



MEDALLION

SPECIAL EDITION

Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars

Why an International Honor Society?



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Since 9/11, it has taken the efforts of many to make internationalism in the U.S. relevant again. And now, in a time where SEVIS has been mastered, where international enrollments have stabilized, in some cases increased, and where the focus on the topic of immigration often has negative ramifications, Phi Beta Delta can support your goals for comprehensive internationalization and serve the institution.

Phi Beta Delta shares with many other organizations a focus on enhancing the international and intercultural dimensions and competencies for the entire campus. It achieves this through recognition of academic excellence, through programmatic activities, and through support of campus internationalization efforts.

Phi Beta Delta is based on the premise that high *achievement in support of international educational exchange and scholarship must be recognized*. It also serves as a means for encouraging interdisciplinary

interchange, and serves as a catalyst for developing a network among faculty, students, and staff.

Recognition: Phi Beta Delta recognizes **domestic and international:** *faculty, staff, visiting scholars, graduate and undergraduate students*. This recognition is a powerful statement that brings many diverse peoples together. High academic achievement, research with international implications, and personal efforts to improve understanding between peoples of the world are the signature components of recognition.

Synergy: As you know, Greek letter organizations are divided into social, academic, and service societies. Phi Beta Delta is an academic society that serves in an advocacy role on and off-campus. In addition, it is not tied to any one specific area of study; rather it is interdisciplinary and tied to the idea of recognizing excellence in internationalism. The result is a potential for synergy on the campus.

Internationalization: Once recognized, the synergy continues as the campus chapter engages the university community in the recognition of the value of internationalism, in articulation of issues of the day, in expressions of their members' research, and in the offering of a variety of programs and services.

Globalization: Phi Beta Delta on a campus is a strong component of global education. It offers a way of bringing together all faculty, staff, scholars, and students who are interested in creative and maturing international dimensions. After all, it is difficult to find the time to physically get out of one's department or office, given the workload in education, but talking with faculty, administrators, staff, and students across the campus is important as such communication generates and upholds the vitality of an educational institution.

Further comments about why to join Phi Beta Delta can be found at:

<http://www.phibetadelta.org/why.html>

Benefits of a Chapter on Your Campus

- **Recognition of academic excellence and scholarly achievement**
- **Support for international education, internationalization & exchange**
- **New forms of international programming**
- **Network of faculty, staff, and students**

Continue the Conversation, Contact:
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Visit our website: <http://www.phibetadelta.org/>

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About Phi Beta Delta



Professor Thomas Knutson
2007 Outstanding Faculty Award

Embracing Intercultural Competency and the Curriculum: The 2007 Outstanding Faculty Award went to professor Thomas Knutson of the California State University, Sacramento. Upon receipt of the award, Dr. Knutson remarked: "I started my international activities over forty years ago when Professor Robert B. Bailey III, Professor of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls influenced me to study and live with a German family in the snows of Northern Germany. From them, I learned one of life's most important lessons: "Differences are not dangerous." The familie Derikartz taught me so much."

Since then Knutson's activities have focused on Thailand. He enables the University's students to study and work abroad, as well as his research on rhetorical sensitivity and the role it plays in interpersonal communication between people from different cultures. Knutson, has had more than 100 articles published about interpersonal communication.

Membership:

- ◆ Phi Beta Delta has over 175 chapters, including 10 abroad.
- ◆ Countries with chapters abroad include: Mexico (4), Canada (2), Switzerland (1), Italy (1), Bulgaria (1), and Uganda (1).

Publications:

- ◆ *International Research and Review*, a double blind peer reviewed publication.
- ◆ *Proceedings of Phi Beta Delta* (peer reviewed)
- ◆ *Medallion Newsletter* (quarterly publication)

COMMENTARY by INSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENTS

Now, more than ever before, we need to think creatively about how we communicate with others on our campuses. Phi Beta Delta provides an important avenue toward that goal. **Carl Patton, president emeritus, George State University. Presentation at the Phi Beta Delta Annual Conference, April 2010, Philadelphia, PA.**

Phi Beta Delta's motto "Scientia Mutua Mundi" (World's Shared Knowledge) fits with Austin College's continued efforts to provide a global education to all of our students. **Marjorie Hass, president, Austin College.**

Phi Beta Delta fits with our deep commitment to high quality international engagement. Our strategic plan, *Engaging Challenge* identifies five goals: vitality, intellectual rigor, engagement, world awareness, and solutions. These goals have inspired us to internationalize the campus and to increased faculty and student engagement abroad. **Deborah F. Stanley, president, State University of New York at Oswego**

Through Phi Beta Delta our campus seeks to bring a greater visibility to its international efforts. I am pleased to support the application to host the Executive operations of Phi Beta Delta and am confident the Society will thrive under our leadership. **Andrew R. Bodman, provost and vice president for academic affairs, California State University, San Bernardino.**

The Alpha Alpha Chapter Office is located at:
12B International Center, Michigan State University



Over the years, all those involved with Phi Beta Delta understood the need for, and the importance of, a national honor society which recognized outstanding scholarship and achievement in the international arena. **Dr. John Greisberger, executive director of Phi Beta Delta (1991-1996), comments at the Loyola University Induction.**

Phi Beta Delta honors those who serve internationalism—the idea of a world connected, of respect for different traditions, of the need for education to enhance knowledge of the many cultures that are part of a globe that we all must share. Its members include former Secretary of State **Colin Powell**, **Sen. J. William Fulbright** and **Mrs. Harriet Mayor Fulbright**, New Mexico Governor **Bill Richardson**, Noble Peace Prize Laureate **Norman Borlaug**, and many others who exemplify these ideals.