

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Minutes of the Spring Convention  
Executive Board Meeting

April 22, 2017  
Comfort Suites Hotel, Green Bay, Wisconsin

The Sigma State Executive Board met on Saturday, April 22, 2017, at the Comfort Suites Hotel in Green Bay. President Marilyn Lambert (Zeta) welcomed attendees and extended thanks to Zeta Chapter for planning and hosting the convention. Dr. Phyllis Hickey, the DKG Society's International Operation Services Administrator, was introduced as the international guest.

President Marilyn Lambert (Zeta) called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Linda Dubaniewicz (Beta) moved that the business meeting agenda be approved as printed. The motion was adopted. Barb Millerman (Psi), Recording Secretary, called the roll, and Annmarie Wacker (Beta), parliamentarian, declared that a quorum was present.

The 2016 Fall Workshop Executive Board minutes were approved as printed.

Sandra Ruesink (Delta) reported that 15 new members were added this year. As of the end of March, the balance in the general checking and savings account is \$21,289.45 and another \$19,227.07 in investments. Some minor typo corrections were made to the 2017-18 proposed budget. The treasurer's report will be placed on file for audit.

A thank you note from Dr. Phyllis VanBuren for a gift to the World Fellowship Fund was read by correspondence secretary, Mary Flierl (Chi).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** (copies are attached to these minutes)

**Action Grants** Gerry Nelson (Alpha Xi) The Advisory Council received \$3,000 from Sigma State, \$2,000 from the Sigma State Foundation, and \$200 from the Council's Reserve Fund. A total of 12 grants were awarded.

**Educational Excellence Committee (EEC)** Marcia Trentlage (Omicron) explained how this committee is explaining the purpose of the EEC Committee. Chapters have been asked if they have changed their committee structure to fit them locally and if their EEC aligns with Sigma State Wisconsin.

**Finance Committee** Cindy Rockow (Psi) A major concern of this committee is an overall decline in state membership; this trend will have a direct impact on the finances available to the organization. Recruitment of new members is essential.

**Grants in Aid for Educational Publication** Toni Durben (Omicron) reported that this past year the committee had only one interested person. No GAEP grants were awarded this past year.

**Historian** Helen Van Prooyen (Gamma) encouraged attendees to view the historical display. Sheets were available on the tables of various Sigma State Wisconsin records which have been archived.

**International Foundation** Bev Hess (Chi) Monies raised are used to finance projects and professional development. The DKG Educational Foundation relies on donations to facilitate its mission. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) for more information.

**Leadership** Jan Marson (Alpha Omega) The committee planned and executed two training sessions this past year. The three major goals of the committee were explained.

**Literary Competition** Pat Brabazon and Judy Snyder (Alpha Iota) The 33<sup>rd</sup> year of competition has been completed. There were 1,209 books submitted to chapters with 150 Sigma State Wisconsin members involved in their local Literary Contests. This is the first year there was a category for high school students (Grades 9-12). Chapters can also send up to ten books to state, and allows for more than one tie per chapter. (See their report for more details.)

**Membership** Brigitte Musallam (Gamma) The main focus this past year was to initiate and sustain membership. Sigma State membership for 2016-17 is 695. Nine of the 25 Sigma State Wisconsin chapters increased their membership.

**Missling Achievement Award** Mary Kenne (Alpha Gamma) Five individuals were nominated for this award this past year. At the banquet, we learned that this year's recipient was Bev Hess (Chi).

**Newsletter** Sharon Storms (Lambda) Chapter presidents are encouraged to obtain photo permissions from their members. If members choose to have their copy of Sigma State News sent to them via e-mail, costs of distribution can be reduced.

**Scholarship** Margaret Bussone (Chi) One person received a \$4,000 Founders' Scholarship, and four individuals qualified for Hunziker Scholarships of \$1,000 each.

**Strategic Action Plan** Leslie Bakkum (Theta) Three areas focused on this biennium were membership, leadership, and educational excellence. Sigma State Wisconsin is working on strengthening its standing committees as they move our state organization into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Website** Barb Cody (Zeta) The Communications Committee has been following the SAP they developed. Barb would like to step down from her present positions at the end of the 2017-18 year and assume a new position in Sigma State Wisconsin.

**World Fellowship** Marie Allen (Theta) Ananda Muhammad, (Ames, IA), who was our guest at last year's convention, had her Masters' thesis accepted and will be entering a doctoral program. Donations are always gratefully accepted for World Fellowship awards.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Cindy Quilling (Alpha Tau) moved and it was seconded that "The Sigma State Wisconsin budget be accepted as printed with stated corrections." The motion was adopted.

Brigitte Musallam (Gamma) moved and it was seconded that "Sigma State Wisconsin accept the request of dissolution of Chapter Upsilon as requested by them in their two letters." The motion was adopted.

The amendment of bylaws and standing rules was next on the agenda. President Marilyn Lambert (Zeta) reported that there was a unanimous vote from 30 members on the executive board to amend the bylaws and standing rules as published with the exception of Section 4 of the bylaws pertaining to the Mary Jo Nettlesheim Memorial Literary Competition.

Carolyn Barnhart (Alpha Tau) moved and it was seconded that "Sigma State Wisconsin accept the revisions to the bylaws as published and displayed at the convention with the exception of Group No. 7." The motion was adopted.

Shari Eberhardt (Theta) moved and it was seconded that "An ad hoc committee be formed to research and clarify the accounting history of the Mary Jo Nettlesheim Literacy and Illustrator Competition funding in Sigma State Wisconsin and Sigma State Foundation, Inc. and to establish a policy delineating future accounting practices related to Nettlesheim funds." The motion was adopted.

Toni Durben (Omicron) moved and it was seconded to "Accept the changes in the Standing Rules as presented." The motion was adopted.

Upon President Lambert's (Zeta) request, Susan Grosse (Delta) moved and it was seconded to "Destroy the executive committee's ballots related to the changes in the Standing Rules and Bylaws of Sigma State Wisconsin." The motion was adopted.

Carolyn Barnhart (Alpha Tau), committee chair, shared the four recommendations from the ad hoc committee for Officer Training-WI DKG. Lindsay Barnhart moved and it was seconded that "The four recommendations of the ad hoc committee report be adopted." The motion was adopted. The proposed changes will not go into effect until 2018.

Mary Kenne (Alpha Gamma), chair of the ad hoc committee for developing a rotation schedule for spring conventions, gave her committee's report. Spring Sigma State Convention responsibilities would be rotated every six years. Carolyn Barnhart (Alpha Tau) moved and it was seconded that "Sigma State Convention responsibilities would be rotated every six years by the geographically associated chapters using the following schedule: 2018: Southwest Region, 2019: Central West Region, 2020: Central East Region, 2021: Southeast Region, 2022: Northwest Region, and 2023: Northeast Region." The motion was adopted. A suggestion was made that groups planning workshops or conventions request the \$82 per room state rate.

Mary Kenne (Alpha Gamma) moved and it was seconded to "Establish an ad hoc committee to study and recommend revisions to the scheduling and focus of state meetings including—but not limited to—alternating spring and fall meetings each year; determining membership preferences for the format, duration, and cost of state meetings; and balancing social/networking needs with the required business of the society." The motion was adopted.

Sandra Ruesink (Delta) moved that "A unanimous ballot be cast for the election of Leslie Bakkum, President; Mary Kenne, 1<sup>st</sup> V-P; Kathy Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> V-P; Barbara Millerman, Recording Secretary; and Ruth Scholze, Corresponding Secretary." The motion was adopted.

Rachel Schultz (Lambda) moved that "Nominations for the Finance Committee and the Nominations Committee be closed and a unanimous ballot for these two committees be cast." The motion was adopted. Members of the Finance Committee include Cindy

Rockow, Chair; Carolyn Barnhart, and Julie Hannon. The Nomination Committee members include Kathleen Clouthier, Chair; Roberta Gale, and Kathy Zautner.

Sharon Storms (Lambda) shared that "Beginning with the August 2017 issue of Sigma State News, members will be offered a choice of receiving their newsletter either as an e-mail attachment or as a printed copy." Her new e-mail address is [dkgsseditor@gmail.com](mailto:dkgsseditor@gmail.com).

A collect was shared by Mary Lee Gibson (Zeta).

Marilyn Lambert (Zeta) appointed Brigitte Musallam (Gamma), Pat Premo (Chi), and Joanne Hagen (Alpha Upsilon Sigma) to proof/edit the minutes of the Spring 2017 business meeting.

Bev Mantey-VanCronkhite (Delta) and the Foundation Board presented a Sigma State Foundation, Inc. report and rally. Donations to the five-year "Fortify the Foundation" campaign totaled \$58,747. Bev announced that \$3,000 has been set aside for individual and chapter support; there may be only one application per chapter. An application form is available on the Sigma State website and in the state Dropbox.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Northwest Regional Conference will be held June 28-July 1, 2017, at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Spearfish, South Dakota.

A Transition Meeting for State Committee Chairs will be held July 10, 2017, at the Comfort Inn in Portage.

The Fall Workshop and Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for September 22-23, 2017, at the North Star Conference Center in DeForest.

The Creative Arts Retreat will be held October 6, 7, and 8 at the Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake.

The 2018 Convention will be hosted by the Southwest Region at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Madison from April 27-29, 2018.

Ruth Scholze (Theta) moved that "The meeting be adjourned." The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:43 a.m.

Barbara A. Millerman (Psi)  
Sigma State Recording Secretary