Schools with under 6,000 enrollment:*

Mu Delta Chapter, Hartwick College  
 Kappa Upsilon Chapter, Mary Washington College  
 Chi Epsilon Chapter, Providence College  
 Alpha Alpha Pi Chapter, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

*Schools with 6,000 - 15,000 enrollment:*

Upsilon Iota Chapter, Mercer University  
 Zeta Phi Chapter, Murray State University  
 Beta Tau Chapter, University of Pennsylvania  
 Mu Pi Chapter, Winthrop University

*Schools with over 15,000 enrollment:*

Delta Iota Chapter, University of Arizona  
 Sigma Mu Chapter, University of Central Oklahoma  
 Beta Gamma Chapter, University of Florida  
 Tau Rho Chapter, Florida International University



### **Best Chapter Advisors**

*Ramona Grey*, Epsilon Mu Chapter, The University of Montana  
*Lori Cox Han*, Chi Chi Chapter, Austin College  
*Dianne Werber*, Chi Lambda Chapter, Southern Utah University



### **Best Undergraduate Class Papers**

#### *FIRST PLACE:*

“Democracy without Democratic Journalism: A Content Analysis of The San Francisco Chronicle during the Policy-defining Period prior to the Iraq War,”  
*Andrew Bloeser*, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

#### *RUNNER-UP:*

“Education in Plato’s Republic,” *Ariel Dillon*, Santa Clara University.

#### *RUNNER-UP:*

“Why XY: Explaining Variation in Male Support for Politically Active Women,”  
*Katie Jerabek*, Creighton University.



### **Best Undergraduate Honors Theses**

#### *FIRST PLACE:*

“The Selection and Appointment Process for Federal Reserve Governors and Bank Presidents,”  
*Michael Gramins*, Georgetown University

#### *RUNNER-UP:*

“After Afghanistan: Al Qaeda’s Future in Failed States,”  
*Andrew Miller*, Dickinson College

#### *RUNNER-UP:*

“Partition as a Solution of Ethnic Conflicts: The Significance of Third-Party Guarantees,”  
*Michael McFarland*, New York University

# PSA 2004 CHAPTER ACTIVITY GRANT COMPETITION

Chapters are invited to submit proposals to the National Office for the **23rd Annual Chapter Activity Grant Competition**. Proposals should be mailed to the National Office no earlier than October 1, and no later than **October 31, 2004**. Proposals should be in one of three general categories:

**Membership:** activities which increase the membership in a chapter or its visibility on campus, such as conducting a career day for political science students, preparing orientation materials, etc.

**Society Affairs:** program activities, such as essay contests, newsletters, student debates, speakers, public service awards, political activism projects, candidate debates. **NOTE: Pi Sigma Alpha cannot fund activities which benefit or promote any one political candidate or party over competing candidates or parties.**

**Service:** activities benefitting area high schools or community groups, cooperative projects with other chapters and/or with other honor societies on campus, etc.

**Ethics:** Pi Sigma Alpha is participating in the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) three-year project on the issue of ethics in higher education and in society. Chapters are encouraged to design grant projects addressing the theme of ethics in any of its countless manifestations: academic integrity, college recruitment, ethical issues in politics, environmental protection vs. economic progress, etc. Projects might include essay contests, discussion forums, outside speakers, film screenings with discussions, etc.

## Rules and Guidelines

*Please read carefully. Proposals which do not follow these guidelines may be eliminated from consideration.*

**1. Each chapter may submit only one proposal on its own and the proposal must be for a single activity only, not multiple activities throughout the year.** This does not preclude a chapter from participating in a cooperative regional project proposal with other chapters. Cooperative proposals are given most favorable consideration by the Awards Committee, especially those which include plans to bring together students from several chapters in a regional or statewide conference or forum.

### 2. MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE AMOUNTS:

**Total proposal: \$2,000 (most proposals are funded below this amount)**

Honoraria - \$150 per speaker

Banquet meals - \$10 per person for dinner; \$6 per person for lunch

Student paper awards - \$100 first prize; \$75 second prize; \$50 third prize

**3. ITEMS WHICH WILL NOT BE FUNDED:** Pi Sigma Alpha will NOT fund rental of meeting rooms on your campus, honoraria for your own faculty, or publicity on your campus. Students should seek university support for their projects in the form of meeting space, expect local faculty to participate without payment, and make use of campus publications to advertise their projects. Avoid excessive travel costs for outside speakers. Seek matching funds from your university or department, and the selection committee will give favorable consideration to proposals which show the intent to add funding from such other sources. Chapters should not request national office funding to purchase Pi Sigma Alpha merchandise.

**4.** Continuing projects, such as student journals, will normally not be supported for more than two years running.

**5.** The proposal **must be submitted on the Chapter Advisor's official school letterhead, and must be approved with the Chapter Advisor's signature.** E-mailed proposals are not acceptable. The proposal must include a detailed description of the proposed project and a budget. The Committee will give consideration to the quality of the proposal itself in addition to the merit of the proposed activity.

6. Chapters which have not initiated new members during the past academic year are not eligible to receive grants.
7. **IMPORTANT: Pi Sigma Alpha auditors require that a written report on the project, including an accounting of expenditures, be submitted to the National Office, on official school letterhead, no later than June 15, 2005. Failure to submit the grant report will jeopardize a chapter's chances of winning future grants. A checklist and format for this report will be provided with each grant.**
8. The proposal must be **mailed** to the National Office, **not** faxed or e-mailed, and must be postmarked **no earlier than October 1 and no later than October 31, 2004**. The Committee on Chapter Activity Grants will meet in early November, and will select proposals based on intrinsic merit, the likely benefit to chapters of the proposed projects, and clarity of the proposal itself. Announcement of the awards will be made by December 1, 2004.

Any questions? Contact the national office.

**PI SIGMA ALPHA CHAPTER ACTIVITY GRANTS COMMITTEE**  
**1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW**  
**Washington, DC 20036**  
**(202) 483-2512 office@pisigmaalpha.org www.pisigmaalpha.org**



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS

### WHAT IS IAPSS?

The International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS) was established to unite political science students worldwide. Within six years, we have embraced more than 10 000 members from all around the World. IAPSS encompasses students' associations, as well as individual and alumni members. We are an information network; an umbrella joining local associations and students by granting them constant information flow of the ongoing matters in the field of political science. We are an international organization aiming for a global impact in political science sphere; an organization with its own content and confident ambitions in striving for distinction in political science by consistently merging professionals from several continents. For these purposes we already cooperate with IPSA, APSA, EPSnet and other political science associations.

### OUR VISION

Establishing and keeping contacts is the path to tolerance and understanding, mutual development to prosperity and cooperation. Using our knowledge and experiences, we want to improve the system of communication among political science students all around the globe. Our ultimate goal is an active worldwide association for political science students that can improve understanding among nations through their most valuable assets: its people, and especially its students.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to political science students associations based on university or departmental level, national political science students associations and individuals.

### IAPSS PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT:

conferences, seminars, scholarships, courses, training sessions, summer schools, job opportunities *and much more!*

Join the ranks! Write to [membership@iapss.org](mailto:membership@iapss.org) or visit our website at [www.iapss.org](http://www.iapss.org). Should you have any question related to IAPSS in North America, kindly contact Bruno Maltais at [bruno.maltais@iapss.org](mailto:bruno.maltais@iapss.org)

# NEW JOURNAL NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS FOR INAUGURAL ISSUE

Dear Pi Sigma Alpha Advisors:

Purdue University's Delta Omega chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha is delighted to announce that we are accepting papers for the inaugural edition of *The Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics*. This journal will provide an opportunity for outstanding undergraduate students to publish their research in a competitive national journal. We hope you will encourage your students to submit their research to the journal.

Our chapter has published *The American Undergraduate Journal of Politics and Government* since the spring of 2001, and it has become a premier outlet for undergraduate scholarship in political science. Starting with the Fall 2004 edition, the title of the journal will change to *The Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics*, and we will be sponsored by the Pi Sigma Alpha National Office. Thanks to the generous support of the National Office, we will solicit manuscripts from more schools, publicize the journal more widely, and provide free copies of each issue to all Pi Sigma Alpha chapters.

The Journal is a student-run enterprise with an editor, deputy editor, and editorial board who are undergraduate Pi Sigma Alpha members from Purdue University. We also have an advisory board consisting of Purdue faculty and members of the Pi Sigma Alpha Executive Council.

The Journal welcomes submissions from undergraduates of any class or major; submissions from Pi Sigma Alpha members are especially encouraged. Our goal is to publish manuscripts of the highest quality in the areas of American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Theory, and Public Policy. In general, papers selected for publication have been well-written with a well-developed thesis, compelling argument, and original analysis. We typically publish papers approximately 15-30 pages in length that have been written for an upper level course.

Students should include a short abstract (roughly 200 words), and citations should follow an endnote format. Submissions must be in the form of a Microsoft Word document and should be e-mailed to **journal@polsci.purdue.edu**. Please include name, university, contact details (mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number), and complete works cited information. Students may be asked to revise their manuscript before it is accepted for publication. The preferred deadline for this edition is **October 18, 2004**, although we will accept manuscripts on a rolling basis.

We greatly appreciate your efforts to encourage student submissions to the inaugural edition of the Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to e-mail us. Thank you for your time, and we hope to hear from your students soon.

Sincerely,

Clifford Pederson  
Editor-in-Chief  
[journal@polsci.purdue.edu](mailto:journal@polsci.purdue.edu)

Rosalee A. Clawson  
Faculty Advisor, Delta Omega Chapter  
Purdue University  
[clawson@polsci.purdue.edu](mailto:clawson@polsci.purdue.edu)

## NEWS FROM ACHS

The Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), of which Pi Sigma Alpha is a member, has entered into an agreement with the Institute for Experiential Learning (IEL), an interdisciplinary, Washington-based internship organization, whereby any member of an ACHS-member society will receive a \$500 scholarship to any IEL program! This is a non-competitive, across-the-board honor society benefit: any ACHS-society student who applies will receive the scholarship. The program will go into effect in the summer of 2005.

IEL offers 15-week semester or 10-week summer programs in Washington, DC, in a wide range of disciplines and interest areas: the programs are by no means limited to students of government, nor are the internship placements exclusively with federal government agencies. The placements are supplemented by a classroom "Experiential Learning Seminar" taught by college faculty.

All Pi Sigma Alpha chapters will receive more specific information about IEL and about this new member benefit in the spring of 2005.

In other news, ACHS has adopted "A Matter of Ethics" as the theme for a three-year initiative. Member societies can participate voluntarily in the initiative, in whatever ways they think are most appropriate to their own organizations. The Pi Sigma Alpha national office is suggesting that Chapters look for ways to apply variations on the theme to their projects, especially those carried out through the Chapter Activity Grants program. Think of essay contests, poster sessions, outside speakers, movie screenings followed by discussion sessions. Think of topics like academic integrity, ethical considerations in college recruitment of athletes, ethics in business, honesty in political campaigns, the ethics of U.S. foreign policy. You'll agree the possibilities are endless.

The national office will try to give special visibility to the reports of these chapter "ethics" projects on the website, in the Newsletter, and through the ACHS.

### AN EARLY REMINDER ABOUT ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORTS

Chapters are required to submit an annual report to the national office which identifies their officers and chapter advisor, and lists the chapter's activities for the past year. The information in this report is used to select the winners of the Best Chapter Awards, so chapters should take care to make them as complete as possible. To keep its "active" status, every chapter is required to do only two things. First, it must **initiate new members at least once in every academic year**, and send their names and initiation fees to the National Office. It must also **submit an annual report to the national office** by June 15. Very active chapters will want to provide a full reporting of their year's activities since these reports are the basis for Best Chapter Awards. All chapters, however, must include at least the following information in their reports:

- Chapter Name
- Department Name
- College or University
- Total student enrollment of institution
- Name of Chapter Advisor
- Daytime phone number and e-mail address of Advisor
- Names and titles of chapter officers
- Dates of initiation(s) during the past academic year, and number of initiates
- Annual budget for chapter
- Amount of cash on hand
- Any national programs or services applied for during the academic year
- Programs sponsored during the academic year
- Any other notable activities during the academic year

## CHAPTER NEWS

**Mu Pi Chapter** at Winthrop University (SC) has been busy and continues to plan to be so, according to faculty advisor Professor Scott Huffmon. He reports that among this semester's activities, the chapter has hosted a convention watching party around the Republican National Convention so that students could view and discuss President Bush's acceptance speech. Mu Pi also held a "meet the faculty" ice cream social for the department's students and sponsored a dinner in honor of former Congresswomen Rep. Jan Meyers (R-KS) and Rep. Liz Patterson (D-SC) who came to Winthrop University as part of the "Congress to Campus" initiative. In upcoming events, the chapter will host visits from leading third-party presidential and vice presidential candidates at Winthrop, and will also continue its "movie night" tradition, where it hosts a politically-related film with a faculty member whose expertise overlaps the topic, and who can lead a discuss afterward.

Professor Huffmon recently won Winthrop's university-wide Outstanding Junior Professor Award for 2004, as well as two development grants to expand the institution's Social and Behavioral Research Laboratory of which he is the director.

**Nu Theta Chapter** at Adelphi University (NY) has organized a series of educational political debates about the upcoming presidential election; the effort is part of larger university initiative to encourage civic engagement and voter participation. In addition, Nu Theta members are organizing an informal gathering of students and faculty members to watch and discuss one or more of the scheduled Bush-Kerry debates.

**Rho Beta Chapter** faculty advisor Christine Pappas of East Central University (OK) has been busy over the last few years working with chapter Vice President Christina Marshall on an interesting issue dealing with gender and politics. As Professor Pappas reports, together "we designed a survey to be completed by Oklahoma women officeholders at the national, state, and local levels probing whether they perceived themselves to have suffered from gender bias. Twenty of the forty women who hold public office in Oklahoma returned our surveys. Our findings showed that women office holders uniformly believed that women are victims of bias, but that they themselves had not suffered as a result of this bias. We presented our findings at the Oklahoma Political Science Association annual meeting in 2002, and this Fall, 'Political Leadership and Oklahoma Women' was published in *Oklahoma Politics*. Christina attended the National Education for Women (NEW) Political Leadership training at the University of Oklahoma, where she is currently a graduate student in the Planning Department. I'm still teaching American Politics at East Central University."

The **Sigma Pi Chapter** at Wilkes University (PA) has assisted in the organization and presentation of lectures and discussion on the 2004 elections. The chapter will host speakers from the major parties and from third parties who are running for Congress and state office as well as focused discussions on important issues in the presidential election. The chapter has one such event scheduled for nearly every week until election day! In the Spring, according to faculty advisor Tom Baldino, "we have plans for a series of presentations on foreign affairs." Baldino himself was one of eight faculty recently recognized by Wilkes University for outstanding teaching, advising and scholarship in the last academic year.

**Theta Sigma Chapter** advisor Wayne A. Selcher at Elizabethtown College (PA) runs yearly study trips over Spring Break to Ecuador or Costa Rica. The trips to Ecuador focus on the Andean highlands region, and students learn about the economic and political situations and the general history of Ecuador, Andean environments, local culture (including music and folklore), and Ecuador's position in the world today. They visit a cloud forest reserve and a high altitude national park and observe an indigenous healing ceremony by a shaman. The trips to Costa Rica dwell on the themes of tropical biodiversity, environmental issues, Costa Rican democracy, and the country's position in the world. Both trips, Professor Selcher reports, are good introductions to problems of developing countries for participating students.

**Alpha Beta Sigma Chapter** at DeSales University (PA) has been busy, according to chapter faculty advisor Andrew Essig. In April 2004 the chapter celebrated its first initiation ceremony, inducting nine students and faculty members from the school's Political Science and Law & Society programs. Dr. Graham Lee, Professor of Political Science, St. Joseph's University, was the presiding officer and presented a lecture on "Religious Freedom and the Courts." The chapter is currently busy writing its new Pi Sigma Alpha constitution. Professor Essig, in the meantime, has established the Democratic Consolidation Project with the Romanian-American University (RAU) in Bucharest for the course "Politics of East-Central Europe." Utilizing the Blackboard Learning System and in cooperation with the Faculty of European Economic Integration at RAU, DeSales students have the opportunity to collaborate their research and interests in Romanian culture, economics and politics with Romanian students.

**Mu Kappa Chapter**, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, inducted ten new students into their chapter on April 28, 2004. The chapter would like to welcome these students, as would the *Newsletter*!

## LETTER TO OUR CHAPTERS AND MEMBERS

James I. Lengle

*Executive Director, Pi Sigma Alpha*

Pi Sigma Alpha is pleased to announce its sponsorship of *The Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics*, the first national undergraduate journal of political science in the country. The journal is dedicated to publishing and promoting the best undergraduate research in all areas of the discipline. It will be published biannually under the editorship of Professor Rosalee Clawson at Purdue University. One copy of each issue of the journal will be distributed to each chapter of the honor society. The journal is reserved exclusively for undergraduates. Articles written or co-authored by faculty or graduate students will not be accepted for review.

When I assumed the position of executive director over 10 years ago, the major item on the agenda of my first Executive Council meeting was whether the honor society should create and support an undergraduate journal of political science. For a variety of reasons, the council rejected the proposal under consideration but voiced an interest in reconsidering its position in light of other proposals at a future date.

Over the last ten years, a growing number of chapters created and maintained their own departmental or university-wide journals of political science with the assistance of Pi Sigma Alpha chapter activity grants. As more undergraduates engaged in research and as the number of chapter journals increased, it became obvious that a need existed to showcase the best work of our undergraduates.

Under the direction of chapter advisor Professor Clawson, Delta Omega, the Pi Sigma Alpha chapter at Purdue, launched the *American Undergraduate Journal of Politics and Government* in 2000 with the help of a chapter activity grant and support from the department. From the start, Delta Omega's journal was intended to be national. The journal's success over the last four years prompted the Executive Council to request a proposal from Professor Clawson and Delta Omega to establish a more formal relationship between the honor society and the journal that included permanent funding and sponsorship. After a year of careful deliberation, we are pleased to announce our new journal.

Pi Sigma Alpha is delighted to provide this venue for publishing the best undergraduate research in the country. We also hope the journal will stimulate more interest in research and in graduate study among our undergraduates.

This is your journal. Please spread the word among your faculty and students.

## THE NEWSLETTER WANTS YOU!

The Pi Sigma Alpha *Newsletter* is the official channel of communication between the National Office and member chapters across the nation, and we take pride in delivering Pi Sigma Alpha news, program announcements and other information to you in every issue. But we also want to remind you that the *Newsletter* is designed to be a two-way conduit for information, opinions and feedback— in other words, **we want you** to send your thoughts, comments, letters to the editor and/or suggestions to us **any time you wish to do so!**

You can easily reach Editor John Kuzenski by sending an email message to [psanews@unc.edu](mailto:psanews@unc.edu); any topic relating to Pi Sigma Alpha or political science at large is welcome, as are book reviews, details of projects on which you've been working for class or an honors/graduate degree, brief observations or questions about something you've been studying in a favorite class (if it's a question, we'll even try to seek out an answer for you from a network of distinguished political scientists we know!) and so forth. One of the goals toward which we are still aiming at the *Newsletter* is to increase the amount of input published which comes our way from both chapters (such as in the "Chapter News" feature in every issue) **and** individual members of the honor society.

**Chapter advisors and officers**— this is a good place to remind you that additional copies of the *Newsletter* are available by requesting them from the National Office after publication of each issue; getting a copy into the hands of all current members is a great way to increase the sense of enthusiasm and belongingness within your chapter. An electronic copy of the *Newsletter* is also made available at the Pi Sigma Alpha website, [www.pisigmaalpha.org](http://www.pisigmaalpha.org).

Send your submissions to the *Newsletter* for consideration of inclusion in the Spring 2005 issue, and get the word out to your other chapter members that their comments are welcome as well. **We're waiting to hear from you!**

# THE PI SIGMA ALPHA DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER VIDEOTAPE SERIES

The Pi Sigma Alpha Distinguished Speaker Series consists of videotapes of lectures delivered at Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association by eminent members of the political science profession and others. The Series was instituted in 1996 by PSA President David B. Magleby (Brigham Young University) as a way to provide chapters of the honor society with an opportunity to hear from some of the most prominent thinkers in the discipline of political science and to experience the flavor of the APSA convention which draws an attendance of over 5,000 each year.

Chapters are encouraged to use the videotapes as focal points for chapter meetings and to organize larger events around screenings of the tapes. The series is intended for academic use only. The tapes may not be duplicated, modified, transcribed, resold or used for any commercial purpose. Each tape is approximately one hour long.

**AS OF 2004, THE SERIES INCLUDES FIVE VIDEOTAPES:**

“**The Politics of Equality and Inequality: Facts and Causes in a Normative Perspective,**” delivered in 1996 by **Robert A. Dahl** of Yale University.

“**What I Wish Political Scientists Would Teach about the Congress,**” delivered in 2000 by **Lee H. Hamilton**, U. S. House of Representatives (D-IN), 1964-1998, Director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University.

“**Supermajority Rule in the U. S. Senate,**” the APSA 2002 James Madison Lecture by **David R. Mayhew**, Yale University.

“**Democracy and American Foreign Policy,**” the APSA 2003 Ralph Bunche Centennial Lecture by **Fareed Zakaria**, Newsweek International.

“**Reconstructing Brown’s Faded Legacy: A New Paradigm for Race, Class and Equality,**” delivered in 2004 by **Lani Guinier**, Harvard Law School.

**CHAPTER ADVISORS MAY ORDER A SINGLE COPY OF ANY TAPE FOR CHAPTER USE AT NO CHARGE. PLEASE USE THE ORDER FORM BELOW.**

Dahl       Guinier       Hamilton       Mayhew       Zakaria

Chapter Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail or Fax to PSA National Office:**      1527 New Hampshire Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
FAX: 202-483-2657