

PHI KAPPA PHI

newsletter



VOL. 2, NO. 1

The East Carolina University Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi

Fall 2001



Chapter President Snyder Attends Phi Kappa Phi Convention

The 2001 Phi Kappa Phi Triennial Convention took place during early August in Indianapolis, Indiana. With the theme "Focus on the Future", the meeting provided a forum to both conduct the business of the national organization and allow delegates, some from as far away as the Philippines, to meet one another and exchange ideas. In addition, delegates also had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with regional and national officers as well as staff members who work at the national headquarters in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The delegate from East Carolina University was chapter president, Scott Snyder.

Major items of business at the convention included the election of national officers for the 2001-2004 triennium, consideration of proposed bylaws changes, and adoption of the 2001-2004 triennial budget. In addition, chapter officers and past and current members of the Board of Directors were able to participate in a variety of training workshops.

Phi Kappa Phi's national organization is subdivided into five regions, each with a regional vice president. The Southeastern Region was represented by 54 individuals from 34 chapters.



Participants at The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi's 2001 Triennial Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana included Scott W. Snyder, chapter president at East Carolina University (left) and Dr. Neil R. Luebke, immediate past national president.

Each morning began with regional breakout sessions, one of which allowed the delegates of the Southeastern Region to talk about matters of common interest and concern. These breakout sessions also provided a forum for the presentation of chapter awards in the following categories: outstanding newsletter, outstanding web site, and outstanding interdisciplinary program. Vice President for the Southeastern Region, Dr. A. Wayne Lacy, presented the regional awards, all three of which went to East Carolina University (although there was a tie with Auburn University in the web site category).

The ECU chapter newsletter, coordinated by chapter public relations officer Lorraine Robinson (English Department), has created quite an impression on other chapters, many of whom have requested copies. The web site is currently down and is being

redone with the capable help of chapter member Joyce Newman, who also happens to be the Instructional Technology Consultant for the College of Arts and Sciences.

The interdisciplinary program award was largely an outgrowth of the ECU chapter's Wall of Honor project. The Wall of Honor, located in the west hallway of Bate Building recognizes all of the discipline-specific honors programs on campus. It will be the subject of a feature article in our next newsletter.

Receipt of all three regional awards at the national convention speaks well of the energy and enthusiasm of ECU's chapter leadership over the past several years. The current leadership is dedicated to maintaining the high standards set by previous officers and members of the executive committee.



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• *Recognizing and Promoting Academic Excellence In All Disciplines* •



Past President Spotlight: Tom Feldbush

Dr. Thomas L. Feldbush was named Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at ECU in 1995. Immediately prior to this appointment, he served as associate dean for research at Northwestern University. His professional experience also includes faculty and administrative positions at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Harry S. Truman VA Hospital, the University of Iowa, and Rutgers University. His BS degree was earned at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio, and his MS and PhD degrees from Ohio State University. This Canton, Ohio native is the first person to serve in this ECU vice chancellorship, which was created in 1994.

Since his arrival, Dr. Feldbush has distinguished himself as an integral part of Phi Kappa Phi. He was responsible for initiating this newsletter, providing the chapter with its first publication. Also due to his efforts, there has been an increase in faculty membership to East Carolina's chapter, and more support and guidance to the organization's student members. Dr. Feldbush also initiated the Phi Kappa Phi debate series, which is beginning to grow, as well as initiating Phi Kappa Phi's partnership with the university honors program. One of the greatest services he has performed has been to increase chapter exposure on campus, which is leading to greater membership as well as better service to the ECU student community. ☒



Fall 2001 Initiates

JUNIORS

Tonia Monique Abbott
Kirsten Lynne Abel
Christa Leigh Alexander
Angela Deree Baldini
Angel M. Brantley
Justin William Briggs
Myers Weston Chandler
Melissa Lynn Cook
Jaime Lyn Cope
Kara Lynne Davenport
Benjamin Scott Dieter
William M. Dudley
Jennifer Paige Foushee
Heather Renee Freedman
Lauren Michelle Gibson
Alison Lee Hamilton
Rachel Ann Hardy
Jennifer LeAnn Hill
Tina Joell Kennedy
Sonya Richelle Luciotti
Mary-Jean Anaïs O'Doherty
Joy Lauren Perry
Melissa Poag
Courtney LeeAnn Rash
Paul Stephen Russell
Samar Kaur Singh
James F. Swafford II
William Edward Tyer
Ashley Nicole Whitaker
Kimberly E. White

SENIORS

Carrie Ann Abels
Eric Graves Adams
Christine M. Angel

Trevor Clark Austin
April Michele Aviña
Jennifer Claire Bass
Karma Dionne Best
Brian Christopher Broadwell
Christopher Neal Burnham
Cassidy Tobin Calish
Jeanne M. Closterman
Tony C. Coggins
Ryan Glenn Coombs
Sarah Elizabeth Cox
Joseph Scott Curry
Stephanie "Sam" Davis
Emily Frances Delfavero
Heather Jo Dudley
Karla Michelle Duncan
Kathleen M. Eirschele
Amy Jordan Etheridge
Cheryl Christina Funderburk
Mary Kathryn Gardner
John Thomas Gironda
Erin Burbank Gray
Robert E. Grove II
Cheryl Jane Hamilton
Deitrick L. Harley
Ashley Lynn Harris
Denisha Gayle Harris
Kristine E. Haynes
Danida M. Hershberger
Bethany Shannon Hill
Christopher M. Hill
Pierre DeLante Holloman
Erin Sloop Honeycutt
Darlene Ferguson Houston
B. J. Hutchinson
Jessica Renee Johnson
Whitney Jenell Jones
Joan Hyman Joyner
Lisa Michelle Kanupp
Denise L. Kauffman
Amy Beth Kautsky
Julianne Miranda Kennedy
Frances Carmody Key
Rose M. Kiefer
Anna K. Kirby
Jennifer Ann Kunzman
J. DeAnn Lail
Monica R. Lewis
Crystal Brooke Lilley
Emily Anne Ludlow
Leslie Dare Lynch
Eric K. Mason
Noel Kinzie Meadows
Preston Warren Mitchell
Melanie Marie Mott
Jamie Faye Newsom
Christopher W. Nunnally
Kelly Allison O'Donnell
Donald David Overton Jr.
Melissa Jo Parker
Crystal Shannon Pettit
Leigh Anderson Phillips
Rebecca Lee Powell
Kara Anne Regan
Sheryl Marie Rollins
Melissa Kate Schonder
Gerald Edward Schultheis
Margaret E. Sellers
Stacy R. Sharpe
Deborah Anne Shoop
Ashley N. Simpson
Brian Christopher Simpson

Alycia Gail Smith
Kelly J. Sullivan
Mahmoud S. Sultan
Tracy Ann Sutton
Abigayle Brooks Temple
Carrie Louise Thornton
Kelly Myers Warden
Larry Irving Watson
Jeffrey T. Webb Jr.
John Douglas Wiggen
Amanda S. Wilborn
Dennis Ray Williams Jr.
Rahshauna M. Wilson
Laura Elizabeth Windley
Mandy Lynn Woolard
Brandon Fraser Wyche
Regan C. Young

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Daniel R. Cromeenes
Huafeng Ding
Katherine Isabella Goodall
Allyson Michelle Graham
Paul Robert Hindsley
Thomas M. Hobson
Robert Murray Hughes IV
Susan Winstead Ingram
Kristina Killgrove
Robert C. Lee
Erin Marie Letrick
Stephen E. Losey
Shekeyla Joyce Miles
Terri Alana Russ
Alan H. Stephenson



Stem Cell Events Stimulate Wide Interest

The East Carolina University chapter of Phi Kappa Phi has sponsored events dealing with the topic of human embryonic stem cell research. This research is controversial because human cell culture techniques have progressed to the point where scientists can isolate and grow stem cells. Stem cells have the potential to differentiate and develop into many different types of tissues. This raises the hope of being able to regenerate various types of tissues, and perhaps eventually being able to grow new organs such as hearts and kidneys for human patients needing transplants. Current scientific consensus is that human embryos are the best source of these stem cells, which raises ethical and moral concerns because the embryo is destroyed in the process of acquiring these cells.



Dr. Resnick

Dr. Usala

In September, PKP co-sponsored with the Department of Medical Humanities and the Division of Research and Graduate Studies a lecture by Leroy Walters on "Ethical Issues in Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research." A second event was a debate on the same topic moderated by Allan Hoffman, Greenville, NC news anchor with WNCT-TV. Debaters were Dr. David B. Resnik and Dr. Anton-Lewis Usala.

Resnik is an Associate Professor of Medical Humanities at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and Associate Director of the Bioethics Center at University Health Systems of Eastern North Carolina. He has published over 50 articles on various topics in philosophy and bioethics and is the author of *The Ethics of Science: an Introduction*, and a co-author of *Human Germ-line Gene Therapy: Scientific, Moral, and Political Issues*. He is the Associate Editor of the journal *Accountability in Research*, and is also a part-time student at Concord University School of Law, where he is pursuing a J.D. with a specialization in health law.

Usala is Clinical Professor and section Head of Pediatric Endocrinology, Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and is the founder and part-time CEO/CSO of Usala Consulting, Inc. and Encell, Inc. Dr. Usala has published 10 refereed journal articles, holds 11 patents, and has twice testified concerning stem cell research at the request of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee for Labor, Health, and Human Services. He is an appointed member on the Advisory Board of the North Carolina Alliance for Competitive Technologies. ☒

In Memoriam: Bodo Nischan

The East Carolina University Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi joins family, friends, and colleagues around the world in mourning the death of Dr. Bodo Nischan.

Born in Germany in 1939, he emigrated to the United States with his family in 1956. Completing his B.A. in 1961 from Yale University, Nischan went on in 1965 to receive a degree in Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and a Ph. D. in Renaissance and Reformation history from the University of Pennsylvania.

His research has been sup-

ported by a long list of prestigious foundations and learned societies; and his monumental 1993 work, *Prince, People, and Confession: The Second Reformation in Brandenburg* garnered both academic and general acclaim. Scholars around the world consult the meticulously researched volume.

In 1969, Nischan moved to eastern North Carolina where he joined the faculty of East Carolina University where he taught history and was instrumental in fostering interdisciplinary activity, most especially the founding of the Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Program in the College.

Shortly before his death, ECU's Phi Kappa Phi Chapter and the College sponsored a September 26, 2001, lecture honoring Nischan upon the occasion of his retirement. Duke University Professor of Religion Hans J. Hillerbrand presented "Was There a Protestant Reformation in the Sixteenth Century? Musings About Recent Historiography" after Dr. Anthony Papalas of East Carolina presented a tribute to Nischan which celebrated the scholar's distinguished international career and his warm and generous spirit. ☒

Sociology Department Recognized

Under the leadership of Dr. Richard Caston, East Carolina University's Sociology Department Endowment provided funds to pay the initiation fees for Fall 2001 Sociology initiates into the ECU chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

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