

PHI
BETA
KAPPA
BULLETIN

39TH
TRIENNIAL
COUNCIL

philosophía

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2000

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The
PHI BETA KAPPA
Society
COUNCIL BULLETIN

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The PHI BETA KAPPA Society
COUNCIL BULLETIN

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
THIRTY-NINTH COUNCIL**

OCTOBER 19–22, 2000

The 39th Triennial Council of the Phi Beta Kappa Society met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on October 19–22, 2000, at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel. Preceding the three plenary sessions of the Council, a Council Symposium was held on “Be It Resolved: That Phi Beta Kappa Is Gloriously Useless.” In addition, the Executive Committee and the Senate of Phi Beta Kappa held meetings, as did the seven districts, the association delegates, and various committees of the Council. Delegates also convened in more than 30 scheduled small-group sessions to discuss the business of the Council.

The following people were officially in attendance at the 39th Council:

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COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM

PANEL: Be It Resolved: That Phi Beta Kappa Is Gloriously Useless

October 19, 2000

Panel Presentations

I

By Leroy S. Rouser

Professor of Philosophy, Religion, and Philosophical Theology

Director of the Institute for Philosophy and Religion

Boston University

I'm not sure whether the invitation to speak here is my reward for having said something imaginative, or my punishment for having said something outrageous, which I must now defend before 400 of the smartest people in America. But, yes, I did say that Phi Beta Kappa is gloriously useless—in the hallowed pages of *The Key Reporter*, no less. I'm glad I said it, and here's why.

Americans are a people who both built a better mousetrap and dreamed a grander dream. At our best, our practicality has enabled our visions. For example, Harvard College, our first venture in higher education, was not established as some ivory tower; it was founded for the practical purpose of providing a literate ministry to the churches of Puritan New England.

So, too, the Lewis and Clark expedition and the subsequent Westward Movement were the same happy blending of vision for what Stephen Vincent Benét called our Western Star—"fool's silver of the sky"—and the practical heroism of men and women who found their way to the headwaters of the Missouri, and on to the coasts of the Pacific.

But we are not always at our best. Our visionaries sometimes become demagogues, seduced by the grandeur of their dreams; and our mousetrap builders too often become self-absorbed and greedy. Our only indigenous philosophy is pragmatism, the view that use determines meaning and that ideas are instruments for achieving goals. When one adds to that the indigenous American suspicion of intellectuals whose ideas do not have some obvious practical application, it is clear that the dreamers are the people who must justify themselves in our popular culture, not the practitioners. I am a dreamer, and so are you. We belong to Phi Beta Kappa, which is gloriously useless.

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Today the mousetrap has a dot-com address, and the college kids who really want to major in philosophy or Greek or English are confronted by parents who have ponied up megabucks for their education and who ask the realistic, down-to-earth, practical question—with poignant sincerity, entirely in the interest of this dearly beloved, hideously expensive child—“But darling, what can you *do* with that?”

This is one of life’s ironies. Socrates was accused of corrupting the youth of Athens when in fact it was the youth of Athens who were trying to corrupt him. These Athenian rich kids didn’t want philosophical talk about the true nature of justice. They wanted to learn rhetoric: how to make an effective speech about justice in the Athenian Senate. Socrates thought it was important to know what you were talking about, but they wanted a short course in how to get elected without really knowing anything.

Today, the youth of America are being corrupted by their parents. The usefulness—or “relevance”—these parents lovingly espouse is, however, not an appropriate criterion for choosing a college major, for two reasons.

First, you don’t really have any way of knowing what is going to be useful in the future. That is the fly in the ointment of Utilitarianism. “The greatest good for the greatest number” is a lofty goal because of its reasonableness and fairness, but it is impossible to predetermine practical means for achieving it. We are left with ideological commitments to trickle-down economics on the right or government aid programs on the left, but we often cannot even recognize when these experiments in practicality actually worked. Did Reaganomics work? It depends on whether the economist you ask is a Democrat or a Republican.

The same is true for college students. You can’t predict what is going to be useful even if you know what you want to do in the future. My son Jonathan focused on English literature in high school but decided to major in economics and political science in college because he wanted to be an investment banker. Today he is a partner in a major New York investment bank where he does mergers and acquisitions and has an annual income somewhat in excess of my total retirement fund. Looking back, he says that an English major would have been more useful for him than economics and political science, because his first job after college was with the Morgan Bank, which put him in a nine-month training program for everything you need to know about investment banking; thus he could have majored in anything in college.

Crunch time in his present job comes when he has to give a 40-minute speech to the directors of a company, none of whom are up to speed on the merger or acquisition under consideration, explaining to them how he arrived at an evaluation of the company’s worth, what his strategy is for selling or buying it, and why the services of his particular bank can be especially helpful. He has to write a 15-page paper that has a beginning, a middle, and an end; is clear, comprehensive, and persuasive. That’s what English majors do.

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The second reason is more serious. “Use” is not an appropriate criterion for choosing a college major because education in the liberal arts and sciences is not vocational/technical training. Its goal is not specific, narrow expertise in a practical skill, but broad acquaintance and deep appreciation of cultural traditions. That is why we have distribution requirements. A liberal education is not really supposed to prepare you for anything except “the company of educated men and women” in the continually surprising adventure of life. And when undergraduates complain about distribution requirements—“Why do I have to take a science course? I’m not going to be a scientist”—we reply simply that a well-educated person needs to know something about science. In other words, “It’s good for you.”

There is always the temptation to justify the liberal arts and sciences by their usefulness—you can’t get a good job without a college degree—but the real purpose of higher education has never been primarily that it was going to be useful in this narrow sense. And nowhere in academia have the life of the mind and the character of the human spirit for their own sake been more energetically endorsed than in Phi Beta Kappa, which is not an institution with practical goals, but a celebration. We are more like a party than a program.

But what makes uselessness glorious? Or to put it somewhat differently, if use is not an appropriate criterion for decision-making in the academic life, what is? Love.

Next time you come to Boston, take a walk down Commonwealth Avenue to the Boston University School for the Arts, and look at the huge, blown-up photographs of one kid playing the Paganini violin concerto, and another doing a speech from Shakespeare, and so on. At the bottom of each of these wonderful posters is scrawled the message, “Learn what you love.” That’s what education in the liberal arts and sciences is all about: discovering not just something that you are good at, but something that you care about, something you can give yourself to, something you can lose yourself in, something you love.

And here’s another irony. At this point, the wishy-washy, hands-off liberalism of the parents redeems them and they say, “Well, dear, whatever makes you happy.” Which is the right thing to say. My son Timmy, of blessed memory, wrote a senior thesis evaluating several private secondary schools. It was called “Too Much Success: Not Enough Happiness.”

The virtues of love as a criterion for choosing a college major—which is the example we’ve been talking about—are several. First, it is not pretentious. “Use” is pretentious because it claims to know something about the future that it doesn’t really know. Love is immediate, and knows what it is talking about. Right now, I just *love*—Sanskrit, chemistry, international relations.

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Second, love as a criterion guarantees that you will work to your highest potential, because you are self-motivated: you love it. Finally, it provides the surest basis for life-long learning—which we all extol, but which often doesn't happen—because it is part of who you are, and not just something you think, often wrongly, that you can use.

Which takes us back to Socrates. The best thing ever written on the philosophy of education is Plato's *Protagoras*, in which one of these Athenian rich kids wants to study with Protagoras, a Sophist, an ethical relativist who will teach the kid how to make a good speech without knowing what justice or whatever really means. The young man, one Hippocrates, asks Socrates to make the arrangement for him. But Socrates asks him the crucial question about education, and that is, "If you study with this fellow, what will he make of you?" This is not a question that most college deans' offices like to talk about in this *post in loco parentis* era. Still, the fact is that a college education feeds an adolescent in one end and gets a young adult out the other. In the process of those four years that person has changed significantly, and you and I have been agents of that change.

We say, "Hey, listen, I just teach history. I'm not their mother or their priest or their shrink." That's true. A college is not a family or a church or a hospital. Still, what happens, in the course of what we do, is soul making. When these kids graduate, what we hope for them is that they will be good at whatever they have majored in, however they may wish to use it, and that in joining the company of "educated men and women" they will have learned something that will help them be good citizens, good husbands and wives, good parents, good people.

The popular image of Phi Beta Kappa is that it is not about this moral character stuff, it is just about being smart. There are indeed some chapters that elect people simply on the basis of their grade-point average, but that is not what our charter says, and this is important, for the following reason:

There are probably more genuinely brilliant people in American higher education today than there have ever been in the past. At the same time, there is probably less genuine human wisdom available than there was a generation or two ago.

Phi Beta Kappa was never just about being smart. It was also about being good; and that is the combination that produces the wisdom we so sorely need. Phi Beta Kappa is *gloriously* useless because it is not an instrument for reaching a goal; it is a celebration of the love of learning, of the mind's adventure and the spirit's quest, simply and solely for their own sake.

II

By Catharine R. Stimpson
Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Science

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New York University

I am sympathetic with Leroy S. Rouser—not that he needs my sympathy. He gave a light-hearted, affectionate account in *The Key Reporter* in the summer of 1999 of his adventures as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar. In the last paragraphs he paid tribute to Phi Beta Kappa. Contrasting its work to that of America at large, he wrote, “Phi Beta Kappa . . . is gloriously useless.” And now, his reward is to have this sentence transmogrified into a resolution at a plenary session of a Triennial Convention. His jaunty, uplifting reflections have become fodder for a forensic exercise.¹

Despite my feelings, I suspect that my assignment is to disagree with Professor Rouser and to argue that Phi Beta Kappa is not gloriously useless. It may be ingloriously useless, or it may be gloriously useful, but it is not gloriously useless. However, I have a problem with my assignment. Not only do I believe the organization does useful things like publishing *The American Scholar*. I am also too puzzled by Professor Rouser’s suggestion to start off by flatly disagreeing with it.

What, I have asked myself, is this distinguished man saying? What does he mean when he calls upon Phi Beta Kappa to be gloriously useless? Reading him, I have concluded that he is endorsing the charge that America is largely a practical, utilitarian, anti-intellectual nation that goes to the office to save its soul and worships at the altar of the bitch goddess of success. Fortunately, his America is also home to some true believers in the liberal arts. He writes, “We celebrate the mind for its sensitivity to, and expertise in, things that are good, true, and beautiful.” We counter an obnoxious work ethic with the “view that our culture is more important than our accomplishments—that good, thoughtful, knowledgeable, and culturally gracious people are more significant for American life than the simply successful ones” (p. 3). Unfortunately, Professor Rouser cautions, the camp of the cultured is declining. Phi Beta Kappa, he warns, is “one of the last true bastions of the liberal arts and sciences.” In brief, doing the liberal arts is nice non-work if you can get it, and you can get it if you try.

This dichotomous picture of America is familiar. It has mingled roots in the ancient soils of asceticism, notions of the contemplative life, Stoicism, and apocalyptic warnings of the drastic fragility of the army of the saved. It also has roots in the newer soils of American literature, philosophy, and Utopian experiments. Think of the iconic Thoreau—with his hippie descendents. Coincidentally, *Walden* was published in 1854, the same year that Dickens issued his unyielding critique of materialism and hard-heartedness in *Hard Times*. In America, certain beliefs about gender have intersected with the picture of the world as a conflict between the material and the immaterial. The sphere of the world and success has been assigned to men, especially white men; the sphere of the “finer things of life” to women and artistic men, again especially if they are white.

¹ “Confessions of a Peripatetic Philosopher,” *The Key Reporter* (Summer 1999): 2–3.

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Today, the behavior of Americans seems to provide fresh details for this picture. Only this year, during a New York senatorial campaign, the governor of New York State, George Pataki (non-curious George Pataki), notoriously derided an allusion to E. B. White by the senatorial candidate he opposed as an alien, arcane reference to “Wyatt” or some other non-New Yorker. Happily, he was caught in the web of his own arrogant ignorance. As for our undergraduates, over the last 50 years, they seem to be voting with their feet. Only a fool would conflate an undergraduate’s identity with her or his major. A biology major can be a poet; a physics major a musician; a computer science major the artistic designer of a website. Nevertheless, the post-World War II pattern of undergraduate majors is instructive. The percentage of bachelor’s degrees in English and Modern Foreign Languages per 100 degree recipients has risen slightly: in English from over 3% to 4.21% with a big but transitory jump in the 1960s; in Modern Foreign Languages from 1.04% to 1.05%, again with a temporary hike in the 1960s. History, in 1949–50, took 3.13% of bachelor’s degrees per 100 degree recipients. After a sharp rise in the 1960s, History settled back to 2.15% in 1996–97. Philosophy, in 1949–50, had .66% of bachelor’s degrees per 100 degree recipients; in 1996–97, but .38%. In contrast, in the 1980s, business, communications, and computer science majors had large increases, although the percentage of business majors has declined in the 1990s. The major growth in the 1990s has been in health professions, biological sciences, and agriculture.

What, then, is wrong with the “gloriously useless” position? Aspects of it are complimentary to members of Phi Beta Kappa. However, at the risk of being the humorless scold at the party, let me point out three of its difficulties. First, and this is perhaps a trifle, Professor Rouner’s umbrella definition of a “gloriously useless” culture is self-contradictory. For the definition covers moral as well as cognitive categories, good people as well as thoughtful and culturally gracious ones. Surely good people are gloriously useful. Second, and far more significantly, any division of America into two camps—the nose-to-the-grindstone squares and the genteel book lovers—is a drastic oversimplification. Obviously and demonstrably, there is anti-intellectualism in American life, but there are also men and women who combine a desire for worldly success and devotion to the life of the mind. They have helped to build our great libraries, and museums, and cultural centers. And, I might add, I would hate to go fundraising for Phi Beta Kappa and make my case by saying, “I am gloriously useless. In contrast, you, potential big donor, place too great a premium on success. But why don’t you give me some of your money anyway.” Often, people who are proud of being gloriously useless are actually dependent on the drone who goes to the office which they scorn. They are a bit like Bronson Alcott relying on his daughter, Louisa May, to market her writings and support the family.

Moreover, across America, I sense a large yearning for meaning—among men and women who go to work everyday because they must, or who go to work everyday because they like it, or who go to work everyday because they must and because they like it. This yearning for meaning is seeking satisfaction in some spiritual institutions. It is

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also seeking satisfaction in cultural institutions, activities, and expressions. For example: The number of book clubs is increasing. Another example: People are watching history on public television and then going on line to learn more. Still another example: The average age of college and university students is rising. Some of these cultural activities are raw, rough, raucous, messy, and defiant. One would never confuse a poetry slam with a decorous discussion of verse at a gentleman's club. However, in many different cultures, anthropologically defined, culture, aesthetically defined, is burgeoning. Waves of culture are washing the walls of bastions of all kinds. We should swim with and in them. There are dolphins here.

Third, it would be a self-defeating mistake for Phi Beta Kappa to conflate the word "useful" with vulgar, instrumental, short-term pragmatism and then to spurn it. The word "useful" means much more than vulgar pragmatism. To be useful is to be active, generative, creative, and even playful in the world we inhabit. From this angle of vision, the liberal arts and sciences are useful. For they both provide maps of our worlds and help us find meaning in them. Earlier, I spoke of a yearning for meaning across America. Perhaps all people have always yearned for meaning, but something new has also happened to us, and we are seeking to make sense of it. Obviously, we can only make sense of the present if we know the past, a great province of the liberal arts. In part, this something new is the recognition that we are really, actually living in a global society. Human beings must now work with new intensity to live with our many, many differences. The liberal arts and sciences can help us practice what the philosopher Charles Taylor calls the politics of recognition. In part, too, this something new is the effect that new technologies have had on the ways in which we are born, the ways in which we live with machines, the ways in which we communicate, and the ways in which we die. The existence of a cloned child is no longer remote but within the control of an imaginable laboratory. The liberal arts and sciences will be of use when we use them to explore the dramatic changes in the nature of being human. We saw how valuable the liberal arts could be when Bill and Judith Moyers aired their work on dying, *On Our Own Terms*, in fall 2000 on public television.

Let Phi Beta Kappa forgo—if momentarily—the rhetoric of glory and ask—searchingly but sensibly—how it might help people think through the meaning of being human at this strange, tremendous moment in time. In "The American Scholar" Ralph Waldo Emerson gave us a picture of Man (and, I would hope, Woman) Thinking. His "designated intellect" is vital, active, engaged in this world, interested in the meaning of the meal in the firkin, the milk in the pan, the ballad in the street, the news of the boat. Today we must be interested in the meaning of the genetically engineered corn on the supermarket shelves, the ballad on Napster, and the news of the space shuttle. Emerson was scornful of a narrow, conventional, and calculated existence. If I may dare to read Emerson's mind, I suggest he would nevertheless call on us to be interested in the sorrows and grandeur of our world, and interesting about it, and, as a consequence, to be of some use, now, and for tomorrow.

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III

By Howard N. Dobin
Associate Dean of the College
Princeton University

Leroy Rouner, in defense of his proposition that Phi Beta Kappa is gloriously useless, asserts that PBK is not an institution “but a celebration”—or to alliterate rather than rhyme—“more like a party than a program.” He is right, of course, and that is the particular challenge facing PBK chapters at colleges and universities across the country.

For college students, PBK is a prize awarded after four or more years of strenuous academic work. For most, PBK election precedes commencement by weeks if not days. At almost the very moment students are recognized for their scholarly accomplishments and their humane values, they are evicted from the haven of the academy that champions such “useless” ideals and thrown into the real, rough-and-tumble world in which such ideals are too often sacrificed for more “useful” objectives. For students, PBK exists as an honorific society—an exclusive club with the privilege of bragging rights and little else—if they think of it as an institution at all. Election marks a celebration of the past rather than a commitment to the future.

At Princeton, the PBK induction ceremony—ritualized and expeditious—is squeezed in early on Class Day in order for students to get to all of the other award and recognition events on campus. Even as a party it wasn’t much fun, and so it was time to try something new. Last year, we invited all newly elected members and their families to a breakfast reception before the ceremony; at least students would be able to congratulate each other, introduce their families, and celebrate together. It was a great success, but still just a party. The next morning was Commencement, and by the next afternoon, the students were gone.

Our second innovation was more serious. At Princeton, where we pride ourselves on the fact that every student writes a senior thesis, we have always elected seniors at the latest possible moment in order to take into account the quality of their theses. But that has always meant that there are no student members-in-course on campus and therefore no students for whom to plan programs or events. Last fall, for the first time in its history, the Princeton chapter elected a small group of students at the start of their senior year and held a banquet in their honor. It is our hope that early election is not just an acknowledgment of even more elite status, but that we can nurture a small but active intergenerational community of scholars during that final year. We have not fully succeeded this year—it seems students are already too burdened with other academic and extracurricular obligations to make time for optional events—but we plan to keep trying.

That, then, is the challenge Leroy Rouner poses to PBK—and most pointedly to chapters whose main business is to elect new members. The Fellows and the Associations

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are already fighting the good fight through active life-long engagement with the PBK mission. It is for the chapters to recognize that their goal must be to help new members understand that PBK is much more than a gold star for excellent work now completed. We must learn to sustain, even elevate, the excitement our students feel as a result of exercising their intellects; we must model the pleasures and rewards of scholarly engagement that no longer has a grade and a course credit as its goals. And chapters must learn from each other, sharing the ideas and programs that create such scholarly communities. Election to PBK must be less a culmination and an ending and much more a commitment and a new beginning.

If our goal is to encourage our members to lead gloriously useful lives, then chapters must do more than uselessly glorify our best students.

IV

By Merrill B. Shattuck
Chair, Western District of Phi Beta Kappa

After being elected to PBK in 1948, I left almost immediately to pursue graduate studies. As a result, I had little contact with the Society for over 30 years. Then, in 1982, I received a newsletter put out by the Northern California Association. Like so many of our members, I hadn't even known that such an association existed. I was delighted to find that the association had an active and well-balanced program of activities, and promptly joined.

Today the Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association is the second largest Association with about 1,675 members. (The Southern California Association is the largest with membership of about 2,250.)

Five things we do:

We have activities almost every month: walks, museums, gourmet meals, a cruise on FDR's yacht, backstage at the opera house, walking tours of historic neighborhoods, an Annual Awards banquet for the recipients of scholarships. In December of 1998 we cosponsored the UC Berkeley chapter's 100th Anniversary.

These events build camaraderie amongst our members but also raise money for our Scholarship Fund. Our largest event each year is a three-day conference/retreat held at Asilomar, a beautiful and historic conference center in Pacific Grove, California. Each year we have a different theme, such as Steinbeck, the Millennium, or California history.

Each year we award a number of graduate scholarships to Phi Betes attending one of the colleges or universities in Northern California. Last year, eleven \$3,500

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scholarships and four teaching awards were awarded. In the past ten years, we have given over \$300,000 in scholarships, and \$10,000 in college teaching awards.

We attend almost all chapter initiation ceremonies, provide information on PBK association activities and invitations to join our association—offering free membership for the first year.

Other associations do similar things in proportion to their size. A few examples: Our Southern California Association confers awards at both college and high school levels of about \$50,000 each year—\$64,000 this past year. Oklahoma City confers three annual scholarships totaling \$3,000. Delaware Valley Association presented book awards to 122 high school seniors. The Houston Association conferred \$162,500 in scholarships this year alone and has raised over \$2 million, mostly for scholarships, in the past ten years. And there are many others I don't have details about.

Speaking for the associations, there is no question that PBK has made significant contributions over the years benefiting and encouraging academic achievement. So it is definitely worthWHILE, not worthLESS.

But we could be doing so much more! As you know, there are about five hundred thousand living Phi Betes but only a tiny fraction (5% or so) are active. At the opening panel of the last Triennial, Steve Martin made an eloquent plea for a much more proactive PBK when he said, "To have an organization of half a million bright people and to not use that organization to deliberately and effectively improve liberal education is not only unfortunate, it is a shame—especially when PBK is uniquely qualified and situated to do this work."

I fear that our position as the preeminent and most prestigious scholastic honorary society is seriously threatened! We are competing as never before with innumerable other activities, interests, and organizations for the attention of top students. Many are ignorant of what PBK is, or see it as irrelevant. We need higher visibility both on campus and in the country at large. We need much better PR and—some of you will cringe at this—we must do a better job of **MARKETING**.

We are simply not adjusting quickly enough to the ever more rapid changes around us. As a member of the Senate said to me just recently, "PBK changes with glacial speed." Any organization which still governs itself in nearly the same way it did 100 years ago is destined to slowly wither away. The 90% of our members who are not professional academics still have little or no voice in the governance of PBK. As a result we are not tapping the tremendous and diverse capabilities of that group.

Many of us feel that PBK would be greatly strengthened if governed in a more democratic and representative manner. To that end I call your attention to the letter written by Aubrey Farb which you all received at registration. We hope you read it carefully, and ask your support of the suggestions put forth.

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THE LONG NOW.

A final thought. I suggest that our present system of governance is not in tune with the HERE AND NOW and conventional measures of dates and times. Rather, it is more in keeping with the LONG NOW. The LONG NOW SOCIETY—which really does exist—is designing a ten thousand year clock. This clock ticks once a day. Once every year it goes BONG. And every 100 years the cuckoo comes out!

V

*By Elizabeth V. Swenson
Professor of Psychology
John Carroll University*

When Doug Foard asked me to give this response to the speakers on behalf of the Fellows, I wondered why he had chosen me. Although I have been an active member of the Cleveland Association of Phi Beta Kappa for 25 years, I am a relatively new Fellow. In fact, I have never been to a meeting of the Fellows, and I have no idea who my fellow Fellows are. So I certainly cannot speak on behalf of the Fellows.

When I received the invitation to become a Fellow, about two years ago, I had to think carefully about whether this organization serves any useful purpose in today's world. Because being a Fellow involves a substantial monetary contribution, now and into the future, especially for one living on a professor's salary, this was a significant decision for me. Actually, it's because of the decision-making process I used to determine that I would become a Fellow that I am prepared to make these comments.

And it is because I am convinced of the importance, and, yes, usefulness of Phi Beta Kappa as we begin a new millennium that I decided to become a Fellow. In fact I think that Phi Beta Kappa is more important and more useful now than ever before.

I have heard it said by those in the ivory tower that Phi Beta Kappa may be irrelevant. But that certainly is not the message that those of us in the associations hear who carry Phi Beta Kappa to the community. The associations and the Fellows take Phi Beta Kappa's message about the value of the liberal arts to those who are not in college. We carry this message to parents of students, to community leaders, to elementary and secondary students, to institutions in the community, to community college students, and to four-year college and university students in schools where there is no Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

Let me explain with two examples from my own activities relative to Phi Beta Kappa.

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Every spring for the past 50 years the Cleveland Association has honored the most scholarly student in the senior class of each of a growing number of Northeast Ohio high schools. The number of schools is now around 130. Usually the student is the valedictorian, but not always. We ask the schools to choose the student who most exhibits the qualities of scholarship and creative love of learning that Phi Beta Kappa stands for. The high school principals and guidance counselors who choose the awardees tell us year after year that this is the most valued honor that a graduating senior can receive.

These outstanding student scholars know about Phi Beta Kappa when they enter college. We honor them at an elegant banquet in a large downtown Cleveland hotel, and we pay for the dinners of two guests. Several years ago we decided that the values of Phi Beta Kappa would be carried further if each student were able to bring a favorite teacher to the banquet as well, so that we could also honor the teachers of these outstanding students. For the past three years we have obtained Foundation money to pay for the teachers to attend.

In a prominent location in each of the 130 schools is a plaque with the name of Phi Beta Kappa and the student honored each year. Being recognized by the Phi Beta Kappa alumni for scholarship at the high school level inspires these young students to excel in their further education.

Now let me tell you how useful Phi Beta Kappa has been in at least one university that does not have a Phi Beta Kappa chapter but would like to have one. Over the past few years (I won't say how many) the Phi Beta Kappa members who are on the faculty at the university where I teach have tried to start a chapter. We submit our application, receive our rejection, and travel to Washington to meet with Doug to find out what our deficiencies are.

To some this may seem like a discouraging endeavor. But to us it has been enlightening, and maybe even strangely exhilarating. This is because we have seen first hand the effects of a report from this most important of credentialing organizations for the liberal arts. We have seen many significant changes to our academic programs as a direct result of the comments of the Phi Beta Kappa Committee on Qualifications. To name just a few, our faculty and administration are far more conscious of the short- and long-term effects of hiring part-time faculty to teach undergraduate courses when full-time tenure-track faculty could do the job. Our Honors Program has received increased support both financially and in the number of students admitted who qualify for the program. And we have added to our core, requirements for all students in mathematics, foreign language, and lab science courses. I could go on with the list.

Phi Beta Kappa has been a tremendous support for the liberal arts at my university, as important as accreditation has been to our school of business and some of our more technical programs. What other organization could have done this for the liberal arts?

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I suppose Phi Beta Kappa might seem to be useless at schools with chapters that don't enforce standards or publicize their values, schools that don't have to struggle to keep their chapters as Phi Beta Kappa faculty groups do to obtain one in the first place. And maybe that's the real reason why we are having this debate today.

In my view as a Fellow, Phi Beta Kappa is as useful as the liberal arts are. The liberal arts provide the knowledge and skills that teach us how 'to be.' And this is a prerequisite for the courses that teach us how 'to do.'

The liberal arts are what help us keep a sense of perspective, see the big picture, and adapt in a world where technology and conglomerates threaten our values.

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FIRST PLENARY SESSION

October 20, 2000

1. The Council convened for its first plenary session on Friday, October 20, at 9:00 a.m. in the Ballroom of the Philadelphia Sheraton Society Hill Hotel. President Frederick Crosson greeted the delegates and the three past presidents present: John Hope Franklin, Otis Singletary, and Joan Ferrante. He also noted the presence of the Phi Beta Kappa Fellows who, since 1940, have sustained the Society with contributions totaling well in excess of \$2 million.

2. The president then recognized Senator Catharine Stimpson, chair of the Senate's Committee on Special Awards, who presented the Award for Distinguished Service to the Humanities to Richard J. Franke (who had been nominated by the University of Illinois-Chicago Chapter, the Chicago Association, and the Yale University Chapter) with these words: "In recognition of his years of dedicated service and inspired leadership in the cause of fostering the humanities and humanities scholarship in the Chicago metropolitan area and throughout the United States, the award is presented at the opening session of the 39th Triennial Council and with particular appreciation for the recipient's contribution to the Chicago Lyric Opera, the Newberry Library, and the Chicago Metro Fair. The Phi Beta Kappa Senate finds in this individual member's efforts to improve the quality of his community's cultural life an outstanding example of the Society's highest and most venerable ideals." Mr. Franke responded with thanks and appreciation for the high honor.

3. The president then introduced the other persons on the rostrum: Douglas Foard, secretary of the Society; Virginia Ferris, former Senator and chair of the Council Nominating Committee; and Paul Conkin of Vanderbilt University, who was serving his third term as Council Parliamentarian.

4. The president proceeded to the first item of business, the approval of the minutes of the 38th Council held in 1997, which had previously been distributed. There being no additions or corrections, President Crosson declared them approved as distributed.

5. The deliberations of the 39th Council would be assisted by four committees composed primarily of delegates, President Crosson explained. He introduced each by naming its chair and thanking the members in advance for their efforts on the Council's behalf. Those committees were:

Committee on Credentials

James Lightner (Western Maryland College), Chair
Barbara L. Carter (Spelman College)
Kurt May (San Antonio Association)
Marilyn Pet (Greater Hartford Association)

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Tellers

Frederick Parrella (Santa Clara University), Chair
Nancy Blase (University of Washington)
Marian Barchilon (Phoenix Area Association)
David Herlocker (Western Maryland College)
Alix Ingber (Sweetbriar College)
Patricia Krebs Irvin (North Texas Association)
Linda B. Johnson (University of New Hampshire)
David E. Morrow (Morehouse College)
James L. Pyle (Eastern Indiana Association)
Murray Steinberg (Greater Baltimore Association)
Thomas A. Van (Kentuckiana Association)

Council Finance Committee

Douglas McCabe (Georgetown University), Chair
Neysa Adams (Delaware Valley Association)
George Mackiw (Loyola College in Maryland)
Mary Meredith (Southwest Louisiana Association)
Calvin Van Niewaal (Coe College)

Committee on Resolutions

Judith Sebesta (University of South Dakota), Chair
Virginia Hornak (Southern California Association)
C. Howard Krukofsky (Hunter College, CUNY)
Christel McDonald (George Washington University)

6. President Crosson then directed the delegates' attention to the Report of the Senate, pages 21–34 of the *Delegate's Manual*, which summarized the actions of the Senate over the previous three years. He noted the steady growth in the number of chapters and chartered associations. He pointed out the move of the Society's offices from 1811 Q Street NW (the offices since 1954) to 1785 Massachusetts Avenue NW, in leased office space in the headquarters building of the National Trust for Historic Preservation to provide more space for the Society's staff and programs. He called attention to the work of the new Committee on Chapters, which had been created to assist chapters, and noted the production of a new manual for chapter officers. Similarly, he commented on the renewed Committee on Associations and its newly produced manual for officers of the 58 far-flung associations. President Crosson also commented on the change of name from Phi Beta Kappa Associates to Fellows to avoid confusion with the associations. He noted that the new directory of members had recently been printed, and he concluded his remarks by noting the appointment of Anne Fadiman as editor of *The American Scholar*.

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7. At this point in the proceedings President Crosson welcomed to the podium Mr. George Burrell, Secretary for External Affairs for the City of Philadelphia, who was representing Mayor John Street. Mr. Burrell officially welcomed Phi Beta Kappa to Philadelphia, expressing good wishes for a successful meeting and inviting everyone to visit the many places of interest that the city has to offer.

8. While awaiting a report from the Credentials Committee, President Crosson asked how many people were attending their first Council. A show of hands suggested that it would be appropriate for the rather complex voting procedures to be explained, and he called upon Frederick Parrella, Chief Teller, to provide the details. It was noted that some issues would be voted on by delegation and others by individual delegates. The President would indicate before each ballot what type of vote was being taken and which color ballot to use. Several procedural questions from the floor were answered.

9. President Crosson then outlined the process of handling the discussion of and voting on the recommendations of the Policy Committee regarding constitutional changes. In the places where Scott Enk (Greater Milwaukee Association) had introduced an alternate amendment, these would be dealt with separately as parallel items for comparison. Other amendments would be dealt with *en bloc*. This would save time and allow more time for the discussion of major issues. He also pointed out that there were several opportunities planned prior to the voting during which special questions and issues could be discussed with members of the Policy Committee. Questions in writing were also requested and would be responded to by the committee at the second plenary session, which would be devoted solely to the reports of the Policy Committee and of the Committee on Qualifications.

10. The Credentials Committee having completed its registration tallies, the committee chair, James Lightner, was invited to give his first report. As of 9:00 a.m., he noted, 218 delegates representing 192 chapters had registered, and 49 delegates from 38 associations had registered. There were 19 senators, 5 of whom were delegates, and there were three past presidents in attendance. The voting delegates numbered 284, representing 230 different Phi Beta Kappa groups, and 112 nonvoting members were also in attendance, resulting in a grand total of 396 registered individuals representing 232 groups.

11. Senator David W. Hart, chair of the Policy Committee, was then called to the podium to present his committee's report on revisions to the constitution and bylaws, the results of which had been summarized in a one-page "Categories of Change" for distribution by the tellers. He began by noting that a resolution approved by the 38th Council spurred on "thoughtful scrutiny" of the constitution and bylaws, which had actually been underway for several years. Armed with this mandate, the Policy Committee undertook the task of revising a document that had been tinkered with for several generations and which contained contradictions and ambiguities. Senator Hart then addressed the first areas of proposed change: capitalization, punctuation, and inconsistencies of wording. Then he addressed the area he called "housekeeping," bringing the documents into line with present practice, including clear delineation of the duties of the various Senate

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committees, and incorporating items which had been “taken for granted” but not specifically stated.

In questions that followed, some minor errors in the errata sheet were corrected and the abolition of use of *Roberts Rules of Order* for parliamentary procedures was questioned. Parliamentarian Conkin answered the latter query by stating that *Roberts Rules of Order* do not really fit a discontinuous or infrequent meeting like Phi Beta Kappa’s Triennial Councils. Scott Enk also questioned the requirement of a two-thirds vote of one Council to refer a constitutional amendment to the next Council. He felt this would infringe upon the right of individual delegates to propose amendment motions, as had been the case in the past. Senator Hart responded that the intent of the change was to guarantee that proposals for amendments have some support and weight from a Council before being considered by the Senate.

12. In the interest of time, and because the discussion was beginning to focus on specific issues, President Crosson asked Mr. Enk to speak to his proposed amendment, found on page 59 of the *Delegate’s Manual*. Mr. Enk described his amendment as a remedy to some of the “most glaring” inequities between the voting rights of chapter delegations and association delegations, in accord with their membership numbers. He proposed that “the delegates of accredited associations shall have all the privileges of chapter delegates” including that of voting on questions regarding chapters. After several questions regarding wording, Senator Hart concluded his report by noting that Phi Beta Kappa does not have a Supreme Court to interpret its constitution, so the Society must periodically update its official documents to allow for efficient and effective functioning of the Society. He said that the proposed changes were not an attempt to expand the powers of the Council or the Senate or the national office, but rather were an attempt simply to establish the language needed as the Society moves into a new century and to remove a lot of old, ambiguous language.

13. President Crosson then called upon former Senator Virginia Ferris, chair of the Nominating Committee, for a part of her report. Professor Ferris thanked the other members of her committee for their assistance and placed into nomination for vice president of the Society for 2000–2003 Senator Niall W. Slater of Emory University. President Crosson asked for further nominations but there were none, and the motion was approved on voice vote. Similarly, Professor Ferris presented the name of Joseph W. Gordon of Yale University to be president of Phi Beta Kappa for 2000–2003. The committee’s proposal was adopted unanimously.

14. President Crosson then recognized Senator Burton Wheeler, chair of the Committee on Chapters, which had been formed following the 37th Council, for his report. Senator Wheeler introduced his committee and acknowledged the assistance of Barbara Howes of the Washington staff. In the style of Gilbert and Sullivan, he humorously and poetically described the problems of the committee in obtaining information about what is happening at the chapter level. This related to the annual reports from chapters which many times are late being sent in, if at all. He noted that, in the past, chapters had

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received no feedback from these reports and so felt no particular obligation to file them. This, however, has changed, with each report being read by at least two committee members, and data gathered from the reports being summarized for committee examination. From all this, over the past three years, the committee concluded that the chapters, by and large, are alive but not always well. Initiation rates have begun to improve a bit, but the committee wants to help those chapters where the conversion rates are not good; the committee wants to share information and good ideas for better programming and election follow-through. The committee's motto, Senator Wheeler suggested, was "Walk softly and carry a weak twig." He then told of several successful chapter programs and requested authorization from the Senate to begin a chapter award program. He also announced that a summary of the committee's findings and suggestions would be sent to all chapter presidents and secretaries for their use. He concluded his report by presenting a revised Model Chapter Constitution and Bylaws, noting the several minor changes in wording that would bring it into conformity with present practice and the Society's constitution. He moved its adoption by the Council. Several questions from the floor were answered, some minor corrections were accepted, and the Model Chapter Constitution and Bylaws were put to a ballot. Delegates were encouraged to attend one of several small-group sessions regarding the work of the committee.

15. Senator Eloise Clark, chair of the Committee on Qualifications, was then introduced by President Crosson for an overview of how this important committee functions and what its recommendations would be. Senator Clark introduced the members of her committee and thanked them for their effort. She then referred the delegates to page 77 of the *Delegate's Manual*, where the three-year process of chapter recommendation was described succinctly. She also invited delegates to several small-group sessions where details could be discussed and questions answered. She also requested that questions about a specific institution or about the material submitted about the institutions in the *Delegate's Manual* be submitted in writing to the headquarters office by 8:00 p.m. that evening, so that the answers could be researched from the mounds of data and materials on each institution. She then commented on the steps in the institutional review cycle, especially the two-stage application process and the subsequent site visit by a three-member team which serves to establish the veracity of the submitted report. She noted that even when an institution is not ultimately put forward as a recommended institution, the process and the resulting comments from CQ have proved to be very helpful to the applying institutions as they strive to improve to meet Phi Beta Kappa standards. Senator Clark then announced that Eckerd College would not be presented for a vote at the second plenary session. The Senate had met and recommended that the CQ recommendation on Eckerd remain on the board but be deferred because of the change in the college's senior leadership and the wish to reevaluate the stability of the institutional endowment. Reconsideration of Eckerd will be made during the next triennium. During the question and answer session, it was reported that there were 51 preliminary applications and nine site visits during the past triennium. The chair also commented briefly on the variance in write-ups on the institutions in the *Delegate's Manual*, noting that an effort is made to make them as uniform and consistent as possible without losing the individuality of the visiting teams or the institutions.

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16. President Crosson also commented briefly on the nature of the institutional application process, noting that, because Phi Beta Kappa is now dealing with colleges and universities on the rise into the top tier of institutions, some schools may apply several times before they merit a visit or get recommended for membership. Still the Society only has chapters in about 10 percent of the baccalaureate degree-granting institutions in the United States. This is the case because the Society has high standards and thresholds. He then reiterated the various committee chairs' request for participation in the small-group sessions where details and issues could be discussed prior to the plenary sessions, and that questions be submitted in writing prior to the plenary sessions where the items would come up for vote. All were invited to the evening reception at the Independent Seaport Museum sponsored by the PBK Association of the Delaware Valley; the president invited Susan Howard, administrative secretary, to give directions to that event. Several other committee meetings were also announced prior to President Crosson declaring adjournment at 11:50 a.m.

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SECOND PLENARY SESSION

October 21, 2000

17. The second plenary session was called to order by President Crosson at 9:00 a.m. He expressed thanks to the Delaware Valley Association for the wonderful hospitality shown to the Council attendees at the reception at the Seaport Museum the previous evening.

18. He called on James Lightner, chair of the Credentials Committee, for a second report. As of that morning there were now 233 delegates representing 204 chapters. Fifty-one chapters were still not represented. There were also 50 delegates representing 38 accredited associations. Fourteen associations were not yet represented. There were 19 senators and three past presidents in attendance, bringing the total voting group to 300 and 243 Phi Beta Kappa groups represented. The remaining nonvoting members brought the total attendance to 433.

19. The President then departed from the agenda to ask Secretary Foard to make a presentation. Mr. Foard noted that at the 38th Council, long-serving chapter officers had been recognized and that program has been ongoing and systematized. He reported that the recognition had been much appreciated by those receiving plaques from a college or university official to which the award had been sent for presentation. He then announced that the program had now been extended to long-serving association officers, eight of whom were present at the Council. He then called upon the chair of the Committee on Associations, Niall Slater, who presented charters to representatives of the three new associations which had recently been approved: Atlanta Association (Susan W. Carlisle), Eastern Indiana Association (James L. Pyle), and Baltimore Association (Murray Steinberg). Following this, these individuals were called forward to receive recognition as long-term association officers and to receive the appreciation of the Council delegates:

Scott Enk, Greater Milwaukee Association
Carol P. Klein, Detroit Association
Abraham Lavender, South Florida Association
Frank G. McCormick, East Central Illinois Association
Mary R. Meredith, Southwestern Louisiana Association
Marilyn Pet, Greater Hartford Alumni Association
Carol Race, Northeast Missouri Association
George Whitesel, Northeast Alabama Association.

20. President Crosson announced that the minor modifications made to the Model Chapter Constitution and Bylaws had been approved unanimously during the previous day's balloting.

21. The President then moved into the agenda, the first item for the day being the consideration of the proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws as presented to the Council by the Senate through the Policy Committee. The first part of the discussion

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would focus on all proposed amendments except for Article IV, Section 1; Article VII, Section 3; and Article 12, Section 1—for which there was a second set of amendments presented by Scott Enk of the Greater Milwaukee Association, who had spoken about them the previous day. He concluded his introductory remarks by reporting that there was still concern about the deletion of *Roberts Rules of Order* in the bylaws and that a motion to amend the bylaws reflecting that concern would be forthcoming at the third plenary session. He then invited Senator David Hart, chair of the Policy Committee, to begin the discussion.

22. Senator Hart began by asking that minor textual changes be brought to his attention in written form. He noted some other small details that had been brought to his attention and then again brought up those three items temporarily set aside for special attention later. Mr. Enk asked one procedural question concerning the variance in the proposed statements of Article IV, Section 1. Senator Hart responded that delegates would vote on each version separately. He then opened the floor for questions. Peter Grant of Trinity College, Beta of Connecticut Chapter, brought up the issue of the deleted statement mentioned earlier and was assured that no change in procedure was intended; Senator Hart replied that perhaps the item will have to be included in some form or another elsewhere. An unidentified delegate asked what a “chapter section” was and was informed that it is a historical entity that may still exist to provide for a separate group for women (or women’s colleges) related to older chapters and institutions. Dalton Krauss of Scripps College raised a question about Article III, Section 2, where the term “liberal cultural” has been deleted. Hart replied that the committee felt “scholarship in the arts and sciences” was a better fit and description for the nature of college education in America today. David H. Mills of Colby College noted that “Kybernetes” had been misspelled in the Greek. The questions concluded, the delegates were prepared to vote on the proposed changes, less those three items pulled out for special consideration. Before the voting could take place, Scott Enk again raised the issue of an appropriate majority vote, but President Crosson reminded him that that issue would be dealt with later. The balloting then began, with a few questions raised by various delegates as to which ballot to use. Once the tellers had received all the ballots on the previously discussed proposed constitutional and bylaw changes, the discussion turned to the three areas for which there were two different versions.

23. Scott Enk took the floor again to explain his versions. He noted the disparity in the number of voting delegates from chapters and associations, the lack of opportunity for association delegates to vote on all matters affecting chapters, and the difficulty in amending the constitution. He called his amendments a first incremental step toward total equality but a very important one to the associations. Senator Hart responded to each item, especially noting that the Policy Committee and the Senate both agreed that there are times when the concern of chapters is different from the concern of associations; this is true in the superintendence of errant chapters because this directly affects the election of members in course and puts a special obligation on the chapters to take appropriate steps when necessary. With regard to the process of amending the constitution, the

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present practice seems to allow for considerable latitude for individuals or delegations to suggest amendments for consideration and for “testing the waters.”

24. After some questions about numbering and congruity between the two versions were answered, discussion followed. Hilda Fisher of Goucher College questioned the meaning of “next preceding session” which was interpreted to mean “the last Council.” John Donor from UC Santa Barbara raised the problem of how to vote on the different proposals. Senator Wheeler commented on the concept of democratic representation in the Society, noting that the chapters have three delegates regardless of their size. Philip Benkard from the Scarsdale-Westchester Association remarked that “next preceding” is oxymoronic and suggested using the word “last” in reference to the Council meeting. Mr. Enk agreed. Robert L. Patten from Rice University questioned the use of the word “session” if it is understood to mean Council meeting. The distinction between chartered and accredited associations was also brought up. Howard Krukofsky from Hunter College commented on the two-thirds principle for amendments. Alan Gaylord of Dartmouth College concluded the discussion with several comments about the good works of the associations and the need to include association members on more committees. Following his remarks, President Crosson called time and explained the rather complicated voting process. After several more questions and clarifications, the delegates voted on separate ballots for the two proposals.

25. After a brief recess, the President invited Senator Eloise Clark to the stage for a report of the Committee on Qualifications. Senator Clark introduced the other members of her committee: Solomon Gartenhaus (Purdue University), Kurt Olsson (University of Idaho), Sandra Birch (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Don Wyatt (Middlebury College), Paul Lukacs (Loyola College in Maryland), Ira Fischler (University of Florida), Alonzo Hamby (Ohio University), Leslie Butler (Louisiana State University), Catherine Berheide (Skidmore College), Allison Blakely (Howard University), Helena Wall (Pomona College), and David Gutsche (Texas Christian University).

Senator Clark commented on the vast amount of material provided by each institution which must be carefully reviewed in considering eligibility for a chapter. She also thanked the delegates for the questions and suggestions that had been submitted, and she assured the Council that the various suggestions and concerns would be taken under advisement. In turning to the specific applications before the Council, she assured the delegates that each had met the basic criteria expected of a Phi Beta Kappa institution, and while each institution has its special character, she felt they were all deserving of favorable consideration. Her committee colleagues who chaired each visiting team then reported to the Council on the findings of their site visits to the eight campuses being recommended in their report for 2000. In each case, the chair of the team commented on what the team had found and called upon his or her colleagues for further remarks. In the end, eight new chapters were proposed by the Senate (after hearing the Committee’s report) for Phi Beta Kappa charters. They were Auburn University, Austin College, Eckerd College, Florida International University, Illinois Wesleyan University, St.

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Joseph's University (Philadelphia), Truman State University, and the University of Mississippi. The chair reminded the delegates that Eckerd College's application had been temporarily withdrawn and thus no report would be given and no vote would be taken on the application at this time.

In the discussion period that followed, questions were focused on each school, one at a time. An unidentified delegate commented on the rising salaries at Auburn and improving state budgets to do so. Robert L. Patten from Rice University asked about the graduation rate at Auburn and learned that it was about 66%. Someone asked about the graduation rates at the University of Mississippi and was told that the percentage is in the low 50s, perhaps because there are more first-generation college students and many also work part time, skewing the five-year graduation rate. Barbara N. Bono from SUNY at Buffalo commented favorably on one of her graduate student's experience when she interviewed at Auburn and found a very lively curricular movement. This was verified by the visiting team chair. Sandra O. Gordon from Goucher College asked whether the Auburn Board of Trustees had already made changes or were only planning for them. The answer was that several of the changes were constitutional and were expected to be confirmed by ballot in November 2000. A second question about the percentage of students going on to graduate school led to a brief discussion of how to compare statistics and how to present them in a meaningful way. Peter E. Wagner of SUNY at Binghamton inquired about non-western studies in the undergraduate curricula of several institutions. At Auburn the committee reported being impressed with the number of interdisciplinary courses involving non-western subjects.

Robert L. Patten, Rice University, raised a question about the 11 Phi Beta Kappa members at Austin College, some of whom are not tenured. The response from the committee was that there was one emerita Phi Beta Kappa faculty still very active and another new Phi Beta Kappa faculty member was added this year. They were comfortable that the minimum of 10 (more than 10% of the faculty) would maintain. Eddie Eitches from the District of Columbia Association asked about the 43 schools that were not recommended for chapters this triennium, the issues of diversity on the campuses, and the presence of a faculty union at Florida International. He was informed that other campuses also have faculty unions, and that all the schools were striving for more diversity, which is encouraged by Phi Beta Kappa. In reference to the non-recommended schools, Senator Clark promised some statement about them in future reports. Sandra O. Gordon was concerned about the student-faculty ratio at Truman State being 25-1/2 to 1 but was assured that within the College of Arts and Sciences the ratio is much more favorable with no class of more than 16 students. Mary E. Sperry from the District of Columbia Association commented on the Catholic Church mandate regarding doctrine and that it does not impinge upon academic freedom. Sandra O. Gordon commented that St. Joseph's University spent on athletics about 1-1/2 times what was spent on the library and questioned these priorities.

26. The question and answer session was brought to a close and President Crosson thanked the committee for its hard work. He reminded the delegates that the voting on

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chapters was by delegation and that Eckerd was no longer to be considered among the nominees. The balloting was completed and the tellers retired. The President then invited Virginia Ferris, chair of the Council Nominating Committee, to give her report.

27. Ms. Ferris noted that there would be three different ballots, one for Senators-at-Large (a delegation vote), a second for District Senators (a delegation vote), and a third for Council Nominating Committee (an individual vote). She then commented on the nomination process, which begins with several solicitations in *The Key Reporter* and through letters to chapters and associations. Distinction, excellence, and achievement on a national level are the criteria used to evaluate candidates. Many nominees come from academic institutions, but the committee seeks nominees from outside academia. She then read the list of nominations for the various offices.

Candidates for Senator-at-Large for 2000–2006:

Bruce R. Barrett (University of Arizona)
Catherine Berheide (Skidmore College)
John Birkelund (Princeton University)
Allison Blakely (Howard University)
Eloise Clark (Bowling Green State University)
Patricia A. Graham (Harvard University)
Werner Gundersheimer (Folger Shakespeare Library)
Michael S. Harper (Brown University)
Judith Krug (American Library Association in Chicago)
Lawrence Lipking (Northwestern University)
Kurt Olsson (University of Idaho)
Robert L. Patten (Rice University)
Niall Slater (Emory University)
Peter Stansky (Stanford University)
Burton Wheeler (Washington University)

Candidates for District Senator for 2000–2006:

New England District

Don Wyatt (Middlebury College)
Louis Guenin (Harvard Medical School)

South Atlantic District

Harvey Klehr (Emory University)
John Kuykendall (Davidson College)

South Central District

Charles H. Adams (University of Arkansas)
John Churchill (Hendrix College)

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Candidates for Council Nominating Committee for 2000–2006:

Frederick Crosson (University of Notre Dame)
Claire Gaudiani (Connecticut College)
Neil Harris (University of Chicago)
David W. Hart (University of Arkansas)
Freeman Hrabowski (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)
Stephen Joel Trachtenberg (George Washington University)

President Crosson clarified the reason that the nominees for Senator-at-Large included Niall Slater. (It was acknowledged that Joseph Gordon's name should also have been included in the list of nominees and then removed once he was elected president.) Since Slater had been elected vice president and automatically becomes a Senator, his name is no longer in contention and delegates would vote for only seven senators.

At this point a delegate put into nomination from the floor for Senator-at-Large the name of Arline Bronzaft, professor emerita, City University of New York, Phi Beta Kappa, Hunter College, 1955. Other credentials were read which included being chair of the Phi Beta Kappa Conference of Association Delegates, 1985–1997. It was also noted that the South Central District had the previous day unanimously endorsed the principle of diversity of affiliations in all elections.

Scott Littleton from Occidental College put into nomination for Senator-at-Large the name of Merrill B. Shattuck, district chair of the Western District of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Beta Kappa, Brown University, 1948. He is founder of M. B. Shattuck and Associates in San Francisco. His other credentials were also read.

President Crosson then noted that on the yellow ballot the two new names should be added—Arline Bronzaft and Merrill Shattuck—and directed the delegates to begin the voting process. This was interrupted by a comment by Dalton Krauss of Scripps College who noted that there were very few women candidates; he recalled that 60% of our members are women and wondered why there were so few qualified women candidates. Committee Chair Ferris strongly requested nominations of high-quality people of great diversity. Another observation was made that fewer than half of the nominees had shown any participation in Phi Beta Kappa prior to their nomination. It was suggested that the committee try to nominate people for the Senate and the Nominating Committee who have demonstrated an ability to serve on the Senate by having participated in the group as a committee member or chapter officer. Scott Enk also commented that with 90% of the Phi Beta Kappas not in the academic world, it is indefensible to nominate for offices virtually everyone from the academic world. He promised to submit a constitutional amendment the next day that would address this inequity.

28. With the balloting completed and details of the evening's activities explained, the President declared the session adjourned at noon.

SMALL-GROUP SESSIONS

Friday, October 20

Session One: 1:30–3:00 p.m.

- a. *“The Committee on Qualifications: How It Works”*
- b. *“How to Improve Membership Acceptance Rates”*
- c. *“Moral Character as a Membership Criterion”*
- d. *“Proposed Amendments to the Society’s Constitution and Bylaws”*
- e. *“Meet the Editor: Anne Fadiman of The American Scholar”*
- f. *“Models of Chapter-Association Collaboration”*
- g. *“The Senate Committee on Chapters: Monitoring Chapter Vitality”*
- h. *“Directions in Cyberspace for Phi Beta Kappa”*
- i. *“Phi Beta Kappa and the World of Commerce”*
- j. *“Automated Methods of Facilitating Membership Selection”*
- k. *“Transfer Students, Branch Campuses and Distance Learning: Considerations for Chapters”*
- l. *“Fundraising Approaches for Affiliates”*
- m. *“Present and Future Collaboration with the National Honor Society”*

Moderator

- Eloise Clark
- Pauline Yu
- Helen North
- David Hart
- Werner Gundersheimer
- Joseph Devine
- Burton Wheeler
- Marjorie Bjornstad
- Gerald Alexanderson
- Marlyn Spelman
- Frederick Schult
- Judith Krug
- Douglas Foard

Panelists

- Committee on Qualifications
- Thomas Wentworth, Thomas Minnick, Kathy French
- Patricia Dimenti, Eric Nye, Jane Flood, Michael Burke
- Frederick Crosson, Joseph Gordon, Niall Slater, Paul Conkin
- Anne Fadiman, Catharine Stimpson
- Virginia Hornak, Richard Elling, Jay Freyman
- Nan Coppock-Bland, Barbara Howes, Jim Lightner, James Lusardi, Mary Thompson
- Amanda Boone, John King: PSI Consulting, Doug Macdonald: Harris Publishing
- Gordon Weil, Morris Nunes, Douglas McCabe, Madeline Glick
- Kurt Miller, Peter Quimby, Kate Lehman
- Alonzo Hamby, Lynne Fontana, Rod Risley: Phi Theta Kappa
- Christopher Abelt, Susan Fedel, Joe Fiochetta: MGI
- David Cordts: NHS, Clifford Brooks

Session Two: 3:15–4:45p.m.

- a. *“Phi Beta Kappa as a Champion of Liberal Learning”*
- b. *“How to Improve Membership Acceptance Rates”*
- c. *“The Senate Committee on Chapters: Monitoring Chapter Vitality”*
- d. *“Automated Methods of Facilitating Membership Selection”*

Moderator

- John Churchill
- Pauline Yu
- Burton Wheeler
- Marlyn Spelman

Panelists

- Frederick Crosson, Peter Stansky, Kate Soule, Charles Blaiche
- Thomas Wentworth, Thomas Minnick, Kathy French
- Nan Coppock-Bland, Barbara Howes, Jim Lightner, James Lusardi, Mary Thompson, Morris Nunes
- Kurt Miller, Peter Quimby, Kate Lehman

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| e. <i>“Transfer Students, Branch Campuses and Distance Learning: Considerations for Chapters”</i> | Frederick Schult | Alonzo Hamby, Lynne Fontana, Rod Risley: Phi Theta Kappa |
| f. <i>“Keys and Other Membership Items: A Dialogue with Hand & Hammer”</i> | Jim Lightner | Chip deMatteo: Hand & Hammer |
| g. <i>“The State of Institutional Support for Existing Chapters: Some Possibilities for Enhancing It”</i> | Kurt Olsson | Roger Nelson, Philip Johnson, Jenny Best |
| h. <i>“Increasing Chapter Visibility on Campus: Some Successful Initiatives”</i> | Mary Lynne Flowers | Marion Bickford, Jeff Neslen, Eleanor McCrickard, Earl Edmondson |
| i. <i>“The Committee on Qualifications: How It Works”</i> | Eloise Clark | Committee on Qualifications |

Saturday, October 21

Session Three: 2:30–4:00 p.m.

- a. *“Plans for Observing the Society’s 225th Anniversary”*
- b. *“Models of Chapter-Association Collaboration”*
- c. *“Directions in Cyberspace for Phi Beta Kappa”*
- d. *“Present and Future Collaboration with the National Honor Society”*
- e. *“Techniques of Retaining and Expanding Association Membership”*
- f. *“The National Office: How Does It Operate? How Could It Better Serve the Society?”*
- g. *“Meet the Editor: Priscilla Taylor of The Key Reporter”*

Moderator

- Joseph Gordon
- Arline Bronzaft
- Marjorie Bjornstad
- Douglas Foard
- Theopolis Fair
- Gordon Weil
- Gerald Alexanderson

Panelists

- Audrey David, John Moore, Susan Howard
- Virginia Hornak, Richard Elling, Jay Freyman
- Amanda Boone, John King: PSI Consulting, Doug Macdonald: Harris Publishing, Rod Risley: Phi Theta Kappa
- David Cordts: National Honor Society, Clifford Brooks
- Mary Hanel, Lois Urban, Judi Strauss-Lipkin
- Kathy Navascués, Barbara Howes, Cameron Curtis, Doris Lawrence, Chip deMatteo: Hand & Hammer
- Priscilla Taylor, Judith Krug, Niall Slater

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COUNCIL BANQUET
October 21, 2000

The 39th Triennial Council banquet was held on the evening of Saturday, October 21, in the Society Hill Ballroom of the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel. Natalie Zemon Davis was awarded the Sidney Hook Memorial Award, which underwrites a lecture at the Council banquet by a distinguished teacher and scholar. Her lecture appears below.

Heroes, Heroines, and Friendship

By Natalie Zemon Davis

Henry Charles Lea Professor of History Emerita

Columbia University

I am honored, indeed, and very moved to be presented the Sidney Hook Memorial Award by the Senate of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. I am honored as I think of how much the Phi Beta Kappa Society has done to further the liberal arts and their transmission in America. I am honored as I think of those who have preceded me as recipients of the Hook Award—Leon Lederman, John Hope Franklin, and Carolyn Heilbrun—and what pioneers they have been in their fields and what support they have given to humane values. And I am moved when I think of that Smith College undergraduate back in 1948—I was called “Bunny Zemon” in those days—who was so overwhelmed at being inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and who did not dream that she would one day stand before the Society to be honored once again.

Sidney Hook came into my life for the first time that same Phi Beta Kappa year. Reading for the honors course in historiography, I devoured Hook’s 1943 book *The Hero in History*, along with Plekhanov’s *Role of the Individual in History* and writings by Karl Marx, Max Weber, and Giambattista Vico. For Hook, this book was his effort to show the limits of any kind of historical determinism, Hegelian, Spencerian, or Marxist. The contingent could make a real difference. The past had many examples of “event-making” leaders, as he called them—men and even a few women—whose beliefs, character, and decisions had an effect on what happened independent of whatever social or group interest he or she might serve: “without meeting some social and group interests—economic, national, psychological—the hero cannot influence historical events; but he meets them in such a way that he always retains a considerable degree of freedom in choosing which interests to further and which to suppress or weaken.”¹

Hook liked this possibility for event-making actions, because it allowed one to think about choice in history, to speculate on “lost chances” and “might-have-beens” in the past. But he also thought that political heroes brought their dangers to a democracy. So long as a hero wins support by “the patient methods of education” and reasonable goals, democratic processes can be sustained. But the temptations to demagoguery and usurpation are strong, and the majority of citizens can be tricked. The best heroes for a democracy, he concluded, are its intellectual leaders and teachers, those who can educate citizens toward appropriate ideals and attitudes.²

¹ Sidney Hook, *The Hero in History* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1995, 1st ed. 1943), 169.

² Hook, *Hero*, chaps. 7, 11.

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Sidney Hook's vision of heroes of thought fits well with the hopes and fears of Phi Beta Kappa senators of those years in the early 1940s. Liberal education, said Senator Frank Aydelotte, developed "the freedom of the mind," the "very foundation of our democracy." Its "perversion . . . into propaganda," said Senator Christian Gauss, led to totalitarian regimes. The exact content of liberal studies was controversial—defined differently by Sidney Hook, his mentor John Dewey, and the senators among themselves—but the role of intellectual leaders in maintaining a free society was affirmed.³

As for me, over the years since reading Hook's *Hero in History*, I have searched for the possibilities in human action in another direction. Rather than kings, queens, and revolutionary leaders, I have been examining the choices and decisions of persons often constructed only as "followers" or as acted upon—artisans, peasants, city women, and more recently slaves. (I have certainly not been alone in such an enterprise: John Hope Franklin's recent book with Loren Schwenger on *Runaway Slaves*, Rolena Adorno's studies of Mexican and Peruvian writers of mixed descent, and Sarah Hanley's publications on wives and mothers in patriarchal families of Old Regime France have similar heroes and heroines in their pages.)⁴ The lives of such people were shaped by their society, its structures of prestige and power, and its patterns of work and family. Their understandings of their world were drawn from traditions, information, and forms of argument and communication around them; concepts of what we call "self" and "choice" and "duty" and other important categories were influenced by the vocabulary, teaching, and relations of the time. Such shaping processed set limits to lives in the past, but they also provided the props, tools, and practices by which people made choices, tried to figure out their world and to weave a future for themselves. Sometimes these choices became "event-making," in Sidney Hook's phrase, that is, sources of place distant from the recognized centers of power and learning.

Think of Katharina Zell, daughter of a woodworker of Strasbourg and wife of a Lutheran reformer. In her theological writings of the 1550s, she moved the command to love one's neighbor to the center of Protestant doctrine, as important as the belief in justification by faith. Think of Noel Journet, one-time soldier and then school teacher in a village of Lorraine, who talked to his cronies in the 1580s about how the Bible is but "fables, dreams, and lies" and how he planned to write a book about a new faith and a God that is not cruel. Like Carlo Ginzburg's famous miller Menocchio in the hills of Friuli, who believed that the world emerged from chaos and that "each person holds his faith to be right, but we do not know which is the right one," Journet was responsible for a ferment of rural discussion on topics well beyond the everyday needs of crops and families.⁵

³ Richard Nelson Current, *The Role of Phi Beta Kappa in American Life* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1990), 244–45.

⁴ John Hope Franklin and Loren Schwenger, *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999); Rolena Adorno, *Guaman Poma: Writing and Resistance in Colonial Peru* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1986) and "The 'indio ladino' as historian," in Stuart B. Schwartz, *Implicit Understandings* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994, 378–402); Sarah Hanley, title to be added

⁵ Elsie Anne McKee, *Katharina Schütz Zell: The Life and Thought of a Sixteenth-Century Reformer*, 2 vols. (Leiden: Brill, 1999), vol. 1, chap. 10. François Barriot, "Hétérodoxie religieuse et utopie politique dans les 'erreurs étranges' de Noël Journet" (1582), *Bulletin de la Société de l'histoire du protestantisme français*, 124 (1978): 236–48. Carlo Ginzburg, *The Cheese and the Worm: The Cosmos of a Sixteenth-Century Miller*, trans. John and Anne Tedeschi (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1980).

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And think of Marie Teyssonier, born into a Protestant urban family in Valence, who converted to Catholicism in the early seventeenth century and embarked on a life of visions, healing, and successful political activism on behalf of the town elite. Her visions concerned the lives, health, and marriages of her fellow citizens and the religious status of the ex-Protestant King Henri IV in the next world. She was listened to and followed both at home and at court.⁶

In all such cases, the innovator was not cut off from ideas and models from earlier or more learned traditions or from more famous reformers. For instance, Marie Teyssonier may have been influenced by the autobiography of Saint Teresa, but her way of realizing the mystical calling in the busy streets and households of Valence was strikingly different from that of the cloistered nun of Avila. Rather than regarding local culture and innovation as simply an adaptation of ideas that come in from central traditions and celebrated figures, we can envision exchange and mixture in cultural action, with so-called “margins” and “centers” both contributing. Such a view is one that François Rabelais and Michel de Montaigne would have found appealing. Immensely learned in classical letters, they quoted and made reference to them often, but their works also described the predicaments in the everyday life of city folk and villagers, and popular lore, festivity, language, and humor. In the case of Rabelais, the literary structure of his novel was in part inspired by festive and story-telling forms shared across social boundaries: the carnival and the quest across the seas.

I would like now to consider a mixed feature of historical life made up of elements both classical and popular, both liberal and instrumental, and ask how it might bear upon present-day concerns of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. I am thinking of friendship. Back in the late eighteenth century, when my husband’s great-great grandfather Aaron Bancroft was among the first students inducted into the Alpha of Massachusetts Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the star of friendship burned brightly in the Society. It was informed by a long tradition of writing on male friendship, going back to Aristotle and Cicero; by the elite loyalties of a sodality that described itself as having “secrets”; and by the heady notions of enlightenment and revolutionary “fraternity.” It was institutionalized, so we learn from Richard Current’s fine study of Phi Beta Kappa, by secret voting procedures requiring unanimity for new members and by “the promise of assisting a brother in life or fortune.” (I would love to know whether Aaron Bancroft got that support from Harvard; he founded one of the first Unitarian churches in America and endured much criticism for it.)

After the 1840s, when Phi Beta Kappa became primarily an honor society, “friendship” remained as one of its mottoes but not as a significant sensibility among the members. The promise of assistance was no longer made; scholarly performance became the criterion for election. In 1831, when it was proposed at Harvard that new members be elected with less than unanimous support, John Quincy Adams railed against it, saying that if it passed “everything having reference to *friendship* as being one of the objects of the institution should be expunged, leaving it a mere literary society.” Henceforth, emulation for high academic rank would be the

⁶ Cynthia Cupples, “*Âmes d’Élite: Visionaries and Politics in France from the Holy Catholic League to St. Louis XIV*” (Ph.D. diss., Princeton University, 1999), chaps. 1–3.

spirit that took one into the Society; once a member, group spirit sprang from shared distinction and paled into the bonhomie of the annual dinner with its oration.⁷

One of those nineteenth-century orators has left us his thoughts of friendship. For Ralph Waldo Emerson, who delivered a celebrated oration on “The American Scholar” to the Harvard chapter in 1837, the annual Phi Beta Kappa dinner was simply “a friendly sign of the survival of the love of letters amongst a people too busy to give to letters any more.” When he came to write his essay on “Friendship,” he spoke disdainfully of “worldly alliances” with “dinners at the best of taverns.” The services of friendship—gifts, help in time of sickness and need—Emerson depreciated as a kind of civic virtue, useful but lacking the feeling of true friends. Friendship was diluted as a group practice; Emerson constructed it as an intimate relation between two men, a relation of complete openness and sincerity and of tender love.⁸

Similarly, William James, an honorary member of Phi Beta Kappa in 1873, also separated true friendship from a group setting. Five years before, James was a lonely scholar in Berlin not long out of Harvard, and wrote an affectionate and charming letter to his classmate Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. (Phi Beta Kappa 1861), back home among his law books. How James would love to talk the night through with Holmes. How he “feel[s] the want of some outward stimulus to [his] Soul.” “Believe me, my Wendly boy, what poor possibility of friendship abides in the crazy frame of W. J. meanders about thy neighborhood.”

James then makes a proposal, perhaps just a joke, which illustrates the contrast between his alliance with his friend and the competitive tension expected in a wider group of peers:

When I get home let’s establish a philosophical society to have regular meetings and discuss none but the very tallest and the broadest questions—to be composed of none but the very topmost cream of Boston manhood. It will give each one a chance to air his own opinion in a grammatical form, and to sneer and chuckle when he goes home at what damned fools all the other members are. . .⁹

In 1903, when James received an honorary degree from Harvard, he said he took it as “a token of personal good will among friends.” But he paid tribute not to “club loyalty” and not to “animal feeling for old schoolmates,” but rather to the “inner spiritual Harvard,” with its “atomistic constitution” and “tolerance of exceptionality,” which gave support to its “more truth-seeking and independent and often very solitary sons.”¹⁰

Under the pressure of a competitive world, *fraternitas* was losing its force as a group practice among these nineteenth-century men of letters, even while intimate exchange between

⁷ Richard Nelson Current, *Phi Beta Kappa in American Life: The First Two Hundred Years* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990), chap. 4.

⁸ Current, *Phi Beta Kappa*, 68. Ralph Waldo Emerson, “The American Scholar” and “Friendship” in *The Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson* (New York: Walter J. Black, n.d.), 555–68, 146–58.

⁹ William James to Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. Berlin 3 January 1868 in Eudora Welty and Ronald A. Sharp, eds., *The Norton Book of Friendship* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1991), 387–88.

¹⁰ William James, *Essays, Comments, and Reviews*, ed. Frederick H. Burkhardt (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1987), 74–77.

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two friends was strengthened and celebrated. But there are other ways of constructing the bonds of friendship that can be more resistant to the erosion of competition. I am thinking of the practices and rhetoric of women's friendships in the nineteenth century. Here there was no expressive tradition stretching back to the days of antiquity. Sappho's poetry was not yet widely known and indeed, in the early modern period, she was as often described as a lover of men as of women. In Cicero's famous treatise, the friendship extolled was between two fellow statesmen and soldiers; in Montaigne's essay, between himself and his beloved fellow judge La Boetie. It was a remarkable experiment when, in Montaigne's later years, he struck up a friendship with a young literary woman named Marie de Gournay—"a very holy friendship," he said, "a kind of friendship to whose heights we do not read that her sex has yet been able to rise." Gournay and Montaigne structured the relation as that of "father" to "daughter by alliance," thus getting around the awkward problems of inequality and sexual attraction. After Montaigne's death, Gournay became his literary executor and called herself his "friend," with a "perfect knowledge of this great soul."¹¹

Friendships among women outside of one's sisters and cousins were not going to develop in the early modern period in university lecture rooms or judiciary halls, though they might flower at a royal court or in a salon. Close women's friendships often got their start at the secondary schools that were beginning to spread for girls from well-off families in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Poetry and correspondence began to appear with a language for female friendship that drew upon the classical tradition but recast it in distinctive ways with more tenderness and enthusiasm. The English poet Katherine Philips writes to Mary Awbrey:

Soul of my soul, my Joy, My Crown, my Friend,
A name which all the rest doth comprehend . . .
I have no thought but what's to thee reveal'd,
Nor thou desire that is from me conceal'd . . .
Thou shed'st no tear but what my moisture lent,
And if I sigh, it is thy breath is spent.

And in the 1850s, Emily Dickinson writes to her friend Susan Gilbert, "Thank you for my dear letter, which came on Saturday night, when all the world was still; thank you the love it bore me, and for its golden thoughts, and feelings so like gems, that I was sure I *gathered* them in whole baskets of pearls." Dickinson thinks of Susan's visit five months hence: "Oh Susie, I often think that I will try to tell you how very dear you are, and how I'm watching for you, but the words wont come, tho' *tears* will, and I sit down disappointed—yet darling, you know it all—then why do I seek to tell you?"¹²

Friendships among women that extended over a larger circle would be rooted in neighborhood grouping of one kind or another, associated with work or family matters. Friendly sentiments might grow among women in religious sisterhoods, charitable associations, and

¹¹ Michel de Montaigne, *Essais*, 2:27 in *Oeuvres complètes*, ed. Maurice Rat (Paris: Gallimard, 1962), p. 645. François Rigolot, "Préface de Marie de Gournay à l'édition de 1595 des *Essais*," *Montaigne Studies*, 1 (November 1989), 34, 51.

¹² Welty and Sharp, eds., *Friendship*, 152–53, 262–63.

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literary societies. Though such voluntary groups were numerous, none of them had the form or structure of the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Whether intimate or spread through a wider circle, these friendships were all sustained by practices of exchange: gifts, assistance, care during childbirth and illness, and visits at every turn in the life cycle.¹³ Equivalent practices of friendship and mutual favors were part of men's friendship in earlier centuries, though Montaigne thought that the purest relations, such as his with La Boetie, were "beyond gifts, beyond benefits." Similar exchanges of favors among male friends were going on in Emerson's day as well, but we have just heard him reduce them to useful services that missed the heights of friendly love.

Such doubts seem to me most unlikely in the circles of female friendship in nineteenth-century America, either small or large. The practices and gifts of friendship were thought to sustain true feeling rather than undermine it. And I would like to speculate that such practices moderated the impact of competitiveness among friends—certainly a strong impulse among women—and allowed sentiment to remain diffused in group life. (A similar kind of argument might be made about the practices of exchange and friendship in immigrant circles in the United States in the late nineteenth century.)

If there was this contrast between men and women in their friendship practices and group affection, can it be found between the all-female Phi Beta Kappa chapters in the early years of the twentieth century (Vassar chartered in 1899, Pembroke in 1900, Wellesley and Smith in 1904, and so on) and the all-male chapters of the same period? What was the fate of friendship in the coeducational chapters in their early years of electing women? And then in 1916 and afterward, when (as Richard Current has told us) concern was expressed by some Council members about the greater number of women than men being elected to Phi Beta Kappa? What style did women adopt when they became members of a prestigious honor society?

I have described the language and practices of female friendship in the nineteenth century not as a blueprint for Phi Beta Kappa but as a way that we might think about friendship today—in the society of Phi Beta Kappa, on our campuses, and in the communities around our associations. In the moving conclusion to his 1997 speech to the 38th Triennial Council meeting, Dennis O'Brien said, "Phi Beta Kappa may no longer begin with gentlemanly 'friendship,' but it does espouse a deep friendship of all the generations of scholars, those morally committed to the conversation and critique that great traditions demand for their preservation and further life."¹⁴ Can we think also about what friendship might mean as a present-day ideal, and the communities which it hopes to influence? (I think we got an inkling of this today in Kurt Olsson's account of the "cooperative spirit" at Illinois Wesleyan University and in the activities described in the handbill of the Delaware Valley Association of Phi Beta Kappa.) How might friendship be redefined and sustained in the diverse, competitive, angry, and exciting campuses that we know?

¹³ Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, "The Female World of Love and Ritual: Relations between Women in Nineteenth-Century America," in *Disorderly Conduct: Visions of Gender in Victorian America* (New York: Knopf, 1985), 53–76.

¹⁴ "Liberal Education: The Role of Phi Beta Kappa," *Phi Beta Kappa Bulletin*. 38th Triennial Council Meeting (1997), 31.

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What sense of exchange and care might it engender to deepen the quest for liberal learning in all its forms? We are still summoned by the third star in the Phi Beta Kappa constellation.

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THIRD PLENARY SESSION

October 22, 2000

29. President Crosson called the third plenary session to order at 9:00 a.m.

30. James Lightner, chair of the Credentials Committee, was then recognized to present that body's final report. At the Council's conclusion, he stated, there were 243 voting delegates representing 206 chapters. There were also 52 voting delegates representing 40 chartered associations. Also attending were 19 senators and 3 past presidents, giving a total voting membership of 332. With the 165 nonvoting members (alternates, nondelegates, district officers, and committee members) also in attendance, the 39th Council brought together 477 persons from 246 different Phi Beta Kappa affiliates. He also expressed his thanks to Cameron Curtis and Amanda Boone of the Phi Beta Kappa staff for their help in sorting out the figures and to the committee members Barbara Carter, Kurt May, and Marilyn Pet for their support.

31. President Crosson then recognized Frederick Parrella, chief teller, who reported the results of the previous day's balloting and thanked the tellers who worked hard to count the various ballots. The Policy Committee's recommendations to amend the Constitution had passed by a four-to-one margin. The Enk recommendation was defeated by something less than a majority.

The district senators elected were:

Don J. Wyatt (New England District)
Harvey E. Klehr (South Atlantic District)
Charles H. Adams (South Central District)

For the office of senator at large, the following were elected to serve:

Catherine W. Berheide
Allison Blakely
Arline Bronzaft
Eloise E. Clark
Werner L. Gundersheimer
Judith F. Krug
Burton M. Wheeler

Bruce R. Barrett was also elected for a three-year term to replace Margaret Geller.

Elected to serve for six years were four new members of the Council Nominating Committee:

Frederick J. Crosson
Claire L. Gaudiani
Neil Harris
David W. Hart

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President Crosson thanked the tellers for their many hours of work and led a congratulatory round of applause for those elected.

32. The President then noted that the newly revised Constitution was now in effect and that the Council was now operating under the new rules. He then called upon Douglas McCabe of Georgetown University, Delta of the District of Columbia Chapter, for a report from the Council Finance Committee, the committee which examines the Treasurer's report, the budget, and all financial matters to be considered by the Council. McCabe, who noted that he had served as chair of the committee for three Council meetings, introduced the other members of his committee and then reported that the income statement and balance sheet were reasonable and appropriate for a respectable nonprofit organization of this size. The number of donors and contributions had increased over the triennium, and information provided to the Executive Committee of the Society had improved since the previous Council meeting. All in all, the Society seemed to be in good financial shape. The committee made five observations concerning the Phi Beta Kappa Foundation: The Foundation is paying normal and customary management fees for the investments, the overall asset allocation looks quite reasonable, the Foundation's assets are professionally managed through a variety of mutual funds (a vast improvement over the previous triennium), most of the fund managers did fairly well in their respective segments with one exception, and the layout of the Effron report should be improved to report a summary page with important information about value-added. He concluded by noting the committee was pleased to learn that the Society was seriously considering incorporating advice of legal counsel. The President asked whether there were any questions, there were none, and the report was accepted.

33. President Crosson then made a few remarks about his three-year term as president, noting that it involved more hard work than he had imagined. But, he said, "It has been a privilege . . . to serve as the President of Phi Beta Kappa and to work with so many people who are dedicated to its goals." He went on to challenge the Society to promote and to fight for its goals whenever they are threatened. He then turned the gavel over to the new president, Joseph W. Gordon of Yale University.

34. President Gordon thanked President Crosson and commented that Frederick Crosson represented the Society in a truly stellar way: "He's a champion of learning and of liberal arts and sciences in this country. He has shown himself to have extraordinary strength of character and moral purpose. And . . . he has been a friend to all of us." President Gordon then went on to thank the national office staff for their support as well as all those who volunteer their time on behalf of the Society. He also thanked those who served on the Senate during the past triennium, those who participated in the forums and breakout sessions, those who arranged the receptions and meals, the various Council committees, and all those who allowed their names to be placed on the ballot. He led a round of applause for all these fine people.

35. Former Senator Judith Sebesta was then recognized to give the report of the Resolutions Committee. She thanked her committee colleagues and then presented the first resolution:

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Resolution One

Whereas, the Delaware Valley Phi Beta Kappa Association has graciously hosted the 39th Council by providing information and assistance to chapter and association delegates; and Whereas, the Delaware Valley Phi Beta Kappa Association has gloriously feted the 39th Council at the Independent Seaport Museum; Be it therefore resolved that the delegates of the 39th Triennial Council express a sincere appreciation to the Delaware Valley Phi Beta Kappa Association for its warm hospitality and friendship that have exemplified both the City of Brotherly Love and the friendship valued by Phi Beta Kappa, and that the delegates also thank the Independent Seaport Museum for its welcome.

Resolution Two

Whereas, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology welcomed the delegates of the 39th Triennial Council to its halls filled with the glorious treasures of civilizations past and present; and Whereas, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology provided tours to highlight its collections; Be it therefore resolved that the delegates of the 39th Council express a sincere appreciation to the Museum for the opportunity to further their understanding of these civilizations.

Resolution Three

Whereas, under the leadership of Douglas Foard, the whole staff of the national headquarters, especially Susan Howard, has worked tirelessly to organize the 39th Triennial Council meeting in Philadelphia; and Whereas, because of their combined skill, devoted service, and long hours of work, even until 3:00 a.m., the Council has gloriously and successfully concluded its work; Be it therefore resolved that the delegates to the 39th Council express their deep and sincere appreciation for their unstinting efforts.

Resolution Four

Whereas, Johnetta Cole has served a brief term on the Phi Beta Kappa Senate; and Whereas, in that time, she has helped to expand the Society's mission and broaden its horizons; and Whereas, she assumed leadership in a widely broadcast discussion of the organization's utility; Be it therefore resolved that the 39th Triennial Council celebrates the distinction she has brought to the Phi Beta Kappa Society by her participation in the highest councils of its leadership.

Resolution Five

Whereas, Rita F. Dove is completing her six-year term as Phi Beta Kappa senator; and Whereas, she has served with distinction on the Publications Committee during her term; and Whereas, she has demonstrated wisdom and leadership in the selection of a new editor for *The American Scholar*; and Whereas, she has throughout her tenure sustained the highest standards of liberal learning while simultaneously being the United States Poet Laureate; Be it therefore resolved that the 39th Council of Phi Beta Kappa expresses its gratitude to Rita F. Dove for her significant service to the Society and its publications.

Resolution Six

Whereas, Eugen Weber is completing his second term as Phi Beta Kappa senator; and Whereas, he has throughout that time accepted the Senate's appointment to the Special Awards Committee and the Publications Committee; and Whereas, he has also been a member of the Editorial Board

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of *The American Scholar* as well as a frequent contributor to that journal; and Whereas, he has diligently served the Society while simultaneously serving as Professor of Modern European History and sometime dean at the University of California, Los Angeles; Be it therefore resolved that this 39th Council of Phi Beta Kappa expresses its sincere appreciation to Eugen Weber for his conscientious and significant contributions to Phi Beta Kappa and its publications.

At this point in the reading of resolutions, the committee chair, needing to catch a plane, turned the microphone over to committee member Howard Krukofsky, who continued with the resolutions:

Resolution Seven

Whereas, Frederick J. Crosson is concluding his term as President of Phi Beta Kappa and his 18th year as senator; and Whereas, the 1997–2000 triennium has witnessed many beneficial changes and new initiatives for the Society and the Foundation, thanks in great measure to his leadership and vision; and Whereas, he accepted and discharged the most demanding of the Society's offices while simultaneously holding the Cavanaugh Distinguished Professorship of Humanities at the University of Notre Dame; and Whereas, President Crosson contributed his time, his energy, and his experience in professional organizations to Phi Beta Kappa during his tenure as senator and officer; and Whereas, he has also accepted the Senate's appointment to this body's Committee on Qualifications, which he chaired for nine years, the Phi Beta Kappa Romanell Professorship Committee, the Committee on Committees, the Audit Committee, and the Executive Committee; and Whereas, his significant contribution and shared wisdom and strength have fundamentally reshaped this organization; Be it therefore resolved that this 39th Council of Phi Beta Kappa applauds President Crosson's record of achievement as President and Senator, commends him for the many significant improvements he has brought to the organization, and extends our best wishes to him.

President Gordon then noted that Professor Crosson was soon going to undertake a walking tour in Europe and presented him with a knapsack embossed with the Phi Beta Kappa insignia.

Resolution Eight

Whereas, David W. Hart is completing his third term as district senator; and Whereas, he has throughout that time served on and chaired the Senate's Committee on Policy; and Whereas, his work in that role has significantly shaped the membership stipulations, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society, and indeed, the future of Phi Beta Kappa; and Whereas, throughout his career as a Professor of English and Graduate School Associate Dean at the University of Arkansas, he has insisted upon and sustained the high standards of liberal learning; Be it therefore resolved that the 39th Council of Phi Beta Kappa expresses its profound appreciation to Senator Hart for his extraordinary record of service to the Society and for his abiding interest in its welfare and future.

President Gordon then presented Senator Hart, an aficionado of World War I aviation, with a World War I flying scarf embroidered with the Phi Beta Kappa key.

This set of eight resolutions was approved by acclamation by the delegates with great applause.

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Professor Krukofsky then proceeded to the remaining resolutions which had been suggested by delegates for consideration:

Resolution Nine

This resolution was submitted by Christel McDonald, past president of the District of Columbia Phi Beta Kappa Association.

Whereas, we recognize the rapid development of information technology and communication as an enormous change agent for existing social structures; and Whereas, we realize that information technology is having a great impact on higher education; Be it therefore resolved that the Senate be invited to create an ad hoc committee to study the impact of information technology and communications on the liberal arts and sciences in general, and more specifically on the ideals of Phi Beta Kappa, and to study the effects of distance learning and other technological innovations on Phi Beta Kappa, as well as establish a vision plan with regard to the future relationship between Phi Beta Kappa and the rapidly developing online universities, and that this ad hoc committee solicit from the Phi Beta Kappa membership suggestions and comments on these issues and that the ad hoc committee report to the Senate, which, in turn will report and make recommendations to the 40th Triennial Council in 2003 on these issues.

After a motion and second to consider, opportunity for further comment and discussion was provided but silence prevailed. The motion to accept the resolution was passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Resolution Ten

This resolution was submitted by Kenneth Martin, vice president of the San Diego Association, Epsilon of California.

Resolved, that Phi Beta Kappa will not sell members' personal information to commercial enterprises for a profit of \$2,500,000 or \$2,500,000,000 or of any amount since profiting on members' achievements and on the Society's good name dishonors all that it stands for.

After a motion and second to consider, Mr. Martin commented further on his resolution, saying that the integrity of the Society was at stake and that any kind of commercial gain from such activity is antithetical to everything the Society is about. Senator Gordon Weil, who had chaired the Senate committee which recommended the affinity credit card program, gave a lengthy response in which he noted that other academic honor societies and institutions have such cards, that a random sample of the membership had been surveyed with evenly divided results, and that several credit card companies had been approached to make proposals to the Senate regarding the financial gain to the Society and the safeguards to be imposed. He commented that these safeguards were broad and detailed; wherein the Society controlled the mailing list and mailings, and no telephone solicitation would occur. The proposals were considered by the Senate, and given the Society's need for resources for present and future plans and programs (including a new headquarters building), the Senate by majority vote approved a credit card plan which would fund specific programs and purposes. He also noted that the Society had entered into other commercial ventures before, including the sale of jewelry and related items and the Harris membership directory. As a proponent of the original affinity card program, he said he

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nevertheless was open to guidance from the Council, and he asked for careful consideration of the advantages of such a program, given the assurances of safeguards which accompany the proposal. He noted that in the breakout session held the previous day there was general support for proceeding with the program. He also mentioned that, in our changing world, Phi Beta Kappa now has competitors for members, and these competitors offer a credit card option to all new inductees. He concluded by commenting that the Society knows of no benefactor who will provide the millions of dollars needed for a new headquarters building and other future projects, and that this credit card proposal would provide the necessary funds and a service to our members while protecting the Society's image.

Mr. Weil was followed to the microphone by Peter Grant of Trinity College, Beta of Connecticut Chapter, who reported favorably on his experience with a credit card related to another professional association. He felt that users might have more identification with the Society by having the Phi Beta Kappa name on a card, just as people have the Sierra Club or the American Museum of Natural History cards.

Eddie Eitches, president of the District of Columbia Association and president of a union, noted that the credit card can be used for altruistic purposes as well, and encouraged the use of some of the funds for scholarships to graduate school as well as for a new building.

Senator Niall Slater of Emory University, Gamma of Georgia Chapter, spoke next, thanking Senator Weil for his hard work on the project and his clear and fair exposition of the discussion to this point. He pointed out that it would not be right to conclude that there is no alternative to funding a new headquarters building because the development committee was working on several fund-raising projects, including a major-donor campaign.

Sandy Gordon of Goucher College, Beta of Maryland Chapter, asked whether there would be an annual fee for the card and whether the \$2.5 million was an up-front guarantee or would be received over a specified period of time. The answers to the questions were (1) there would be no annual fee and (2) there would be an initial payment of \$500,000 and the remainder paid in equal payments on each of the four subsequent anniversaries.

A delegate asked for a re-reading of the resolution which Mr. Krukofsky provided, after which the unidentified delegate commented that the credit card scheme was aimed at giving credit access to our younger members, which may not be a good thing given their naiveté in financial matters.

Aubrey Farb, chair of the Conference of Association Delegates and a member of the Greater Houston Association, was then recognized. He disagreed with the previous comment, suggesting that it was not the organization's duty or obligation to safeguard people (adults) from the things they wish to do. He noted that if people want credit, they will get credit if they deserve it, and that this was a unique opportunity for the Society with no downside risk. The Society would control the letter and the mailing, and when our members receive the letter they have the option to subscribe to the card or to ignore it. He strongly urged the delegates to "put on your practical good judgment hat and vote down this resolution."

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Judi Strauss-Lipkin, past president of the Chicago Association, addressed the issue of funding a new building and thought it would be a good fundraising project for the general membership.

Scott Littleton of Occidental College, Delta of California Chapter, spoke in agreement with Mr. Farb and also noted that his professional association had an affinity credit card about which he had heard no complaints.

The final speaker was Mary Elizabeth Sperry of the District of Columbia Association. She questioned whether prospective new members would lump Phi Beta Kappa with all the other organizations selling membership information and refuse to join for that reason.

Mr. Krukofsky then ruled that the question be called, and after a vote on balloting, it was decided to use Individual Ballot Number 7. The resolution was read once again, the votes were recorded and the tellers gathered the ballots and prepared to count them—after which the Council considered the final resolution.

Resolution Eleven

This resolution had been submitted by Scott Enk of the Greater Milwaukee Association. It had been shortened by the Resolutions committee since much of the original text dealt with details of implementation deemed inappropriate in a resolution.

The Council of the Phi Beta Kappa Society hereby finds and declares as follows:

- (1) In recognition of the fact that representative and responsive governance of the Society and its affairs is dependent upon an informed membership, it is declared to be the policy of the Society that all individual members of the Society are entitled to the fullest and most complete access and information consistent and compatible with the conduct of the Society business regarding the affairs of Society governance and the official acts of the national-level Society officers and staff members who represent them.
- (2) Further, providing individual members of the Society with such access and information is declared to be an integral part of representative and responsible governance.
- (3) Accordingly, be it resolved that there is in every instance a presumption of complete membership access to national-level Society meetings and records consistent and compatible with the conduct of Society business.

After a motion and second to consider the proposed resolution, Mr. Enk reiterated the need for more access to Senate and committee meetings for all members, citing the problem with the nominating committee as an example. He sought access for everyone to “find out what is going on and what is being done in our names.” He specifically noted that he believed every member had the right to attend Senate meetings and to ask questions of senators and other leaders and to have them answered on the record. He gave some legal examples involving privacy of information where this would not be appropriate, but suggested that the resolution is patterned after an “open meeting and open records law” in Wisconsin. He suggested that the minutes of each meeting be distributed to every chapter and association and that Society records be open to all members, subject to policies and procedures regarding copying and access. He concluded by noting some other details of implementation, which had been included in his original resolution.

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Alan T. Gaylord of Dartmouth College, Alpha of New Hampshire Chapter, commented that the nature of the resolution as presented and as later explained made it very difficult to consider. It tends to make lawyers of us, he noted, and he chose not to support the resolution even though he had sympathy with the basic intent.

A delegate asked for a re-reading of the resolution as put before the Council by the Resolutions Committee and Mr. Krukofsky obliged. After some discussion as to how to vote on the resolution, it was determined that a secret ballot was in order and Individual Ballot Number 8 was designated. While the tellers were collecting these ballots, Mr. Krukofsky announced the results of the balloting on Resolution Ten, concerning the Phi Beta Kappa affinity credit card: 84 yes, 124 no, and 1 abstention, so the resolution failed.

36. President Gordon returned to the rostrum to call for proposed amendments to the bylaws and constitution, noting that changes in the bylaws could be disposed of by the Council at this session and would take effect immediately upon a three-quarters positive vote by individual ballot. Proposed constitutional amendments are voted upon by delegations, and a two-thirds majority vote would refer the proposed change to the next Triennial Council.

37. Horace A. Stern of the Delaware Valley Association, Gamma of Pennsylvania Chapter, first expressed the pleasure of his association in hosting the 39th Triennial Council in Philadelphia and then proposed the following amendment to Bylaw No. 9: to replace it with these words: "The proceedings of the Council in all cases not provided for in the Constitution or the Bylaws shall conform to *Roberts Rules of Order*, current edition, as reasonably interpreted and applied by the presiding officer in consultation with the parliamentarian." He explained that this was in response to the earlier discussion and the comments of the parliamentarian. He moved the amendment and it was seconded. It was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

38. Scott Enk then corrected a statement he made at the Conference of Association Delegates and instructed the secretary of that meeting to place into the minutes this statement: "There has been no further lack of conforming to the bylaws of the New York Association." He then presented an amendment to Bylaw No. 5, Section 5, a copy of which had been distributed to the delegates:

A Model Chapter Constitution, which has been enacted by the Council, shall be adopted by chapters instituted by the Council of 1976 and subsequently. The provisions of the Chapter Constitution may be amended or the Chapter Constitution may be superseded as proposed by the Senate and having been circulated among the chapters and accredited associations, as ratified in writing by two-thirds of the combined number of the chapters and accredited associations voting, provided that those voting to ratify constitute a majority of the combined number of the chapters and accredited associations. Chapters instituted after the Model Chapter Constitution and Bylaws have been amended or superseded shall adopt the Chapter Constitution and Bylaws in their new form. The provisions of the model Chapter Constitution and Bylaws are suggested for incorporation in the Constitution and Bylaws of existing chapters. Chapters granted charters before 1883 are not bound by this provision.

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Responding to the motion was Michael J. Harrison of Michigan State University, Epsilon of Michigan Chapter, who chose not to support the resolution because of the potential for interaction with the local chapter election process, especially in light of distance learning concerns. He suggested waiting for a careful report from the technological committee before moving forward with this resolution.

In the discussion that followed, Wayne E. Steinmetz of Pomona College, Gamma of California Chapter, noted that the language of the amendment was flawed since the phrase “instituted by the Council of 1976 and subsequently” had now been omitted in the newly adopted bylaws. Also the word “accredited” had now been replaced by “chartered.” David W. Hart of the University of Arkansas, Alpha of Arkansas Chapter, raised similar concerns. Alan T. Gaylord of Dartmouth College, Alpha of New Hampshire Chapter, commented that chapters and chapter delegates do not have the opportunity to deal with the chartering of associations or the operations thereof, and he felt, in symmetric fashion, that it was inappropriate for associations to deal with the internal operations of chapters, which the Model Constitution and Bylaws establish. Mr. Enk responded by calling for equity among chapters and associations in all matters.

Douglas McCabe of Georgetown University, Delta of the District of Columbia Chapter, raised a procedural issue in questioning why there was no way to abstain on our printed ballots. The proposed resolution was put to a vote by individual ballot, and the President suggested that those wishing to abstain write “Abstention” on the ballot and it would be counted as such.

While the tellers were collecting those ballots, the President announced the results of the “open meeting/open records” Resolution Eleven submitted by Scott Enk. Votes of yes: 61; votes of no: 141; abstentions: 1. The resolution failed.

39. President Gordon then called for amendments to the Constitution, again reminding the delegates that voting would be by delegation ballot, and a two-thirds positive vote would be required to refer the amendment to the next Council. Mr. Enk then presented three proposed amendments, which had been distributed. Discussion followed on the exact language of the amendments, which would need to be changed to conform with the newly adopted Constitutional changes, and Mr. Enk acknowledged this. He then summarized the intent of the three proposed amendments: the first would make it easier to change the bylaws by reducing to two-thirds the required number of positive votes at a Council and to three-fifths for amendments proposed by the Senate to the chapters and associations at least six months prior to a Council. The second proposal would require that at least two of the four members elected to the nominating committee at each Council be members of an association, that occupational and socioeconomic representation and diversity be considered, and that there be at least two nominations for all leadership offices, at least one of whom shall be an association member. The third proposal referred to the composition of the Senate, to require that at least six senators be association members. After some more procedural and language questions, the three proposals were put to ballot by delegation vote.

40. President Gordon announced the results of the voting on the proposed bylaw amendment dealing with the Model Constitution and Bylaws. Votes of yes: 30; votes of no: 161; abstentions: 1. The amendment failed.

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41. Senator Bruce Barrett of the University of Arizona, Alpha of Arizona Chapter, then proposed a possible constitutional amendment to Article IV, Section 4 (p. 43 of the *Delegate's Manual*): "The Council shall meet regularly every second year at a place and time to be determined by the Senate." There was a second and discussion followed. Secretary Foard responded to the proposal by reporting that the estimated cost of a Council meeting is in excess of half a million dollars, funded primarily from initiation fees of new members over a triennium. An unnamed delegate responded with a question: "Why is it necessary for the national to pay for all of us to come here?" He noted that 150 people had paid their own way to come to the 39th Council and many delegates could do the same. The Society could also meet in less luxurious surroundings and in less large metropolitan areas at less expense. Glenn Hollard of Allegheny College, Eta of Pennsylvania Chapter, contradicted these comments, noting that his chapter could not have afforded to send him and he could not have paid his expenses himself had this been required for the 39th Council. And since the meeting took place during the academic year, no one else would have come either, so the chapter would not have been represented. He also did not favor raising the student fees to pay for more frequent Council meetings. Christel McDonald of the District of Columbia Association suggested that the Senate should consider creating a number of ad hoc committees of members around the country to meet in Washington to deal with the many issues that occupy the Council every three years. Alan Gaylord commented that meeting every two years would not streamline the Society but only give more opportunity for discussions of proposed resolutions and amendments. Frederick Schult of New York University, Beta of New York Chapter, noted that the most important activity of a Council is voting on new chapters, and a two-year cycle would not be enough time for the Committee on Qualifications to thoroughly consider the many applications it deals with. Howard Krukofsky of Hunter College CUNY, Nu of New York Chapter, commented that we already have the district structure to provide an outlet for discussions, symposia, and activities. Arline Bronzaft of the New York Association agreed with Ms. McDonald that ad hoc committees involving more members could reduce the workload of the Senate and the staff. She also encouraged the use of e-mail and conference telephone calls. Susan Stakel of the University of Denver, Gamma of Colorado Chapter, suggested setting up a listserv for our membership to provide a means of communication among members. Amanda Boone of the Washington office staff reported that the Society owns a listserv and software and solicited ideas for further lists. After the discussion concluded, Senator Barrett withdrew his motion and President Gordon ruled that the motion was withdrawn from further consideration.

42. The results of the voting on the three Enk amendments were reported: On the first, yes: 48-1/6; no: 98-5/6. The amendment failed. On the second, yes: 43-1/2; no: 103-1/2. The amendment failed. On the third, yes: 39-1/2; no: 107-1/2, with one abstention. The amendment failed.

43. There being no further proposed constitutional amendments, President Gordon reminded the delegates to submit their expense vouchers to the national office. He then recognized the representatives of the newly elected chapters and led a round of applause. These individuals—from Auburn University, Austin College, Florida International University, Illinois Wesleyan University, St. Joseph's University, Truman State University, and the University of Mississippi—were invited to attend a meeting at 2:00 p.m. to learn more about how a chapter operates and how to perform the obligations they have now undertaken. Having determined that there was no further business for the Council's consideration, President Gordon declared the 39th Council adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

- I. District Chair Bruce Donovan called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the *Phi Beta Kappa Bulletin 38th Triennial Council Meeting*.
- II. There being no known funds or treasurer, no treasurer's report was submitted.
- III. Ronald Coons reported as chair of the district nominating committee, which included a delegate from each state in the district. He introduced the members of the committee that were present (Cohen, Soule, and Swain). The committee also included James Henry Turner (Alpha of Maine, Bowdoin College) and James H. Overfield (Alpha of Vermont, University of Vermont).

The committee nominated Don J. Wyatt (Middlebury) and Louis M. Guenin (Harvard) as candidates for district senator. Coons noted that the committee was honored to find two such persons willing to serve.

Coons reported with regret that Donovan was stepping down after years of faithful service to the district. The committee nominated Peter Grant (Trinity) for district chair and Katherine R. Soule (Dartmouth) for district secretary. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was accepted by acclamation.

- IV. There was a general discussion about keeping in touch between councils and using e-mail to facilitate communication.
- V. Gordon Weil reported as former district senator, now senator at large. He thanked the delegates for the opportunity to serve as district senator and on the Committee on Qualifications. He referred delegates to the Report of the Senate in the *Delegate's Manual*. He discussed the new Committee on Chapters and the substantive differences between this committee and the former Committee on Chapter Bylaws.

Weil gave an overview of some of the key breakout sessions and the proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws. The conflict of interest statement is a substantive change; many of the changes are editorial. Senator Hart will lead a discussion of the changes at a plenary session and there will also be a breakout session.

Weil commented on the real outreach effort to the National Honor Society. Activities include lecturers and providing videos. Individual chapters have reached out to local National Honor Society students in an effort to encourage them to pursue the liberal arts in college.

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VI. Wyatt clarified the work of the Committee on Qualifications and gave an overview of the triennial process. He encouraged delegates to submit questions before the plenary session so that the presenters can have the answers readily available. He discussed some of the controversies that have surrounded institutions in the past. The Committee realizes that no institution is perfect, but it strives to offer only institutions that the Committee can defend to the Council. The committee develops an amazing degree of unanimity in the course of its deliberations, and Wyatt is pleased with the eight institutions presented to this council.

Wyatt noted that the committee is a positive force for change in the institutions that apply. Institutions have changed policies, redirected resources, and constructed facilities in an effort to improve the quality of their students, faculty, and institutional values. The committee can speak about what it finds and has no investment in the institution and is not subject to political factors.

VII. Aubrey Farb, chair of the Conference of Association Delegates, spoke on behalf of the association delegates. He asked the district to consider the letter he had written concerning their interest in equity and greater representation in finance and management (the letter was distributed to all attendees).

VIII. Coons led a general round of applause to thank Donovan for his many years of service to the district. Donovan thanked the delegates for the opportunity to serve.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m. amid good feelings for the district and expectations of a superb council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Grant
District Secretary

In attendance:

Jane Ambrose, Alpha of Vermont, University of Vermont
Jerry L. Cohen, Beta of Rhode Island, University of Rhode Island
Ronald E. Coons, Epsilon of Connecticut, University of Connecticut
Bruce Donovan, Alpha of Rhode Island, Brown University
Doris S. Donovan, Alpha of Rhode Island, Brown University
Alan T. Gaylord, Alpha of New Hampshire, Dartmouth College
Peter Grant, Beta of Connecticut, Trinity College
Joseph W. Gordon, Alpha of Connecticut, Yale University
Linda B. Johnson, Beta of New Hampshire, University of New Hampshire
John F. Kennison, Lambda of Massachusetts, Clark University

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Gerald M. Mager, Beta of Massachusetts, Amherst College
David Mills, Beta of Maine, Colby College
Carol O'Donnell, Alpha of Maine, Bowdoin College
Howard P. Segal, Delta of Maine, University of Maine
Katherine R. Soule, Alpha of New Hampshire, Dartmouth College
Elisabeth Swain, Alpha of Massachusetts, Harvard University
Caldwell Titcomb, Mu of Massachusetts, Brandeis University
Edward N. Trachtenberg, Lambda of Massachusetts, Clark University
Gordon L. Weil, Alpha of Maine, Bowdoin College
Don J. Wyatt, Beta of Vermont, Middlebury College

Also attending in part:

Aubrey Farb, chair of the Conference of Association Delegates

MIDDLE ATLANTIC DISTRICT

The meeting of the Middle Atlantic District, held in Ballroom E2 of the Philadelphia Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, was called to order by Chair C. Howard Krukofsky at 3:10 p.m. on October 19, 2000. Delegates representing at least 13 chapters and 4 associations were present.

Following his welcoming remarks, Chair Krukofsky noted the potential addition of Saint Joseph's University (in Philadelphia) to the District, and invited Professor Catherine White Berheide of Skidmore College, a member of the Committee on Qualifications, to share her insights on the complex functioning of that committee.

The Minutes of the 1997 District Conference were approved as previously circulated, and were followed by the chair's report. In the latter, Professor Krukofsky focused on the accomplishments and difficulties of the past triennium. He stated that we were unique among the districts in holding a national symposium, and after elaborating somewhat on the planning process, expressed the hope that we would set an example for other districts to be active. In accordance with interest expressed at the 1997 District Conference, Professor Krukofsky had solicited responses regarding the district's chapter activities, but with only a twenty-five percent response, the project remained incomplete. He added that another attempt at collating such data would be made. Professor Krukofsky spoke about an issue facing a growing number of multibranch universities. When the main campus of a large university has a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, but the branches do not, the problem of incorporating students into the main branch arises. The Senate has addressed this issue, and the district has been seen as a facilitating agent.

Professor Vera L. Junkers, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report and underscored the fact that despite our activities and the obvious need for funding them, the number of chapters that had paid triennial dues had actually dropped to less than fifty

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percent of the district's constituency. The cost of the October 23, 1999, symposium, held at Hunter College, exceeded the limits of the district treasury. Without the generous contributions of both Nu of New York Chapter and the President's Office at Hunter College, it would have been impossible to present the symposium. The financial situation was discussed further, and the report was accepted.

District Senator James P. Lusardi delivered a report on the Senate. The latter had a mandate from the last Triennial Council to expand its concern with the life of the chapters. Consequently, a Committee on Chapters was formed to review chapter procedures and bylaws, to communicate with chapters, and to monitor and assist chapters. Professor Lusardi noted that the annual report forms have been modified (to obtain more information), the chapter officers' manual has been updated, the model bylaws and constitution have been revised, and handbooks are now given to chapters as part of the packets prepared for new members. Statistics have revealed that 88 chapters initiate 100% of those elected, 141 chapters initiate over 90%, and that the national percentage stands at 80%. There are 16,000 new members each year.

At the conclusion of Professor Lusardi's report, Professor Krukofsky explained the two amendments to the District bylaws that had been proposed earlier (in accordance with existing rules for making such changes). The purpose of the first amendment was to formalize having the immediate past chair as part of the Executive Committee of the district. The second amendment changed wording concerning dues. Motions to adopt the bylaws as amended were carried. The amount of district dues was the subject of the next item on the agenda. The motion to raise dues to \$30 for the next triennium was carried, with the manner of increasing compliance left up to the Executive Committee.

The District Nominating Committee presented its slate of officers. A motion for the Secretary-Treasurer to cast one ballot for that slate was passed unanimously. The results of the election were as follows: Chair: C. Howard Krukofsky (Hunter College, CUNY); Vice Chair: Theopolis Fair (Delaware Valley Association); Secretary-Treasurer: Vera L. Junkers (Hunter College, CUNY); Representative, Metro New York: John Delgrosso (New York University); Representative, Upper New York: Lloyd Raines (Scarsdale/Westchester Association); Representative, Pennsylvania-Delaware: James P. Lusardi (Lafayette College).

A discussion of District activities and initiatives for the 2000–2003 triennium ensued. The sense of the District Conference was to hold another Symposium, with October 2002 as a proposed target date. Professor Krukofsky indicated that, as in the past, requests for ideas and for members of the planning committee would be made.

There were two items of new business. The first consisted of "in memoriam" references to three Phi Beta Kappa Senators: Mina Rees, Carolyn Eisele, and Robert Fowkes, and to Mary P. Mladinov, Associate Secretary of the Society. The second concerned association delegates. Arline Bronzaft, scheduled to speak at the Conference of Associations, pointed out that associations are now allowed one paid delegate at Triennial Councils. They wish

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to be more fully members of the Society and to be accorded more privileges. Both the chair and secretary of the Conference of Association Delegates are invited to Senate meetings but cannot vote during the proceedings.

With thanks to the assembled delegates for their vote of confidence, Professor Krukofsky adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Vera L. Junkers
Secretary-Treasurer

SOUTH ATLANTIC DISTRICT

The meeting of the South Atlantic District was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on October 19, 2000, by Chair John Nelson.

The minutes of the District meeting held on September 25, 1997, and recorded in the Phi Beta Kappa Bulletin of the 38th Triennial Council Meeting on pages 91–93, were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of 9/21/97 was \$1,838.55. The balance on 9/30/2000 was \$1,810.99. Interest income totaled \$139.80. Expenses for the printing and mailing of district newsletters were \$167.36.

It was moved and seconded that the collection of \$5 per chapter and association for each year of the triennium be suspended. After discussion, the motion was defeated. The \$5 will be requested from each chapter and association. The district officers are charged with finding a suitable purpose for the funds.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that a portion of the district's funds be invested in a certificate of deposit for an extended period of time in order to achieve a better return on the district's money. As a friendly amendment, the secretary-treasurer is empowered to invest the funds in an appropriate manner.

Nominating Committee

All chapters had the opportunity to submit nominations for district officers and a full slate was proposed. It was moved, seconded, and approved that the chair and vice chair nominees with the fewer votes be appointed to the Executive Committee. The vote, by printed ballot, resulted in the election of the following officers:

Chair:	James Lightner (Western Maryland College)
Vice Chair:	Hilda Fisher (Goucher College, Greater Baltimore Association)
Secretary-Treasurer:	Sandra Birch (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State)

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Executive Committee: University)
David Darst (Florida State University)
Robert C. Williams (Davidson College)
Marie Wellington (Mary Washington College)

Senator's Report

Niall Slater has served as our District Senator for six years and is a nominee for vice president of the Society. While the highlights of the last three years were printed on pages 21–34 of the *Delegate's Manual*, Senator Slater commented on several activities of the Senate and the Phi Beta Kappa Society. One charge to the Senate is increasing the visibility and acceptance rates of the Society. Some measures to meet this charge include the establishment of a new Committee on Chapters, a new manual for chapter officers, cooperation with the high school National Honor Society, and the production of a 15-minute video about the Society. The video may also be added to the Society's website. The Society is supporting the growth of associations and establishing new associations, particularly in major metropolitan areas. *The Key Reporter* has been improved and is available on the Society website. Senator Slater also briefed the delegates on the council meeting agenda for the next three days and reviewed the process for constitutional amendments.

New Business

Ira Fischler, a member of the Committee on Qualifications, joined Senator Slater in a brief review of the procedures involved in awarding charters to faculties and responded to questions. Jim Lightner discussed the new Committee on Chapters and some proposed programs such as awards for exemplary chapters. An important component of these programs will be timely annual reports from the chapters. The Society is still working on an online annual report function. It was suggested that chapters send their annual reports to others in the district to encourage new ideas and share programs. Another suggestion is to add links to chapter websites from the Society's website. Chapter delegates were encouraged to contact Barbara Howes in the national office if assistance of any kind is needed. Aubrey Farb, representing the associations, requested that the district delegates consider equity in the national organization when voting for senators.

Senator Slater and the district delegates expressed their appreciation to John Nelson for serving two terms as chair of the South Atlantic District. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Birch, Acting District Secretary

In attendance:
Neysa Cristol Adams, Delaware Valley Association
Denise Baker, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Jenny W. Best, University of Georgia
Sandra Birch, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

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Timothy E. Brown, Wofford College
Lloyd Chapin, Tampa Bay Association
Mary J. Cresimore, Wake County Association
Pat Dementi, Randolph-Macon College
C. Earl Edmondson, Davidson College
Eddie Eitches, D.C. Area Association
Tim Fehler, Furman University
Grace Finkle, North Carolina State University
Ira Fischler, University of Florida
Hilda Fisher, Goucher College
Jay M. Freyman, University of Maryland—Baltimore County
Lynne Bolt Hansen, University of South Carolina
David Herlocker, Western Maryland College
Harvey Klehr, Emory University
Abe Lavender, South Florida Association
James Lightner, Western Maryland College
Michael Lubin, Atlanta Association
Eleanor McCrickard, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Christel McDonald, George Washington University
Kahlil J. Martin, Morehouse College
Michael Mays, West Virginia University
Mary Alice Morgan, Middle Georgia Alumni Association
David Morrow, Morehouse College
Thomas Murphy, Gamma of Maryland
Amy Nelson, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
John Nelson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Ulysses Nick, Northeast Florida Association
Miranda Pratt, Middle Georgia Association
Rosemary Reisman, Low Country Association
Niall W. Slater, Emory University
Mary Elizabeth Sperry, D.C. Area Association
Murray Steinberg, Greater Baltimore Association
Suzy Summers, Furman University
George Tompkins, Low Country Association
Lois Urban, Sarasota-Manatee Association
Tom Wentworth, North Carolina State University
Kenny J. Williams, Duke University
John W. Witek, Georgetown University

EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT

The meeting of the East Central District of Phi Beta Kappa was called to order at 3:10 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2000, in Ballroom B, Sheraton Society Hill Hotel. Chair Isabel F. Smith of the Detroit Association presided.

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Twenty-one chapters and associations of the district were represented by 26 people as follows:

Gregory C. Gocek, Chicago Area Association
Ellen Handler, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Chapter
Isabel F. Smith, Detroit Association, District Chair
Audrey David, Cleveland Association
Virginia R. Ferris, former East Central District Senator
Douglas Baxter, Ohio University Chapter, District Secretary-Treasurer
Raymond Lee Den Adel, Rockford College Chapter
Maribeth Sue Metzler, Miami University Chapter
Frank Grady McCormick, East Central Illinois Association
Alonzo L. Hamby, East Central District Senator
R. Blake Michael, Ohio Wesleyan University Chapter
James Lawrence Pyle, Eastern Indiana Association
Douglas L. Nelson, Augustana College Chapter
Eloise E. Clark, Bowling Green State University Chapter, PBK Senator
Thomas Minnick, Ohio State University Chapter
Martin Ludington, Albion College Chapter
John H. Pearson, University of Notre Dame Chapter
Solomon Gartenhaus, Purdue University Chapter, District Vice Chair
Gerald William McCulloh, Loyola University Chicago Chapter
Judith F. Krug, Chicago Area Association and PBK Senator
Arthur R. McGurn, Western Michigan University Chapter
Carol P. Klein, Albion College Chapter
Benjamin Pryor, Toledo Association
Evelyn F. Brod, University of Cincinnati Chapter
Tom Jenkins, Case Western Reserve University Chapter
Elizabeth Swenson, Cleveland Association

The minutes of the 1997 district meeting were accepted as corrected (the names Virginia R. Ferris and R. Blake Michael had been misspelled).

Lon Hamby, East Central District Senator, briefly reported on duties in the Senate. He had attended every Senate meeting and found it an interesting and congenial experience. He noted the importance of district senators and their commitment to the work of the Society. During the past triennium, the Senate had been preoccupied with finance (investments and the discussion of an affinity card) and Washington, D.C., real estate (the national had sold its building and was looking for a new site). He had served on the Committee on Qualifications and made two site visits to potential chapters. He reiterated his enthusiastic support of the entire slate of chapters presented for their charters. He had also served on the Committee on Publications that discussed possible changes in *The Key Reporter*. The next issue would have a new four-color format.

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The District turned to a discussion of issues to come before the Triennial Council. Aubrey Farb, chair of the Conference of Association Delegates, spoke briefly to the delegates and a copy of the letter of the Conference of Association Delegates of The Phi Beta Kappa Society was distributed to district members. The letter voiced the need for greater representation of nonacademics and association members on PBK committees. Farb argued that this was a matter of equity. Association members also have management and business skills that can benefit the Society. The Cleveland Association voiced its concern for the issue raised by the Conference of Association Delegates, namely the need for more association representation on national committees. Senator Clark and Ferris, chair of the Nominating Committee, spoke briefly on the need for qualified names to be submitted to the Committee. It was easy to second-guess the committee, but it only reviewed the names of those submitted. There was a need to see high-quality nominees, people with good credentials from all walks of life who excelled. Ferris added that the national office had never reserved numbers for any category of member in the past and that gradually, over time, the complexion of the senators had changed.

A discussion of the need for stronger support of the liberal arts then ensued, with some seeing this as an area in which associations could play an important role. Others added that the issue was also important on campuses. A recent poll revealed that PBK members desired a strong defense of the liberal arts, and the national organization and the Senate hoped to make the 225th anniversary of the Society an occasion to affirm this support.

Related to this issue was the need of PBK to examine service learning and long distance learning courses. They presented special challenges to the liberal arts, and more study of their impact is needed.

The district unanimously elected the following officers for the next triennium: Chair, Solomon Gartenhaus; Vice Chair, Douglas Baxter; Secretary-Treasurer, Audrey David.

The treasurer's report indicated that the district had \$291.56. R. Blake Michael moved and the district unanimously agreed to the following motion: The district should give the money to the national for its building fund. Michael would present the check to Secretary Foard on behalf of the district.

In new business, it was announced that a group in Columbus, Ohio, was in the process of forming a Central Ohio Association and hoped to be chartered for the next Triennial Council.

The District meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Douglas Baxter
District Secretary

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NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

The North Central District meeting was convened at 3:05 p.m. on October 19, 2000, in the Clay Poole room of the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Paula Gillespie, district chair, Zeta of Wisconsin, presiding.

Present were:

Janet Riley, Alpha of Kansas Chapter, University of Kansas
Timothy Mahoney, Alpha of Nebraska Chapter, University of Nebraska
Judith Sebesta, Alpha of South Dakota Chapter, University of South Dakota
Peter Quimby, Alpha of Wisconsin Chapter, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Laurence Archbold, Beta of Minnesota Chapter, Carleton College
Burton Wheeler, Beta of Missouri Chapter, Washington University and PBK Senator
Addison Ault, Cornell College Chapter, Delta of Iowa Chapter, Cornell College
Charles A. Wilson, Delta of Minnesota Chapter, Saint Olaf College
Mary Thompson, District Senator and Gamma of Minnesota Chapter, College of St.
Catherine
Calvin Van Niewaal, Epsilon of Iowa Chapter, Coe College
Martin Farrell, Epsilon of Wisconsin Chapter, Ripon College
Jennifer Rea, Eta of Iowa Chapter, Luther College
Helen Baumgartner, Eta of Minnesota Chapter, Gustavus Adolphus College
Marjorie Bjornstad, Eta of Wisconsin Chapter, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Jeannette Pierce, Gamma of Missouri Chapter, St. Louis University
Michael Gauger, Greater Milwaukee Association
Scott Enk, Greater Milwaukee Association
Carol Race, Northeast Missouri Association
Erica Hawley, Omaha Association
Peter Orazem, Zeta of Iowa Chapter, Iowa State University
Arthur Guetter, Zeta of Minnesota Chapter, Hamline University

The letter from the Conference of Association Delegates of the PBK Society was distributed.

Nominations for secretary were requested. Judith Sebesta was re-elected by unanimous ballot. Nominations for chair were requested. Carol Race was elected by unanimous ballot.

Senator Mary Thompson was requested to comment on some matters to be considered at this Triennial meeting. She explained that the breakout session on "PBK and the World of Commerce" would primarily be about the offer of 2.5 million dollars to the Society in return for the credit card company using the PBK mailing list to market a PBK affinity card. Burton Wheeler added that the Senate was not completely sure how the membership would view this venture and this session would be a way to express our perception of such a venture. Mary Thompson assured that there would be no telephone

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solicitation and only one or two mail offers. The list would not be resold to other companies by the credit card company.

Aubrey Farb entered the meeting and requested the opportunity to speak regarding the letter from the Conference of Association Delegates. He asked that the letter be read as a matter of fairness, and he could be contacted in Room 3010 if there were any questions.

Burton Wheeler explained some of the activities the associations carry on, such as presenting scholarships or funding to libraries. He added that the Senate has the general perception that the Society should have a greater range of members nominated for elective positions. On Friday morning there will be a general report on how chapters and associations might work together more closely. He added that the initiative must come from associations, and that chapters needed to broaden the scope of their activities.

Mary Thompson commented that the Committee on Chapters is examining the annual chapter reports. These reports do not always mention the various activities that chapters engage in. There is concern about the "health" of chapters. Burton Wheeler said it was important that attending the Triennial alternate among chapter members. Paula Gillespie stated that 87 chapters have neglected so far this year to turn in their annual report. Burton Wheeler explained that the Committee on Chapters would share with all chapters what things chapters have done successfully. The number of honoraries on campuses is increasing; these are good "marketers" and imitate PBK. There is a concern that PBK therefore is losing visibility among students. Some chapters do little more than elect members.

Paula Gillespie asked what innovative things chapters have done. The responses include:

St. Louis University: reception for groups of freshman students coming in with high credentials, such as National Merit and Presidential Scholars. The head of the Honors Program established a forum for honorary societies in spring and fall. The chapter established a cash book award for the best book written by a faculty member and an essay contest with cash awards made to students at the initiation ceremony.

College of St. Catherine: The University Honors Program contributes money to support PBK speakers.

St. Olaf College: The chapter received an endowment to underwrite its activities.

Ripon College: The chapter took over the Arts and Sciences Symposium and revived it in the form of eight or nine faculty members speaking on an interdisciplinary theme (e.g., "Globalization," "Cultural Relativism"). An equal number of students critique each faculty member's paper. This symposium goes on for three afternoons during a single week.

Burton Wheeler stated that chapters previously had no reason to think that their reports were being read, but the Chapter Committee has found these reports useful. One chapter now awards three \$7,000 scholarships and the Committee is investigating how

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the chapter raised the money to do so. Statistics indicate that PBK members rank the lowest among the givers of money to an institution. Charles Wilson urged that PBK members participate in the planning of the next institution development campaign. Marjorie Bjornstad commented that funding limits her chapter as well since it depends upon the annual chapter dues. Her chapter makes presentations to Honors Students, Sigma Xi, and Mortar Board students. Mary Thompson's chapter seeks other departments to cosponsor the Visiting Scholar. Paula Gillespie stated that her chapter gives a small award to high-achieving sophomores and that the dean presents this award.

Paula Gillespie opened the session up to general questions. Mary Thompson responded to a question on voting in the Council. Paula Gillespie encouraged all, particularly first-time delegates, to discuss matters with others, adding that the officers were all very approachable. Scott Enk encouraged everyone to think about how PBK might be improved by delving into the history of PBK.

Scott Enk spoke on his amendment and explained that there existed some quirks, such as associations voting on disciplining chapters, and proposed amendments to the Model Chapter Constitution. His proposal is a modest revision that relies on prospective amendments proposed by the Policy Committee. Regarding the Committee's amendments, he said some are meritorious and some dangerous. At present each person has the right to introduce amendments, but this right is proposed to be taken away. His amendment deals with the language referring to chartered and accredited associations. As regards associations, Carol Race explained that an association has three years to provide evidence that it is a viable organization. Scott Enk added that associations have to make annual reports to the national office.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

The 2000 meeting of the South Central District of Phi Beta Kappa was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, in Ballroom A-1 of the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Pamela Royston Macfie of the University of the South, district chair, presided.

Thirteen chapters and seven associations of the district were represented by twenty-two people as follows:

University of Arkansas Chapter
University of Arkansas Chapter
Birmingham-Southern College Chapter
Hendrix College Chapter
Greater Houston Association
Kentuckiana Association

Charles H. Adams
David W. Hart
Mark Lester
John Churchill
Aubrey M. Farb
Thomas A. Van

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University of Kentucky Chapter	Mary Lynne Flowers
Louisiana State University Chapter	Les Butler
Nashville Association	Allison McGlothin
North Texas Association	Steven Forde
Rhodes College Chapter	Terry W. Hill
Rice University Chapter	Robert Patten
San Antonio Association	Kurt May
Southwestern Louisiana Association	Mary R. Meredith
Southwestern University Chapter	Jim Kilfoyle
Tulane University Chapter	Elizabeth Torre Reck
Tulane University Chapter	Robert Sherer
University of the South Chapter	Pamela Royston Macfie
University of the South Chapter	Stephen Miller
University of Texas at Austin Chapter	Barbara Myers
University of Tulsa Chapter	John Bowlin
West Texas-Eastern New Mexico Association	Richard L. Blanton

One guest, Ronald A. Schroeder from the University of Mississippi, was also in attendance.

Pamela Royston Macfie extended greetings to those present, especially to those delegates attending their first Triennial Council Meeting. Attendees introduced themselves by name, chapter, and institution; or by association and city; and number of Triennial Councils attended. The minutes of the September 25, 1997, district meeting in Chicago were approved as submitted. Copies of those were on hand for interested people to read.

There was no old business.

The first item of new business was the report of the nominating committee submitted to the district chair, Pamela Royston Macfie, and presented by her. The two nominees for Senator were Charles H. Adams, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Arkansas; and John Churchill, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College, Hendrix College.

Members of the nominating committee were F. Carter Phillips, Vanderbilt University; Matthew Stroud, Trinity University; Elizabeth Torre Reck, Tulane University.

The nominating committee's report was accepted as submitted and the two candidates were identified and introduced to the delegates present.

Professor Macfie explained that the nominating committee had to work under pressure of a short deadline. This circumstance arose because the Phi Beta Kappa national office officially notified the district chair quite late that Senator David Hart's term was expiring at the end of the 39th Triennial Council Meeting. She therefore needed to select two nominees for District Senator, to be voted on at this Triennial Council, to succeed Senator

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Hart. Professor Macfie acknowledged that a more desirable way of proceeding would have been formally to ask for names from district chapters for the nominating committee members to consider and regretted time did not permit her and the committee to do so.

Professor Macfie next recognized Mr. Aubrey M. Farb of the Greater Houston Association and chair of the Conference of Association Delegates. Mr. Farb spoke to the concern of the associations about current Society governance, and in particular their growing concern, brought to the Society's attention at the 1997 Council, about the lack of representation in the Phi Beta Kappa Senate of nonacademics and association members. A letter signed by individual members of associations, but not in their official capacities with Phi Beta Kappa, was distributed to all delegates in attendance. Mr. Farb indicated that this and related matters would be again brought before the 39th Triennial Council in another attempt to seek an acceptable remedy, and he urged those present to support the combined associations' position and efforts.

Mr. Farb's remarks brought about a lively discussion, which occurred at several points during the remainder of this meeting. Charles Adams, University of Arkansas, introduced an exchange around the question of what effect including people with management skills in the governing structure of Phi Beta Kappa would have on the organization. Barbara Myers, University of Texas at Austin, commented that an association begun two years ago in Austin had already given six scholarships and was doing important outreach work in the community, such as working with high school honor societies and speaking about Phi Beta Kappa to other high school groups and students. Robert Hill from Rhodes College added that he had experienced no discomfort in the exercise of dual chapter and association roles. He also used work with national honor societies as an example where a chapter and an association might cooperate, creating synergy without fighting.

John Churchill, Hendrix College, asked, "What's to be said on the other side?" Several delegates applauded the spirit of desire by associations for greater involvement in the Society's governance while also expressing concern about their request for a certain number of seats in the Senate.

Professor Macfie asked Senator David Hart to provide the group with historical background about this tension between academic and nonacademic members of the Society. Senator Hart explained that in the late 1940s and 1950s the Society's nominating committee became the "cat's paw" of the Senate. It only needed to consult itself; this resulted in a tendency to select only academics, as most delegates were and continue to be academics. Until 1988, associations were stepchildren. There was also inertia in the organization and constitution of the nominating committee.

John Churchill, Hendrix College, extended the discussion and inquired if there was a mechanism to change the distribution of members in the Phi Beta Kappa Senate at a slower pace without submitting delegates to a precipitous decision now.

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Senator Hart explained that vacancies can and do occur between Triennial Councils and appointments are made to fill unexpired terms. Such appointments need not be made from academic members of Phi Beta Kappa.

Mary Lynne Flowers, from the University of Kentucky Chapter, added that, in her experience, involvement of nonacademics had not been a negative, and that we now have a mandate to consider an alternate way to proceed in defining how we wish to govern the Society.

Bob Patten, Rice University, suggested we identify ways in which we wish the Society to proceed in order not to become more polarized. Led by Rob Sherer, Tulane University, those present involved themselves through further discussion and classification in the wording of the resolution below to be presented to the 39th Triennial Council. It reads:

The South Central District endorses the principle of diversity of affiliation (chapters, associations, and fellows) in all nominations, elections, appointments and governance of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, effective immediately.

The resolution was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Discussion moved to the Committee on Qualifications recommendations for granting charters to new chapters. District Chair Pamela Macfie alerted those present to the fact that the Phi Beta Kappa faculty members at three institutions from the South Central District had been recommended for the granting of chapter charters by Phi Beta Kappa. These included Auburn University, Austin College, and the University of Mississippi. Rob Patten, Rice University, explained that Rice had a student exchange program with Austin College for children and faculty. Ronald Schroeder, a guest attendee from the University of Mississippi, provided a handout of information about gains his institution had made in removing barriers that inhibit participation by African American women and others underrepresented in higher education. Areas of concern that were covered in the handout included student recruitment, minority graduation rates, recruitment and hiring of minority faculty and administrators, and other minority events and activities. Several delegates spoke positively about the Southern Literature Program at the University of Mississippi. John Churchill, Hendrix College, informed the group that Eckerd College, also recommended, had asked to defer its selection to the next Triennial because of questions about its lost endowment and new administration. Dr. Churchill also reported his understanding that the Eckerd College trustees have substantially replaced the lost endowment. Delegates were encouraged to read the report of the Committee on Qualifications in the *Delegate's Manual*, if they had not already done so.

Noting the lateness of the hour, District Chair Pamela Macfie asked Senator David Hart to review briefly the procedures for voting at a Triennial Council. Officers for the South Central District were elected as follows:

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Pamela Royston Macfie Chair
Mark Lester Secretary

The new officers will make use of e-mail addresses requested of those present to keep in touch with chapters and associations about matters affecting them. Chapters and associations were also encouraged to bring questions and issues of concern to them to the attention of the district officers.

Pamela Macfie proposed a motion to thank outgoing secretary Elizabeth Torre Reck for her work; it was seconded and approved unanimously.

Barbara Myers proposed a motion to thank outgoing District Senator David Hart for his many years of work on behalf of the District and the Society; it was seconded and approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Torre Reck
Secretary

WESTERN DISTRICT

A meeting of the Western District of Phi Beta Kappa was called to order by Chair Merrill (Mel) Shattuck at 3:07 p.m. All members present introduced themselves.

Present: Gerald L. Alexanderson, Santa Clara University Chapter and PBK Senator; Mel Shattuck, Northern California Association; Mary Hanel, Northern California Association; Susan Stakel, University of Denver Chapter; Stanley Bailis, San Francisco State University Chapter; Kate Ostrom, Puget Sound Association; Kurt Olsson, University of Idaho Chapter; Bruce R. Barrett, University of Arizona Chapter; Virginia Hornak, Southern California Association; Steve Chiappari, Santa Clara University Chapter; Ted Lindeman, Colorado College Chapter; Eric Nye, University of Wyoming Chapter; Fred Parrella, Santa Clara University Chapter; Wayne Steinmetz, Pomona College Chapter; John E. Doner, University of California at Santa Barbara Chapter; Jeanne Clarke, University of Arizona Chapter; William H. Beardsley, University of Puget Sound Chapter; Doug Ernest, Colorado State University Chapter; Todd H. Sammons, University of Hawaii at Manoa Chapter; Pauline Yu, University of California at Los Angeles Chapter; Robert Satten, University of California at Los Angeles Chapter; Marian Barchilon, Arizona State University Chapter; Marie A. Vitulli, University of Oregon Chapter; Marlyn Spelman, University of Colorado Chapter; Susan Fedel, Alpha of Colorado Association; Nan Coppock-Bland, University of Oregon Chapter; Jan Shapiro, Puget Sound Association; Nancy Blase, University of Washington Chapter; Bette Napoli Harris, Southern California Association

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Senate Nominations: Western District members Bruce R. Barrett, professor of physics, University of Arizona; and Kurt Olsson, dean, College of Letters and Science, University of Idaho—both nominees for Senator at Large at the 39th Triennial Council—were recognized. Though not present at the meeting, it was also noted that Peter David Lyman Stansky, Francis and Charles Field Professor of History at Stanford University, was another Western District nominee for Senator at Large.

Western Key Newsletter: District Chair Mel Shattuck noted that the small budget that the Western District has is for production of the *Western Key Newsletter*. He asked if members had seen the newsletter and if people had questions about the schedule for producing it. A few of the members present didn't know there was a newsletter and asked how it was distributed. Shattuck said copies were sent to the president and secretary of each PBK chapter and association in the Western District, and they were responsible for its distribution to their boards and members. He reported that Ray Hendess, the editor, has plans to distribute via e-mail in the future. The chair thanked Ray, in absentia, for the work he does to assemble the newsletter.

PBK Building Committee: Gerald L. Alexanderson, mathematics, Santa Clara University, and Senator from the Western District, discussed the work of the Building Committee of which he is chair. He said members might have noticed that the Phi Beta Kappa Society has a new address. The old building at 1811 Q Street had numerous problems including poor plumbing and bad wiring that would have been costly to fix. So when the Argentine Embassy expressed an interest in buying the building, PBK felt it was a good time to sell. The Society's new but temporary address is the fourth floor of a building near the corner of 18th and Massachusetts Avenue NW in Washington, D.C. It is a nice space and is being rented from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. But the Trust will want it back someday. The Society now is considering whether to buy a building at N Street that is in a good location near other professional organizations in the Dupont Circle area. If the Society decides to buy the N Street building, a capital campaign is essential since the move will be costly. The long-term financial viability of the Society is a concern. One way to raise needed monies is to solicit members to use an affinity credit card.

Senator Alexanderson said that in the past he has not supported this idea. However, he has now changed his mind. He is voting for the plan because the Society needs the money it would generate. With an affinity card, the Society could afford to buy a new building and have the money to put into campaigns to fend off attacks on liberal arts education. He said that anyone wanting more information on how the affinity credit card program works should attend the 1:30–3:00 p.m. Friday breakout session on “PBK and the World of Commerce.”

Other Senate news reported by Senator Alexanderson:

- The Committee on Qualifications told the Senate that, due to a financial and administrative problem, one of the colleges being nominated for a PBK chapter at this Triennial, Eckerd College in Florida, is being withdrawn from consideration.

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- *The Key Reporter* will be changing to a new four-color look starting with the next issue. Those interested should attend one of the breakout sessions with the editor.
- The Society continues to be concerned that so few students know who we are and what an honor it is to be nominated to join PBK. PBK has engaged the services of a public relations consultant during the Triennial.

Aubrey Farb Presentation: Aubrey Farb, chair of the Conference of Association Delegates, gave a presentation about a letter he circulated for signatures expressing concerns that the associations are not being treated fairly in the governing structure of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. He would like to see more nonacademic members with business management skills elected to the Senate. Most current Senators are university professors with little time to devote to the business affairs of PBK. He would also like to see associations have more representation on Senate committees. Everyone would benefit if association people had greater opportunities to offer their skills to the Senate. Only recently have association members even been invited to listen in on the deliberations of the Senate.

At the Triennial, he would like a chance to present some of these points. Past experience, however, has shown that it is hard to get the floor at Council meetings. PBK is slow to change. He noted that he would like to see three Senate seats set aside every three years for association members. There is a lot of business acumen, management skill, and other talents in the associations that could be brought in to serve the Senate.

A college professor in the audience commented that if the associations were accredited by PBK like the chapters are, perhaps they would be more accepted. He asked if the associations even had “a model constitution and bylaws” like the chapters.

Mr. Farb and Virginia Hornak of the Southern California Association responded that some associations work very closely with chapters, raise lots of scholarship money and do a lot in the community to spotlight PBK.

Virginia Hornak noted that it was not until 1991 that the associations were allowed to vote on the establishment of new chapters. Chapters sometimes have trouble recruiting officers and getting support on campus. Academics should work with associations to publicize PBK in the community. Although chapters belong to the faculty, who have sole responsibility for the election of new PBK members, the associations belong to the alumni, a large and resource-rich group.

Election of Western District Chair and Secretary: Mel Shattuck said he was willing to stand for re-election as district chair. District Secretary Ray Hendess, however, sent word that although he will continue to compile the District newsletter, he wishes to step down as district secretary.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to re-elect Mel Shattuck as district chair. Bette Napoli Harris of the Southern California Association nominated Mary

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Hanel, vice Chair of programs for the Northern California Association, as district secretary. Virginia Hornak of the Southern California Association seconded. Mary Hanel was elected district secretary.

Opening Program: Mel Shattuck noted that he would have a part in the evening's opening program of the Triennial: "Resolved, that Phi Beta Kappa is Gloriously Useless." After the initial speeches of the presenters, Shattuck would be one of the commentators, reacting to the speeches from the viewpoint of the associations.

Comment on Aubrey Farb's Letter: Gerald Alexanderson asked to comment on why he declined to sign the letter Aubrey Farb was circulating stating that the associations deserved more representation in the Senate. First, as a senator, he felt he would be criticizing himself and colleagues he respects. Also, the Nominating Committee, rather than the Senate, may be the root source of the associations' complaints. It is the Nominating Committee's function to find candidates for the Senate, and they are the body that determines whether or not to consider association members for the Senate.

Strategy Suggestions for Association Delegates: These were among the suggestions offered for the association delegates to have a chance to get their views heard:

- Be close to the microphone when important issues are up for discussion.
- Have a strategy meeting in the evening after the reception.
- For purposes of voting, ask that constitutional amendments be considered separately from the bylaws.
- Determine how to get members of the Nominating Committee to consider association members for the Senate.
- Develop a boilerplate "Model Association Constitution and Bylaws."
- Association members should think about working with Senate policy groups.
- Chapter members could work with the Nominating Committee to encourage its members to include association members in their slate of nominees.
- Associations should bring forward to the Nominating Committee the names of people that would make good Senate candidates.

Defense of Liberal Arts Education: At the Triennial Council three years ago, the opening speech was given by a student at Harvard who noted that Phi Beta Kappa has over half a million bright people in its alumni ranks. It is a shame they are not being utilized to work on behalf of improving liberal arts education. As an example of what can be done, the Southern California Association raises money so that bright seniors in four ethnically diverse high schools who wish to pursue a liberal arts education can afford to take the tests and pay the fees involved in the college application process.

Adjournment: In order to give people time to get ready for the evening's opening session, it was necessary to adjourn the Western District meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Mary Hanel, Secretary
PBK Western District

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**REPORT OF THE
CONFERENCE OF ASSOCIATION DELEGATES
OCTOBER 20, 2000**

Delegates and other association members, conference officers, and guests attended the Conference of Association Delegates held on October 20, 2000, at the Society Hill Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia. Conference Chair Aubrey Farb called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. in Ballroom C.

The following associations were officially represented:

Northeast Alabama
Northern California
San Diego, California
Southern California
Denver, Colorado
Greater Hartford, Connecticut
District of Columbia
Northeast Florida
Sarasota-Manatee, Florida
South Florida
Tampa Bay, Florida
Atlanta, Georgia
Coastal Georgia-Carolina
Atlanta, Georgia
Middle Georgia
Chicago Area, Illinois
East Central Illinois
Eastern Indiana
Indianapolis, Indiana
Kentuckiana, Kentucky
Greater Baltimore, Maryland
Detroit, Michigan
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Northeast Missouri
Omaha, Nebraska
New York City, New York
Scarsdale/Westchester, New York
Upper Hudson, New York
Wake County, North Carolina
Cleveland, Ohio
Delaware Valley, Pennsylvania
Low Country, South Carolina
Nashville, Tennessee
Greater Austin, Texas—unchartered
Greater Houston, Texas

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North Texas
San Antonio, Texas
West Texas-Eastern New Mexico
Puget Sound, Washington
Greater Milwaukee, Wisconsin

In addition to the chair, Aubrey Farb, a total of 56 delegates and alternates attended from 40 associations. Senator Judith Krug (also a member of the Chicago Area Association) and Mel Shattuck, chair of the Western District, were present. Douglas W. Foard, secretary of the Society, attended part of the meeting. Peter T. Ruszczuk, who represented a group in western New York that has formed a new association, also attended. This made a grand total of 60 participants.

The chair introduced Dr. Douglas Foard, who greeted the delegates and related information of particular relevance to the associations.

First, he reported more good news concerning the collaboration between Phi Beta Kappa and the National Honor Society. He noted that it was always thought that it would be the associations which would help the NHS chapters in their areas, but that recently there was a case in New Jersey where it was the other way around. A teacher and her NHS students helped to organize a local PBK association.

Dr. Foard then stated that he hoped that the PBK constitution would be changed to eliminate some of the inequities that concern associations.

He also pointed out that with the help of Christel McDonald of the District of Columbia Association and volunteers from that association, an officers' manual for association officers has been developed. Association leadership often changes yearly, and the new manual will help to remedy some of the difficulties new officers sometimes encounter. Dr. Foard noted that these manuals were placed in the back of the room, and he asked delegates to take one for their associations.

Dr. Foard said that at the 38th Council, service of long-serving PBK chapter officers—those who had been officers for ten years—had been recognized. It was decided that at this Triennial, association officers who have served continually as officers for five or ten years would be honored, too.

He concluded by thanking all of those present and their associations for everything they do for PBK.

Aubrey Farb noted that it was probably not necessary to read the minutes of the last meeting of the Conference of Association Delegates that was held in Chicago in 1997 because a report was published in the *38th Council Meeting Bulletin*. The delegates approved the minutes as printed.

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The chair then announced that the nominating committee, consisting of Scott Enk, Barbara Marmorstein, and Mel Shattuck, had had a virtual nominating committee meeting, and it was decided to renominate Aubrey Farb as chair and Barbara Marmorstein as secretary. Mr. Farb asked if there were additional nominations from the floor. There were none. Barbara Marmorstein noted that Aubrey Farb had served as chair for the past three years with dedication and distinction. Mr. Farb then thanked Barbara Marmorstein for her support and outstanding efforts. A motion was made and seconded that the slate be approved. A vote was then taken, and the slate was elected. Barbara Marmorstein said that it was an honor and a privilege to serve, and she thanked the group for their continued confidence. Aubrey Farb also thanked the Conference delegates for their confidence.

Next, Mr. Farb outlined some of the accomplishments and activities of the officers and the Conference during his three years as chair.

1. He noted that he and Barbara Marmorstein had gone to New York City and worked to resolve a problem with the leadership of the PBK Association of New York. He added that a problem still seems to exist.
2. Mr. Farb went to San Antonio, Texas, to help set up a scholarship program.
3. In addition, he helped New Orleans form a new association.
4. He also had some discussions with members in the Boston area about forming an association, but as yet no association has been started. He noted that he hoped that this area, which has many PBK members, would have an association in the future.
5. The chair reported that during the past year, he and Barbara Marmorstein had communicated by e-mail with a few people, including Scott Enk, Michael Gauger, and Arline Bronzaft, and recently with a few others, including Virginia Hornak and Mel Shattuck, concerning a number of issues. Most important of these was the lack of association representation on the Society nominating committee and in the Senate.
6. Mr. Farb then noted that a meeting was held at the Sheraton Hotel on Thursday evening, October 19, to decide what could be done at this Triennial to help remedy the situation. It was decided that it would be proposed at the Conference of Association Delegates meeting that the associations should support the nomination of two candidates from the floor—one for the Society Nominating Committee and one for the Senate. It was further decided that the candidate for the nominating committee should be Mel Shattuck and that Arline Bronzaft should be the alternative nominee for the Senate. If the Conference agreed to support these two people, Mel Shattuck would be formally nominated at the plenary session by Scott Littleton and Arline Bronzaft by Virginia Hornak. The new candidates would provide biographical material. There was also a discussion about recommending “bullet” voting in order to enhance the chances of these nominees being elected.

At the Conference meeting, Mr. Farb called upon the two presenters, Scott Littleton and Virginia Hornak, and noted that they were members of both associations and chapters. After Scott Littleton and Virginia Hornak made a motion that the

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Conference support the nominations of Mel Shattuck and Arline Bronzaft respectively, the motions were seconded, and the Conference voted affirmatively to do so.

Past chair of the associations, Isabel Smith of the Detroit Association, encouraged everyone to support Arline Bronzaft, during whose tenure as chair of the Conference of Association Delegates there were momentous positive changes in the role of the associations in relation to the Society. Dr. Theo Fair, vice chair of the Middle Atlantic District, also urged support of Arline Bronzaft.

Mr. Farb discussed and suggested “bullet” voting for the two association-supported candidates in order to help them be elected. He defined bullet voting as voting for only one candidate in each category even though several candidates were to be elected. He urged bullet voting for Arline Bronzaft for the Senate and Mel Shattuck for the Nominating Committee.

Patrick Lyn of the Greater Houston Association then urged that the Conference also support Robert Patten of the Rice University Chapter and a member of the Greater Houston Association, who had already been nominated by the nominating committee.

Judi Strauss-Lipkin of the Chicago Area Association reminded the Conference that Judith Krug, a member of the Chicago Area Association, was already a Senator and was running for reelection. Ms. Strauss-Lipkin stated that Senator Krug was a member of the Senate Committee on Associations and had supported associations. She asked the Conference members to vote for Senator Krug.

Barbara Marmorstein, who spoke of Arline Bronzaft’s gifted leadership during the twelve years in which Arline chaired the Conference of Association Delegates, also spoke in favor of the reelection of Senator Judith Krug for her work on the Senate Committee on Associations, a committee of which Barbara has been a member.

Edward Eitches of the District of Columbia Association remarked that there should have been better-organized planning in advance concerning alternate candidates and associations’ support of official candidates. He said that in the future, we should know which candidates would better serve associations. Aubrey Farb noted that now the biographical material published about the candidates only tells about their academic credentials. Mr. Eitches moved that for the next Triennial the chair should request that candidates appear at the Conference of Association Delegates meeting and state what they will do to help the associations and the Society. This resolution was voted on and passed.

However, several people then pointed out that it would be difficult to have all of the candidates appear personally, because of the time constraints of the Conference meeting and the fact that some of the candidates would have other meetings to attend at the same time.

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Murray Steinberg of the Greater Baltimore Association suggested that, instead of having the candidates come to the meeting, they be requested to write a statement stating why they should be elected. These statements could be read at the meeting or published in advance. It was agreed that this seemed more practical.

Mr. Farb expressed thanks for the thoughtful suggestions and said that these would be considered before the next Triennial. He also asked that suggestions be sent to him concerning the best method of getting changes so that association members will have seats on the Senate and on the Society Nominating Committee.

The chair then addressed new business. He stated that at the Senate Committee on Associations it was reported that some associations, including the New York City Association, have not followed their bylaws, and that some do not follow good fiscal management methods including yearly audits of their books. Senator Niall Slater, chair of the Senate Committee on Associations, requested that an announcement be made at the Conference of Associations that bylaws must be observed and that care must be taken with association funds.

Peter Ruszczyk then questioned why his Association of Western New York has not received chartered status. Mr. Farb replied that the necessary procedures were not followed. He added that Niall Slater, the chair of the Senate Committee on Associations, had not received the required documents. Mrs. Marmorstein noted that Mr. Ruszczyk should write to Washington and ask the chair of the Senate Committee on Associations to send him a list of the criteria necessary for chartered and unchartered status.

James Wen of the New York City Association said that he objected to having that association mentioned as not having followed its bylaws. He insisted that that was not the case.

Barbara Marmorstein noted that it was getting very late and that there would be no time to discuss some important issues, including making a resolution that association members be appointed to Senate committees.

Although there remained many matters to consider, it was now the time when the meeting was scheduled to conclude. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Barbara Marmorstein
Secretary

Aubrey Farb, chair, instructed the secretary to add the following addendum to the minutes. Mr. Farb stated that what he had told the Conference about the New York City Association being in violation of its bylaws was in error.

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