

ALPHA CHI NEWSLETTER

ALPHA CHI—THE NATIONAL COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETY FOR ALL FIELDS—WWW.ALPHACHIHONOR.ORG

Louisville to Host Alpha Chi's Academic Run for the Roses

by Trisha Yarbrough

Alpha Chi's academic thoroughbreds will race into Louisville, Kentucky, April 6-8, 2017, for their highly anticipated annual convention. Carrying laptops, poster tubes, flash drives, and other academic tools of the



trade, hundreds of students and their sponsors will swing through the doors of the legendary Galt House to showcase their scholarly and creative work on a

national platform, hear from distinguished guest speakers, and network with peers from around the country.

Thursday evening will kick off with welcome sessions for students and sponsors. The buzz and hum of excitement will ramp up at the following reception and poster session as the judges move among the extensive entries—from visual art to researched posters in the sciences, humanities, social sciences, business, and education.

The pace will be brisk and ideas electric on Friday and Saturday mornings as delegates present their creative and scholarly work in adjudicated, concurrent sessions organized by academic discipline. Punctuated by



The Louisville area offers many historical sites and various activities for our convention attendees.

breaks to network by region and strengthen their local chapters, the life of the mind will be explored as Transcending Boundaries remains our convention theme.

The National Service Project continues to focus on literacy, and we hope chapters will join us in “making scholarship effective for good” by collecting new children’s books that will find a home in Louisville as a reminder of Alpha Chi’s visit to the city.

Most chapter delegations plan to enjoy the sights of Louisville on Friday afternoon, many of which are within walking distance

of the Galt House, including Waterfront Park, the Kentucky Science Center, the Louisville Slugger Museum, and the Muhammad Ali Center. Other nearby places of interest, the Kentucky Derby Museum, the Frazier History Museum, and the Louisville Zoo, will be sure to attract some of the delegates.

“Alpha Chi’s Got Talent” will cap a busy Friday, a chance for members to entertain their peers in a relaxed, informal setting. If last year’s musicians, dancers, poets, and storytellers are any indication, the line-up will be chock-full of talent.

Lavy and Roe selected Pryor Fellows for 2016



Brendan Lavy



Tracee Roe

Brendan L. Lavy, who is pursuing a Phd in geography at Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas, and Tracee Roe, a master’s-level student in English literature at Abilene Christian University, are the recipients of the 2016 Joseph E. Pryor Graduate Fellowships.

The awards, named for the society’s first executive director, are given to a doctoral student who has completed at least two years of graduate study and to a graduate student in the first or second year of study.

Lavy, who received a \$5,000 stipend, was inducted as an Alpha Chi member in 2012 at Texas State University’s Texas Iota chapter. Roe, inducted in 2015 as an undergraduate at Abilene Christian University, received a \$3,000 stipend and is in her first year of graduate study.

Convention highlights will include bestowing the Distinguished Alumni Award to Dr. Ed Madden, who will address the delegates on Friday morning (see page 4), and the Gala on Saturday evening. After a keynote address by Dr. John Janovy (see page 4), students and sponsors alike will receive their academic roses as the much-anticipated convention presentation awards are revealed, national scholarships awarded, student collaborative researchers heralded, and the President’s Cup for Outstanding Chapter announced. Hands down, the convention in Louisville promises to be the best yet.

24 Students awarded Fellowships and Scholarships

The Robert W. Sledge Fellowship stipend is \$3,500, the H. Y. Benedict Fellowship stipend \$2,500. Four earlier announced Benedict recipients were unable to accept the award: Courtney Alley, Tennessee Wesleyan College; Bronwen Fetters, Huntington University; Sarah Hinds, Lindenwood University; and Katherine Robinson, Christian Brothers University. The remaining Benedict alternate: Nicholas Westcott, Arkansas Iota, Lyon College.



Tyler Grant Rowsey
Oklahoma Gamma, East
Central University. Now
attending the University
of Oklahoma Medical
School.
SLEDGE



Rachel Wurster
West Virginia Epsilon,
West Liberty University.
Currently studying Eng-
lish literature at Virginia
Tech University.
SLEDGE



Emma DeLoughery
Utah Alpha, Westminster
College of Salt Lake City.
Now attending the Mayo
Clinic School of Medicine.

BENEDICT



Carlynn Fagnant
Texas Kappa, Austin
College. Currently pursuing
a master's degree in statis-
tics at Rice University.

BENEDICT



Shannon Farrow
Virginia Zeta, Christopher
Newport University. Pursu-
ing a master's degree in
Elementary Education at
Christopher Newport.

BENEDICT



Erik Henze
Hawai'i Beta, Hawai'i
Pacific University. Now in
the biophysics graduate
program at Cornell Univer-
sity.

BENEDICT



Tyler Herber
Indiana Beta, Huntington
University. Currently pur-
suing a PhD in history at
Purdue University.

BENEDICT



Chaney Hill
Texas Alpha Delta, Texas
Lutheran University. Now
in the English and literature
graduate program at Boise
State University.

BENEDICT



Kathleen Marano
New Jersey Alpha, Caldwell
University. Pursuing a mas-
ter's degree in applied be-
havior analysis at Caldwell.

BENEDICT



Ryan Reynolds
Arkansas Zeta, Univ. of Ar-
kansas, Monticello. Continu-
ing studies in geography
and geographic information
systems at Arizona State
University.

BENEDICT



Kirstin Shields
Oklahoma Gamma, East
Central University. Now
pursuing a master's degree
in microbiology at Southern
Illinois University, Carbon-
dale.

BENEDICT



Julia Steffen
Kentucky Zeta, North-
ern Kentucky University.
Pursuing a PhD in physical
therapy at the University of
Cincinnati.

BENEDICT

2017 Fellowship and Scholarship Awards will increase to total \$74,000

The 2016 Sledge, Benedict, Gaston, Nolle, and Pryor Awards provide \$60,000 for members' graduate and undergraduate studies. Amounts for all awards will increase in 2017, bringing the total to \$74,000. Application information, details about the awards and new award amounts can be found at www.alphachihonor.org.

The Edwin W. Gaston Scholarship stipend is \$2,500, the Alfred H. Nolle Scholarship stipend \$1,500. Nolle alternates: 1) Andrea Mendoza Lespron, Texas Alpha Gamma, Midwestern State University; 2) Meshelle Miller, Alabama Gamma, University of Mobile; 3) Hunter D. Pope, Georgia Alpha, Valdosta State University; 4) Alycia Gilbert, Tennessee Kappa, Lipscomb University; 5) Grace Gemar, Tennessee Nu, Milligan College.



Jace Bradshaw
Arkansas Beta, Ouachita Baptist University. Majoring in biology, chemistry and physics.
GASTON



Megan Fontenot
Tennessee Nu, Milligan College. Majoring in English and humanities.
GASTON



Frank Zayne Allen
Georgia Theta, Shorter University. Majoring in English.

NOLLE



Sean Bright
Virginia Gamma, Bridgewater College. Majoring in history.

NOLLE



Michael Warren Cook
Utah Alpha, Westminster College of Salt Lake City. Majoring in history.

NOLLE



Kelly Hobbs
Virginia Iota, Shenandoah University. Pursuing a BFA in dance performance.

NOLLE



Han Na Lee
Indiana Alpha, Anderson University. Majoring in psychology.

NOLLE



Andrew Moyer
Virginia Zeta, Christopher Newport University. Majoring in biochemistry and neuroscience.

NOLLE



Alyx Olney
Nebraska Alpha, Hastings College. Majoring in sociology and Spanish.

NOLLE



Robyn Parkinson
Missouri Delta, Westminster College. Majoring in math and political science.

NOLLE



Rebekah Rhea
North Carolina Zeta, Gardner-Webb University. Double major in theatre arts and world religions.

NOLLE



Puja Singh
Pennsylvania Kappa, University of the Sciences. Majoring in biology.

NOLLE

Applying for 2017 scholarships and fellowships? Go to AlphaChiHonor.org.

Janovy to deliver Keynote Address

John Janovy, Jr., is slated to deliver "Life Lessons from a Parasite" as the keynote address at the closing Gala of the annual convention April 8, 2017, in Louisville. As an award-winning writer, professor, researcher, as well as a lively and energetic speaker, Janovy's career of observing closely prepares him well to attract students and faculty alike. He notes, for example, that for parasites "what you're born with dictates how you manage"—and prods that further to wonder—"a worm can be constrained, but can a person?"

pushing the question to ponder the human, global connotations for us all.

Now a professor emeritus, Janovy retired from the Paula and D. B. Varner Distinguished Professorship in Biological



Janovy beside a salt marsh.

Sciences at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. His research focused on parasitology, particularly parasite ecology and life cycles. He also directed the Cedar Point Biological Station for 13 years total, teaching Field

Parasitology there and finding some of his most fertile ground for research and those life lessons. Among Janovy's teaching experiences, he always includes his career-long commitment to freshman, large-enrollment biology courses as well as supervision of undergraduate and graduate researchers. He says that the most rewarding aspect of his teaching career is seeing his students "make good," from first-year students doing short projects to doctoral students completing theses, and the reward for a scholar is still hearing from them years later, after they have graduated.

His honors include the University of Nebraska Distinguished Teaching Award, State of Nebraska Pioneer Award, University Honors Program Master Lecturer, American Health Magazine book award (for *Fields of Friendly Strife*), University of Nebraska Outstanding Research and Creativity Award, The Nature Conservancy Hero recognition, Nebraska Library Association Mari Sandoz Award, and the American Society of Parasitologists Clark P. Read Mentorship Award. Janovy has published extensively, both scholarly and popular works. His academic works include journal articles, textbooks, lab manuals, software, and the field manual *Keith County Journal*. His popular creative works include four academic mystery novels, whose core concern is the value of intellectual property. The series, which explores workplace stress, explores the premise that scientists can make volcanos erupt and earthquakes happen on purpose. He also composes science fiction, film scripts, and the quite popular *Outwitting College Professors*, a college success book, now in its 5th edition. This series, an expansion of his syllabus advice, grew out of his Friday afternoon coffee with students in the lab.

Janovy notes that he was not inducted into an honor society as an undergraduate ("I didn't have the grades; I was an athlete") but he adds while completing his doctorate at the University of Oklahoma he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and that he was accepted into Mortar Board upon nomination of the students of the university. Alpha Chi members can now anticipate his address on the human and global lessons learned from close study.

Ed Madden

Alpha Chi's 2017 Distinguished Alumnus



Dr. Ed Madden

Dr. Ed Madden is an Alpha Chi success story. After being inducted into Alpha Chi in 1984 while earning his BA in English and French at Harding University in Arkansas, he went on to win a national scholarship, attend and present at a national convention, and have a paper published in the *Recorder*. He then continued his education at the Institute for Christian Studies in Austin, Texas, earning a BS in Biblical Studies. At the University of Texas at Austin he received his master's and PhD, bringing to full circle his quest for learning. However, one can quickly see that Madden continues to be an avid learner and thinker, enriching the lives of those around him.

Born and raised on a rice and soybean farm in rural Arkansas, Madden is a professor in the department of English Language and Literature at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, where he also serves as the director of Women's and Gender Studies. Additionally, he is the current Poet Laureate of the city of Columbia, and he participates in activities throughout each year that engage schools and the public in the literary arts and poetry. His areas of specialization include late 19th- and 20th-century British and Irish poetry, Irish culture and literature, gender studies, gay and lesbian literature, creative writing, and poetry. In 2006 he was given the Legacy Award by the Human Rights Campaign of the Carolinas. The ways in which he inserts Alpha Chi's motto of "making scholarship effective for good" into daily life are myriad.

Madden presented "How to Lift Him" at TEDxColumbiaSC in 2014 and is the author of four poetry books—*Signals*, which won the 2007 South Carolina Poetry Book Prize, *Prodigal: Variations*, *Nest*, and *Ark*, published in March 2016. His poetry chapbook *My Father's House* was selected for the Seven Kitchens Press Editor's Series. His poems have appeared in *The Book of Irish American Poetry*, *Best New Poets 2007*, and in journals such as *Prairie Schooner*, *Crazyhorse*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, and the *Los Angeles Review*. Dr. Madden will address convention delegates in Louisville in April.

Your chapter could be on the list for 2016-17!



Star Chapter Criteria

A Star Chapter will fulfill the following:

- Induct and register new members
- File an Annual Chapter Report by the deadline
- Send at least one sponsor and one student to the annual national convention
- Have at least one student presentation on the annual national convention program
- Nominate at least one student for a national fellowship or scholarship
- Host an academic program on campus

Notable Chapter Criteria

A Notable Chapter will achieve these benchmarks of healthy chapter life:

- Induct and register new members
 - File an Annual Chapter Report by the deadline
- And any three of the following:
- Send at least one sponsor and one student to the annual national convention
 - Have at least one student presentation on the annual national convention program
 - Nominate at least one student for a national fellowship or scholarship
 - Host an academic program on campus

A TOTAL OF \$74,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED IN 2017. APPLICATION INFO CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#).

Notable Chapters 2015-16

- Angelo State University, Texas Alpha Iota
- California Baptist University, California Beta
- Florida College, Florida Xi
- Peru State College, Nebraska Delta
- Roger Williams University, Rhode Island Alpha
- Tennessee Wesleyan College, Tennessee Gamma

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT? DETAILS CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#).

More than **10,000** new members joined in 2016!

AX

Star Chapters Academic Year 2015-16



- Abilene Christian University, Texas Psi
- Anderson University, Indiana Alpha
- Belmont University, Tennessee Eta
- California State University, Bakersfield, California Iota
- Campbellsville University, Kentucky Lambda
- Carson-Newman University, Tennessee Delta
- Catawba College, North Carolina Omicron
- Chowan University, North Carolina Phi
- Christian Brothers University, Tennessee Theta
- East Central University, Oklahoma Gamma
- Fresno Pacific University, California Zeta
- Gardner-Webb University, North Carolina Zeta
- Goldey-Beacom College, Delaware Beta
- Harding University, Arkansas Eta
- Hastings College, Nebraska Alpha
- Hawai'i Pacific University, Hawai'i Beta
- Huntington University, Indiana Beta
- Indiana Institute of Technology, Indiana Lambda
- Kansas Wesleyan University, Kansas Delta
- Lander University, South Carolina Alpha
- Lindenwood University, Missouri Pi
- Lipscomb University, Tennessee Kappa
- Long Island University, Brooklyn, New York Sigma
- Lyon College, Arkansas Iota
- Midwestern State University, Texas Alpha Gamma
- Milligan College, Tennessee Nu
- Missouri Valley College, Missouri Sigma
- Missouri Western State University, Missouri Lambda
- Ohio Valley University, West Virginia Zeta
- Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma Epsilon
- Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma Eta
- Ouachita Baptist University, Arkansas Beta
- Shorter University, Georgia Theta
- Southern Methodist University, Texas Alpha Omega
- Texas A&M University – Texarkana, Texas Beta Alpha
- Texas Lutheran University, Texas Alpha Delta
- Texas State University, Texas Iota
- University of Arkansas at Monticello, Arkansas Zeta
- University of Central Arkansas, Arkansas Gamma
- University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas Beta
- University of North Carolina at Pembroke, North Carolina Kappa
- University of North Texas, Texas Eta
- University of Texas at El Paso, Texas Alpha Beta
- University of Texas at Tyler, Texas Alpha Xi
- Wayland Baptist University, Texas Alpha Eta
- Westminster College, Missouri Delta
- William Carey University, Mississippi Beta

TOGETHER, WE HELP EACH OTHER DO MORE.



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You wouldn't be involved with Alpha Chi if you weren't passionate about being part of a group that shares your values, but that's not the only reason you're proud of being a member of Alpha Chi. Alpha Chi also believes in the importance of philanthropy and in playing an active role in our community. Nationwide shares these values, too, and that's why our partnership works.

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Some of the newly added members at Martin Methodist include (front row) Elizabeth Spurbeck, Hannah Adcock, Jazmen Howard, Randi McElhaney, Emily Morris, Brandi Smith, Emily Clayton, Emilia Carson, Noemie Mutombo, Laura Watson, Abby Clayton, and (back row) Bryan Milliken, Brandon Bass, Kimberly Rose, Caleb Autry, and Andrew Harwell.



Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu (Vice President of Academic Affairs, Cottey College), Dr. Jann Weitzel (President, Cottey College), and Dr. David Jones (Alpha Chi National Council President)



Back row: Dr. Trisha Yarbrough, Alpha Chi Executive Director; Dr. Ujjaini Das, chapter co-sponsor; Dr. Carmen Bourbon, chapter co-sponsor; Dr. Oindrila Roy, primary chapter sponsor; Dr. Jann Weitzel, Cottey College president, Dr. David Jones, and Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu. Front row: Finso Choden, Hannah Cook, Henrietta Ehirem, Kalina Jurkowski, and Temiloluwa Olaoluwa were some of the new members added at the ceremony.

Chapters added in 2016 at Martin Methodist College and Cottey College

Martin Methodist College, in Pulaski, Tennessee, added the first members to the Tennessee Xi chapter of Alpha Chi in March of 2016. Dr. Ken LaSota represented the National Council of Alpha Chi and presided at the chapter's installation ceremony. Dr. Ted Brown, Martin Methodist College president, also attended the ceremony for the new Tennessee Xi chapter. Martin Methodist was founded in 1870 and is a private, liberal arts college. Tennessee Xi is Alpha Chi's 405th chapter and is overseen by chapter sponsor Dr. Jennifer Aust and co-sponsor Dr. Kenneth Vickers.



Dr. Vickers and Dr. Aust light candles in preparation for the ceremony inducting new members at Martin Methodist.

Cottey College, in Nevada, Missouri, was officially installed as Alpha Chi's 406th chapter on October 20, 2016. Cottey College, established in 1884, is an independent, liberal arts college for women. Dr. David Jones, president of the National Council of Alpha Chi, presided at the installation ceremony, and presented the plaque to university president, Dr. Jann Weitzel, and the provost, Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu. The ceremony was scheduled to coincide with the annual meeting of the trustees and included the induction of the first class of members by Dr. Oindrila Roy, chapter sponsor.



The Missouri Pi chapter at Lindenwood University donated \$5,000 to the Doors to the Future campaign, which will provide a study space named for Alpha Chi in the university's new library and academic center. Dr. Linda Leavitt is the chapter sponsor.