



Finding Aid for
PI KAPPA DELTA COLLECTION

Gangwish Library
Ottawa University
Date range: 1892 – 2017
Bulk range: 1913 – 2017

Finding Aid created by Leslie J. Drake, 2018
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Collection Creator: Pi Kappa Delta

Extent:

Contents: The Pi Kappa Delta Collection is a varied and comprehensive collection. It includes: Official and unofficial periodicals and newsletters, correspondence, photographs and other visual media, event files, meeting minutes, agendas, membership files and lists, charter applications, financial records, reports, certificates, trophies, plaques and other awards, student and administrative original speeches, programs, scrapbooks, clippings, maps, pennants, flags and other convention paraphernalia

Call Number: RG37

Language: English

Acquisition Information: This material, other than a small portion concerning Ottawa University only, was deposited in 2016 – 2018 in Gangwish Library Archives by the Pi Kappa Delta organization to form the Pi Kappa Delta National Archives. Future deposits are expected.

Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research

Copyright: Copyright remains with the Pi Kappa Delta National Archives

Cite: (per item) folder, box, Pi Kappa Delta Collection, Pi Kappa Delta National Archives

History: Pi Kappa Delta was formed with the intention of becoming a national forensics honorary fraternity. The organization's constitution was first ratified in 1913 due in particular to the efforts of two individuals; an English and Forensics college professor – Egbert Ray Nichols (Ottawa University, Ripon College, and University of Redlands), and a college student – John A. Shields (Ottawa University). Nichols, after graduating from Harvard, moved to Ottawa, Kansas to take up his first teaching position as professor of English and Speech at Ottawa University in 1909. He had won awards as a student in public speaking, and shared with his students his idea for a national fraternity dedicated to forensics. The idea made a convert of Shields who was a student in his classes. Shields was already an avid participant in local public speaking contests. In his early youth he had been inspired by some of the great orators in the Chautauqua tent shows and Lyceum Lecture Series that crisscrossed rural America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The struggle to realize the organization, however, took years and included opposition from both faculty members and students. These groups were either opposed to fraternities in general, or disagreed concerning the organization structure and intent. By 1911 Nichols had left Ottawa and joined the faculty of Ripon College in Wisconsin. Nichols and Shields had become friends and continued to correspond with each other. In 1916 Nichols moved again for health reasons to the faculty of the University of Redlands in California. His movements helped the future development of the organization by allowing the idea to spread beyond just the Midwest. In the meantime Shields, with indefatigable energy, traveled in his spare time to colleges and universities in neighboring states developing converts to the idea. In Ottawa, Shields had already developed a student organization named *Deinon Legien* (Latin for 'demon talkers') and Nichols had likewise formed a local organization in Ripon entitled 'Pi Kappa Delta Club', PKD standing for *Peitho Kale Dikaia* (Persuasion, Beautiful and Just). The name was coined by Grace Goodrich, a student of Greek history and the sister of one of Dr. Nichols students.

The efforts of both men resulted by 1912 in a board of twelve “founders” who began to work on a constitution for the new national organization. After much arguing and trading back and forth the constitution was finalized. The final version was compiled by Shields and E. A. Vaughn, a student at Kansas Agricultural College, and a future vice president of the organization. They spent the 1912 Christmas holidays together in Ottawa Kansas putting the final touches on the document and becoming the first to sign it. With this Shields accomplished his goal to complete the initial framework of the organization before his graduation in 1913. The Ripon club name, *Pi Kappa Delta*, was agreed as the name for the new national organization. Nichols was named as the first president, a post he held through 1918, and Shields the first General Secretary. The secretary position allowed Shields to clear the way for Ottawa University (Kansas Alpha) to be awarded the first PKD chapter charter.

The organization grew rapidly, its peer-reviewed journal, *The Forensic*, was first published in 1915, and in 1916 the first of fifty (to date) national tournaments and conventions. From the beginning PKD welcomed and actively encouraged female participation and formerly dropped the “fraternity” from its title in the 1970s. Also in the 1970s the organization began to actively recruit minority students and minority based colleges and universities. Pi Kappa Delta celebrated its One Hundredth year in 2013. Pi Kappa Delta today, thanks largely to its policy of welcoming all colleges and universities of any size into the organization, and its emphasis on competition in a broad array of forensic activities, extends throughout the United States. Recent PKD National tournaments have included hundreds of higher education institutions in over thirty states with thousands of student participants.

Scope and Content: The Pi Kappa Delta Collection contains multiple sources which include; organization periodicals and newsletters, correspondence, promotion material, event files, financial records, photographs and digital media, posters, original speeches and compositions, meeting minutes, member file cards, scrapbooks, clippings, trophies, medals, award plaques, certificates, convention paraphernalia, pennants, maps, programs, and convention booklets. It is difficult to pinpoint the strength of the collection but correspondence, details of planning national tournaments, tournament and banquet programs, photographs, membership card files, convention paraphernalia and organization produced periodicals and newsletters are particularly extensive.

Correspondence: Ranges from 1916 to 2017 and takes many different formats; member, founder, administrative, queries, historical remembrances, official and email planning correspondence. These correspondences are separated by general subject matter such as; general membership related, planning or historical correspondence separated by date.

National Tournament Planning Details are listed by a variety subjects primarily falling under the heading *Tournament Details and Procedures* which includes; ‘Event Registration’, ‘Tournament Committees’, ‘Tournament Promotion’, ‘Rule Changes’, ‘Individual Event Participation’,

'Contest Results', 'Planning and Correspondence', 'Award Lists', and 'Tournament Analysis' largely separated by date.

Tournament and Banquet Programs are contained primarily under both, *General History* and *Chapter/Province Activities* separated by date.

Photographs are contained primarily under the category *Images* and are separated by date, photograph media (actual prints or cuttings), snapshots and promotion/portrait.

Membership Card Files are the contents of card files kept at the national headquarters on 3x5 cards with information on members and their sponsoring institutions. The information on them includes; date of institution charter, member name, member joining dates and forensic victories. They are separated by institution and date. Records were kept in this manner until the 1990s (The collection also includes bound copies of the *PKD Grand Catalog* with roughly the same information published also until the 1990s)

Convention Paraphernalia includes buttons, laminated cards of all sizes, pennants, place holders, event tickets, name badges and decorations.

PKD Periodicals and Newsletters include a complete set of *The Forensic*, partially complete set of *The Key* and an assortment of PKD national and province newsletters dating back to the 1950s.

Subject Terms:

- Debates and Debating – Competitions – Handbooks, Manuals, etc.
- Debates and Debating – History
- Forensic Oratory – Periodicals
- Forensic Oratory – History
- Persuasion (Rhetoric) – History
- Persuasion (Rhetoric) – History – 20th Century
- Persuasion (Rhetoric) – Study and Teaching (Higher)
- Persuasion (Rhetoric) – Study and Teaching – United States – History

Related Materials: The Pi Kappa Delta National Archives is currently the only known comprehensive national archives dedicated to forensics and public speaking. Small amounts of additional archival material in this area can be found within a number of United States college and university archives collections focusing on that particular college and university's role in forensic competition.

Container Contents (currently - subject to future change and additions).

Folder #	Description	Shelf #
Box 1	General Membership	RG 37.01
Folder		
1	Official Membership Directories Published booklets 1984 - 1987	RG 37.010
2	Official Membership Directories Published booklets 1988 – 1989	
3	Official Membership Directories Published booklets 1990 - 1991	
4	Official Membership Directories Published booklets 1992 - 1993	
5	Official Membership Directories Published booklets 1993 – 1994, 1995 – 1996	
6	Official Membership Directories Published booklets (2002 – 2003) – (2007 – 2008)	
7	PKD Member Necrologies Document list 1997	RG 37.011
8	PKD Member Necrologies Document list 2003	
9	PKD Province Lists and Directories Document lists and pamphlets 1984 – 1986	RG 37.012
10	PKD Alumni Lists Document Lists and pamphlets 1951 – ?	RG 37.013
11	PKD New Member Material Paper forms, cards and lists 2000s	RG 37.014
12	PKD Alumni Lists Document lists 1951 – ?	RG 37.015
13	Member Unofficial Correspondence To: Larry Norton Typewritten letters Nov. 1982 – April 1983	RG 37.016
14	Member Unofficial Correspondence To: Sandra Alspach Typewritten letter 2014	

15	Member Unofficial Correspondence	To: unknown member Typewritten letter 2006	
16	PKD Member Accomplishments	Published books, 1969 – 2013	RG 37.017
Box 2	Images		RG 37.02
Folder			
1	Individual Photographs	PKD Founders	RG 37.021
2	Individual Photographs	Distinguished Alumni	
3	Individual Photo Cuttings	PKD Founders	RG 37.022
4	Individual Photo Cuttings	Distinguished Alumni	
5	Group Photographs	Ottawa University 1950s	RG 37.023
6	Group Photographs	General Forensic 1950s	
7	Group Photographs	Forensic Award Teams 1990s	
8	Group Photo Cuttings	Conventions 1916, 1918	RG 37.024
9	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD National Officials 1922, 1934, 1951	
10	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD National Officials 1962, 1963, 1966	
11	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD National Officials 1967, 1970	
12	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD Chapters 1917, 1921	
13	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD Chapters 1922, 1924	
14	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD Chapters 1966, 1972	
15	Group Photo Cuttings	PKD Founders	

16	Publicity Photographs	1966, 1980s	RG 37.025
17	Publicity Photo Cuttings	Pre-PKD (Ottawa University) 1910	RG 37.026
18	Snapshots	Tournament/ Convention Meetings 1940s, 1960s	RG 37.027
19	Snapshots	Tournament/Convention Meetings 1980s	
20	Snapshots	Tournament/Convention Meetings Northern Kentucky 1995	
21	Snapshots	Tournament/Convention Meetings 2006, 2009, 2012	
22	Snapshot Cuttings	Tournament/Convention Meetings Pre – PKD Early 1900s	RG 37.028
23	Snapshot Cuttings	Tournament/Convention Meetings 1920s	
24	Snapshot Cuttings	Tournament/Convention Meetings 1951, 1966, 1972	
25	Snapshots	Special Events Honoring Carolyn Keefe 1990s	RG 37.029
26	Snapshots	Special Events PKD Founders Day Hall of Fame Dedication 1996	
Box 3 Governing Documents			RG 37.03
Folder			
1	Constitutions (national)	Final Published Versions [booklets] 1936 - 1955	RG 37.031
2	Constitutions (national)	Final Published Versions [booklets] 1959 - 1973	
3	Constitutions (national)	Final Published Versions [booklets] 1982 - 1986	
4	Constitutions (national)	Final Published Versions [booklets] 1988 - 1993	

5	Constitutions (national)	Final Published Versions [booklets] 2001 - 2011	
6	Constitutions (national)	Working Copies [typed paper docs with annotations] 1978	
7	Constitutions (national)	Working Copies [typed paper docs with annotations] 2005 - 2011	
8	Constitutions (national)	Revision Committee Reports [typed documents] 1979 - 1988	
9	Constitutions (national)	Revision Committee Reports [typed documents] 1994 - 2003	
10	Constitutions (national)	Change Proposals [typed documents] 1987 - 2011	
11	Constitutions (national)	Constitutional Bylaws [printed documents] 2005	
12	Constitutions (national)	Amendments [printed documents] 1975 - 2001	
13	Constitutions (national)	Issues [typed documents] 2009	
14	Constitutions (national)	Tournament Bylaws [typed documents] Working and final copies 2005	
15	Constitutions (province)	Assorted documents (in alphabetical order) 1930s - 1984	
16	Constitutions (Chapter)	Kansas Alpha [typed document] 1938	
17	Rules and Procedures	Rituals and Ceremonies [booklets] 1923 - 2003	RG 37.032
18	Rules and Procedures	Ritual and Ceremonies [working copies – annotated documents] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Installation of New Officers (President) ○ New Member Initiation (province) 1930s - 1991 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter Installation (Current) 	
19	Rules and Procedures	Specific Initiation Ceremony Scripts [typed documents] 1991 - 2003	
20	Rules and Procedures	Chapter Petitions [Instruction booklets, petition forms, typed working lists and related typed correspondence] 1990s - 2011	
21	Rules and Procedures	Tournament Rules [printed documents] Current	
22	Rules and Procedures	Order of the Beards Oath [typed document] 1990s	
23	Rules and Procedures	Student Congress [printed document] Current	
24	Rules and Procedures	Parliamentary Meeting Rules [Typed letter to David Ray from “Don”] 1989	
25	Rules and Procedures	National Standards [printed documents] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NPDA ○ American Forensics Association ○ Applied Ethics Case of the Month – Core Ethical Values Current	
26	Organization Goals and Values	Mission Statements Ca 2006	RG 37.033
27	Strategic Plans	Official Plans (printed documents) 1991, 2008	RG 37.034
28	Strategic Plans	Digital documents [Disc] Ca 1996	
29	Strategic Plans	Task Force [Typed document] 2009	
30	Strategic Plans	Long Range Planning [Typed letter and report] 2007	
31	Strategic Plans	Plan Action Steps [Typed document] 2009	

Box 4 National Council**RG 37.04**

Folder

1	Council Committee and Officer name lists	1980s – 1990s [typed documents]	RG 37. 041
2	National Council Correspondence	1989 [?]	RG 37. 042
3	National Council Correspondence	1990 [?]	
4	National Council Correspondence	1991 [?]	
5	National Council Correspondence	1992 [?]	
6	National Council Correspondence	2005 [?]	
7	National Council Correspondence	2007 [?]	
8	National Council Correspondence	2009 [?]	
9	National Council Correspondence	2010 [?]	
10	National Council Correspondence	2011 [?]	
11	Meeting Agendas	1989 – 1996 [typed documents]	RG 37.043
12	Meeting Agendas	2000 – 2009 [typed documents]	
13	Meeting Agendas	2013 [typed documents]	
14	Meeting Details and Preparation	1986 – 2009 [typed and printed documents]	RG 37.044
15	Meeting Handouts	1990s [printed documents]	RG 37.045
16	Meeting Handouts	2000 - 2009 [printed documents]	
17	Meeting Handouts	2010, 2012 [printed documents]	
18	Meeting Minutes	1989 [printed documents]	RG 37.046
19	Meeting Notes	1980s [typed and handwritten documents]	RG 27.047
20	Meeting Notes	1990 – 1995 [typed and handwritten documents]	

21	Meeting Notes	1996 – 1999 [typed and handwritten documents]	
22	Meeting Notes	2000 – 2006 [typed and handwritten documents]	RG 37.048
23	Meeting Reports	Chapter Development and Standards 1980 – 1989 [printed documents]	
24	Meeting Reports	Chapter Development and Standards 1990 – 1993 [printed documents]	
25	Meeting Reports	Charter and Standards 1980 – 1989 [printed documents]	
26	Meeting Reports	Charter and Standards 1990 – 1999 [printed documents]	
27	Meeting Reports	Charter and Standards 2000 – 2010 [printed documents]	
28	Meeting Reports	Editor's Reports 1986 – 2010 [printed documents]	
29	Meeting Reports	Fiscal Development Report 1990 [printed documents]	
30	Meeting Reports	Local Host/Convention Site Report 1991 – 1993, 2013 [printed documents]	
31	Meeting Reports	Past President's Report 1997 [printed document]	
32	Meeting Reports	Past President's Report 2002 – 2003, 2006 – 2007 [printed doc]	
33	Meeting Reports	President's Report 1989 [printed document]	
34	Meeting Reports	President's Report 1992 – 1993 [printed document]	
35	Meeting Reports	President's Report 2001 – 2003, 2009 – 2010 [printed docs]	
36	Meeting Reports	President Elect Report 2007, 2010 [printed documents]	
37	Meeting Reports	Professional Development 1990 – 1991, 1993, 1997 [printed docs]	
38	Meeting Reports	Professional Development 2002, 2005, 2010 [printed documents]	
39	Meeting Reports	Province Coordinator Report 1993, 1996 – 1997 [printed documents]	

40	Meeting Reports	Province Coordinator Report 2002, 2005 [printed documents]	
41	Meeting Reports	Public Relations Report 1992, 1996 [printed documents]	
42	Meeting Reports	Special Programs Report 1988, 2007 [printed documents]	
43	Meeting Reports	Student Reports 1990, 2003, 2005 – 2006 [printed docs]	
44	Meeting Reports	Tournament Director reports 1989 – 1991, 2010 [printed documents]	
45	Meeting Reports	Webmaster Report 2007 [printed document]	
46	Resolutions, Proposals, Action Items	1990, 1997, 2009 [printed documents]	RG37.049

Box 5 PKD Presidents RG37.05

Folder

1	Georgia Bowman	Correspondence Nov. 3, 1958 – Nov. 13, 1958 [typed/handwritten docs]	RG37.050
2	John Baird	Correspondence 1974 – 1975 [typed documents]	RG37.051
3	Evan Ulrey	Correspondence 1976 [typed documents]	RG37.052
4	Penny Swisher	Correspondence 1984 – 1987 [typed documents]	RG37.053
5	Gary Horn	Correspondence 1985 – 1986 [typed documents]	RG37.054
6	David Ray	Correspondence 1984 – 1985 [typed documents]	RG37.055
7	David Ray	Correspondence 1986 [typed documents]	
8	David Ray	Correspondence 1987 [typed documents]	
9	David Ray	Correspondence	

3	Artifacts and Paraphernalia	Advertising Slick Sheets and Decals [printed labels] 1990s (?)
4	Miscellaneous	Cards, Magnets, one name tag (Susan Millsap) 2013
5	Miscellaneous	Price lists (jewelry) [printed document] Ca 1950s, 1967
6	Miscellaneous	Printing molds [Wood and metal and rubber] (Mostly for <i>The Forensic</i>) 1920s/1930s
7	Miscellaneous	Variety of rubber ink stamps [wood and rubber] Ca 1930s – 1950s

Box 7 Organization History

RG37.06

Folder

1	Awards and Trophies	Award Certificates [printed documents] 1970s – 2000s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Divided by administration (presidential signature) Tom Harte Jack Starr Sandra Alspach Blank certificates 	37.062
2	Awards and Trophies	Award Committees [typed document] 2000 –	
3	Awards and Trophies	Award Nominations [typed documents] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Order of the Beards (1989, 1992 – 1995) ○ E.R. Nichols Award ○ John Shields Award ○ Chapter Civic Engagement ○ L.E. Norton Award 	
4	Awards and Trophies	Award Recipients (not Hall of Fame) [typed documents] 1990s (?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Order of the Beards ○ Carolyn Keefe Award ○ Coaches Award 	

- R. David Ray Outstanding Chapter Award
- 5 Awards and Trophies PKD Hall of Fame Nominations [typed documents]
2001 – 2002
- 6 Awards and Trophies PKD Hall of Fame Inductees [typed documents]
1995 – 1999
- 7 Awards and Trophies PKD Hall of Fame Inductees [typed documents]
2000 – 2005
- 8 Awards and Trophies PKD Hall of Fame Opening – Promotion Material [special printed documents]
1996
- Awards and Trophies Award Plaques
1980s – 2000s
- Awards and Trophies Trophies
1950s – 1970s

Box 8 Organization History

RG37.06

Folder

- 1 General History Historical Compilations [Typed Manuscripts]
1930s – 1950s
 - Alpha Chapter – Ottawa University
 RG37.063
- 2 General History Published Histories [Printed documents/booklets]
1940s – 1980s
 - Alpha Chapter – Ottawa University
 - Pi Kappa Delta
- 3 Historical Correspondence [Typed letters]
1938 – 1975
 - John Shields
 - E.R. Nichols
 - William Veatch
 - Edward R. Murrow
 - Robert Littlefield
 RG37.064

4	Historical Cuttings	PKD Chapter/Province Activities (Ottawa University) [article cuttings] 1950s – 1970s	RG37.065
5	Historical Cuttings	PKD National Activities [article cuttings] 1993	
6	Historical Media Sources	Oral Histories [digital discs] 2000s <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Boise State University o Hillsdale College o Einfield 	RG37.066
7	Historical Scrapbooks	[Collections of article cuttings and photos] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Alpha Chapter Scrapbook History 2) Alpha Chapter Awards, Certificates and newspaper clippings 1950s – 1960s 	RG37.067
8	Historian Newsletters/Columns	R. David Ray [printed documents] 1992 – 1996	RG37.068
9	Historian Reports	Michael Bartanen [printed documents] 2007	

Box 9	Tournaments and Conventions		RG37.07
Folder			
1	Province/Chapter Tournament Activities	Correspondence (typed documents) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o General Province Plans 1986 o Northern Lights Province 1988 o Northwest Province 1985 	RG37.071
2	Province/Chapter Tournament Activities	Event Programs (printed booklets) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Assorted Programs 1887 – 2006 (Michigan and Kansas) 	
3	Province/Chapter Tournament Activities	Activity Proposals (printed documents) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o American Democracy Project 2003 o Civic Engagement 2005 o International Invitational Debating tournament at UIC 2011 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Soaring Eagle Banquet 2000s 	
4	Province/Chapter Tournament Activities	Event Reports (typed documents) 1991	
5	Province/Chapter Tournament Activities	Event Schedules (printed documents) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Collegiate Honorary Tournament – Northern Lights Province 2010 ○ Phi Rho Pi Nationals – Minnesota 2010 ○ Summer Teaching and Learning Workshop 2011 	
6	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference (printed booklets) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1993 – 1994 ○ 2005 	RG37.072
7	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference – Activities Schedules (printed documents) 1993 – 2005	
8	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference – Proceedings and Speeches (Printed documents) 1989	
9	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference – Proceedings, Essays and Speeches [Bound document] 1993	
10	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference – Proceedings, Essays and Speeches [Bound document] 2005	
11	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference – Supplemental Material (printed documents) 1993	
12	Special Conferences and Events	Developmental Conference – Evaluations [printed form] 1997	
13	Special Conferences and Events	Founder’s Day – PKD Hall of Fame Dedication (Ripon University) Program (printed document) 1997	
14	Special Conferences and Events	NCA Convention Guide (printed booklet) 2011	

15	Special Conferences and Events	National Forensics League Tournament Promotional Correspondence (typed documents) 2011	
16	Special Conferences and Events	Special Professional Development Conference Promotion Guidelines and Preparation 1997	
16a	Special Conferences and Events	Special Professional Development Conference Conference Participation (typed documents) 1989, 1991	
16b	Special Conferences and Events	Special Professional Development Conference Proceedings and Essays [bound documents] 1991	
16c	Special Conferences and Events	Special Professional Development Conference Schedules/Programs [printed documents] 1991, 1997	
16d	Special Conferences and Events	Special Professional Development Conference Reports and Recommendations [printed documents] 1989, 1991, 2008	
16e	Special Conferences and Events	Special Professional Development Conference Conference Evaluations [printed documents] 1991	
17	Special Conferences and Events	SCA Convention Promotion [printed booklets] 1990	
17a			