

# **Minutes and Proceedings of the Upsilon State Executive Board Meeting**

DMACC-Urban Campus, Des Moines, Iowa  
September 7, 2013

The Upsilon State Executive Board Meeting was held at the Des Moines Area Community College Urban Campus in Des Moines, Iowa. State officers and committee chairs met from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration and coffee were held from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

President Mary Zirkelbach, Tau, called the Upsilon State Fall Executive Board Meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Angela Pratt, Gamma, led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Introduction of Head Table**

First Vice-President Pam Wittkamp, Alpha Iota, introduced those seated at the head table: Second Vice-President Karen Dole, Xi; herself; President Mary Zirkelbach; Parliamentarian, Dr. Carolyn Rants, Mu; Treasurer Sandy Aronson, Alpha Omega; Secretary Karen Regal-Johnson, Xi; and the keynote speaker Patty Gillespie, Beta.

## **Keynote Speaker**

Pam Wittkamp introduced Patty Gillespie who was Iowa Reading Teacher of the Year. She is the past president of the Midlands of Iowa Reading Council and the past zone director for the Iowa Reading Association. Patty began the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program at Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, IA. She is a DKG member of the Beta Chapter in Council Bluffs, IA. Patty told of her disabilities and how she taught herself to read at the age of nineteen. She reiterated that teachers make a difference in students' lives and shared examples from her experiences. She left us with the idea that we can never give up on our students.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Rules of Order**

Dr. Rants read Rules of Order.

**MOTION 1 Carol Iverson, Xi, moved to accept rules of order as presented.**

The motion carried.

### **Roll Call**

Secretary Karen Regal-Johnson called roll. Forty chapter presidents or their designated representatives, five Upsilon State officers, eleven past presidents, the parliamentarian, and eleven area coordinators responded to roll call, establishing a quorum. These individuals, along with the other chapter members, totaled one hundred and one in attendance.

### **First Timers—Fall Executive Board Meeting**

Second Vice President Karen Dole recognized fifteen first-time attendees to the fall executive board meeting and presented them with gifts.

### **Minutes and Proceedings of the June 9, 2013, Upsilon State Executive Board Meeting**

Secretary Karen Regal-Johnson read the statement that the minutes from the Executive Board Meeting (June 2013) had been read and approved by the committee to examine, correct, and approve the minutes. Copies of the minutes were provided through the newsletter and each chapter received a copy.

### **Committee to Read the Minutes and Proceedings**

President Mary Zirkelbach appointed the following members to examine, correct, and approve the minutes and proceedings of the 2013 Fall Executive Board Meeting: President Mary Zirkelbach; First Vice-President Pam Wittkamp; Second Vice-President Karen Dole; Parliamentarian Dr. Carolyn Rants; Immediate Past President Angela Pratt; Lambda Chapter President Barb Blinks; Alpha Phi Chapter President Patricia Starrett; and Beta Gamma Chapter President Jamie Hughet.

### **Correspondence**

Secretary Karen Regal-Johnson read three pieces of correspondence. Dena Higginbotham, Beta, thanked Upsilon State for her 2013 Achievement Award and expressed her appreciation for serving the purposes of DKG. Mary Zirkelbach thanked Upsilon State for the cards, e-mails, and prayers during the illness of her husband. Barb Buroker, Registrar, Alpha Epsilon State/Indiana shared Arts Retreat 2013 information with Upsilon State; an application form was included with this correspondence.

### **Treasurer's Report**

State Treasurer Sandy Aronson reviewed the report distributed to those in attendance. She noted that she received reports from chapter treasurers about grants-in-aid and congratulated members on the \$18,000 plus dollars contributed to students going into education in Iowa.

### **Committee for Financial Review**

Sandy Heerdt, Chi, reported a financial review had been conducted and the 2012-2013 fiscal year financial records, ending June 30, 2013, were in order.

**MOTION 2 Janet Hayes, Tau, moved that the report of the Financial Review Committee be adopted.**

Motion carried.

### **Mini-Grant 1: Learning Shelves for Habitat Homes**

Sherry Moore, Iota, reported that the \$100.00 mini grant was invested to obtain bookshelves for Habitat for Humanity homes. Each child in the home received a bookshelf. Iota Chapter has completed almost twenty of these bookshelves.

### **Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar**

Pam Wittkamp described the June 17-19, 2013, event and recognized members who participated: Suzanne Bartels, Mu; Lori Bruzek, Theta; Sherry Craig, Mu; Marsha Fisher, Iota; Yettee Girard, Alpha Psi; Christina Link, Alpha Iota; Judi Mireles, Tau; Rae Jean Nuehring, Alpha Omega; Kathy Poyner, Iota; Karen Regal-Johnson, Xi; and Roxy Schwartz, Alpha Gamma. Seminar participants introduced the “gifts” of leadership provided by the seminar. Pam thanked participating chapters for contributing financially so these leaders could attend the seminar and thanked Tau Chapter for the three meals it provided for the seminar.

### **Mini-Grant 2: Supplemental Supplies for Fine Arts Band Students**

Rae Jean Nuehring and Sandy Aronson reported that the mini-grant money was distributed in Alpha Omega area for supplemental supplies in the fine arts department. The chapter held a bake-less bake sale for additional funds to add to the grant.

**State Music Representative Becky Christy, Alpha Eta, led a musical break.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Society Business**

#### **Expansion**

Chair Angela Pratt recognized members from the committee: Area 1—Sherrrie Moore; Area 2—Shirley Pfeifer, Alpha Chi; Area 3—Judy O’Brien, Beta; Area 4—Peggy Rupe, Beta Rho; Area 5—Nancy Jones, Alpha Eta; Area 6—Roxy Schwartz; Area 8—Jan Sowers, Beta Omicron; Area 9—Colleen Walter, Tau; Area 10—Peg Roemig, Alpha Nu; Area 11—Donna Niday, Eta; Area 12—Connie Hoag, Mu; Area 13—Paula Dal Ponte, Omega. Angela asked that members continue to suggest women for the organization.

Pam Wittkamp assumed the Chair and asked Mary Zirkelbach to give the Finance Committee report.

#### **Finance**

Chair Mary Zirkelbach introduced members of committee: First Vice-President Pam Wittkamp; Past State President Angela Pratt; Alpha Chapter President Laurie Marple; Beta Chapter Treasurer Sue Griswold; Chapter Member Representative Janet Hayes and State Treasurer, Sandy Aronson (ex-officio). The committee met in August and reviewed the state budget line items, the budget report from the 2013 State Convention, financial records back up, and plans to create a clearer report.

Mary Zirkelbach resumed the chair.

### **Leadership Development**

Chair Pam Wittkamp introduced the committee members: President Mary Zirkelbach; Second Vice-President Karen Dole; and Immediate Past President Angela Pratt. The committee met in Johnston, IA, July 19, 2013, and held a video meeting via AnyMeeting August 21, 2013. Items addressed at those meetings included reviewing the duties of committee members, the agenda, the keynote speaker, and the workshops for the 2013 Fall Executive Board Meeting. The committee encouraged members and/or chapters to apply for the DKG Educational Foundation 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary grants.

### **Nominations**

Chair Dr. Donna Niday introduced the committee members: Virginia Dedor, Phi; Lynn Taylor, Alpha Rho; Katie DiMarco, Xi; and Catherine Cate, Alpha Mu. She encouraged state members to seek and nominate members for officers and encouraged the submission of names of members who are demonstrating leadership and who might want to participate in Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar.

### **Educational Excellence**

Chair Pam Wittkamp announced the afternoon workshops. There were two sessions: 1-1:45 p.m. and 2-2:45 p.m.

During the first session, chapter presidents met with Mary Zirkelbach and Dr. Donna Niday for “Chapter Presidents Update.” There were three other workshops available:

1. Educational Excellence—“What should the chapter EEC be doing anyway?” presented by Pam Wittkamp; presider, Judy Mireles (absent).
2. “Weebly-Wobbly: Websites Made Easy” presented by Karen Dole; presider, Sherry Craig.
3. “Everybody Wins! Iowa” presented by Karen Ligas, Executive Director of Everybody Wins! Iowa; presider, Yettee Girard.

During the second session, attendees chose from the following workshops:

1. “Hello...Hello...Anyone Out There?” presented by State Committee Chair Liz Poock, Psi, and Mary Zirkelbach; presider, Rae Jean Nuehring.
2. “Chapter Yearbooks: Can you make it into an easy task?” presented by Deb Robinson, Beta; presider, Christina Link.
3. “Help! Help! We’ve Fallen and Can’t Get Up! RX for Recovery” presented by Angela Pratt and Susan Carlson, Alpha Omega; presider, Roxy Schwartz.
4. “Crafty Ideas for Chapter Fund Raising” presented by Dr. Connie Hoag, Connie Gillaspie, and Jan Sowers; presider, Suzanne Bartels, Mu.

**Mini-Grant 3: No Strings Attached**

Deb Mortensen, Sigma, explained that the chapter used grant monies to pay the repair bill for a student musical instrument's finger board. Chapter members wanted to continue with this project and purchased strings for musical instruments. Students whose musical instruments benefited from grant monies performed for the chapter.

**First-Timers Report, Northwest Regional Conference**

Cathy Clark, Alpha Gamma, presented a power point displaying contributions of Upsilon State Organization members who participated in the Northwest Regional Conference in July 2013. Twenty-five Upsilon State members went to Cheyenne, Wyoming.

**Mini-Grant 4: Welcoming the Teacher of the Year**

Karen Regal-Johnson discussed Xi chapter's use of the grant money for hosting the 2013 Iowa Teacher of the Year, Tanya Johnson, at North Iowa Area Community College, Mason City.

**Mini Grant 5: Promoting Literacy in ELL and Early Education Learners**

Barb Saltsgaver, Alpha Gamma, explained how the chapter used the grant money for literacy grants. The chapter sent letters to principals in Dallas County to encourage teachers to describe needs. Six requests were received with a list of the types of materials needed, and all six requests were fulfilled.

**Invitation to 2014 Upsilon Iowa State Convention**

Area 5 Coordinator Nancy Jones, Alpha Eta, invited members to attend the 2014 State Convention in Davenport June 13-15, 2014. A handout with details was given. Becky Christy also encouraged members to participate in the convention chorus.

**Mini Grant 6: Welcome Goody Bags**

Cheryl O'Roake, Zeta, reported that "Goody Bags" were filled to welcome new female staff; forty-seven new staff members received bags.

Mary Zirkelbach presented the video Invitation to the 2014 International Convention in Indianapolis on July 28-August 1, 2014.

**11:00-11:30 Area Meetings with Coordinators**

Angela Pratt announced that area coordinators would meet with the members of their respective areas to discuss the State President's Visit and other agenda items listed on the handout. Area coordinators met as a committee during lunch.

**The meeting recessed at 11 a.m. and reconvened at 2:58 p.m.**

Before the meeting reconvened, Becky Christy led members in singing.

### **Mini-Grant 7: Making a Difference with Art for All**

Marianna Hubbard, Chi, presented information about the visual arts school budget and addressed the “haves vs. have nots.” The chapter chose as the recipient the art program of the school with the highest free-and-reduced lunch program. The chapter matched the \$100 grant money and collected items needed by the art department.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Membership**

In the absence of Chair Kristin Merkle, Tau, Susan Carlson, introduced the members of committee: Betty Rozeboom, Beta Gamma, Mary Jo Roberts, Chi, and herself. She stated the committee goals: create a Wiki page with monthly ideas to increase membership; design a membership Jeopardy game for chapter membership chairs to use as a program; plan a Remembrance Ceremony at the state convention; have less than 230 members drop from Upsilon State chapters; recognize and honor members for years of achievement and/or significant achievement to the Society; and plan training for membership chairs at 2014 state convention.

### **Rules**

Chair Pat Yates, Iota, introduced the committee: Mary Martens, Kappa; Carolyn Day, Alpha; and Dena Higgenbotham. The Rules Committee’s goals are to explore development of chapter rules template for 2014 Fall Executive Board training; provide chapter rules training at 2014 Executive Board Meeting; and she announced the Wiki website for rules amendment suggestions.

### **Educational Excellence (EEC)**

Chair Pam Wittkamp, introduced committee members: Jessica Chickering, Beta Rho; Judith Olson, Chi; Yettee Girard; and Karen Sindelar, Beta Nu; Heather Feuerhelm, Theta (absent); Sue Edwards, Delta; Patty Gillespie; and Connie Gillaspie. She presented the committee goals: amend Upsilon bylaws from a legislative platform to a legislative action plan; keep members informed of legislative issues; sponsor a Legislative Day, March 5, 2013, and award eleven \$100 mini-grants; encourage members to participate in state, regional and international meetings; honor women for educational excellence and encourage chapters and educators to apply for the Educational Foundation \$1,000 grants. Jessica Chickering presented and read the 2013-2014 Legislative Platform:

#### **Goal I: To initiate, endorse, and support legislation within a critical framework:**

##### **1. Early Childhood Education:**

- Continue to invest state resources to ensure that all four-year-olds have access to a high quality preschool program to be funded by revenues that do not divert from K-12 resources.

## 2. K-12 Education:

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Reauthorization -Provide for revisions, clarifications, and full funding of ESEA and NCLB
- Invest in full funding for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) programs
- Reestablish grassroots input for the allocation of moneys for vocational education funding and research
- Support funding for research in finding the best practices to challenge all students and to prevent high school dropouts; promote legislation to develop effective policy regarding dropout prevention
- Study and monitor changes in teacher evaluations
- Fully fund Common Core initiatives (technology, assessment, etc., and professional development)
- Education Technology
  - Involve educators in decisions on planning, purchasing, and implementing technology
  - Provide sufficient funding in education technology budgets to reflect the importance of professional development to enable school staff members to become proficient in using and integrating technology into their classrooms
  - Provide equitable technology among all students and educators, regardless of geography or demographics
  - Provide technology, to educators and students, that is compatible with technology in general use outside of schools

## 3. Higher Education

- Invest in higher education (Title IX, Vocational Education, special stipends for educating women in non-traditional careers, and funding for low-income parents to increase their income potential through higher education opportunities)
- Fully fund community colleges

## 4. Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS)

- Support monitoring the policy changes concerning the IPERS system
- Research Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for IPERS recipients

### **Goal II: To keep members involved and informed of legislative issues**

1. Each chapter president needs to forward the email address of her chapter legislative chair to Jessica Chickering at [jessica.chickering@indianhills.edu](mailto:jessica.chickering@indianhills.edu), member of the Upsilon State Education Excellence Committee.

2. The EEC will continue the following process for studying the issues:
  - Identify the issues
  - Study the issue
  - Choose to initiate, endorse, or support
  - Make recommendations
  - Keep members informed
  - Attend Legislative Forums
  - Identify websites that track legislation and present educational and public policy action information

**Goal III: To sponsor an Upsilon State Legislative Day**

1. The Education Excellence Committee (EEC) will sponsor a Legislative Day (March 5, 2014) consisting of a trip to the Iowa Capitol to allow Upsilon State Delta Kappa Gamma members to speak to their senators and representatives and state committee members who are directly involved in legislative issues, in the interests of education and women educators.

**Goal IV: To attend The U.S. Legislative Forum in Washington, D.C.**

1. The Education Excellence Committee (EEC) will actively communicate with Upsilon State members to provide up-to-date legislative information and to encourage their participation in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society U.S. Forum in Arlington, VA and Washington, D.C.
  - The EEC will proactively communicate with Upsilon State members to encourage them to attend the U.S. Forum presented by The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The National Legislative Seminar for Key Women Educators will be held in March 16-19, 2014 in Arlington, Virginia and Washington, D.C. There will be four days of knowledgeable speakers, insightful workshops, legislative encounters, and work sessions, including a day on Capitol Hill visiting Senators and Representatives.

The EEC will encourage members to subscribe to the U.S. Forum Connection listserv by contacting Dr. Angela Bedenbaugh, Editor ([Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com](mailto:Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com)). The Educational Excellence Committee will encourage members to check the U.S. Forum website for updated information (<http://deltakappagamma.org/US-Forum/index.html>) and/or the U.S. Forum Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>)

**MOTION 3: Pam Wittkamp moved to adopt the 2013-2014 Legislative Platform.**  
Motion carried.



## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

### **Achievement Award**

Chair Shelia Adamson, Tau, introduced members of committee: Bette Hauber, Alpha; Judy O'Brien; and Patricia Fox, Alpha Psi. The committee announced two goals: create a scoring sheet for evaluating applications for the Achievement Award; and communicate to chapter presidents in October and November about the award. That award information should be an article that can be included in the chapter newsletter or read at the meeting.

### **Communications**

Chair Elizabeth Pooch introduced committee members: Roxy Schwartz, Pauline Antons, Beta Nu; Christina Link; Editor Nancy Middaugh, Beta Beta, Webmaster Karen Dole; and Archivist Paula Murrell, Tau. She stated the committee's three goals: select state elevator speech for distribution at State Convention in Davenport (completed); replace current webmaster (goal in progress); and host Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar reunion in Davenport. The committee will be making a promotional DVD to distribute at the Fall Executive Meeting 2014.

### **Editor**

In the absence of Editor Nancy Middaugh, Pauline Antons read her report. Chapters are asked to send members' accomplishments and chapter newsletters to the State Editor. In her report, the State Editor also asked that chapters make sure addresses of current members are correct. The deadline for winter edition of *The Bulletin* is October 1, 2013.

### **Webmaster**

Karen Dole discussed encouraging chapter websites. She reminded members of the password for the website: dkgiowa. Wiki instructions have been updated.

### **Scholarships**

Committee member Karen Tussey, Beta Kappa, reported the committee goals: update the Wiki page; develop chapter president e-mail list for communications; communicate with committee electronically to keep them informed of scholarship; and revise goals as the year progresses.

### **World Fellowships**

Chair Beth Ross, Alpha Iota, introduced committee members: Linda Podhajsky, Alpha Pi; Carolyn Goold, Alpha Phi (absent); and Maureen Korte, Tau. She stated the committee goals: provide international student grant recipients' names; enhance communication among state and chapter World Fellowship chairs; organize materials to be sent to international student advisors to Iowa colleges and universities and select 2014-2015 recipients; encourage recipients to send their final semester transcripts.

### **Expansion**

Chair Angela Pratt listed the committee's goals: 1) Propose an amendment to the Upsilon State Bylaws to more currently reflect the roles of the Area Coordinators as members of the State Expansion Committee; 2) Coordinators will submit positive practices and activities from chapters to State Expansion Chair to be shared with all Coordinators; 3) Coordinators will maintain regular contact with chapters to help boost and strengthen them.

### **Mini-Grant 8: Creating a Literacy Connection**

Karen Tussey reported Beta Kappa used mini grant dollars to publish three sets of three books for a member's class. Bags were made for the book kits which will be placed in libraries for check out. Directions for the use of the bag were created and placed in the bag.

### **2013 Creative Arts Retreat Report**

Jan Sowers reported that ten ladies participated in the 2013 summer retreat. She invited members to the June 27-28, 2014, retreat at the Senior Center in Algona.

From the floor, it was noted that the budget did not include the 2014 Legislative Forum.

**Motion 4: Janet Hayes moved to amend the adoption of the 2013-2014 budget by inserting the amount of \$300 on line 40 for the D.C. Legislative Forum.**

Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Selection of International Representative for the 2014 Upsilon State Convention**

Jan Sowers recommended Upsilon State Organization invite International President Dr. Beverly Helms. Carol Iverson recommended that Upsilon State invite Dr. Elizabeth Turner. Jan Sowers recommended that Upsilon State invite Immediate Past International President Dr. Jensi Souders. Based on the informal straw vote, the president will request Dr. Helms as the first choice, Dr. Turner as the second choice, and Dr. Souders as the third choice.

#### **Door Prizes**

Second Vice-President Karen Dole conducted the drawing for the door prizes. The winners were  
Pauline Antons: free registration for the 2014 State Convention  
Deb Dittmer, Delta: free birthday luncheon at the 2014 State Convention  
Karen Dole: free Presidents' Banquet ticket at the 2014 State Convention

**Announcements**

Second Vice-President Karen Dole announced the following


Red voting cards need to be returned


Chapter presidents, area coordinators, or others need to pick up the envelopes with the workshop handouts

Muffins left from breakfast are available to those who would like them

**Mary Zirkelbach adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.**

Angela Pratt led the singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

  
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Mary Zirkelbach, President

  
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Karen Regal-Johnson, Secretary

These minutes were read and approved by the following members of the committee to examine, correct, and approve the minutes and proceedings: President Mary Zirkelbach, First Vice-President Pam Wittkamp, Second Vice-President Karen Dole, Parliamentarian Dr. Carolyn Rants, Immediate Past President Angela Pratt, Lambda President Barbara Blinks, Alpha Phi President Patricia Starrett, and Beta Gamma President Jamie Hughet.