

The KENT MEDALLION



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Upcoming Events:

Nov. 16, 2004, 10a.m.-Noon
PBD Study Abroad Fair
2nd Floor Kent Student Center

Nov. 16, 2004, 12-1 p.m.
PBD Seminar Series
Beyond Tourism
Dr. Kenneth Cushner
(Light Lunch Provided)
KSC 306

March 3, 2005, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
PBD Awards Ceremony
Henderson Hall Auditorium

F ?? Leadership:

President:
Ted McKown, II

Vice President:
Kenneth Cushner

Secretary/ Membership:
Louise Ditchey

**Chapter Coordinator/
Treasurer:**
Charles Nieman

Advisory Council:
Larry Andrews
Jerry Feezel
Davina Gosnell
Marion Korllos
Donald Williams

Awards:
Ruth Ludwick
Barbara Mims

Scholarship:
Carolyn Sampson
Larry Andrews

Communications:
Tom Welsh

PBD Takes Role in Internationalization

Phi Beta Delta will play a key role in facilitating internationalization at Kent State University, said President Ted McKown (Beta Zeta Chapter), at an executive meeting held in August at the Michael Schwartz Center.

“While the honorary will maintain its primary focus on showcasing excellence in international scholarship and service, Phi Beta Delta will no longer limit itself to providing international awards,” said President McKown, who serves as KSU’s Assistant Director of Admissions for International Recruitment.

McKown noted that during the 2004-2005 academic year, Phi Beta Delta will launch a “brown bag” lecture series dedicated to international issues, introduce a newsletter, and sponsor a “study abroad” fair to generate student interest in international venues. In addition, the chapter is upgrading its Web site, which will soon be accessible at the following URL: www.dept.kent.edu/pbd.

Phi Beta Delta’s all-member reception, held on Tuesday, September 21, from 4 to 6 p.m., at the Moulton Hall Ballroom. This inaugural gathering was a huge success. It will be followed by a series of programs



Phi Beta Delta Vice President Ken Cushner advises doctoral students from Taiwan. (Photo: Eve Dalton, CGSE)

and events that reflect the organization’s new direction.

In October, Phi Beta Delta will join the College of Nursing in its sponsorship of the Linnea Henderson Research Event, a two-day conference that will emphasize student research involvement.

During the week of November 15 (“International Education Week”) the chapter will launch the “Phi Beta Delta Seminar Series.” The series will open with a “brownbag” lecture by Dr. Kenneth Cushner, KSU Executive Director of International Affairs, who will discuss his newly published book, (*cont’d back*)

Phi Beta Delta, Beta Zeta Chapter

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We're on the Web!
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Phi Beta Delta is an international honorary dedicated to recognizing and to encouraging professional, intellectual, and creative achievement in international education and to promoting interdisciplinary contacts and exchange of knowledge. Through membership and awards the society recognizes the achievements of international students and scholars, United States students who have studied abroad, and faculty and staff who are involved in international affairs.

INTERNATIONALIZATION

FROM FRONT

Beyond Tourism: A Practical Guide to Meaningful Educational Travel (ScarecrowEducation, 2004). Dr. Cushner's Noon seminar will be held on Tuesday, November 16, in Room 306, KSU Student Center. His talk will examine the challenges of developing intercultural competence in the contexts of student exchange programs, intensive summer experiences, and international student teaching.

Dr. Cushner's talk will complement a "study abroad" fair to be held that day on the Second Floor of the KSU Student Center. The "study abroad" fair will take place from 10 a.m. to Noon. Both events are open to the public.

Phi Beta Delta's fall activities may represent a departure from its traditional role as an honorary, but they reflect the goals and concerns that led to the local chapter's establishment in April 1991.

Dr. Charles Nieman, Director of International Student and Scholar Services, said that the Beta Zeta Chapter was founded by administrators, faculty, and key staff who recognized the need to advocate for international education.

"Dr. Giavanna Jackson, director of what was then the International Office of Student Affairs, came into her position on the heels of a predecessor who watched international enrollment plummet to a record low," Dr. Nieman said. "Dr. Jackson prevailed on the University's provost to appoint a blue-ribbon committee to examine the overall structure of international student services."

Among the committee's recommendations was an urgent request that the campus community spotlight the academic achievements of international students. One means



The international student population has increased dramatically in recent years at Kent State University.

to achieve this goal was through the establishment of an honorary organization. "Thanks to administrators, faculty and students the Beta Zeta chapter of Phi Beta Delta currently boasts 137 members," Dr. Nieman said.

When he assumed directorship of the International Student Office in the mid-1990s, Dr. Nieman continued his predecessor's custom of raising funds for international student scholarships and awards, which are presented each spring during KSU's "Honors Week."

"In many respects, Giovanna's dream of utilizing Phi Beta Delta's local chapter to showcase student scholars has been achieved," Dr. Nieman said. "One of the issues that we've struggled with over the years is, what kind of identity we want to establish for the Beta Zeta chapter."

This longstanding concern appears closer to resolution as the chapter establishes a more dynamic campus presence. "We want to be part of a larger effort to make KSU more representative of what's happening in the global educational market," said President McKown.