WELCOME

I'd like to welcome you to the very first issue of Sigma Delta Pideas; the Sigma Delta Pi newsletter run by the Board of Student Advisors.

We are excited that this project has now come to fruition, as the first ever student run newsletter. 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.

CORA SPILLMAN, BSA CHAIR

WHAT IS SIGMA DELTA PI?

Sigma Delta Pi is the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society (*La Sociedad Nacional Honoraria Hispánica*). It was established on November 14, 1919, at the University of California Berkeley by a graduate student named Ruth Barnes.

Today, with hundreds of active chapters across 49 of the 50 United States, Sigma Delta Pi is the only honor society devoted exclusively to students of Spanish in four-year colleges and universities, the largest foreign-language honor society in existence (over 180,000 members) and one of the elite as attested by its membership in the Association of College Honor Societies, the nation’s only certifying agency for college and university honor societies.

For more information, please visit sigmadeltapi.org

WHO ARE THE BSA?

The Board of Student Advisers is a group of about 5-7 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 both Monica Mancillas and Consuelo Destiné are active members.
CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT

Héctor Tricás, President of Sigma Delta Pi Omega Epsilon Chapter at Queens University of Charlotte, presented this July at the AATSP Conference in Chicago. Héctor Tricás was invited to the conference to present at the Best Practices session, highlighting his chapter's community involvement.

"Over the past two years the Spanish Honor society at Queens decided to build bridges with the community in order to reduce the static between the American culture and the Latino culture. In the 80's less than 1% of the population in area was Hispanic or Latino, and now in 2017 the Hispanic population represents 17%.

Our chapter brought two renowned speakers Dr. Estrada (who talked about the borders and fluid identities) and Enrique Chicas (spoken word artist who inspired our community with his story when his family decided to emigrate from Central America to the US). Along with these activities, we organized “El Día del Español”, as well as a mentor program to help students in our school decide their career path; we encouraged them to study abroad in a Hispanic country or take upper level Spanish classes.”

As a Sigma Delta Pi member, you have the opportunity to represent your chapter at annual conferences, while receiving a stipend to support your travels to the conference. To apply, see sigmadeltapi.org or email delmastromp@cofc.edu.

CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

CHI (e)A TAU PHI CHAPeTER,
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

This past year, Chapter Alpha Phi (Texas Tech University) held their sixth annual Lubbock Spanish Spelling Bee. This event, which has been noted to be a favorite of the chapter, saw two school districts competing with over 200 students participating in the competition. After preliminary competitions held in-school, each school sends its top 5 students to the Chapter Alpha Phi’s event, totaling 50 competitors.

The event serves as a wonderful opportunity for family, friends, and other community members to come together and celebrate the accomplishments of the students in the field of Spanish. The top five competitors receive a cash prize alongside certificates. The overall winner of the event goes on to compete in the National Spanish Spelling Bee and is sponsored by Chapter Alpha Phi.

This event was noted to be a wild success and garnered attention of both the community, who filled up the auditorium at the event, and local media who covered the event through many local news outlets.

$10 AMAZON GIFT CARD!

The B5A wants to hear from you! Please complete the brief survey at the provided link (goo.gl/212iiH) 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. We will randomly select TWO students and contact you via email.