

Phi Sigma Tau National Alumni Chapter

Bulletin #49

November, 2016

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2015-2016 Financial Report

(Category)	(Dollars)	(Percent)
INCOME		
Initiation fees	31,800.00	96.73
Dialogue subscriptions	158.00	0.48
NAC dues	145.00	0.44
Charter fees	600.00	1.83
Gifts	0.00	0.00
Retained Earnings	172,699.09 (not included)	
Other income	171.00	0.52
Total	205,573.09	100.00
EXPENSES		
Supplies	457.66	2.39
Printing costs	1,627.03	8.49
Postage	2,742.86	14.32
Dialogue printing	12,667.28	66.13
ACHS dues/expenses	900.00	4.70
Website	192.00	1.00
Other expenses	569.00	2.97
Total	19,155.83	100.00
Retained Earnings	\$ 186,417.26	

Last year was another good year for Phi Sigma Tau; our income again exceeded our expenses. As usual, our largest expense is for *Dialogue*; our expense for the journal was down a bit last year, though it will be rather higher this year because of the Special Ethics Issue. Thus, we will be publishing three issues of the journal this year, and costs will increase by about 50% for that item. Our other expenses stayed generally in line, and our total expenses were actually a bit less last year than in the year preceding the last. This is partly because we buy some supplies in more than yearly amounts. In addition to the increase in the journal costs, this will be a re-supply year, so expenses should increase significantly. Nevertheless, Phi Sigma Tau remains in a solid financial position.

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.) However, we anticipate that we will need to provide some funds for salary in the future; as the

society grows, albeit slowly, there is more work and the necessity of a paid employee. For many years, Dr. Lee Rice was the Executive Secretary of the organization and contributed his time and effort while he was a full-time professor; I am now retired and able to devote more time to the organization than may be possible for a person who is still teaching. Consequently, we may need to provide some financial assistance for a future employee who will handle some of the honor society work.

Yours cordially,
 David E. Gibson
 Executive Secretary
 david.gibson@pepperdine.edu

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News of the Society

During the 2015-2016 school year, 1272 new members were inducted into our society; that was our second best year ever (best was 1295) and is the largest number of new members since I have been Executive Secretary for Phi Sigma Tau. Last year was only the fifth time the number of new members has exceeded 1200, and our membership seems to be fairly stable at between 1200 and 1250 members each year. In addition, we chartered five chapters, though three of the schools had had chapters that were revoked. We chartered chapters at Quinnipiac University and Manhattanville College. We re-chartered the chapters at Mercer University, Bucknell University, and Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis (IUPUI).

I am enclosing our November Newsletter as well as the Alumni Bulletin with this journal issue. Because of the Supplement (which you should have received), we are running a bit late with our October issue making it possible to include the November Newsletter with the journal. At the end of this Newsletter, I have added some material from our Archives that you might find interesting; there were transcripts of early letters between the founders of Phi Sigma Tau in the last Newsletter. I found these letters and documents interesting and hope you do too.

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

We now offer two types of membership in the Alumni Chapter. Our traditional membership included print versions of *Dialogue*, the Newsletters, and the Alumni Bulletin. We continue to offer that at a cost of \$5.00 per year to cover the mailing costs of those items. Beginning this year, we also offer an email membership in the Alumni Chapter at no charge; those who select the email membership will receive all materials by email attachment. There will be a subscription form enclosed with the April issue, and you may select the option that will be best for you. If you do select the email option, you need only reply by email to the renewal request. However, the initial year of membership in the Alumni Chapter is a part of Phi Sigma Tau membership, and we will continue to send hard copy materials to first year Alumni Chapter members.

However, I do not know when you move or change 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

Some year ago, Phi Sigma Tau published three issues of *Dialogue* each year; that became a real burden on the editor and others who did the work. Since the last issue of the year often was published after students had already left for the summer break, members often did not receive that issue. As a consequence, the last two issues was combined into a "double" issue (hence, the Number 2-3). This is the first year in many years that we will publish three different issues in a single year, and the September date for the Supplement was an attempt to have all issues published and distributed before the end of the spring term. We do not plan to publish a Supplement each year, but when there is a themed conference with appropriate papers, we will consider another Supplement. The Executive Council members have discussed the requirements for a special issue and hope that this will not be the last Supplement. One of the goals of Phi Sigma Tau is to encourage the discussion of philosophy, and the journal is part of our contribution to that discussion. The journal also provides a place for students to make their first foray into publishing and, in some cases, to begin an academic career.

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From the Executive Secretary

At times I have included some short pieces from NAC members who have reflected on their post-graduation experiences or on a favorite professor; I welcome such reflections and would like to have such reflections be a part of our Alumni Bulletin. Please, if you have some reflection on one of your favorite professors, send me a short note about that person. Or, if you have found that the study and discipline of philosophy has been an asset to your career, pass along a description of that. I welcome your participation in our Bulletin; I find it interesting to know what you are doing and have done and believe others will find it so also.

This issue will probably reach you after Thanksgiving; I hope that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends. Best wishes for a peaceful December holiday season and a great New Year. I'll plan to be sending along our April issue in the New Year.

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