



# THE KEY

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Editor: Don Swanson

## Congratulations to Bill, Robert and Steve

Thursday evening the Convention unanimously elected Bill Hill, the University of North Carolina, as President Elect. He will serve on National Council during 1993-95, and assume the Presidency for 1995-97. Robert Littlefield, North Dakota State University, was elected Secretary-Treasurer for 1993-95. As our current President, he switches roles, but his willingness to serve in the difficult position of Secretary-Treasurer demonstrates his commitment to Pi Kappa Delta. Steve Hunt of Lewis and Clark College, will serve as Editor of *The Forensic*, for at least the term of 1993-95, and if we ratify the Constitutional Amendment this evening, he will serve from 1993-97.

## Thursday Student Caucus prepares for a crucial caucus tonight

Joe Hamell & Syd Van Atta

Thursdays student caucus was a busy occasion. Students expressed their general approval of the student congress, but there were some concerns about the application of parliamentary procedure. The students suggested some continuing concerns about the tournament schedule. Several resolutions were proposed to address these concerns. They will be voted on at Friday's meeting.

Nominations were taken for the at-large student member of the National Council. Nominations will still be open at Friday's meeting. The election of the third student council member is contingent on the passage of Amendment 4. Those students nominated were as follows:

Shannon Burger - North Dakota State  
Tres Galant - Western Washington Univ.  
Sasha Nelson - Univ. of Southern Colorado  
Becky Witte - Univ. Missouri - St. Louis  
Jim Whittaker - Moorhead St. U., Kentucky

As you can see there is lots of important business at Friday's meeting so your attendance is important.  
(6:30pm, Sheraton Tacoma 3)

## Presidents Return

Thursday's past President's Luncheon hosted by President Robert Littlefield, exhibited the ongoing commitment of Pi Kappa Delta Officers. The room was filled with the gems of the past. This year there are nine past Presidents attending the Convention. They are. Georgia Bowman, Terry Cole, Fred Goodwin, Thomas Harte, Gary Horn, R. David Ray, and Ray Yeager.

## Province Display Awards

The Province displays are outstanding this year. Last evening awards were given to the best. Congratulations to the following:

- |     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| 1st | Province of the Colonies |
| 2nd | Great West Province      |
| 3rd | Province of Missouri     |

## Election Results Province of the Lower Mississippi

The Province of the Lower Mississippi elected new student officers and they are as follows:

Oklahoma Ambassador - Regina Clay - Cameron U.  
No. Texas Ambassador - Clay Redding- Abilene  
Christian U.  
So. Texas Ambassador - Keri Peterson - Tex .A & I  
Arkansas Ambassador - Stacy Cothren - University  
or Central Arkansas  
Student Lt. Gov. - Melissa O'Connor - University  
of Arkansas - Monticello



## Speech Training in an Era of Change: The Challenge of Pi Kappa Delta

**Bob R. Derryberry**  
Southwest Baptist University

*(One of the most important moments at the 89, 91 & 93 PKD Conventions has been the keynote speech at the Developmental Conference. This issue of the Key includes some excerpts of Professor Derryberry's 1993 address and will include more in tomorrow's edition.)*

In exploring strategies for survival and growth, we need to evaluate methodically the activity that unites us in Pi Kappa Delta. Through examination we discover that challenges bring changes in how we visualize what we are doing, and we are able to anticipate a bright future for forensics and our fraternity. Despite our treasured heritage, change must come if we are to survive and grow. As John Kennedy noted, "change is the law of life, And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future." Thus, with our desire to attain the best future educationally and forensically, we explore possible areas for change and affirmation in pondering the resolution of our conference. Specifically, I invite you to consider the present need for speech training, our Pi Kappa Delta role in providing speech development, a vision for inclusiveness and communication through forensics, and the challenge of a competition-fraternity bond.

### Recognizing the Need for Speech Training

The founders of Pi Kappa Delta joined the historic voices of a long rhetorical and pedagogical tradition in emphasizing the importance of developing talents in speech communication. Early leaders John Shields and E.R. Nicols saw the clear need to honor and reward orators and debaters, and they relied upon the Greek scholar Grace Goodrich to express the purpose of the honorary in the motto that we know as "Pi Kappa Delta" (Nichols, pp. 14, 16). These and other early leaders were thoroughly convinced that the training the fraternity provided could be useful; it would make a difference in the lives of students and contribute to the betterment of their society and the human community.

Pi Kappa Delta's early leadership believed that concepts and propositions must be generated from the minds and manuscripts of young advocates and artfully adjusted to judges and audiences. With an emphasis upon oral communication, our fraternity flourished as it promoted the nurturing environment

for framing and communicating ideas effectively, beautifully, and justly.

In 1993, we must remember that our mission of speech communication training is equally critical in the age of the slick sound-bite, abundant self-help software, and reams of quick print. Indeed, we can make a compelling case for facilitating the experiences we offer through Pi Kappa Delta in 1993 because our societal and educational structures often fail to provide avenues for developing essential oral communication skills.

Fewer traditional opportunities for training in public speech education certainly signal increased challenges for Pi Kappa Delta. The leadership of the National Council is cognizant of these challenges. The competitive offerings of this tournament-convention, the research practices of our journal, the inspiring growth of local chapters, and the enthusiastic cooperation of Pi Kappa Delta with other forensic organizations convey that change is not a frightening word to our honorary. Still a major objective in all of our activity must focus upon the environment for nurturing effective public communicators.

As educators, we must insist that speech competition is "real communication" in that individual events and debate rounds should be understood in a variety of settings. Although speakers, and certainly debaters, have the right to streamline message segments and make time-saving adaptations, the overriding experience must be characterized by clarity of ideas, reasonable rate of presentation, and respect for arguments, personal rights, and backgrounds of opponents. Just as I cannot imagine the gifted vocal musician limiting his or her audience to those with extensive experience in musical composition, I feel that we limit the communication experience of participants and diminish the reputation of our activity when we design and conduct debate rounds or individual event competition for limited, select listeners. In his address to this convention in 1989, Don Swanson also mentioned this problem by posing two compelling queries: "What have we accomplished if we have trained students only to appeal to a 'qualified' forensic critic? What have we done when we take the act of public communication and make it essentially a private act?" (p. 15).

With an emphasis upon developing the ability to communicate with diverse listeners, forensic competition, including debate, can avoid the pitfall of isolation while also providing a vital channel for sharing ideas, literary works, and advocated values with larger audiences.



Additionally, and very importantly, we educator - evaluators play critical roles in determining how contest speakers view and adapt to audiences. Even when a "competition audience" consists of a single judge, our standards should include the premise that advocates, as developing professionals, respect audience diversity. Despite our individual backgrounds, as adjudicators we must guard against our preferences and biases becoming the sole focus in evaluating forensic performance. For example, we must not seek our own intellectual gratification to the point that we delight in teams and speakers appealing only to our private positions and stylistic preferences. Just perhaps you and I have said, "The team did well. I've judged them before, and they knew exactly what I want to hear." I would like to envision educator judges who think beyond themselves to reflect societal concerns, enduring ethical values, and scrutinized educational practices. As educators, we can do no less.

### The Art of Persuasion: Political Statements

They Key has received a variety of statements designed to stimulate your consideration of the proposed Constitutional Amendments and the candidates for office. They are included below with the byline of the author of the statement.

**Anthony Schroeder**  
Eastern New Mexico University

As I listened to and observed the discussion about Constitutional amendments I observed a very interesting vote reflecting possible value conflicts. Pi Kappa Delta is an honorary fraternity founded for the recognition of speakers. Last night an amendment concerned with the participation requirement failed, while an amendment requiring an overall grade point average was approved.

Are we about to shift the focus of Pi Kappa Delta from recognizing / honoring speakers to recognizing / honoring academics? Please consider your vote.

**The University of Southern Colorado**  
Province of the Plains

Vote YES on Amendment 4.

PKD student members don't have the representation they need and deserve. A YES vote on Amendment 4 will give you a voice on the PKD National Council.

Empower the students of PKD by voting YES on Amendment 4.

Once you've won on Amendment 4 you'll win again by voting for Sasha Nelson for student representative. Sasha Nelson is ready to be the voice of PKD students.

**Becky Witte**  
Univ. Missouri - St. Louis

Being nominated for this position is not only a joy, but an honor. Forensics is an activity that I have dedicated my life as a student to wholeheartedly. Not only do I represent my team this year for the Student Government Association, but I have taken responsibility in attending every tournament possible to show true commitment. By having experience in all aspects of forensics I bring a breadth of exposure that will make me uniquely equipped to serve all of the PKD student membership. I compete in both individual events and debate, have aided in the administration of high school and collegiate tournaments, and play an integral role in our chapter's sponsorship of on and off-campus outreach and service programs.

With UM-St.Louis being an urban commuter campus, I am sensitive to the importance of diverse student participation in our activity that transcends gender, religious, and cultural lines. I am very committed and will remain very committed to forensics and Pi Kappa Delta, keeping the student's best interests at heart. I will represent them in the best way I know how - honestly, sincerely, and proudly. In keeping with Pi Kappa Delta tradition, I vow to uphold the motto: "The Art of Persuasion Beautiful & Just." With the goals I have set and my commitment to both PKD and the activity, I feel I am the best choice for Student Representative for the Pi Kappa Delta National Council.

**Tres Gallant**  
Western Washington University  
Great West Province

We are at a pivotal point in the history of Pi Kappa Delta. As we seek to redefine our mission and set our course into the 21st century, it is crucial that the student voice be heard. I want to be your voice. Student involvement in PKD must continue long after time is called in the final round. Excellence in competition is the foundation of Pi Kap, but it is only one part of something much larger. PKD is more than a tournament and more than a convention; it is a spirit. The Pi Kappa Delta spirit brings people into the fraternity and uses the spoken word to better our communities. It is in this spirit that I run for the Student-at-Large position on the National Council.



Gina Adamo & Becky Witte  
Univ. of Missouri - St. Louis  
Missouri Province

Even though the speeches last night in the allotted five minutes were true and wonderful, we would like to take this opportunity to further support Scott Jensen for election to the National Council of Pi Kappa Delta. Scott has been more than just our coach. He's been a visionary leader, a friend, and true inspiration. His dedication to the forensic activity exceeds the rank of stupendous, giving 110% to every activity he undertakes. No job is too great for Scott, nor too small. His knowledge, education, and experience guide him in a truly astounding philosophy in which every forensicator is equally important and deserves equal attention.

Although his forensic accomplishments are too numerous to mention them all, a few include: AFA Tournament Host (1992), Lt. Governor of the the Missouri Province (1988-90), and President and Vice President of the Speech & Theater Association of Missouri (1990-92) as well as having many articles published in forensic journals including PKD's *The Forensic*. Because of these reason, his genuine character, and commitment to Pi Kappa Delta, we feel that Scott Jensen is the best choice for National Council.

#### That Amazing Building You See out the window from the Sheraton

*The impressive dome of Union Station is readily visible when you look East from the Sheraton. A short feature in Sunset magazine's March 1993 issue focused on the area we are in. Perhaps it should prompt us to take a walking tour. Excerpts follow:*

##### **Architectural Treasure Hunting**

Tacoma's newly refurbished Union Station stars in two self-guided walking tours that highlight the city's unheralded architectural treasures. Sixty-seven buildings (most of them downtown) flaunt their architectural styles - from art deco and Italian Renaissance to warehouse chic.

Begin you tour at Union Station (1717 Pacific Avenue), a lavish Beaux Arts building that is Tacoma's most impressive public space.

Allowed to deteriorate after a smaller station was built in 1984, the building has been restored to its original spacious elegance: purple, green and off-white terrazzo floors, Italian marble walls, finely detailed plasterwork, and a copper dome.

For guidance in exploring the neighborhood, pick up the Union Station/Warehouse Historic District Walking Tour booklet; it costs \$1.50 and is available at local bookstores and other shops. Use it to locate warehouses with arched windows, colorfully painted pilasters, and fancy brickwork exteriors.

Then step inside some of the historic structures: sip espresso at Grassi's Garden Cafe (1702 Pacific Ave.), a pie shaped 1890 building; or sample creative quiches at B.Bac's (1702 S. Broadway), a restaurant in the warehouse district's oldest building, a prim 1889 brick-and-iron edifice

End your tour in classic style at the elegant Bowes Building (100 S. Ninth Street), a 1909 marble structure built by Major Edward Bowes, a Tacoma banker who became famous in the 1930s as host of radio's *Original Amateur Hour*. Today, the gracious building houses the popular Pacific Rim Restaurant. (pp. 15-16)

#### NOTES

One of the most intriguing elements of our biannual conventions is the political rhetoric. Perhaps in 1995 we should distribute critique forms to the audience to rank and rate these real world persuasive appeals. We understand some hotel maintenance personnel were confused late last night looking for buffalo chips around the speaker's dias.

How about all that regional excitement? The camaraderie of Provinces last night in supporting their candidate for National Council is always stimulating. Some of us get into the political process more than others, isn't that right Alex Hays? We hear you are using this as real life practice.

*The Key goofed yesterday and incorrectly listed Southwestern Oklahoma State University as "Southeastern."*

The Oklahoma Mu Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta is proud to be returning to the organization this year. Southwestern Oklahoma State University is represented by 12 students and 2 faculty members at Tacoma, and we hope to increase our involvement in the coming years.

Jeff Gentry, Sherrie Sharp

We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to Dr. Sandy Alspach. This our last tournament with her as Director of the Hope College Forensics program. We would like to thank you, coach, for taking time out of your busy life to include us in it. Your help, guidance, and most importantly, friendship, have meant a great deal to us. We would get lost with you anytime!

Trent, Jeff and Kari