


Pi Sigma Alpha

The National Political Science Honor Society

N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 6

Autumn 1997

Number 2

Contents

[Briefs from the National Office](#)

[Note from the Editor](#)

[Proposed Constitutional Amendment](#)

[Shalala Delivers ΠΣΑ at APSA Meeting](#)

[Consider Establishing a Council to Coordinate Campus Honor Societies](#)

[Best Chapter Winners](#)

[Delta Gamma Chapter Conference](#)

[New Chapters Installed Since June 1996](#)

[Paper Award Winners](#)

[*Upsilon Tau* Hosts Model UN](#)

[Support for Political Science Association Meetings](#)

[Four Chapter Advisors Receive Awards](#)

[Beta Nu Chapter at BYU host Political Science Conference](#)

[Rep. Obey Receives NCAPSA ΠΣΑ Award](#)

[Chapter Advisors: Join Email Network](#)

[Induction Ceremony at Hofstra Features NYC Police Commissioner](#)

[Graduate Scholarships Awarded to Five](#)

Briefs from the National Office

1. Want to provide an extra bit of class to your chapter meetings or initiation ceremonies? Podium banners now available: 18x18", fully lined 'satin. Your chapter's name, etc. \$39.00. Get yours today!
 2. Don't forget to sign on to the chapter advisors' e-mail network for early notices of programs, etc. See the brief article in this issue for more information on how to sign on.
 3. Chapter Activity Grants competition is coming up soon: Think about establishing a council of honor societies, as North Georgia College has (see article, page 4), or organizing a regional student conference, as Brigham Young University did (see page 8).
 4. Need a better way to publicize your department's Pi Sigma Alpha chapter? Contact us in the National Office, and we'll send you Student Information Cards to help with the task.
 5. If yours is among the group of chapters around the country that have been inactive in recent years, think about applying for one of the Chapter Reactivation Grants available to help stimulate new activity in dormant chapters. Contact the National Office for more information.
-

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

The Executive Council of Pi Sigma Alpha has proposed an amendment to the society's constitution. The proposed amendment will be submitted to chapters for approval of the membership. The amendment affects section 2 of Article 1:

Old Language:

Section 2. Student Membership. Student members shall be initiated by a local chapter from among such juniors, seniors, or graduate students of the institution in which the chapter is located as may meet the following qualifications: (a) completion of fifteen quarter hours or ten semester hours of work in political science including at least one course not open to students in the first two years of collegiate work; (b) maintenance of an average grade of "B" or higher in all courses in political science, and maintenance of general scholarship to place such students within the upper third of their class; and (c) fulfillment of such additional requirements as may have been prescribed by the local chapter.

Note from the Editor

More chapters have been sending in information about their activities, and I'm grateful for all the news. We still need to hear from your chapter. What are you up to? What has your chapter been doing this year? We'd like to report on it, so have someone -chapter advisor or student officer -- take a few minutes to send a brief report to the National Office. The report should be in the form of an article, not just a listing of events. Photos are welcome as long as they're clear and the images are large enough to be reproduced faithfully. Please provide captions with the names, as appropriate.

Please note also that the Newsletter is now being published two times a year instead of three. The deadline for submitting material for the next newsletter, scheduled to appear in late winter or early spring, is January 15th.

New Language:

Section 2. Student Membership. Student members shall be initiated by a local chapter from among such juniors, seniors, or graduate students of the institution in which the chapter is located as may meet the following qualifications: (a)

Undergraduate Student Qualifications: completion of fifteen hours or ten semester hours of work in political science including one course not open to students in the first two years of collegiate work; maintenance of an average grade of "B" or higher in all courses in political science; maintenance of general scholarship to place such students within the upper third of their class; and fulfillment of such additional requirements as may have been prescribed by the local chapter. (b) Graduate

Student Qualifications: completion of at least nine hours of graduate work in political science; maintenance of an average grade of "B" or higher in all courses in political science, and fulfillment of such additional requirements as may have been prescribed by the local chapter.

I should note, too, that this issue is the first on which we have done our own layout and production. My thanks to James Tierney, my 13 year-old son, who applied his considerable computer expertise in accomplishing the task.

A NOTE ON SUBMISSIONS: In addition to submitting a paper copy of your submitted material, please provide an electronic copy on disk as well. Alternatively, you may e-mail the submission to me directly at: tierney@bc.edu

Donna Shalala Delivers Pi Sigma Alpha Lecture at APSA Meeting

Donna Shalala, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, delivered the Pi Sigma Alpha Guest Lecture before a large audience attending the American Political Science Association's annual meeting in Washington, DC, in late August.

Shalala has served in President Clinton's Cabinet since the start of his first term in 1993. As Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1988 to 1993, she was the first woman to head a Big Ten university. Prior to that, she served as president of Hunter College at the City University of New York for eight years, and as Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research at the Department of Housing and Urban Development during the Carter Administration.

A leading scholar on the political economy of state and local governments, Dr. Shalala has held tenured professorships at Columbia, CUNY, and Wisconsin. She earned her Ph.D. in 1970 at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University.

Shalala was the most recent of the APSA speakers sponsored by Pi Sigma Alpha. Other speakers in the past few years have included William Kristol, Republican operative; Ira Magaziner, then senior adviser for policy development in the Clinton White House; Senator Daniel P Moynihan (D-NY); and former Defense Secretary Richard Cheney.

Consider Establishing a Council to Coordinate Campus Honor Societies

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

Small Pi Sigma Alpha chapters, like the one at North Georgia College and State University (NGCSU), might benefit as we have from the formation of a local honor-society coordinating council that allows small honor societies to pool their resources, co-sponsor activities, and submit unified solicitations to college administrations.

Not long after I joined NGCSU's political science faculty, I reactivated the Xi Kappa Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha. North Georgia has 3200 students, about 75 of whom major in political science. In 1994, at the first initiation ceremony of the reactivated chapter, nine students and one professor were initiated; predictably, there was an initiation ceremony without much pageantry in a Spartan classroom setting.

Before long, it was apparent to me that several of the honor societies on campus, like our Pi Sigma Alpha chapter, were using manual methods to determine which students were eligible for membership, because we didn't have access to computerized data bases. I submitted a memorandum on behalf of five of the university's honor societies to the computer services staff, soliciting assistance in automating all of our eligibility determination processes.

The problem of maintaining a small honor society at a small university forced me to evaluate cooperative relationships with similar organizations on the campus. The joint inquiry to the computer services staff seemed to be a primitive model of the usefulness of cooperation. I began to approach some of my counterparts in the other honor societies about their interest in establishing a coordinating council. Virtually all of the responses were positive and many were enthusiastic. In February 1995, representatives of six honor societies voted to establish the Council of Honor Societies. Today, just 1-2 years later, there are nine affiliated honor societies: Mu Epsilon Delta (a local society for pre-med students), Omicron Delta Kappa (leadership), Phi Alpha Theta (history), Phi Kappa Phi (interdisciplinary), Pi Gamma Mu (social science), Pi Sigma Alpha, Psi Chi (psychology), Rho Tau (a local society for pre-physical therapy students), and Sigma Tau Delta (English).

As I developed an explanation for why NGCSU should have a coordinating council, I recalled the uninspired 1994 initiation ceremony of our Pi Sigma Alpha chapter. I suggested that the Council of Honor Societies could sponsor a joint initiation banquet at which any honor society that was too small to arrange its' own banquet could join with other groups to provide a lively, elegant, and memorable setting in which students could be initiated. just three months after the council was founded, the first joint initiation banquet was held; members of Phi Alpha Theta, Pi Gamma Mu, Pi Sigma Alpha, Psi Chi, and Rho Tau were initiated. At our 1997 banquet, in addition to those five groups, Mu Epsilon Delta also initiated members, and the other three affiliated groups made brief presentations about their honor societies.

The usefulness of the coordinating council also became apparent in 1996 when two political science faculty members and Pi Sigma Alpha members-Brian Murphy and Carl Cavalli-obtained clearance from the university's administration to organize a campus-wide Undergraduate Research Conference on Honors Day. They and other members of their committee did a marvelous job of conceiving this imaginative event, but after meeting several times they determined that they needed more organized support than seemed readily available. I offered the support of the Council of Honor Societies, and Brian and Carl accepted. They came to a council meeting, and the honor societies spontaneously agreed to participate by sponsoring panels and other presentation formats. For example, at the Pi Gamma Mu Panel on Social Science, students who had written the outstanding papers in criminal justice, political science, psychology, and sociology presented their research. As part of the panel, there were two presentations to provide transitions between papers: the Pi Sigma Alpha Roundtable Discussion and the Psi Chi Roundtable Discussion. Similarly, most of the other panels were sponsored by other honor societies. The event was a success, and the university community asked Brian and Carl to organize the second annual conference for May 1997-another gratifying event.

The council operates a bank, of sorts, by making its checking account available as a repository for the funds of the smaller honor societies, so that they don't have to maintain separate checking accounts. Phi Alpha Theta, Pi Gamma Mu, Pi Sigma Alpha, and Sigma Tau Delta make deposits to and obtain checks from the council's account. Thus, instead of having five checking accounts at the nearby bank, only one account is necessary, reducing paperwork for everybody.

just as the national Association of College Honor Societies, with which Pi Sigma Alpha is affiliated, provides essential coordinating functions for the nation's honor societies, so a local coordinating council can raise the visibility of honor societies on a campus and can provide services to benefit all honor societies and especially the smaller honor societies. just as many colleges have councils that coordinate activities of social fraternities and sororities, colleges need council to coordinate honor societies. NGCSU's yearbook now includes an entire pictorial and narrative section about the honor societies, just like our social fraternities and sororities have had for years, largely because the student government and student affairs staff can now "find" our honor societies far more easily by

NGCSU's Council of Honor Societies welcomes inquiries from Pi Sigma Alpha chapters that might like to spearhead the creation of a similar council on their respective campuses. Contact me at NGCSU's Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice, Dahlonega, Ga. 30597; call (706) 864-1916; or send an E-mail message to: bfriedman@nugget.NGC.PeachNet.edu.

Delta Gamma Chapter Conference

by **Christopher J. Bosso**, *Northeastern University*

The Delta Gamma Chapter at Northeastern University began the 1997 year with a flurry of activities built around the fall election. The "Issues 1996" series featured large-screen television airings of the first presidential debate and the final senatorial debate between Senator John Kerry and Governor William Weld. Commentary on the debates was provided by Professors Christopher Bosso, William Crotty, Michael Dukakis, and others. The series concluded with an election night party, where more than 100 attendees watched the results come in on a large-screen television and rooted for their winners (or bemoaned their losses). The year also was marked by the inauguration of the Pi Sigma Alpha "First Monday" series, where students and faculty met the first Monday of each month to hear a guest speaker and discuss current issues in both domestic and international politics.

The year's events culminated in June with the formal induction ceremony and senior awards dinner. Seventy attendees heard a keynote address, "The Case For Optimism," by Distinguished Professor Michael S. Dukakis, and twenty-six students were inducted into the Delta Gamma Chapter. The Pi Sigma Alpha award for best paper in international and comparative politics went to Steven Sheldon for "The Balkans Conflict: Can Anyone Effectively and Impartially Mediate Peace in the Former Yugoslavia?" The Pi Sigma Alpha/Robert L. Cord Award for best paper in law and public policy went to Dalmau Garcia, "A Comparative Analysis of the Philosophical Foundations of the American and German Political and Legal Systems." Senior of the Year honors went to Jason Scott.

Best Chapter Winners for 1997

The annual awards for Best Chapters went to schools in each of the three enrollment categories. These awards are intended to honor individual chapters that have distinguished themselves in some way.

Schools with enrollment under 6,000:

Mu Pi Chapter, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC. Steve Smith, Advisor

Beta Iota Chapter, The Citadel, Charleston, SC. John Kuzenski, Advisor

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

Epsilon Mu Chapter, University of Montana, Missoula. Jeffrey D. Greene, Advisor

Tau Psi Chapter, Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN. Maurice Eisenstein, Advisor

Schools with enrollment over 15,000:

Beta Mu Chapter, Brigham

New Chapters Installed Since June 1996

Phi Theta	Chicago State University
Phi Iota	U. S. Air Force Academy, Colorado
Phi Kappa	Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN
Phi Lambda	Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI
Phi Mu.	Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX
Phi Nu	Texas Southern University, Houston

1997 Pi Sigma Alpha Paper Award Winners

In the annual cash award program for best student papers, the competition in 1997 yielded the following winners:

Best Graduate Student Paper

"The Paradox in the Puzzle" The Effects of Educational Predisposition's and Mediated information on Voter Turnout," by **Matthew Sheffer**, *University of Texas at Arlington*

Best Undergraduate Papers

First Place: "Whither China: Marketization Without Democratization?" by **Luke P Sbarra**, *Mary Washington College*.

Runner-up: "The Battered Woman Syndrome and Premenstrual Syndrome as Legal Defenses: A Feminist Perspective," by **Emily M. Pasquinelh**, *Dickinson College*

Runner-up: "The Last Best Hope of Earth: An Argument for an Environmental Right," by **John J. Green**, *Mississippi State University*.

Upsilon Tau Hosts Model U.N.

On April 18, 1997 the Upsilon Tau chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha helped to run the first Saint Francis College Model United Nations (SFCMUN) for high school students. Mary Arnstein, current Vice President of the chapter and Secretary General for the day, has been a veteran of the Model U.N. circuit and developed the idea for her senior honor's thesis. Over sixty high school students were involved from throughout Western Central Pennsylvania.

The Conference allowed area high school students to debate current international issues such as infectious diseases, obstacles to women in the workforce, military waste, low intensity armed conflict and the current refugee situation. Its purpose was to teach teamwork, leadership, diplomacy, negotiation and communication skills to students acting as participants, organizers and chairpersons. It also developed the students' awareness of the diverse perspectives that exist in the international political arena.

Much thanks goes to *Pi Sigma Alpha* for helping to fund this successful project through the grant program. Due to its success, it is hoped the SFCMUN will become an annual event.

Beta Nu Chapter at Brigham Young Hosts Political Science Conference

In partnership with the Utah Political Science Association, the Beta Mu Chapter of Brigham Young University last spring prepared and hosted a political science conference at the Utah State capitol.

Professors and students from around the region were invited. Fifty faculty and students from the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, and Brigham Young University attended.

The day began with a keynote address delivered by John Kinkaid, the Meyner Professor of Government and Public Service of Lafayette College. He set the tone for the conference by addressing questions of federalism in the United States. The closing event was a banquet held at the historic Joseph Smith Memorial Building in downtown Salt Lake City. Professor Thomas Alexander of Brigham Young University spoke on "Reflections on Church-State Relations in Twentieth Century Utah Politics."

Rep. David R. Obey Receives Capital Area's Award

David R. Obey, United States Representative from Wisconsin's 7th District since 1969, received the National Capital Area Political Science Association 1997 Pi Sigma Alpha Award. The award, which recognizes an individual with political science training who has made a significant contribution to public affairs, was presented at the Association's Spring Conference last March at Mount Vernon College in Washington, D.C

Prior to his election to Congress, Representative Obey served in the Wisconsin State Assembly where he initially was elected at the age of 24 and served seven years. In Congress, Mr. Obey has been described by the Almanac of American Politics as a "true believer in traditional liberalism, in Keynesian economics and economic redistribution ... and that government should provide economic security, create jobs and build infrastructure through public investment."

Congressman Obey served two terms as Chairman of the joint Economic Committee

Support for Political Science Association Meetings

July 1996 - June 1997

BEST PAPERS

Pi Sigma Alpha sponsors "best paper" awards granted by various political science associations. These are the award winners in the period from July 1996 to June, 1997.

American Political Science Association (The Franklin Burdette Award): "The U. S. Supreme Court and the Rationality of Labor Violence: The Impact of the Mackay Radio Doctrine and

and is currently a member of that committee. He also served a term as Chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee. Today, he is the ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee and of its Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

Congressman Obey is also well known for his work on the organization of Congress, especially the Commission on Administrative Review of the House of Representatives (the Obey Commission) in 1976-77, which he chaired, and the joint Committee on the Organization of Congress in 1993, on which he served as a member.

Previous NCAPSA Pi Sigma Alpha award winners are: Ernest S. Griffith, Francis O. Wilcox, Alan K. (Scotty) Campbell, Donna E. Shalala, Evron M. Kirkpatrick, Charles L. Clapp, Elmer B. Staats, Austin Ranney, Parris N. Glendening, Mark W Cannon, Richard M. Scammon, Howard R. Penniman, Max M. Kampelman, Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, James L. Sundquist, David Price, Vincent J. Browne, William A. Galston, Stephen Horn, and Elaine C. Kamarck.

Chapter Advisors: Join E-Mail Network!

Through the good offices of the American Political Science Association, Pi Sigma Alpha has been able to join the H-Net e-mail listserv run by Michigan State University. This service allows the National Office to communicate, via e-mail, with all Chapter Advisors at once and provides a way for Chapter Advisors to share information with each other. Important messages and announcements such as program application deadlines are posted by the National Office and go to each advisor on the list as a regular e-mail message. Individual advisors also are able to offer messages of general interest to the list editor, who decides whether to post them to the whole list. To participate in the H-Net, chapter advisors must identify themselves to the list server. Neither the National Office nor H-Net is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of the list; when an

'Violence' during the Coal Strike of 1989-90," by Richard A. Brisbin, West Virginia University.

Midwest Political Science Association: "The Presidential Pulse and the 1994 Congressional Midterm Election," by James E. Campbell, Louisiana State University.

Southern Political Science Association: "The Impact of Global Evaluations of Congress on Individual Vote Choice," by Robert L. Boucher and Albert D. Cover, SUNY Stony Brook.

PI SIGMA ALPHA LECTURES

Pi Sigma Alpha also has a program to sponsor lectures at regional meetings of the various political science associations. This past year, the association meetings that took advantage of this program and hosted Pi Sigma Alpha lecturers were:

National Capital Area Political Science Association, Rep. David Obey (D-WI)

Northeastern Political Science Association, Thomas Rosenstiel, Project on journalism Standards

Mississippi Political Science Association, Bill Minor, columnist and commentator

National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Rev. Jesse L. Jackson

advisor turns over responsibility for his or her chapter to another faculty member, it will be up to them to correct the H-Net address list. The National Office urges all chapter advisors to take advantage of this new service right away, and not miss any important deadlines.

To participate in the H-Net List:

- Send an e-mail message to: Listserv@h-net.msu.edu
- In the text of your message (not on the subject line), type: SUBSCRIBE APSA-PISIG
firstname lastname, affiliation
- Example: SUBSCRIBE APSA-PISIG Mary Smith, Ohio State University

After you sign up you will receive a "welcome" message on your e-mail, including some guidelines for participating in the network sending messages to the editor, changing you e-mail address, and more. Thereafter you will automatically receive whatever messages the National Office puts on the system.

Pi Sigma Alpha Induction Ceremony at Hofstra University Features NYC Police Commissioner

The Eta Pi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Hofstra University held a banquet last spring for its annual induction ceremony. Twenty-one new members were inducted. The banquet was held at the Hofstra University Club and was attended by the Political Science faculty, student officers, and guests.

The induction ceremony speaker was Howard Safir, Police Commissioner of the City of New York and a Hofstra Political Science alumnus. Commissioner Safir spoke on the tremendous upswing in the quality of life in New York City and the dramatic decrease in crime in recent years, saying that New York City is the safest large city in America. Safir attributed this decrease in crime to the theory of "zero tolerance" and discussed political scientist James Q. Wilson's well-known "broken windows" essay. Commissioner Safir spoke about other topics of interest as well, including police corruption, police training, quality of life and petty crimes, and the training of public servants. He said that New York City is a new place which now has a crime rate as low as Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The induction ceremony also included the awarding of the Herbert D. Rosenbaum/Pi Sigma Alpha prize for the best paper in Political Science. The award was sponsored by a Pi Sigma Alpha chapter grant and presented by the professor whose name it bears, Professor Emeritus Herbert D. Rosenbaum. This year's recipient was Ms. Nicole Devero, a Political Science major who plans to do a political internship in New York City before pursuing graduate work in French and Political Science. Her paper, titled "Political Culture in the United States: The Erosion of Representative

Democracy and How to Restore It," dealt with voting systems and the democratic process.

In her remarks, Chapter Advisor Dr. Leslie Feldman, Associate Professor of Political Science, reminded the audience and new members of Pi Sigma Alpha of Alexis De Tocqueville's observation that "it is held as a truth that man serves himself in serving his fellow creatures and his private interest is to do good."

Graduate Scholarships Awarded to Five

Five members of Pi Sigma Alpha were selected to receive Howard Penniman Graduate Scholarships for this academic year. The winners were Susan L. Blewett of Delta Beta Chapter at the University of Louisville, Justin Michael Harrison of Gamma Pi Chapter at West Virginia University, Laura Barbaraj Jaworski of Beta Epsilon Chapter at Syracuse University, Kevin Matthew Scott of Beta Chapter at the University of Oklahoma, and Anthony Louis Zuco of Eta Pi chapter at Hofstra University.

The scholarship selection committee was chaired by Dr. Elaine Swift of Eastern Washington University and included Dr. David B. Magleby of Brigham Young University and Dr. Susan MacManus of The University of South Florida. All are members of Pi Sigma Alpha's Executive Council. The number of scholarships has been increased from one the first year to three the second year and now, the third year, to five, but the rate of growth in the number of applicants has outstripped it. The National office received a total of 23 nomination packages this year, making the job of the selection committee a difficult one.

Each Pi Sigma Alpha/Howard Penniman Scholarship is worth \$1500. The scholarships are awarded solely on the basis of academic achievement and service to the Pi Sigma Alpha chapter, the university or college, and the community. The scholarships are only for graduating Pi Sigma Alpha members who will be enrolling in graduate school in political science in the fall semester. A complete description of the scholarship program, including application information, is sent to each chapter in the spring and may be found on the Pi Sigma Alpha web site.

Justin Harrison

West Virginia University

Within his intended field of American politics, Justin Harrison intends to focus his graduate work on political institutions and public policy. More specifically, he is interested in the influence of electoral politics on congressional and presidential policy making. His professors at West Virginia University say that what makes him stand out among his peers is that "he already thinks like a political scientist." He also is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Harrison's commitment to political science and his interest in the subject are reinforced by a personal connection: his father currently is a doctoral student in the political science department at

West Virginia University, where Harrison developed his own expertise and desire to pursue a doctorate in political science.

Harrison was an active member of West Virginia's Gamma Pi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, having been invited to membership in the fall of 1995. He eventually was elected chapter secretary, with responsibilities for maintaining records of chapter meetings and activities and actively participating in chapter functions.

Kevin Scott

University of Oklahoma

Kevin Scott's interest in politics has come a long way over the years. He recalls that as a fourth grader he was completely uninterested in the 1984 election race between Walter mandate and Ronald Reagan. But by the time he was a high school senior, he not only was totally absorbed in political matters but already was developing the sense that he wanted to have a career studying and teaching politics. His interests were reinforced during his undergraduate years at Oklahoma, where he was an undergraduate fellow at the Carl Albert Center and a research assistant for Professor Ron Peters. A paper he wrote on leadership in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee received the university's Phi Beta Kappa Award for the Outstanding Research Project in the College of Arts and Sciences. Scott supplemented his classroom exposure to politics with an internship and paid work on the staff of Senator Don Nickles (R-Okla).

Among his other activities as an undergraduate, Kevin Scott played an instrumental roll in breathing new life into Oklahoma's moribund chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, starting a steering committee that organized new activities, attracted 46 new initiates, and resurrecting the nation's second oldest chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha.

Laura Jaworski

Syracuse University

By the time Laura Jaworski graduated from Syracuse in 1997 with a Phi Beta Kappa key, she already had won multiple awards, including departmental achievement awards two years in a row and an award from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs for the best undergraduate paper in political science.

As president of Pi Sigma Alpha's Beta Epsilon chapter at Syracuse University, Laura Jaworski put in lots of time and developed impressive leadership skills - coordinating events, proposing new ideas, and facilitating communication between students and professors. But somehow she still had time for other activities such as serving as a research assistant to a political science faculty member, holding down internships, serving as a peer advisor, and playing the clarinet in the Syracuse marching band. She says that along with her academic work, these various experiences revealed to her "how much more I have to learn."

Anthony Zuco
Hofstra University

As a boy, Anthony Zuco would feed his early interest in comparative political systems and international relations by heading off to the local library, where he would peruse the stacks, taking home books such as Edward Crankshaw's *The Fall of the House of Habsburg* and Flora Lewis's *Europe: Road to Unity*. Given that prodigious behavior, it is perhaps not surprising studying at the Bologna (Italy) center of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Zuco's undergraduate work at Hofstra University included the typical array of political science courses, but his extracurricular activities added lustre to his classroom experiences. For example, he attended a class at the United Nations, represented his department as an undergraduate fellow at a Washington symposium on the American presidency, and was selected to be a participant in the Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems. With an eye toward a career in the State Department, Zuco passed the Foreign Service Officers exam.

Susan Blewett
University of Louisville

Susan Blewett is a nontraditional student, having returned to college in 1995 after a hiatus of many years. While away from the university setting, Blewett worked in trust banking. She also poured herself into both volunteerism and community leadership. She founded a group called "Promised Land Employment Service," a non-profit organization in Rockford, Illinois, developed to help the disadvantaged unemployed. While living in Washington, D.C., she volunteered with a group called "Jubilee jobs," which did much the same thing. She also has volunteered at a group home for disturbed teenagers; with the League of Women Voters as a Sunday school teacher, Church Deacon and Elder; and as part of a musical group that entertains at area nursing homes.

Despite this prolific voluntarism, Blewett excelled in the classroom, earning an extraordinarily high grade point average and the accolades of faculty members, one of whom called her "exceptionally bright, extraordinarily industrious, extremely personable, and a student who has an excellent future in Political Science." She also helped rescue the Louisville chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, stepping in to fill a leadership gap and assuming responsibility for managing tasks and organizing projects.

One of her professors summed up his enthusiastic endorsement of Blewett by saying, "If Susan were a common stock, she would be a "blue chip" and would pay enormous dividends."

[Home
Page](#)

[ΠΣΑ
Feedback](#)

[Table of
Contents](#)