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The Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha (Agriculture)

May 5, 2015

TO: Chapter Advisors
Chapter Presidents
National Council

FROM: Jean A. Gleichsner, Ph.D.
National Advisor

56th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The National Convention was hosted by Missouri State University in Springfield on April 16-18, 2015. A special thank you goes to the members and advisor of the Missouri State University DTA Chapter for hosting a great convention.

- Eleven chapters attended the national convention.
- Dr. Jean Gleichsner was recognized for having served as National DTA Advisor for 12 years. Dr. Elizabeth Walker (Missouri State University) was appointed as the National DTA Advisor by NACTA President Bonnie Walters and her appointment was confirmed by the delegates at the convention.
- New officers were elected. The officers for 2015-2016 are:
 - ✓ President: Billy Cameron, Eastern Kentucky University
 - ✓ VP-Eastern: Mary Collier, Tennessee Tech University
 - ✓ VP-Midwest: Josh Harlan, Southeast Missouri State University
 - ✓ VP-Southern: Reagan Cooper, Sam Houston State University
 - ✓ Secretary: Amanda McCormick, Abilene Christian University
 - ✓ Parliamentarian: Deanna Martin, Tennessee Tech University
 - ✓ National Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Walker, Missouri State University (elected to 1st year of a two-year term)
 - ✓ National Treasurer: Dr. James Baier, Tennessee Tech University - Cookeville (2nd year of a two-year term)
- Chapter delegates voted to raise chapter dues from \$20 to \$50 per year effective for the 2015-16 dues.
- Morehead State University won the Agriculture Quiz Bowl and College of the Ozarks was second.
- Sam Houston State University received the Corbus Award as outstanding chapter. Honorable mention went to Southeast Missouri State University and Morehead State University.
- University of Central Missouri won the Highest % Convention Attendance. Honorable mention went to College of the Ozarks and Eastern Kentucky University.
- Eastern Kentucky University won the Highest Convention Attendance. Honorable mention went to Arkansas State University and Tennessee Tech University (tied).

FUTURE CONVENTIONS

The convention normally rotates among the three regions. However, no bid was received by the southern region. A bid has been accepted for 2016. Bids are open for 2017 and 2018.

- 2016 – Fort Hays State University (March 30 to April 2).
- 2017 – open for bid.
- 2018 – open for bid.

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETIES

- ACHS has created a national project as a way to achieve a long-standing goal of the organization: to increase the visibility of both ACHS and its member societies in the higher education community. The ACHS National Project is on Social Responsibility. As a member society, DTA Chapters are encouraged to participate in the national project. Ideas for projects and grant applications are available at the ACHS web site (<http://www.achsnatl.org/>).

Being a member of a nationally recognized honor society such as Delta Tau Alpha allows an individual to start at GS-7 rather than a GS-5 for government work classified as two-grade intervals. An explanation of this policy can be found in the United States Office of Personnel Management - Operating Manual - Qualifications Standards for General Schedule Positions and is available at this web site:

<http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-policies/#url=e4>. To get an idea of what that means in terms of salary (GS -5 vs. GS-7) refer to <http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2015/GS.pdf>.

REPORT OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Please be sure and have all reports and chapter dues submitted to maintain active chapter status. You may check your status at: <http://bigcat.fhsu.edu/agriculture/natdta/information/active/chapstatus>

SPRING INDUCTION

- If you submitted names of spring inductees on or before March 15 you should have received your membership certificates this spring. Names submitted after that deadline will be included in the fall order.
- The fall deadline will be October 15 for membership certificates and for national chapter. This date will insure that certificates arrive before Christmas.
- Examples of invitation letters to potential members and their parents are available under Membership at: <http://bigcat.fhsu.edu/agriculture/natdta/information/active>

DTA MERCHANDISE - <http://bigcat.fhsu.edu/agriculture/natdta/merchandise>

- Honor cords (solid color set or intertwined colors) to recognize graduating seniors as DTA members are available for \$15.00/set plus shipping.
- Graduation Medallions to recognize graduating seniors as DTA members are available for \$20 plus shipping.
- Graduation Stoles to recognize graduating seniors as DTA members are available for \$20 plus shipping.
- Lapel pins are available for \$8.50 plus shipping.
- Fleece pullovers with the DTA logo are available for \$40 + shipping.
- Advisors should contact: Kenneth E. Jernigan & Associates by phone (850) 469-0344, Fax (850) 434-3728 or email orders@kenjernigan.com and indicate you are with DTA to order honor cords, graduation stoles, graduation medallions, lapel pins, and fleece pullovers. You will be required to pay when you submit your order.

DTA ACHIEVER

- The Achiever will be available at: <http://bigcat.fhsu.edu/agriculture/natdta/newsletter>
- Please send Form 40s (chapter meeting reports) to National DTA President Billy Cameron, Eastern Kentucky University at billy_cameron4@myemail.eku.edu.

Have a good summer. I hope some of you are able to attend the NACTA Convention at University of Georgia - Athens on June 16-20.