



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™

"Reimagine Our Future and Reignite Our Purpose"

DKGNJ State Meeting

January 4, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Irene Maskaly (Iota) at 10:04.

Pledge of Allegiance

Corresponding secretary Luella Vengenock (Beta) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motivational Thought

Cathy Cleenput (Alpha) provided us with thoughts of encouragement and hope during any hardships or adversities that may arise in the New Year.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - From 10:10 - 11:15

The following committees conducted individual meetings with representatives from the chapters: Chapter Presidents, Program Planning/EEC, Membership/Induction, Finance, and Communications.

President Irene Maskaly resumed the business meeting at 11:20 am.

RULES OF ORDER

In the absence of Parliamentarian Dr. Barbara Glazewski (Lambda) Chris Musick (Nu) read the rules of order.

ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary Chris Musick conducted the roll call. Those present are recorded below with (X), those not present with (O).

X	President	Irene Maskaly	X	1 st Vice President	Cathy Fortunato
X	2 nd Vice President	Diane Roberts	X	Recording Secretary	Chris Musick
X	Corresponding Secretary	Luella Vengenock	X	Treasurer	Ellen Hahn
O	Parliamentarian	Dr. Barbara Glazewski	O	Immediate Past President	Dr. Nora Pollard
X	Alpha	Laura Perrius	X	Beta	Luella Vengenock for JoAnn Corvino
X	Gamma	Angela Castaneeda	O	Delta	Amy Giulian
X	Epsilon	Patty Curtis	X	Zeta	Kimberely Corso
X	Eta	Karen Gamon	X	Iota	Denise McDermott
X	Lambda	Mary Lou LeCompte for Carol Boehm	X	Mu	Dawn Flanders for Carolyn Bennett
X	Nu	Ingrid Williams	X	Xi	Lisa Goodwin for Diane Brunetti

X	Omicron	Beth Selfridge	O	Pi	Dr. Amy Fratz
X	Rho	Crystal DiBetta			

Attendance was recorded on sign-in sheets. Totals: 52 members (6 Executive Board, 13 Chapter Presidents, 33 Committee Chairs and Chapter members)

Irene Maskaly announced that the proposed amendment/addition to the standing rules 2024-2025 has been withdrawn. The minutes from the September 7, 2024 meeting were approved.

Officer Reports:

Corresponding Secretary: Luella Vengenock (Beta) reported that 14 winter cards and 1 condolence card were sent along with a winter greeting that was sent to all members electronically. A thank you card was received for convention reimbursement as well as a thank you for the winter greeting. Luella announced that there is a sign-up sheet for the Jersey Girl Dinner that will be held July 31, 2025 in New Orleans and plans are underway.

Future actions:

Contact Luella at dkgnjcorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com with any card-worthy news from your chapter.

Treasurer: Ellen Hahn (Beta) stated that the Treasurer’s Report was sent electronically. The current balance on hand is \$7858.31. Hearing no questions on the report it will be filed for review.

President’s Report:

Irene Maskaly continued:

Greetings ladies, with each International biennium, there comes reflection of the past two years, as well as an influx of new ideas as this society moves forward. Our new international president, Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan, challenges us to “pursue our vision with passion and purpose!”. If you have the opportunity, I encourage you to read the most recent Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin, Collegial Exchange. Beverly’s featured story gives us an insight on her own journey as a DKG member. She stresses the importance of diversifying membership strategies to incorporate new voices and skills as well as streamlining and simplifying our practices, to seek and welcome change. Part of creating this change was the charge of our previous President’s initiative of hiring an outside company to take a critical look at our organization, hence the creation of the Avenue M report. An offshoot of that report was the creation of the DKG visionary network, a virtual platform for members to share workshops and support one another. I encourage you to go to the International page, login and check out the new face of our website as well as participating in some of the virtual opportunities like ‘Inside International’, happening on January 7 and the ‘US Forum’ on January 11. Jan Paxton and Dr. Pamela Albert Devine have been amazing keeping these updates current on our social media platforms and website!

Our International guest at convention will be First Vice President, Candace “Candi” Martin. She comes to us all the way from Arkansas. Candi is a fun and dynamic lady who I had the pleasure of getting to know in Phoenix. More to come in our newsletter. Looking forward to seeing you all at the convention on April 4-6! Thank you.

Committees Reports:

First Vice President

Catherine Fortunato (Lambda) met with 1st VP’s from twelve chapters. She shared the following:

Educational Excellence

News from DKG International

1. GIRLS, Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success replaces Schools for Africa. A meeting via Zoom was held on December 17, 2024 with DKG EEC Chair, Dalphe Cagle and UNICEF Assistant Director,

Marisa Ferguson. The fund focuses on outcomes, not activities. Donated funds are dedicated for the education of girls in Africa. A Technology Advisory Panel supplies computers in the girl's classrooms to provide awareness, access, and adoption to further their careers and independence. For additional information about the fund and how to donate go to the state website, dkgnj.org Educational Excellence link to UNICEF to GIRL's Initiative

2. Visionary Networks will connect DKG sisters as an interactive group to learn about and explore various educational topics. The webinars will be offered via Zoom.

A Zoom Meeting will be held on January 7, 2025 with DKG EEC Chair, Dalphe Cagle. More to follow after the DKG Inside International Meeting this coming week. There was an EEC Zoom meeting on October 10, 2024 to discuss the upcoming Visionary Networks.

3. Program and Project Spotlight DKG International Chairperson, Daphne Cagle, requests to collect and disseminate great ideas for projects and programs across the entire sisterhood. Let's have representation from New Jersey.

Program Planning

DKGNJ State Convention, April 4-6, 2025! Build the excitement in your chapters to attend programs.

1. Ten Workshop Programs on Saturday - List will be provided. The voting concluded on November 12, 2024 and all fifteen chapters participated in the vote. The presenters have been notified with congratulatory letters sent by me.

a. There are three programs geared for active educators and seven for all educators.

b. There are two book discussions. The chosen books are *The Women* by Kristin Hannah and *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

c. Noted from the 2024 evaluations: first come, first served. Register early for workshops. Workshops close once capacity is reached.

2. Facilitators- We need nine additional sisters. Please ask sisters in your chapter to volunteer. Be certain they will be in attendance on Saturday, April 5, 2025. Detailed instructions will be given: attendance list, introduction of the presenter(s), time management, professional development hours requests, and a certificate of appreciation to be awarded to each presenter.

3. Keynote Speaker- Victoria Kessler from the NJ Commission Holocaust. Hardcopy of information will be given today.

Frequently go to the state website, dkgnj.org

Second Vice President

Diane Roberts (Omicron) met with fourteen 2nd VP's. Angela Castaneda (Gamma) first shared with attendees some information about the upcoming April 2025 convention and the induction ceremony. She let them know to bring the red book and what should be written in it, about ordering membership kits, that cocktail dress for the induction ceremony was expected, the dates and times of events and a few housekeeping items.

Diane continued the meeting discussing the following:

*The importance of prospective inductee teas/orientation meetings.

*Information to give at the teas, resources to present the information, as well as a sample invitation letter and inductee booklet.

*The spreadsheet for information about chapter inductees with an abbreviated sample displayed on the board.

*Questions and discussion pertaining to inductees and convention were shared and answered to the best of everyone's abilities.

*Epsilon will celebrate 65 years in 2025.

*Attendees were asked to check the listing of members with 50+ years to ensure everyone was included and deceased members were not listed in error in our upcoming convention booklet.

Future Actions:

*A copy of the meeting agenda will be sent to absent chapter reps, so they are informed.

*Chapters should start filling out the google form on new members and who will be inducted at the April 2025 convention. This document will be shared with Carol Boehm, 2nd vice presidents, membership chairs, Jan Paxton, Irene Maskaly and anyone involved in the convention induction ceremony.

* We should keep a look out and contact NJEA about appearing at the next convention in November 2025. We will need to plan if DKGNJ will be providing a workshop and what/who will be involved.

Finance

Joan Oehm (Alpha) presented Audit Report from the Financial Team as well as the Proposed Budget for 2025-2026 to be voted on by the executive committee and chapter presidents. Irene called for a vote and the budget was approved unanimously.

Communications

Dr. Pamela Albert Devine (Mu) met with communication chairs from five chapters. The following was presented:

- Jan Paxton has reviewed all chapter websites and shared the following list of those that need updates in order for them to remain linked to the state webpage. Updates were due to International by October 31, 2024:

Iota – 504 error

Gamma – 2018 version

Epsilon – no new International Seal of Approval

Zeta – no new International Seal of Approval

Mu – 2022 – 2024 no new International Seal of Approval

Nu – no new International Seal of Approval (Their webmaster updated their website immediately.)

- All meeting items are in the Communications Committee on the Google Drive. The folder was shared with the members in attendance today and will be shared with other chapters that have confirmed committee representative on the Google Doc that was shared with the committee.
- Members added to the Google Doc listing the existing chapter social media accounts as well as private Facebook groups.
- Committee chairs were reminded that it is important for this committee to know if chapters have any social media accounts so that members can follow the exciting things that are happening in other chapters. The data shows that these types of postings are viewed, liked and shared more than any other posts.
- Social Media Stats were shared with the committee:

Facebook: NewJerseyStateOrganizationDKG has 165 likes (9 more than this time last year) and 193 followers (38 more than this time last year)!!

Twitter: New Jersey State Organization DKG @NJStateOrgDKG which has 67 followers, down 7 from last year and 30 following.

Instagram: dkg nj which has 22 followers (up 5 from last September) and so far 113 posts!

- The age of our members is significantly impacting the social media usage. It was shared that those who are using Instagram are much younger than our membership whereas Facebook is utilized more by our members who are a bit older. (See below for suggestions offered to help bridge this gap.)
- Committee discussed ways to educate members about how to set up and use social media accounts, privacy and vulnerability and protection oneself from spoofing, scams and phishing.
- Suggestions were made:
 - Possible 2026 Convention Workshop
 - June Leadership Meeting
 - Articles in the state newsletter
 - Short “info” sessions and chapter meetings
 - Suggestion to create “reels” for social media highlighting the exciting things chapters are doing.
- Again all members were encouraged to continue to send exciting news for our webpage, newsletter, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to:

Communications Chair: Pamela Albert Devine (Mu) pamela.albertdevine@gmail.com

Webmaster: Jan Paxton (Alpha) alphazetastate@gmail.com

Newsletter: Shannon Pizzuta (Iota) dkgnjeditor@gmail.com

Future Actions:

- Explore the suggestions made at the meeting today.
- Continue to encourage all members to send exciting news to be included on our webpage, newsletter, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to Jan Paxton, Shannon Pizzuta and Pamela Albert.
- The committee will continue to analyze the data connected to and track any increases on our existing accounts and share this information with the Executive Board.

Arts

Patty Curtis shared information regarding the 2025 Arts Festival, which will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025 during the DKGNJ Convention. Entrees for this event may include artwork, literature, and musical performance. Specifics are included within the google form registration, as well as the deadline of March 8, 2025. The flyer and google form registration link are posted on the state convention page of the DKGNJ website.

Future Actions:

Registration confirmation will be shared after March 8, 2025.

Nominations

Mary Lou LeCompte met with the nomination chairs via Zoom to vote on officers. She presented the following 2025 – 2027 slate which will be sworn into office at the DKGNJ State Convention on April 5, 2025.

President – Cathy Fortunato (Lambda)

1st VP – Diane Roberts (Omicron)

2nd VP – Chris Musick (Nu)

Recording Secretary – Elizabeth Monaghan (Epsilon)

Corresponding Secretary – Cathy Cleenput (Alpha)

Nominations Chairperson – Irene Maskaly (Iota)

Induction

Angela Castaneeda (Gamma) joined the meeting with 2nd VPs and membership chairs to go over key induction points for the 2025 Convention. See the above notes in Diane Robert's report.

Announcements

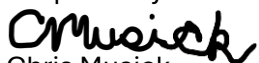
Jan Paxton stated the following reminders about the upcoming convention:

Use the link provided on the website to reserve your hotel room so we get credit to fill our quota.

Efforts have been made to address difficulties from last year.

President Irene Maskaly thanked everyone for coming and reminded all that the next state meeting will be at Steinert HS on Saturday, May 31st. Barbara Henderson (Epsilon) made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dawn Flanders (Mu) seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Musick

Recording Secretary