

Successful Nexus of Science and the Arts in Chicago

Alpha Chi's convention blew into the windy city March 19-21 and took the Sheraton Hotel and Towers by storm. Close to 500 delegates represented 83 Alpha Chi chapters from coast to coast and beyond, since the Hawai'i Pacific chapter brought its involved and lively delegation. The new convention app for smart phones was the talk of the convention, containing the agenda, bios of the invited speakers, and extensive social media opportunities. Within the app, delegates provided running promotion and commentary on research/creative presentations, shared photos and reviews of dining and sightseeing venues outside the hotel, and responded to surveys about convention programming.

The convention began Thursday evening with an opening "Taste of Chicago" reception featuring foods and eateries famous in the City of Big Shoulders. After the poster forum, delegates attended the first plenary session to highlight the convention theme: Harmonious Hemispheres: the Nexus of Science and the Arts. Thursday evening's session treated delegates to the arts featuring musical performances and creative writing presentations. Its companion plenary session on Friday afternoon hosted the Collaborative Research Project presentations, with six teams summarizing



Huntington University's Indiana Beta Chapter of Alpha Chi won the President's Cup for the Outstanding Chapter of the Year. Paul Michaelson (left) is the sponsor.

their months-long projects. The team from Ouachita Baptist University took home this year's honors. Individual, scholarly presentations from nearly 300 other students filled the program Friday and Saturday.

Delegates heard from this year's Distinguished Alumnus, Reuben Ironhorse-Kent, on Friday as well. An enrolled member of the Iowa tribe, he received degrees from Peru State University (Nebraska Delta) and the Institute of American Indian Arts (New Mexico Gamma). Working in several artistic media, he has been featured in several

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Ouachita Team Receives Alpha Chi's Top Research Prize of \$5,000

With a project titled "Too Tired to Think Outside the Box? An Analysis of Ego Depletion's Effects on Creativity," the team from Ouachita Baptist University received the \$5000 Collaborative Research Prize at the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society national convention in Chicago in March. The competition requires each campus to assemble a team of Alpha

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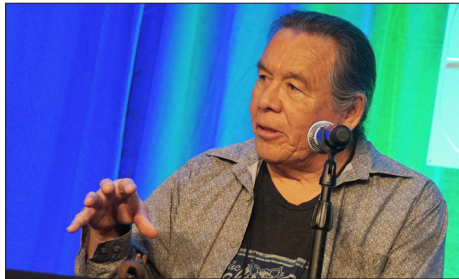
Carson-Newman delegates and sponsor, Dr. Kip Wheeler, inventively used the convention app.



Ouachita Baptist University's prize winning Collaborative Research Project team members, Jessie Little (left) and Stoni Butler (right); Dustin Walter (not pictured).

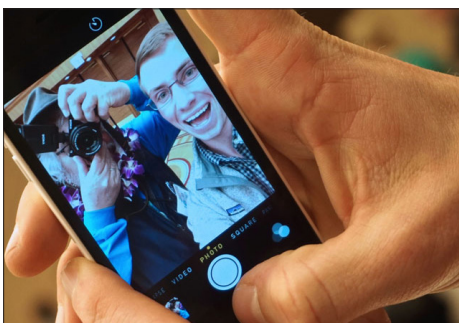
Successful Nexus...*(continued from page one)*

art books, and his work has appeared at the Smithsonian American Indian Art Museum, the Heritage Museum at Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and the Southern Plains Indian Museum. After accepting his award, Ironhorse-Kent treated the delegates to traditional Native American music on his flute and then participated in a Q&A with student national council representatives.

**Reuben Ironhorse-Kent**

During Friday afternoon's optional activities, Vickie Austin, a Chicago career coach and motivational speaker, workshopped with delegates concerning strategies to approach their upcoming job searches. She explained the differences between coaches, mentors, and sponsors, and she encouraged students to develop strong networks.

The convention agenda concluded with a gala event Saturday evening. Writer Nnedi Okorafor, the keynote speaker, delivered a stirring address, drawing truths from her personal triumphs over adversity and illustrating how she finds that nexus of the arts and sciences in her fiction. Okorafor, an award-winning writer of magical realism and speculative fiction, incorporates her childhood fascination with entomology and other sciences into her children's, young adult, and adult fantasy and science fiction novels.



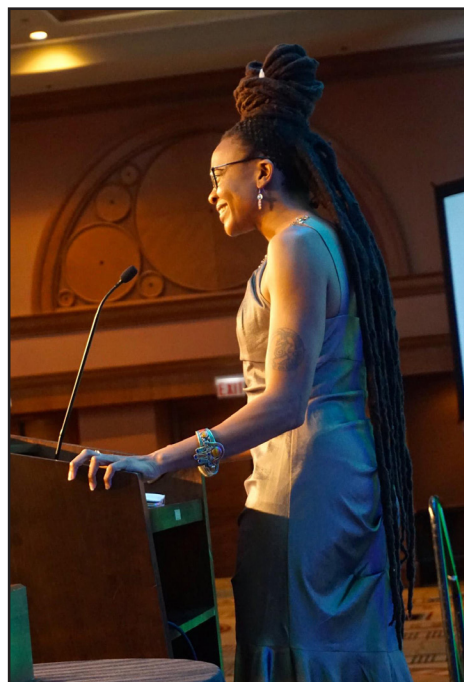
#findbill had delegates on the lookout for National Council Vice President and photographer, Dr. Bill Clemente.

Haley Rittenhouse, of Art Therapy Connection in Chicago, was on hand to formally accept the art supplies and monetary donation contributed by Alpha Chi chapters across the nation as part of the National Service Project. ATC provides creative mental health services to children and teenagers with limited or no access to help. Her team had introduced delegates to their work during convention check-in on Thursday, and during her acceptance on Saturday, she also presented Alpha Chi with framed art from some of the students who had benefitted from the program.

After announcements of the 27 Presentation Prize winners and a few fun awards, the evening culminated with sponsor Dr. Paul Michelson, assistant sponsor Jean Michelson, and the entire delegation from Huntington University (Indiana Beta) taking the stage as recipients of this year's President's Cup, honoring the outstanding Alpha Chi chapter in the nation.



Dr. David Jones with Sarah Hodson, Best Photo winner, and Rachel Callicoat, who was recognized for her active use of the convention app.

**Nnedi Okorafor, keynote speaker**

Shenandoah University student Erin Puskar performs.



Delegates from Evangel University with chapter sponsor Laynah Rogers.

Ouachita Team Receives... (continued from page one)

Chi members from at least three different disciplines to work on a topic announced early in the fall semester; the 2014-15 topic was "Harmonious Hemispheres—The Nexus of Science and the Arts." OBU's 3-person team included members majoring in psychology, biology, and chemistry. Team members were Stoni Butler, Jessie Little, and Dustin Walters. The campus chapter, Arkansas Beta, is sponsored by Dr. Lori Hensley.

Representing 14 different majors, other teams in the competition showcased the breadth of research conducted by students across Alpha Chi's more than 300 campuses. The team from Angelo State University, sponsored by Dr. Karl Havlak, presented "Effects of an Artistic Response versus Fact Recital on Memory Recall in Children." Team members presenting were Daniel Thompson, Katlynn Cox, and Rachel Riggs.

"The Nexus of Science and Art for the Aging Brain: An Ideal Combination of Modern Medical Technology and the Arts to Improve the Lives of Aging Individuals," was the culmination of research conducted by Brandon Searle, Brooke Rumpy, Charity Byrum, and Nathan Lile at Gardner-Webb University, North Carolina Zeta, where Dr. June Hobbs is the faculty sponsor.

Elizabeth Bertram, Charla Lee, Leah Cotton, and Kassi Lewis represented Missouri Western State University with a project titled "Selfie-art or Self-harm: Do Our Perceptions Affect Body Image?" The Missouri Lambda chapter is sponsored by Dr. Teddi Dekka.

In what was undoubtedly the most visually striking of the presentations, students from fashion design, graphic design, and early childhood education at Mt. Ida College, Massachusetts Eta presented a project titled "Mirror Mirror." The team, Kathryn Wood, Angela Ikonos, and Marissa Sar-



The Mt. Ida College research team of Marissa Sarnie, Angela Ikonos, and Kathryn Wood produced wearable art involving vinyl and Sonobond Technology for their project titled "Mirror Mirror."

nie produced wearable art involving vinyl and Sonobond Technology. The chapter is sponsored by Aleta Deyo and Alison Poor-Donahue.

The final project was titled "Art and the Campus Landscape: An Exploration of Alpha Chi Student Members' Perceptions of Campus Landscaping at Texas State University," which combined the research capabilities of team members from international studies, geography, biology, and mathematics. The Texas Iota chapter is sponsored by Dr. Paula S. Williamson. Team members were Brendan Lavy, Erin Dascher, Sierra Berry, Anthony Bergamasco, and Joni Schneider.

The 2015 Collaborative Research Prize was sponsored by Alpha Chi's affinity partner Nationwide Insurance. Nationwide recognizes the importance of groups which bring people together to celebrate common interests and academic achievement. Nationwide also recognizes there is no better way to provide outstanding service than to partner with the organizations that are close to your heart. Alpha Chi is grateful that Nationwide not only offers a useful product but also values the scholarly excellence of these students.

Save the Date!
DC/Alexandria
National
Convention
April 7-9, 2016

Honorary Member *Nomination Deadlines*

March 31, June 30, Sept. 30, Dec. 31
(One nomination *per year* allowed for each chapter or National Council member.)

Additional current news at
www.AlphaChiHonor.org

All photos in this issue by Bill Clemente.

Art Therapy Connection presented Alpha Chi with framed art from some of their students, shown in the photo below.



Council Gains New Faculty and Student Members

Delegates elected new faculty members and student representatives to the National Council at the 2015 convention in Chicago. The 22-member governing board is composed of 15 faculty members and seven students.

New at-large faculty members elected to the National Council were Dr. June Hobbs, professor of English and director of undergraduate research at Gardner-Webb University and North Carolina Zeta chapter sponsor, and Dr. Tonia Compton, assistant professor of history at Columbia College and Missouri Epsilon chapter sponsor. Dr. Lori Mills was re-elected as an at-large faculty member for a third four-year term. She is a professor of psychology and sponsor of the Tennessee Nu chapter at Milligan College. Bill Potter, associate dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Hawai'i Pacific University and Hawai'i Beta chapter sponsor, was elected to a second four-year term as an at-large faculty member.

The National Council elected Dr. David Jones, professor of psychology and associate dean of faculty at Westminster College, to serve as president. Dr. Jones was first elected to the council in 2009 and re-elected to a second term in 2013. The Council thanked outgoing president Dr. Margaret A. FitzGerald of Pace University Westchester for her service to the Council. Dr. Bill Clemente of Peru State College was re-elected as vice president, and Dr. Lori Mills was re-elected as secretary.

Concluding their terms of service were Dr. Mikee Delony, at-large faculty member, Dr. Kate Stewart, at-large faculty member, Colton McCoy, Region I Student Representative, Joshua Johnson, Region III Student Representative, Bronwen Fettes, Region V Student Representative, and Joshua Blagaila, Region VII Student Representative. At-large faculty members serve four year terms, and student representatives serve terms of two years.

Four new student members were added to the Council to serve until 2017. Angelo State University student Katlynn Cox was elected as Region I Student Representative. From Springtown, Texas, she is studying agriculture science and leadership with minors in professional education and psychology. Ultimately her goal is to work as either



Council faculty at-large members: Lori Mills, June Hobbs, Tonia Compton, and Bill Potter.



Council student representatives: Tiffany Lee, Carrie George, Sarah Geil, and Katlynn Cox.

a criminal defense lawyer or an educational policy maker. Sarah Geil, from Kennesaw, Georgia, is the new student representative for Region III. She attends Shorter University, pursuing a triple major in English, psychology, and liberal arts and plans to attend graduate school to study literature. Representing Region V is West Liberty University student Carrie George. From Adena, Ohio, she is a double major in music performance and music education and plans to attend graduate school. Hawai'i

Pacific University student Tiffany Lee was elected as Region VII Student Representative. She is an international business major from Arlington, Texas. Her future plans include publishing poetry and traveling the world. Student representatives continuing to serve terms on the council until 2016 are Michael Suarez (University of Texas at Tyler) for Region II, Samantha Macht (Columbia College) for Region IV, and Kathryn Herbert (Marist College) for Region VI.

Presentation Prizes Awarded to 29 Students



Twenty-nine Alpha Chi members received prizes for making the best scholarly, creative, or artistic presentations in their fields at the society's national convention in Chicago, April 19-21. The cash prizes were funded through discipline-specific endowments established by supporters of the society. Among more than 260 students making presentations, the following received prizes:

Walden S. Freeman Prize in American History: Amanda Stephens, Abilene Christian University, "A New Way to Segregate: Mass Incarceration in Modern-Day America"

Ellen Millsaps Prize in American Literature: Elizabeth Stefanski, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, "How do Movies Affect the Readership of Young Adult Books?"

Avery Grenfell Church Prize in Anthropology & Sociology: Anna Randolph, Belmont University, "Cultural Appropriation in URBN Incorporated 2014 Lookbooks: Erasing Cultures, Making Trends"

Alexander Bendazzi/Strayer University Prize in Art/Music/Dance Papers: Dean Palya, Jr., Belmont University, "Concept Albums: Creating Effective Stories Through Music and Sound"

Robert Blake Prize in British Literature: Sarah Geil, Shorter University, "Birth Order in Narnia: Perpetuating Psychological Stereotypes"

Gayle Webb White Prize in Business Administration: Sam Miles, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, "Be Brave: Reinventing 'Strike at the Wind,' a Lumbee Indian Play"

Joseph E. and Bessie Mae Pryor Prize in Chemistry: Heidi Roth, Hastings College, "The Role of Mobile Protons in Collision-induced Dissociation of a Model Glycopeptide"

Brown's Graduation Supplies Prize in Communication: Laura-Kate Gonyea, Carson-Newman University, "Mountains, Mullets, and Moonshine: Realism, Ideology, and Appalachian Stereotypes"

Floyd Tesmer/Strayer University Prize in Computer Science & Engineering: Zachary Katter, Indiana Institute of Technology, "Biogas and Digester Technology"

Thelma Hall Prize in Creative Writing: Stephen Mead, Harding University, "Genesis: A Story of Beginnings"

Patricia A. Williams Prize in Education: Krysta Michele Woods, Midwestern State University, "Rhetoric: A Dying Art?"

Jeanette Wieser Prize in Exercise Science & Nutrition: Taylor Renee Smith, Belmont University, "The Effects of Neuromuscular and Proprioceptive Training on ACL Injuries in Female Soccer Players"

Two Kathryn Hoyle Bradley Prizes in Health Sciences: Carl John Kornman, University of Texas at Tyler, "Enhancement of Risk Prediction for Lumbar Spinal Fractures Using Stochastic Assessment of Bone Mineral Density (BMD) Distribution from DXA Images," and Jesse Michael Hall, West Liberty University, "Vascular Re-

modeling and Calcification in Internal Pudendal and Coronary Arteries in Cadaveric Men with Cardiovascular Disease"

Joseph E. and Bessie Mae Pryor Prize in Mathematics: Jessica Hauschild, Kansas Wesleyan University, "On the Levi Graph of Point-Line Configurations"

Two Bonnie Revelle Prizes in Molecular & Cellular Biology: Dora Geving and Zara Latif, Belmont University, "Nematodes Roaming the Field of Parkinson's Disease," and Samantha Knowlton, West Liberty University, "Use of the Bacterial Agent *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Expressing ExoS to Identify Alterations in Plasma Membrane Properties Predictive of Malignant Transformation"

Blake and Trish Janutolo Prize in Organismal & Ecological Biology: Leanne Mazzella, West Liberty University, "Do Neurokinin A and Substance P Stimulate LH Secretion in Ewes?"

Floyd and Rosana Tesmer/D.C. Gamma Prize in Original Visual Art: Bryan Christopher Page, Columbia College, "Trapped in My Mind: A Visual Self-reflection"

Johnny and Frances Williams Prize in Performing Arts: Erin Puskar, Shenandoah University, "Delusions of Grandeur"

Political Science/Economics Prize: Elizabeth Krane, Southern Methodist University, "Cash Crop Production and Quality of Life in Rural and Urban Ghana"

Three Mary Waterstreet Prizes in Psychology: Samantha Allen, Gardner-Webb University, "Disney Princess Syndrome: The Effect of Disney Movie Consumption on Romantic Relationship Beliefs, Communication, and Levels of Androgyny and their Influence on Romantic Relationship Satisfaction and Success," and Danielle Guindon, Saint Vincent College, "The Influence of Tooth Color on Perceptions of Fictitious College Applicants," and another to Jordan Turner, Freed-Hardeman University, "Optimal Self-esteem Versus High Global Implicit and Explicit Self-esteem: Determining Contribution to Well-being"

Clark Youngblood Prize in Philosophy & World Religion: Caleb Dillinger, Ohio Valley University, "A Linguistic and Theological Approach to Understanding Jonah"

Michael Flachmann Prize in Shakespeare: Bronwen Feters, Huntington University, "Pivotal and Puzzling: The Indian Boy in A Midsummer Night's Dream"

Patricia Graham Prize in World History: Kelsey Belcher, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, "Dissection, Body Snatchers, and Reform"

Bill Short Prize in World Literature: Vicky Ge Huang, Colby-Sawyer College, "An Exposé of China's Banned Literature"

Dennis M. Organ Prize for the Top Presentation by a Graduate Student or Alumni Member: Rebekah Renee Grado, University of Texas at El Paso, "International Connections: Preserving the Relationship between England and Germany in Howards End"

174 Years of Sponsor Service



Alpha Chi honored many of its chapters' valued faculty sponsors at the national convention March 19-21 in Chicago. Dr. Paul Michelson's 40 years of sponsor service at Huntington University topped the list. For 10 years of service, sponsors are awarded a silver pin. After 15 years, a gold pin suspended from a matching horizontal bar is awarded. At 20 years, a sapphire is added to either end of the bar, emeralds upon 25 years, and diamonds at 30 years. A final ruby is added to the center of the pin for sponsors serving for 35 or more years.

In addition to Dr. Michelson, 10 other chapter sponsors were awarded pins for 10, 15, 20, 25, or 30 years of service. These volunteer sponsors contributed to their students and campuses a combined total of 174 years of loyal service.

10-year pins:

Dr. Jim Ford, 10 years,
Rogers State University
Dr. John Harrison, 10 years,
Oklahoma Christian University

Charlin Jones-Chavez, 10 years,
University of Texas at San Antonio
Dr. Tim Lindblom, 10 years,
Lyon College
Dr. Agashi Nwogbaga, 10 years,
Wesley College
Dr. Rodney Rutland, 10 years,
Anderson University (South Carolina)

15-year pins:

Dr. Mary Graham, 18 years,
York College of Pennsylvania
Dr. Ella Moore-Boyd, 15 years,
Jackson State University

20-year-pins:

Johanna Sandlin, 20 years,
Austin College
Bill Potter, 21 years,
Hawai'i Pacific University

35-year pin:

Dr. Paul Michelson, 40 years,
Huntington University

Honorary Members Selected in 2014

Dr. Faye Burchard

Dean of Student Affairs, Columbia College,
nominated by Missouri Epsilon

Dr. Andrea Golato

Dean of the Graduate College, Texas State
University, nominated by Texas Iota

Dr. William B. Greer

President, Milligan College, nominated by
Tennessee Nu chapter

Dr. Pamela Gunter-Smith

President, York College of Pennsylvania,
nominated by Pennsylvania Delta

David L. Jamison, J.D.

Provost, Robert Morris University,
nominated by Pennsylvania Epsilon

Dr. Paul Maurer, Jr.

President, Montreat College, nominated by
North Carolina Tau

In Memorium

Professor Bobby Deaton made a lasting impression on Texas Wesleyan University students and faculty and also on those in Alpha Chi who knew him over his years as a sponsor, accompanying undergraduate students to regional and national conventions. He started his career at Texas Wesleyan 47 years ago. He died January 13, 2015 in Arlington, Texas.

An outstanding teacher and scholar, Dr. Deaton's contributions to the university and the field of science are numerous. During his tenure at Wesleyan, he conducted research on superconductivity, solid state physics, and more recently, applications of UV spectra to geological and archaeological problems.

Deaton was especially loved by his students, was an avid tennis player, and in 2008 was inducted into the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation's Hall of Fame. He actively served for many years as the faculty sponsor of the Texas Mu chapter of Alpha Chi National College Honor Society. Alpha Chi's executive director, Dr. Trisha Yarbrough, reflecting on Dr. Deaton said, "I wish there were a way to convey to people what a great, warm, easy smile he had, how proud he was of his chapter's scrapbooks and the students who compiled them, and how supportive he was of anyone in leadership." Alpha Chi expresses sympathy to his family, colleagues, and students.

Sponsors Planning for 2015-2016

The checklists below for Star and Notable chapter awards can help guide your chapter to achieve the benchmarks of healthy chapter life.

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 a student for a national fellowship or scholarship
- Host an academic program on campus

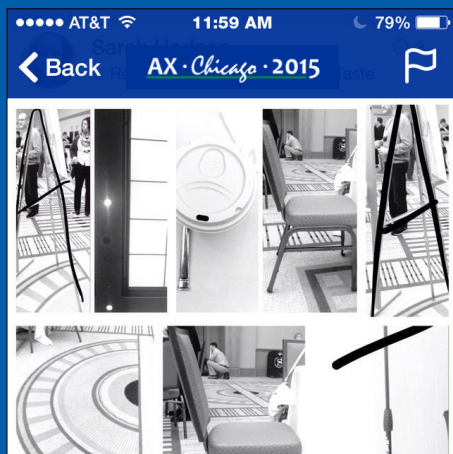
Notable Chapter Criteria

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 a student for a national fellowship or scholarship
- Host an academic program on campus



The National Convention in Chicago

