



Phi Sigma Tau National Alumni Chapter



Bulletin #48

November, 2015

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2014-2015 Financial Report

(Category)	(Dollars)	(Percent)
INCOME		
Initiation fees	30,050.00	94.94
Dialogue subscriptions	381.50	1.21
NAC dues	235.00	0.74
Charter fees	500.00	1.58
Gifts	0.00	0.00
Retained Earnings	160,639.36 (not included)	
Other income	485.00	1.53
Total	192,290.86	100.00

EXPENSES

Supplies	409.30	2.09
Printing costs	1,469.68	7.50
Postage	2,812.27	14.35
Dialogue printing	13,656.52	69.71
ACHS dues/expenses	485.00	2.48
Website	192.00	0.98
Other expenses	567.00	2.89
Total	19,591.77	100.00

Retained Earnings \$ 172,699.09

Phi Sigma Tau continues to be in a solid financial state, with our income generally exceeding our expenses each year. Our journal, *Dialogue*, continues to be our largest expense and generally is about 70-75% of our operating costs. However, the journal provides philosophy students an opportunity for their first publication, and our Executive Council continues to believe that the goal of encouraging philosophy students to publish their work is one of the primary values of Phi Sigma Tau. Students who do submit work for publication are encouraged to think deeply about philosophical problems, to formulate their ideas carefully, and to consider how those ideas can be effectively presented. Some of those who have had their work published in *Dialogue* have gone on to graduate work in philosophy and, in a few cases, have become chapter advisors for our organization.

Aside from the journal, our other major expenses are postage and printing; those costs remain fairly constant from year to year. We do incur fairly substantial mailing costs as we send membership certificates, some journals, and other items throughout the year. A great deal of correspondence is done by

way of emails, and that helps keep mailing costs under control.

There continue to be no charges for salaries, retirement, or health benefits, as Phi Sigma Tau remains an all volunteer organization. Additionally, there is no overhead for fundraising, as Phi Sigma Tau does not solicit donations from any organization. We do accept the occasional donation and are a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

Yours cordially,

David E. Gibson
Executive Secretary
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu

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News of the Society

The 2014-2015 school year was only our fourth where the number of new members passed 1200 (1202 to be precise). We had a slight increase from last year when we had 1171 new members. In the past several years, we have averaged a bit over 1200 new members each year. In addition, we chartered seven new chapters during the year. We have new chapters at California State University at San Bernardino, Indiana University Southeast, DePaul University (Chicago), Walsh University (Canton, Ohio), Morningside College (Sioux City, Iowa), Adrian College (Adrian, Michigan), and the University of Missouri at St. Louis. All of these new chapters are up and running; between them, they inducted 71 members during the past school year. However, early this school year we revoked the charters at eight chapters that had been inactive for some time.

Phi Sigma Tau is a member of ACHS (Association of College Honor Societies) and operates according to the rules of that organization. ACHS provides a framework for the operation of honor societies and certifies that societies that adhere to its rules are genuinely dedicated to honoring outstanding students and upholding the standards of an honor group. In the case of Phi Sigma Tau, we are limited to chartering chapters only at institutions with a major in philosophy; additionally, as an honor society for a special field, we can only induct students who are advanced students. However, we are not limited to inducting students who major in philosophy; we are allowed to induct students with majors in other areas provided they meet the standards of excellence in philosophy. Consequently, many of our members continue their education in areas other than philosophy and pursue careers in law, medicine, graduate study, and many other areas.

As usual, I have enclosed the Alumni Bulletin and two Newsletters with the October issue of *Dialogue*. I hope that

you find that your former chapter has listed some of its activities.

The new version of the *PST Manual* is available in Adobe format. The Adobe version now contains information which is up to date, as well as all printed forms, memos, history, chapter lists, bulletins, and newsletters. NAC members who wish to receive the *PST Manual* as an email attachment should drop me a brief email message ("send Manual" is fine).

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NAC Membership

Membership in the National Alumni Chapter continues to be five dollars per year; we have no plans to increase that. However, the Executive Council is considering a proposal to offer Alumni Chapter membership by email to those who might wish. Members who elect to have an email membership would not be charged for membership but would receive all materials by email only; there would be no hard copies. Members, whether email members or regular members as they are now, will receive *Dialogue* for one year as well as Newsletters and the occasional NAC Bulletin. However, I do not know when you move or change email addresses. Please let me know if your street address or email address changes so that I can update the *PST* files. I would like to be able to keep in contact with you. If you need to change an address, please feel free to contact me by email.

Email addresses for members who make them available are taken from both NAC renewal and registration forms. If you neglected to provide an email address [or registered using an earlier registration form which did not contain a space for email information] and would like to be on the NAC email distribution list, you need only drop me a message [david.gibson@pepperdine.edu] from your email account with the Subject Line: "ADD TO NAC EMAIL." **The NAC membership database (including email listings) is not given or sold to any other organization (educational or commercial).**

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DIALOGUE

This current issue of our journal is the work of many people. First and foremost are the authors of articles and reviewers of books. They have taken their time and talent to produce the essays and reviews in this issue. In addition, there are the professors who encouraged and stimulated the students to produce these works. And also, students talk to other students and help them refine their ideas, clear up confusions, and express ideas clearly and coherently. *Dialogue* is a product of all that activity. Our congratulations to all those who helped in the preparation of the issues of our journal!

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From the Executive Secretary

From time to time, I would like to include a section in our Alumni Bulletin for members of the Alumni Chapter (and others) to recall some of their experiences in Phi Sigma Tau, recollections of favorite professors, or descriptions of what they have done since they graduated. I imagine that all of you have a professor (perhaps more than one) who shaped your thinking or influenced your life in some way. Or there may be a way where your training in philosophy has been a help in your career. If you have some stories or reflections you would be willing for me to publish in our Bulletin, please send them to me. Currently, the Alumni Bulletin is a once per year publication, but I would be happy to make it a twice per year publication if some NAC members would like to send me material for a second issue.

Our October issue is a bit late, but this will give me the opportunity to wish all of you a very happy holiday season. And best wishes for a wonderful New Year.

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