



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™**

New Jersey Alpha Zeta State Organization  
 Saturday April 9, 2016

President, Barbara Smith (Omicron), called the general session of the Alpha Zeta State Membership to order at 9 a.m. in the East Ballroom of the Doubletree Hotel, Somerset, New Jersey.

Smith called Babette Wise (Pi), the State Motivator, to provide the motivational thought. Carol Schwartz (Gamma), AZS First Vice President, led the flag salute.

Recording Secretary Susan Davis (Epsilon) called the roll of the executive board voting members.

President	Barbara Smith (Omicron)	Present
First Vice President	Carol Schwartz (Gamma)	Present
Second Vice President	Dr. Pam Albert Devine (Mu)	Present
Recording Secretary	Susan Davis (Epsilon)	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Ingrid Williams (Nu)	Present
Treasurer	Ellen Hahn (Beta)	Present
Parliamentarian	Lori Daly (Omicron)	Present
Immediate Past President	Mary Conover (Pi)	Absent

The following Chapter presidents or representatives were present:

Alpha	Catherine Cleenput
Beta	Kelly Johnson
Gamma	Saula Cutter
Delta	Karen Cohen
Epsilon	Pam Raynor
Zeta	Sarah Schaefer
Eta	Victoria Warner
Theta	Michele Klamerus for Joyce Breitwieser
Iota	Candice Zachowski
Kappa	Mimi Weiss
Lambda	Annabelle Boehm
Mu	Dr. Kathy Froriep
Nu	Christine Musick
Xi	Janel Schafer
Omicron	Gail Starr
Pi	Robin Atkins
Rho	Dr. Margaret Niemiec
Sigma	Charlotte Orfe
Tau	Janice Buck for Susan Beekman

**Recording Secretary, Susan Davis (Epsilon)** copies of the minutes for the January 9, 2016 Executive Board Meeting, along with the minutes from the 2015 Convention April 19, 20, and 21, 2015, were sent electronically, prior to this

meeting to the Executive Board. Hard copies of the both sets of minutes were provided for those who had not received the electronic copies. President Smith called for additions and/or corrections to the 2015 Convention Minutes. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. The minutes were approved as presented. Smith called for additions or corrections to the January 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting. There was a correction to add the scholarship committee report submitted at the January 9, 2016 meeting. The minutes were approved with the correction to add the scholarship committee report and will be filed in the state archives.

### **Corresponding Secretary, Ingrid Williams (Nu)**

Incoming correspondence:

We received 2 thank-you notes (Barbara Schaller and Marlene Vivino) for cards that were sent,

Outgoing correspondence:

We sent 2 get-well cards (Marlene Vivino and Linda Adams), one birthday card (Maud Dahme's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday), 2 notes of congratulations (Jan Wilson and Dr. Judith Merz). Five notes were also sent to the 5 past state presidents who were not able to attend the convention this year, letting them know that their past contributions were appreciated and that their presence would be missed. The notes went to Ruth Forlines, Suzanne Hunt, Dr. Blossom Nissman, Marie McGuire, and MaryAnn Mironchak.

**Parliamentarian, Lori Daly (Omicron)** reviewed the Rules of Order for the 2016 Convention:

- A quorum, for this convention meeting, consists of the majority of the members who have registered at convention.
- Committee reports are limited to three (3) minutes.
- Every registered member may make motions, add to the discussion, and vote.
- All persons addressing the chair shall stand and state her name and chapter.
- All motions, amendments, and resolutions shall be presented to the chair or presiding officer in written form before a vote is taken and shall be signed by the individual or chairs presenting such a motion.
- No second is needed when the motion comes from committee.
- All motions become part of the Recording Secretary's file.
- On speaking to a motion, each person is limited to five (5) minutes.
- The discussion time for any proposed amendment to the governing documents will be limited to ten minutes.
- No person shall speak more than twice to the same motion.
- Only Executive Board members may vote. The members of the Executive Board shall be elected officers, treasurer, immediate past president and chapter presidents.
- The parliamentarian and the past state presidents shall be ex-officio members without a vote.

Joanne Hill (Omicron) moved to accept the Rules of Order for Convention with a second. Kristine Solest (Eta) moved to amend by deleting "Only Executive Board members may vote. The members of the Executive Board shall be elected officers, treasurer, immediate past president and chapter presidents." Since a previous bullet states that all convention attendees may vote, this bullet contradicts. The amendment to the main motion was voted on and passed. Joanne Hill moved to accept the Rules of Order for the 2016 Convention as amended. Motion passed.

### **President's Report, Barbara Smith (Omicron)**

President Smith thanked the executive board, chapter presidents and past state presidents for their support and dedication to their positions this year. She also recognized a few members who have experienced very difficult health situations this year and who made it their goal to attend the 2016 convention. A few members, not able to join us because of continuing health situations, were also mentioned. All were acknowledged for their strength and determination to regain their strength and recover as quickly as possible.

The new membership recruitment plan is being used successfully in many of our chapters. Alpha Zeta State is looking forward to increasing our membership and initiating key women educators throughout the year.

Smith attended The US Forum/DKG Legislative Seminar and encouraged all members to try to attend this educational event in the future.

The expansion committee survey is almost complete. This coming year the data will be calculated and information will be sent to each chapter as a tool to help them focus on finding new members from school systems and educational institutions in their area.

Because of the chapter presidents' biennial reporting, it was determined that more members need to be exposed to the publication Focus on Finance. Our state finance chair will be sending this to each chapter president to distribute to their members when they receive it. Additionally, the world fellowship and educational excellence chairs will help chapters discern the the work done by the world fellowship committee and the international UN Schools for Africa Project.

The chapters were directed to review and update their SAP and submit it to the state SAP Committee for review and support by next September.

Help DKG Celebrate Founders Day May 11<sup>th</sup> at chapter birthday celebrations this spring. It's the 87<sup>th</sup> birthday of DKG this spring.

Members were encouraged to attend the international convention in Nashville, Tennessee July 5-9, 2016. A tri-fold of the convention was displayed for members to view and a "I may go" sign-up sheet was available to help with planning for the convention. Changes to International Standing Rules will be proposed ta this convention as well as voting for 2016-2018 International Officers and Elected Committee Members.

International has encouraged state presidents to share the proposed amendments to the International Standing Rules with others to study and discuss before the convention vote. They are in the most recent edition of the DKG News and on the Webpage. They were also sent via email to the executive committee and chapter presidents so they can be forwarded to each chapter member. Consider the implications of the proposed changes and discuss them. Contact me with your thoughts, comments or questions I will follow-up with the constitution committee for any clarifications needed.

Judy Merz and Claire Swanson would be available all weekend to help all members sign in to the new My DKG area of the DKG.org webpage.

The report concluded with the reminder that we all possess leadership qualities so we need to develop them as DKG leaders. Consider what will you contribute to your chapter and state for the future of AZS.

We must all take a part in the leadership roles and not always depend on the members who always step up to take the lead. We need all of you to set a goal to step up to be a leader in your chapter or at the state level. Believe in yourself, as much as others do, and together we can look forward to the future of a strong organization.

**Treasurer, Ellen Hahn (Beta)** provided the treasurer's report. Checking account balance as of 04/04/16 is \$18,726.82. The Margaret Abel Scholarship Fund balance as of 3/1/16 is \$63,030.86. Our Designated Funds account has \$56,660.00 and our CD, Commercial Savings, and TD Bank savings total \$58,660.00 as of 4/5/17.

President Smith asked for questions to the treasurer's report. Hearing none, the report will be filed for audit.

**Committee Standing Reports** (complete committee reports are attached as reference)

**Expansion - Mimi Weiss (Kappa), reporting for Pam Miller (Kappa)**

At the September 2015 meeting, the Expansion Committee distributed individual chapter spreadsheets to those in attendance. The purpose of the spreadsheet was to collect data on our members to determine where AZS has a

presence and to target school in their community that can recruit new members. Chapters not in attendance had their spreadsheet emailed to their president. Chapter expansion chairs updated the status of their members, provided the county of employment, name of the district/ educational setting currently employed, the name of school/building/educational setting and the county of full time residence for each member of their chapter.

To date, all but 2 chapters have returned their completed spreadsheet. All chapter spreadsheets can be found on the AZS web site under "Expansion Project 2015 ". Also, on the expansion committee web page is a link to the county BOE sites which list all the schools by county. The list of schools by county is to be used for the second part of the Expansion Project. Each chapter can use the data on their spreadsheet and the BOE sites to compare where their members have a presence and what schools/buildings within the county they need to target for new members. After the unrepresented educational settings have been identified, chapters should use the International Membership Plan to contact prospective members.

#### **Leadership Development – Ingrid Williams (Nu) reporting for Dr. Nora Pollard (Lambda)**

Incoming chapter officer should remember that the June state meeting will focus on leadership development to assist you as you begin your biennium in office. It is of utmost importance for as many of you as possible to attend this important meeting. More information will be sent to new chapter presidents to share with other chapter officers in mid-May.

#### **Membership - Dr. Pamela Albert Devine (Mu)**

This year sixty-one women educators were invited to membership in Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. I am pleased to report that fifty-six of these outstanding women have accepted this year, including the 2015-2016 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year! We look forward to the other five joining us next year. Even more exciting, we are so thrilled that thirty-eight of these women will be initiated at our ceremony this evening! The remaining eighteen, who were unable to be with us this weekend, will be initiated in their respective chapters.

I want to thank the membership chairs of Alpha Zeta State who have worked so hard on our recruitment initiative as well as learning our new online Confirmation to Membership process; your hard work is greatly appreciated. I would like to congratulate each sister who nominated and/or supported an initiate this year.

#### **Nominations - Roxanne Adinolfi (Sigma)**

The 2016 – 2018 International Executive Board will be elected at the DKG Convention in July. The January/February issue of the DKG News provides full disclosure on all nominees and those to be nominated at the convention. Please take time to review the information on pages 1 and 4-6. Contact AZS President Barbara Smith with your recommendations and preferences for those you feel will best serve our organization.

Members of the state nominations committee have communicated electronically thus far. The nineteen-member committee consists of one member from each chapter. If members of this committee will change during the next biennium, incoming chapter presidents should notify the state chair (me) in July.

It is time to think about selecting new Alpha Zeta State officers for the 2017 – 2019 biennium. This weekend and in the coming months be looking for those members in the state and your own chapter who you believe have the leadership skills to lead the state. The committee encourages current state officers to inform chapter nominations chairs whether they intend to seek another term in their current position or run for another executive position. The committee also would like to request that no one be discouraged from seeking an office based on who else might run. All interested members should communicate with chapter presidents and chapter nominations chairs.

Recommendations from the committee were implemented to update the 2016 nominations form. An interactive copy of the form can be found on the state website. It was posted on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The deadline to submit forms for 2017 – 2019 state officers is **September 30, 2016**. Committee members will meet in mid-October to review all submissions and begin the process of developing a slate of officers.

It is essential that new initiates and prospective members be informed that leadership is integral to becoming a member of DKG. Chapter leaders are urged to share this message. Without future chapter leaders our organization cannot survive. Leadership does not mean standing alone to serve; in fact, it means standing with members to serve. It is collegial and collaborative. As educators and former educators, we all know how to succeed in this endeavor. Let's work together to ensure NJ remains strong and viable!

### **Necrology - Ruth Mooney (Gamma)**

Nine extraordinary, key women educators of Alpha Zeta State will be honored at the Celebration of Life Ceremony on Sunday. They are Sarah Reba Burrichter, Constance Hunt, & Joyce Palumbo from Gamma; Lucille Whitmire from Epsilon; Florence Bak-Kernaghan and Carolyn M Campbell from Zeta; Elizabeth Donahue from Iota; Patricia Carmen and Judith Gibson from Xi. We will also honor all DKG International sisters that have died this past year.

### **Initiation - Carol Boehm (Lambda), Amy Weinstein (Gamma) and Angela Castaneda (Gamma)**

This morning, Alpha Zeta State Initiation ceremony rehearsal started at 8:00 am. The initiates, escorts and chapter presidents rehearsed this evening's ceremony. This year, 37 of the 56 new initiates from 13 of the 19 chapters will be initiated tonight. New this year, all initiates are wearing red ribbons in the hopes that current sisters will welcome and get to know our new initiates.

The 2016 Alpha Zeta State Initiation will begin promptly at 6:00 pm this evening April 9, 2016. All sisters are asked to take their seats by 5:45 pm so that State officers, our International guest, initiates and their escorts can line up in the Ballroom Foyer prior to the ceremony. Initiates and their escorts will meet at 5:30 pm in the first four rooms, labeled by chapter, down the Parlor Hallway. State officers will meet at 5:45 pm to line up in the Ballroom Foyer. We ask all participants to minimize any talking as we line up to help make this as orderly and quick as possible. Sigma Chapter will assist the Initiation Chairs in making preparation for the ceremony orderly and pleasant for all participants. Also, new this year the Initiation Chairs will communicate with each other using walkie talkies. We look forward to initiating our new sisters tonight.

### **Program Planning/Educational Excellence – Carol Schwartz (Gamma)**

The chapter and state program chairs of alpha Zeta State selected eleven programs for the 2016 convention. Each chapter voted for the two book discussions this year. All of the programs selected met three or more of the Society's seven purposes along with the DKG Mission Statement. The times for the workshops are 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM and 2:30 PM – 3:45 PM.

Each workshop offers Professional Development Certificates. Please be sure to take a certificate as you exit the workshop.

You have been issued a ticket for your workshop. The facilitators will collect the ticket at each session you attend. You must have a ticket to enter and at the end of the program your exit ticket will be the completed evaluation form. These forms are important and the information will be collated and used to plan for next year.

A very special thank you to the presenters for sharing their time and expertise with us. We are proud to have eight AZS members presenting workshops for us this year. This shows the professionalism and diversity of our DKG/AZS membership as key women educators.

Thank you to the members of the Program Planning Committee who helped choose, plan, and facilitate the programs for this convention.

Our Educational Excellence Committee has asked us to find our passion. President Smith has asked AZS to focus on the plight of missing and exploited children and women. We have invited Det. Paul Vanaman, currently employed by the New Jersey State Human Services Police assigned to the FBI Innocence Lost Task Force to be our keynote at our luncheon. He will also present an afternoon workshop.

The last three months have been filled with convention preparation. However, there has been time to attend the CTAUN Conference in New York City. New Jersey Alpha Zeta State was represented by quite a few members. Ruth Nielsen, our AZS UN Liaison, oversaw the information fair at the conference. The information available from the conference is online at [CTAUN.org](http://CTAUN.org). Please visit the site and check it out for school and classroom projects involving Stewardship for a Sustainable World: Education in the Sustainable Development Goals. With this underlying theme, all the speakers at this year's conference urged educators to commit themselves to teaching and promoting the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their classrooms and in their communities. Check it out at [www.CTAUN.org](http://www.CTAUN.org).

### **Legislation /US Forum - Carmela DeMarco (Gamma)**

The U.S. Forum's National Legislative Seminar was a 3-day event that took place in Washington, D.C. March 10 -16, 2016. Seventy-three DKG educators from 23 states plus the District of Columbia participated in the seminar. Eight Northeast states were represented.

The NLS provides an opportunity to explore identified issues pertinent to women, children and education. The issues, chosen at each of the four Regional Conferences included: Bullying/Cyber-bullying, Pay Equity, Human Trafficking, Mental Health, Gun Violence Prevention and High Stakes Testing/ESSA. Additionally, we had a presentation entitled, "Lobbying 101".

Monday's agenda focused on presentations relative to the identified issues. At the end of the afternoon session, Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Tarner, informally guided a strategy session in preparation for Tuesday's visit to the Hill. Then, participants met in small groups to prepare their talking points on specific issues. The talking points could be used when meeting with House or Senate Staff members. On Tuesday morning, we traveled to Capitol Hill where we assembled for a photo and then on to the Dirksen Senate Building for a briefing on Education. We heard from both a House Senior Education Policy Advisor as well as an Education Counsel from the Senate. Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Tarner facilitated this session.

This year, President Barbara Smith was a participant at the NLS. So, there were two DKG educators representing New Jersey. After the briefing, we decided to visit Senator Cory Booker's office and spoke with an aide as the Senator was in a meeting. However, we were very fortunate as we met Senator Booker's Education Aide and spent some time expressing concerns relative to education legislation. He was most congenial and knowledgeable. We even had a photo op!

The Closing Session of the NLS featured reports from participants on their visits to their respective Senate or House offices. Our Keynote Address entitled, "When the Fight is Right" was given by Jessica Donze Black. Her take-away message was that voices do matter with legislators. She said that when the "fight is right" – call, email, visit, write and finally use the power of your vote concerning an issue. Her talk was enthusiastic, passionate and inspiring.

### **Scholarships/Stipends - Faith Steinfert (Eta)**

Nine chapters participated in the selection of the award winner. Chapter representatives carefully reviewed and evaluated the application materials of eleven candidates. Although applicants were highly qualified, the selection was unanimous. The winner will be introduced and presented with the award at the AZS Convention Luncheon, Saturday, April 9.

### **Special Awards - Barbara Henderson (Epsilon) and Luella Vengenock (Beta)**

Changes in Rules and Bylaws for special awards were reviewed and procedures for convention were reviewed. The winner of the Dedicated Service Award has been chosen and the medallion was ordered in January. Deadlines for the information about Chapter Rose and Key Awards were announced in January.

The special awards committee chairs met with the Standing Rules and Bylaws chairs on March 22, 2016 and discussed the proposals for amendments to the Bylaws. The information will be presented to the new committee chairs for discussion in September again so they can be reviewed by the chapters.

**Strategic Action Plan - Pam Watkinson (Rho) reporting for Dr. Nora Pollard (Lambda)**

Incoming chapter officer presidents are asked to begin working on the strategic action plan for their chapter as soon as possible. Please review the plan from the previous biennium and document the progress made before developing your new plan. The AZS SAP is available on the website for reference regarding the state goals. Please submit your plan to the committee chairs by August 1, 2016.

**Newsletter - Dr. Margaret Niemiec (Rho)**

The newsletter committee would like to remind the executive committee, committee chairs and the chapter presidents of the Newsletter content and submittal schedule for the spring 2016 issue as well as the 2016-2017 Newsletter content and submittal schedule. The spring 2016 issue will focus on professional news from all chapters, information from the executive committee and individual committees as well as reports from the AZS Convention. Submission date is April 30, 2016.

Dates for 2016-2017 are as follows:

- The Fall 2016 Newsletter will focus on professional news from all chapters, information from the executive committee and individual committees. Submission date for all information is October 15, 2016. Publication is scheduled for November 5, 2016
- The Winter 2017 Newsletter will focus on the AZS Convention as well as information from the executive committee and individual committees. Submission date for all information is January 21, 2017. Publication is scheduled for February 11, 2017.
- The Spring 2017 Newsletter will focus on professional news from all chapters, information from the executive committee and individual committees. Submission date for all information is April 29, 2017. Publication is scheduled for May 20, 2017.

We would like to thank the members for submitting information in a timely fashion. In addition, we thank Jan Paxton for her prompt posting of the newsletter and Jane Tallmadge and Christine Musick for mailing the hard copies of the newsletter.

**New Business:**

Dr. Marilyn E. Gonyo (Lambda) asked if a requested letter sent to International last year had been answered. President Smith said there had been no answer to the letter sent to Dr. Lyn Schmid last spring by Past President Mary Conover. Our International guest, Executive Director Sandra Smith Bull, said she would follow up on it.

**Announcements:**

Dr. Judy Merz (Alpha) congratulated the AZS sisters who have submitted and been published in the new DKG Collegial Exchange publication- Collegial Exchange, 2015: Annabelle Boehm (Lambda) and Jan Wilson (Gamma) and in the Collegial Exchange, 2016: Debbie Hoeflinger (Alpha), and Wendy Crawford (Pi).

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Submitted by,  
Susan J. Davis

AZS Recording Secretary, Susan Davis (Epsilon)