

Pi Gamma Mu News

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SAVE THE DATE!

Join Us to Celebrate Pi Gamma Mu's 100th Anniversary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania!

November 1-3, 2024

The Pi Gamma Mu Convention Committee is thrilled to announce that the 2024 Pi Gamma Mu Triennial International Convention will be held on **Friday, November 1, 2024, through Sunday, November 3, 2024, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**. Plan to join us in the *City of Brotherly Love* in 2024 to be a part of Pi Gamma Mu's *centennial celebration*!

Events will include student research paper presentations, student and chapter poster sessions, an event celebrating Pi Gamma Mu's centennial year, student elections to the Board of Trustees, the very popular Leadership Development Program (space is limited), keynote speakers, roundtable discussion groups, and much more. Current student members, alumni members, and faculty sponsors of Pi Gamma Mu are encouraged to attend.

The Convention Committee is chaired by Prof. Kathy Im of the University of Maryland Global Campus and Second Vice President of Pi Gamma Mu.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the **Double Tree by Hilton Center City Philadelphia** with a room rate of no more than \$204/night. The rooms include two queen beds and attendees comfortable sharing rooms are welcome to do so.

Stay tuned for more details about the convention!

SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED FOR 2023-2024 PI GAMMA MU SPEAKER SERIES

Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences is continuing its popular online Speaker Series for a second year. The 2023-2024 speakers will be James Wojtowicz of Rider University, Johanna Bishop of Wilmington University, Richard Gregory Johnson III of The University of San Francisco, and Steven Burkarth & Deirdre Condit of Virginia Commonwealth University.

Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences is continuing its popular online Speaker Series for a second year and is pleased to announce the upcoming speakers for 2023-2024. The series spotlights the research interests and expertise of Pi Gamma Mu's faculty chapter sponsors and is free of charge. The 2023-2024 speakers will be James Wojtowicz of Rider University, Johanna Bishop of Wilmington University, Richard Gregory Johnson III of The University of San Francisco, and Steven Burkarth & Deirdre Condit of Virginia Commonwealth University.

The series was launched on September 30, 2022. During the 2022-2023 academic year, four speakers presented on a variety of topics relevant to the social sciences. Due to the popularity of the series, the Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees decided to continue the program for another year. The four sessions will be held online and ZOOM links will be made available at a later date.

On Friday, October 27, 2023, James Wojtowicz of Rider University in New Jersey will speak about "Open Public and Freedom of Information Statutes – A Tool in the Social Science Toolbox". Prof. Wojtowicz is the faculty chapter sponsor of the New Jersey Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu at Rider University and is an Assistant Professor and Lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at Rider University. He earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at Rutgers University, New Jersey.

The second session this year will feature Johanna Bishop, faculty chapter sponsor of the Delaware Beta Chapter at Wilmington University, and the Pi Gamma Mu Governor for Delaware. Dr. Bishop will present on the topic of Human Trafficking On January 26, 2024. Dr. Bishop is the Director of Behavioral Science Programs at Wilmington University. She manages the undergraduate Behavioral Science Program, the graduate Human Services program, and several undergraduate and graduate certificate programs. In 2016 Dr. Bishop founded the annual Human Trafficking Symposium and now organizes monthly human trafficking webinars open and free to the public. She attended George Washington University, Wilmington College, and Central Michigan University.

On Wednesday, May 3, 2024, Richard Gregory Johnson III, of the University of San Francisco, will speak about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Dr. Johnson is the chapter faculty sponsor of the California Tau Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu at the University of San Francisco and is the Governor of California for Pi Gamma Mu. He is a tenured Full Professor for the University of San Francisco's School of Management. He is also the Director of the Business Minor in the School of Management. Dr. Johnson holds degrees from Georgetown University, Golden Gate University, and DePaul University.

The final session in this year's series will feature two speakers: Steven Burkarth and Deirdre Condit of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Burkarth is the president of the VCU Alumni Political Science Caucus and is a volunteer assisting with the Virginia Nu Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu. Dr. Condit is an Associate Professor of political science in the College of Humanities and Sciences at VCU and is the sponsor of the Pi Gamma Mu Chapter. She earned her bachelor's degree from Idaho State University, attended Portland State University, and completed her MA and PhD in Political Science at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Prof.

Burkarth and Dr. Condit had such a successful launch of the new chapter at VCU that they were invited to speak about the secrets of their success in their presentation on Launching a Successful Pi Gamma Mu Membership Drive.

Details and links to the online Zoom sessions will be available at <https://pigammamu.org/speaker-series.html>

CALL FOR CHAPTER HISTORIES – Apply for a Chapter Heritage Grant

In preparation for Pi Gamma Mu's centennial celebration in 2024, we are updating the history of the Society. The last history update was completed in celebration of Pi Gamma Mu's first 75 years and the time has come for another update with our 100th anniversary rapidly approaching. In this vein, we are asking chapters to explore and record their histories and send the information to our office. A group of dedicated past and present members of the Board of Trustees will review the information and will use it to create a more thorough historical update of the Society.

Whether yours is an older chapter or a recent one, preserving and recording for posterity that history and those traditions are important. With this in mind, the Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees created Chapter Heritage Awards and encourages its chapters to apply. There is no deadline. Applications will be reviewed as they are submitted. These awards are in the amount of \$300 and support the research costs necessary to bring these projects to fruition.

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 anxious to collect 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's 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.



Chapter Heritage Grants application form