Welcome

I’d like to welcome you to the second issue of Sigma Delta Pideas: the Sigma Delta Pi newsletter run by the Board of Student Advisers.

We hope that this newsletter will provide an outlook of chapter highlights around the nation, as well as new information. All of the information here is well-researched and truly curated only to cater to what we think will be useful to our readers. If you have questions or feedback regarding the newsletter, please don’t hesitate to reach out through email (SDP.BSA@gmail.com).

Cora Spillman, BSA Chair

New BSA Members

Hello everyone. I am Annette Zapata, a PhD student at the University of Houston. I look forward to seeing how Sigma Delta Pi is active in different university environments and learning how different chapters form their unique SDP community.

Hello! I’m Madison Savard and I am a fourth year student at Saginaw Valley State University. I’ve had a passion for language and culture for as long as I can remember, and it is an honor to be on the Board of Student Advisers! I am looking forward to helping increase language awareness on campuses and seeing the steps other universities take to make that happen.

Who are the BSA?

The Board of Student Advisers is a group of 7 undergraduate and graduate Sigma Delta Pi chapter members who communicate directly with and offer feedback to SDP’s Executive Committee members. BSA members serve a two-year term, each representing a section of the United States and various chapter strengths and sizes. We use this leadership opportunity to provide a student perspective on how to help improve the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society: Working together, we have virtual meetings and occasionally meet in person while brainstorming solutions, discussing related issues, and creating projects (such as this newsletter!).

Cora Spillman is the current Chair of our group, and Chase Tiffany is the Vice-chair. Amanda Hudinsky is the Secretary, and Monica Mancillas, Consuelo Destiné, Annette Zapata, and Madison Savard are active members.
CHAPTER PROJECT IDEAS

- Marathon readings of Spanish literary works
- Guest speakers or movie showings
- Host “Survival Spanish” classes, study sessions, language workshops, etc.
- Spoken-word visiting artists or competitions
- Field trips to events, performances, cultural sites
- Pen pals or study and international trips abroad
- Mentor program
- Season workshops: Día de los muertos, New Year’s celebrations in Spanish-speaking countries
- Artisanal productions of Spanish-speaking countries
- Cooking demonstrations or competitions
- Collaborate with another SDP chapter in your state or region
- Mini cultural or linguistic presentations to college peers or local high school students
- Bilingual readings (for children) at a local school or library

$10 AMAZON GIFTCARD WINNER!

Congratulations to our first Amazon Gift Card winner: Meredith M. from the University of Georgia. Thank you for participating in our BSA Survey, and providing us with feedback.

The BSA wants to hear from you! Please complete the brief survey at the provided link (goo.gl/z12iiH) for a chance to win a $10 Amazon gift card! Any and all feedback is greatly appreciated, as we wish to keep this publication student-centered.

CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

LAMBDA IOTA CHAPTER, WITTMENBERG UNIVERSITY

Chapter Lambda Iota has had a busy schedule since their reactivation in 2014! While their chapter is small, they make sure to spread the love for Hispanic language and culture through events like Hispanic Trivia Nights and their poetry reading session, World Café. More recently, they celebrated the syncretism represented in the altars that commemorate Día de los Muertos with an altar honoring Gloria Anzaldúa, Mario Benedetti, Carlos Fuentes, Gabriel García Márquez and several others.

This isn’t the only way they are spreading the love for Hispanic heritage. With the recent political climate, Lambda Iota took it upon themselves to seek action in regards to changes in DACA legislation. They prepared letters and collected signatures from the university community to send to their representatives in support for a program for undocumented students.

They also collaborated with the World Languages and Cultures department to screen the Peabody Award-winning documentary No le digas a nadie (2015). This included a discussion about the film and an opportunity to speak with an immigration lawyer about the legal proceedings involved in becoming residents of the United States.

Through these great events, Lambda Iota has done their best to offer leadership opportunities and to raise awareness in support of underrepresented groups both in and around the university community.