

Pi Gamma Mu News

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CHAPTER NEWS

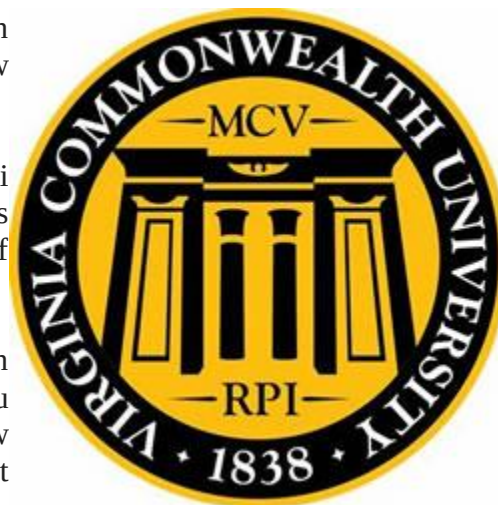
Virginia Nu Chapter Announces Inaugural Class at Virginia Commonwealth University

Courtesy of Virginia Commonwealth University

During the fall semester of 2022, Virginia Commonwealth University produced the second-highest number of new members in the honor society worldwide.

RICHMOND, VA – In the fall semester of 2022, the Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences accepted 87 new members, as part of the inaugural class of initiates from the

Virginia Nu Chapter at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). During this period, the Virginia Nu Chapter produced the second-highest number of new members in Pi Gamma Mu worldwide and the highest number from any chapter in Virginia.



In total, 16 social science disciplines are represented among this first group of initiates from VCU, either by academic major, minor, or graduate program: African American studies; anthropology; criminal justice; environmental studies; gender, sexuality and women's studies; gerontology; history; homeland security and emergency preparedness; international studies; political science; psychology; public administration; religious studies; social work; sociology; and urban and regional studies and planning.

Of the top five academic programs represented by these initiates, political science was the most popular field of study, having 34 members affiliated with the program followed by psychology (22), sociology (16), social work (13), and history (9). An initiation ceremony for the Virginia Nu Chapter's inaugural class of members is planned for April 2023.

"The Virginia Nu Chapter had one of the strongest launches in Pi Gamma Mu's 99-year history," said Suzanne M. Rupp, Psy.D., executive director of the Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences. "The Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees noticed the enthusiasm and ambition of the chapter sponsors when they applied for a charter and are so impressed with their

success in the first year. Led by Dr. Deirdre M. Condit, organizers at VCU sought to establish a chapter of Pi Gamma Mu in order to provide its outstanding social science students with increased opportunities and recognition. They are off to a great start!”

“We are so delighted to see the chapter at Virginia Commonwealth University thriving,” said Allison G. S. Knox, M.A., Pi Gamma Mu Southeast regional chancellor and member of the Board of Trustees. “It will be no time before VCU is one of the top Pi Gamma Mu chapters in the country!”

“It is exciting to be at the beginning of this ambitious effort to build a new legacy that will honor the talents and achievements of our current and future social science community at VCU,” said Prof. Deirdre M. Condit, Ph.D., faculty sponsor of the Virginia Nu Chapter. “We are thrilled at how VCU social science students have responded to our first invitation to become Pi Gamma Mu initiates and hope the enthusiasm we have found thus far continues this spring and in the years to come. As the only international social science honor society, Pi Gamma Mu finally provides a way for students across the social sciences at our institution to receive the recognition they so richly deserve.”

UPDATE YOUR CHAPTER'S HISTORY IN TIME FOR PI GAMMA MU'S 100th ANNIVERSARY – GRANTS AVAILABLE

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE HISTORY AND TRADITIONS OF YOUR PI GAMMA MU CHAPTER?

Some chapters have traditions that span the whole of the organization’s existence while others have only been recently chartered. But whether yours is an older chapter or a recent one, preserving and recording for posterity that history and those traditions is important.

The Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees created Chapter Heritage Grant to encourage chapters to explore and record their histories. Recipient chapters will receive \$300 to support the research costs necessary to bring these heritage projects to fruition. All chapters are encouraged to apply. There is no deadline; however, funds are limited, and awards are granted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Awardees are expected to produce a deliverable (e.g., book, journal article, website) that will be shared with Pi Gamma Mu. Evidence of this work must be submitted to Pi Gamma Mu within 6 months of receiving funds.

Recipients of the heritage grant must wait 10 years before applying again.

Documenting Chapter History

Chapters often have resources to explore their histories unbeknownst to them. Advisers may have chapter files inherited from past advisers that have been largely unexamined. Such files may

contain information on past officers, members, projects, publicity, etc. that could be important in writing a chapter history. Also, many college and town newspapers are preserved in university libraries and are a valuable resource for doing such research. Individuals may also possess oral knowledge of their chapter's activities: current and past advisers can be interviewed along with past officers. A chapter history is a nice item to place on your chapter website and Pi Gamma Mu headquarters is also eager to collect and preserve these documents. Chapters may also want to give thought to renewing the older tradition of electing a chapter historian.

To be eligible for a grant supporting the writing of a chapter history, chapters must have been in existence for at least ten years, but chapters can begin and are encouraged to preserve their history as it unfolds.

TO APPLY

Applications may be completed using the online form, or the application may be downloaded and sent to Pi Gamma Mu Headquarters by mail or email (see below).

Completed applications will be reviewed by Pi Gamma Mu. Notifications will be sent to the chapter sponsor within a few weeks of receipt.

PI GAMMA MU CHAPTER HERITAGE GRANT APPLICATION

To be considered for a Chapter Heritage Grant, please [complete the entire application](#). Pi Gamma Mu Chapter Heritage Grants are \$300 each and are awarded to chapters, not individual members. Pi Gamma Mu International reserves the right to restrict the number of awards each year to fit within the constraints of its general budget and based upon the merits of each application.

Eligible chapters include only those that have been chartered for ten years or more. Chapters that have been awarded a Chapter Heritage Grant may reapply, but not more frequently than every ten years. Submissions are accepted at any time during the year. If awarded a Chapter Heritage Grant, the chapter agrees to share the results of final project with Pi Gamma Mu Headquarters. Evidence of work must be submitted to Pi Gamma Mu within 6 months of receiving the award. The chapter sponsor or an appointed project manager is responsible for supervising the project and allocating grant funds to support the project.

Date of Application:

Institution:

PGM Chapter:

Chapter Sponsor:

Manager of the Chapter Heritage Grant Project:

Part I: Provide a brief narrative description of the project to be undertaken and the expected final deliverable. What will be researched, why, and how will the final product be used by the chapter?

Part II: Provide a brief overview of the resources available to the chapter to undertake this research. This list may be preliminary but should provide sufficient evidence that the applicants have identified resources that are available. These resources may include individuals, reports, newspapers, photographs, etc.

Part III: Provide a preliminary timeline for completion of the project.

Part IV: How will grant funds be used? Chapter Heritage funds may be used to support activities related to information gathering (e.g., supplies, copying, fees to access records), or they may be more broadly used to support the project. For example, funds may be used to pay for events related to the project (e.g., refreshments for a kick-off event, dinner for a student committee working on the project). Funds may also be used to pay for registration or travel to the Pi Gamma Mu convention where the project can be shared with the Society.

Submit your completed application to Pi Gamma Mu Headquarters by mail or email.

Mailing Address:

Pi Gamma Mu
1000 Millington, Suite B
Winfield, KS 67156

Email Address: SuzanneRupp@pigammamu.org

Completed applications will be reviewed by Pi Gamma Mu. Notifications will be sent to the chapter sponsor within a few weeks of receipt.

APPLY FOR A PI GAMMA MU LECTURESHIP AND CHAPTER EVENT GRANT

The Trustees of Pi Gamma Mu have established the Lectureship and Chapter Events Fund for the purpose of advancing the social sciences and researching and eliminating all forms of discrimination. Funds may be used by chapters in the following two ways: 1) to bring a specially qualified speaker to campus for a chapter event, or 2) to help cover expenses related to a chapter hosting a scholarship based-event for students. The Fund serves as a memorial to deceased Trustees of this honor society. The Trustees encourage chapters to apply.

Lectureship Guidelines

The amount available for a lecture may range up to \$300 depending on chapter size (see "Funding Guidelines" below). The topic of the lecture must be related to one or more of the fields within the scope of Pi Gamma Mu (see the [Constitution](#)). The lecturer should have special qualifications and must be a guest, not a member of the local faculty, administration, or staff. If approved, a check will be sent to the responsible chapter officer for presentation to the lecturer.

Chapter Event Guidelines

The amount available for a lecture may range up to \$300 depending on chapter size (see "Funding Guidelines" below). Chapters of Pi Gamma Mu hosting a scholarship-based event, such as a student research conference or symposium, may apply for funding of up to \$300 depending on chapter size. Funds may be used to help cover costs related to hosting the event. If approved, a check will be sent to the chapter officer.

Funding Guidelines

Chapters must have initiated members in the previous or current fiscal year to be eligible to apply.

A limited number of grants are available annually.

Grants are awarded in the following amounts based on the number of new members initiated in the previous or the current fiscal year (September 1 – August 31):

1 - 10 members \$100
11 - 20 members \$200
21+ members \$300

Please mention Pi Gamma Mu as a funding supporter in the event program/marketing materials. We strongly encourage that a copy of the manuscript of the lecture, a copy of the event program, and/or photos of the event be sent to executivedirector@pigammamu.org for possible publication in the [International Social Science Review](#) or the Pi Gamma Mu [Newsletter](#).

Filing of this [application](#) includes acceptance by the applicant of conditions set forth on this form.

Submit application, at least **three** weeks before the lecture, to:

Executive Director
Pi Gamma Mu
1001 Millington, Suite B
Winfield, KS 67156