

Welcome
to the
Delta Omicron Chapter
(Lake Worth Campus)
of
Phi Theta Kappa
Fall 2010 Orientation



We are glad you came!

Mission Statement

"The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among two year college students. To achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa shall provide an opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and, for lively fellowship, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence."

What is Phi Theta Kappa?

Established in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society of the two-year community college. Since this time, this prestigious honors society has greatly expanded its horizons to include over two million members in more than 1,200 chapters throughout the United States and abroad.

The words "Phi Theta Kappa" are derived from the Greek Words: phronimon, thumos, and katharotes. These words stand for wisdom, aspiration, and purity. Along with the values that Phi Theta Kappa's name represents, the purpose of the society is the promotion of Scholarship, and the development of Leadership, the cultivation of Fellowship while striving for excellence in the community through Service among students of two-year community colleges throughout the world.

Each college (or college campus) represents a different chapter within Phi Theta Kappa. In turn each representative chapter is given a different Greek name. There are 78 chapters and 8 alumni chapters in Florida. The Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth Campus Chapter is called Delta Omicron, and it is the oldest chapter in Florida, founded in 1943. Our Chapter has consistently been recognized internationally as an extremely active chapter. Delta Omicron has attained a Five Star Rank since the inception of the Five Star Chapter Program. **Please note that Delta Omicron is the chapter at the Lake Worth campus. There are other Phi Theta Kappa chapters at all of our other PBSC locations.**

Phi Theta Kappa offers many opportunities for academic enrichment through programs such as our Honor Study Topic. In addition, members have the opportunity to travel to many exciting locations where they meet other interesting and diverse Phi Theta Kappans. The friendships made while in Phi Theta Kappa can last a lifetime. Your membership offers you the opportunity to attend the International Conference, Florida Regional Conference, Leadership Conference, Honors Institute, and many other activities.

Who is Eligible?

To join the Delta Omicron chapter of Phi Theta Kappa you must have earned at least 12 college credit hours at Palm Beach State College, have a 3.2 GPA, and be currently enrolled at PBSC. "Provisional Memberships" are offered to students wishing to join before meeting these requirements. Provisional members would be able to participate in all activities, including traveling to conferences. Provisional members are not eligible to run for an office or vote in an election. The "provisional" member fee is \$10, which covers the T-shirt cost. Presidential scholars from area high schools are invited to join as provisional members as well. Membership into Phi Theta Kappa affords you the opportunity to grow and learn more about your abilities as an individual.

What are the Benefits of Membership?

- Members of Phi Theta Kappa may apply for more than \$36 million in transfer scholarships, provided exclusively to Society members by more than 600 senior institutions.
- FREE enrollment in The Transfer Database, used by hundreds of senior colleges and universities to recruit Phi Theta Kappa transfer students.
- Members may connect to find cutting-edge services, programs and resources selected especially to meet their needs. The benefits, available to members free of charge, include:
 - Special offers from Phi Theta Kappa Partners.
 - Press release announcing your membership, sent electronically to a newspaper of your choice.
 - Letter of recommendation sent to a college admissions counselor or scholarship official.
 - Letter of recommendation sent to a potential employer.
- All members of Phi Theta Kappa receive the prestigious Golden Key Membership Pin.
- All members of Phi Theta Kappa receive the impressive Certificate of Membership.
- All members of Phi Theta Kappa receive a wallet-size Identification Card.
- Palm Beach State College will affix the Phi Theta Kappa Gold Diploma Seal, denoting Society

membership, to their two-year college diploma.

- Members of Phi Theta Kappa will have their membership in the international honor society noted on their transcript.
- Civil Service Jobs Benefit: Members applying for GS5 federal jobs and who completed a baccalaureate degree with superior academic achievement, as defined by the Federal Office of Personnel Management, would be upgraded to a GS7 classification, meaning an increase in starting salary over the GS5 grade. GS5 federal jobs are entry level jobs requiring completion of a baccalaureate degree or four years of study beyond high school.
- Members of Phi Theta Kappa may wear the Society's golden monogrammed Honors Stole and Tassel, at college commencement exercises.
- The Certificate of Membership, Membership Identification Card, and Membership Pin are included in your Benefit Packet mailed to your home address.

What Activities are Available?

Delta Omicron is an exceptionally active chapter. Listed here are just a few opportunities for students to become involved and serve our community.

- General Meetings, usually every other Sunday at 7:00pm in AH101
- Orientation
- Induction
- Club Rush
- Panther Fest
- Convention Trips
- Recycle Program
- Adopt-a-Highway
- Adopt-a-Student-Family
- Blood Drives
- Hospital Visits
- Fundraising
- Tutoring Program
- Project Graduation
- Relay for Life
- Making Strides
- Race for the Cure
- Paint Your Heart Out
- Clothing Drives for Shelters
- End of the Year Awards Banquet
- **International Honor Study Topic** (The 2010-2012 topic is "The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril and Promise").

How Do I Apply?

New Member Applications are available September through October and January through March of each year. Students may apply on-line or in person. Every student is required to complete two Five Star Member Enhancement forms. The student keeps the form attached to this packet for his/her records. The separate blue Five Star Member enhancement form should be given to an officer or advisor for Delta Omicron records.

On-Line:

Students, who meet the requirements and wish to accept membership, can register online at "www.ptk.org/acceptmembership/login.go". A seven letter passcode or "pin" is required for acceptance. This code is found above the student name on the address label from the envelope of the letter from the President of Palm Beach State College, Dr. Dennis Gallon, offering Phi Theta Kappa membership to all eligible students. Once online, students should follow the screen prompts completing all information. The \$85 membership fee is a onetime membership fee payable online by credit card.

In Person:

Students, who meet the requirements and wish to accept membership, may apply tonight, or in person at a later date. Please complete the application and return it to an advisor along with the onetime membership fee of \$85 payable by cash or check, made out to Phi Theta Kappa. **The application and membership fee must be turned in together.**

What is Induction?

Induction is a ceremony honoring our students as they become official members of Phi Theta Kappa. The Induction Ceremony will be held at the Duncan Theatre on Thursday, October 28, 2010. New members are asked to dress in casual business attire, and arrive at 6:30pm. We encourage the attendance of family members and friends. The ceremony will begin at 7:00pm and will last approximately one hour followed by the reception.

2010-2011 Delta Omicron Officers and Advisors

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>E-Mail</u> |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| President | Luana Goncalves | goncalvesld@my.palmbeachstate.edu |
| VP Scholarship | William Proper | properwr@my.palmbeachstate.edu |
| VP Leadership | Diane Ramos | ramosdm1@my.palmbeachstate.edu |
| VP Service | Faith Proper | properfl@my.palmbeachstate.edu |
| VP Communication | Christina Plante | plantecm@my.palmbeachstate.edu |
| VP Finance | Johanna Poblano | poblanojn@my.palmbeachstate.edu |
| Co-Advisor | Christine Bush | bushc@palmbeachstate.edu |
| Co-Advisor | Joe Millas | millasj@palmbeachstate.edu |

Keep Informed

Important information can be found on the following web pages. Delta Omicron utilizes the internet to inform our members with up-to-date information.

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|------------------------|--|
| International Web Page | www.ptk.org |
| Regional Web Page | www.flptk.org |
| Delta Omicron | www.facebook.com/ptkdeltaomicronchapter http://twitter.com/PTKDeltaOmicron www.myspace.com/phithetakappadeltaomicron www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ptkdeltaomicron http://ptkdeltaomicron.wordpress.com/ www.pbcc.edu/x5274.xml |

The *Delta Omicronicle* is a monthly newsletter sent to all registered members of Delta Omicron who have provided the chapter with their email address.

Phi Theta Kappa National Headquarters

The Center for Excellence
1625 Eastover Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39211
www.ptk.org
1-800-946-9997

Key “Phi Theta Kappa” Terms

Athenian: an electronic newsletter compiled of submissions from chapters in the PTK Florida Region.

Assistant Event Coordinator: assisting the Event Officer in coordination of event, per the Officer’s discretion. Specific instructions will be given on a case by case basis.

Chapter: the smaller group of Phi Theta Kappans that belong to a specific community college or college campus. The PBSC Lake Worth Chapter is called Delta Omicron.

Committee: a group of members that have volunteered to participate in a specific project or event.

Credit: a completed activity used toward the Five Star Membership Program.

Civic Engagement: an activity dedicated to community service.

Executive Board: also known as the E-Board; the six officers dedicated to planning, organizing and attending Delta Omicron’s events. New officer elections occur at the end of the spring term.

Fellowship: the good times Phi Theta Kappans experience together.

Five Star Membership: a program that supports participation in which members complete assigned tasks to earn one “star” at a time. Tasks are not necessarily completed in chronological order.

Fundraiser: any activity that raises funds for Delta Omicron.

General Meeting: Delta Omicron’s official meeting in which members are updated with news and upcoming events. These usually occur every other Sunday.

Honors Study Topic: The topic is the general theme of Phi Theta Kappa in which chapters explore through study and by putting the topic into action. This year’s study topic is “*The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril and Promise*”.

Hallmarks: The competitive award program for Phi Theta Kappa recognizing the accomplishments of individuals, chapters, and regions.

Induction: a ceremony that occurs twice a year in which new members become official members of Phi Theta Kappa.

International Convention: a convention in which PTK members from around the world gather for education, information, fellowship, networking and campaign for International Office.

Provisional Membership: A member that has yet to acquire the required GPA and college credits for official membership but is still actively participating in chapter events.

Region: Phi Theta Kappa is divided into 29 “Regions”. The state of Florida is one Region.

Service Project: an activity dedicated to the International Service Project, “Operation Green: Improving Our Communities”.