



Key Notes

Volume XLIII • Fall 2009

Phi Beta Kappa Alumni in Southern California
Alpha Association

President's Message

Several years ago, my mother's church burned to the ground. The rebuilt church is a more modest structure than its predecessor, but it incorporates the latest audio video technology. A power point slide augments the traditional call and response reading and words projected on a giant screen replace the hymnal. Some might cringe at the intrusion of technology into the sanctuary, but it works – no more hurried search through the hymnal for the numbered song, no need to decipher the words of the soft-spoken lay leader.

Although I welcomed technological innovation in my mother's church, I was less willing to embrace the findings of a recent U. S. Department of Education study, *A Review of Evidence-Based Practices in Online Learning* (www.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/tech/evidence-based-practices/final-report.pdf, 2009). A meta-analysis that began with over a thousand empirical studies of online learning, the report concludes "on average, students in online learning conditions performed better than those receiving face-to-face instruction." The finding is unsettling because I make a living teaching at a liberal arts college, but I console myself with the knowledge that the majority of the 51 studies included in the analysis involved adult learners not traditional aged students.

Without a doubt, technology has created new opportunities for lifelong learning, not only for job-related or vocational training, but also in the liberal arts and sciences. A truck-driv-

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John Seery Wins Sidney Hook Memorial Award

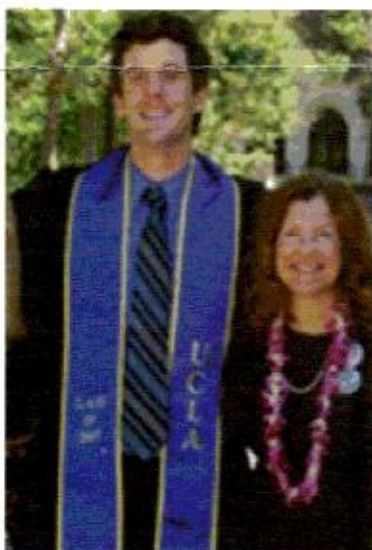
John Seery, the George Irving Thompson Memorial Professor of Government and Professor of Politics at Pomona College, is the recipient of Phi Beta Kappa's Sidney Hook Memorial Award. The award was presented at the closing banquet of the 42nd Triennial Council of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, Saturday, October 3, 2009 in Austin, Texas.

The Sidney Hook award recognizes national distinction by a single scholar in each of three areas - scholarship, teaching, and leadership in the cause of undergraduate education. Professor Seery has twice been a recipient of Pomona's Wig Distinguished Teaching Award and is the author of several books on political theory. Professor Seery was a panelist at our local association's "Conversation about the Liberal Arts" in 2002.

The Sidney Hook award, given once every three years, was established in 1991 in memory of the distinguished American philosopher Sidney Hook (1902-1989). The \$7500 award is made possible by a grant from the John Dewey Foundation.



John Seery and "Ella Fitzgerald" - Courtesy Emilio Medina, The Student Life



Keefe and her son Drew, a 2007 UCLA graduate

New Councilors: Ferrandini and DeMason

The Alpha Association is pleased to introduce two new councilors: Keefe Ferrandini and Darleen DeMason.

Keefe Ferrandini is a senior manager at Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment. She earned her Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School and her BA from UCLA where she was a member of the Mortar Board National Honor Society. Ms. Ferrandini also has a degree in French Literature from the Université de Paris (Sorbonne). Ms. Ferrandini has worked in the entertainment industry since 1988.

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Event Photography



President

Cecilia A. Conrad, Ph.D.

Received her BA from Wellesley College and an MA and Ph.D. from Stanford University in economics. She is Vice President and Dean of College at Pomona College.



Vice President

James J. Herr

Received his BA from Occidental College with a major in Diplomacy and World Affairs and a minor in History. He is the Associate Registrar at Occidental College. Jim has been a Councilor since 2005 and is currently the Chair of the High School Scholarship Committee.



Recording Secretary

B. Loraine Reed

Earned an AB from Hollins College, and an MA and Ph.D. from Indiana University. She is Senior Lecturer Emerita at University of California, Irvine where she was a founding member of the PBK Chapter.



Treasurer

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Earned a BBA at the University of Wisconsin. He is a C.P.A. and principal of Muennichow & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, with offices in North Hollywood.



Corresponding Secretary and Archivist

Jean Paule

Previously served as Second Vice President and Secretary. With her BA in History from UC Berkeley and her MA in History from USC, she is the College Archivist at Occidental College.



Past President

Sue Rokaw

Earned a BA from the University of Rochester, an MLS from Southern Connecticut State College, and a JD from the University of San Francisco. After years of private practice, she now works at Farmers Insurance Corporate Legal Department and teaches at University of West Los Angeles, School of Law, Woodland Hills campus.

Programs Review



Mary Ann Littleton and Warrior

Fall 2008

On October 11, 2008, Alpha Association arranged for a block of tickets to one of the most talked about exhibits of the year -the Terra Cotta Warriors Exhibit at the Bowers Museum of Cultural Art in Santa Ana. After the exhibition, members and their guests gathered for lunch at Tangata Restaurant.

Spring 2009

The annual meeting and spring event was a lecture on Jack London by Sara "Sue" Hodson, curator of literary manuscripts

at the Huntington, held on Sunday, May 31, 2009. Following a lively question and answer period, members and their guests were then free to spend the afternoon visiting the gardens and galleries at the Huntington Library including the newly re-opened Virginia Steele Scott Galleries of American Art Wing.



Lunch at Tangata Restaurant

November 2009 Event : Dividing the Light

On November 22, 2009 Alpha Association Members and their guests are invited to witness one of the best sunsets in the United States at James Turrell's Skyspace "Dividing the Light" at Pomona College. This architectural installation plays with the viewer's perceptions of sky through the interplay of light and space. The event will begin with a reception and lecture by Kathleen Howe, Sarah Rempel and Herbert S. Rempel '23 Director of the Pomona College Museum and Professor of Art History.

New Councilors:

Ferrandini and DeMason

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Dr. Darleen A. DeMason is Professor of Botany and Plant Morphologist at the University of California, Riverside. She earned her Doctorate in Botany from University of California, Berkeley, and her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of Michigan. At UCR, she has served as Acting Director of the Honors Program, Associate Dean in the Graduate Division, and the Secretary of Phi Beta Kappa. In 2006, Dr. DeMason received the "Centennial Award" from the Botanical Society of America in recognition of her outstanding service to the plant sciences.



Darleen DeMason

President's Message

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er can listen to philosophy lectures in the cab of his 18 -Wheel big rig ("The iPod lecture circuit," *Los Angeles Times*, November 24, 2007). Lectures from world-renowned faculty are available on college websites or through iTunes University.

Nevertheless, I remain skeptical that a YouTube video can replicate a face-to-face interaction with a learned scholar or that a web page is a perfect substitute for a museum visit. Just as the peer-to-peer interaction that occurs in my classroom seems a critical element of the college experience, the human interaction that occurs at an Alpha Association program is what makes it more enjoyable than any virtual event.

I hope to see you in person at Alpha Association events this year.

Cecilia Conrad

Graduate Study Awards

Thanks to your generous donations, Alpha Association has awarded a fellowship for graduate study to one Phi Beta Kappa initiate at each of the ten member colleges and universities in Southern California. Criteria for selection include academic merit, financial need, community service and plans to attend graduate school during the coming academic year.

California State University, Long Beach
 Claremont McKenna College
 Occidental College
 Pomona College
 Scripps College
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, Riverside
 University of Redlands
 University of Southern California

David Doud
 Daniel O'Toole
 Jessica Simes
 Sarah Stewart Burgess
 Johanna Hennig
 Benjamin Bohr
 Anne C. Pisor
 Amy Susan Ferreira
 Jenna Marie Shaffer
 Kirsten Housh

International Scholarship Awards

Each year, the International Scholarship Committee reviews applications from foreign graduate students, usually in their last year of PhD work, at Southern California colleges and universities. Typically, we find ourselves faced with a candidate pool of brilliant scholars who are impressive not only for their intellect but also for their determination to study in a foreign country and write complex theses in a language not their own. This year was no exception.

University of California Los Angeles

Lino Camprubi, Spain
 Edward Chen, Taiwan
 Hye Kyung Jung, Korea
 Meleko Mokgosi, Botswana
 Parshan Namiranian, Iran
 Jitkomut Songsiri, Thailand
 Viviana Unda, Chile
 Ni-Chun Wang, Taiwan

Claremont Graduate University

Yaeri Kim, Korea
 Bjorn Ostman, Denmark

University of Southern California

Russ Cohen, United Kingdom
 Sun-Young Kwak, Korea
 Ruru Mulkar-Mehta, India
 Jaehee Yi, Korea

University of California Riverside

Berat Haznedaroglu, Turkey
 Shruiti Lal, India
 Chen Lui, China
 Kishor Kumar Bhattari, Nepal
 Travelia Tjobkoro, Indonesia

University of California Irvine

Rachel Drioso-Villa, Canada
 Yu-Hsang Hsu, Taiwan
 Simon Hughes, Canada
 Sang-Tac Kim, Korea
 KyungMan Kim, Korea
 Shiau-tian Liaw, Taiwan
 Isabel Moore, Canada
 Yang Wang, Hong Kong

High School Alpha Awards

To help leading students defray the expenses of college application, Alpha Association awards small grants (\$500) to high school students in underprivileged areas of Los Angeles. Following are the names of this year's recipients.

Theodore Roosevelt High School

Alejandro Aguirre
 Imelda Hernandez
 Madeline Salazar

Hollywood High School

Yana Pavlova
 Elizabeth Perez
 Briseida Esmeralda

HONOR ROLL

The following members have contributed the amounts indicated to the Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship funds for 2007-2008:

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500 and Over

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100 - 499

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