

Volume 78

Spring 2004

Number 2

76th National Convention Held in New Orleans, March 19–21

Megas Grammateus Aaron Randolph Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)

The exuberant festival that was the 76th annual gathering of the national body of

Eta Sigma Phi took place March 19-21, 2004, in the beautiful town of New Orleans, Louisiana. The host chapter of this year's convention was the Eta Gamma chapter of Loyola University of New Orleans.

Whether arriving via roadway or airway, everyone began to gather for the first part of the convention to be registered and received on Friday in the Fountain and Founder's Room of the Ponchartrain Hotel. Everyone who was present at the reception enjoyed finger sandwiches, fondue, and other delicious

appetizers. All registered convention attendees also received the lovely T-shirts for this year's convention as well as a convention itinerary and other necessary items for the weekend.

Once everyone had the chance to meet and greet one another, the convention was kicked off with the opening session at 8:15 p.m. Eta Gamma's Hyparchos, Katie Jones, welcomed us all and presented the attendees with a brief but informative orientation of New Orleans. Megas Prytanis Charlie McCants (Beta Theta) then gave thanks to everyone involved





Members of the host chapter at the registration and reception.

Megas Prytanis Charlie McCants presides at the first business session.



The winning certamen team from Rhodes College: from left, Caroline Bishop, Jenna Altherr, Andrew O'Brien, and Andrew Willey.

Continued on page 2

ETA SIGMA PHI 2004–2005

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Katie Jones Eta Gamma (Loyola University, New Orleans)

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e-mail: toms@monm.edu

76th National Convention CONTINUED

Continued from page 1 in the planning of the convention and officially opened the 2004 convention.

At 8:30 the certamen competition began. There were eighteen teams consisting of four people each that took part in the battles of the certamen arena. After the hard-fought contests were completed. one team stood unscathed and victorious: Dies Mortorum. All four members of the team—Andrew Willey, Jenna Altherr, Caroline Bishop, and Andrew O'Brien are members of the Beta Psi chapter at Rhodes College. At 11 p.m., with the completion of the certamen competition, the scheduled activities of the convention were done for the evening. Students and advisors were then free to get some sleep or to enjoy the ever-present pleasantries of New Orleans.

The next morning at 8 a.m. Dr. Connie Rodriguez of Eta Gamma welcomed attendees in the Audubon room of the Danna center on the Loyola campus. Refreshments were served and late-arriving attendees signed in. Megas Prytanis McCants began the morning's meeting at 8:35 a.m. Directly after his introduction Megas Grammateus Aaron Randolph (Beta Pi) read over the previous convention's minutes, and after their approval by the delegates, he asked for each chapter's reports to be read. Executive Secretary Thomas Sienkewicz (Gamma Omicron) then presented the report on this year's Eta Sigma Phi scholarship recipients.

At 10 a.m. Honorary Trustee Brent Froberg reported on the endowment fund and gave a short report on the finances of Eta Sigma Phi. Dr. Sienkewicz then announced the winners of the Greek and Latin translation contests. Following these splendid orations Megalē Chrysophylax Rochelle Snyder (Gamma Omega) offered the treasurer's report and Megalē Hyparchos Kelly Duncan (Eta Gamma) presented the Vice President's report.

Following the above-mentioned reports it was decided that there was neither new nor old business to be discussed and Megas Prytanis McCants opened the floor for bids to host the 77th National Convention. The Delta Chi chapter at St. Olaf College was the lone chapter to make a bid for next year's convention.

Nominations for the following year's national officers were received, and at 10:30 a.m. the first business session of the convention was dismissed and the committee meetings began.

At 11:15 a.m. the assembly reconvened in the Audubon room in order to hear the presentation of papers. There were four papers presented at this year's convention. The presenters were Steve Malcic from Alpha Mu with "Odysseus' Erroneous Masterpiece," Karen Kelly of Gamma Omega with "Poetic Personas': The Speech of Pythagoras in Ovid's Metamorphoses," Tasha Genck from Epsilon Xi with her "Sidus in the Aeneid," and the last, but definitely not the least, Kaija Hupila also representing Epsilon Xi with her paper "Virgil's Illuminated Epic."

At noon the assembled mass separated with lunch in mind. A fabulous meal of sandwiches, chips, and cookies was served in the St. Charles's room of the Danna center. Members were then free to enjoy the surrounding area until the afternoon activities began.

The official afternoon activities offered by the Eta Gamma chapter began at 2 p.m. with a theatrical production of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* by the Loyola Department of Drama and Speech at the Marquette Theater. The production was magnificent and truly entertaining. At 4 p.m. the "Toga Man," Prof. Wade Heaton of Southeast Louisiana University, offered his presentation, "The Romans Were What They Wore." Prof. Heaton offered an entertaining lecture on the dress of the Ancient Romans with the assistance of eight people, including himself, clad in Roman garb.

At 7:30 p.m. the collective body gathered in the Ponchartrain Hotel Grand Courtrooms A & B for a lovely banquet. To add to the dining experiences of the banqueters there were several awards given out. Former Executive Secretary C. Wayne Tucker (Beta Theta) was presented with an Eta Sigma Phi pin by Trustee Thérèse Marie Dougherty for his continued service to the organization. Further awards included the award for the best paper presentation, given by Executive Secretary Sienkewicz to Steve Malcic of Alpha Mu. Dr. Sienkewicz also presented

During the Saturday morning session at Loyola University students presented their papers.







Tasha Genck.



Kaija Hupila.

the award for best service project to Gamma Omicron of Monmouth College. Furthermore, all the members of Dies Mortorum, the winning certamen team from the previous night, were presented with their prizes. Megalē Hyparchos Duncan then introduced the featured speaker of the evening, Karen Rosenbecker, Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Loyola University. Professor Rosenbecker presented a fascinating and informative discourse on "Watching What You Eat: The Power and Perils of Dining in the Classical World." The speech was extremely entertaining as well as thoughtprovoking and was the perfect note for the



Megalē Chrysophylax Rochelle Schnyder (second from left), Megas Prytanis McCants (fourth from left), and Megas Grammateus Aaron Randolph (fifth from left) meet with nominees for national officers during the committee sessions on Saturday morning.

On Saturday afternoon delegates enjoyed a lively production of Lysistrata.

76th National Convention CONTINUED



At the banquet on of Trustees Chair Sister Thérèse Marie Dougherty presents an Eta Sigma Phi pin to former Executive Secretary and new Honorary Trustee C. Wayne Tucker.

Saturday night, Board

and scrumptious breakfast of muffins, croissants, and various other pastries was served in the Grand Courtrooms A & B at the Ponchartrain Hotel. At 8:30 the second business session began with the T-shirt competition. The Beta Pi Chapter at the University of Arkansas won the contest with its "Mrs. Locative" design.

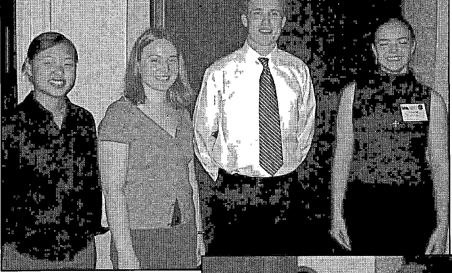
The committees then presented their reports from the previous day, with the resolutions committee giving a delightfully slanderous and verbose report on the actions of the weekend. Sister Thérèse then gave the report from the Board of Trustees. Sister Thérèse announced the changes in committees and trustee positions which the Board had decided upon and also announced the inclusion of Eta Sigma Phi as a beneficiary in several wills. Two chapters were also declared inactive because of their lack of participation since 2001. On the recommendation of the Board, delegates agreed to make former

Executive Secretary Tucker an honorary trustee; and Martha Davis, adviser of Zeta Beta (Temple University), was elected to the Board for 2004-07, and Daniel Levine of Beta Pi (University of Arkansas) was selected to complete the term (2004-05) of new Executive Secretary Sienkewicz.

evening to end on. The end of the banquet marked the end of the scheduled events for the day, and again Eta Sigma Phi members were free to enjoy themselves in what-

On Sunday at 7:30 a.m. a nutritious

ever way seemed fit for them.



The speakers relax at the banquet, from left, Tasha Genck, Kaija Hupila, Steve Malcic, and Karen Kellv.

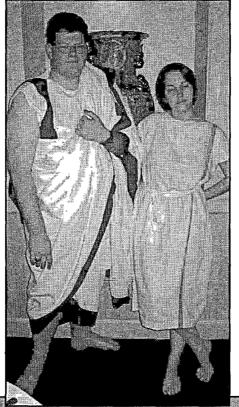
The winners of the certamen are presented with their book prizes provided by the National Latin Exam; from left, Caroline Bishop, Andrew O'Brien, Andrew Willey, and Jenna Altherr.

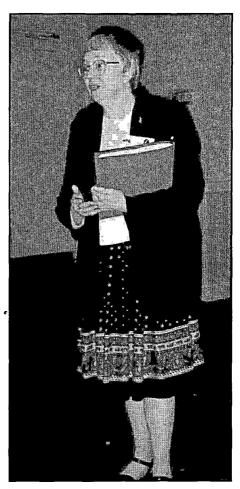


At 9:30 a.m. the elections for next year's national officers were held. Stephanie Walker of Delta Chi (St. Olaf College) was elected Megale Prytanis, Katie Jones of Eta Gamma (Loyola University of New Orleans) was elected to the position of Megale Hyparchos, Andrew O'Brien of Beta Psi (Rhodes College) won the election for Megas Grammateus, and Richard Harrod of Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College) shall hold the position of Megas Chrysophylax for the next year. Once the elections reached completion next year's officers were sworn in at 11:15 a.m. This marked the end of the 76th annual convention of Eta Sigma Phi and outgoing Megas Prytanis McCants officially closed this year's convention at 11:30 a.m.

The following chapters were represented at the 76th annual convention: Alpha Lambda (University of Oklahoma). Alpha Mu (University of Missouri), Alpha Phi (Millsaps College), Beta Kappa (College of Notre Dame), Beta Theta (Hampden-Sydney College), Beta Nu (Mary Washington College), Beta Pi (University of Arkansas), Beta Sigma (Marquette University), Beta Upsilon (Marshall University), Beta Psi (Rhodes College), Gamma Gamma (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), Gamma Iota (Wabash College), Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College), Gamma Omega (Baylor University), Delta Chi (St. Olaf College), Epsilon Iota (University of Florida), Epsilon Nu (Creighton University),

Epsilon Omicron (University of Massachusetts), Epsilon Xi (Gustavus Adolphus College), Epsilon Psi (Santa Clara University), Zeta Beta (Temple University), Zeta Gamma (San Diego State University). Zeta Lambda (University of Louisville), Eta Delta (Hillsdale College), Eta Gamma (Loyola University of New Orleans), Eta Theta (Depauw University), Eta Omicron (Assumption College), and Eta Tau (University of North Carolina-Ashville).





Board of Trustees Chair Sister Thérèse gives the Trustees' report during the Sunday business session.

Two members of Gamma Omicron dress appropriately for the banquet.



Outgoing national officers Aaron Randolph, Rochelle Schnyder, and Charlie McCants help to install their successors: Megas Grammateus Andrew O'Brien, Megalē Prytanis Stephanie Walker, Megalē Hyparchos Katie Jones, and Megas Chrysophylax Richard Harrod.

76th Annual Convention Resolutions March 21, 2004

On this, the first weekend of spring, a time when night and day are most equally matched, let us celebrate the 76th Annual Convention of Eta Sigma Phi with a merry matching of opposites, with a jolly juxtaposition of incompatibles. And what more obvious antithesis in New Orleans than the contrast between the sacred and the profane?

Hail to thee, New Orleans, you time-honored battlefield between purity and sin, and hail to thee, Loyola University, built on the only holy ground in a city founded on pleasure and indulgence. We raise our glass to thee, O wondrously invigorating St. Charles Avenue, with your crowded street cars, joggers, and azalea-filled front yards, and to thee, O wondrously intoxicating French Quarter, with your jazzy tempo and your odorific Bourbon Street.

To thee, O Pontchartrain Hotel, site of our demure debauchery, we give thanks for comfortable accommodations, fine food, and friendly service, especially from Charles Johnson at the front desk. In your hallowed halls we watched a devilishly clever display during the Friday-night *certamen* and on Saturday night admired Prof. Karen Rosenbecker's erudite peroration over "The Power and Perils of Dining in the Classical World" while we ourselves were banqueting, with visions of oyster, snails, and voodoo barbecue dancing in our heads.

And how could we forget to honor thee, O Marquette Theater, where, on Saturday afternoon, Prof. Wilfred Major's adaptation of *Lysistrata*, directed by Prof. Donald Brady, with original music by J. Dan Stanley, brought us face to face with Aristophanes' maculate muse in all her sexy sassiness, or thee, O Nunemaker Auditorium, site of our encounter with the sartorial splendor of the one-and-only Togaman (Prof. Wade Heaton) and his classically clad crew?

And let us not overlook the divine Danna Center, where four modern Danna-ids, Steve Malcic, Karen Kelly, Tasha Genck, and Kaija Hupila, dazzled the crowd with their erroneous, Pythagorean, sidereal, and luminous declamations on a sunny Saturday morning.

Our thanks to ye, O august Board of Trustees and highly exalted Executive Secretaries (two former and one current, but all three present), from the sacred numbers of Prof. Brent Froberg to the commitment to decadence of Prof. Thomas Sienkewicz, and our thanks to ye, O national officers, Charlie McCants and Aaron Randolph, for your able overseeing of the convention, from its serene start to its ear-splitting t-shirt finale.

And most of all, our thanks to ye, O local committee, *xenoi* par excellence, who made this such a Big Easy weekend for us. Our hearts are grateful not just to department chair and tireless operations chief Prof. Connie Rodriguez and to Prof. Davina McClain and the rest of the Loyola transportation team, who drove us safely along the Sacred Way to Touchdown Jesus, but also to the Eta Gamma chapter members who told us how to reach the *viae profanae* of New Orleans.

To all the dignitaries and donors of prizes mentioned on the inside back cover of the program, to all the others (including faculty advisors) whose names we overlooked in our haste to finish these resolutions, and to all the immortal gods and goddesses who ordained that these good times roll, March 19-21, 2004, we offer our most splendiferous and crawdaddiest thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
The Resolutions Committee:
Jason Bart, Don Burrows,
Carrie Casper, Evin Demirel,
Mike Fanucce, Prof. Anne Groton,
Keturah Kiehl, Jacob Lewis,
Prof. David Sick, Brian Walgren

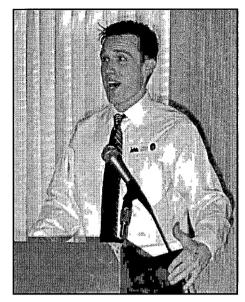
Odysseus' Erroneous Masterpiece

Steve Malcic Alpha Mu (University of Missouri)

(Editor's Note: Advisers who did not have students presenting papers at the convention evaluated both the content and presentation of the four papers and decided that "Erroneous Materpiece" was primus inter pares.)

The beginning of Book Nine of Homer's Odyssey bills its hero brashly: Odysseus, the Master Story-Teller! And his story about the Cyclopes is a masterpiece. "I, Odysseus, after having been trapped in the Cyclops Polyphemus' lair, after that depraved brute ate my men, I, a Nobody, blinded that one-eyed monster and escaped gruesome death!" No listener or reader of Odysseus' narrative could forget his story. But Odysseus contradicts himself twice. He says that the Cyclopes are lawless and care nothing for their neighbors. If this is so, then why does he think up the Nobody plan? And Polyphemus, according to Odysseus, says that Cyclopes do not respect the gods, but throughout the narrative Odysseus relates how the Cyclopes praise the gods. These contradictions force us to question Odysseus' masterful tale. Are the Cyclopes really anti-social and impious? How could the great tactician make these errors of logic? Or, since he is such a great tactician, why does he make these errors? Presumably for the same reason he does everything in the epic: to return to his native land, Ithaca. Odysseus is stuck in Phaeacia and the Phaeacians alone, whose swift ships are unmatched, can give him a ride home. A close analysis of the narration in this context reveals that Odysseus introduces these contradictions into his Cyclopes tale in order to persuade the Phaeacians to bring him home.

After he is washed upon the Phaeacian shore, Odysseus experiences an ambivalent reception. He first meets Princess Nausicaa, who says that she will help, but then, reconsidering that she may be scoffed at by her people for walking with a stranger, leaves him alone to find the palace (6.312-325). Athena, disguised as a young girl, leads Odysseus to the palace and tells him that "[t]he men here never suffer strangers gladly" (7.36), a warn-



Steve Malcic presenting his paper, judged primus inter pares.

ing that causes him to be on guard and is "calculated to increase his anxiety."2 Once within the palace court, Odysseus pleads as a suppliant to Oueen Arete and King Alcinous, who both hesitate to respond, but are prompted by Eupheneus the elder to extend him hospitality (7.189-197). Alcinous finally promises to send Odysseus home the next day (7.363-364), but the next day comes and Odysseus is still not on a ship, but at a sporting assembly that Alcinous hosts (9.1-14). Odysseus must be frustrated; not only does Alcinous fail to follow through on his promise to send him home right away, a young man known as Broadsea even insults him, saying that Odysseus is not an athlete, but a "skipper of profiteers ... grabbing the gold he can" (8.185-188). Alcinous censures Broadsea only after Odysseus displays his prowess, intimidates the entire assembly, and acknowledges the great skill of Phaeacian dancers (8.441-443).

Odysseus reacts to this ambivalence by exploiting an opportunity to tell his story at the banquet that evening. All Odysseus knows about the Phaeacians' attitude toward foreigners is that Athena said they are wary of strangers and that he is not yet on a ship for Ithaca. Since xenia required that a guest share his circumstances with his host, Odysseus seizes

this opportunity to use his cleverness. Having listened earlier to a bard sing of Odysseus' famed clash with Achilles (8.86-98), Odysseus asks the bard to sing of the Trojan horse (8.552-555), a story which sets up the revelation of his identity and is "sure to redound to his credit."3 During this song Odysseus weeps, and Alcinous promptly requests the origin of his tears (8.647-648). The Phaeacians must feel shock when he finally reveals, "I am Odysseus, son of Laertes, known to the world for every kind of craft ..." (9.21-22). Odysseus has waited until now "when he feels he can assert his own kleos with authority"4 and create a mood of reverence and awe, a mood perfectly conducive to his purpose, which only a ship bound for Ithaca can achieve.

Odysseus' first major narration, after briefly touching on his encounters with the Cicones and Lotus-Eaters, is of his bout with the Cyclops Polyphemus, in which he consciously includes subtle similarities between the Cyclopes and the Phaeacians, thereby inviting his hosts to become part of the story. He describes how the Cyclopes' land "teems with all [the food] they need" and that because of this gift from the gods "they never plant with their own hands or plow the soil" (9.120-122). Odysseus had seen the Phaeacian orchard, which itself teems with fruit year round and is said to be a gift from the gods (7.129-157). And in addition to living in similar environments, the Phaeacians recall Polyphemus in how they themselves greet Odysseus. Polyphemus' first words, as he discovers Odysseus' band in his lair, are "Strangers ... who are you? ... out on a trading spree or ... sea-wolves raiding at will?" (9.284-288). Although this greeting is not uncommon in the Odyssey, for "[p]iracy was endemic in the Aegean,"5 it is a conglomeration of Odysseus' interaction with the Phaeacians: Arete's first word to Odysseus is, like Polyphemus', "Stranger" (7.272); and recall that Broadsea accuses Odysseus of being a "skipper of profiteers ... grabbing the gold he can," or a sea-wolf and a plunderer.

How uncouth Odysseus is! He puts the words of his hosts into the mouth of a cannibalistic monster, and he even insults them even further. He reveals,

Odysseus' Erroneous Masterpiece CONTINUED

quoting Polyphemus' Cyclops neighbor. that Poseidon is the father of Polyphemus (9.460). Odysseus knows that Poseidon is the patron god of Phaeacia, father of the former king Nausithous, grandfather of Alcinous, and great-grandfather of Arete (181). Moreover, the Phaeacians had originally lived in Hyperia, a nation next door to the Cyclopes. But the Cyclopes "harried them without end" (6.6-7) and Nausithous led his people on a vast migration to their present shores. The Phaeaciains must be sensitive to remarks that hit so close to home. Odvsseus pointedly marks the Phaeacians' relationship with the Cyclopes, a nation with whom they share a painful and demoralizing history. Why would Odysseus so emphatically insult those who could help him? Possibly because although Odysseus' narrative shots risk shaming the Phaeacians deeply, they also accentuate the Phaeacians' differences from the Cyclopes. differences that, if cultivated, might offer some redemption. For the differences Odysseus narrates reinforce that the Phaeacians are "better" than the Cyclopes in ways that will be particularly helpful to himself. He points out that the Cyclopes are "lawless brutes" that have "no meeting place for council, no laws ... not a care in the world for any neighbor" (9.118-127). The Phaeacians, alternatively,

Scholarships 2004

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The Scholarship to the American Academy in Rome

Ieanean Coker of Charleston

The Theodore Bedrick Scholarship to the Vergilian Society at Cumae

> Andrew O'Brien Beta Psi at Rhodes College

have clearly emphasized to Odysseus the importance of their assemblies. Alcinous had made much ado about the sport and dance assembly held in order to impress their guest (7.224-229). These assemblies approach the level of holy rituals, as they are held "round Poseidon's royal precinct" (6.292). Far from holy, according to Odysseus, are the Cyclopes, who display great disrespect for gods: he quotes Polyphemus as saying, "We Cyclopes never blink at Zeus ... or any other blessed god" (9.309-310). In contrast, the god's possess an apparent partiality for Phaeacia: Athena had told Odysseus that both the orchard and the swift ships are gifts from the gods (7.38-39); and Alcinous is proud that the gods always come "face-to-face" with Phaeacians because they are "close kin" (7.237-242). But Alcinous had also told Odysseus that Poseidon is reportedly angry with the Phaeacians because they never experience any hardship (8.631-634). Odysseus might perceive Alcinous as eager for an opportunity to show the gods his devotion and piety, for he reminds the Phaeacians, as he relates what he told Polyphemus, that Zeus is the advocate of suppliants' rights.6

These significant differences are the sieves through which Odysseus' cunning intentions flow, for these differences not only contrast the Phaeacians with the Cyclopes, they explicitly contradict the rest of the Cyclopes tale. Odysseus' claim that the Cyclopes are "lawless brutes," with no care for any neighbor, contradicts the logic of the Nobody plan. When Polyphemus asks Odysseus for his name, he tells him that it is Nobody. The listener or reader learns why this is a good plan as Odysseus narrates how the neighboring Cyclopes, who had heard Polyphemus' shrieks after he was blinded, came to help Polyphemus, asking, "surely no one is rustling your flocks against your will" or "trying to kill you now by fraud or force" (9.450-453). When Polyphemus answers that Nobody is hurting him, the neighbors conclude that he is sick and go back home. Odysseus must have had the foresight to see that if he hurt Polyphemus, other Cyclopes would come to help. He planned upon the assumption not that Cyclopes are lawless brutes with no

care for neighbors, but that Cyclopes do care for their neighbors, and would come to aid a comrade in distress. And the Nobody plan worked: the neighbors did come, they were concerned that somebody was unlawfully robbing or hurting Polyphemus.

Also, despite Odvsseus' claim, the Cyclopes do seem to respect the gods. In one breath Odysseus relates how Polyphemus denounced the gods; in his next breath he has Polyphemus say, "Jojur soil yields the Cyclopes powerful, full-bodied wine / and the rains from Zeus build its strength" (9.401-402). Odysseus narrates how the neighbors of Polyphemus, after coming to help him, say that "it must be a plague sent by Zeus and there's no escape from that. / You'd better pray to your father, Lord Poseidon" (9.458-460). Throughout the story, aside from Polyphemus' quoted denunciation, the Cyclopes speak reverently of the gods. Polyphemus' own father is the god Poseidon. Cyclopes are indeed pious.

The two aspects of Cyclopean life that Odysseus narrates as contrasting with the life of the Phaeacians, that the Cyclopes neglect their neighbors and do not honor the gods, are the only contradictions in the story. Apart from these two points, Odysseus consistently suggests that the Cyclopes do live with regard for each other and for the gods.

Odysseus, therefore, is an unreliable narrator, but an expert one, too. He purposefully introduces contradictions into his story in order to emphasize the differences between the Phaeacians and Cyclopes, two nations who are otherwise surprisingly similar. These similarities, although insulting, draw the Phaeacians into the narrative and force them to see that this is not a story for them, but a story about them. Odysseus reminds the Phaeacians how community-oriented, pious, and civilized they really are, and when they hear that the Cyclopes are both less civilized and more arrogant than themselves, they feel indignant toward their long-time foes. Their own sense of outrage might compel the Phaeacians to act against such injustice, to act in accord with the "better" aspects of their society, to respect the gods by helping their sup-

Epsilon Rho at the College

pliant, to take part in the happy ending of

this story,⁷ to send Odysseus home. Odysseus' story-telling strategy works at several levels. It is entertaining, and the Phaeacians, who listen, and we, who read, are enthralled. Odysseus blinds the Phaeacians with an action-packed plot, and with subtle manipulations compels them to act on his behalf. They might be unaware of contradictions and inconsistencies, for Odysseus' speech is fleeting, speech which to us casts shadows as letters and words. With the text before us, we can review his words, discover inconsistencies, and study his narrative tricks. We, perhaps like Athena, can truly know Odysseus, and see the deep dimensions of his mental prowess. And perhaps because of this, we, like Athena, can esteem

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(Footnotes)

- ¹ All translations are taken from Robert Fagles' *The Odyssey* (1996).
- ² Hexter, 96
- ³ Hexter, 117
- ⁴ Jones, 80
- ⁵ Knox, 29
- ⁶ Hexter, 131
- ⁷ Felson-Rubin, 48

In Memoriam

Honorary Trustee Bernice Fox

Honorary Trustee Bernice Lee Fox, 92, emerita professor of classics at Monmouth College, died on December 11 in Monmouth, Illinois.



Professor Fox graduated magna cum laude from Kentucky Wesleyan College in 1932 and earned her master's degree from the University of Kentucky in 1934. From 1936 until 1941 she was a graduate assistant in English at Ohio State University.

After working as a research director and a literary revisionist, she joined the Monmouth College faculty in 1947. She was named chairman of the classics department in 1970 and was promoted to the rank of full professor in 1977. She retired in 1981.

Professor Fox was awarded an honorary degree by Monmouth College in 1991, which in 1985 established an annual lecture in her name. Dedicated to preserving the classics and making them applicable to the modern age, she was active in the Illinois Classical Conference and promoted the Illinois State Latin Tournament. She translated several popular stories into Latin, including the children's classic *Charlotte's Web*, published by Harper and Row in 1991.

During her long career at Monmouth, Fox never once took a sabbatical, although she traveled frequently to Europe during summers, usually accompanied by two or more of her students. She will be remembered for her zeal for teaching and her

unconventional teaching methods. "I teach on top of my desk," she once said. "I don't put on a dance up there; I sit up there while I teach. It keeps the desk form separating me from the students."

Advanced classes in Latin and Greek were taught for many years in the basement recreation room of her home, located less than a block from campus. Her lectures often employed slides from her travels and even erotic cartoons from such publications as *Playboy* magazine. She had a razor-sharp wit. When a well-meaning alumnus once remarked that she hadn't changed a bit since he last saw her, she responded, "I hope I didn't look this old fifteen years ago!"

Together with her colleague Harold Ralston, Professor Fox founded the Gamma Omicron chapter of Eta Sigma Phi in May of 1956. Other charter members included eighteen students, as well as Professor Garret W. Thiessen of the Department of Chemistry. Professor Fox was the mainstay of the organization for many years. She organized initiation ceremonies and regularly took Monmouth students to national conventions. Over the years several Monmouth students returned from these conventions as national officers. Under her leadership, in fact, Gamma Omicron chapter never failed to be represented at national conventions from 1957 until 1986, a record which remains unbroken in the national society.

For a number of years Professor Fox served on the Society's Board of Trustees.

At its meeting during the convention in March, the Board of Trustees voted to name the recently established teachertraining scholarship for Professor Fox.

Eta Sigma Phi Honor Cords

Eta Sigma Phi Honor Cords, which are purple and gold, are \$15 each, including postage and handling, or \$12 each if picked up at the national convention. Gold honor hoods with a purple owl emblem are also available for \$20 each by mail and \$17 each if purchased at the national convention. Orders for the cords and hoods should be sent at least four weeks before they are needed. Orders, with a check for the total amount (please do not send individual students' checks) payable to Eta Sigma Phi, should be sent to the executive secretary (see p. 2).

Res Gestae

The following are chapter reports either presented at the convention or sent directly to the national office.

Alpha Lambda (University of Oklahoma) This past year the Alpha Lambda chapter of Eta Sigma Phi has been extremely busy. Our main focus this year has been public relations. We started at the beginning of last semester with redoing the sixteenfoot bulletin board in our building. We included information on organizations such as Eta Sigma Phi, OU Classics and Letters Society, and the American Institute of Archaeology. We also created biographies on our professors and associated professors to aid students in acquainting themselves with our faculty, and we provided information concerning graduate programs.

We have strived to better communicate upcoming events, which have resulted in a greater participation of students; our meetings currently range from seventy to one hundred students in attendance. In conjunction with the Classics and Letters Society, the Alpha Lambda chapter has sponsored many meetings such as Dr. Barcio's "A Citizen of Pompeii," Professor Stephen Wagner's "Democritus or Socrates: Who Was the Real Philosopher?," Dr. Luis Cortest's "The Evolution of Modern Spanish from Vulgar and Ecclesiastical Latin," Dr. Ralf Doty's "Hieroglyphics," Dr. Sam Huskey's "Graduate School: The Application Process and What to Expect," Jack Hobson's "Study Abroad," Dr. Calvin Byre's "Latin Literature," and two movie nights showing Medea and Massada. Alpha Lambda

Quid Novi?

Send information on your chapter's activities by October 1, 2004, for inclusion in the fall *Nuntius*. Photographs of members are always welcome, and be sure to identify the people in the photographs. Send information and photographs to Executive Secretary Thomas J. Sienkewicz (see p. 2).

chapter has also hosted one American Institute of Archaeology meeting featuring Dr. Clive Ruggles from the University of Leicester, UK, School of Archaeology and Ancient History speaking about "Ancient Astronomies: Ancient Worlds," and we will host Dr. William G. Dever from the University of Arizona, Department of Near Eastern Studies, speaking on "The 'Age of Solomon,' History or Myth? The Archaeological Picture."

Alpha Lambda chapter has also begun a new series of events this year with the new OU Center of Classical Archaeology & Civilizations. We are providing a new lecture series, the Barnett Lecture Series and Seminars, which are this year covering ancient cities. We have hosted visiting speakers such as Dr. David George, St. Anselm College, on the topic, "Ain't no Story, Ain't no History: Knossos, A Tale of Two Cities"; Dr. Robert Hohlfelder, the University of Colorado at Boulder, on "Imperial Rome's Architectural Revolution: The View Beneath the Sea"; and in April Dr. Jodi Magness, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, on "Ancient Jewish Tombs and Burial Customs in Jerusalem." The Barnett Seminars are a more concentrated lecture, and we have hosted Dr. David George, St. Anselm College, and Dr. Robert Hohlfelder, the University of Colorado at Boulder, on "The 2003 Persian War Shipwreck Survey: The Search off Mt. Athos." In April Dr. Jodi Magness, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will speak on "The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls."

The Alpha Lambda chapter has also begun an outreach program, which the University of Oklahoma has agreed to fund, encompassing the Oklahoma City area high schools. OU students and/or professors go to the schools and lecture, and our new Latin Club has also begun to participate in this program. This year we are also re-introducing the senior reception, which the Classics and Letters Department has agreed to fund. The senior reception allows the professors to have the opportunity to meet with the seniors and their parents to socialize before graduation.

Because of our efforts, attendance at

our meeting has increased; in turn we hope to initiate more new members as the requirements are met, and so far this year we have eighteen new initiates.

Alpha Mu (University of Missouri) This past year has been one of rebuilding for the Alpha Mu chapter. We have undergone an internal restructuring and a rather difficult officer change, while simultaneously attempting to gain recognition as a legitimate student organization on the Missouri campus. Fortunately, once the dust settled and we dug our way out of pounds of paperwork, we found ourselves University-certified and embarked upon the journey of a successful year.

Our second initiation since revitalizing our chapter, though not as large as we had hoped, was nevertheless a triumph. Not only did we add several outstanding students to our numbers, but we also sparked interest among other students both within and outside of the Classics department. We hope to include several of these in our next initiation, which will take place in the fall, and to raise awareness of our society on our campus.

Apart from initiation, all of our members have been extraordinarily active. Our service chair Steve Malcic and our trusty faculty advisor Dr. David Schenker have relentlessly pursued and provided numerous opportunities for our chapter. At present, we have students tutoring both in high schools and privately, as well as teaching Latin as part of a morning program at a local elementary school. We will also be assisting with area Junior Classical League activities and sending members to lend a hand at the CAMWS convention, both in mid-April.

We made a moderately triumphant first attempt at fund-raising by sponsoring an on-campus bake sale. Part of the money we raised was used to send delegates to the convention, allowing us to bring five members to New Orleans. We have T-shirts in the making, which we will also be selling.

On a lighter note, we have all indulged ourselves in the joy of being Classics majors and minors. We enjoyed movies such as *Gladiator* and *Hercules in New*

York, participated in off-campus study nights, sponsored student presentations, held a department-wide picnic, attended lectures both by our own faculty and by those of other divisions and universities, and, perhaps our most victorious endeavor, we congregated with faculty, family, and friends for a mid-semester banquet (complete with togas, archaic fare, a mini-certamen, and Bacchic revelry) which was truly worthy of the Olympians themselves. Our future plans include a crossdepartmental Classical trivia challenge, a student certamen, one final movie showing, and participation in our department's Homer-a-thon. We also hold regular officer and membership meeting.

Finally, although our members appreciate the entertainment of life, they all the same persist in striving for academic and leadership excellence. Numerous of our chapter's members have been acknowledged this past year for their achievements by our department, the University, and the campus community. We are delighted to count among us abundant scholarship recipients, outstanding Residential Life leaders, accomplished University athletes, active members of traditional Greek societies, and adept participants in innumerable other campus organizations. We are also exceedingly proud of our two graduating seniors, both of whom have been accepted into professional schools, one pursuing a law degree and the other a medical degree.

We are extremely contented with our infant chapter's growth and success, and we hope to further our development by continuing to attract dedicated students of Classical Studies, who will no doubt strive to make Eta Sigma Phi a successful organization on Missouri's campus as diligently as they endeavor to excel in their own lives.

Beta Theta (Hampden-Sydney College) Last spring one of our members, Austin Stracke, was honored with the David Wilson prize for proficiency and promise in the study of Greek, receiving a book and a check for \$500. He also received the Jones Prize for Undergraduate Scholarship, a check for \$2000, at commencement for his independent study on "*Nike and Arete*: The Classical Ideal."

In May the Classical Association of Virginia held its semi-annual meeting at the College.

Last fall the College held a major symposium on "Democracy at War: Athens and America." Former Secretary of State Lawrence S. Eagleburger gave the keynote address, and other sessions included talks by Norma Thompson of Yale University, Stephanie Nelson of Boston University, Clifford Orwin of the University of Toronto, and Karl Walling of the U.S. Naval War College.

We held our annual initiation ceremony on February 17. We initiated seven Hampden-Sydney students, a Prince Edward County High School student who had taken third-year Latin at the College, and, as an honorary member, the local high school Latin teacher.

The initiation was preceded by an illustrated lecture on "The Original Olympics" by Hugh M. Lee of the University of Maryland and was followed by a dinner.

On a sad note, on December 29 our former adviser, Graves H. Thompson, who had served from the installation of the chapter in 1942 until 1988 and at whose home initiation ceremonies continued to be held for many years, died at the age of 96.

We will be having a meeting soon to elect officers for next year.

Beta Kappa (College of Notre Dame, Maryland)

Beta Kappa chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland held several lunch meetings to plan the events for the year. We hosted a special luncheon for Eta Sigma Phi members and all Latin students. To raise funds for our activities we held our annual Roman Raffle from October 18 to 24, 2003. This project also helps increase our Sister Mary Gratia Scholarship, which provides students with funding for an archeological tour of Italy, Greece, or Turkey. The raffle and other donations allowed us to contribute \$850 this year to the fund.

Also in October we enjoyed a slide presentation on the Latin of the Bayeux Tapestry, given by Patricia Short, a local Latin teacher and member of Eta Sigma Phi. Several teachers and students from the area accepted our invitation to attend this lecture.

In November we sponsored a day trip to New York. Our bus left us at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, allowing people to spend as much time there as they wished, and then to enjoy whatever else they wanted in New York before our return in the evening.

On February 27, 2004, several chapter members and other archeology students attended an AIA lecture at Johns Hopkins on "Arthur Evans, the Palace of Minos at Knossos, and the Dawn of European Civilization" by John Papadopoulos of the University of California.

Our spring activities include a lecture at Loyola College on March 24 on "Women and Children in Official Roman Art," and on April 16 we will host our annual Sister Mary Gratia Lecture. Gladys Callahan Justice will give an illustrated lecture on "Roman Africa." We have sent invitations for this to local high schools and colleges and look forward to a good attendance. New members will be pledged to our chapter at this time. This will also be the opening of our annual Maryland Classics Raffle. All proceeds from this spring raffle will help reimburse us for the convention travel expenses.

We are pleased to make a small donation to Endowment Fund.

Beta Nu (Mary Washington College) The Beta Nu Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at Mary Washington College has been very busy this year. Last year we held our annual March induction with over 20 new members being inducted. Our current induction is actually taking place on Friday, March 19, 2004—the opening day of the convention. We will be adding an additional 20 members to our roster. We have also had a change in leadership from last year. Our former advisor, Dr. Liane Houghtalin, has turned over our chapter to the leadership of Dr. Angela Pitts, a recent addition to the Classics Department at Mary Washington. Our chapter has also hosted an annual lecture and awards ceremony. Last year, at a talk concerning architecture of the Roman Forum, we awarded the Laura V. Sumner award and scholarship in classics to Ms. Angela

Res Gestae CONTINUED

Bohon, the current president of our chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. The Beta Nu chapter proudly hosts an annual essay contest for local Latin students in Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Fredericksburg, Virginia. The topic this year was, "Do you believe that unwritten laws are more legitimate than written and established laws?" The three winners of the contest were students at Chancellor High School and were Latin students of Mr. Mark Keith. And finally, the Beta Nu chapter sent one student, Ms. Lindsay Biddinger, the chapter vice president, to the National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Beta Pi (University of Arkansas)
The members of the Beta Pi chapter enjoyed another year rich in exciting events and guest lectures by Classicists all across the country. Beginning in the Fall of 2003, Dr. Barry Goldfarb (St. John's College) asked the question "What is the *Iliad* really about?" in his lecture, while Dr. Will Freiert (Gustavus Adolphus College) and Ann Ellis Hanson (Yale University) stopped by in the spring of 2004 to provide their respective insights into "The End of Athens" and "Alternative Medicine in Greco-Roman Antiquity: The Role of Amulets."

Beta Pi also again organized a campout for a brave band of its intrepid members and friends during the wintry months of the fall 2003 semester. Then in December, Beta Pi inducted one of the largest groups of new initiates in recent memory during its annual Saturnalia celebration.

In the Spring of 2004, Beta Pi celebrated its first annual Roman Dinner complete with traditional Roman foods, stage performances of Aristophanes' Clouds and Apuleius' The Golden Ass, the initiation of four new members, and even door prizes. While there have been other Roman-style banquets in the past, this will be the Roman Dinner by which all others will be measured in the future.

The Beta Pi chapter is also proud of scholarship recipients Aaron Randolph, winner of the prestigious Elizabeth and J.W. Fulbright prize for his upcoming yearlong study in Greece with the College Year in Athens program; Jason Connoly, winner of the Sturgis study abroad schol-

arship; and Chris Cude Woods and Don Burrows, who both received Honors prizes for their summer study program in Italy.

Beta Sigma (Marquette University) The year began well for Beta Sigma with a record number of initiates last spring. The enthusiastic new members got the ball rolling by representing the classics at a foreign language poetry reading, reciting (in the original language, of course) some works of Homer, Catullus, and one of our own aspiring Latin poets. The spring term ended, but for the second summer in a row Beta Sigma was honored to send a student, most recently senior Joseph Simmons, to study under Papal Latinist Fr. Reginald Foster in Rome. Our society activities resumed with the start of the fall semester. As a group we attended a production of Antigone at nearby Carthage College and sponsored a lecture in conjunction with the Theology Department about "Classics in Theological Studies." This year we are all pleased to wear our classics club T-shirts, with the quote so generously supplied by Plautus: Quin tu istanc orationem hinc veterem atque antiquam amoves? At Christmas time Eta Sigma Phi was represented along with other student organizations at Marquette's "Miracle on Central Mall" and helped to collect hygienic goods for the homeless. So far this semester we have sponsored the annual Marquette President's Latin Contest and awarded

prizes to a competitor in both the intermediate and advanced levels. But by far our most involved endeavor has been our annual fund-raiser, the Classical Valentine's Sale, for which we had a classics party and made the unique Latin and Greek Valentines that have been a fixture on Marquette's campus for over twenty-five years. As the year draws to a close, we want to say that we will miss our graduating students, but are proud to announce that two of our seniors, Rajish Mittal and Tobias Torgerson, have been offered fellowships to graduate school for (of course!) the classics.

Beta Psi (Rhodes College) The Beta Psi chapter at Rhodes College kicked off the year with a late summer outing to Autozone Park, where we swapped stories of our summer experiences while watching our beloved Memphis Redbirds battle it out on the baseball diamond.

With the commencement of the academic year the Beta Psi chapter, in conjunction with the Greek and Roman Sudies Department, sponsored a barbeque for new students interested in classical studies. The informal setting allowed the new students to meet department professors and other students interested in classical studies in a comfortable environment that was both fun and educational.

In November, the Beta Psi chapter initiated seven new members into our society.

In December Beta Psi was fortunate to have Gregory Nagy from Harvard University speak about "Homeric Questions." This intriguing master of the classics took time to talk with professors and students following the lecture.

This year we continued to participate in our service project at Bruce Elementary School, a project which is in its seventh year.

In the spring, we initiated eleven new members, and several members who had been abroad studying classics last semester rejoined us. Many of our members will also study abroad this summer and next semester. We have several activities planned this semester, including an end of the year get-together and a trip to see the movie *Troy*.

Gamma Gamma (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)

Salvete, omnes, from Gamma Gamma chapter at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. This past October, we inducted three active members (Trevor Patt, Jacquelyn Jean Jordan, and Ryan Regan), one associate member (Deanna Wesolowski), and one honorary member (Elissabeta Cova). During the fall semester, we were honored to co-sponsor, along with the Classics Club, an illustrated lecture by Adjunct Assistant Professor Elisabetta Cova on the function and form of Roman houses, especially at Pompeii.

Gamma Iota (Wabash College) With over twenty active members, the Gamma Iota Chapter reflects the commitment of Wabash's Classics Department to excellence in philology. During the spring, the department hosted Prof. John Bodel of Brown University to give a lecture on Roman funerals. His insight was wonderful. Although initiates are traditionally chosen during April, more than five students show great promise this year. In addition to holding weekly meetings to discuss business, the Gamma Iota Chapter has been instrumental in starting a Latin program at Tuttle Middle School in Crawfordsville.

Meeting twice a week for thirty-five minutes, Prytanis Seth Zirkle has taught eighteen seventh- and eighth-grade students from the Oxford *Ecce Romani* series textbook. Although there is no Latin program at the local high school, there is a strong possibility that another member from the Gamma Iota Chapter will continue this program next year. Through this volunteer venture between parents and students, the Gamma Iota Chapter has been able to spread the fame and honor of Eta Sigma Phi throughout the community.

This May six senior members will graduate; at least one member will be attending law school another two graduate school, and three will be working.

Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College) The Gamma Omicron Chapter is saddened to begin its report with the news of the death of its founder, Dr. Bernice L. Fox in December 2003, and asks the membership to observe a moment of silence in her memory.

Gamma Omicron has had a busy year. Since the last convention we closed the academic year with a barbeque on Prof. Sienkewicz's deck and opened the new year with a picnic at the same venue. This year we initiated twelve new members. This fall, we revived MC³, the Monmouth College Classics Club. That organization has sponsored a Roman dinner party/mystery night and a trip to Chicago to see the antiquities at the Oriental Institute and the Art Institute. Gamma Omicron has helped sponsor the annual Fox Classical lecture, given this year by Prof. Anne Nelson of Assumption College. We also helped bring Togaman



Members of Gamma Omicron show some of the Latin dialogue used in their award-winning promotion project.

Gamma Omicron Wins Promotion Award

The award for the best project promoting the classics in the community went to Gamma Omicron at Monmouth College for its bilingual performance of the Dr. Seuss classic, *Green Eggs and Ham*, at Conception Elementary school in Monmouth, Illinois.

The production was conceived and directed by Carrie Casper, with Adam Drake and Richard Harrod narrating in English, and Michael Fanucce and Michelle Ansteet doing the Latin narration.

The performance featured two actors, Matthew Katsenes in the role of Sam and Brian Walgren playing the grouch, who mimed the action of the story along with the English narration. Casper and Merry Vue held up flashcards with illustrations and Latin words.

The students plan to perform the show at other local elementary schools.

The award was established to encourage Eta Sigma Phi chapters to enhance interest in the classics in their local communities. Any chapter wishing to have a project considered for the award should send a statement and any supporting information (programs, newspaper articles, etc.) to Executive Secretary Sienkewicz (see p. 2) before next year's convention, or bring the information on the project to the convention for consideration by the Board of Trustees.

to campus this spring. As a fundraiser we ran "Cicero's Pizza Parlor," cooking and delivering pizzas all across campus.

Currently we are working on a Latin Children's Play as a service project. We will be presenting Dr. Seuss' *Green Eggs and Ham* or *Virent Ova*, *Viret Perna* to local elementary schools in a couple of weeks in order to promote Latin for a whole new generation.

This spring break several members of our chapter traveled to southern Italy with our advisor Prof. Sienkewicz, in order to visit Pomepii, Herculaneum, the Villa of the Emperess Poppaea at Oplontis, and the National Archaeological Museum in Naples.

Finally, we have designed the latest chapter T-shirt for our trip to the national convention. The front asks, in ancient Greek, "How many professors does it take to run a *certamen*?" with a lovely picture of the *lupa*, Romulus, and Remus. The back features Mary Poppins and the Latin grammatical construction "Future Passive Periphrastic."

Res Gestae continued

Gamma Omega (Baylor University) The past year has been very eventful for Operation: Gamma Omega Freedom. After a somewhat peaceful regime change in which acceptable casualties were experienced, we made the third time a charm for our new autumn tradition. OctHOMERfest[™]. For the uninitiated, OctHOMERfest is a Baylor extravaganza in which we sell baked goods and read the words of Homer, this year in six separate languages. This grand event has grown from its humble origins of three years ago, so to celebrate the Ides of October, we sold our delicious sandwich wares to those standers-by as were present and made up clever and gorgeous shirts. We welcome also this year Dr. Julia T. Dyson and Professor Carol King into our fold. Our department is waxing so large and powerful that we are considering armed expansion into the lounge of the modern foreign languages department. Our chapter also commissioned, under the esteemed leadership of Prytanis Rochelle Schnyder, some excellent shirt designs, such that all might purchase one and be guaranteed women and glory, or at least a supremely awe inspiring garment.

Last semester we inducted twelve lucky neophytes, and with their help we held our first High School Latin Day for central Texas students. The participants and professors alike were entertained not only by a

Eta Sigma Phi Web Page

The web page of the national office can be found at:

www.etasigmaphi.us

On the page will be found various information on Eta Sigma Phi, as well as links to the pages of local chapters. It also contains copies of the forms for the Annual Report and the Report on Initiates. If your chapter has a web page, please send the address to Executive Secretary Thomas J. Sienkewicz so that it can be added to the national page.

certamen tournament, but also by a battle royale between member Scott Landua (wearing wonderful Gallic garb, woad included) and our own claim to tallest classicist in the world, Dr. John Nordling. Adorned as they were in clever costumes, their performance was one for the ages.

Our departmental lecture series continued with scholars such as Alessandro Barchiesi, Stephen Harrison, Niall Slater, and Peter Knox; each bestowing upon our chapter and other attendees their wisdom through some excellent talks. All this academia inspired us to hold, after long anticipation, our luau-themed take-adate BBO function called Take-a-Dative. Aside from being decidedly Homeric, the party was a welcome respite from the toils of the classics world. Also, our chapter's College Bowl team took the gold at the intramural tournament, nearly upsetting the Nationals-bound Baylor College Bowl team in the ensuing grudge bout.

We are proud of our own Karen Kelly, presenting at this conference her paper entitled "Poetic Personas: The Speech of Pythagoras in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*," and all our members who submitted papers and took part in the Eta Sigma Phi Greek and Latin examinations, especially Dan Walin and Kellen Plaxco for their strong showing.

Delta Chi (St. Olaf College)

This year, we have worked to make our chapter more active in both meetings and activities. After thirty-three years of existence, we decided to apply to be recognized as a student organization on campus. Recognition was granted to us, along with the benefits accompanying it. As opposed to our usual every-twomonth meetings, we have been meeting every couple of weeks to plan our various activities. One new regular program is our Classics Movies. We rent out a lecture room and watch such films as Hercules, O Brother, Where Art Thou?, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum and Clash of the Titans.

In October we had a bonfire and read dramatic Greek and Roman passages. On Halloween, we dressed up and re-enacted the Eleusinian Mysteries, complete with ancient Greek costumes, *kukeon* (a barley drink), oaths against sharing the mysteries

within the "temple," a dramatic procession from the "Agora" into the "temple" of Eleusis, ancient Greek music, and a dramatic reading and re-enactment of the Rape of Persephone. We also co-sponsored a guest lecture by Prof. John Peradotto from the State University of New York at Buffalo; he entertained many Greek and Latin students with his talk, "The Greeks Revolutionize the Alphabet."

For the spring, we plan to have our initiation of new members, more Classics Movies, a *certamen* with the professors, and our traditional end-of-the-year Bacchanalia.

Epsilon Iota (University of Florida) The Epsilon Iota chapter at the University of Florida began the year with our fall induction of thirty new members. On October 3 we co-hosted the 27th Annual Greek Dance with the Center for Greek Studies. Over 200 people attended this event, at which authentic Greek food was served, a Greek band played, and there was lots of Greek dancing. We participated in the UF Habitat for Humanity's Hustle for Humanity, hosted a BBQ, tabled for College Year in Athens, and organized a canned-food drive through the Classics Department's Latin classes to benefit the Gainesville Ronald McDonald House. We collected over 300 cans.

The Gainesville Society of the Archaeological Institute of America hosted a lecture by Dr. Paul Zimansky on "The End of an Empire: Archaeology and the Collapse of Urartu." At the end of the semester, we distributed flyers for enrollment in Greek and Latin classes. Enrollment skyrocketed, and now Latin is the second most popular foreign language at UF, and our beginning Greek enrollment has gone from eight-to-ten a year to over fifty.

In February we held our spring induction and welcomed twenty-five new members. We hosted an information session of what Classics majors can do with a Classics degree. Our panel of graduate students focused on applying to graduate school, on teaching Latin in secondary schools, and on the benefits of pursuing Classics no matter what career path one might choose. Afterwards, we treated our panel to a dinner at a Greek restaurant. We hosted

another BBQ in the Spring, a dinner at the Gainesville Ronald McDonald House, and a birthday party for one of the Department's favorite graduate students. We designed a shirt featuring Catullus's Carmen III, and we have brought twelve delegates to the National Convention.

Our plans for the remainder of the year include sponsoring a Classics Film Festival showing Gladiator, Spartacus, and Clash of the Titans in the Reitz Union Cinema, and hosting a faculty breakfast. We will also be hosting an Ancient Greek Culture Day for sixth graders in Alachua County schools. Prior to the 2004 CAMWS annual meeting, we will host a symposium for those who will be delivering papers. To close the year, we will celebrate a fabulous end-of-the-year bash and award two \$500 scholarships in addition to the over \$21,000 in scholarships given out by the Classics Department and the Center for Greek Studies for the academic year and summer study abroad. We also award an authentic Greek coin to one graduating senior for exceptional scholarship in the Classics.

As usual, this year we have offered tutoring in Greek and Latin and have organized a listserv for communication between tutors and students in case of last minute questions and needs. We also sold study guides for Classics lecture hall classes as a fundraiser for our chapter. Traditionally, following our meetings, we hold a *certamen*. Last summer, five of our members studied abroad in Italy and two in Greece. This summer, we will be taking a trip to Tennessee to see the reproduction of the Parthenon.

Epsilon Nu (Creighton University) The Epsilon Nu chapter has sought to exemplify the ingrained principles of Eta Sigma Phi and preserve the integrity of the Classics. We have worked towards achieving this task not only through various chapter activities, but also through community service. Our ultimate hope is to create a sense of camaraderie among members and to spread interest in the Classics beyond the academic spectrum.

Epsilon Nu's primary chapter activities include movie showings, restaurant outings, picnics, and all other events that

pertain to the greater organization of Eta Sigma Phi.

Fall Picnic: Epsilon Nu commenced the school year with a picnic in a local park for all the majors and professors in the Classics Department.

Monthly Movie Showings: Life of Brian, O Brother Where Art Thou?, History of the World, Part I, Mad Max, Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark, The Passion of the Christ.

Restaurant Outings: Members frequent Katie's Greek Restaurant and the Greek Islands.

Induction: The formal induction ceremony was held in April of 2003 to welcome seven new members into our organization. After the ceremony a picnic was held in Creighton's Jesuit Gardens for the whole chapter. In addition, a special ceremony was also held in the Fall of 2003 to induct four students who had completed Latin during the summer, as well as a professor as a honorary member.

Officer Elections: Elections were held at the start of the 2003 Fall semester to fill the necessary positions of the chapter.

University Recognition: In the spring of 2004 the chapter was recognized as a student organization by Creighton University, developing its own mission and constitution.

Community Service: Project Welcome: Working with an organization for Sudanese refugees, Epsilon Nu adopted Jada Loro, the son of a Sudanese family, to raise money for his education. Two major fund-raising events were held in this effort: A pumpkin-carving contest was held on Halloween which raised over \$100. The chapter collected pledges for a charity bike ride amounting to \$500.

Junior Classical League Convention: In February 2004, student and faculty members of Epsilon Nu volunteered their help at a preliminary *certamen* for the district JCL. In connection with this event, the chapter plans to devote its services to the statewide JCL convention on March 27, 2004.

Epsilon Xi (Gustavus Adolphus College) The 2003-2004 Gustavus Adolphus school year has been one of Epsilon Xi's most eventful years to date. A surge in

freshman and sophomore Classics majors compels the upperclassmen to set a good example (against each and every one of their natural inclinations), a Classics-friendly theatre season keeps the road between St. Peter and Minneapolis well traveled, and the good natured rivalry between Hellenists and Latinists finds vent in frequent competition.

In October, our esteemed Didaskalos, Eric Dugdale, took high laurels at Greek and Roman bowling night. While his decimation of the pins raised eyebrows around the chapter, Co-Prytanis Katie Bukowski's abvsmal bowling performance debunked any further suspicions that her rise to the top has had anything to do with cheating, and I fully appreciate the cessation of the rumors. In November, Ms. Bukowski and Kerux Matt Haugen led a crew of enthusiastic young scholars to a day of Classics at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, a dinner at a new Greek restaurant, and finally a showing of Tom Stoppard's Arcadia at the Theatre in the Round. We were delighted to discover Peter Hansen, the older brother of Vice-Prytanis Martha Hansen, was in the cast. In December, the Greek and Roman competition heated up the ice with the end-of-semester Hellenist versus Latinist broomball competition. After a number of spills on the ice (most taken by our esteemed Didaskolos), the Hellenists and Latinists declared it a tie, arranging a truce and a feast of cookies and unmixed soda. When all had their fill of food and drink, they concluded the evening with a rousing chorus of Latin Christmas Carols led by the acoustic stylings of Chrysophylax Tasha Genck.

Epsilon Xi members, with dedication that rivals the city of Athens' preparation for this summer's Olympics, are currently gearing up for a very busy spring semester. At their February symposium, the officers declared March the Month of the Living Dead Languages. Co-Prytanis Rachel Blunk and Vice-Prytanis Martha Hansen tore themselves away from thesis research in order to organize public movie nights for the month-long celebration. Also in the works is an evening for reading Homeric Hymns, which has sent sophomore and inductee-hopeful John Albert-

Res Gestae CONTINUED

son on a quest for a lyre. No one wishes to disturb him. The day before the Ides, led by Professor Bronwen Wickkiser's Vergil class, troops will be returning to Theatre in the Round for a production of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. Epsilon Xi officers are also very proud to send two talented ladies, Kaija Hupila and Tasha Genck, as our Chapter representatives to the national Eta Sigma Phi convention. Later this spring, in a ceremony so top secret it has yet to be revealed even to its coordinator (yours truly), Epsilon Xi will welcome a particularly energetic group of inductees. In late April, with the help of Campus Activities Board, the Classics Department will host an Olympics Extravaganza. Finally, in May, Professor Will Freiert's Greek and Roman Theatre class will present the second Bi-Annual Festival of Dionysus, and his Homer class will offer a sacred hecatomb.

It is also my great pleasure to report that Kerux Matt Haugen has been organizing a senior gift from Classics Majors and Minors. In recent years, the Classics department has faced significant losses but also undergone a complete turnover of faculty, bringing a new, youthful energy to Gustavus Adolphus College. Also, thanks to the classes of 2002 and 2003, we have seen revitalization of Eta Sigma Phi on campus. The class of 2004 has been fortunate enough to be a part of these emotional, challenging, and rewarding years, and, therefore, we wish to commemorate them. As a part of this group of seniors, it is my hope that future officers of Epsilon Xi will continue to work to keep the Classics Department a vital academic presence at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Epsilon Omicron (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Fall bake sale and book sale; Valentine's Day bake sale.

Tutoring program—Eta Sigma Phi members tutor students in Latin and Greek languages.

I Claudius Nights—every other week.

A.R.E.S. project is underway; hopefully, primary and secondary schools will be contacting us to visit and begin lessons in the fall.

T-shirts—t-shirt sales.

Plays—We went to see the Metamorphoses in Hartford on February 27. We will be attending *The Trojan Women* at UMass on May 7.

Zeta Gamma (San Diego State University)

Busy schedules have kept us from organizing all the activities that we've wanted through the past year, but recent and upcoming events as well as the success of our members will have been the highlight of the year.

Three key members have moved or are moving on: Allison Malstead is finishing her first year with full fellowship for UCLA's Doctorate Program. Emmanuel Jay Espino was awarded full scholarship for a tour with the Vergilian Society last summer. He chose "Hades' Healing Waters" and spent a week in the Naples area and another week in Southern Italy and Sicily. Luca Prazeres, who some will remember gave a performance from the Oedipus Tyrannus at the convention two years ago, has been accepted by UC-Berkeley with a full fellowship and by Brown's Portuguese Program.

In the Fall we took our annual Trip to the Getty, inviting several students from the elementary Latin and Greek classes to participate. So far this spring we've visited a lecture hosted by the Archeological Society on "Restoration and De-Restoration of Roman Sculpture." A few weeks ago the Classics and Humanities Department hosted a lecture by Dr. Donald Lateiner on "Heroic Insults: Honor and Dis-Honor in Homeric Discourse." Just this Tuesday, a small group of us spent the day at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to see some of the examples of de-restored Roman art. For early April we are planning a trip to the Huttington Library in Los Angeles. Our annual Toga Party is still on for mid-April.

In February we initiated three new members and then in our grand tradition dined at Mona Lisa's and gobbled down an assortment of Tabulae Ascanianae.

Zeta Lambda (University of Louisville) The Zeta Lambda Chapter has been especially active this year. At the beginning of the year we initiated the largest group of Eta Sigma Phi members to date with a full-length ceremony at Professor Robert Luginbill's home. We have conducted one meeting a month to discuss activities, fund-raising options, and our end-of-the-semester symposium. Our chapter was lucky enough to receive free tickets to attend a presentation of *Trojan Women* presented by the University of Louisville's Theatre Arts Department. We are also planning to attend the movie *Troy* as a group.

Fund-raising by our chapter has included a bake sale and wrapping Christmas presents for donations. In the future we hope to collect enough books to have a book sale on campus and also to have another bake sale. Our chapter was awarded money by the University of Louisville for our spring symposium, which will include Greek cuisine and possibly a costume competition. Members of our chapter were recently involved in the Modern Language Festival as judges for high school Latin students and also awarded medals to high school Latin programs.

In addition to these activities, we are also putting together a T-shirt and a night of Classical theatre. The Classical theatre will include reading excerpts from texts and performing plays in the Greek, Latin, and English.

Eta Delta (Hillsdale College)

This year Eta Delta gained thirty-seven enthusiastic new members and another fine classics professor, Dr. Gavin Weaire. Dr. Weaire joins Professors David Jones, Lorna Holmes, and Joseph Garnjobst (adviser to our chapter) on the classics faculty at Hillsdale College.

This past year, Eta Delta has continued to pursue its three customary interests: food, bowling, and classics.

We kicked off the year with our annual Fall Cook-out at Baw Beese Lake, preparing and feasting on various gourmet dishes. In October, a small group went to Ann Arbor for an Ethiopian dinner and a lecture at the University of Michigan on one of the current excavations in Greece by John Camp of Randolph-Macon College.

Having met on previous occasions to practice bowl, we convened on the

evening of March 4 for the annual Honorama, an event in which various college honoraries raise money for charity and, in the typical Greco-Roman fashion, compete for trophies.

Our chapter raised money through several fund-raising activities: a raffle, yard work for local residents, and the sales of our notable Classics apparel and Professor Garnjobst's excellent truffles.

This year we continued to offer free Latin and Greek tutoring to college students two evenings a week, staffed by upper-level Classics students. Professor Garnjobst led a Xenophon reading group once every two weeks, and Dr. Weaire, a Caesar reading group every week. A small group of students met weekly to read from the Vulgate Bible.

For the second year in a row, Eta Delta participated in the nation-wide Dictionary Project, through which dictionaries are distributed to local third-graders. Our chapter placed information about our honorary and a table of the Greek alphabet inside each dictionaary before presenting the books to the students in person. We hope to reach more schools next year, having been granted financial support by the Kiwanis Club.

Eta Sigma Phi at Hillsdale College looks forward to another prosperous year of bowling, food, and classics!

Eta Theta (DePauw University)

Throughout the last year, our chapter has a been sponsoring monthly movie nights, during which we provide free food to interested students while we watch classic classics films, such as *Spartacus*, *Clash of the Titans*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. These films are open to all students. We have also sponsored a monthly lunch with a featured classics faculty member, during which each has discussed a current research project and classical-studies beginnings.

At our last initiation in early March 2004, thirty-two students were eligible to become Eta Sigma Phi members: twenty-one joined, bringing our total membership to between thirty-five and forty students. We celebrated the initiation with a meeting and a Classics party featuring Greek food.

First Teacher-Training Scholarship Awarded

Amy N. Petersen, a Latin teacher at Midlothian High School in Midlothian, Virginia, has been selected by the Board of Trustees to receive the first Bernice L. Fox Teacher-Training Scholarship. The award of \$500 will be used to support Petersen's work at the University of Georgia.

As a senior at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Petersen helped to establish the Zeta Sigma chapter in 1995-96. She has been teaching at Midlothian for the past three years, and for three summers she has been attending the University of Georgia's Summer Classics Institute, where she hopes to finish her work for the M.A. this summer. The Eta Sigma Phi scholarship will be used towards the cost of tuition at the Institute.

Eta Sigma Phi offers the annual scholarship to an Eta Sigma Phi member who is teaching, or preparing to teach, in the secondary schools. The award is to be used for a summer activity contributing to the recipient's preparation for teaching, such as attendance at the Summer Institute of the American Classical League, the Kentucky Language Institute, or the Illinois Pedagogy Workshop; or attendance at university courses leading to certification.

There is no application form, but those wishing to apply should submit a proposal that includes a description of the program, a budget, any other financial support expected, and their contributions to Eta Sigma Phi when they were undergraduates. They should also ask an appropriate person (department chair, principal, supervisor, etc.) to send a letter of support. They should indicate the chapter into which they were initiated, as well as the date of the initiation, if possible.

Proposals should be sent by February 1, 2005, to Executive Secretary Sienkewicz (see p. 2) for consideration at next year's Board meeting.

Eta Omicron (Assumption College) Our year began with a joint meeting with the Classics Club (as are most of our events) to vote on events that we would like to do over the course of the year. On Thursday, September 25, we took a trip to the Worcester Art Museum to look at the classical exhibits. In October, we met to paint pots with designs modeled from the Greek and Roman pottery we had observed in the museum. After our pots were completed, we painted pumpkins and later sold them as a fund-raiser. On November 8 some of our members volunteered at the Classics Day presented by the Pioneer Valley Classics Association and held at Blechertown High School. We helped out with the workshops as well as watched a performance of parts of the Odyssey by Odds Bodkin. Later in the month we got crafty again by making mosaics.

Second semester started off on February 4 with a toga-making lesson. We met

February 12 to watch My Big Fat Greek Wedding and held our induction of new members on February 18. We are currently planning an Ides of March dinner, a trip to see the movie *The Passion*, and a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Eta Tau (University of North Carolina, Asheville)

In conjunction with the philosophy honor society, we arranged a viewing of *Hedwig* and the Angry Inch, which is partly based on Plato's discussion of gender found in the Symposium. We have begun fundraising through the sales of organic Fair Trade coffee on campus. In the interest of democracy, efforts are under way to promote voter registration, in tandem with other campus student organizations.

In the first year of our chapter's existence, Eta Tau has been setting the groundwork for future initiates, in the hope that they maintain the chapter for many years to come.

Initiates July 1-December 31, 2003

The following are the names of students and others whose initiations into the Society were reported to the national office between July 1 and December 31, 2003. The date in parentheses is the date of the initiation ceremony.

Eta (Florida State University): Mitchell Bishop, Sara Hartsfield, Joseph Morris, Morgan Myers; Associate: Jason Whitmarsh (10-16-03).

Alpha Sigma (Emory University): Kathryn Ann Atkinson, Sarah Jane DeYoung, Brandon Fitzgerald Jones, Kathryn Carlen Maddux, Justin Bhupendra Mahida, Adamantios Michael Mellis, Sarah Van Horn Melton, James Brent Tarter (10-07-03).

Beta Iota (Wake Forest University): Chase Hautau, Jay Lanier, Kyle Layman, Charles Maxwell, Erin Lynn Rosati, Stephanie Sylvia Smith (11-6-03).

Beta Sigma (Marquette University):
Daniel M. Brody, Jennifer Camin, Jennifer
Mae Davenport, Gregory Demo, John
James Fraser, Lindsay D. Hanief, Jennifer
S. Jeep, Mary Elizabeth Kearns, Erica
Josephine Kowalski, Abbey Lam, Mary
Catherine Josephine Marrs, Robert
Mate, Kate Christina O'Hara, Joseph E.
Schumaker, Christopher Stolpa, Vincent
L. Strand, Christin Ellen Van Dam,
Elizabeth Vissat, Bradley D. Vollmer,
Theresa M. Whitaker (4-30-03).

Beta Psi (Rhodes College): J. Zachary



Members and initiates of Gamma Omicron after the initiation ceremony.

Harris, Seth I. Gilpin, P. Eben Cathey, Meriwether M. Wofford, David A. Watkins (9-29-03).

Gamma Gamma (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee): Trevor Ryan Patt, Ryan N. Regan, Jacquelynn Jean Jordan; Honorary: Elisabetta Cova, Deanna L. Wesolowski (10-18-03).

Gamma Omicron (Monmouth College): Michelle M. Anstett, Misty A. Bowman, Ashley Clegg, Richard F. Harrod, Kirk N.

Gilmore, Zachary A. Pedigo, Ashleigh N. Tweed, Merry C. Vue, Matthew D. Woods (11-6-03).

Gamma Upsilon (Austin College): Sarah Lynne Buhidma, Matthew Gregory Durham, Rachel Margaret Friedman, Shauna Leigh Harkless (10-31-03).

Delta Omicron (Texas Tech University): Erik Richard Velez, April DeAnn Moreno, Pamela Joy Stage, Kathryn E. Sibley, William David Wilson, Kelsey Jolen Markham; Honorary: Rebekah Elaine Berry, Edward V. George (10-22-03).

Delta Upsilon (Valparaiso University): Rebecca Mentzer (9-12-03).

Epsilon Iota (University of Florida): Melissa Abrams, Kristin Ahders, Stephanie Bates, Jeremy Bloor, Eleni Bobotas, Sarah Burke, Tanya Casey, Randall Colvin, Megan Daly, Brenda Fields, Amber Graham, Maria Handrinos, Teresa L. Hardin, Jennifer Hofer, Christopher Scott Hunter, Courtney Jardine, Thomas Jardon, Rebecca Johnson, Brett Leach, Courtney Lewis, Sean McDermott, Jeannie, Nguyen, Jessica Oakes, Shannon Osborn, Janice Ouimet, Tristan Overcashier,

Eta Sigma Phi Medals

Eta Sigma Phi medals awarded to honor students in secondary-school Latin classes help to promote the study of Latin in high school and give Eta Sigma Phi an excellent contact with high school students of the Classics. Chapters can use them as prizes for contests or as a way to recognize achievement.

In addition, chapters can award the medals to outstanding students of the Classics at their home institutions.

Two silver medals are available: the large medal (1½ inches) at \$24.75 and the small (¾ inch) at \$10.25. A bronze medal (¾ inch) is available at \$6.50. The various medals can be awarded to students at various levels of their study.

Medals may be ordered from Dr. Brent M. Froberg, 5518 Lake Jackson St., Waco, TX 76710-2748. Please add \$1.00 per order to cover the costs of postage and handling. Checks should be made payable to **Eta Sigma Phi Medal Fund** and should accompany the order.

Alan Pagan, Jr., Jonathan Semach, Steven Shakespeare, Michael Wheeler; Associate: Michael Ritter (9-18-03).

Epsilon Omicron (University of Massachusetts): Jonathon Podolsky (10-21-03).

Epsilon Sigma (Augustana College): Zachary Berkley, David Holesinger, Keith Jagger, Sharon Lombard, Somasundaram Velayutham (5-4-03).

Epsilon Chi (University of South Florida): Tracey K. Grumbach, Ryan Parker Watson, Sarah Johnson, Angela M. Morris, Ryan Patrick Foreback, Stephanie Whitley-Powell, Kelly Jeanne Forsmans (11-26-03).

Zeta Iota (University of Georgia): Kristin Hood, Kristin Kissiah, Donald Embelton, Todd Culpepper (11-17-03).

Zeta Lambda (University of Louisville): Renee Foster, Tasha Johnson, Erin Hudson, Kelley Faulkner, Justin Linde, Danielle Baines, Donita Baines, Jason Schwalm, Joseph McCurdy, Matthew Brady, Joshua Dohrer, Joshua Flanery, Sean Donaldson, Erik Glowark, Charles Anderson, Ebony Floyd, Candice Flint, Leah Jones (10-27-03).

Zeta Xi (Iowa State University): Michelle M. Meyer, Eric Jennings, William Crawford, Matthew Isaac Cvijanovich, Andrew Nelson (10-20-03).

Zeta Omicron (Wayne State University): Seth J. Jaskowiak, Kevin R. Kuznia, Ryan P. Vlcko, Eric V. Wright (4-4-03).

Eta Delta (Hillsdale College): Megan Ann Bezier, Benjamin Finnegan, Matthew T. Gaetano, Laura Elizabeth Gentry, Luke Heyman, Catherine J. Larsen, M. George Linzel, Megan Patricia Milczarski, Derek T. Muller, Nathan Fuji Sato, Judith Schellhammer, Stephen E. Slater, Rachel S. Somogie, Andrew R. Tucker, Christopher A. Walker, Ryan J. Walsh (9-5-03).

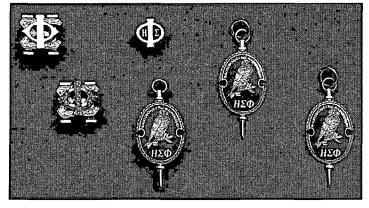
Eta Eta (Virginia Tech): Kathryn Mayhew, Michael Steier, Nicole Long, Christie Padgett, Kimberly Murray, J. Daniel Mull, Ashley Puig; Associate: Lauren Jarecki, Shannon Roark Evans (4-11-03).

Eta Pi (Hobart and William Smith Colleges): Caitlin Babbitt, Sarah Donecker, Elizabeth Harris, Kathleen Holland, Kathryn Kana, Ellen McClintock, Leya Tesmenitsky, Kristen Wright; Honorary: Michael S. Armstrong, Leah Himmelhoch, Dana Olanoff, Mary D. O'Malley, Michael Tinkler (10-28-03).

Eta Upsilon (University of Southern California): Jennifer Asplin, Julia Berkowitz, Dane Lindberg, Sara Madge, Nicholas West (5-14-03).

Eta Psi (Michigan State University): Dustin Brownell, Kevin McDaniel, Lindsay Radke, Brad Sekedat, Crystle Price, Chad Judkins, Kevin Roth; Associate: Stephanie Smith; Honorary: Andrew Cooper, Stacey Pabis (10-20-03).

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