

Pi Gamma Mu News

Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society to Offer Virtual Convention in 2021

Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society to Offer Virtual Convention November 3-6, 2021. Events will include student paper presentations, a leadership development program, student elections, speakers, roundtable discussions, and more.

Pi Gamma Mu is the oldest and preeminent international honor society in the social sciences and is the only interdisciplinary social science honor society. Its purpose is to award academic excellence and service. Started in 1924 by the Deans of Southwestern College and the College of William and Mary, its headquarters today are in Winfield, Kansas. Throughout its 97 years of existence, it has produced many well-known scholars, diplomats, political leaders, business leaders, and pioneering professionals.

Over the last several decades, members of the prestigious Pi Gamma Mu Honor Society have attended the Triennial Convention in various cities across the United States. Students in chapters of this organization have waited for this convention for the opportunity to present papers and posters, hear notable speakers, and meet other honor students from colleges and universities nationwide. This year will be no different but with the continuing issues with the COVID pandemic, and decreasing revenue available for student travel, this year's convention will be held virtually.

Dr. Suzanne Rupp, executive director of the society is enthusiastic about the shift in offering the convention. "The board of trustees is excited to be offering the convention online this year so that more chapters can participate. Having a virtual convention is very affordable for the students and we expect that more Pi Gamma Mu members will be able to attend."

The virtual event will be offered from Wednesday, November 3rd through Saturday, November 6th. The keystone of the convention is student paper presentations in which selected students will present their research to convention attendees. Webinars and zoom sessions will highlight speakers in our Leadership Program and awards will honor students and chapters who have excelled in academics and service to their communities. We will also recognize historical and current Pi Gamma Mu members who have demonstrated excellence in their field. Dr. Clara Small, Professor Emerita Salisbury University, Pi Gamma Mu board member, and author of several African American history texts, presented at the 2017 convention. We are proud to bring such impressive speakers to our conventions for students and faculty. Pi Gamma Mu has an illustrious history of members who include such famous leaders as U.S. Admiral Richard E. Byrd and U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Another feature of the Convention is the popular Leadership Development Program, a series started at the last convention in Kansas City, MO. Under the direction of professor and board member, Allison G. S. Knox, the 7-hour event will feature segmented sessions on Leadership in Literature, featuring what has been written about leadership as a social science, Leadership in Special Circumstances, focusing on the skills needed by leaders in emergency or dangerous situations, and Leadership in Academia, addressing management issues in education as well as how to write effectively as a leader. Information on how to successfully publish your work will be important for students who are in or are heading to, graduate school. Students will finish the Leadership Program with a presentation and virtual field trip to the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Leadership speakers include a program administrator, an emergency manager, a college dean, a journal editor, and experts from the Marine Museum on leadership in military combat. Certificates of completion will be awarded to all students who attend and finish the assignments.

Dr. Susan Kinsella, convention committee chairperson indicates, "the convention is open to all Pi Gamma Mu members, undergraduate and graduate. It is chock-full of surprises with a social networking event and webinars and interactive sessions through Zoom, allowing students to socially network with other chapters in attendance and learn what service projects they are engaged in, especially during this time of COVID". Service is part of the mission of Pi Gamma Mu and projects during the convention allow students to participate in assisting non-profit organizations with needed supplies and resources. Over the years students have collected and donated stuffed animals to a children's residential home, sent books to military veterans, and provided toiletries to the homeless. This year an online project will allow students to participate in another service project.

If you have never presented a paper in your discipline, attended a leadership program, visited the National Museum of the Marine Corps, or listened to an address by a leading authority in the social sciences, then this is the year to advance in your discipline. You can begin to network with other professionals in your area and find out what careers await you with your degree. There are also opportunities to be a part of the student caucus if you want to run for a student seat on the board of trustees for Pi Gamma Mu. We encourage students to come meet other honor students from around the country, and for faculty to meet other chapter sponsors and share their ideas of the activities conducted on their campuses. The Pi Gamma Mu 2021 Convention promises to be a worthwhile scholarly event and we will look forward to meeting everyone there. Pi Gamma Mu conventions are open to all members of Pi Gamma Mu. Visit pigammamu.org/convention-2021 for more information or to register.

2019-2020 Chapter Honor Rolls Announced

Each year, the Pi Gamma Mu International Board of Trustees recognizes Pi Gamma Mu's most active chapters by placing them on the annual Roll of Distinction (the highest award for chapters) and Roll of Merit.

The Rolls are the result of the Awards Committee's evaluation of the annual reports filed by chapter officers. Among the criteria reported are facts indicative of the activity and effectiveness of the chapter on its campus, as well as its efficiency of operation according to procedures suggested or required by the international board of trustees. This includes chapter organization and participation by faculty members and students, election and initiation of members, and financial responsibility. Local initiatives in developing new activities or methods of operation are considered.

Roll of Distinction

American Military University & American Public University (West Virginia Iota), Allison G.S. Knox

Grambling State University (Louisiana Eta), Dr. Frances Staten

Newman University (Kansas Theta), Dr. Larry Heck

Pace University (New York Tau), Dr. Linda Quest & Dr. Kevin Schaefer

Saint Leo University (Florida Lambda), Dr. Susan Kinsella

University of Maryland Global Campus (Maryland Theta), Prof. Katherine Im

University of the Philippines (Philippines Alpha), Dr. Elisio A. De Guzman

Wayne State College (Nebraska Delta), Dr. Randy Bertolas & Dr. Jean Karlen

Roll of Merit

Brewton-Parker College (Georgia Xi), Dr. Vance Rhodes

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (Massachusetts Zeta), Dr. Ingrid Castro

Presentation College (South Dakota Zeta), Dr. Brad Tennant

Shorter University (Georgia Epsilon), Dr. Jaren Linebach

Southwestern College (Kansas Alpha), Dr. Cheryl Rude

2020 CONVENTION - TOP 10 STUDENT PAPERS ANNOUNCED

Even though Pi Gamma Mu was forced to postpone its 2020 Triennial International Convention for one year due to COVID-19, the Society still held a Call for Student Papers in 2020. Despite many challenges, Pi Gamma Mu's Committee of Readers remained dedicated to providing this important opportunity to students. Dr. Charles Hartwig, Chair of the Committee of Readers and Regional Chancellor on the Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees championed this important project on behalf of the members of Pi Gamma Mu.

In 2020, all accepted papers were ranked by the Committee of Readers. The top ten rated papers are receiving consideration for publication in the *International Social Science Review* (ISSR), and if published, will be accepted for oral presentation at the 2021 Triennial International Convention which will be held virtually on November 3-6, 2021.

Presenting one's research can help jump-start a student's desire to pursue a graduate degree and can provide a boost for a resume or graduate school application. By design, Pi Gamma Mu conventions are student oriented. Students establish bonds with other students from colleges and universities all over the United States and other countries as well. Past conventions have demonstrated that Pi Gamma Mu members complete truly outstanding research and 2020 was no different.

Another call for papers will be held in advance of the 2021 virtual convention.

Pi Gamma Mu 2020 Convention - Student Research Paper Competition Top Ten Papers

(listed in alphabetical order)

Age of the Alt-Right: New-Age Media and White Nationalism in Trump's America

Cagliuso, Dominique

Marymount Manhattan College, New York Alpha Epsilon Chapter

Glorious to Gruesome: Callot, Goya, Picasso, and the Art of War

Capers, Mary-James

Emmanuel College, Georgia Mu Chapter

COVID-19 and 9/11: The Effect of Emotion on Reflection and Partisanship During Crises

Curry, Jacqueline

Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania Mu Chapter

Women in Literature: The Impact of Feminism on Fantasy Literature, 1950-1990

Dassler, Jessica M.

University of Maryland Global Campus, Maryland Theta Chapter

Kansas City or Bust: The Commission on Survey of the Educational Institute of the Methodist-Episcopal Church and the Campaign to Relocate Baker University. 1927-1939

DeGreeff, Zac

Baker University, Kansas Eta Chapter

A Sustainable Future for Business and Leaders: ESI and Mindfulness Development

Dupré, Juliette

The New School, New York

Pilot Study Examining the Impact of Acculturation on Refugees' Healthcare Satisfaction

George, Saliyah J.

Franklin & Marshall College, Pennsylvania Mu Chapter

Parenting and the Development of Social Competence in Early Childhood

Karam, Meredith

Catholic University of America, District of Columbia Alpha Chapter

A Study of Recidivism Among Online Sexual Predators

Kolodner, Hannah

Catholic University of America, District of Columbia Alpha Chapter

The Impact of Tourism on Cultural Identity in Peru

Tavarez, Lia

Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania Mu Chapter