

Information regarding *Phi Sigma Tau* Honor Society

Web site: <<http://phi-sigma-tau.org/>>

1.0 ABOUT:

1.1 -- Phi Sigma Tau is the International Honor Society in Philosophy. It has a network of over 200 chapters throughout the United States and Canada, at both public and private institutions of higher learning.

1.2 -- The purpose of Phi Sigma Tau is to encourage interest and activity among students and to promote ties between philosophy departments in accredited institutions. Phi Sigma Tau publishes a journal, *Dialogue*, for student contributions in all areas of contemporary philosophical research.

1.3 -- An honor society exists to further scholarship and achievement in the academic areas of their members, thereby providing a forum where interested and competent students may communicate and exchange ideas with faculty and students of similar interest on their own campus and throughout the world.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP:

2.1 -- Chapter Organization: Local chapters retain a high degree of autonomy and are often associated with philosophy clubs on their college campuses. Chapter membership is open to qualified graduate and undergraduate students, teachers of philosophy, and those who qualify as honorary chapter members.

2.2 -- Membership: provides not just recognition of academic excellence but also a means for furthering scholarship and academic communications. College honor societies are not social clubs or keys to instant success — they are people who share a commonality of interests, anxious to further and support scholarship, interest, ethics, and professional standards in their own areas.

2.3 -- Fees & Requirements: Initiation into PST requires a one-time initiation fee (currently \$25.00) for the International Office.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY:

3.1 -- Undergraduate students: are eligible for active membership if they have completed three semesters or five quarters of the college course, rank in the upper 35 percent of their class, and have completed at least two semester courses or three quarter courses in philosophy with an average grade of over the second highest grade of the working scale.

3.2 -- Graduate students: are eligible if they meet the requirements established for undergraduates, or if they have completed at least one-third of the residence requirements of the master's degree with a grade average of at least half on the highest grade of the working scale and half in the second highest grade.

3.3 -- All Students: Consequently, students are eligible for membership in Phi Sigma Tau only if their school has a local chapter and upon the recommendation of the chapter advisor.

4.0 PETITIONING A NEW CHAPTER:

4.1 -- Write or email the Executive Secretary for a petition form at National Headquarters, PHI SIGMA TAU, Dr. David E. Gibson, Humanities, Pepperdine University. <See web site.>

4.2 -- Requirements: Phi Sigma Tau operates under the umbrella of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS), which has several requirements for member organizations. Schools petitioning for a chapter must meet all the requirements of both Phi Sigma Tau and ACHS:

4.3 -- Some guidelines: A charter can be granted only to schools with a major in philosophy, when there is departmental and administrative support for the petition. And a group consisting of at least five people must present the petition to the Executive Secretary.

4.4 -- A charter petition includes a charter fee (currently \$100.00).

5.0 OTHER CALIF. CHAPTERS:

Alpha (2003) — University of the Pacific

Gamma (1963) — Chico State College

Epsilon (1964) — California State University at Long Beach

Zeta (1967) — Whittier College

Theta (1997) — University of San Diego

Iota (1974) — Westmont College

Kappa (1986) — Santa Clara University

Lambda (1987) — Loyola—Marymount University

Mu (1995) — University of California at Santa Barbara

Nu (1996) — Pepperdine University

Xi (2002) — California State University at Dominguez Hills

Omicron (2004) — California Polytechnic University-Pomona

Pi (2008) — Chapman University

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