

# HISTORY



THE HONOR SOCIETY  
OF AGRICULTURE  
*GAMMA SIGMA DELTA*

2015-2016

[www.gammasigmadelta.org](http://www.gammasigmadelta.org)

## FOREWORD

An organization's history is a record of its past, inclusive of its beginnings, early development, formalization and settling into a mature pattern, and later developments. A history is a useful document to give prospective members familiarity with the organization they are joining, to build chapter and member pride and to increase support. Historical facts need to be kept in an orderly manner, valued and cherished.

This short history of The Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta, contains information concerning its founding and early years, membership, chapters, conclaves, awards, publications, officers, and other facts. Various projects and activities have been discussed, tracing their developments. Individuals have not always been mentioned, but credit is given to those who have given of their time, talents, and dedication to perform in leadership roles.

Navam Hettiarachchy  
International Historian  
2006-2016

## FOUNDING AND THE EARLY YEARS

The Honor Society of Agriculture Gamma Sigma Delta began as a professional agricultural fraternity called Delta Theta Sigma at Ohio State University on December 1, 1905. Its founders were the dean of the college, several faculty members, and a number of undergraduate students in the College of Agriculture of that institution.

While the group's original intention was for the organization to be strictly honorary, it developed into a social fraternity and maintained living quarters for some of its members. Later the fraternity acquired a chapter house. On April 6, 1907, an agricultural fraternity bearing the name of Delta Theta Sigma and located at Ohio State University was incorporated in the State of Ohio " . . . for the purpose of promoting agriculture in all its branches, to secure a high degree of scholarship, to foster the spirit of brotherhood and to insure social culture."

Three days after this incorporation, on April 9, 1907, a chapter of Delta Theta Sigma was installed at Iowa State College. On March 30, 1908, a chapter was installed at Pennsylvania State College. The fourth chapter was installed at the University of Missouri on Nov. 23, 1908, the fifth chapter at Utah Agricultural College on March 30, 1909, and the sixth chapter at Oregon State College on April 13, 1909.

When the Iowa State Chapter was installed it was with the idea that the fraternity would be purely honorary in character and that no chapter houses would be maintained. The Iowa State chapter was joined in this objective by the chapters at Pennsylvania, Missouri, Utah, and Oregon. The Ohio State chapter, however, insisted on keeping a chapter house even though the Constitution which they had adopted forbade it.

When revisions of the Constitution were being discussed in 1910, the Ohio group asked for the privilege of maintaining a chapter house. This was not granted but the Constitution was changed to read "Each chapter may adopt such constitution and by-laws as it chooses to meet local conditions not covered by the Constitution." Ohio State interpreted this to mean that the chapter could maintain a chapter house and one was acquired soon after, in April 1910.

At a meeting scheduled for April 7 and 8, 1911, at Columbus, Ohio, the Iowa State delegate moved that the High Council revoke the charter of the Ohio State chapter. The delegate from the Pennsylvania chapter stated that it had joined the fraternity with the understanding that Delta Theta Sigma was strictly honorary. Although the Ohio State delegate agreed that the Ohio chapter would take immediate steps to make it purely honorary and to give up the chapter house, it did not do so.

Legal counsel was secured and the International Officers were advised that since the first chapter of Delta Theta Sigma was incorporated in the State of Ohio and the name was registered there, it would be better for the five other chapters to withdraw from Delta Theta Sigma and form a new honor society with a new name. On January 19, 1913, alumni of Delta Theta Sigma met in Washington, DC, for the purpose of acquainting all with the condition of the fraternity. After much discussion the following resolution was passed: "That it be the sense of the alumni present that we recommend to the Executive Council of Delta Theta Sigma fraternity that there be a complete reorganization of the national fraternity under a new name but with the same ideals and purposes."

At the conclave later that year, a member of the Missouri chapter was designated to search through Greek mythology and present a number of Greek letters that might be used in a new name. His proposal, which was accepted, was the letters Gamma, Sigma, and Delta. GAMMA (ϒ) was used from Gaea, worshipped by the Greeks as the Goddess of Earth, original mother of all, the all-producing and all-nourishing mother. SIGMA (Σ) came from Syndesmos, the Greek word for bind or band together, hence symbolic of the strength of unity of purpose and interest, sympathy and understanding, and therefore the brotherhood of man. DELTA (Δ) was from Demeter, the Grecian goddess of agriculture and fruitfulness and rural life. She presided over every operation of the practice of farming and was therefore the essence of life to a pastoral people. She was further regarded as the patroness of all those arts and practices which are more or less intimately connected with agriculture and which man first learned from her, therefore she lifted men from the lower grades of hunters and shepherds and subjected their former rude and barbarous practices to law and order.

Thus, the Greek meaning of our name is: The binding together of earth, the mother of all, and the practice of agriculture and the arts related thereto, for the welfare of mankind. It is of interest that two of the Greek letters in the new name of the Society, Sigma and Delta, were in the old name.

On April 19, 1914, the dean of the College of Agriculture in Kansas wrote to the Grand Scribe of Gamma Sigma Delta recommending that a chapter be approved for the Kansas State campus. The chapter was installed on June 25, 1914. Thus the Kansas State chapter was the first new chapter installed under the name of Gamma Sigma Delta.

Meanwhile, in the fall of 1915 a group of students in the College of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota discussed among themselves the formation of a strictly honorary society which could occupy in the College of Agriculture the position taken by Phi Beta Kappa in Colleges of Arts and Sciences.

In November a petition requesting such action was sent to the dean of the College of Agriculture, who appointed a committee made up of the chiefs of the various divisions in the college to promote the organization of an honorary agricultural fraternity. This committee decided that there was a place for a strictly honorary society of agriculture and that it should be a national organization with chapters at the various land-grant colleges. On March 10, 1916, the constitution for the new organization was adopted, and it was named The Agricultural Honor Society of America.

In June 1916, representatives of this society and of Gamma Sigma Delta met at the University of Minnesota to determine whether it would be possible to consolidate the two organizations. It was unanimously agreed that the purposes, aims, and ideals of the two organizations were practically identical, and a motion was made and passed that the two societies be consolidated under the name "The Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta."

At a meeting on May 11, 1917, at Iowa State College, a newly drafted Constitution for the combined society was adopted. The preamble stated: "The object of this society is to encourage high standards of scholarship in all branches of agricultural science and education and a high degree of excellence in the practice of agricultural pursuits, by the election to membership of those students of the graduating and post graduate classes in agricultural colleges who have shown exceptional ability during their undergraduate or graduate work, and of those alumni and faculty members who have rendered signal service to the cause of agricultural development. Since the purpose of the society is to confer membership as an honor upon those who have shown themselves to be worthy, all the laws, rules, and regulations of the national society and its local chapters shall be in harmony with this purpose and shall be so framed as to emphasize and promote the honorary character of the society."

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

From the beginning it was agreed that membership in any chapter would constitute membership in the national organization. At the same time the primary requisite for membership was to be scholarship, with candidates for active membership chosen from the upper two-fifths of the junior and senior classes of agricultural courses. Provision was made for honorary membership to be conferred on members of the faculty and experimental staffs who had shown an active spirit of investigation in agriculture.

Requirements for membership have been modified from time to time in the various revisions of the Constitution. The 1980 revision provided for four classes of membership -- graduating seniors; graduate students; teachers, investigators, and administrators; and alumni -- and specified requirements for each class. This has been changed, and now the first category is undergraduate students. To adjust to local conditions a chapter may vote to include junior and senior students but the requirement of no more than 15 percent of the graduating class must be maintained. All members, regardless of class, are entitled to vote in chapter affairs.

Although early versions of the Constitution refer only to agriculture, this was later modified to agriculture and related fields. In 1976 the wording was adopted ". . . agriculture in its broadest interpretation including forestry, wildlife conservation, veterinary medicine, and home economics." Since then it has been enlarged from time to time to give a clearer definition of related fields.

## CHAPTERS

The chapters are the core of Gamma Sigma Delta. They select and initiate the members, honor outstanding people in agriculture and related fields, and carry on worthwhile programs.

Originally the chapters were to be established only at land-grant institutions, but that interpretation was widened in 1956 to include other institutions that had programs in agriculture and related areas. According to the present Constitution, chapters may be established at universities and colleges offering degrees in agriculture and approved by the International Executive Committee of the Society. Approval is based on the institution's program of teaching, extension, and research, all of which must be of high quality.

Establishment of new chapters has continued since 1907, and now there are 53. Each chapter may establish its own requirements and guidelines, provided that these requirements are as stringent as those of the International Constitution. This means that chapters vary in classes of membership, in the honors they choose to bestow, and in the programs they carry on to further the Society's goals.

In 1955 the International Officers decided that when a new chapter was organized the name of the state or of the institution at which the chapter existed would be used in the official name.

Over the years the question of who would be charter members of a chapter was discussed. In 1954 the policy was established that any or all Gamma Sigma Delta members located at an institution where a new chapter was being formed could be charter members, depending on the desires of the local committee in charge of establishing the new chapter. Under this provision an individual may be a charter member of more than one chapter; in fact, Dr. Dale W. Bohmont had the distinction of being a charter member of the chapters at the University of Wyoming, Colorado State University, and the University of Nevada.

Following is a list of the chapters, with their date of installation, and installing officer(s).

| <u>Chapters</u>                          | <u>Installation Dates</u> | <u>Installing Officers</u>   |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Began as Delta Theta Sigma Chapters.     |                           |  |
| Ohio State                               | Dec. 1, 1905              | Installed by founders  |
| Iowa State                               | April 9, 1907             | Samuel N. Kerr, OH   |
| Penn State <sup>1</sup>                  | March 30, 1908            | Evan L. Morris, IA   |
| Missouri                                 | Nov. 23, 1908             | J. W. Davis, PA  |
| Utah State <sup>1</sup>                  | March 30, 1909            | J. W. Davis, PA  |
| Oregon State <sup>1</sup>                | April 13, 1909            | J. W. Davis, PA  |
| Installed as Gamma Sigma Delta Chapters. |                           |  |
| Kansas State                             | June 25, 1914             | Karl L. Overholser, MO   |
| Alabama (Auburn)                         | April, 1916               | P. M. Brandt, MO   |
| Minnesota                                | June 4, 1917              | From merger of $\alpha E$ ) and<br>The Agricultural Honor Society of<br>America; met for first time under new<br>name on this date |
| Nebraska                                 | May 25, 1918              | J. G. Rankin, IA   |
| Penn State                               | Oct. 10, 1922             | E. D. Ball, USDA   |
| Illinois                                 | Nov, 17, 1923             | E. D. Ball, USDA   |

| <u>Chapters</u>                       | <u>Installation Dates</u> | <u>Installing Officers</u>   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Washington, DC<br>alumni <sup>2</sup> | Nov. 11, 1924             | E. D. Ball, USDA   |
| Ohio State                            | Nov. 12, 1928             | C. R. Ball, USDA   |
| Puerto Rico                           | May 24, 1938              |  |
| Arkansas                              | May 17, 1954              | H. J. L'Hote, MO   |
| Connecticut                           | May 26, 1954              | C. S. Hutchinson, OH   |
| Kentucky                              | Jan. 14, 1955             | L. E. Kunkle, OH   |
| No. Carolina St.                      | April 28, 1955            | H. J. L'Hote, MO   |
| Florida                               | April 29, 1955            | H. J. L'Hote, MO   |
| Clemson (SC)                          | May 16, 1957              | Roy L. Lovvorn, NC   |
| Philippines                           | Oct. 24, 1957             | R. B. Dickerson, PA  |
| Arizona                               | March 26, 1958            | Roger C. Smith, KS   |
| South Dakota                          | May 27, 1958              | Louis Thompson, IA   |
| West Virginia                         | May 8, 1959               | R. L. Lovvorn, NC; D. M. Hall, IL;<br>J. A. Johnson, KS; H. J. L'Hote, MO;<br>L. E. Kunkle, OH         |
| Wyoming                               | Jan 19, 1961              | H. J. L'Hote, MO   |
| Louisiana State                       | Aug. 3, 1961              | D. M. Hall, IL; E. G. Rodgers, FL;<br>R. B. Dickerson, PA; H. J. L'Hote, MO;<br>L. E. Kunkle, OH       |
| Georgia                               | Dec. 1, 1961              | Earl G. Rodgers, FL  |
| Colorado                              | June 20, 1963             | E. G. Rodgers, FL; D. W. Bohmont, CO;<br>R. B. Dickerson, PA; H. J. L'Hote, MO;<br>L. E. Kunkle, OH    |
| Mississippi State                     | Feb. 25, 1964             | Earl G. Rodgers, FL  |
| Tennessee                             | June 4, 1964              | L. E. Kunkle, OH   |
| Texas A & M                           | July 1, 1965              | D. W. Bohmont, CO; J. A. Johnson, KS;<br>R. B. Dickerson, PA;<br>H. J. L'Hote, MO; L. R. Kunkle, OH    |
| Nevada                                | March 25, 1966            | J. A. Johnson, KS  |
| Calif. - Pomona                       | April 6, 1967             | J. A. Johnson, KS  |
| Wisconsin                             | May 9, 1967               | J. A. Johnson, KS; R. B. Dickerson, PA;<br>H. J. L'Hote, MO; C. E. Scarsbrook, AL;<br>L. E. Kunkle, OH |
| Hawaii                                | Oct. 25, 1968             | C. E. Scarsbrook, AL   |
| VPI & SU                              | March 9, 1970             | C. E. Scarsbrook, AL   |
| Purdue (IN)                           | April 11, 1972            | H. J. L'Hote, MO; L. E. Kunkle, OH;<br>Ted Freeman, KY   |
| Texas Tech                            | June 15, 1972             | Arden Baltensperger, NM  |
| Idaho                                 | May 2, 1973               | H. J. L'Hote, MO   |
| No. Carolina A&T                      | Oct. 22, 1974             | D. Acker, NE; D. A. Holt, Purdue;<br>K. R. Keller, NC; H. J. L'Hote, MO;<br>W. T. Bjoraker, WI         |
| New Mexico                            | Oct. 12, 1979             | C. B. Ammerman, FL; H. D. Brown, TX<br>A&M; L. A. Nelson, NC; H. J. L'Hote,<br>MO; M. L. Lavallard, AR |
| Oregon State                          | Oct. 22, 1981             | H. J. L'Hote, MO   |
| Calif. - Riverside                    | March 15, 1982            | C. B. Ammerman, FL   |
| Maryland -                            | Feb. 23, 1984             | K. A. Holleman, USDA;<br>L. A. Nelson, NC;<br>G. H. Fechner, CO  |
| National Capital                      |                           |  |
| Texas A&I                             | May 11, 1984              | H. D. Brown, TX; M. L. Lavallard, AR   |
| Oklahoma State                        | May 15, 1984              | H. D. Brown, TX; R. I. Carter, IA  |
| Tuskegee (AL)                         | Oct. 25, 1985             | L. A. Nelson, NC; G. H. Fechner, CO;<br>M. L. Lavallard, AR  |

| <u>Chapters</u>                                | <u>Installation Dates</u> | <u>Installing Officers</u>  |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| Cornell (NY)                                   | May 20, 1986              | L. A. Nelson, NC; L. E. Moser, NE;<br>G. H. Fechner, CO; M. L. Lavallard, AR                  |
| Washington State                               | June 16, 1987             | L. E. Moser, NE; R. Miller, OH;<br>C. J. Makela, CO; R. I. Carter, IA;<br>M. L. Lavallard, AR |
| Michigan State                                 | May 25, 1988              | L. E. Moser, NE; R. Miller, OH  |
| Honduras<br>(Escuela Agrícola<br>Panamericana) | October 28, 1989          | R. Miller, OH; C. J. Makela, CO;<br>M. L. Lavallard, AR                                       |
| Florida A&M                                    | April 12, 1997            | J. Mortensen, PA; J. Kotrlik, LA;<br>J. Riley, TN; M. Warnock, AR                             |
| Univ. of Calif.-Davis                          | November 16, 2000         | R. Bull, UI; J. Kotrlik, LA; J. Riley, TN   |
| Langston Univ.                                 | April 23, 2002            | R. Bull, UI; J. Riley, TN   |
| Univ. of Arkansas<br>at Pine Bluff             | April 4, 2005             | T. Rost, UCD; C. Boyle, MS  |
| Western Kentucky<br>University                 | April 28, 2005            | J. Hillison, VA; M. Marchant, KY  |
| North Dakota State<br>University               | November 2, 2005          | T. Rost, UCD; S. Henning, LSU   |
| University of<br>Massachusetts                 | 03-23-2014                | M Brugger, OH   |

<sup>1</sup>Chapter later disbanded.

<sup>2</sup>Establishment of this chapter was approved Dec. 27, 1923 with 16 members present. There is no further reference to this chapter in minutes of any Biennial Conclave.

#### CHAPTERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The question of whether to establish chapters in other countries, and thus become a truly international organization, has come up again and again.

The chapter at the University of the Philippines came about because of the interest expressed by Gamma Sigma Delta members at Pennsylvania State University, who had working relations with the University at Los Baños. The first letter of inquiry about such a chapter was written on Sept. 27, 1954, at a time when the National Constitution limited chapters to land-grant institutions. By Oct. 30, 1956, the International Officers had agreed that the program at the University of the Philippines was strong enough that establishment of a chapter there would be in order. Application for chapter establishment was initiated and on Oct. 24, 1957, the chapter was installed. By 1970, however, the chapter was having difficulties collecting the \$4 membership fees for transmission to International headquarters and they asked that the fee be reduced. This request was denied, and instead the matter was eventually decided by allowing the chapter to operate independently, collecting its own membership fees and printing its own certificates. As voted by the Executive Committee in 2000, the Philippines Chapter pays dues per new initiate up to a maximum amount with this policy reviewed every four years. The chapter has all rights of a chapter except eligibility for enrichment grants.

Committees have been appointed from time to time to look into the possibility of organizing chapters in other countries. Universities have been contacted in Canada, England, other countries in Europe, and elsewhere. In 1989, a new chapter was installed at the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana in Honduras. In 1993 contact with a university in Costa Rica was made by the International Past President. The chief stumbling blocks are making sure that the institution's program satisfies the demands of the Constitution and in working out details for handling membership fees, lists of members, recognition, etc.

#### CONCLAVES

The business of the Society is conducted at the Conclave. The first national Conclave took place at Iowa State College in 1910, although one result of the meeting was the recognition that at the time no national organization as such was operating.

Following the 1916 conclave, when the decision was made to merge the organization Gamma Sigma Delta with The Honor Society of Agriculture into one group, it was decided that the Legislative Council should hold a stated meeting at least once every two years, the time and place to be selected by the Executive Council.

The early meetings, or Conclaves, were held at such places as Chicago and Boston, usually in conjunction with some other meeting such as that of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1928 the suggestion was made that the Legislative Council meet in conjunction with some other organization such as the Association of Land Grant Colleges or the International Livestock Exposition. It was also agreed that the travel expenses of International Officers to such meetings be paid, provided they were not already in attendance at the meeting of the other organization. However, quite often holding the meeting at such a time and place did not provide enough time for transacting the business of Gamma Sigma Delta, and attendance was not always high.

The Executive Council, made up of the International Officers, tried to meet more often. Its 1951 meeting, in St. Louis, was the first time the International Officers met as a group between Conclaves.

The 1952 Conclave was the first chapter-sponsored Conclave, the Ohio State University chapter having been selected by the International Officers to host this meeting. Since then all Conclaves have been on the campus of, or sponsored by, a chapter. Included in the programs of all these Conclaves have been reports from delegates on the operation of their chapters.

Starting in 1964, in order to make Conclaves more than just business meetings, the International Officers decided to have a theme program at each Conclave. The theme "Learning Through Teaching" was selected for the 1964 meeting. After that, part of each Conclave was devoted to development of the theme, with the host chapter organizing this part of the program, along with a formal business meeting. The host chapter also was made responsible for publishing proceedings for the Conclave, and furnishing five copies to each chapter and 100 to the International Officers for their use. Costs for arranging and conducting the meeting and publishing the proceedings were borne by the local chapter, except that the international treasury provided support in an amount decided on by the International Officers.

In 1988 the chapters voted to drop the idea of a theme for the Conclave and to eliminate the printed Conclave proceedings. Instead, more time of the Conclave will be devoted to operational activities and chapter reports, and a report on the highlights of the Conclave will be included in the News Notes and Newsletter sent to chapters in the fall following the meeting.

As an added feature to the 1994 Conclave (Kansas State University), chapters were requested to display poster presentations representing their chapter's activities. This was such a successful event that the first competitive poster display was held at the 1996 Conclave, University of Idaho. Eight chapters participated in this event with the LSU chapter declared the winner. A \$100 stipend was added as the prize to the winning chapter. In 2008, chapters were permitted to present either a poster or a power/point presentation.

Because of fewer Chapters being active and the percentage of invited initiates accepting membership, discussions on strengthening Gamma Sigma Delta and assuring financial viability for the future started at the 2014 Executive Committee Meeting and Conclave and Legislative Council Meeting and continued at the yearly Executive Committee meetings and the 2016 Conclave and Legislative Council meeting. At the 2014 Conclave, several presentations and work groups focused on these issues. The activities were summarized and placed on the web site. At the 2016 Legislative Council meeting, several motions were approved and recommendations to the Executive Committee for changes were made.

The following have been implemented or in the process of implementation based on discussions since 2004:



- Online Conclave registration was initiated and implemented in 2016,
- Poster competition e to a short Power Point Presentation so that non-conclave participant could compete,
- Operation costs will be reduced while enhancing the brand and maintaining good service to the chapters. A Strategic Communication Officer will replace the Historian Position to increase social media communications, to assist with keeping the website current and handle some of the Historian activities while other Historian activities will be passed to other officers,
- The Past President position will be eliminated,
- Scores for Chapter Reports will be delivered electronically,
- Membership fee increased to \$25 from \$15,
- A handling and shipping charge is being considered,
- The expedited shipping fee increased from \$20 to \$40,
- Electronic payment by PayPal was implemented, and
- The focus to agriculture, related sciences and integrated interdisciplinary programs was clarified through modification of the name and wording in the "Constitution and Bylaws.

The following is as complete a listing as possible of dates, locations, and themes of conclaves.

|      |                                 |   |
|------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1910 | Iowa State University           |   |
| 1911 | Ohio State University           |   |
| 1913 | University of Missouri          |   |
| 1915 | Berkeley, California            |   |
| 1917 |                                 |   |
| 1919 | Iowa State University           |   |
| 1920 | University of Chicago           |   |
| 1922 | Boston, MA                      |   |
| 1924 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1926 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1928 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1930 | St. Louis, MO                   |   |
| 1932 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1934 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1936 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1938 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1940 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1942 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1944 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1946 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1948 | Chicago, IL                     |   |
| 1950 | Washington, DC                  |   |
| 1952 | Ohio State University           |   |
| 1954 | University of Missouri          |   |
| 1956 | Iowa State University           |   |
| 1958 | University of Illinois          |   |
| 1960 | North Carolina State University |   |
| 1962 | Pennsylvania State University   |   |
| 1964 | Kansas State University         | Learning Through Teaching                                   |
| 1966 | Auburn University               | Building for Quality in Graduate Study                      |
| 1968 | University of Arizona           | Innovations in Higher Education                             |
| 1970 | University of Minnesota         | Communicating Agriculture to the<br>Non-agricultural Public |
| 1972 | University of Georgia           | Revitalizing Rural America                                  |
| 1974 | South Dakota State University   | Agriculture in the Modern World                             |
| 1976 | Purdue University               | Contemporary Agriculture                                    |
| 1978 | University of Tennessee         | Energy, Ecology, and Esthetics                              |
| 1980 | University of Florida           | Water   |
| 1982 | University of Nebraska          | The Agricultural Brain Drain                                |

|      |  |                           |
|------|--|---------------------------|
| 1984 | Colorado State University                            | International Agriculture |
| 1986 | Louisiana State University                           | Excellence in Agriculture |
| 1988 | Virginia Polytechnic Institute &<br>State University |                           |
| 1990 | Iowa State University                                |                           |
| 1992 | Ohio State University                                |                           |
| 1994 | Kansas State University                              |                           |
| 1996 | University of Idaho                                  |                           |
| 1998 | University of Illinois                               |                           |
| 2000 | Cornell University                                   |                           |
| 2002 | California State Polytechnic University, Pomona      |                           |
| 2004 | University of Arkansas                               |                           |
| 2006 | Ohio State University                                |                           |
| 2008 | University of Kentucky                               |                           |
| 2010 | Louisiana State University                           |                           |
| 2012 | University of Tennessee                              |                           |
| 2014 | University of Nebraska, Lincoln                      |                           |
| 2016 | Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge              |                           |

The winning chapters of the poster/power/point Conclave presentations have been:

|      |                          |
|------|--------------------------|
| 1996 | Louisiana State          |
| 1998 | Illinois                 |
| 2000 | Kansas State             |
| 2002 | Louisiana State          |
| 2004 | North Carolina A&T State |
| 2006 | Colorado State           |
| 2008 | North Dakota State       |
| 2010 | Tennessee                |
| 2012 | North Carolina State     |
| 2014 | Honduras                 |
| 2016 | Nebraska                 |

## THE INTERNATIONAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE AWARD

The idea of such an award was first proposed in 1945. The matter was brought up at the 1948 Conclave and accepted. At the 1950 Conclave the design of a suitable medal was agreed upon and the International Officers were instructed to set up details for making such an annual award. Later a plaque was presented in place of the medal. At the 1968 Conclave the decision was made to present a \$500 cash award to the recipient, along with the plaque. This was agreed on by the chapters, and the first cash award was made in 1969. Effective 1993, the award stipend was increased to \$1,000. At the 1994 Conclave the name of the International Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award was changed to the Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award. In 2002, the Award was increased to \$2,000 based on \$10,000 contribution by an anonymous donor. The Society continued to support the \$2,000 stipend following depletion of the donor funds. The creation of the International Gamma Sigma Delta Foundation in 2007 as a 501.c.3 organization was intended to help raise funds to support the awards program.

Each year each chapter is encouraged to select an individual it wishes to honor and submit information on that individual to the Executive Committee. Criteria include significant contributions to agricultural and related sciences in the areas of teaching, research, and extension within the five years previous to the submission of the nomination. In 2007, the Constitution was changed to permit consideration of life time achievement in the selection process as well. Selection is made by the International Officers at their annual meeting. The recipient is informed of the honor by the International President, after which the selection is made public. The award is conferred by an International Officer (usually the one located closest to the home chapter of the recipient) at an event of the local chapter, at a time and place agreed upon. The local chapter is responsible for publicizing the event.

Recipients of the award have been:

|      |                         |                  |                    |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1951 | Dr. Elvin C. Stakeman   | Minnesota        | Plant Pathology    |
| 1952 | Dean H. H. Kildee       | Iowa State       | Administration     |
| 1953 | Dr. Samuel Brody        | Missouri         | Animal Physiology  |
| 1954 | Dr. Clyde H. Bailey     | Minnesota        | Biochemistry       |
| 1955 | Dr. Charles Willard     | Ohio             | Crop Science       |
| 1956 | Dr. Paul H. Harvey      | North Carolina   | Plant Breeding     |
| 1957 | Dr. William G. Murray   | Iowa             | Ag. Economics      |
| 1958 | Dr. Ernest B. Sears     | Missouri         | Cytogenetics       |
| 1959 | Dr. Reginald H. Painter | Kansas           | Entomology         |
| 1960 | Dr. Gertrude Cox        | North Carolina   | Statistics         |
| 1961 | Dr. George A. Young     | Nebraska         | Veterinary Science |
| 1962 | Dr. Ernest A. Fieger    | Louisiana        | Ag. Chemistry      |
| 1963 | Dr. John A. Johnson     | Kansas           | Cereal Chemistry   |
| 1964 | Dr. Bernardo G. Capó    | Puerto Rico      | Soil Chemistry     |
| 1965 | Dr. Khem M. Shahani     | Nebraska         | Dairy Technology   |
| 1966 | Dr. James D. Johnston   | Louisiana        | Dairy Science      |
| 1967 | Dr. Raymond V. Olson    | Kansas           | Agronomy           |
| 1968 | Dr. Roy L. Lovvorn      | North Carolina   | Administration     |
| 1969 | Dr. John W. Schmidt     | Nebraska         | Agronomy           |
|      | Dr. Virgil A. Johnson   | Nebraska         | Agronomy           |
| 1970 | Dr. William J. Miller   | Georgia          | Dairy Science      |
| 1971 | Dr. Leo Dale Newson     | Louisiana        | Entomology         |
| 1972 | Dr. Glenn W. Burton     | Georgia          | Plant Breeding     |
| 1973 | Dr. E. T. York, Jr.     | Florida          | Administration     |
| 1974 | Dr. Earl O. Heady       | Iowa             | Economics          |
| 1975 | Dr. Glen S. Pound       | Wisconsin        | Administration     |
| 1976 | Dr. Tony J. Cunha       | Cal. Poly-Pomona | Animal Science     |
| 1977 | Dr. Charles O. Gardner  | Nebraska         | Agronomy           |
| 1978 | Dr. Reuben W. Engel     | Virginia         | Nutrition          |
| 1979 | Dr. Oscar E. Olson      | South Dakota     | Biochemistry       |
| 1980 | Dr. Bruce J. Zobel      | North Carolina   | Forest Genetics    |
| 1981 | Dr. William P. Switzer  | Iowa             | Swine Diseases     |

|      |                           |                               |   |
|------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1982 | Dr. Dudley D. Culley, Jr. | Louisiana                     | Wildlife Management                     |
| 1983 | Dr. Willard L. Lindsay    | Colorado                      | Soil Chemistry                          |
| 1984 | Dr. John D. Axtell        | Indiana                       | Sorghum Breeding                        |
| 1985 | Dr. John R. Campbell      | Illinois                      | Administration                          |
| 1986 | Dr. Robert H. Harms       | Florida                       | Poultry Science                         |
| 1987 | Dr. Stanley A. Barber     | Indiana                       | Soil Chemistry                          |
| 1988 | Dr. James N. Moore        | Arkansas                      | Horticulture                            |
| 1989 | Dr. Robert A. Godke       | Louisiana                     | Animal Science                          |
| 1990 | Dr. Gordon Dickerson      | Nebraska                      | Animal Breeding/Genetics                |
| 1991 | Dr. Clarence Ammerman     | Florida                       | Animal Science                          |
| 1992 | Dr. Simón E. Malo         | EAP                           | Administration                          |
| 1993 | Dr. Daniel Y. C. Fung     | Kansas                        | Food Science                            |
| 1994 | Dr. David G. Topel        | Iowa                          | Administration                          |
| 1995 | Dr. Dermot P. Coyne       | Nebraska                      | Horticulture                            |
| 1996 | Dr. Fuller W. Bazer       | Texas A&M-<br>College Station | Veterinary Medicine                     |
| 1997 | Dr. Herbert W. Ockerman   | Ohio                          | Animal Science                          |
| 1998 | Dr. Chester L. Foy        | Virginia Tech                 | Plant Physiology/Weed Science           |
| 1999 | Dr. R. Wayne Skaggs       | North Carolina                | Biol. and Agr. Engineering              |
| 2000 | No award                  |                               |   |
| 2001 | Dr. Lowell Moser          | Nebraska                      | Agronomy and Horticulture               |
| 2002 | Dr. Donald Thill          | Idaho                         | Plant, Soil, and Entomological Sciences |
| 2003 | Dr. Gail L. Cramer        | Louisiana                     | Ag. Economics & Agribusiness            |
| 2004 | Dr. Charles E. Hess       | UC Davis                      | Environmental Horticulture              |
| 2005 | Dr. Will D. Carpenter     | Mississippi State             | Agricultural Biotechnology              |
| 2006 | Dr. L. Dale Van Vleck     | Nebraska                      | Animal Science                          |
| 2007 | Dr. Stanley E. Gilliland  | Oklahoma State                | Animal Science                          |
| 2008 | Dr. Martin A. Massengale  | Nebraska                      | Administration, Grassland Studies       |
| 2009 | Dr. Curtis L. Kastner     | Kansas                        | Food Science Institute                  |
| 2010 | No award                  |                               |   |
| 2011 | Dr. Melvin Hunt           | Kansas                        | Meat Science                            |
| 2012 | Dr. Rattan Lal            | Ohio                          | Soil Science                            |
| 2013 | No award                  |                               |   |
| 2014 | Dr. Juan C. R. Sotomayor  | Honduras                      | Food Science and Technology             |
| 2015 | No Award                  |                               |   |
| 2016 | Dr. Witoon Prinyawiwatkul | Louisiana State               | Animal & Food Sciences                  |

#### OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARD

At the 1975 meeting of the International Officers it was suggested that special recognition be given to the chapter with the best program of activities, as a way of stimulating more interest in the Society at the chapter level. The motion was passed that, beginning in 1976, the chapter with the best program of activities (to include the percentage of acceptance of invitations to membership as one criterion) be given an award of \$50.

At their meeting in connection with the 1976 Conclave the Officers voted that instead of the \$50 cash award, a plaque be given the winning chapter; this would provide the chapter with something to hang in a prominent place at the institution and thereby generate pride in and publicity for Gamma Sigma Delta activities. Presentation of the plaque usually is made by the International Officer located closest to the winning chapter, at a formal chapter event.

At the 1985 Executive Committee meeting the International Officers decided to base the selection of the outstanding chapter on the chapter activity report submitted annually by each chapter. Therefore, chapters no longer needed to submit a separate entry for the award, but instead would make their activity reports reflect accomplishments of the preceding year. While the outstanding program is not solely related to chapter membership acceptance, the criterion of how many of those offered membership in Gamma Sigma Delta accept the invitation is given consideration in the selection of the outstanding chapter. Since Chapter Activity Reports are due in the office of the International Secretary on or before

May 15th, chapters submitting their report after that date are not considered for the Outstanding Chapter Award.

At the 2005 Executive Committee meeting, in an effort to give more chapters recognition for their efforts, the International Officers decided upon a new ranking system to go into effect in 2006 and to be reevaluated in 2008. Under this new evaluation system, a single chapter would receive the outstanding chapter award. The following five highest ranking chapters would be designated Gold Award chapters; the following five, Silver Award chapters; and the following five, Bronze award chapters. In 2011, to reflect the limited number of chapter reports, the International Officers gave the Executive Committee the right to determine the number of awards in each category with a maximum of five awards in the Gold, Silver, and Bronze categories.

Awards have been as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Outstanding Chapter</u> | <u>Honorable Mention</u>                               |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1976        | Alabama-Auburn             |  |
| 1977        | Kansas                     |  |
| 1978        | Ohio                       |  |
| 1979        | North Carolina State       |  |
| 1980        | Arkansas                   |  |
| 1981        | Colorado State             |  |
| 1982        | Louisiana State            |  |
| 1983        | Nebraska                   |  |
| 1985        | Maryland-National Capital  |  |
| 1986        | Ohio                       | Idaho, Pennsylvania                                    |
| 1984        | Ohio                       |  |
| 1987        | Arkansas                   | Kansas   |
| 1988        | Ohio                       | Louisiana  |
| 1989        | Louisiana                  | Ohio, Maryland   |
| 1990        | Philippines                | Florida, Louisiana                                     |
| 1991        | Louisiana State            | Arkansas, Tennessee                                    |
| 1992        | Louisiana State            | North Carolina A&T, Hawaii                             |
| 1993        | Tennessee                  | Philippines, Louisiana                                 |
| 1994        | Louisiana State            | Ohio, Cornell  |
| 1995        | Arkansas                   | Hawaii   |
|             | Colorado State             |  |
| 1996        | Louisiana State            | Hawaii<br>Kentucky                                     |
| 1997        | Missouri                   |  |
| 1998        | Philippines                |  |
| 1999        | Kentucky                   |  |
| 2000        | Kentucky                   | Arkansas   |
|             | Louisiana State            |  |
| 2001        | Kentucky                   | Florida<br>Louisiana State                             |
| 2002        | Kentucky                   |  |
|             | Louisiana State            |  |
| 2003        | Kentucky                   | Mississippi State<br>North Carolina A&T<br>Philippines |
|             | Louisiana State            |  |
| 2004        | Kentucky                   | Louisiana State<br>No. Carolina A&T<br>Philippines     |
| 2005        | Kentucky                   |  |
|             | Louisiana State            | Philippines  |
| 2006        | Louisiana State            | Gold: Philippines, West Virginia, North Carolina A&T   |

|      |                              |   |
|------|------------------------------|---|
|      |                              | State, Florida, Iowa State  |
|      |                              | Silver: Kentucky, Purdue, Penn State, North Carolina State, Wyoming                                     |
|      |                              | Bronze: Georgia, Arkansas, Virginia Tech, North Dakota State, Kansas State                              |
| 2007 | Philippines                  | Gold: North Carolina A&T State, Kentucky, Louisiana State, Tennessee, California-Davis                  |
|      |                              | Silver: Iowa State, Mississippi State, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Nebraska, Arkansas                          |
|      |                              | Bronze: Penn State, North Carolina State, West Virginia, Kansas State, Florida                          |
| 2008 | Louisiana State              | Gold: Philippines, Tennessee, Kentucky, Penn State, California-Davis                                    |
|      |                              | Silver: North Carolina A&T State, Kansas State, West Virginia, North Carolina State, North Dakota State |
|      |                              | Bronze: Purdue, Texas A&M, Arkansas, Mississippi State, Colorado  |
| 2009 | Tennessee                    | Gold: Kentucky, Nebraska, Penn State, Arkansas, Arkansas-Pine Bluff                                     |
|      |                              | Silver: North Dakota, Kansas State, Iowa, Mississippi State, California-Davis                           |
|      |                              | Bronze: Honduras, Colorado State, California-Pomona, New Mexico State, Texas A&M                        |
| 2010 | Louisiana State              | Gold: Tuskegee, Tennessee, Kentucky, Penn State, Arkansas   |
|      |                              | Silver: Nebraska, North Carolina A&T State, Texas A&M, Wyoming, Ohio State                              |
|      |                              | Bronze: New Mexico State, Auburn, North Dakota State, South Dakota State, Oregon State                  |
| 2011 | Louisiana State<br>Kentucky  | Gold: Ohio State, Penn State, Texas A&M   |
|      |                              | Silver: Tuskegee, Florida, North Carolina A&T State, Arkansas, Wyoming                                  |
|      |                              | Bronze: New Mexico State, Auburn  |
| 2012 | Louisiana State<br>Tennessee | Gold: Kentucky, Iowa State, West Virginia, Ohio State, Tuskegee   |
|      |                              | Silver: Penn State, Nebraska, Texas Tech, North Dakota State  |
|      |                              | Bronze: Wyoming, Texas A&M, California-Davis, Auburn  |
| 2013 | Tuskegee                     | Gold: Tennessee, Ohio State, Kentucky, Penn State   |
|      |                              | Silver: Texas A & M, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa State  |
|      |                              | Bronze: Honduras, New Mexico State  |
| 2014 | Louisiana State              | Gold: Tuskegee  |
|      |                              | Silver: Texas A & M, Honduras, Penn State   |
|      |                              | Bronze: Arkansas Pine Bluff, Kansas State, Wyoming, Nebraska  |
| 2015 | Louisiana State              | Gold: Penn State  |
|      |                              | Silver: South Dakota State, Tennessee   |
|      |                              | Bronze: Maryland, North Dakota State  |
| 2016 | Penn State                   | Gold: South Dakota State, Nebraska  |
|      |                              | Silver: Iowa State, Kentucky, Kansas State, Wyoming, North Dakota State                                 |
|      |                              | Bronze: New Mexico State  |

#### MOST IMPROVED CHAPTER AWARD

The Executive Committee approved an award for the Most Improved Chapter, which would first be given for the 2006-2007 award year. The award is based on the most improved score on the chapter annual report.

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Chapter</u>     |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 2007        | California – Davis |
| 2008        | North Dakota State |
| 2009        | Arkansas           |
| 2010        | Texas A&M          |
| 2011        | Ohio State         |
| 2012        | Tuskegee           |
| 2013        | Tuskegee           |
| 2014        | Honduras           |
| 2015        | Pennsylvania State |
| 2016        | Nebraska           |

#### NEW CHAPTER ACTIVITY AWARD

A special committee was appointed at the 1988 Conclave to consider a program designed to recognize chapters for conducting a "new" activity. The committee's recommendations were unanimously adopted by the delegates. Selection of the award recipient is based on originality and innovativeness of the activity, accomplishment of objectives, and membership involvement.

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Chapter</u>                      | <u>Honorable Mention</u>  |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1989        | Ohio State                          |                           |
| 1990        | University of California, Riverside |                           |
| 1991        | Tennessee                           | Illinois, Louisiana State |
| 1992        | Louisiana State                     |                           |
| 1993        | Tennessee                           |                           |
| 1994        | Not presented                       |                           |
| 1995        | Arkansas                            |                           |
|             | Pennsylvania                        |                           |
| 1996        | Texas A&M - College Station         |                           |
| 1997        | Cornell                             | Purdue                    |
| 1998        | Not presented                       |                           |
| 1999        | Arkansas                            |                           |
| 2000        | Kentucky                            |                           |
| 2001        | Honduras                            |                           |
| 2002        | Mississippi State                   |                           |
| 2003        | Langston                            |                           |
| 2004        | Louisiana State                     |                           |
| 2005        | Tuskegee                            |                           |
| 2006        | Colorado State                      |                           |
| 2007        | Philippines                         |                           |
| 2008        | Louisiana State                     |                           |
| 2009        | Honduras                            |                           |
| 2010        | Kentucky                            |                           |
| 2011        | Tuskegee                            |                           |
| 2012        | Tuskegee                            |                           |
| 2013        | Honduras                            |                           |
| 2014        | Wyoming                             |                           |
| 2015        | Maryland                            |                           |
| 2016        | South Dakota State                  |                           |

#### CHAPTER ENRICHMENT GRANT PROGRAM

As a result of discussions at the 1994 Conclave (Kansas State University), a committee was appointed by James H. Mortensen, International President, to explore ways the International Society could support the local chapters. This committee consisted of Earl Ellington, Chair - NE (International Treasurer); Blannie Bowen - PA; Roger Shanks - IL. Two items evolved from this committee: (1) "Building a Top Chapter" workshop presented during the 1996 Conclave (University of Idaho); (2) Initiation in 1996 of the first request for proposals for the Chapter Enrichment Grant Program.

The goal of this program is to encourage and promote the development of enrichment projects at the chapter level by providing a competitive grant program at the international level. These projects are to be consistent with objectives as stated in the Mission Statement in the Gamma Sigma Delta Constitution. The amount of the award is up to \$800 with preference given to those projects that have secured matching funds from other sources. The Executive Committee selects one recipient per year whose project is for one year. In 1998, the Executive Committee voted to offer as many grants as possible with a total allocation of \$1,500. This increased chapter participation. In 1999, this total was increased to \$2,500, with a \$750 maximum award for individual chapters and the total number of awards to be determined by the Executive Committee. Recipients include the following chapters:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Chapter</u>   |
|-------------|--|
| 1997        | Cornell  |
| 1998        | South Dakota   |
| 1999        | Arkansas, Kentucky, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona                              |
| 2000        | Arkansas, Arizona, Michigan, Nebraska  |
| 2001        | California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Colorado State, Virginia Tech                   |
| 2002        | Mississippi State, North Carolina A&T  |
| 2003        | Langston, Louisiana State, Tennessee   |
| 2004        | Penn State, Tennessee  |
| 2005        | No Awards  |
| 2006        | Colorado State, Kentucky, Nebraska, North Carolina A&T, North Dakota State, Philippines, Wyoming |
| 2007        | California-Davis, Penn State, Philippine, Tennessee  |
| 2008        | North Dakota State, Louisiana State, Nebraska  |
| 2009        | No Awards  |
| 2010        | Penn State, Arkansas, Louisiana State  |
| 2011        | Florida, Kansas State, Arkansas, Ohio State, Maryland  |
| 2012        | Maryland, Ohio State, Arkansas, Kansas State, Florida  |
| 2013        | Wyoming  |
| 2014        | Honduras, North Carolina A & T, Louisiana State  |
| 2015        | Tuskegee, South Dakota State, Nebraska, Maryland   |
| 2016        | Arkansas, Tennessee, South Dakota State  |

#### OTHER AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Various certificates, such as for the Sophomore and Senior Scholarship Awards of Merit, local Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award, etc., are available for chapter use. Each chapter can set up the awards it feels most desirable, first establishing guidelines, and then securing certificates from the International Secretary.

At the 1955 annual meeting of the Executive Committee a motion was made that an appropriate certificate be prepared to present to outgoing International Officers of Gamma Sigma Delta. This in turn was changed to a plaque.

At the 1970 Executive Committee meeting it was proposed, and passed, that a Past President's Plaque be provided from Society funds for each chapter president who served in 1970 or in the following years, with the provision that this project be dropped in future years if funds were not available. The first such plaques were awarded in 1971.



At the 1981 annual meeting the International Officers discussed the burden placed on the Treasury by the increased cost of these plaques. It was voted that from 1982 on chapters would pay \$15 for these plaques, with the International Treasury covering the remaining cost. Over the years, the price was changed as costs increased. In 2007, the Executive Committee decided that chapters should pay the full cost of producing and mailing the Past President's plaque. An alternative smaller plaque without a gavel was made available at a lower cost.

The Executive Committee, at the 1993 Executive Committee Meeting, voted to give a special recognition plaque to chapters as they celebrate their 50th, 75th, and 100th anniversary. The Society will use the chapter's years of continuous operation in determining anniversary year. The Nebraska chapter received the first such plaque in 1993 for celebration of their 75th anniversary. In 2009, the Executive Committee voted to award a certificate of recognition for those chapters celebrating an anniversary on the fifth year, i.e. 30<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup>, etc.

#### INTERNATIONAL GAMMA SIGMA DELTA FOUNDATION AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Discussion about and inquiry from chapters about a means of accepting tax deductible contributions to the organization had occurred over the years but no action had taken place. In 2002, President Elect John Hillison announced a \$10,000 anonymous gift to the Society in support of the Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award. The gift had to be handled through the Virginia Tech Foundation until Gamma Sigma Delta could establish the appropriate mechanism to accept this gift as well as future gifts in support of the Society. The Executive Committee gave Hillison authority to proceed with obtaining the legal assistance necessary to convert the Society from a 501.C.7 status to a 501.C.3 status. In subsequent meetings, by-laws and other operating procedures were drafted. The International Society Officers would hold the same officer position in the Foundation. At its 2005 Executive Committee meeting Hillison reported that the International Gamma Sigma Foundation had been established but it was not until a June 29, 2006 dated letter was received that the Foundation actually received 501.C.3 status. The remainder of the original gift was then transferred from the Virginia Tech Foundation to the Gamma Sigma Delta Foundation. Subsequently other donations were accepted. In 2008, the Foundation Past President was assigned the fundraising leadership responsibility.

As part of the 501.C.3 application process, the Foundation had to demonstrate its means of benevolence. To that end, the Board established a scholarship program. The first \$500 scholarship was presented in 2006. Applications were open to juniors, seniors, or graduate students who were members of Gamma Sigma Delta. Each chapter could submit one nomination. There were six applications for the first scholarship. Given the diversity of the applicants and the limitation of funding, the Board limited the applications to only junior and senior members starting with the 2008 award.

To honor Dr. John Riley of Tennessee, who had served as an international officer of GSD for 23 years until his death in 2013, the GSD Foundation has established the John Riley Gamma Sigma Delta Service Scholarship and awarded the first time in 2015. In addition, International Foundation Graduate Student Scholarship was also established and awarded in 2015. In 2014, Director of Development for the GSD International Foundation was initiated as a new position to get more funds in the future.

Foundation Scholarship winners include:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Name</u>          | <u>Chapter</u>     |
|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2006        | Jacqueline Dow Pratt | Penn State         |
| 2007        | Kiersten Wise        | North Dakota State |
| 2008        | Laura Sossamon       | Arkansas           |
| 2009        | Kristen Schulte      | Kansas State       |
| 2010        | Quentin Dudley       | Nebraska           |
| 2011        | Hannah Leventhal     | Kansas State       |
| 2012        | Dustin Holman        | Ohio State         |
| 2013        | Ariel Buehler        | Tennessee          |
| 2014        | Michael Hannewald    | Ohio State         |
| 2015        | Billy Rochelle       | Tennessee          |
| 2016        | Brandon Freeman      | Nebraska           |

John Riley Service Scholarship winners:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Name</u>       | <u>Chapter</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 2015        | Billy Rochelle    | Tennessee      |
| 2016        | McKenzie R. Beals | Nebraska       |

Foundation Graduate Student Scholarship winners:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Name</u>   | <u>Chapter</u> |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| 2015        | Sarah Mays    | Tennessee      |
| 2016        | Kevin Sargent | Nebraska       |

## GAMMA SIGMA DELTA PUBLICATIONS

### BROCHURE

The need for a publication or brochure setting forth the purpose of Gamma Sigma Delta, its operations, and its membership requirements was expressed for the first time in 1948 in a letter from the President to the other International Officers. Nothing came of the idea until 1954 when the President appointed a committee to investigate the needs for preparing such a brochure and making recommendations on what should be included and how it should be published and subsidized. In February 1955, copies of this first official brochure were distributed to chapters and officers. For the first issue, the International Officers decided to furnish these at no cost to chapters, but in future years chapters would be expected to pay for copies at the cost of printing. Since that year the brochure has been revised and reprinted a number of times. Editions coming out in 1984 and subsequent years are in the Society's official colors of sand and forest green. In 2002, based on an invitation from the International officers, Drs. Deborah Witham and Linda Millercox (University of Kentucky chapter) revamped the international brochure, highlighting reasons for nominees to become members. The 2002-2004 brochure, and its subsequent updates were distributed by the International Secretary. In 2006, the International Officers voted to offer the brochure free to chapters who ordered their supply each fall. In 2008, the brochure was changed to be more generic so that it would not need to be reprinted every two years with a change in International Officers.

### NEWSLETTER

At the 1951 Conclave the decision was made to publish an annual Gamma Sigma Delta Newsletter. Such a Newsletter was to contain a message from the President, a short summary of each chapter's activities, and other matters. The Secretary was to arrange for the details of publication, and the Treasurer was to pay costs.

In 1958 the annual Newsletter was discussed by the International Officers and the decision was made to report national activities, special recognition of members, and dates of installation of each chapter in each issue. It was also decided that responsibility for compiling and editing the Newsletter should reside with the office of Vice President.

Newsletters have been issued in each year since 1958, and preparing and publishing remain the responsibility of the Vice President (now President Elect). Each chapter receives, free of charge, one copy for each of the chapter's initiates during the preceding year. Additional copies can be obtained at a cost that is determined by the International Officers, based on the cost of printing. Beginning in 2004, the number of Newsletters distributed was reduced to one copy to each respective chapter president and secretary, and a total of 25 copies distributed among the International Officers. In 2004, the International Officers also decided that the Newsletter shall be posted on the web site. In 2010 the Newsletter was published in PDF format only.

### SECRETARY'S MANUAL-HANDBOOK

At the annual meeting in 1963 the Officers agreed there was need for a manual of procedures to assist the chapters in meeting deadlines and ordering materials. The International Secretary and Treasurer were assigned responsibility for developing such a manual. In 1966 the idea was again brought up and responsibility was assigned to the Treasurer. At the 1975 meeting the Treasurer was commissioned to prepare a handbook to be furnished to chapter officers to assist them in carrying out duties of their offices.

Finally, in 1976, a draft of such a handbook was sent to each member of the Executive Committee. It included 21 sections, assembled in loose-leaf cover so that additions and revisions could be inserted to keep the Handbook current.

At the business section of the 1976 Conclave, two copies of this Handbook were presented to each chapter (one for the president and one for the secretary). In the early years of the Handbook changes made in operating procedures were sent to these officers annually for insertion in the Handbook so that all chapters had current guidelines to follow.

Since the late 1980s, new Handbooks are provided annually. At the 1994 Executive Committee meeting the decision was made to send up to four revised Handbooks annually to the chapters for use by the President, President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Beginning in 2002, the Handbook was published on the Gamma Sigma Delta website. Additionally, one hard copy was mailed to each chapter secretary and to the International Officers. In 2012, the Handbook was sent electronically to the chapter's secretary and president.

WEB SITE ([www.gammasigmadelta.org](http://www.gammasigmadelta.org))

At the 1999 Executive Committee meeting, Past-President Richard Bull was authorized to develop a GSD web site and to load the Handbook, and order forms for certificates, jewelry and supplies onto the site. In 2000, the Constitution and By-laws and History were added to this list of intended items. The site became fully operational in 2002, when the site was moved to the University of Tennessee. In 2004, the International Officers decided that the Newsletter shall also be posted on the web site. In 2006, the International Officers began the process of revising the web site to protect its integrity and to make it more user friendly. The new web site went active at the beginning of 2010.

In 2014, the web site connection was expanded using a social media via the Gamma Sigma Delta Twitter account @GammaSigmaDelta, a banner for which has been incorporated on the GSD homepage. GSD currently has more than 250 Twitter followers, including federal agencies (e.g. US Dept. of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Academy of Sciences – Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources), state farm bureaus, university Ag programs and extension services, non-profit organizations, industry organizations, Ag media outlets, and GSD academic members.

## OPERATING GUIDELINES

According to the 1994 Conclave Minutes, the Operating Guidelines were to serve as a handbook for International Officers so that they could more effectively carry out their individual and collective responsibilities. The intent was to have relevant background and actions of the Society readily available without having to search the records or rely on memory. The Guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the current Handbook including Constitution and Bylaws and abridged History. The Executive Committee voted in 1999 to add the updating of the Guidelines to the responsibilities of the Historian.

## NEWS NOTES

Beginning in 1986 a new mailing called News Notes was begun. It is sent to the chapters several times during the year. News Notes, prepared by the International Secretary, includes reports from the International Officers which keep chapter officers current on events and operational highlights of the Society. Three issues are mailed annually. News Notes were discontinued in 2003, as electronic communication between the International Secretary and the chapters was used via chapter officer list-serve through the database on the GSD website.

## ARCHIVES

At the 1990 Conclave the Society voted to establish its official archives at The Ohio State University, location of the first chapter. It was agreed the task of compiling the archives (from materials supplied by Homer L'Hote and from the Secretary's and Historian's files) would be assigned to the International Historian and that keeping the records current in the future would be the responsibility of the Historian.

In 1992 such records were officially placed in the Archives at The Ohio State University. They are recorded as #25933924 on OCLC. They include: correspondence of the Society, especially in the early years; minutes of Conclaves and of Executive Committee meetings; Constitution and By-laws, with revision; membership lists; files concerning the various chapters; all histories of the Society, Newsletters and News Notes; files on the Distinguished Service to Agriculture (now Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture), Outstanding Chapter and New Activity awards, photos; and financial records.

## OTHER EFFORTS

### PINS, HONOR CORDS

Beginning in 2003, each new initiate received a GSD key pin. This key pin replaced all other forms of jewelry offered by the Society. In 2004, at the request of several chapters, an honor cord was introduced and made available for purchase. The cord is in the colors of the Society.

### OFFICIAL COLORS

At the 1982 Conclave a committee appointed by the International President recommended that the Society adopt sand and forest green as its official colors. This idea was accepted, and the Secretary was instructed to have the official stationery made up in these colors; also, all chapters were asked to use the colors whenever possible.

### OFFICIAL BANNER

At the same 1982 Conclave the Secretary was instructed to look into having an official banner made, using the official colors. In 1983 the International Treasurer circulated two designs for such a banner to the other International Officers; one of these was accepted. It was agreed that for the first year chapters could purchase a banner bearing the name and seal of the Society and the name of the chapter for a reduced cost; after that the cost to the chapters would cover the actual cost of having the banner made. An official banner for the Society also was ordered. It was used for the first time at the 1984 Conclave. By that time, 18 chapters had banners. Currently, a banner is given each new chapter installed.

### POSTERS

Another decision taken at the 1982 meeting of the Executive Committee was to order 500 posters, 11 by 17 inches in size, bearing the name and official seal of the Society in official colors. These were designed so that chapters could attach in the lower half the chapter name and notice of a meeting or other event, or any other notice desired. These were made available to chapters at a cost of 10 cents each. In 1986 the posters were discontinued, and remaining copies were distributed to chapters at no cost.

### LISTING OF MEMBERS

A directory of members of Gamma Sigma Delta had been issued in 1930.

At the 1952 Conclave a motion was made and passed that the National Secretary, with the aid of the local chapters, prepare a list of Gamma Sigma Delta members. This was issued in the latter part of 1953. At that time it was decided that the International Officers should ask the chapters for corrections.

At the 1976 Conclave it was suggested that the Society consider updating the current addresses of all its members. Members had been listed by chapter of initiation only until then. The International Secretary stated that time and finances would not permit undertaking such a monumental task. The Conclave did pass a motion that the alphabetized listing of all members be updated through June 30, 1976, and copies be made available to all chapters, with the idea of printing such an update about every five years. A computer printout was distributed to chapters in 1986 with a 1986-90 addendum in 1990.

Most recently the International Secretary took on the responsibility of updating the membership list through June 30, 1993. One copy of this membership list was mailed to each chapter secretary and International Officer during October, 1993 and 1995. An update of the membership list was last done for 1996-1997. A listing of the 1998 initiates has been completed. Since 2002, all members will be listed on the official Website.

## AFFILIATIONS

In 1958, after having been affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the officers received a request to assist with the special program on "Water and Agriculture" that Section O, Agriculture, was putting on at the annual meeting with the support of the Soil Conservation Society of America. The officers agreed it was a worthwhile program, and gave it their endorsement, but did not feel the Society should give active support. The Society discontinued its affiliation with the AAAS in 1987.

In 1967, a request was received for affiliation with the American Association of College Honor Societies, but the International Officers voted not to affiliate with the group at that time.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

The first Constitution of Delta Theta Sigma called for an Executive Council composed of a High Chancellor, High Vice-Chancellor, and High Scribe-Treasurer. When the organization became Gamma Sigma Delta, the Executive Officers became Grand Chancellor, Grand Vice-Chancellor, Grand Scribe-Treasurer, Grand Historian, and Grand Editor; these individuals were to constitute the Executive Council.

The titles of the officers were changed in 1918 and again later, but the Society still has an Executive Committee. Now it is composed of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and Immediate Past-President.

In 1956 for the first time, a nominating committee was appointed by the International Officers to come up with a list of individuals for each national office, to be presented at the Biennial Conclave. Nominating committees have been used since that time.

In 1957 at their annual meeting the International Officers adopted the policy of not being responsible for travel expenses of a National Officer to speak at chapter functions. International Officers receive many such requests and if travel expenses were paid from the National Treasury, it would soon be depleted.

The listing of officers since 1910 follows:

### Delta Theta Sigma

|               |                       |                         |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| April 2, 1910 | High Chancellor       | M. E. Corotis, OH       |
|               | High Vice-Chancellor  | Louis W. Arny, PA       |
|               | High Scribe-Treasurer | Erastus Peterson, UT    |
|               | Editor                | Howard Vaughn, IA       |
|               | At large              | George S. Templeton, MO |

|               |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|
| April 8, 1911 | High Chancellor<br>High Vice-Chancellor<br>High Scribe-Treasurer<br>Editor<br>At large | W. F. Cooper, IA<br>Bryce Alder, UT<br>Hobart F. Williams, MO<br>W. P. Little <sup>3</sup> , PA<br>O. M. Johnson, OH |
|---------------|--|--|

Gamma Sigma Delta

|             |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|
| May 3, 1913 | Grand Chancellor<br>Grand Vice-Chancellor<br>Grand Scribe-Treasurer<br>Grand Historian<br>Grand Editor | Howard Vaughn, IA<br>Alfred S. Lynn, OR<br>Hobart F. Williams <sup>4</sup> , MO<br>Walter B. Nissley, PA<br>C. C. Wiggins, MO |
|-------------|--|---|

|              |   |  |
|--------------|---|--|
| May 10, 1915 | Grand Chancellor<br>Grand Vice-Chancellor<br>Grand Scribe-Treasurer | D. C. Howard, MO<br>Harry Wetzel, OR<br>Roy M. Green, MO |
|--------------|---|--|

<sup>3</sup>Elected; actually Howard Vaughn, IA, continued in this office for one year and Walter B. Nissley, PA served during the second year.

<sup>4</sup>Resigned Sept. 22, 1914; Cleo C. Wiggins, MO was elected to complete the term. After a few months he was replaced by Roy M. Green, MO.

After formation of The Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| June 3, 1916 | Chancellor<br>Vice-Chancellor<br>Scribe-Treasurer<br>Editor | A. V. Storm, MN<br>E. D. Ball, IA<br>L. H. Pammel, IA<br>J. G. Rankin, IA |
|--------------|---|---|

|              |  |   |
|--------------|--|---|
| May 11, 1917 | Grand President<br>Grand Vice-President<br>Grand Secretary<br>Grand Treasurer<br>Grand Historian | A. V. Storm, MN<br>E. D. Ball, IA<br>L. H. Pammel, IA<br>C. H. Eckles, MO<br>J. G. Rankin, IA |
|--------------|--|---|