



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

New Jersey Alpha Zeta State Organization  
Saturday January 11, 2014

AZ State Presidents, Mary Conover (Pi), called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the all-purpose room of the Sayen Elementary School in Hamilton, NJ.

President Conover called State Motivator, Johanna McCauley (Zeta), to deliver the motivational thought of the day.

Sharon Long (Iota) led the flag salute.

President Conover thanked McCauley and Long. She instructed committee members and chapter presidents to meet in assigned rooms from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Chapter Presidents – Library

Convention (Room #1)

Membership/Initiation – Room 2

Yearbook-Room 3

Scholarship/Stipends – Room 4

Rules and Bylaws – Room 5

Strategic Action Planning – Room 6

Finance Committee – Faculty Room

President Conover reconvened the general business meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Parliamentarian, Barbara Schaller (Zeta), reviewed the rules of order for the day:

- Each member must stand and state her name when addressing the body.
- The elected state officers, immediate past president and chapter presidents will serve as voting members. The state treasurer will be a voting member. The parliamentarian is a non-voting member.
- Members presenting a motion must give the president a written statement of the motion. Cards ( 5 x 8 ) can be found on the front table.
- Reports will be limited to three (3) minutes.
- Time for discussion will be limited to less than five (5) minutes.
- Debates will be limited to five (5) minutes.
- A second is not needed if the motion comes from committee.

Pam Albert (Mu), substituting for Recording Secretary Carol Schwartz, called the roll:

President	Mary Conover (Pi)	Present
First Vice President	Barbara Smith (Omicron)	Absent

Second Vice President	Sharon Long (Iota)	Present
Recording Secretary	Carol Schwartz (Gamma)	Absent
Corresponding Secretary	Dr. Pam Albert Devine (Mu)	Present
Treasurer	Ellen Hahn (Beta)	Present
Parliamentarian	Barbara Schaller (Zeta)	Present
Immediate Past President	Roxanne Adinolfi (Sigma)	Present

The following chapter presidents or representatives were present:

Alpha	Catherine Cleenput
Beta	Luella Venegenock
Gamma	Saula Cutter
Delta	Absent
Epsilon	Barbara Henderson
Zeta	Sarah Schaefer
Eta	Vickie Warner for Mary Zaccardi
Theta	Michele Klamerus
Iota	Irene Maskaly
Kappa	Mimi Weiss
Lambda	Kimberly Falcone
Mu	Carolyn Bennett
Nu	Jane Tallmadge
Xi	Janel Schaefer
Omicron	Alice Hazeltine
Pi	Carol Friedrich
Rho	Dr. Margaret Niemiec
Sigma	Elizabeth Procopio
Tau	Margaret Anzul

In the absence of Recording Secretary, Carol Schwartz, Pam Devine, provided hard copies of the September 7, 2013 minutes to anyone who had not received an electronic copy. President Conover called for additions and/or corrections to the minutes. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. The minutes were approved and will be filed in the state archives.

**Corresponding Secretary Dr. Pam Albert Devine (Mu)** reported that sixteen (16) cards were sent to AZS sisters. AZS received thank you messages from Bob Ginnochio, Barbara Smith and Jan Paxton. Four holiday cards were also received. Devine reminded attendees to contact her with information concerning any sister needing a card.

**Treasurer Ellen Hahn (Beta)** provided the treasurer's report. Hahn reported a balance of \$21,723.31 in the checking account of AZS as of December 30, 2013. The Margaret Abel Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$62,003.67 as of December 27, 2013. President Conover asked for questions to the treasurer's report. Hearing none, the report will be filed for audit.

#### **President's Report      Mary Conover (Pi)**

President Conover congratulated chapters for their successes: six chapters now have certified websites; several chapters have drafted their strategic action plans; members from seven chapters will be presenting at our April convention; and Educational Excellence Chair Irene Maskaly (Iota) has share projects in support of Project SEE with international.

Recording Secretary Carol Schwartz has developed a template for committee reports. The template is available on the state Web site.

The scholarship/stipends committee reports applicants for the Margaret Abel Award and the state stipend. The committee has also developed a revised application and evaluation grid for stipends and the tri-chairs are in the final stages of developing a brochure highlighting scholarship and stipends opportunities.

Margaret Niemiec (Rho) along with the Rho communications committee produced the first *AZS News* of this biennium. Conover congratulated the communications team.

The convention team is working to plan convention.

Conover thanked all committee chairs for their work and reminded chairs that space is available on the state Web site for committee news.

In November, Conover appointed an ad hoc committee for Chapter Awards for Excellence chaired by Barbara Smith. Committee members include Carmela DeMarco (Gamma) , Luella Vengenock, Barbara Henderson, and Judy Merz (Alpha). The charge of the committee was: to investigate the format and content of award presented in recognition of chapter achievement by other states; and to develop an award tailored to encourage and celebrate chapter achievement for AZS based on the goals and purposes of DKG, the state strategic action plan, and the goals of AZS for the 2013-2015 biennium. This suggested award is intended to recognize chapter achievement and excellence; encourage chapter cooperation and teamwork; encourage chapters to participate in state and international activities; and encourage chapters to meet state and international deadlines and goals.

Yearbook Chairs Saula Cutter(Gamma) and Jan Wilson(Gamma) completed research and conducted surveys involving the NE Regional Presidents and our AZS yearbook chairs.

Conover reported that she regretfully accepted the resignation of state parliamentarian, Eileen Smith. Conover welcomed Barbara Schaller to assuming this position. Conover thanked Dr. Marilyn Gonyo, Ambassador to the Parliamentarian, for her support of Barbara and the executive committee.

Conover congratulated Dr. Judy Merz for publication of an article in the recent issue of *The Bulletin*.

Conover thanked chapters for completing and submitting Form 80 to international and to Sharon Long.

Conover encouraged members to attend the international convention in Indianapolis, July 28-August 1.

She concluded by thanking members for sharing their knowledge, professionalism, creativity and willingness to work towards the purposes of DKG.

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

**Membership Sharon Long** (Iota)

Long thanked chapters for submitting Form 80 to international and to her.

Long encouraged chapters to seek qualified, outstanding women educators for membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

She then reminded chapters of the importance of submitting Form 11 (Recommendation for Membership) and the Confirmation of Invitation to Membership no later than February 1, 2014.

#### **Scholarship/Stipends Jean Jaeger (Alpha)**

Jaeger reported that the recipient for the Elizabeth M. Bozearth Scholarship Award will be announced at the 2014 AZS Convention. She then announced the two recipients for the Professional Growth Stipend are Kathy Turrisi (Epsilon), who will receive \$700, and Lillie Hendry (Mu), who will receive \$300. Furthermore, she reported that the committee is reviewing various forms used by the committee as well as the creation of a state scholarship/stipends brochure.

#### **Nominations Claire Swanson (Alpha)**

Swanson reported on the proposed work of the constitutional convention, 2014. She explained that attendees will vote on proposed amendments that will determine whether to continue with our current process of delegate voting or to institute a general election that allows every member to vote in the election of International Administrative Board and elected committee members. Swanson detailed the changes which will result if this proposal is approved. She noted that the decision rests with the vote of the 2014 Convention and concluded by suggesting members attending the convention to closely consider their vote. Swanson volunteered to provide additional information to convention attendees.

#### **Yearbook Saula Cutter (Gamma) and Jan Wilson (Gamma)**

Wilson reported the Yearbook Committee supported technological dissemination of the AZS Yearbook for several reasons including technological dissemination would (1) allow for efficient, timely delivery of information; (2) align with DKG technology initiatives; (3) be an environmentally sound practice; (4) would be financially responsible. However, she noted the method of dissemination is the decision of the membership.

Wilson then reported on an online survey sent to each of the Northeast Region presidents, as directed by the executive board at the September, 2013, state meeting. The survey netted a 57 % return rate. Survey results revealed that AZS's practice of publishing and financing a hardcopy statewide yearbook is not the standard practice for states in the Northeast Region.

Consequently, Wilson stated:

As directed by the Yearbook Committee, I move that AZS create a digital publication of the yearbook information. This electronic copy will be emailed to the chapter presidents and the chapter yearbook chairs who will be responsible for disseminating the yearbook by email to chapter members. The chapter will print, at their expense, hard copies only for members without email capability. The motion carried.

#### **Legislation Susan Beekman (Tau)**

Beekman encouraged chapters to share information she distributes with chapter members. She reported her sources include The National Women's Law Center, AAUW, NEA, U.S. Dept. of Education, NJ Office of Legislative Services, NJEA, the League of Women Voters and DKG's US Forum.

She reported two bills pending in the NJ Legislature, important to DKG members. (1) Bill S3086 deals with health insurance premiums of Board of Education and municipal employees; (2) Bill S1127 deals with the allowable length of a contract between a Board of Education and its teaching staff.

Beekman explained three federal issues: 1) Title I and IDEA; 2) Extending unemployment benefits; 3) raising the minimum wage.

She encouraged members to share and read information as a means to making informed decisions.

**Rules and Bylaws      Babette Wise (Pi) and Faith Steinfort (Eta)**

Steinfort requested and was granted an extension of time to 6 minutes.

After explaining the rationale for the actions, Steinfort stated:

It is moved to revise Article IX.C.e.2 of the AZS Bylaws to read : The Rules/Bylaws Committee shall receive all proposals for amending or revising the bylaws at any time; however, proposals must be submitted by September 1 to be considered for a vote by the membership at the state convention the following year. The Rules/Bylaws committee will present approved proposals to the state convention for vote.

Furthermore, the subsequent motion is to revise Article XV.B. of the AZS Bylaws to read :

Article XV.B.1. Proposed amendments or revisions to the bylaws may be submitted to the Rules/Bylaws Committee by any member, committee, board, or chapter no later than September 1 if they are to be considered at the next state convention.

The combined motions carried.

After explaining the rationale for the action, Steinfort then stated:

It is moved to include Article XV.B.2. to the AZS Rules and Bylaws to read:

Proposals for revisions or amendments to the Rules and Bylaws of AZS shall be submitted on the AZS Proposed Amendment/Revision Form : RBI-1.

The motion carried.

Steinfort commented that the four proposed amendments to the 2013 State Bylaws will be published in the January AZS *News* as per Article XV, Section A of the AZ State Bylaws.

Co-chair Wise congratulated chapters on their work towards revising and updating chapter rules.

**Educational Excellence      Irene Maskaly (Iota)**

Maskaly encouraged chapters to appoint an educational excellence chair or assign the responsibilities of educational excellence to a specific chair or committee.

She then thanked Pi and Lambda chapters for submitting chapter programs for SEE for publication in the DKG Educational Excellence Committee *EEC News*.

Maskaly reminded chapters to submit photos with photo releases to document activities involving educational excellence initiatives.

She announced that the CTAUN Conference at the United Nations will take place on Friday, January 31, 2014. The conference is titled Promoting Peace Through Education. AZS members are encouraged to attend. Katherine Makela, Omicron, will receive one of three CTAUN Best Practices Awards for 2013.

Maskaly congratulated Makela and her colleagues Maria Delaporte, Laura Sarluca, Michele Cucinotta, and Maureen Tyrrel for their design and implementation of the project, Positive Behavior Support in Schools – Dunfee Dragons R.O.A.R.

Maskaly concluded by reminding chapters that the Educational Excellence/Program Committee Biennial Reports (Form 26) are due February 1, 2013.

**Communication/Circulation      Dr. Margaret Niemiec (Rho)**

Niemiec reported that the first edition of the state newsletter for this biennium was posted on the AZS Web site on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and hard copies were mailed on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. She thanked everyone who contributed to this endeavor.

She alerted members that the Winter 2014 editions will be devoted to the convention, state business, scholarship, bylaws and nominations. Articles are to be submitted by January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The focus of the Spring 2014 Newsletter will be professional news from chapters as well as news from the convention. Articles must be submitted by April 30, 2014.

**Convention Mary Jean DiRoberto (Rho), Jan Paxton (Alpha), Susan Davis ( Epsilon)**

DiRoberto reported that all forms and detailed information concerning convention can be found on the AZS Web site. Registration is currently opened for both the hotel and convention activities.

**Program Planning Barbara Smith (Omicron)**

Smith reported that the committee met and approved six workshops and two book discussions for the 2014 convention. There will be three morning workshops and one book discussion and four afternoon workshops with one book discussion. The keynote speaker will be "Clinical Edutainer" Rosemarie D. Poverman who will share "Positive Humor-Personal Perceptions-Powerful Results."

**Exhibits/Record Books Michele Klamerus (Theta)**

Klamerus reminded chapters to bring their president's record books to display at convention. She also reminded the following committees to informative tri-folds for the info fair: educational excellence, legislation/US Forum, scholarship/stipends, world fellowship, membership, UN liaison and special awards.

**Necrology Cynthia Sokoloff (Alpha)**

Sokoloff expressed sympathy at the passing of seven AZS sisters as reported by chapters as of January 11, 2014. Chapter tributes to these sisters are due March 1. Sokoloff reminded chapters to submit the Annual Necrology Report (Form 2) by February 1, 2014.

**Special Committees:**

**Strategic Action Planning Roxanne Adinolfi ( Sigma)**

Adinolfi explained that the chapter SAP plan is personal and specific to the needs of the members it serves. Chapters are encouraged to revise plans by February, 2015.

**Chapter Excellence Award Ad Hoc Committee Barbara Smith (Omicron)**

Smith explained that President Conover formed an ad hoc committee to create an award to celebrate achievement of chapters. After studying various awards presented by other states, the committee met via Go-To-Meeting and drafted initial details of the criteria and application for the award. The proposal was approved by the AZS Executive Committee. Information concerning the AZS President's Award for Chapter Excellence is posted on the state Web site and will be shared with chapter presidents. The application for the award is due March 1, 2015 and will be presented to all qualified chapters at convention, 2015.

Smith stated:

Madame President, by direction of the AZS Awards Ad Hoc Committee and the AZS Executive Committee, I move that the proposed AZS President' Award for Chapter Excellence be included in the achievement awards offered by AZS for 2013-2015.

The motion carried.

**US Forum Carmela DeMarco (Gamma)**

DeMarco encouraged members to attend the National Legislative Seminar of the US Forum of DKG in Arlington, Virginia, March 16-19, 2014.

Conover called for additional reports. None were presented.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Announcements**

Jane Murphy (Sigma) announced that at the United Methodist Church in Haddonfield on February 9, 2014, a concert of interest to everyone who cares about history, children and music will be presented.

Conover thanked the AZS social committee of Nancy Whalen, Heidi Tilghman and Angie Belmont for the refreshments and their hospitality.

She then announced that the next AZS meeting will be April 4, 2014. She encouraged attendance at the morning business meeting at convention.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Submitted,  
Carol Schwartz (Gamma)