



NEMO-PBK News

Phi Beta Kappa Association
of Northeast Missouri

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Letter from the President

Dear Phi Beta Kappans,

It's been an eventful year for Phi Beta Kappans in Northeast Missouri. Most notably, we have witnessed the installation of a new Chapter on the Truman State University Campus, a long sought after goal of many of our members, and the initiation of the first members in course. With this development, the character of our association has changed considerably. While many members had previously focused efforts primarily on helping establish the Delta of Missouri Chapter, the Association is now ready to devote itself to activities that promote the liberal arts in our region. Our first step in this direction has been to host the nationally recognized Phi Beta Kappa Fellows Lecturer William May, who will speak on contending images of the healer. Join us for this talk on November 15 at 7:30 pm and a potluck dinner beforehand at 5:30 pm (See article on p. 4). We continue to sponsor the annual Spring lecture as well as the General Honors Award Ceremonies. We are pleased to see that the number of Honors recipients has risen dramatically over the past two years. In addition, we hope to begin sponsoring new award programs in local schools, and to plan for future guest speakers.

The executive committee has tried to keep dues reasonable and has set them at \$10.00 for the coming year. We hope that you will continue to support the Association with your membership pledges. Because of the additional costs of our expanded activities, we would also welcome any donations that members consider appropriate. As has been our policy in past years, we offer a free year of membership to all new members.

Our annual meeting is set for Sunday, December 2nd at 5:00 pm in the University Faculty Club. In addition to electing new officers and discussing some of the Association's exciting new plans, the meeting serves as a relaxing social occasion for our membership. I hope you'll attend.

Sincerely,

John Todd Hammond, Ph.D.
Association President



On April 22nd, 2001, over 80 Truman students became the first members in course to be initiated into the Delta Chapter of Missouri

Phi Beta Kappa Chapter Installed at Truman

On January 31st, 2001, Truman State University joined the esteemed ranks of liberal arts institutions with a Phi Beta Kappa Chapter on its campus. Officially known as the Delta Chapter of Missouri, the Truman chapter formally underwent an installation ceremony, conducted by Phi Beta Kappa Senator Burton Wheeler, Professor of English at Washington University. The ceremony was held in the Alumni Room in the Student Union. Honored guests included Dr. Kala Stroup, Commissioner of Higher Education, Dr. Charles McClain, former President of Truman State University, and Dr. Jack Magruder, current President at Truman. Dr. McClain and Dr. Magruder were both initiated as Foundation Members of the Delta Chapter, an honor that is bestowed upon scholars who have



contributed significantly to the liberal arts. Elections were also held during the ceremony for the first officers of the Delta Chapter. Stephen Pollard was elected president, Robert Graber, vice-president, James Turner, secretary, David Partenheimer, treasurer, and Cole Woodcox, historian.



Laura Tamakoshi gives annual Spring Lecture

Contributed by Robert B. Graber



On April 25, 2001, Dr. Laura Zimmer-Tamakoshi, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Truman State University, presented the Northeast Missouri PBK Association's Tenth Annual Lecture, "Going Public to Save the Liberal Arts." As the semester's final Faculty Development Lunch, the lecture was well received by a large, enthusiastic audience in the Activities Room of the Student Union. Dr. Zimmer-Tamakoshi began by conceding the importance of valuing knowledge for its own sake: our inability to be sure what knowledge will be useful, she noted, is "the fly in the ointment of utilitarianism." She went on, however, to use her own field, anthropology, as a "case in point" to emphasize the importance, for validating the liberal arts, of public outreach. Without such outreach, we risk being perceived as irrelevant, quaint, or even ridiculous. The prevalence,

in the mass media, of oversimplified treatments of complex subjects, including the cultures of her own geographical region (Papua New Guinea), also challenges scholars to give more attention to writing for broader audiences. Examples of successes ranged from the works of Margaret Mead such as *Coming of Age in Samoa*, to a recent volume (from another of the liberal arts), *Plato not Prozac*. More attention to anthropology in elementary and secondary education, and to applied anthropology in higher education, were recommended. The World Wide Web's possibilities should not be overlooked, as exemplified by her own popular web site, *Anthropologist in the Field*. The lecture was followed by a lively question-and-answer period. The audience joined in recognizing Dr. Zimmer-Tamakoshi not only for this stimulating lecture, but also for her service, since 1991, to Truman State University. Certainly we extend our best wishes as she returns to Pennsylvania to concentrate on her writing, and her important consulting work pertinent to economic development in Papua New Guinea.

Spring 2001 General Honors Awards Ceremony Sees Unprecedented Number of Recipients



On May 11 of this year the Phi Beta Kappa Association recognized Truman State University graduation candidates for receiving General Honors in the liberal arts and sciences at a Medal Ceremony held in the Sunken Garden. The General Honors Program offers outstanding students the opportunity to select rigorous courses in the liberal arts and sciences component of their programs. In the presence of family and Phi Beta Kappa Association members, faculty mentors presented medals to twenty-one students, more than any previous year since the inception of the program in 1987. The medals hang from purple and white ribbons and feature the university seal on the obverse with an image of Kirk Memorial on the reverse.

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 Vice President: (Programming): Dr Dereck Daschke
 Vice President (Membership): Ms. Odessa Ofstad
 Treasurer: Dr. David Partenheimer
 Secretary: Dr. Stephen Grollman

New Arrivals

- Elsa Hammond, Daughter of Todd and Kristina Hammond, May 2001
- Clara Frances Garvey, daughter of Alan Garvey and Mary Shapiro, February 2001
- Ariana Grollman, daughter of Stephen and Stephanie Grollman, July 2000

We're on the web:
www2.truman.edu/~sroll2/

Mark your calendars for the PBK association annual meeting and potluck dinner:

December 2nd, 2001
 5:00 pm
 University Faculty Club

William May

Nemo-pbk is proud to present Phi Beta Kappa Fellows Lecturer William May, Cary M. Maguire University Professor of Ethics at Southern Methodist University. Dr. May will give a speech entitled "Contending Images of the Healer: Teacher? Parent? Technician? Fighter?" The lecture will take place on Thursday November 15, at 7:30pm, in the Alumni Room of the Student Union Bldg. at Truman State University, Student Union Building. Truman State University. A Pot-

luck dinner and reception for members of Phi Beta Kappa and their guests will precede the event at 5:30pm in the University Club.

Dr. May is the author of *A Catalogue of Sins; The Physician's Covenant: Images of the Healer in Medical Ethics; The Patient's Ordeal*; and *Testing the Medical Covenant: Active Euthanasia and Health Care Reform*. He also founded and chaired the Department of Religious Studies at Indiana University and

served as chair of the Religion Department at Smith College. He is past president of the American Academy of Religions and a founding fellow of the Hastings Center, where he co-chaired its research group on death and dying. He is currently a visiting professor at Yale University.

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