

*Michigan Region of Phi Theta Kappa
2011 Michigan Regional Convention
May 20-22, 2011
Host Chapter: Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College
Convention Minutes*

Friday, May 20th

Registration took place in the Besse Center lobby, with a preconference event taking place at 3:00pm. This event was paintballing near the college campus. Dinner was held at the Besse Center in the Café Bay.

The 2011-2012 Regional Officer Candidate orientation was held during dinner in room 525.2.

Following dinner and the candidate orientation, the First General Session was held in the Besse Center Theatre. James Doub, President, Michigan Region, welcomed the region and thanked the host chapter, college faculty, MRAA, and everyone who worked hard to make the convention a success. James then introduced the members of the Regional Board and our Headquarters guest.

Present

James Doub, President
Dontey Jones, Vice-President
Doris McMaster, Secretary/Treasurer
Danae Berry, PR/Historian
Roger Hammonds, Alumni Representative
Kari Kahler, Regional Coordinator
Luke Davis, Chapter Relations Manager and Headquarters Guest

Michelle Jorasz, President, Alpha Xi Delta, then welcomed the region and introduced the officers and members from Bay de Noc Community College. Joe Shaw, Advisor, Alpha Xi Delta, welcomed the Michigan Region to the 2011 Regional Convention and explained what was in members welcome bag. Patricia Dettloff, President, MRAA, then led the Parade of Chapter Flags. Following the Parade of Chapter Flags, Kari Kahler made a few announcements and reminded everyone that there was still time to register for the Performing Arts Competition. She also explained that each chapter needed a voting delegate and explained what they do. Patricia explained the Spirit Stick Award and showed a video clip from past conventions.

Luke Davis gave us the Headquarters Update and, informed us that *The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril, & Promise* is still the Honor Study Topic for this year. Kari reminded advisors that the Advisor Meeting was during lunch. She also talked about the great opportunity that Luke and she will have this summer. They will be attending the Presidents of all the two year colleges in Michigan and telling them about the importance of Phi Theta Kappa at their college. Kari has also asked for some input from the chapters as to what they should talk about with the Presidents. James presented a plaque to Lambda Mu, of St Clair County Community College for the 50th anniversary of the charter of their chapter in Phi Theta Kappa. Kari Kahler announced last call for candidates and host chapter bids.

Following this, the 2011-2012 Regional Officer Candidates were introduced. They were:

For President, Erica L Hamilton of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College.

For President, Hillary Denslow of Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College.

For President, Michael J. Wisniewski, Jr. of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College.

For Vice President, Joshua Trader, of Xi Delta, Delta College.

For Vice President, Nathaniel Erickson, Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College.

For Secretary/Treasurer, Ashley L. Flees, of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College.

For Public Relations/Historian, Hope T. Buell, of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College.

Roger Hammonds, recognized the advisors, alumni and past regional officers, and then made a few announcements on behalf of MRAA regarding the raffles, and various items that would be auctioned off, to benefit our Sister Region of Alabama, starting Saturday, during the convention. He also reminded the alumni that yearbook and visual arts competitions would be judged Saturday morning.

Concluding the First General Session, Joe Shaw made a few announcements about the coming weekend events. These announcements included: location for the visual arts and yearbook competitions, and set up for the candidate campaign booths in the marketplace. A 30 minute break was given before the Performing Arts Competition.

The following members participated in the Performing Arts Competition:

Vocal

Hope Buell of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College.

Steve Dickowski of Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College.

Instrumental

Aaron Tennis of Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College.

Dance

Meghan Goulder of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College.

Comedy

Greg Dykstra of Alpha Rho Nu, Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Poetry

Tracy Thompson of Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College.

The MRAA Hospitality event with the 4th Annual Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament was held at the hotel, Peninsula Bay Inn following the Performing Arts Competition.

Saturday, May 21st

The Second General Session was held in the theatre. James then welcomed the Region back, reintroduced the current officers and passed out chapter packets to each chapter. Doris McMaster then led the Roll Call and Spirit Stick competition. Doris then announced the total attendance to be 144.

Doris then presented the Conference Minutes from the Mini Honors Conference to the Region. Corrections were made to these minutes and a motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by:

Gregory Lane of Lambda Mu St. Clair County Community College
Seconded by Terri Drake, Nu Omicron, Alpena Community College

The minutes were approved as corrected by majority vote.

Kari Kahler then presented the region with the current Regional Budget. A motion to approve the budget was made by:

Janice Kenny of Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College
Seconded by Nathaniel Erickson of Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College

The budget was passed by majority vote.

Roger Hammonds introduced the current MRAA board then made some updates on behalf of MRAA.

Danae Berry talked about the Regional Newsletter and thanked everyone who contributed to making the Newsletter a success.

Following this, the 2011-2012 Regional Officer Candidates gave their Honors Study Topic speeches. The order of the speeches was as follows:

Public Relations/Historian Candidate Hope T. Buell of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College.

Secretary/Treasurer Candidate Ashley L. Flees of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College

Vice President Candidate Nathaniel Erickson of Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College.

Vice President Candidate Joshua Trader, of Xi Delta, Delta College.

President Candidate Hillary Denslow of Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College.

President Candidate Erica L Hamilton of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College.

President Candidate Michael J. Wisniewski, Jr. of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College.

Following the Candidate Speeches were the bids for the Host Chapter of the 2011-2012 conferences. The bids were as follows:

For the 2011 Leadership Conference:

Alpha Rho Pi of Northwestern Michigan College, dates pending.

For the 2011 Mini Honors Conference:

Lambda Mu of St. Clair County Community College, October 28-30, 2011.

Omicron Iota of Schoolcraft College, November 18-20, 2011.

For the 2012 Michigan Regional Convention:

Alpha Omicron Omicron of Mid Michigan Community College, Pending May 18-20, 2012.

Following the Second General Session were convention workshops. The workshops available were:

Five Star Competitive Edge & CollegeFish.org with Luke Davis, Phi Theta Kappa Headquarters, in room 818.

Setting and Achieving Your Goals: Belief, Discipline, Consistency and Perseverance with Regional President, James Doub, Regional Vice-President Donteay Jones, and Regional PR/Historian, Danae Berry, in room 105.

Everything You Wanted to Know about Phi Theta Kappa and Didn't Know Where to Ask with Michigan Regional Coordinator, Kari Kahler, in room 122.

Alumni Meeting with the Michigan Region Alumni Association, in room 218

Following the workshops was the Advisor Lunch & Business Meeting in room 525.2. Lunch & Fellowship in the Café Bay. Following lunch was the Keynote Speaker and alumni elections.

Keynote Address "The Democratization of Information: Social Movements and Social Control" given by Mike Young, Sociology Instructor, Bay de Noc Community College, in the Besse Center Theatre.

The Alumni elections were also held during this time in room 525.2. Following the keynote and alumni elections were the Political Rally and Market place. Free time from 4:00pm until 6:00pm.

At 6:00pm, a dinner banquet was held at the Peninsula Bay Inn.

The Third General Session was held following Dinner. During the Third General Session, the following awards were presented:

Outgoing MRAA Advisor plaque:

Diane Wisnewski, Advisor, Beta Lambda Kappa, for her leadership as the Advisor to the Michigan Region Alumni Association from 2009 - 2011 (Patricia Dettloff, President, MRAA, accepted the plaque on behalf of Diane).

Distinguished Chapter Member Awards:

Amelia Rogers, Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College
Nick Pineo, Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College

Distinguished Chapter Officer Awards:

Tricia Gonzales, Alpha Omicron Rho, Oakland Community College (Auburn Hills)
Kimberly Vittrano, Alpha Omicron Kappa, Oakland Community College (Highland Lakes)
Erica Fields, Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College
Hillary Denslow, Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College
Michael Wisniewski Jr., Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College

Distinguished Officer Team Awards:

Second Runner Up – Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College
First Runner Up – Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College
Winner – Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College

Paragon Awards for New Advisors:

Todd Stowell, Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College
Tammy Alvaro, Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College

Distinguished Advisor Awards:

Liz Washington, Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College
Jenn McCabe, Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College
Velma Jones, Alpha Omicron Kappa, Oakland Community College (Highland Lakes)

The Chapter Five Star levels were presented to their chapters.

Chapter Milestone Award:

Nu Omicron, Alpena Community College (moving from 0 to 4 Stars)

Distinguished College Project Awards:

Third Runner Up – Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College
Second Runner Up tie – Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College
Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College
First Runner Up – Alpha Omicron Kappa, Oakland Community College (Highland Lakes)
Winner tie – Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College
Beta Gamma Alpha, Washtenaw Community College

Distinguished Honors in Action Awards:

Fifth Runner Up – Alpha Tau Alpha, Montcalm Community College

Fourth Runner Up – Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College

Third Runner Up – Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College

Second Runner Up – Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College

First Runner Up – Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College

Winner – Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College

Most Distinguished Chapters:

Third Runner Up – Alpha Tau Alpha, Montcalm Community College

Second Runner Up – Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College

First Runner Up – Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College

Winner – Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College

Saturday night ended with a Masquerade Ball and games at the Peninsula Bay Inn. The winners of the 50/50 raffle were Todd Goodman of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College and Margie Wisniewski of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College.

Sunday, May 22, 2011

Sunday began with Delegates voting for the 2011-2012 Regional Board and Host Chapters in room 525.1. The Fourth General Session began following voting in the Besse Center Theatre. The floor was opened for chapters to make chapter announcements.

Michael Wisniewski, Jr., Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College announced their Honors In Action Project.

Joe Shaw, Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College announced lost and found items.

Following chapter announcements, the following awards were given out:

Performing Arts Vocal Award:

Hope Buell, Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College

Performing Arts Drama/Comedy Award:

Greg Dykstra, Alpha Rho Nu, Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Performing Arts Instrumental Award:

Aaron Tennis, Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College

Performing Arts Dance Award:

Meghan Goulder, Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College

Performing Arts Poetry Award:

Tracy Thompson, Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College

Visual Arts Drawing/Painting B&W Award:

Shirley Garnett, Alpha Upsilon Zeta, Wayne County Community College

Visual Arts Sculpture/Soft Sculpture Award:

Lori Reppert, Alpha Tau Alpha, Montcalm Community College

Visual Arts Photography Award:

Second Runner Up – Hillary Denslow, Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College

First Runner Up – Roxanne Mulholland, Alpha Omicron Kappa, Oakland Community College (Highland Lakes)

Winner - Lori Reppert, Alpha Tau Alpha, Montcalm Community College

Yearbook Awards:

Second Place – Alpha Omicron Kappa, Oakland Community College (Highland Lakes)

First Place – Alpha Tau Alpha, Montcalm Community College

Winner – Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College

Regional Scholarship Winners:

Michigan Region Memorial Scholarship

-Lulzime Rira, Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College

Susan Friedrich Memorial Scholarship

-Jamil Macedo, Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College

Arleene Quigley Memorial Scholarship

-Tammie Anderson, Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College

Thomas Obee Scholarship

-Jared Towers, Alpha Omicron Rho, Oakland Community College (Auburn Hills)

Announcement of MRAA 2011-2012 board were as follows:

Advisor, Tammy Alvaro of Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College

President, Jeff Albrecht of Alpha Omicron Psi, Oakland Community College (Southfield/Royal Oak)

President Elect, Clara Cherry of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College

Vice President, Daniel Karlskin of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College

Secretary, Darren Peterson of Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College

Treasurer, Amy Deater of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College

Beta Lambda Kappa of Macomb Community College was then announced as the winners of the Spirit Stick competition. Following this, the outgoing 2010-2011 Regional Board gave their farewell speeches.

The Outgoing 2010-2011 Regional Board was then awarded their Regional pins and awards.

Following this, the Mike Sherman Award was presented to President Candidate Erica L.

Hamilton of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College. Luke Davis then presented Alpha

Xi Delta with their Host Convention Plaque from Headquarters for hosting the 2011 Michigan Regional Convention.

The winning host chapters for the 2011-2012 conferences were then announced:

Leadership Conference – Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College
Mini Honors Conference – Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College
Regional Convention – Alpha Omicron Omicron, Mid Michigan Community College

The Regional Time Capsule was then passed from Alpha Xi Delta to Alpha Omicron Omicron.

The 2011-2012 Michigan Regional Board was then announced and installed:

Alumni Representative, Roger Hammonds, Alumnus of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College
Public Relations/Historian, Hope Buell of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College
Secretary/Treasurer, Ashley Flees of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College
Vice President, Nathaniel Erickson of Alpha Xi Delta, Bay de Noc Community College
President, Michael Wisniewski, Jr. of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College

Michael Wisniewski, the new 2011-2012 Regional President, then adjourned the 2011 Michigan Regional Convention. Brunch fellowship and photo opportunities followed the adjourning of the convention. The outgoing and incoming Regional Board members then met in room 525.2. MRAA announced the Backpack raffle winner as Margie Wisniewski of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College.

Respectfully Submitted by
Doris McMaster – Ashley Flees (2011-2012)
Secretary/Treasurer, Michigan Region