



Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society

Founded December, 1919

46th Biennial Convention
October 10, 2015
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

Meeting called to order by Dr. Peggy Biser at 9:07am

Introduction of Executive **Officers** ~~Board~~:

- Dr. Peggy Biser (Executive President)
- Dr. Mark Stauffer (President-Elect)
- Dr. Frank Switzer (Archivist)
- Dr. George Fisher (Executive Treasurer)
- Dr. Lindsey Welch (Executive Secretary)
- Dr. Meredith Storms (Past President) was not present, but she was recognized for her service

A review of Robert's Rules was presented with the handout in the packet for parliamentary procedure. Dr. Frank Switzer was identified as the designated parliamentarian.

Roll call of Chapters: (85 Chapters)

Alpha Alpha – absent
Alpha Delta - Fernando Guerrero
Alpha Zeta – Marion Greylion
Alpha Epsilon – Angela Hanson
Alpha Eta - absent
Alpha Theta – Emir Nazdrajic
Alpha Iota - absent
Beta Delta – Victoria Hoelscher
Beta Epsilon – Shannon Coody
Beta Zeta – absent
Beta Eta – Jessica Yazarians
Gamma Beta - absent
Gamma Gamma - absent
Gamma Delta – Camille Werzowa
Gamma Epsilon – Steven Lowery
Gamma Zeta - absent
Gamma Eta - Sean Granata
Gamma Theta – absent
Gamma Iota – Sabine Neal
Delta Beta – Alex Tankersly
Epsilon Delta – James Fortner
Epsilon Epsilon – Keane Dye
Zeta Gamma - absent
Zeta Delta – absent
Zeta Epsilon - absent
Eta Beta – absent
Iota Alpha – absent
Iota Beta – Shannon Speer
Kappa Delta – absent
Kappa Epsilon – Devin Caugh
Kappa Eta – absent
Kappa Zeta – absent
Kappa Theta – absent
Kappa Iota – absent
Kappa Kappa – Emily York
Kappa Lambda – absent
Kappa Mu – absent
Kappa Nu – absent
Kappa Xi – absent
Kappa Omicron – Danielle Petkovsek
Kappa Pi – absent
Lambda Alpha – absent

Mu Gamma – Matthew Parker
Mu Delta – absent
Nu Beta – absent
Xi Delta – absent
Xi Zeta – absent
Xi Eta – absent
Pi Alpha – Brandon Trinh
Pi Beta – Nick King
Pi Gamma – Mitchell Bowling
Rho Alpha – Scott Wytovich
Rho Beta – absent
Rho Gamma – absent
Rho Delta – Mallory Kern
Rho Epsilon – absent
Rho Eta – Sam Brooks
Rho Theta – Tell Lovelace
Rho Iota – Trenton Bromenschenkel
Rho Kappa – Oliver Beale
Rho Mu – absent
Rho Nu – James Krug
Rho Xi – Melanie Schade
Rho Omicron – Devan Kerecman
Rho Pi – Lauren Harbaugh
Sigma Alpha – Madison Piassek
Sigma Beta – Dylan Nguyen
Sigma Gamma – Ayeshia Morris
Sigma Epsilon – absent
Sigma Zeta – absent
Sigma Eta – Matthew Sowers
Sigma Theta - Madeline Lederer
Tau Alpha – absent
Tau Beta – Joseph Fierro
Tau Gamma – Hailey Butman
Tau Delta – Matthew Douglass
Tau Epsilon – Kristen Burns
Upsilon Alpha – Tyler Haddock
Upsilon Beta – absent
Upsilon Gamma – Daniel Sepe
Phi Beta – absent
Chi Beta – Jordan Wesel
Chi Gamma – absent
Psi Alpha – absent
Psi Beta – Mindy Chen

Guests

Beta Epsilon – Dr. Deborah Bromfield Lee
Beta Epsilon – Kim Couch
Beta Eta – Dr. Greg Boyce
Gamma Delta – Jessica Rosano
Gamma Epsilon – Michael Biser
Epsilon Epsilon – Brian Wise

Kappa Omicron – Sara Melow
Pi Alpha – Dr. Lisa Reilly
Rho Nu – Cat Fry
Rho Nu – Dr. Rose Clark
Tau Epsilon – Samantha Copeland
Upsilon Beta – Ashley Litton
Chi Beta – Dr. Paul Richardson

There are a total of 45 delegates, five Executive Board members and 13 guests.

Minutes from the 2013 biennial convention were read

President's Report

New and Reactivated Chapters were announced:

Alpha Gamma – Wake Forest College (2015) reactivated
Alpha Epsilon – U. North Carolina, Wilmington (2015)
Beta Eta – Florida Gulf College (Nov. 2014)
Kappa Omicron – Elmira College (2015)
Kappa Pi – Stony Brook University (2015)
Lambda Alpha – Mississippi Univ. for Women (2015)
Rho Omicron – West Chester University (Sept. 2014)
Rho Pi – Saint Vincent College (Jul. 2015)
Sigma Theta – Drew University (Mar. 2014)
Tau Delta – Salem State University (Mar. 2014)
Tau Epsilon – University of Saint Joseph (Oct. 2014)
Upsilon Gamma – Saint Louis University (Feb. 2014)

Treasurer's report

Beginning Balance (October 1, 2013) \$132,824.95

Income

Medalions	2,235.05
Initiation fees	65,565.00
Interest	5,314.73
Biennial Registration	8,555.85
Total income	\$81, 670.63

Expenses

Initiation Certificates	10,893.02
Transfer to CDs	43,369.92
Misc. Fees	1,265.85
Printing and postage	239.45
Biennial Convention	26,435.42
Awards and Scholarships	3,381.27
Special Projects	300.00
Chapter Installations	642.35
Total Expenses	\$86, 527.28

Ending balance \$175,522.80 as of October 1, 2015

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report (Beta Eta), second (Upsilon Alpha)

Vote: *Unanimous approval.*

Dr. Fisher announced the availability of awards through the National Honor Society. He explained how to contact him to report new members each year using the online form. It was suggested for chapters to type the new member information into the form so that it is much easier to read.

New Business (Dr. Peggy Biser, President)

Requirements of Service for continued membership

- A. Examples may include continued attendance at local chapter meetings or various outreach events
 - B. Concerns are that the honor society recognizes scholarship, and service requirements may ???
 - C. Dr. Paul Richardson (Chi Beta adviser) asked how many student chapters already require service.
 - E. Are there currently expulsions? (Tau Epsilon) - A grace period exists to help (Rho Kappa) Requirement of service should not exist, but it should be encouraged and rewarded. (Gamma Epsilon) Service should not be required but it should be encouraged. (Alpha Zeta) High-achieving seniors are often too busy to be involved. (Beta Eta adviser) A voluntary form could be used to communicate service events
- Dr. Biser reminded chapters about award available for up to \$500.

Motion (Upsilon Alpha): No requirement for service should exist at the National level, and it should be left to the local chapters to require service of individual members to maintain active membership.

(Second from Gamma Eta)

(Friendly amendment-Dr. Fisher) – accepted by Gamma Eta

(Friendly amendment-???) clarification of local requirement for individual members

Vote: unanimous approval

F. Change in awards' values

1. DeLap-Holcomb Award
 - A. suggestion to double award to \$200
2. Roy W. Sonntag Award
 - A. suggestion to make it a cash award of \$100 instead of a prize to double award
3. Outstanding Chapter Award
 - A. suggestion to increase to \$200 or \$250
4. Conn Research Presentation Award
 - A. double award to \$50
5. Powell Research Poster Award
 - A. Double award to \$100
6. Special Project Award
 - A. maintain current value of up to \$500

Discussion:

(Chi Beta adviser) Do we have the funding? Yes, we do

Question: Can the service award be used for research? no.

Should we have more chapter awards than just one?

Motion: (Dr. Fisher) All awards will be doubled in value except for the Special Project Grant. Also, the Sonntag Award will be changed to be a cash award.

Second (Rho Kappa)

Vote: unanimous approval

***Convention awards will go into effect in 2017; all other awards will be immediate.

Motion (Upsilon Gamma): Permit all active members of local chapters to be eligible for the DeLap-Holcomb Scholarship. Second (Gamma Delta)

Friendly amendment (Gamma Epsilon) only active members should be considered (accepted)

(Delta Beta) Chemical Engineering students would be eligible.

(Dr. Fisher) Biochemistry members would be eligible.

Vote: unanimous approval

Probation and Deactivation of inactive chapters:

Alpha Eta will be on probation.
Gamma Zeta will be on probation.
Gamma Theta will be deactivated.
Rho Epsilon will be on probation.

Motion: (Rho Kappa) to deactivate the Gamma Theta chapter.

Second (Pi Beta)

Vote: unanimous approval

Motion: (Rho Kappa) The chapters listed above will officially be placed on probation.

Second (Alpha Epsilon)

Vote: unanimous approval

Discussion:

Is it fair to be lenient to chapters at longer distances for probation?

Could we permit virtual participation during the business meeting?

Motion: (Rho Nu) To review “for probation” chapters that have not been in attendance for the last three biennial conventions. Chapters not in attendance should be contacted to determine their reason for absence.

(WITHDRAWN)

We should enforce probational status for chapters which have been absent for three biennial conventions (only for 48 contiguous states). Chapters will only be considered for probation if the chapter was absent from this convention without contacting ~~to~~ the executive committee.

Second (Kappa Epsilon)

Vote: unanimous approval

Beta Eta (friendly amendment) only consider 48 contiguous states. (accepted)

Rho Theta (friendly amendment) only consider absence from this meeting with contact.

Concern was noted that we should table the motion

Motion: (Upsilon Alpha): Withdraw motion indefinitely.

Second (Pi Gamma)

Vote (17 for) (33 against) (2 abstain) motion failed.

It has been suggested that all chapters be contacted with the constitution language to identify the reason for missing the convention **such as travel costs.**

Note: (Dr. Fisher) We have made exceptions for larger **travel** reimbursements.

Motion: (Gamma Eta): Create a research grant for values up to \$1000 for chemistry-related research.

Second (Tau Epsilon)

Friendly amendment to only permit grants for chemistry-related research.

There will be a large burden to the executive committee to review the grants.

(WITHDRAWN)

Motion: (Gamma Eta): Review feasibility of instituting a chemistry-related student research grant by the executive committee. The grant program would be for a potential large grant for one student annually.

Second (Alpha Zeta)

Vote: (12 for) (33 against) motion failed

Note: Please contact chapters in spring about the dates of the fall convention to allow for better planning.

Motion: (Alpha Epsilon): Executive committee will review wording of the constitution relating to the modern technological advancements and the absence of attendees at the 2015 convention.

Second (Pi Beta)

Note: It may be very difficult to arrange the use of Skype for large numbers of delegates. This option should be offered at the discretion of the executive committee based on challenges with finances or distance.

Note: Part of the review will include limiting the number of chapters represented in this manner.

Vote: 1 nay vote, all others voted for; *motion approved*

Motion: (Rho Kappa): Create a motto *Gnothi Seauton Eunomia* “Know Thyself, Healthy State of Mind”.

Second (Sigma Beta)

Vote: (16 for) (23 against) (5 abstain) *motion failed*.

Note: Large changes should be proposed earlier for consideration in the future.

Elections

Archivist: Handles webpage and records.

Nomination: Frank Switzer (approved)

Secretary:

Nomination: Lindsey Welch (approved)

Treasurer:

Nomination: George Fisher (approved)

President-Elect:

Nomination: Kappa Kappa Niagara University Prof. Luis Sanchez (approved)

Elections were concluded.

Recognition of Service:

Anne Falke – former President, secretary 200~~33~~⁷-2013 recognized for her service.

Dr. Frank Switzer – 2005-2015 archivist, current parliamentarian

Dr. George Fisher – 1995-99 Pres-Elect, President, Past-president, treasurer 1999-2015 (20 years)

Dr. Mark Stauffer and Rho Theta Chapter – President Elect (current organizer of 2015 convention)

Dr. Peggy Biser – outgoing president recognized for service

Adjournment at 12:07pm

Minutes were approved unanimously at the dinner Saturday evening.

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