Phi Sigma Tau
MANUAL (August, 2016)
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The Phi Sigma Tau Manual is issued several times annually in Adobe Acrobat format. Sections marked with an asterisk(*) have been updated since the previous release (August, 2015).

The Phi Sigma Tau Manual is issued in modular form in order to facilitate updates. Chapters are asked to provide a standard ring binder and to maintain current chapter records for archival purposes.

Please keep the Manual up to date, and remember that it should be returned to the Chapter Advisor between academic years, so that new officers may have access to it at the beginning of each new academic year.
PHI SIGMA TAU
International Honor Society in Philosophy
National Office

Officers

President: Dr. Lee C. Rice
Associate Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, Marquette University

Vice-President: Dr. Anne M. Wiles
Professor of Philosophy, James Madison University

Dialogue Editor: Dr. Steve Barbone
Associate Professor of Philosophy, San Diego State University

Executive Secretary: Dr. David E. Gibson
Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, Pepperdine University

Area Representatives:
Dr. Charlie Huenemann
Professor of Philosophy, Utah State University

Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J.
Professor of Philosophy, Fordham University

Dr. Ann Pang-White
Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Scranton

Adjunct Council Member: Dr. Dawn Hutchinson
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Christopher Newport University

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Phi Sigma Tau: International Honor Society in Philosophy

PHI SIGMA TAU
A Short History

Phi Sigma Tau was founded at Muhlenberg College in 1930 as Alpha Kappa Alpha, with chapters at colleges in Maryland and Pennsylvania. It remained in this regional status until October of 1955, when it was incorporated as Phi Sigma Tau, a National Honor Society in Philosophy. Its essential purpose was and is to promote ties among philosophy departments in accredited institutions and students in philosophy nationally. Both on the local and national levels, Phi Sigma Tau considers its organization as instrumental: a means for developing and honoring academic excellence as well as philosophical interest. In addition to providing a means of awarding distinction to students having high scholarship and interest in philosophy, the Society also promotes interest in philosophy among the general collegiate public. Under Internal Revenue Service regulations, Phi Sigma Tau is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

GROWTH
In 1955, Phi Sigma Tau included twelve chapters in Ohio, Tennessee, Maryland, Washington, D.C., New Mexico, California, and Louisiana. By 1958 ten additional chapters had been added, including those which had formerly constituted Alpha Kappa Alpha; and the date of the latter’s founding was taken as Phi Sigma Tau’s founding date. In 1958 the Society was admitted to full membership in the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), and by 1969 its chapter network included 55 chapters in 32 states. The Society became international in 1991 with the installation of its first Canadian chapter; and, as of August, 2016, its chapter network includes over 200 chapters.

GOVERNMENT
The National Officers consist of President, Vice-President, and Executive Secretary. The PST Executive Council consists of these three National Officers, plus four Area Council Representatives, one of whom is the editor for Dialogue.

CHAPTER ORGANIZATION
Local chapters retain a high degree of autonomy, and are often associated with philosophy clubs on their college campuses. Chapter membership is open to qualified graduate and undergraduate students, teachers of philosophy, and those who qualify as honorary chapter members. At the national level the Society has also established a Laureate Chapter (whose members are distinguished philosophers throughout the world), and a National Alumni Chapter (for graduated PST members who wish to continue their affiliation with the Society).

INSIGNIA
The Society’s emblem is a pentagon with the letters Phi Sigma Tau at the center. Each of the angles contains a word representing one of the five streams of world thought: Chinese, Indian, Islamic, Hebrew, and Greek. The seal of the Society is the reverse side of the Athenian silver tetradrachma (B.C. 480-400), which bears the owl, olive spray, and small crescent. The margin of the seal carries the legend, Phi Sigma Tau, 1930.

PUBLICATIONS
Beginning in 1930, annual meetings were held at which student papers were read and discussed, then published in an annual volume entitled Philosophy. Since 1956, the Society has published twice yearly an official journal, Dialogue, publication in which is open to all students in philosophy. Dialogue appears in October and April of each academic year. The 2015-2016 academic year marked the appearance of Volume 58. The PST Newsletter, which appears two or three times yearly, had its 147th issue in 2016.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
The headquarters were originally at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., moved in 1959 to Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, in 1970 to Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in 2005 to Pepperdine University in Malibu, California.
ARTICLE I — NAME

The official name of the Society shall be: “Phi Sigma Tau, International Honor Society in Philosophy.”

ARTICLE II — PURPOSE

The objects of the Society shall be: (1) to serve as a means of awarding distinction to students having high scholarship and personal interest in philosophy; (2) to promote student interest in research and advanced study in this field; (3) to provide opportunities for the publication of student research papers of merit; (4) to encourage a professional spirit and friendship among those who have displayed marked ability in this field; and (5) to popularize interest in philosophy among the general collegiate public.

ARTICLE III — STANDARDS

PHI SIGMA TAU, a membership organization, shall receive into its membership, irrespective of membership in or affiliation with other organizations, only those who attain its standards of high scholarship in philosophy and other subjects, and who give evidence of professional merit, proficiency, and distinction. Membership shall be conferred in strict accordance with the standards established by the Association of College Honor Societies. The sole basis of selection shall be the character and the scholastic or professional records of the candidate. Reception into membership shall be consummated without secret pledge or secret order training.

ARTICLE IV — NEW CHAPTERS

SEC. 1. Institutions in which Collegiate Chapters may be established. A collegiate chapter may be established only at a baccalaureate degree granting institution (or its equivalent) of recognized collegiate or university level which regularly offers such courses in philosophy as to constitute a series commonly called a “philosophy major” or its equivalent. The institution must possess such qualifications as to justify confidence in the probable future success of a chapter of the Society in that institution: two necessary qualifications are that of accreditation by an approved national or regional accrediting agency, and adequate professional training and competence of the teaching staff in philosophy.

SEC. 2. Petition and Questionnaire. A group consisting of at least five persons applying for a charter shall send to the Executive Secretary a petition, properly filled out on the official form. Beyond the information supplied on the form, further information may be requested by the Executive Secretary. The petition and questionnaire shall be sent to the Executive Council, which shall consider the merits of the institution and petitioning group. The Executive Secretary shall then transmit the petition to all active chapters, together with the recommendation of the Executive Council.

SEC. 3. Voting upon Petitions. Clause 1 — A favorable vote of three fourths of the number of active chapters shall be required to grant a charter. Clause 2 — Votes of a petition not received from chapters within thirty days from the mailing date of the petition shall be considered as favorable to granting the petition.

SEC. 4. Installation of New Chapters. New chapters shall be installed by one or more members of the Society, designated as Installing Officer(s). These officers shall be present and personally conduct the installation, except in extraordinary cases, when this requirement may be waived by unanimous vote of the Executive Council.

SEC. 5. Chapter Designation. Normally a chapter shall be designated by the state, then the Greek letter designating the order of its establishment within the state.

ARTICLE V — LAUREATE CHAPTER

There shall be one Laureate Chapter, election to which shall be vested with the Executive Council. Outstanding persons in the field of philosophy, irrespective of national boundaries, may be elected by unanimous vote of the Executive Council. Those elected to the Laureate Chapter shall be exempt from payment of all fees.

ARTICLE VI — PROBATION AND WITHDRAWAL

SEC. 1. Chapter Probation. Clause 1 — A chapter may be placed on probation by action of the Executive Council in cases where warnings from the Executive Secretary have proven fruitless. Clause 2 — A chapter which has ceased to function by reason of continued inactivity or loss of members may be officially declared inactive, and its charter suspended by vote of the Executive Council. The chapter will be declared “TEMPARARILY INACTIVE,” and will cease to receive Society publications and regular Society bulletins. The Executive Council, on recommendation from the Executive Secretary, shall have the power to restore the chapter to active status if and when the chapter demonstrates its ability to function satisfactorily.

SEC. 2. Withdrawal of a Charter. Following recommendations by the Executive Council, a vote of three fourths of the number of active chapters shall be required for withdrawal of a charter. Chapter votes not received within thirty days from date of mailing by the National Office are considered as favorable to the charter withdrawal.

ARTICLE VII — NATIONAL OFFICERS

SEC. 1. Election and Terms of Office. Clause 1 — The national officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, and Executive Secretary. Clause 2 — These officers shall be elected from graduate members of the Society. Elections shall be held either at a Convention or by mail ballot distributed to all active chapters. A nominating
committees shall seek nominations from the Executive Council and from active chapters.

Clause 3—Terms of office for the officers shall be indefinite, but nominations and elections may be called by a majority of active chapters at any time following a term of office which exceeds three years. If there are no nominations for a period of three years, the names of all members of the Executive Council shall be submitted to all active chapters for reconfirmation. Officers assume duties on July 1 of the year following their election.

SEC. 2. Duties of the President. The President shall perform all duties usually assigned to that office.

SEC. 3. Duties of the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall be charged with the general supervision of chapter and Society affairs, shall keep records of the Executive Council proceedings, shall keep records pertaining to all chapter activities and business, and is also responsible for the Society’s archives. She shall collect all national fees, and make all disbursements. She shall also submit financial reports to the Executive Council following each fiscal year (July through June), and shall send copies of these reports to the advisors of all active chapters. She shall also serve as business manager of all Society publications.

SEC. 4. Ad-Interim Elections. If for any reason the office of the President should fall vacant, the Vice-President shall immediately succeed in this office until the next meeting of the Executive Council, when the Council shall elect a President to complete the term. Should any other office become vacant, nominations for filling the same shall be made by the President, and voted upon and elected by the Executive Council.

SEC. 5. Executive Council.

Clause 1—The Executive Council shall consist of the three National Officers and four other members to be known as Area Council Representatives. The retiring President shall automatically become one of these Representatives, and shall serve until his/her successor qualifies by reason of retirement from office. The three additional Representatives shall be elected by the Executive Council, and their terms expire with the term expiration of the National Officers.

Clause 2—The Executive Council shall meet on call from the National Office at such times and places (or by conference telephone connection) as the Council shall determine.

Clause 3—The President of the Society shall serve as the chairperson of the Executive Council, and the Vice-President shall serve as vice-chairperson.

Clause 4—Any member of the Council may submit a motion, which must be voted on by the Council.

ARTICLE VIII — CONVENTION

SEC. 1. Convention Arrangements.

Clause 1—Unless otherwise provided by the Executive Council, the Convention shall be held in the city of which the President is a resident.

Clause 2—A Convention of the Society shall be held when called by unanimous vote of the Executive Council. The time and general arrangements for the Convention shall be determined by the Executive Council.

Clause 3—The President of the Society shall designate a Convention Chairperson, who shall select a Convention Committee. This Committee will be charged with all local arrangements and the Convention program, in consultation with the Executive Council.

The President and Executive Secretary shall be, ex officio, members of the Convention Committee. The Executive Secretary shall serve as secretary to the Convention.

SEC. 2. Votes in the Convention. Each active chapter shall be entitled to three votes, and each chapter may send from one to three official convention delegates. A chapter may divide its votes in any manner desired, and Convention business will be conducted by voice vote unless there is one or more objections.

SEC. 3. Power of the Convention. The Convention shall be the supreme governing power of the Society while in session, and its actions shall require no further confirmation. Its powers include, but are not limited to, election of national officers, amending the Constitution and By-Laws, and acting upon all matters brought before it by active chapters or by the Executive Council.

SEC. 4. Quorum at the Convention. Chapters unable to send official delegates to the Convention may designate one official delegate attending the Convention from another chapter, or one member of the Executive Council to vote on their behalf. Notification of all such proxies must reach the National Office no less than fifteen days prior to the opening of the Convention.

SEC. 5. Delegate Expenses. Six months prior to a National Convention, the Executive Council shall inform all active chapters of the extent of any subsidy available to each chapter. In the event that subsidies are available, chapters at great distance from the Convention site will be given preference.

ARTICLE IX — PROCEDURES FOR RECEPTION OF CHAPTER MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES

Each chapter shall accept and use the official procedures for reception of members and chapter associates. Changes in the procedures may be made only on approval by the Executive Council. The official procedures shall be those approved by the Council in accordance with Article XII below.

ARTICLE X — CHAPTER BY-LAWS

Each chapter shall prepare and submit for approval to the Executive Secretary a set of by-laws. Any changes in these by-laws shall be approved by the Executive Secretary.

ARTICLE XI — INSIGNIA

SEC. 1. Emblem. The emblem of the Society shall be a pentagon with the letters, “Phi Sigma Tau,” placed in the center. Each of the five angles shall contain a symbol representing each of the five streams of world thought: Chinese, Indian, Islamic, Hebrew, and Greek.

SEC. 2. Key. The key shall display the emblem of the Society, and shall be worn only by its duly initiated members. Form, design, and price of keys shall be designated by the Executive Council. Purchases of keys shall be transmitted through the Executive Secretary.

SEC. 3. Seal. The seal of the Society shall be the reverse side of the Athenian Silver Tetradrachma (B.C. 480-400), bearing the owl, olive spray, and small crescent. The margin of the seal shall carry the legend, “Phi Sigma Tau, 1930.”

SEC. 4. Colors. The colors of the Society shall be white and purple, the latter identified as 84-24-7 by the International Printing Institute Code.
ARTICLE XII — CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 1. Classifications. Society membership, other than in the Laureate Chapter, shall include four classifications: active, alumni, sustaining, and honorary.

SEC. 2. Chapter Associates. Chapters may optionally establish a classification of persons known as chapter associates. Such persons shall be chosen from among those who do not meet all the requirements for chapter membership, but who have indicated a genuine interest in philosophy, and who wish to share in the work of the chapter. Affiliated chapter associates shall not be considered members of the Society. By option of the local chapter, associates may be required to pay local fees; but they shall pay no fees whatever to the national organization.

SEC. 3. Active Membership
Clause 1— Undergraduate students are eligible for active membership if they have completed three semesters, five quarters, or the equivalent of the college course, rank in the upper 35% of their class, and have completed (or are registered in) at least two semester courses (or three quarter courses) in philosophy with a mean overall grade which is greater than the second highest grade of the working scale.

Clause 2— Graduate members are eligible if they (a) meet the requirements for undergraduates, or (b) have completed at least one third of the residence requirements of the Master’s Degree with a mean grade of at least half in the highest scale of the working scale, and half in the second highest grade.

Clause 3— Teachers of philosophy above the rank of graduate assistant are eligible for membership, as are teaching and research staff members of departments closely related to philosophy where such persons have indicated an active interest in the problems and progress of philosophy.

Clause 4— Chapters shall also have the privilege of electing to active membership a limited number of nearby residents whose scholastic qualifications, professional achievement, and interest in the Society are high. Privileges, obligations, fees, and dues for such members shall be identical with those of other active members.

Clause 5— Members in good standing, transferring from one institution to another which has a chapter, or such members who move into the vicinity of a chapter, may affiliate with the latter as active members by making application to the chapter. The receiving chapter shall notify the National Office of the transfer.

Clause 1— When a member ceases active affiliation with a chapter, s/he shall be designated an alumnus(-a) member.

Clause 2— The status of resident graduate members may be changed from active to alumni membership by favorable vote of three quarters of members present at a regular chapter meeting.

Clause 3— At the installation of a new chapter, properly qualified alumni of the institution may be received as charter members, and subsequently voted to alumni membership. Alumni unable to be present at an installation may be received into the Society as charter members through correspondence with the Executive Secretary.

Clause 4— Membership in the National Alumni Chapter shall be open to all alumni members. Nonalumni members may apply for membership in the Alumni Chapter through the National Office, according to standards established by the Executive Council. National Alumni Chapter members in good standing shall receive DIALOGUE and the PST Newsletter, as well as other national bulletins as shall be determined appropriate by the Executive Secretary.

Dues for the National Alumni Chapter shall be determined by the Executive Council on an annual basis (Sept. through Aug.).

Clause 5— Alumni members, including members of the National Alumni Chapter, shall not vote in local chapter ballots, nor serve as chapter officers. All other local chapter activities are open to them, in accordance with the by-laws of the local chapter.

SEC. 5. Honorary Membership.
Clause 1— Anyone who has attained distinction in philosophy or a closely allied field shall be eligible for election to honorary membership in a chapter. Honorary members may be elected only by the Executive Council, upon application and recommendation of the chapter into which they are to be received.

Clause 2— Honorary members shall have all the rights and obligations of active members. Honorary members may also be qualified as alumni members.

Clause 1— Any member of the Society may become a sustaining member by agreeing to make any desired voluntary contribution for the support of its programs.

Clause 2— Contributions from sustaining members shall be used as directed by the Executive Council, and shall be solicited and administered by a special board appointed by the Council.

SEC. 7. Removal of Members from Rolls. Any member may be dropped from the rolls of the Society by vote of 75% of the active members of his/her chapter. A complete record of the case shall be sent, prior to final action, to the Executive Secretary, who shall submit his/her recommendation to the chapter. The member shall have the right to appeal the chapter determination to the Executive Council, whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE XIII — CHAPTER MEETINGS

SEC. 1. Time and Place. Regular and special meeting shall be held at such times and places as the chapter may designate in its by-laws.

SEC. 2. Reports. The chapter secretary shall keep a report of every chapter meeting on the forms provided for that purpose, and a copy of that report shall be sent immediately following the meeting to the Executive Secretary.

SEC. 3. Quorum. The chapter shall define in its by-laws the quorum necessary for transaction of business.

SEC. 4. Frequency. At least one meeting of the chapter shall be held during each semester, or two meetings per academic year.

ARTICLE XIV — CHAPTER OFFICERS

SEC. 1. Names. The chapter officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chapter Advisor, and such other officers as the chapter may wish to create through by-laws. By-laws may also combine these offices.

SEC. 2. Duties.
Clause 1— It shall be the duty of officers to perform those functions usually assigned to their respective officers.

Clause 2— The Vice-President shall chair the program committee.

Clause 3— The Chapter Secretary shall be responsible for all official chapter communications with the National Office. These communications shall include (a) a preliminary report at the beginning of each academic year, (b) transmission of directory cards and membership fees for new members, (c) regular chapter minutes, and (d) a closing report and list of officers elected at the end of each
SEC. 2. No part of the net earnings of Phi Sigma Tau shall inure to
Kim or other private persons, except that the organization shall be

holding for the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers,

or other private persons, except that the organization shall be

authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for ser-

vices rendered and to make payments and distributions in further-

ance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No sub-

stantial part of the activities of Phi Sigma Tau shall be the carrying

on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation,

and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (includ-

ing the publishing or distribution of statements) any political cam-

paign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding

any other provision of this document, Phi Sigma Tau shall not carry

on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an

organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3)

of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions

to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Rev-

enue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Sec. 3. Upon the dissolution of Phi Sigma Tau, assets shall be dis-

dtributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of

section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding

section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the

government, or to a state or local government, for a public

purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the

Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office

of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or
to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine,

which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

[The preceding amendment to the PST Constitution was approved

by the National Executive Council on 14 February 2002, and dis-

tributed to the Society’s active chapters on 26 February.]

PHI SIGMA TAU

By-Laws

(As amended through April, 2000)

(This printing, August, 2016)

ARTICLE I — ENTRANCE FEES

SEC. 1. Chapter and Dues.

Clause 1 — The application for granting a charter to a petition

group must be accompanied by a charter fee, and this fee is deter-

mined by the Executive Council at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Under circumstances where state or local laws prohibit payment by

a college or university for charters, the Executive Secretary is

authorized to accept an institutional subscription fee in the same

amount for DIALOGUE and in lieu of the charter fee. If the applica-

tion for a charter is not endorsed by the Executive Council, the

charter fee will be returned. There shall be no return of the charter

fee in the event that the charter is not ratified by chapter votes.

Clause 2 — No annual fees payable to the National Office will be

assessed. Each active member received into the Society shall pay an

initiation fee, the total amount of which is determined by the local

chapter. $25.00 of such amount shall be paid to the National Office.

The fee shall not include the cost of a key.

SEC. 2. Fees for Charter Members.

Clause 1 — Following granting of a charter, but before installation

of a new chapter, each charter member shall pay to the National

Office an entrance fee of $25.00. This fee shall not include the cost of

a key.

Clause 2 — The travel expenses of the installing party shall be paid
by the new chapter or the institution at which it is resident.

Clause 3 — The entrance fees for alumni members shall be identi-
cal with fees of other members.

SEC. 3. Fees for New Members.
Clause 1 — Each active member received into the Society shall pay
to the National Office, prior to his/her reception into membership,
an entrance fee of $25, which will not include the cost of the key.
Clause 2 — Members wishing PST Keys may order them using
forms supplied by the Executive Secretary, and at a price scale
determined by the Executive Council.
Clause 3 — For each honorary member, the chapter shall pay to the
National Office a fee of $25.00.
Clause 4 — The National Office will bear all expenses incidental to
providing membership certificates and other materials, including
the PST Key, to members of the Laureate Chapter.
Clause 5 — All issues of the PST Newsletter and DIALOGUE will
be issued to chapters in numbers representing the total active mem-
ership at time of issue. Alumni members may receive these publi-
cations via membership in the National Alumni Chapter, or by per-
sonal subscriptions (without membership in the National Alumni
Chapter) at the current rates.

ARTICLE II — Amendments to By-Laws

SEC. 1. Amendments. These By-Laws may be amended by mail
ballot upon recommendation of the Executive Council, and a major-
ity vote of active chapters, or by a favorable majority vote of dele-
gates at a National Convention.
SEC. 2. Votes. Votes by mail upon proposed changes in these By-
Laws shall be considered as favorable if not received within a
period of thirty days after mailing of the notice for proposed
changes.
SEC. 3. Petitions. Upon the request of five active chapters, the
Executive Secretary shall submit any proposed amendments to
these By-Laws, as provided in Section 1 above.

End
PHI SIGMA TAU
Installation Ceremony
For New Chapters

INSTALLING OFFICER: It is a pleasure to be here to install <State & Greek Letter> chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, the International Honor Society in Philosophy.

The National Honor Society was founded in 1930 as Alpha Kappa Alpha, with chapters in Pennsylvania and Maryland. In 1955 it was incorporated as Phi Sigma Tau, and began to assume national status. Two years later the organization was accepted as a full participating honor society in the Association of College Honor Societies. Growth of the Society has been continual; and, with the installation of the chapter at <Institution>, we have <Number> chapters nationally.

As defined by Article II of the Phi Sigma Tau Constitution:

The objects of the society are: (1) to serve as a means of awarding distinction to students having high scholarship and personal interest in philosophy; (2) to promote student interest in research and advanced study in this field; (3) to provide opportunities for the publication of student research papers of merit; (4) to encourage a professional spirit and friendship among those who have displayed marked ability in this field; (5) and to popularize interest in philosophy among the general collegiate public.

In keeping with these purposes, the National Office awards certificates of membership to students who have met the Society’s high requirements of scholarship; it publishes a journal, Dialogue, for student papers of high merit; it encourages through Dialogue and the PST Newsletter a spirit of interest and friendship among students in philosophy at chapters throughout the United States; and it disseminates information concerning significant programs developed at these institutions.

The Standards of Phi Sigma Tau are high, membership being conferred in strict compliance with the standards established by the Association of College Honor Societies. Reception into membership is consummated without formal pledge or secret order training. Collegiate chapters may be established only at accredited and degree-granting institutions of recognized merit which offer such courses in philosophy as constitute a “philosophy major” or its equivalent. The institution must possess qualifications sufficient to justify confidence in the future success of its prospective chapter. Charter petitions must be endorsed by the Society’s Executive Council, and ratified by vote of all of its active chapters.

The <Name of Institution> has fully met the requirements of the Society. The Philosophy Department fulfills all requirements imposed by the National Office. It is obvious that excellence is not only encouraged but achieved, both among students and by faculty. It is my happy privilege to announce that the Executive Council has endorsed the charter petition, which was then ratified by the Society’s chapters. I shall now read the letter of authorization from the National Office:
<Reading of the Letter and Greeting>
Will the official representative of this institution, the faculty advisor, and chapter officers please come forward.

<To the Representative>
It is both my pleasure and privilege, as <Office or Designate of Phi Sigma Tau>, to present to you this charter establishing at <Institution> the <State Name & Greek Designation> chapter of Phi Sigma Tau.

<To the Chapter Officers>
As officers of the new chapter, you are cognizant of the duties of officers outlined in Article XIV of the PST Constitution. Do you accept these obligations, fully aware of your responsibilities to serve the major goals of Phi Sigma Tau?

<Answer: I DO.>
In recognition of your assumption of these duties, I therefore install you as officers in the <State & Greek Designation> chapter of Phi Sigma Tau. The National Office pledges its support to you in all of your efforts.

<To the Faculty Advisor>
The function of the Advisor is not purely nominal, as it is in many organizations. Rather, the Advisor serves as a liaison between the chapter, Philosophy Department, and National Office. The duties of the Chapter Advisor are outlined in Article XIV of the PST Constitution. Do you, as Faculty Advisor, accept the obligations of your office?

<Answer: I DO.>
In recognition of your willingness to assume these obligations, I therefore install you as Faculty Advisor of this chapter. My congratulations to the chapter and its officers on your acceptance of these responsibilities, and my pledge to you of the support of the National Office in every way that it may assist you. The <State & Greek Designation> of Phi Sigma Tau at <Institution> is now officially installed.

******************************************************************************
If desired, the chapter may proceed directly to the initiation ceremony for accepting new members into Phi Sigma Tau.
******************************************************************************
PHI SIGMA TAU
Initiation Ceremony

PRESIDENT: Members of the <State name & Greek designation> Chapter of <Institution>. We are meeting to receive into the fellowship of our Society several persons who, because of their interest in, and aptitude for, philosophical inquiry, have been elected members by formal vote of the Chapter. Will the Secretary please read the names.

SECRETARY: I have the honor to report that <State & Greek Designation> Chapter of Phi Sigma Tau has elected to membership in the Society the following persons:

<List of names is read>

They have accepted the invitation extended to them to become members of the Society, and they are here to be initiated as prescribed by the Constitution of Phi Sigma Tau and the by-laws of our Chapter.

PRESIDENT: Will the candidates for initiation please come forward and stand in a semicircle before the table. <to the Secretary> Have these persons been found deserving of membership in the Society?

SECRETARY: They have. They meet not only the formal requirements of membership as indicated by their scholastic records, but also have revealed a concern and devotion to philosophy in the highest sense.

PRESIDENT: In accepting the honor which is being conferred upon you, you are being admitted to membership in a Society national in scope, interests, and aims. Active members may hold office and vote on national issues. Alumni members qualify for membership in the Society’s National Alumni Chapter. If you desire to be instructed in the purposes of the Society, please so indicate.

CANDIDATES: I do.

PRESIDENT: The Vice-President will now instruct you in these purposes and aims. Once you have heard these, if you accept membership, you will affirm the same and sign the Chapter Roll.

VICE-PRESIDENT: The purpose of Phi Sigma Tau is defined clearly in Article II of the Constitution.

<Article II of the PST Constitution should be read at this point, unless the initiation follows the Chapter Installation (which includes the reading of Article II).> The objects of the society are: (1) to serve as a means of awarding distinction to students having high scholarship and personal interest in philosophy; (2) to promote student interest in research and advanced study in this field; (3) to provide opportunities for the publication of student research papers of merit; (4) to encourage a professional spirit and friendship among those who have displayed marked ability in this field; (5) and to popularize interest in philosophy among the general collegiate public.

These aims are expressed in the Greek motto, Philoúnton Sophíán Timé, which means “the honor of those who love wisdom.” This expresses well the character of Phi Sigma Tau. It honors academic excellence and philosophical concern. It reminds us that the quest for truth is not the province of a single culture or time or person, but that there is a unity among all those who seek knowledge. The Key of Phi Sigma Tau represents this by a pentagon, each of the five angles containing a symbol which represents one of the five great streams of world thought: Chinese, Indian, Islamic, Hebrew, and Greek.
On the certificate to be granted to you as new members, you will find a seal imprinted with the words, “Phi Sigma Tau,” and the reverse side of the Athenian Silver Tetradrachma, which bears the owl, olive spray, and small crescent. This seal was chosen because of its time, 480-400 B.C., the period when Socrates was engaged in his own search for genuine knowledge.

You have heard our aims and purposes. Do you accept these as your own?

CANDIDATES: I do.

VICE-PRESIDENT: These individuals have been recommended because of their interest and excellence in the field of philosophy as deserving of membership in Phi Sigma Tau.

PRESIDENT: In token of your willingness to accept this honor, with which go all the responsibilities of membership, you will please sign the Chapter Roll as the Secretary reads your name. Your signature will be evidence of your pledge.

<New members come forward and sign the Chapter Roll.>

PRESIDENT: You are now in full membership in Phi Sigma Tau. It is our hope that you will recognize in these credentials not so much the mark of achievements completed, but rather the promise of ambitions earnestly initiated. We welcome you.
## Phi Sigma Tau

### Chapter List — August, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Chapter Year</th>
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Delta(1979) — Washington College
Epsilon(1981) — Mt. St. Mary’s College
Zeta(1983) — Salisbury University
Theta(2009) — Notre Dame of Maryland University
Iota(1988) — Loyola University

MASSACHUSETTS
Alpha(1963) — Clark University
Beta(1965) — Suffolk University
Gamma(1979) — College of the Holy Cross
Delta(1982) — Boston College
Zeta(2002) — University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Eta(2003) — Bridgewater State University
Theta(2004) — Merrimack College
Iota(2004) — Assumption College
Kappa(2007) — University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth

MICHIGAN
Epsilon(2004) — Albion College
Theta(1999) — Michigan State University
Iota(2000) — Central Michigan University
Kappa(2000) — Hillsdale College
Lambda(2002) — University of Michigan
Mu(2011) — Alma College
Nu(2015) — Adrian College

MINNESOTA
Beta(2011) — St. Olaf College

MINNESOTA-NORTH DAKOTA
Beta(2005) — Tri-College University

MISSISSIPPI
Alpha(2010) — University of Mississippi
Beta(2004) — Millsaps College

MISSOURI
Alpha(2007) — Lindenwood University
Beta(1968) — Rockhurst University
Delta(1980) — Westminster College
Epsilon(1986) — Evangel University
Iota(2006) — Conception Seminary College
Kappa(1999) — Washington University
Mu(2003) — University of Missouri-Columbia
Nu(2005) — University of Missouri-Kansas City
Xi(2015) — University of Missouri-St. Louis
Tau(1992) — Northwest Missouri State University

MONTANA
Alpha(1995) — Carroll College
Beta(2007) — Montana State University

NEBRASKA
Beta(1971) — Creighton University

NEVADA
Alpha(2002) — University of Nevada, Las Vegas

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Alpha(2007) — New England College

NEW JERSEY
Delta(1979) — Rider University
Epsilon(1980) — St. Peter’s University
Zeta(2000) — Richard Stockton College
Eta(2003) — Seton Hall University
Theta(2006) — Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Iota(2012) — William Paterson University of New Jersey
Kappa(2012) — The College of New Jersey
Lambda(2012) — Rowan University
Mu(2014) — Montclair State University

NEW MEXICO
Alpha(1955) — University of New Mexico

NEW YORK
Alpha(1955) — St. Lawrence University
Beta(2012) — Brooklyn College, CUNY
Gamma(2013) — SUNY—Oneonta
Delta(1979) — SUNY—Stony Brook
Epsilon(1979) — Molloy College
Zeta(2009) — The College of Saint Rose
Eta(1982) — LeMoyne College
Theta(2012) — Nazareth College
Iota(1984) — C. W. Post College
Kappa(1989) — St. John’s University
Lambda(1991) — Fordham University
Xi(1993) — Geneseo College, SUNY
Omicron(1994) — Hofstra University
Pi(2001) — Manhattan College
Rho(2002) — St. John’s University
Sigma(2002) — Canisius College
Tau(2003) — Hartwick College
Upsilon(2004) — Hunter College, CUNY
Phi(2004) — St. Francis College
Chi(2004) — Lehman College
Psi(2007) — New York University
Omega(2007) — Niagara University

NORTH CAROLINA
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Delta(1997) — Wingate University
Epsilon(1997) — University of North Carolina at Asheville
Zeta(1998) — University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Eta(2002) — University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Theta(2007) — Elon University
Iota(2010) — High Point University

NORTH DAKOTA
Alpha(2005) — University of North Dakota

OHIO
Epsilon(1971) — University of Dayton
Zeta(1971) — Wittenberg University
Theta(1983) — College of Wooster
Iota(1993) — Ohio Northern University
Kappa(1995) — Ohio Wesleyan University
Lambda(1996) — University of Toledo
Mu(1999) — Ashland University
Nu(2001) — Youngstown State University
Omicron(2006) — University of Cincinnati
Pi(2008) — Case Western Reserve University
Rho(2008) — John Carroll University
Sigma(2013) — Baldwin Wallace University
Phi Sigma Tau: International Honor Society in Philosophy

OKLAHOMA
Alpha(2004) — Oklahoma State University
Beta(2005) — University of Tulsa

OREGON
Alpha(1990) — Linfield College
Beta(2004) — University of Portland

PENNSYLVANIA
Alpha(1932) — Muhlenberg College
Beta(2005) — Cabrini College
Gamma(2005) — Bloomsburg University
Delta(2006) — Duquesne University
Epsilon(2006) — The Pennsylvania State University
Zeta(1941) — Washington & Jefferson College
Eta(2008) — Moravian College
Theta(2000) — Grove City College
Iota(2001) — Allegheny College
Kappa(2000) — Misericordia University
Lambda(1969) — Westminster College
Mu(1973) — Villanova University
Nu(2001) — St. Joseph’s University
Xi(2016) — Bucknell University
Pi(1979) — King’s College
Rho(1979) — West Chester University
Sigma(1980) — Lycoming College
Tau(1982) — University of Scranton
Upsilon(1984) — Slippery Rock University
Phi(1986) — Gannon University
Chi(1987) — University of Pittsburgh
Psi(1998) — University of Pennsylvania
Omeg(a)(1999) — Thiel College
Alpha Alpha(2013) — Lebanon Valley College
Alpha Beta(2013) — Lehigh University
Alpha Gamma(2013) — Mercyhurst University

RHODE ISLAND
Alpha(1963) — Providence College
Beta(2011) — Salve Regina University
Gamma(2011) — Rhode Island College

SOUTH CAROLINA
Alpha(1972) — Winthrop University
Beta(1979) — Coastal Carolina University
Gamma(1987) — Furman University
Delta(2004) — University of South Carolina

SOUTH DAKOTA
Alpha(2011) — Augustana University

TENNESSEE
Beta(1968) — Carson Newman College
Gamma(1994) — Belmont University
Epsilon(2012) — Rhodes College

TEXAS
Alpha(1955) — Baylor University
Gamma(1980) — Sam Houston State University
Delta(1982) — Texas State University at San Marcos
Epsilon(1985) — University of St. Thomas
Zeta(1986) — Trinity University
Eta(1990) — Texas Tech University
Iota(1993) — Texas A&M University
Lambda(1997) — St. Mary’s University
Mu(2001) — University of Texas at Arlington
Nu(2007) — University of Houston — Downtown
Xi(2010) — University of North Texas
Omicron(2014) — University of Dallas

UTAH
Alpha(1996) — Westminster College
Beta(2002) — Utah Valley State College
Gamma(2006) — Utah State University

VIRGINIA
Alpha(1976) — Christopher Newport University
Beta(2010) — Virginia Tech
Gamma(1981) — James Madison University
Delta(1982) — University of Richmond
Zeta(1987) — Liberty University
Eta(1996) — Old Dominion University
Theta(1997) — Hollins College
Iota(2004) — Roanoke College
Kappa(2010) — Lynchburg College
Lambda(2011) — Hampden Sydney College

WASHINGTON
Alpha(1996) — Central Washington University
Beta(1998) — Gonzaga University
Gamma(2010) — Eastern Washington University

WEST VIRGINIA
Alpha(1989) — Wheeling Jesuit University

WISCONSIN
Alpha(1961) — Marquette University
Gamma(1976) — University of Wisconsin—Parkside
Epsilon(2005) — Carthage College
Zeta(2005) — University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

MINNESOTA-NORTH DAKOTA
Beta(2005) — Tri-College University

National Headquarters, PHI SIGMA TAU
Dr. David E. Gibson, Humanities
Pepperdine University
24255 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, California 90263-4225
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu
Appendix

Current Chapter Forms
Archives & National Memos

Use this section of the PST Manual for samples of current chapter forms and memos from the National Office.

Prior to the end of the academic year, the Chapter President and Secretary should review and update this appendix before turning it over to the Chapter Advisor.

Remember that next year’s officers will rely on the records which you have left of chapter activities and procedures in order to continue their work.

Record of Updates

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To: All Active Chapters  
From: David E. Gibson, Executive Secretary  
Date: August, 2016

OFFICERS’ OBLIGATIONS

The current PST Manual will have been sent to all advisors in Adobe format as an email attachment; advisors can forward or supply copies to all officers. The Manual is also available on line at phi-sigma-tau.org, and officers may download directly from the website. The manual will be updated at least twice annually and contains printable copies of all forms, instructions, and information. We shall continue to supply standard forms in hardcopy via regular mail to all chapters requesting them. You may submit a request for hard copies by returning the Supply Order Form, either by mail or at the website.

Since many chapter officers are newly elected, it is important to arrange a meeting with the faculty advisor early and to set chapter plans for the academic year. Your chapter advisor will have also received the current issue of the PST Newsletter for distribution to members.

PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR THE YEAR

Deadline for filing your report is September 30. The information at the top of the report lists your advisor and current mailing address. If there are any corrections, make them on the report itself.

Accompanying the report form is a Master Membership List containing all initiated members of your chapter. 2016 graduates (as indicated on the initiation directory card) have been moved by the computer to the GRADUATE file. A listing of 2016 graduates for your chapter is also enclosed. If any of these are still on campus, we can move them back to your chapter roster as soon as we know who they are. If there are spelling or other errors on the Master List, please make corrections on that list, and attach it to your Preliminary Report.

Review chapter supplies carried over from last year (directory cards for new member, minutes forms, etc.). If you wish additional supplies in hardcopy, use a Supply Order Form and attach it to your Preliminary Report. However, all forms and supplies may be downloaded easily and quickly from the website, phi-sigma-tau.org.

Fill in the names of the current officers on the Preliminary Report and indicate when you anticipate holding your first meeting. Room has been left on the Report form for notes or questions. If you prefer, you may include minutes or a letter instead.

Please fill out and return the Preliminary Report as soon as possible, so that we may verify or update our national records for your chapter. Distribution lists for the next issues of Dialogue and PST Newsletter are taken from the updates in the Preliminary Report. Failure to file the report will result in the chapter’s not being on distribution lists for the current academic year.

MEETINGS & MINUTES

At your meeting with your advisor, try to arrange a tentative schedule of chapter activities (including ways to publicize these on campus). Remember that your fellow students cannot participate in activities unless they are informed of them.

The chapter secretary should prepare minutes after each meeting and forward these to the National Office. You may use the Minutes Form provided, a simple letter, or an email. Do not let the minutes accumulate. The minutes are our primary information lifeline, the means by which the National Office and other chapters maintain contact with you.
CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP & INITIATION

Some chapters hold initiations each semester or more often, others only once per year. Each prospective new member should completely fill out a directory card. This card is sent to the National Office with initiation fees (currently $25.00 per member). The cards will be returned to your advisor with membership certificates and other materials for the new members, and these cards should be retained for your chapter files. If you wish to have the certificates for distribution at initiation, please send cards and fees at least 15 days in advance; an early note to the Executive Secretary asking for this is appreciated. Otherwise, the materials may be sent following initiation; the certificates and cards will be sent to the advisor for distribution at the next chapter meeting.

The initiation fee of $25.00 entitles members to certificates, membership card, all current issues of Dialogue until graduation, and the PST Newsletter (sent to the chapter advisor for distribution to members), as well as a one-year membership in the National Alumni Chapter (NAC) after graduation. Benefits of NAC membership are explained in a letter accompanying each certificate, together with a form for registering in the National Alumni Chapter when the member graduates.

Membership fees collected by the Society are returned to chapters in supplies and publications or retained for future work or publications of the Society; the National Office has no salaried staff. Chapters may also assess local dues in accordance with their By-Laws. The National Constitution, By-Laws, and all other chapter forms are contained in the PST MANUAL, one copy of which should be part of your chapter records.

PST KEYS & STOLES

The PST Key is currently available only by order sent directly to the Erffmeyer & Son Co., Inc., in Milwaukee. Erffmeyer can also provide pins, tackettes, and graduation stoles. Please use the Erffmeyer Order Form for placing orders, which must be prepaid. There is a per-order handling charge, so it is recommended that orders for multiple keys and/or stoles be placed by chapter officers rather than by individual members.

PST PUBLICATIONS

Dialogue is published twice annually: in October and April. The PST Newsletter is published at least three times annually as chapter reports & minutes are received. These publications, together with all other communications for the chapter, are sent to your chapter advisor for distribution to all chapter members. The PST Newsletter and NAC Bulletin are also available as electronic publications, and current issues are included in the PST Manual.

==================

Arranging chapter activities to make philosophy a living experience on your campus is the principal obligation of officers and advisor, but communicating with the National Office is of equal importance. Without your minutes and letters, we lose touch with you, and you lose touch with other chapters which may benefit from knowing about your activities and projects. I look forward to hearing from each of you, and to receiving your preliminary reports. The National Office exists solely to assist you. Please write us concerning plans, projects, problems, or questions.

Yours cordially,

Dr. David E. Gibson
PHI SIGMA TAU
National Honor Society in Philosophy
Humanities Division
Pepperdine University
Malibu, CA 90263-4225
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu
PERMANENT DIRECTORY CARD
PHI SIGMA TAU
International Honor Society in Philosophy

Last Name _______________________ Middle Name ___________________ First Name _____________________

College Address _____________________________ ____________________________________________

___________________________________________ Graduation Date _____________________

Home Address After Date Indicated Above
Undergraduate ________________________ Graduate ______________________ Faculty ________________

Date of Birth ____________________________ Male _______________ Female _____________________

Institution __________________________________________ _____________________ _____________________

Date ______________ Chapter Advisor ____________________________

Send This Card To The National Office
at the address below

===============================================================================

This form may be used interchangeably with the 3.5" directory card supplied by the National Office. Each member to be initiated should complete one card legibly and completely and return it to the chapter Secretary or Advisor with the initiation fee ($25.00).

Before forwarding cards and fees to the National Office, please check the cards for legibility and completeness. This information is entered into the PST database. Particularly important is the Expected Graduation Date, since this information is used to move members into the alumni/ae data base.

When cards and fees are received from the Advisor, the information is entered into the national data base, and from the data base the initiation certificates and membership packages are prepared. Each package contains, in addition to the certificate, a membership card, registration card for the National Alumni Chapter (following graduation), and return envelope. Please allow from 10-14 days for the processing of new memberships. During April and May more time may be required, but every effort is made to send the materials (via first class) as promptly as possible.

Additional supplies of the directory card or of this form may also be ordered on the PST Supply Order Form.

PHI SIGMA TAU
Dr. David E. Gibson
Humanities Division
Pepperdine University
Malibu, CA 90263-4225

PHI SIGMA TAU
Official Chapter Minutes

College or University: _____________________________________________

State ______ Greek Letter __________ Date___________________________

This form may be used by chapter secretaries when preparing reports of chapter activities and meetings. Please send reports promptly and regularly to the National Office.

Chapter Secretary _________________________________

President or Advisor ________________________________
PHI SIGMA TAU: Supply Order Form

(Forms also available in PDF format—see below)

College or University: 

State ________ Greek Letter ______________ Date___________________________________________

Chapter Advisor _______________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address _______________________________________________________________________

Please send your order to the National Office.

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**PST Manual (Modular Components):**

- Contents/Title Page
- History of PST
- PST Constitution/By-Laws
- Installation Ceremony (new chapters)
- Initiation Ceremony (new members)
- Current Chapter Listing
- Chapter Forms Archive Cover

Electronic copies of these forms are available in PDF format. Please request them from david.gibson@pepperdine.edu

The forms are also in the current Manual. A copy of the Manual should have been sent to the chapter advisor at the beginning of the school year. If you do not have a copy, you may request one in PDF format at the same address. In addition, most of these are available for copying from the society website at phisigma-tau.org. Directory cards are available only to advisors, and the sample issues of the journal will have to be mailed from the National Office.
Dialogue
Journal of Phi Sigma Tau

Dialogue is the official journal of Phi Sigma Tau, the International National Honor Society in Philosophy. It is the continuing goal of Dialogue to provide a vigorous and lively vehicle for the exchange of philosophical ideas among graduate and undergraduate students interested in philosophy. Dialogue accepts for publications articles, discussions, and reviews in all areas of contemporary philosophical research. It appears twice each academic year: a single issue in October, and a double issue in April. The 2015-16 academic year marked Volume 58. The journal is indexed in The Philosopher’s Index and other academic indices and is available to institutional subscribers by direct subscription or through most subscription agencies.

Editorial Board

Editor: Dr. Steven Barbone (San Diego State University). Associate Editors: Dr. Charlie Huenemann (Utah State University), Dr. Dawn Hutchinson (Christopher Newport University), Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J. (Fordham University), Dr. Ann Pang-White (University of Scranton), Dr. Lee Rice (Marquette University, Emeritus), Dr. Anne M. Wiles (James Madison University). Managing Editor: Dr. David E. Gibson, Humanities Division, Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90263-4225. E-mail address: david.gibson@pepperdine.edu.

Contributed Articles

Contributors are not required to be members of Phi Sigma Tau. Manuscripts are accepted from undergraduate and graduate students, but not from those holding a terminal or teaching degree in philosophy. All manuscripts should be accompanied by a brief autobiographical statement and disk version. Footnotes should be kept to a minimum. Manuscripts should be typed double spaced, including footnotes, and be accompanied by a machine readable disk version. Authors are requested to use the latest edition of The Chicago Manual of Style as the standard for style; notes about submissions are printed on the inside cover of current issues.

Subscription Rates

Domestic: $5.00 per year, $3.00 per issue. Foreign: $5.50 per year, $3.50 per issue. All rates include postage via surface mail. The subscription year (volume) runs from October through April. Electronic copies can be obtained from EBSCO Information Services. Subscriptions and business correspondence should be sent to the Managing Editor.

Subscription Order Form—DIALOGUE

Name ____________________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ___________________________________________________

Subscription Rate: $5.00 domestic, $5.50 foreign (surface).

I enclose __________ for a subscription for _____ years.

Mail to: Phi Sigma Tau, Dr. David E. Gibson, Humanities Division, Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90263-4225. david.gibson@pepperdine.edu.
NOTES TO CONTRIBUTORS

*Dialogue* accepts articles by undergraduate or graduate students of philosophy, but not from those with terminal degrees (a terminal M.A. or a doctorate). Topics may be in any area of contemporary interest in philosophy or its history. Membership in Phi Sigma Tau is not a condition for publication. Authors are encouraged to use gender-inclusive language. For matters of style, please consult the latest edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

Prospective authors should e-mail a copy of their paper to the editor. Any word processing format is acceptable though RTF (rich text format) or WORD files are preferred. The texts for papers should be double-spaced throughout (including quotations and notes), and with notes gathered at the end. Special symbols and characters in non-Roman alphabets must be avoided. Greek terms should be transliterated, and Polish notation is preferred for logical expressions. Authors should also send a **SUBMISSION SHEET** containing:

**Author’s name, mailing address, and phone number**
(with e-mail address if available).

**TITLE** of the paper submitted.
A brief **ABSTRACT** of fifteen lines or less.
A brief **AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT**.

Hard copies are acceptable, but they must be accompanied by a disk copy of the paper. If a disk copy of the paper is sent, the disk label should contain: (1) Author Name; (2) Disk format (e.g., DOS, MAC, UNIX); and (3) Formating software and version. The author’s name should not appear on the manuscript copies, which cannot be returned. Authors should enclose a self-addressed postcard if they want immediate acknowledgment of receipt of their manuscripts.

Offprints are not available, but authors of articles will receive ten copies of the complete issue containing their article (reviewers, five copies). Abstracts of articles will be supplied for indexing to *The Philosopher’s Index*.

**Editor**
Dr. Steve Barbone  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego, CA 92182-6044  
barbone@rohan.sdsu.edu

**Managing Editor**
David E. Gibson  
Humanities Division  
Pepperdine University  
24255 Pacific Coast Highway  
Malibu, CA 90263-4225  
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu
Founded at Muhlenberg College in 1930, and subsequently incorporated as a nonprofit corporation of Washington, D.C., Phi Sigma Tau is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. The Society’s central purpose is to promote ties among philosophy departments in accredited institutions and students interested in philosophy. Both at the national and local levels, the organization of the Society is instrumental — a means for developing and honoring academic excellence and philosophical interest, and for popularizing philosophy among the general collegiate public.

**Dialogue**, the Journal of Phi Sigma Tau, is published twice annually (in October and April). Wholly devoted to the publication of articles by graduate and undergraduate students, it has a circulation of more than two thousand. The Phi Sigma Tau Newsletter appears at least three times annually and provides an informal means for chapter communication.

**Local chapters** are located in private and public institutions throughout the United States and Canada. These chapters, numbering more than 200 in 2016, constitute the focal point of Phi Sigma Tau activities. Their officers are students at the host institutions, with faculty advisors serving as institutional and department liaisons; each chapter enjoys a high degree of autonomy in its activities and by-laws.

**The National Alumni Chapter**, founded in 1971 as a means for Phi Sigma Tau members to retain affiliation following graduation, is open to all initiated members of the Society. Activities include the **Alumni Bulletin**, issued periodically, and a booklet, **Careers in Philosophy**, which appeared in 1985 and which has seen wide circulation inside and outside the Society.

National Officers are Dr. Lee C. Rice (President: Marquette University, Emeritus), Dr. Anne M. Wiles (Vice President: James Madison University), Dr. David E. Gibson (Executive Secretary: Pepperdine University, Emeritus), Dr. Steve Barbone (Editor: San Diego State University), and the following Area Council Representatives: Dr. Charlie Huenemann (Utah State University), Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J. (Fordham University), and Dr. Ann Pang-White (University of Scranton). Dr. Dawn Hutchinson (Christopher Newport University) is an Adjunct Council Member.

**Charter applications** and additional information are available from the Executive Secretary. A charter petition may be submitted by five petitioners from an accredited institution, and must be accompanied by a charter fee (currently $100.00). Ratification is by vote of the Executive Council and active chapters.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. David E. Gibson  
Humanities Division  
Pepperdine University  
24255 Pacific Coast Highway  
Malibu, CA 90263-4225  
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu
Phi Sigma Tau
International Honor Society in Philosophy

CHARTER PETITION FORM

This form is available only from the Executive Secretary of Phi Sigma Tau. You may request this form by writing or emailing to

Dr. David E. Gibson
Humanities Division
Pepperdine University
Malibu, CA 90263-4225
gibson@pepperdine.edu

Requirements for a Chapter of Phi Sigma Tau

Phi Sigma Tau operates under the umbrella of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) and is a member in full standing of that organization. ACHS has several requirements for member organizations, and schools petitioning for a chapter must meet all the requirements of both Phi Sigma Tau and ACHS. We follow the guidelines listed below.

1) Phi Sigma Tau discourages applications from schools that are on the AAUP list of Censured Administrations.

2) A charter can be granted only to schools accredited by one of the major regional accrediting bodies.

3) A charter can be granted only to schools with baccalaureate (or equivalent) programs.

4) A charter can be granted only to schools with a major (or its equivalent) in philosophy. A major should normally include at least one course in logic, one course in ethics, and two courses in the history of philosophy.

5) A charter can be granted only when the school has the resources as well as sufficient faculty with terminal doctorates in philosophy to support a major in philosophy.

6) A charter can be granted only when there is departmental and administrative support for the petition.

7) A group consisting of at least five people must present the petition to the Executive Secretary.
What Is an Honor Society?

**Honor Societies**

The nearly seventy honor societies which make up the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) are as divergent as knowledge itself. From forestry to physics, from highly specialized to general areas, these member organizations exist for one basic purpose — to further scholarship and achievement in the academic areas of their members, thereby providing a forum where interested and competent students may communicate and exchange ideas with faculty and students of similar interest on their own campus and throughout the world.

§§§

**Phi Sigma Tau**

*Phi Sigma Tau* is the International Honor Society in Philosophy. Founded in 1930 and incorporated as a non-profit corporation in 1955, the Society now has a network of over 200 chapters throughout the United States and Canada, at both public and private institutions of higher learning. *Phi Sigma Tau* publishes a journal, *Dialogue*, for student contributions in all areas of contemporary philosophical research. Other PST publications include the *PST Newsletter* (published three times yearly) and *National Alumni Chapter Bulletin*. The *PST Newsletter* is sent to all students and alumni/ae members and contains news of local chapter activities. The National Alumni Chapter (NAC) provides a medium of exchange and communication for one-time PST members who desire to retain their affiliation with the Society following graduation.

§§§

**Local Campus Groups**

Having an international organization behind local activities and clubs provides the useful function of giving cohesion and direction to their activities, as well as the establishment of contacts and communications among students and departments at other institutions. The National PST Office has as its goal the task of providing this cohesion and communication. Members of campus clubs or reading groups often constitute the population from which chapter officers and members are drawn.

§§§

**Fees & Requirements**

Membership requirements are established by the ACHS (contact the officers or advisor of your local chapter for detailed information). Initiation into PST requires a one-time initiation fee (currently $25.00) for the International Office. Local chapters may also assess dues to meet their own campus operating expenses and frequently receive additional funding from the philosophy department or their local office of student activities. The PST initiation fee is currently the lowest among all ACHS member societies.
Expending of Fees

Phi Sigma Tau has no paid officers or staff, and all persons at the national and international levels work on a volunteer basis. The Society’s annual budget (currently about $300,000) is derived from initiation fees, subscription fees, and alumni/ae fees and contributions. About 90% of the national budget is expended on publications and supplies provided to members through their local chapters without further charge. The first year of membership in the National Alumni Chapter following graduation is at no cost to the member and includes subscriptions to all PST publications (including the NAC Bulletin); after the first year, NAC members are required to pay a small membership fee (currently $5.00) to defray costs of printing and mailing.

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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53224-9002  
Phone: 414-354-7800  
Fax: 414-362-7287  
Email: info@escoinc.com  
Web site: www.escoinc.com

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*Wisconsin Sales Tax (if applicable)*

**TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT**

Enclosed please find:  
Check_____  
Money Order_____

**Credit Card:**  
Expires: ____/____

Visa____  
Mastercard____

**Graduation Date:**

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Society: Phi Sigma Tau

1. Key contacts

a) Official ACHS Representative for fiscal year October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015
   (the official representative who is appointed by the governance body of the organization)

   i. Name: Dr. David E. Gibson
   ii. Address: Humanities Division, Pepperdine University
                 24255 Pacific Coast Highway
                 Malibu, CA 90263-4225
   iii. Telephone: (805) 482-0138
   iv. Fax: (310) 506-7307
   v. E-mail address: gibson@pepperdine.edu

b) National Headquarters

   i. Headquarters executive: Dr. David E. Gibson
   ii. Mailing Address: Humanities Division, Pepperdine University
                       24255 Pacific Coast Highway
                       Malibu, CA 90263-4225
   iii. UPS Address: Humanities Division, Pepperdine University
                    24255 Pacific Coast Highway
                    Malibu, CA 90263-4225
   iv. Phone: (805) 482-0138
   v. Fax: (310) 506-7307
   vi. E-mail: gibson@pepperdine.edu

c) President/ Board Chair

   i. Name: Dr. Lee C. Rice
   ii. Address: Philosophy Department
                Marquette University
                P.O. Box 1881
                Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881
   iii. Phone: 414-288-3010
   iv. Fax: 414-288-3010
   v. E-mail: lee.rice@marquette.edu

2. Internal performance and key concerns

a) Membership

   i. Annual: 1202
   ii. Grand Total: 40546

b) Membership trends
During the 2014-2015 school year, Phi Sigma Tau initiated 1202 new members. That was a slight improvement over the last two school years and was only the fourth time we have exceeded 1200 new members in a year. So, our membership seems to be holding fairly steady at around 1200 new members a year.

c) Number of chapters
   i. Total 246
   ii. New in last academic year 7

d) National has an IRS Group Exemption Number (GEN).
   No.

e) 990-N IRS Form
   Chapter

f) Benefits to members
   Our main activity is the publication of Dialogue, our journal dedicated to student publications of work in philosophy. We also publish a Newsletter three times per year describing the activity of individual chapters. Students who enroll in our Alumni Chapter continue to receive the journal, newsletters, and an Alumni Bulletin for one year at no further charge. After the first year of membership in the Alumni Chapter, we do ask a $5.00 fee for continuing, and that fee just about covers the cost of mailing the journal and other papers.

f) Benefits to profession and society at large
   One of our main goals is to encourage philosophical inquiry and discussion on college campuses by making students aware of the importance of philosophy. Our chapters often do that by holding conferences on their campuses, participating in local conferences, holding meetings that are open to the campus, and engaging in other activities. We are considering a supplementary issue of our journal during the 2014-2015 school year to offer even more opportunities for student publication.

h) Accomplishments

i) Challenges to your society
   One main challenge is to encourage chapters to remain active. Since chapters are often small (philosophy programs are often small), a committed advisor is essential to keeping the chapter active and operating. Advisors are essential to encouraging students to plan and execute various activities. Usually a junior faculty member is assigned the role of advisor; this means that there is quite a lot of advisor turnover, and the advisors often have heavy demands placed upon them for publication and tenure.

j) Renewal efforts of your society
   Since all of our staff work on a voluntary basis, time is limited. We need to work more to encourage chapters that are inactive to become active again. Last year we revoked the charters of nine chapters for inactivity. Sometimes inactivity is because an advisor has left, and often it is difficult to find out that an advisor has left a school. We are also looking to get some younger members onto our Executive Council to replace some members who are retiring.

k) Trends in higher education with potential impact
   Rising costs may impact membership, both because of possible lower enrollments and because students may have difficulty with the membership fee (though we have kept our membership fee quite low). The costs do not seem to have affected our membership requests for the past few years though. As tuitions increase and if students move to areas related to job opportunities, we may see a decline in membership, though often in difficult times, philosophy enrollments increase some.
1) Learning and development outcomes for assessment of chapter programming

m) Collaboration with other student groups

3. Summary of revenue and expenditures

a) Fees
   i. Initial membership fee $25.00
   ii. Annual dues NONE

b) Total revenue
   Percentage from:
   i. Initial member fees 95%
   ii. Dues 0%
   iii. Other sources 5%

c) Total expenditures
   Percentage for:
   i. Administration 29% (postage, supplies, website, etc.)
   ii. Governance 0% (all staff are volunteers)
   iii. Publication 70%
   iv. Scholarships/awards 1%
   v. Conventions 0%

d) Retirement benefits for employees? None.

i. Company

i) Official Audit No
ii. Compilation No
iii. Member/Committee review No

f) Staff
   Number Full Time: 0
   Number Part Time: 0

g) Policies
   Whistleblower Policy No
   Conflict of Interest Policy No
   Document Retention & Destruction Policy No
   Process for Determining Compensation Policy No

h) Transparency to the General Public
   National Officers and Headquarters Staff URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/officers.html
   National Office mailing, telephone, fax, & email addresses URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/form-contact.html
   Criteria for Membership URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/eligibility.html
   Benefits of Membership URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/membership.html
   Membership Fee URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/membership.html
   Bylaws URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/bylaws.html
   Chapter charter policies and procedures URL: http://www.phi-sigma-tau.org/constitution.html
   Society chapters have been posted to the ACHS Member Chapter Search at YES
   http://www.achsnatl.org/search.asp
AL-BETA(0102) [Auburn University; advisor, Keren Gorodeisky] Our Auburn chapter was quite busy during the last academic year. Among our spring events was a discussion with Tim Sundell of his paper, “Instability of Content,” a discussion with David Sanson of his paper, “Potential Parts,” a trip to the Central Meeting of APA (partially supported by the philosophy department and the SGA), and helping host “Aristotle and Kant in Conversation” at the 8th Annual Auburn Philosophy Conference. On March 29, we hosted Christine Korsgaard and talked with her about her Littleton/Franklin Lecture; the lecture dealt with the relationship between humans and animals. On April 15, Antonio Capuano lectured on the paradox of belief; on April 21, David O’Connor lectured on the Role of Beauty in Religious Art and the following day lectured on Plato’s Phaedrus. Quite a busy term!

CA-IOTA(0509) [Westmont College; advisor, Jim Taylor] President: Kelly Collins, Vice-president: Cameron Lee, Secretary: Luke Donner, Public Relations Managers, Hien Bui and Shane Reid. On March 16, the California Iota chapter at Westmont College inducted sixteen new members and elected five officers. Officers and current members will meet to plan activities for the 2016-2017 school year. Ideas include a Philosophical BBQ (perhaps with a discussion of the ethics of vegetarianism), a discussion of philosophically oriented films, and collaborative discussions with Westmont’s Science and Faith club.

CT-DELTA(0704) [Quinnipiac University; advisor, Thornton Lockwood] NEW CHAPTER!

DC-GAMMA(0903) [American University; advisor, Amy Oliver] NEW ADVISOR. We initiated five new members last year. Also, the chapter organized a session with a guest speaker for a March lecture on “Faith, Reason, and Uncertainty.” During the year, members participated on a student committee during the department’s recent Tenure Track Candidate search. In late April, Dr. Oliver, Karlene Chi (the outgoing graduate adviser), and PST members worked to plan events for the new fall semester.

FL-THETA(1008) [Florida Southern College; advisor, H. A. Nethery, IV] NEW ADVISOR.

GA-BETA(1102) [Emory University; advisor, Frederick Marcus] The Emory chapter continues to benefit from a generous donation from Donald and Patricia Nicholson. As our central program, we initiated the first annual Emory Undergraduate Philosophy Conference; the conference included both graduate and undergraduate presentations as well as a keynote address by a senior faculty member. The Conference worked closely to select undergraduate presenters for the Emory Philosophical Review, an undergraduate journal in its second year of publication.

We also initiated other programs to increase philosophical inquiry and community; we worked with the Emory Philosophical Club to create an informal writing center where beginning students could ask PST members and other philosophy majors for philosophical advice on papers. We also held philosophical roundtables for the presentation of unique philosophical topics. These two programs have great potential for the future.

We continued with our monthly philosophy circles that are open to all undergraduates; a faculty member addresses a small group of students about a topic of particular interest. This year’s topics included The Insidious Nature of Whiteness; Intimacy, Death, and Heidegger’s ‘They;’ What Pragmatism Means; Beginnings; Novalis and German Romanticism; and Modes of Philosophy. Each session included a lively philosophical discussion between professor and students.

On April 14, we held our tenth annual induction dinner, and this also served as a departmental honors dinner. All PST members, inductees, and faculty were invited, and Cynthia Willett delivered the keynote address, “Urban Art and Urban Ethics: From Mexico City to Ferguson, Missouri.” In addition, we continue to maintain our website with information
about PST and upcoming events.

**GA-GAMMA (1103)** [Agnes Scott College; advisor, Harald Thorsrud] President: Tess Lewis, Vice-president: Estephania Hernandez. On March 4, after a period of inactivity, we inducted nine new members into our chapter and elected officers for the new year. After a consideration of two possible speakers, members decided to invite Dr. George Yancy of Auburn University, and on April 28, Dr. Yancy gave a talk entitled, “Fear of the Black Body: The Distorted Lens of Whiteness,” in which he explored racism and what it means to be white in a white supremacist country.

**GA-DELTA (1104)** [Mercer University; advisor, Rosalind Simson] NEW CHAPTER! Co-Presidents: Parker Betterncourt and Teal St. Nicklaus, Vice-president: Peter Fadoul, Secretary: Samuel Scheinman.

**IL-ZETA (1406)** [University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; advisor, Jonathan Livengood] NEW ADVISOR. President: Micheal Clark, Vice-president: Gracie Reinecke, Treasurer: David Lewis, Social Media Chairs: Andy Xu and Alex Mendez, Social Chairs: Nathan Williams and Sarah Campbell. The April 13 meeting dealt with the topic of knowledge with background information presented by Micheal Clark. Questions to guide the discussion were 1) What is Knowledge? What are we trying to get at when we say “I know that ...”? 2) What do Gettier problems do to our concept of knowledge? and 3) How does rationality fit in? The topic of our April 27 meeting was the relationship between morality and religion. Questions included 1) Is morality dependent upon religion or God’s existence? 2) Do God’s commands determine value? and 3) Must God (an unsurpassable being) create an unsurpassable world? (Is this the best possible world?)

**IL-MU (1412)** [Dominican University; advisor, Drew Dalton] NEW ADVISOR.

**IN-ALPHA (1501)** [Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis; [advisor, Samuel Kahn] NEW CHAPTER!

**KY- EPSILON (1805)** [University of Louisville; advisor, Avery Kolers] At our April meeting, we inducted five new members. Then members voted to request removal of the gender designation from the PST directory card (all members voting to request removal). One of our new members, Jared McNeil, planned a film night; chapter President Angie Carlson coordinated a sock drive to collect new socks for St. John’s Center for Homeless Men.

**LA-GAMMA (1903)** [Xavier University of New Orleans; advisor, Thora Bayer] We held our second induction ceremony of the term to induct one more student and then discussed her plans for the end-of-the-semester work in addition to her future plans.

**MD-DELTA (2104)** [Washington College; advisor, Matthew McCabe] Our chapter had four new inductees for the year; we hold meetings and events in tandem with the Philosophy Club. Dr. McCabe was on sabbatical during the fall term, but chapter events went on in his absence.

**MA-IOTA (2209)** [Assumption College; advisor, Samuel Stoner] NEW ADVISOR.

**MI-MU (2312)** [Alma College; advisor, Nicholas Dixon] The Alma College chapter will make a few changes for the next year. Regular meetings will now be monthly with the Executive Officers meeting bi-weekly to discuss club business and potential meetings. This is done so that we will have more time to plan events. Meetings will not be restricted to monthly if there are other events we would like to include.

**MO-XI (2614)** [University of Missouri-St. Louis; advisor, Waldemar Rohloff] Our chapter held the fall semester finals Study Jam (held at the end of each semester) to assist students in preparing for exams. Also, our chapter partnered with the departments of Gender Studies, Communications, and Philosophy to address food scarcity on campus; we planned to establish a food bank on campus this spring as well as bring SNAP to campus. We also reached out to the Psychology and Nursing honor societies to begin talks about fundraising for the Independence Center (a clubhouse model facility that helps bring people with persistent mental illnesses back into society so that they are capable of living independently; we received positive feedback from faculty and students for this effort. During the fall term we participated in the Major Minor Jam to encourage enrollment in philosophy as a major or minor.

**MT-BETA (2702)** [Montana State University; advisor, Sara Wailer] At one of our recent meetings we discussed an article by Angela Watercutter, “EX MACHINA HAS A SERIOUS FEMBOT PROBLEM.” The article begins by noting that “THE TURING TEST detects if a machine can truly think like a human. The Bechdel Test detects gender bias in fiction. If you were to mash the two together to create a particularly messy Venn diagram, the overlap shall hence forth be known as the Ex Machina Zone.” Our meeting proceeded to discuss the article which was about a recent film by Alex Garland. Also, Dr. Fritz Allhoff spoke on “Neuroethics and Criminals; Beyond Minority Report” at a meeting of the philosophical society.

**NE-BETA (2802)** [Creighton University; advisor, David McPherson] NEW ADVISOR.

**NJ-ETA (3107)** [Seton Hall University; advisor, Mark Couch] NEW ADVISOR.

**NY-ALPHA (3301)** [St. Lawrence University; advisor, Laura Rediehs] President: Ryan Ficano, Vice-
president: Taber Engelken, Secretary: Katherine Boynton.

NY-GAMMA(3303) [SUNY at Oneonta; advisor, Jean-Paul Orgeron] SUNY Oneonta hosted the 21st annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference on April 8 and 9. The keynote speaker was Dr. Lawrence Torcello from the Rochester Institute of Technology; his topic was the moral implications of climate change. Professor Orgeron hosted a reception the night before the conference to meet and greet those traveling to Oneonta to present or discuss papers at the conferences. In addition, our chapter worked to handle the registration table for the conference. April 15 will be our second induction of the term, and Dr. Orgeron will be the keynote speaker for the ceremony.

NY-MU(3312) [Manhattanville College; advisors, Paul Kucharski] NEW CHAPTER! The installation and first induction ceremony of the Manhattanville College chapter was held on April 4 in the West room of Reid Castle. The new chapter was led into the room by the department’s faculty. The students entered with smiles, dressed in red robes in honor of their new academic achievement. New York Chapter Mu was officially installed by Fr. Joseph Koterski S.J. (PST Executive Council Member and advisor for New York Chapter Nu), the Mary T. Clark lecturer for the evening. Then the newly installed officers, accompanied by Professor Kucharski, the faculty advisor of New York Mu, officially initiated the new members.

Dr. Siobhan Nash-Marshall, the Mary T. Clark Chair of Christian Philosophy, hosted the annual Mary T. Clark lecture which accompanied the installation of the chapter. Fr. Koterski’s paper, “Lying and Loyalties,” was delivered to a full house. Professor Koterski discussed conflicts that arise when our loyalties clash and whether or not lying is justified in order to resolve such conflicts. (Editor’s note: Chapter advisor, Dr. Kucharski, and Dr. Nash-Marshall of the faculty of Manhattanville were both students of Fr. Koterski at Fordham.)

One other event of the evening was the awarding of the Cummings Family Endowed Philosophy Scholarship. Richard and Diane Cummings have been invaluable supporters of the Manhattanville philosophy department and have generously awarded a scholarship to an exceptional major each year. This year’s recipient of their generosity was Gabriella Jackman (Class of 2017) who is a double major in Philosophy and Asian Studies. Gabriella was one of the inductees into the New York Mu chapter. Congratulations to Gabriella and thanks to the Cummings family for their support of philosophy at Manhattanville!

NY-NU(3313) [Fordham University; advisor, Joseph Koterski, S.J.] Our featured speaker at our April 22 induction ceremony was Dr. Amy Seymour, Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Dr. Seymour’s topic was “Predicting and Facing the Future.” Catherine Centeno made a student presentation at the ceremony.

NY-PHI(3321) [St. Francis College; advisor, Clayton Shoppa] NEW ADVISOR.

NC-EPSILON(3405) [University of North Carolina at Asheville; advisor, Scott Williams] NEW ADVISOR.

NC-ETA(3407) [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; advisor, John Roberts] The North Carolina Eta chapter initiated five new members for the year. Under the leadership of our President Nathan Smith, our chapter (along with the Carolina Philosophy Club) organized the Chapel Hill Undergraduate Philosophy Conference that was held on March 5. Keynote speaker for the conference was Professor Christopher Lebron of Yale University, and we had student speakers from New York University, Southern Illinois University, and the University of California at Los Angeles. In addition, our chapter undertook its annual task of providing free tutoring for students in introductory philosophy courses.

OH-TAU(3619) [Walsh University; advisor, Joe Vincenzo] At our March 4 meeting, we discussed eligibility requirements for members and set the time for the induction ceremony. Dr. Whetstine will be asked to give the address at the ceremony.

PA-BETA(3902) [Cabrini College; advisor, Sharon Schwarze] NEW ADVISOR.

PA-LAMBDA(3911) [Westminster College; advisor, David Goldberg] Chapter members at Westminster College attended the MidSouth Philosophy Conference held at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. This was the 14th time members from our chapter attended the conference.

PA-NU(3913) [St. Joseph’s University; advisor, Ginger Hoffman] Twenty-two new members were inducted into the St. Joseph’s University chapter with family members and faculty members attending the ceremony.

PA-XI(3914) [Bucknell University; advisor, Sheila Lintott] NEW CHAPTER!

PA-PI(3916) [King’s College; advisor, James Ambury] NEW ADVISOR.

PA-ALPHA BETA(3926) [Lehigh University; advisor, Robin Dillon] President: Juliana Clifton, Vice-president: Mike Lessel, Secretary: Alec McConnell, Morale Chair: John Larson, Alumni Liaisons: Daniel Leal and Ryan Spirko. At our April 6 meeting, we discussed the Ethics Symposium and what was needed in the way of preparations for publicity, transportation, and food. We reflected on the Symposium at the April 27 meeting and nominated and elected our new officers. Our next meeting will...
be our Induction Ceremony (May 5) followed by a Bonding Dinner at Red Robin.

RI-ALPHA(4001) [Providence College; advisor, Anthony Jensen] We had a busy year! We inducted nine new members, and our inductees from last year have been active in promoting philosophy throughout the College. We have held movie nights, major/minor career days, graduate school information sessions, and three intercollegiate talks with guest speakers. Our current members have also participated in our annual departmental conferences: the St. Nicholas of Myrna Conference, The Jacob Klein Memorial Conference, and the Jacques Maritain Conference. One of our initiatives involves collaboration with nearby Brown University’s philosophy department. Finally, several of our members have participated in talk and club activities this year.

RI-BETA(4002) [Salve Regina University; advisor, Craig Condella] President: Brandon Harrington, Vice-president: Kathleen Gamez, Secretary: Francis Quigley.

RI-GAMMA(4003) [Rhode Island College; advisor, Matthew Duncan] NEW ADVISOR.

TX-XI(4414) [University of North Texas; advisor, Michael Thompson] President: Dylan Cavanaugh, Vice-president: Taylor Phillips, Secretary: Delany Kilpatrick, Graduate Student Liaison: Nicholas Moran.

TXOMICRON(4415) [University of Dallas; advisor, Philipp W. Rosemann] The University of Dallas chapter held a joint induction ceremony with the chapter at the University of Texas at Arlington; this was the second year the two chapters held joint ceremonies. Dr. Kenneth Williford, advisor for the Arlington chapter, gave the lecture on the subject of anti-philosophy and its antidotes. Eleven members were inducted into the University of Dallas chapter and two into the Arlington chapter.

VA-ALPHA(4701) [Christopher Newport University; advisor, Dawn Hutchinson] President: Melina Gonzales, Vice-president: Will Pell, Secretary/Historian: Marisa Ohngemach.

VA-GAMMA(4703) [James Madison University; advisor, Anne M. Wiles] Co-Presidents: Greg Glasgow and Ryan Matney, Co-Vice-presidents: Augustus Snyder and Tyler Palombo, Co-Secretaries: Amanda Misak and Heather Boswell, Treasurer: Austin Figueroa, Webmaster: Leilani Bartell. Also we created a new office, Nocturnal Councillor, that was based on a passage from Plato's Laws; elected to this office were Andrei Armanca and Leilani Bartell. Members of the James Madison University chapter met on February 24 to discuss Sartre’s No Exit. The discussion was led by co-presidents Brandon Cadran and Michael Clay. At our next meeting (March 24), members discussed the film and script of Samuel Beckett’s Waiting for Godot. The discussion was led by Greg Glasgow and Augustus Snyder. On March 31, Dr. Anne Van Leeuwen who joined the faculty this year presented a lecture titled “Continental Philosophy: Phenomenology and Psychoanalysis?”

On April 18 Jack Gardner gave a presentation on “Euthanasia and End-Stage Dementia: A Patient Decision.” Jack is a graduate of the philosophy program and is currently a graduate student in the Bio-Ethics program at the University of Pennsylvania; the talk was well attended by philosophy majors, minors, and other students and faculty.

On April 19, eleven members were initiated into the chapter in a joint ceremony with Theta Alpha Kappa, the society for religious studies. Dr. Mark Piper presented a talk entitled “Is Descartes’ Conception of God Fully Coherent?” The initiation ceremonies were followed by an Honors Banquet for members of both honor societies and faculty.

Our chapter met on April 27 to elect officers, and again on April 29. Two honor students, Augustus Snyder and Tyler Palombo from the Ancient Greek philosophy course, gave a presentation on “Mythos and Logos in the Platonic Dialogues”; a lively discussion followed. After the presentation the presenters, the newly elected presidents and the graduating members of PST were guests of faculty members at a dinner at a local Italian restaurant.

WI-ALPHA(5001) [Marquette University; advisor, Ericka Tucker] NEW ADVISOR.

WI-ZETA(5006) [University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point; advisor, Joshua Horn] NEW ADVISOR.

From Our Archives

I have transcribed three very lightly edited letters from our files. There is little information about the very early history of Phi Sigma Tau, but these three letters might be of interest. The first letter is from H. Lynn Womack (Baldwin-Wallace College) to Dale Diefenbach (Baldwin-Wallace, but from Harvard University); the second is Dr. Diefenbach’s reply, and the third is Womack’s last reply.

February 7, 1956

Dear Dale:

Enclosed is a copy of the proposed Constitution which I have drawn up for Phi Sigma Tau. Nothing whatever can be done [with] ACHS [Association of
Dear Prof. Womack,

I am very sorry for not having written before this. I want to congratulate you on the fine job that you did with the Constitution. Any points with which I might even slightly disagree were minor cases of wording, but this happens when any two people want to say the same thing.

I would be interested in knowing how the ACHS meeting came out. It is too bad that Prof. XXXXX is taking the position that he is. In the first place, he seems to have made no effort to expand his society to "two or more regions" of the nation, and he has had twenty-five years to work with! Secondly, the name "Alpha Kappa Alpha" is the name of a sorority already. I would imagine that the APA would be wise not to act until we obtain the ACHS recognition.

The National Council of Omicron Delta Kappa, I know, issues a list of all those institutions which meet the minimum standards set by the ACHS and their own Constitution for the formation of new chapters. The list is issued in very diplomatic language stating the institution which receives a copy of such a list is encouraged to join. It is written so that the receiving institution which receives a copy of such a list is not meant to take the place of official correspondence, but it would act as an unofficial auxiliary. Just as a side comment, chapters might find it novel, if not interesting, to have papers from other chapters presented in the author's voice by tape. So much for that.

Has the Banta Publishing Co. published the new "Baird's Manual"? It is supposed to come out in Dec. '55.

Could you drop me a line on the enclosed postal


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Since you will be the permanent Executive Sec'y., you will be continually facing the same problem that you are now doubtfully experiencing. I mean that you are facing problems which require genuine policy-making decisions which you hope will be satisfying to the majority of the society. Ideally, all such policy decisions should be handled by the National Council, but practically this just ain't so. Even the few meetings that the Council does hold will be annually. So much [more] gets done at such times in casual conversations than by formal letters. So much comes up in the interim, however. In order to ease your burden in the day-to-day decisions that must be made, and to insure a more adequate expression of the Council opinion, I am going to offer what may seem a ludicrous suggestion, but here goes! Many individuals and some groups "correspond" by tape. Practically any school has a tape recorder and so do many individuals or departments. It only costs eight cents to send by mail one hour of conversation (soliloquy) from say, D.C. to California, less than a dime for a metropolitan phone call! No typing up formal letters, no more written words with vocal inflections, and so on. To me the advantages of this are enormous. Letters are so cold, conference phone calls for say seven Council members spread across the nation even for a three minute rate are staggering in cost. Each tape costs about four bucks, but the saving outweighs the initial cost. Let me illustrate; some major item comes up which you think deserves more than the usual correspondence for the operation of the society. You send out six tapes for the Council (cost - 48¢); they listen to you; erase; record their opinions and return them to you. If you think that you need to send out copies of one member's opinion to the others, then you make copies of his tape. This process leaves in the personal element, allows ease in presentation, relatively cheap for its advantages. Even if each person sent his tape to each of the others - 7 (6x6, 36), it would cost only $2.88 by regular mail. In some cases of urgency, even air mail won't be too costly. This is not meant to take the place of official correspondence, but it would act as an unofficial auxiliary. Just as a side comment, chapters might find it novel, if not interesting, to have papers from other chapters presented in the author's voice by tape. So much for that.

Has the Banta Publishing Co. published the new "Baird's Manual"? It is supposed to come out in Dec. '55.

Could you drop me a line on the enclosed postal
card about how this ACHS matter is coming out?

I have a recommendation about the establishment of a fund that might be used for scholarships or loans. It seems to me that any such fund should be limited to loans only and that no loan should be made to graduate students until the contributions to the fund have reached some arbitrary sum. Most grad. students need money at a particular time and are more concerned about getting the money then than they are about whether it is a gift or a loan. The important thing is money when they need it. Consequently, I suggest that the fund help more students by restricting it to loans only. Most honor societies offer scholarships to grad. students from a special fund, but I don’t think that they should dictate our course by their example. This is a suggestion to the National Council when and if they think about setting up the rules for such a fund.

I know that the new journal for student papers at Yale is advertised in the Phil. Review; maybe some such solicitation in such a journal might help Dialogue.

In closing, I really want to express my appreciation for all that you have done since last September. It was very lucky for the society that you have been at the helm. Your continued support of Phi Sigma Tau as Executive Secretary will mean the difference between its success or failure in its tender years.

Sincerely yours,
Dale Alan Diefenbach (signed)
401a Wm. James Hall
Harvard U.
Cambridge 38, Mass.

29 March 1956

Dear Dale:

Thank you for the kind words regarding the Constitution. I am certain you realize the pressure under which I operate in preparing Constitution, Initiation and Installation ceremonies, forms for every imaginable purpose—and answer a flood of letters of inquiry and information.

The February Newsletter and the first issue of Dialogue are now in the press. That accounts for my not having written anyone concerning the ACHS meeting. We came out rather well. The ACHS has an unwritten—never told to anyone until they apply and attend a meeting—that an organization must have been in operation at least three years. We were told to wait for two more years and then by all means come back. XXXXX’s AKA was turned down flatly and rather coldly. If I may be a little personal—and unphilosophical—I think I rather effectively off XXXXX and his group at this meeting. XXXXX, by the way, is now desperately trying to build up AKA but the net result seems to be that the very places he is trying to "invade" happen to be more impressed with PST.

Your idea about the tape recorder is excellent except for the cost. We are going to have to be very careful with money for some time. The biggest expense we have at the present time is postage. However, we must keep on systematically canvassing the institutions with Philosophy departments or the Society will never grow. We cannot take the attitude that we must spend no money courting them by sending the Newsletter, answering requests for copies of the Constitution, etc.

I am writing to Professor Bishop for the list you mention. In the meanwhile, on the time of the National Academy of Sciences, I am examining the catalog of every accredited college and university in the U.S. and Canada to see if they are a good prospect. I expect this list to become our permanent mailing list.

Baird’s Manual is far from being in the press. I am preparing new copy with specific chapter information and a photograph of the key will also appear. This extra time has operated for our benefit. It was not too easy to secure papers, but four good ones were rounded up. Once we are in print, this difficulty will disappear—I hope. Ideas appears to be floundering— I do not know why. Thanks for your kind words! Write when you have the time.

§ § §

Dialogue

Our editor, Dr. Steve Barbone, has spent much of his summer in preparing the special Ethics issue of Dialogue as well as our October issue. The Ethics issue will be a special issue in addition to our usual October and March issues; it has been in the works for a couple of years and is finally nearing completion. Since one of the main aims of Phi Sigma Tau is to encourage discussion of philosophical topics with one way of doing that the publication of student work, we are proud to publish a third issue of Dialogue during the 2016-2017 school year; we hope to have other special issues from time to time in the future.

The October issue is also in preparation. Among
the articles will be the following papers.
  The Sorites Paradox: A Reply to Goldstein
    Nikunj Agarwal, *Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts*
  Reconstructing Morality: Accessibility of Right Action: The Diverse Systemization of Intent
    Ava Ashym *University of California at Los Angeles*
  Platonic Pedagogy in the *Meno*: Virtue Is Not a Divine Gift
    Caroline Blaney, *Hunter College*
  Form of Life as the Collective Agreement
    Jason Culmone, *Quinnipiac University*
  Thinking Parts: Parfit and Animalism
    Daniel Davis, *York University*
  Fascism and Nietzsche’s Political Legacy
    Nicholas Johnston, *Loyola University, Maryland*
  Evaluating Kierkegaard’s *Eros* and *Agape*: An Alternative Leap to Faith
    Greta Kaluzeviciute, *University of Essex*
  Separate Arguments within the Wax Argument
    Rebecca Meadows, *James Madison University*
  A Defense of the Duty to Save the Violinist
    Micah Quigley, *Grove City College*
  Whatever Happened to the Child of Tomorrow? A Textual Analysis of Rousseau’s *Emile* as Nietzsche’s Concept of the Übermensch
    Nicholas Turner, *DePaul University*
  Newton versus Kant in Modern Times
    Brandon Walton, *San Diego State University*
  Personal Identity and the Problem of Love
    Ryan Woods, *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

We also publish reviews and encourage students to consider reviewing a book listed on the BOOKS RECEIVED pages in the regular issues of the journal. Reviewers may contact the editor to see whether a book is still available. Please contact Dr. Barbone by email at barbone@rohan.sdsu.edu.

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**2015-2016 Financial Report**

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**EXPENSES**

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Retained Earnings $ 186,417.26

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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:vdifate@shc.edu">vdifate@shc.edu</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4703</td>
<td>Dr. Anne M. Wiles</td>
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<td>NAC dues</td>
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<td>(not included)</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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Retained Earnings $172,699.09

Phi Sigma Tau continues to be in a solid financial state, with our income generally exceeding our expenses each year. Our journal, Dialogue, continues to be our largest expense and generally is about 70-75% of our operating costs. However, the journal provides philosophy students an opportunity for their first publication, and our Executive Council continues to believe that the goal of encouraging philosophy students to publish their work is one of the primary values of Phi Sigma Tau. Students who do submit work for publication are encouraged to think deeply about philosophical problems, to formulate their ideas carefully, and to consider how those ideas can be effectively presented. Some of those who have had their work published in Dialogue have gone on to graduate work in philosophy and, in a few cases, have become chapter advisors for our organization.

Aside from the journal, our other major expenses are postage and printing; those costs remain fairly constant from year to year. We do incur fairly substantial mailing costs as we send membership certificates, some journals, and other items throughout the year. A great deal of correspondence is done by way of emails, and that helps keep mailing costs under control.

There continue to be no charges for salaries, retirement, or health benefits, as Phi Sigma Tau remains an all volunteer organization. Additionally, there is no overhead for fundraising, as Phi Sigma Tau does not solicit donations from any organization. We do accept the occasional donation and are a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

Yours cordially,
David E. Gibson
Executive Secretary
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu

News of the Society

The 2014-2015 school year was only our fourth where the number of new members passed 1200 (1202 to be precise). We had a slight increase from last year when we had 1171 new members. In the past several years, we have averaged a bit over 1200 new members each year. In addition, we chartered seven new chapters during the year. We have new chapters at California State University at San Bernardino, Indiana University Southeast, DePaul University (Chicago), Walsh University (Canton, Ohio), Morningside College (Sioux City, Iowa), Adrian College (Adrian, Michigan), and the University of Missouri at St. Louis. All of these new chapters are up and running; between them, they inducted 71 members during the past school year. However, early this school year we revoked the charters at eight chapters that had been inactive for some time.

Phi Sigma Tau is a member of ACHS (Association of College Honor Societies) and operates according to the rules of that organization. ACHS provides a framework for the operation of honor societies and certifies that societies that adhere to its rules are genuinely dedicated to honoring outstanding students and upholding the standards of an honor group. In the case of Phi Sigma Tau, we are limited to chartering chapters only at institutions with a major in philosophy; additionally, as an honor society for a special field, we can only induct students who are advanced students. However, we are not limited to inducting students who major in philosophy; we are allowed to induct students with majors in other areas provided they meet the standards of excellence in philosophy. Consequently, many of our members continue their education in areas other than philosophy and pursue careers in law, medicine, graduate study, and many other areas.

As usual, I have enclosed the Alumni Bulletin and two Newsletters with the October issue of Dialogue. I hope that you find that your former chapter has listed some of its activities.

The new version of the PST Manual is available in Adobe format. The Adobe version now contains information which is up to date, as well as all printed forms, memos, history, chapter lists, bulletins, and newsletters. NAC members who wish to receive the PST Manual as an email attachment should drop me a brief email message (“send Manual” is fine).
NAC Membership

Membership in the National Alumni Chapter continues to be five dollars per year; we have no plans to increase that. However, the Executive Council is considering a proposal to offer Alumni Chapter membership by email to those who might wish. Members who elect to have an email membership would not be charged for membership but would receive all materials by email only; there would be no hard copies. Members, whether email members or regular members as they are now, will receive Dialogue for one year as well as Newsletters and the occasional NAC Bulletin. However, I do not know when you move or change email addresses. Please let me know if your street address or email address changes so that I can update the PST files. I would like to be able to keep in contact with you. If you need to change an address, please feel free to contact me by email.

Email addresses for members who make them available are taken from both NAC renewal and registration forms. If you neglected to provide an email address [or registered using an earlier registration form which did not contain a space for email information] and would like to be on the NAC email distribution list, you need only drop me a message [david.gibson@pepperdine.edu] from your email account with the Subject Line: “ADD TO NAC EMAIL.” The NAC membership database (including email listings) is not given or sold to any other organization (educational or commercial).

DIALOGUE

This current issue of our journal is the work of many people. First and foremost are the authors of articles and reviewers of books. They have taken their time and talent to produce the essays and reviews in this issue. In addition, there are the professors who encouraged and stimulated the students to produce these works. And also, students talk to other students and help them refine their ideas, clear up confusions, and express ideas clearly and coherently. Dialogue is a product of all that activity. Our congratulations to all those who helped in the preparation of the issues of our journal!

From the Executive Secretary

From time to time, I would like to include a section in our Alumni Bulletin for members of the Alumni Chapter (and others) to recall some of their experiences in Phi Sigma Tau, recollections of favorite professors, or descriptions of what they have done since they graduated. I imagine that all of you have a professor (perhaps more than one) who shaped your thinking or influenced your life in some way. Or there may be a way where your training in philosophy has been a help in your career. If you have some stories or reflections you would be willing for me to publish in our Bulletin, please send them to me. Currently, the Alumni Bulletin is a once per year publication, but I would be happy to make it a twice per year publication if some NAC members would like to send me material for a second issue.

Our October issue is a bit late, but this will give me the opportunity to wish all of you a very happy holiday season. And best wishes for a wonderful New Year.

PST Executive Council Members

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