Negotiating Between Antecedents, Precedents and Innovations:

THE PI GAMMA MU STORY AT PENN

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Secretary, Pennsylvania Delta Chapter
Pi Gamma Mu

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PREFACE

Woodrow Wilson, then President of Princeton University (before the United States), remarked that if one cannot make history, he can at least try to write it.¹

The writing of the history of the Pennsylvania Delta (University of Pennsylvania) chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, international honor society in the social sciences, was stimulated in part by interest expressed by some of our student members and our University Archives and Records Center, and by the recent establishment by the Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees of history-writing grants known as Chapter Heritage Awards. The Chapter Heritage Award given to our chapter has allowed us to embark on this long overdue project. It is intended to serve different but related purposes: to provide Pi Gamma Mu and our University Archives with a complete historical record (1927-2008) of the Pennsylvania Delta chapter, to encourage the chapter’s use of historical material (e.g., for the chapter website, orientation of new members and officers, initiation ceremony, and other events), and to make historical information readily available to the chapter government to enable it to restore many fine chapter traditions and activities, and sponsor new ones that are consistent with the noble aims of Pi Gamma Mu.

I wish to thank the Pi Gamma Mu Board of Trustees for the Chapter Heritage Award, the Pi Gamma Mu international headquarters staff, particularly Mrs. Sue Watters, Mrs. Beth Biddle, and Mrs. Stephanie Villa, for their invaluable research assistance, the University of Pennsylvania Van Pelt Library, and Ms. Jim Duffin and Ms. Nancy Miller of the University of Pennsylvania Archives and Records Center for sharing their resources and providing photocopies of chapter

documents. Finally, I wish to thank the officers of our chapter, particularly our president, Dr. Henry Teune, Dr. Jacqueline C. Mancall, vice-president for programs, Mr. Anthony W. Orlando, vice-president for student affairs, Ms. Allina D. Boutilier, treasurer, and Dr. Michael W. Zuckerman, executive council member, for helpful comments and suggestions in improving the final version of the manuscript.

Roger L. Mendoza

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Cherry Hill, New Jersey
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I

EVOLUTION AND GROWTH
Social Science at Penn

Social science has a long and proud tradition at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn). Instruction in social science was begun at Penn and offered by the Reverend Robert Ellis Thompson -- economist, sociologist, and mathematician -- as early as 1869. The first professorship in social science in the United States was, in fact, established at Penn with the appointment of Thompson in 1874. Dr. James H. Brossard, Professor of Sociology and founding member of the Pi Gamma Mu chapter at Penn, credited Thompson for his “versatility” and interdisciplinary teaching approach, which helped establish social science “as a legitimate field for academic instruction for the American undergraduate.”

In 1881, the establishment of the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, as the nation’s first collegiate business school, promoted the study of the social sciences at Penn and the U.S. Until the early 1920s, the Wharton curriculum was comprised largely of social science courses, plus a limited number of offerings in accounting, finance, insurance, and commercial law. The Wharton School administratively and physically housed at Logan Hall (right) the university’s social science faculty and classes:

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Under its founder’s influence, the early Wharton School faculty was known for its advocacy of economic protectionism, an influential group within the larger Philadelphia School of Political Economy. Since the founding of the School, the newly developing social sciences were incorporated into the Wharton curriculum, with Reverend Robert Ellis Thompson teaching a common Wharton undergraduate curriculum that consisted almost entirely of the social sciences.4

Within a decade after the founding of the Wharton School, the American Academy of Political and Social Science was organized by social science faculty who came mostly from Penn. The Academy, also housed at Logan Hall, embraced “a broad set of social science disciplines while serving as an intermediary between scientific thought and practical effort and a venue where diverse perspectives on social issues could be voiced.”5

Against this backdrop it is understandable why Penn chose to establish a chapter of Pi Gamma Mu on its campus. Until the 1920s, Phi Beta Kappa -- the nation’s oldest fraternity (founded 1776) that became an “honor” society in 1898 -- elected juniors and seniors majoring in “literary studies” and philosophy.6 Sigma Xi was its equivalent in the sciences before it chose to become a purely scientific research society in 1928. The Wharton School -- as the nucleus of the social science departments at Penn -- needed a multi-disciplinary association that would recognize superior scholarship in the traditional and applied social sciences, and promote cooperation among them. The founding of Pi Gamma Mu “reflected the [Wharton] school’s commitment to using multiple disciplines to solve real-world problems.”7

Chartering the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter

The connection between the Wharton School and Pi Gamma Mu was established after the former offered fellowships to social science faculty from other colleges and universities to allow them to spend a term or two teaching courses and presenting their research. Among the Wharton fellows was the highly respected economist and legal scholar Dr. William Angus Hamilton (left), who held concurrently the deanships of the School of Business Administration and the School of Jurisprudence (now Law) at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Hamilton, also a Phi Beta Kappan, was one of Pi Gamma Mu’s founders. At that time, he was its National Secretary-Treasurer. Four eminent economists on the Wharton faculty became interested in Pi Gamma Mu after Hamilton arrived in Philadelphia: Dr. Emory R. Johnson, Wharton’s dean and the country’s first specialized business professor, Dr. Solomon S. Huebner, Chairman of the Insurance Department, Dr. Ernest Minor Patterson, Chairman of the Department of Economics and President of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (subsequently a member of the Pi Gamma Mu General Council), and Dr. S. Howard Patterson (above right), author of several economics textbooks, who succeeded the elder Patterson (no relations) as Chairman of the Department of Economics. They submitted the petition for a Pi Gamma Mu Charter to the national headquarters in Winfield, Kansas late in 1926.

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The task of forming a group of at least ten founding or charter members, as required by the Pi Gamma Mu General Council, fell in the hands of Dr. S. Howard Patterson, who eventually became the new chapter’s first president (1927 to 1931). His invitation to set up a Penn chapter was enthusiastically received by the Wharton faculty, 27 of which served as charter members. They represented “the most famous social scientists of the University of Pennsylvania of those days.”

The Charter of the society was conveyed by Dean Hamilton and Pi Gamma Mu member-at-large Dr. Leo S. Rowe (of the American Academy of Political and Social Science) to an all-faculty charter group at a ceremony and banquet held at the partially completed Memorial Hall of the Christian Association Building (now ARCH auditorium) on Wednesday, June 1, 1927:

Herman Vanderburg Ames, Dean of the Graduate School and Professor of American Constitutional History
James H. S. Brossard, Professor of Sociology
Thomas Allibone Budd, Assistant Professor of Accounting and Registrar of the Wharton School
Raymond T. Bye, Professor of Economics
Harry Thomas Collings, Professor of Commerce
Edwin Potts Cheney, Professor of European History
Waldo E. Fisher, Assistant Professor of Industry
Paul F. Gemmill, Assistant Professor of Economics
Lincoln Withington Hall, Assistant Professor of Economics
William W. Hewett, Assistant Professor of Economics
Solomon S. Huebner, Professor and Chairman, Department of Insurance
Emory R. Johnson, Dean of the Wharton School and Professor of Transportation and Commerce
Clyde Lyndon King, Professor of Political Science
Clifford Kirkpatrick, Assistant Professor of Geography
James P. Lichtenberger, Professor of Sociology
William Ezra Lingelbach, Acting Dean of the College and Professor of Modern European History
Austin Faulks MacDonald, Assistant Professor of Political Science

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Roland S. Morris, Professor of International Law
Ernest Minor Patterson, Professor and Chairman, Department of Economics
S. Howard Patterson, Assistant Professor of Economics, *Chapter President*
Wilbur Clayton Plummer, Assistant Professor of Economics
Stuart A. Rice, Professor of Sociology and Statistics
Karl W. H. Scholz, Assistant Professor of Economics
Johan Thorsten Sellin, Assistant Professor of Sociology
W. Wallace Weaver, Instructor in Sociology
Joseph Henry Willitts, Professor and Chairman, Department of Geography and Industry
Donald Ramsey Young, Assistant Professor of Sociology
and Secretary of the Faculty of the Wharton School

The 1927 Charter (left) formally installed the Pennsylvania Delta chapter (i.e., the fourth chapter in the state). It was one of the first Pi Gamma Mu chapters to be chartered in a large university.\(^{11}\) The Charter remains in the possession of the chapter.

The objectives of Pi Gamma Mu were explained at length in one of the early “blue books” given to the newly initiated members of Pennsylvania Delta:

Pi Gamma Mu was organized not to oppose or advocate any particular social movement. It aims to instill in the mind of the individual a scientific attitude toward all social questions. Its particular purpose is to send out from our colleges and universities young men and women imbued with social idealism, trained in scientific thought and encouraged to help others to be scientific in their thinking on all social questions. Incidentally, it aims at more cooperation between students of the several branches of social science, all of which must make contributions of knowledge if our social problems are to be solved. … [It] differs from the ordinary honor society, in having an active program for the society as a whole, its chapters and all of its members.

…. Dr. S. Howard Patterson of the University of Pennsylvania, one of the earliest leaders in the Pi Gamma Mu movement, is the author of one of the simplest and most popular summaries given in numerous addresses all over the country, in which he states that the ideals of Pi Gamma Mu are “Scholarship, Synthesis, and Service.”\(^{12}\)

Chapter Organization and Leadership

Pennsylvania Delta has remained in continuous and active existence since 1927, with the exception of six years (2001-2006) when it was placed on the inactive rolls of the society. As “one of the oldest and finest of Pi Gamma Mu chapters,”\(^\text{13}\) it was the recipient of the Most Outstanding Chapter Program award in the 1940s and 1950s, and of its successor awards, the Roll of Merit and Roll of Distinction, in later years. In 2008, it was again selected for a Roll of Merit for its excellent program of activities.\(^\text{14}\)

Key to the longevity, excellence, and dynamism of Pennsylvania Delta as a chapter is its structural organization and the support of the social science faculty at Penn. The incumbent chapter president, Dr. Henry Teune, recalled that faculty attendance at chapter meetings and events in the 1970s and 1980s often numbered 60 or more.\(^\text{15}\) Asked what he thought was Pennsylvania Delta’s most important organizational characteristic, Professor Edwin W. Haefele, former chapter vice-president-secretary, said it was “probably the multi-disciplinary faculty composition of the chapter government.”\(^\text{16}\) From its installation in 1927, the chapter has functioned with more than the required minimum of two faculty sponsors and has been under the management of a disciplinarily-diverse Executive Committee (renamed Executive Council in 2006):

\(^{13}\) Chapter News, Social Science 23 (April 1948): 127.
\(^{14}\) Rolls Announced, Pi Gamma Mu Newsletter, January 2008, 3.
Another contributing factor in the success of this chapter is their executive committee organization. This committee consists of a faculty member from each of the big five social sciences (history, government, economics, sociology and anthropology) who meet each term, with completed record sheets before them, to elect members, being careful at all times to maintain a balance between branches and departments. With an able faculty sponsor as secretary-treasurer, and with the forms filled out in advance by a competent clerk, the committee moves swiftly and smoothly.17

In the 1950s, psychology and international relations, were added to “the big five social sciences” represented in the Executive Committee. Upon its reactivation in December 2006, Pennsylvania Delta broadened the membership of the Executive Council (left) to include faculty from applied social science departments (such as social work, criminology, and education), which are recognized under the Pi Gamma Mu international constitution, and university staff and alumni. The composition of the Executive Council, under the present chapter Constitution and By-Laws, seeks to “promote shared responsibility and broader representation in chapter stewardship.”18

Several prominent Pi Gamma Mu members served on the Executive Committee of Pennsylvania Delta. They include Dr. Roy F. Nichols (Pulitzer Prize in History, 1949), who represented the Department of History for over a decade from 1936 until the 1940s, Dr. Simon S. Kuznets (Nobel Prize in Economic Science, 1971), Department of Economics faculty representative in the 1940s, and Dr. Rebecca Jean Brownlee, who served on the Executive

Committee representing the Department of Political Science in the 1960s and 1970s while Dean of the College for Women.

The Executive Committee/Council has consistently encouraged student representation and participation in chapter governance. The chapter Constitution and By-Laws provide that:

The Vice-President (Student Affairs) shall preferably be selected by the Council from the student members, and shall perform the following functions:

- To act as the representative of student members on Council;
- To represent the Chapter before the various student organizations at the University of Pennsylvania;
- To serve as liaison for student nominees prior to their election to life membership;
- To coordinate student activities and projects of the Chapter as chair of the Committee on Student Affairs and Activities; and
- To perform other duties as may be assigned.  

A few students who served in the Executive Committee gained prominence later in life. One of them, Charles Kindleberger, was “a campus leader in many student activities, as well as the holder of an excellent scholastic record” at Penn. He rose to become a leading economic historian and MIT economics professor, and the chief architect of the Marshall Plan for the postwar rehabilitation of Europe in the late 1940s. Reginald H. Jones was elected to Pi Gamma Mu as a Wharton junior in 1937. He became board chairman and chief executive officer of General Electric from 1970 to the time he retired in 1981. Edward B. Shils, another student representative to the Executive Committee and chairman of the chapter student forum, became Pennsylvania Delta’s longest-serving chapter president (1959-2000). Shils, who founded the Wharton Entrepreneurial Center and the Community College of Philadelphia, among others,

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19 Section 7, Article III, Constitution and By-Laws of the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu.
20 Pi Gamma Mu News, Social Science 6 (July 1931): 343.
holds the distinction of having earned the most number of academic degrees from Penn (six in all) and served as Professor of Management at the Wharton School for almost 50 years.

Around 1940, it appears that the number of active faculty and student members (over 80) had become quite “unwieldy” that the chapter president, Dr. Edward W. Carter, and Dr. Bradford W. West, chapter secretary, formed a “graduate chapter” or section.21 The smaller graduate group prescribed higher eligibility requirements for its members compared to its undergraduate counterpart and sought to foster closer relationships between graduate students and their faculty advisers. The graduate group became inactive in 1946, was restored by Dr. Arleigh P. Hess, Jr., chapter president, during the school year 1949-1950, and was reintegrated with the undergraduate section upon the chapter’s reorganization by Dr. Shils in February 1959.

Finally, the able and distinguished leadership provided by the various faculty members who have served as chapter presidents and, in that capacity, as primary faculty sponsor, over a span of 81 years has been critical to the success of Pennsylvania Delta. Each of them also served Penn in various leadership capacities (as department chairman, director, vice-dean, dean, or provost):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1927-1931</td>
<td>S. Howard Patterson</td>
<td>Professor of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931-1932</td>
<td>Wilbur C. Plummer</td>
<td>Professor of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932-1938</td>
<td>William N. Loucks</td>
<td>Professor of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938-1942</td>
<td>Edward W. Carter</td>
<td>Professor of Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942-1944</td>
<td>Bradford W. West</td>
<td>Professor of Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944-1948</td>
<td>Edward W. Carter</td>
<td>Professor of Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948-1958</td>
<td>Arleigh P. Hess, Jr.</td>
<td>Professor of Economics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Pi Gamma Mu in the Philippines

Pennsylvania Delta chapter members played a unique role in helping to charter one of Pi Gamma Mu’s first foreign chapters. In May 1932, Dr. W. Leon Godshall (top right) and Dr. Roland S. Morris (bottom right), Visiting Professors of Political Science and Law, respectively, at the University of the Philippines in Manila, organized and installed the Philippine Alpha chapter there.\(^{22}\) The charter members from the University of the Philippines (below) included a Philippine senator, Ludovico Hidrosollo, who became the first governor of the Philippine Province of Pi Gamma Mu, and prominent economists led by Conrado F. Benitez, Dean of the School of Business Administration and first chapter president.\(^ {23}\) Godshall, who earned all his degrees from Penn, returned to the University of the Philippines as Visiting Professor of Political Science in 1953, while serving as Pi Gamma Mu’s National President (1951-1956). Morris belonged to a historically prominent family from Philadelphia and was a founding member of Pennsylvania Delta. He served as U.S. ambassador to Japan

\(^{22}\) Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pi Gamma Mu, Inc., Atlantic City, New Jersey, December 27-28, 1932.

\(^{23}\) Chapter News, Pi Gamma Mu Newsletter, March 2008, 6.
(1917-1921) and, in that capacity, proposed measures to address problems of Japanese immigration and land ownership in the U.S. and the Philippines in the 1920s.  

The antecedents or stimuli to the founding of Philippine Alpha bore striking resemblance to those of Pennsylvania Delta only a few years earlier: an all-faculty charter group led by economists and drawn largely from the membership of the Philippine Academy of Social Sciences, and a local chapter contained in the School of Business Administration (the Philippines’ first) which existed under the College of Liberal Arts and offered a predominantly social science curriculum. Pi Gamma Mu was also organized at Penn and the University of the Philippines through the initiative of visiting professors.

Another Pi Gamma Muan from Pennsylvania Delta led the restoration of Philippine Alpha following the almost total destruction of the old campus of the University of the Philippines in the aftermath of World War II. S. Howard Patterson, founding president of Pennsylvania Delta and longest-serving National President of Pi Gamma Mu (1937-1951), later presented a commemorative plaque to the officers of Philippine Alpha, which contained the names of their chapter members who perished in the war.

Over the years, many Pi Gamma Muans from the University of the Philippines went to complete their graduate and professional degrees at Penn. Among those who rose to national prominence were Cesar E.A. Virata, long-time Prime Minister and Secretary of Finance, Solita C. Monsod, Secretary of Economic Planning, Serafin Quiason, Director of the National Library, and

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Christian S. Monsod, Chairman of the Commission on Elections and NAMFREL. Philippine Alpha has remained one of Pi Gamma Mu’s most outstanding chapters in terms of the scope of activities, projects, institutional support, and membership:

Again, the quality of the people elected to the Philippine Alpha chapter has been most impressive. They have included two Presidents of the Republic, two Prime Ministers, a dozen Supreme Court Justices, and two dozen Cabinet members. Concerning the University of the Philippines itself, there have been six Presidents, a dozen Chancellors and Vice Chancellors, and dozens upon dozens of deans of the university...  

In 2007, Philippine Alpha celebrated its 75th anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) with a year-long series of events and activities. Pennsylvania Delta’s Executive Council passed a resolution, presented by Dr. Gordon Mercer, International President of Pi Gamma Mu, and printed in their Diamond Jubilee souvenir program, which congratulated Philippine Alpha and highlighted the two chapters’ shared history. A letter from the Philippine Alpha chapter president, Dean Elizabeth R. Ventura, expressed gratitude for the resolution and reaffirmed these historic ties.

Pi Gamma Mu Conventions and Trustee Meetings

Pennsylvania Delta played host or co-host to two biennial conventions and two Board of Trustees Meetings of the society. Both conventions and one trustee meeting were held at the

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Benjamin Franklin Hotel (now Benjamin Franklin House), then Philadelphia’s largest and most prestigious hotel.

The Fourth Biennial Convention, from December 27-29, 1933, took place in Philadelphia at the invitation of Pi Gamma Mu’s National Treasurer, Dr. S. Howard Patterson, Chairman of the Department of Economics at Penn, who delivered the welcome address. There was considerable discussion at the 1933 convention (below) about “ways to ‘democratize’ the leadership of the Society (e.g., by increasing the number of regions) to encourage greater participation among the chapters and their delegates.”

The Seventh National Convention, held on December 26-28, 1939, was hosted by the Pennsylvania Eta chapter (Temple University), with Pennsylvania Delta as co-sponsor. The two chapters tendered a joint reception for the faculty and student delegates at the 1939 convention. The 1939 convention transacted standard business, tightened admission standards for members and new chapters, and discussed the Society’s participation at the golden anniversary of the Pan-American Union. By then, Pennsylvania Delta’s founder, Dr. S. Howard Patterson, had assumed the national presidency (1937-1951) of Pi Gamma Mu.

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30 Ibid.
Pennsylvania Delta’s chapter delegation was headed by Dr. William N. Loucks, its former president and newly designated Governor of the Pennsylvania Province of Pi Gamma Mu.\textsuperscript{31}

In 1951, the Board of Trustees conducted their annual meeting at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel (now Park Hyatt Philadelphia), which was addressed by Penn President Harold Stassen. It was also hosted by Pennsylvania Delta. After the Pi Gamma Mu Constitution was amended in 1963 to replace biennial conventions with Board of Trustees meetings (at least for the next 22 years), Pennsylvania Delta co-hosted the trustees’1966 meeting at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. The meeting became preoccupied with issues concerning its quarterly peer-reviewed journal, \textit{Social Science}, including rising publication costs.\textsuperscript{32} The Board of Trustees meeting was last held in Philadelphia on April 20-23, 1979,\textsuperscript{33} although Pennsylvania Delta neither sponsored nor co-sponsored the event. It was at this meeting that Pennsylvania Delta, represented by its president, was awarded membership in the newly created \textit{One Thousand Club} for having passed that mark in terms of members elected to Pi Gamma Mu as of December 31, 1978.\textsuperscript{34}

\textbf{Institutional Sponsorship of Pi Gamma Mu Journal}

Upon the death of the Society’s founder, Dean Leroy Allen, in August 1947, the Board of Trustees voted to transfer the editorial offices of \textit{Social Science} from the Pi Gamma Mu headquarters in Winfield, Kansas to Logan

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\textsuperscript{31}\textit{Minutes of the Seventh National Convention of the National Social Science Honor Society Pi Gamma Mu}, Philadelphia, PA, December 26, 27, 28, 1939.
\textsuperscript{32} Johnston, \textit{op.cit.}, 32.
\textsuperscript{33} \textit{Ibid.}, 35-36.
\textsuperscript{34} I.T. Gray correspondence with E.B. Shils, December 5, 1978.
\end{flushright}
Hall, home of the Wharton School, at the invitation of outgoing Pennsylvania Delta President Edward W. Carter. The trustees had just elected Carter to replace Allen as journal editor (a paid position). Allen, the founding editor, served from 1925 to 1947; Carter was to serve as editor for almost 12 years (1948-1959).

In 1951, with increased journal subscription, Dr. Carter recommended, and the trustees elected, Dr. Henry J. Abraham, Instructor in Political Science, to become one of three assistant editors. Other Penn faculty, such as Dr. William N. Loucks and Dr. Karl Scholz, sat on the editorial board. Dr. Abraham, then Pennsylvania Delta’s secretary-treasurer, had joined Pi Gamma Mu while a student at Penn. Of all the Pi Gamma Mu members from Pennsylvania Delta, Abraham had the longest association with Social Science, rising to become its associate editor in 1954, and later as a member of the editorial board until 1992. By that time, he was already Professor of Government at the University of Virginia, and Social Science had been renamed International Social Science Review.

Under the editorial leadership of Dr. Carter and Dr. Abraham, Social Science began to solicit articles from social scientists outside of the United States. Other Penn faculty members continued to contribute articles to the peer-reviewed journal as they had done since its early days.

Unfortunately, Penn’s institutional sponsorship of Social Science did not end on a pleasant note. The trustees of Pi Gamma Mu expressed dissatisfaction with Dr. Carter’s handling of the journal, particularly in his last two years in office. This eventually prompted his

resignation and the immediate transfer in the summer of 1959 of the journal’s editorial offices to the University of Toledo in Ohio\textsuperscript{36} under Dr. Panos Bardis, its editor from 1959 to 1994.

\textbf{Reorganization of the Wharton School}

During the school year 1974-1975, the Wharton School, which had housed Pennsylvania Delta since its founding, was reorganized. A unified School of Arts and Sciences was created from the merger of Wharton’s four remaining social science departments (economics, political science, sociology, and regional science/geography) and the existing College, College for Women, and Graduate School based on the recommendations of a university task force.\textsuperscript{37} The new School of Arts and Sciences sought to address the critical issues of “fragmentation of Penn’s arts and sciences faculty into highly autonomous units” and “limited opportunities for interdisciplinary teaching and research.”\textsuperscript{38}

However, the 1975 restructuring had some adverse effects on Pennsylvania Delta. These included the gradual loss of institutional support from the Wharton School and significantly reduced collaboration between social science faculty and students from the Wharton School and the School of Arts and Sciences, “as Wharton drifted away on its own, focusing on more theoretical analyses of business.”\textsuperscript{39} Prior to 1975, the size of the faculty of the Wharton social science departments equaled that of the business departments. Practically every dean of the

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{36} Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the National Social Science Honor Society, Pi Gamma Mu, Inc., Palmer House, Chicago, December 20-21, 1958; Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Pi Gamma Mu, Inc., The University of Denver, Denver, CO, June 19-21, 1959; Johnston, \textit{op.cit.}, 22, 27.
\item \textsuperscript{37} M. Myerson, The State of the University, 1974: A Progress Report from the President of the University of Pennsylvania, \textit{Almanac Supplement}, February 15, 1974, 11.
\item \textsuperscript{38} A Commitment to Interdisciplinary Study, \textit{Almanac Supplement}, May 23, 1978, 1.
\item \textsuperscript{39} H. Teune quoted in Chen, \textit{op.cit.}
\end{itemize}
Wharton School since 1927 was also a member of Pennsylvania Delta; its deans offered funding to many chapter events and activities. After 1975, although Pennsylvania Delta remained under the leadership of a Wharton faculty member, the active support and participation of social science faculty from the two schools waned. It is this sense of cooperation between Penn’s various schools (offering traditional and applied social science programs) that the chapter Executive Council led by Dr. Henry Teune hopes to eventually revive.\textsuperscript{40}

\textsuperscript{40} Ibid.
CHAPTER TRADITIONS AND EVENTS
Houston Hall Coffee Hour

Pennsylvania Delta is a Pi Gamma Mu chapter steeped in tradition. One of its most enduring traditions is a forum for student presentations held over coffee (and tea) at Houston Hall, the nation’s first student union and venue for many past Pi Gamma Mu activities (left). The Houston Hall Coffee Hour was initiated in 1932 by then chapter president Dr. Wilbur C. Plummer. Its purpose is to promote Pi Gamma Mu’s mission of interdisciplinary scholarship and cooperation in the social sciences by encouraging student members to present their finished and partially completed research papers and theses, and submit them to peer-reviewed journals, including the International Social Science Review of Pi Gamma Mu. The chapter sponsored one or two of these coffee hours during the school year.

Sometime between 1936 and 1938, it appears that the Coffee Hour was transformed into a monthly “seminar meeting … designed to afford opportunity for undergraduate and graduate members of the chapter to discuss among themselves ethical aspects of current economic, political, and social issues.” The first of these ethics seminars, held on December 10, 1936, was on the subject of The Ethical Soundness of the Consumers’ Cooperative Movement.

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41 See, for example, Pi Gamma Mu News, Social Science 14 (January 1939): 94.
44 Ibid.
The Coffee Hour was revived on February 27, 2008 in the form of a luncheon meeting held at Stiteler Hall, instead of Houston Hall. A call for papers was issued by the vice-president for student affairs through an email sent in January 2008 to all student members. Four undergraduates offered to present their papers. Two were selected due to time constraints. Rachel C. Conrad held a PowerPoint presentation on the Challenges to the Expansion of AIDS Treatment in Sub-Saharan Africa based on her senior honors thesis in the Health and Societies Program. Our Towne House: the Old State House, Social Memory, and the Limits of Agency was the subject of Thomas Hou’s presentation based on his urban studies term paper. Like the coffee hours of the past, the 2008 student presentations were each followed by an open forum.

**Speaker’s Luncheon Meetings**

Annual chapter reports tend to indicate that speakers’ luncheon meetings were the most frequently sponsored activity of Pennsylvania Delta for many years. Between 1928 and 1965, an average of four of these meetings was held during the school year. In the 1930s, they were conducted on a bi-monthly basis.

Dr. Edward B. Shils, chapter president for 40 years, underscored the function of luncheon meetings when he noted that “[o]ver the years a Pi Gamma Mu luncheon has also served as a vehicle for inviting an occasional distinguished guest to the campus.”

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45 *Agenda, Houston Hall Coffee Hour*, February 27, 2008, 12-1:30 p.m. Stiteler Hall, University of Pennsylvania.
46 *Pi Gamma Mu News, Social Science* 14 (January 1939): 94.
47 Shils correspondence, *op.cit.*
archived correspondence shows -- made every effort to establish a balance in the selection of academic and non-academic speakers from within and outside of the university.

The report of Dr. Edward W. Carter, as chapter president, to the Dean of Student Affairs at Penn, quoted in part below, exemplified Pennsylvania Delta’s program during the school year and the prominence of the speaker’s luncheon meeting:

SUMMARY OF PI GAMMA MU ACTIVITIES 1940-41

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Student Coffee Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1940</td>
<td>Fall Election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 18</td>
<td>Luncheon – William P. Maddox, Professor of Political Science, “Japan and China”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 28</td>
<td>Delegates to Annual Meeting and Banquet of the National Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 23</td>
<td>Graduate Chapter – Luncheon – Claire Wilcox, Professor of Economics, Swarthmore College and Consultant Temporary National Economic Committee. Awarded Scholarship Plaque to Tau Kappa Epsilon Men’s Fraternity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Luncheon – Arthur Binns, Realtor, Chairman, Mayor of Philadelphia’s Committee on Housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Luncheon – Dorothy P. Schoell, Director of Research, Philadelphia Housing Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Spring Election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Annual Dinner - Dr. Alexander Stoddard, Superintendent of Schools, Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Awarded Scholarship Plaque to Alpha Omicron Pi Women’s Fraternity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Features This Year

Award for improvement in scholarship

Women's Fraternities - May 16
Men's Fraternities - January 23

Formation of Graduate Chapter

Following the reactivation of Pennsylvania Delta in 2006, the chapter luncheon meetings were gradually restored. During the school year 2007-2008, these luncheons were named as follows to distinguish them from one another in terms of their intended purpose and speaker/s:

Simon S. Kuznets Fellowship Hour – Named after the 1971 Nobel Laureate in Economic Science and Pi Gamma Mu member who served in the Executive Committee (right), this luncheon meeting is devoted to interdisciplinary methods and approaches in the social sciences, with a faculty member as presenter. Mr. Anthony Orlando, Vice-President for Student Affairs, captured the objective of this activity when he said: “[e]very year, we want to have one of the professors here show how research in their field of study involves other disciplines.”49 Dr. Theodore G. Schurr, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Pi Gamma Mu member, presented at the first Kuznets Fellowship Hour, March 28, 2008, on

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Studying Human Nature in Biological Anthropology.50

**R. Jean Brownlee Lecture** – Named after one of the chapter’s first female members who served on the Executive Committee and held the deanship of the College for Women (1959-1975), this luncheon lecture seeks to emphasize Pi Gamma Mu’s ideal of public or social service, and usually features a speaker from outside of the Penn community. On November 12, 2008, Pennsylvania Delta sponsored its first Brownlee Lecture with Carl Greene, President and CEO of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, as guest speaker on the subject of *Urban Housing and Redevelopment: A Practitioner’s Perspective.*

**Edward B. Shils Memorial Lecture** – Named after the chapter’s longest-serving president (1959-2000, right), this lecture focuses on the subject of interdisciplinarity in the social sciences and usually, but not necessarily, serves as the keynote address during the orientation session for the incoming batch of chapter members.51 Dean Michael Delli Carpini of the Annenberg School for Communication delivered the 2008 lecture entitled *Crossing Boundaries: Political Science, Communication, and Interdisciplinarity.* Dr. Paul Root Wolpe, Professor of Psychiatry and Sociology at Penn and President of the American Society for Bioethics and

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Humanities, delivered the 2007 lecture on *Bioethics and Disciplinarity in the Social Sciences*. Dinner is usually hosted by the Executive Council for the invited speaker.

**Annual Chapter Dinner**

In 1935, chapter president Dr. William N. Loucks started Pennsylvania Delta’s annual dinner tradition following a similar practice by the Board of Trustees at the national level. Like the national society dinner, its purpose was to commemorate the founding of Pi Gamma Mu (in this case at Penn).

In contrast to the chapter luncheon meetings, attendance at these consecutively numbered annual dinners (not to be confused with the annual induction dinner or banquet) was generally limited to chapter officers, faculty, and special guests. The subject of the invited speaker’s address did not necessarily have to be scholarly in nature (although most of the time it was) and no open forum or discussion followed. A published account of the 1946 dinner offers an illustration:

> The tenth annual dinner meeting of the University of Pennsylvania chapter was held March 11 in Philadelphia. About thirty-five members attended. Dr. Roy F. Nichols, chairman of the history department, presided. The principal speaker was Dr. George W. Taylor, Professor of Industry at the University of Pennsylvania, former chairman of the National War Labor Board, and author of the Little Steel Formula. Dr. Taylor spoke on “Labor Problems of the Postwar Era.” The National President, Dr. S. Howard Patterson,

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52 In 1932, the national Board of Trustees of Pi Gamma Mu encouraged all of its chapters to hold an annual program designated as Founders’ Day to celebrate the establishment of the society. See *Minutes of the Board of Trustees, 1932, op.cit.*, 97.
Professor of Economics at the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. John M. Fogg, Vice Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, were among those present.\textsuperscript{53}

In further contrast to the Coffee Hour and luncheon meetings, Pennsylvania Delta did not confine its annual dinner speakers to social scientists. Neither did the subject of their addresses necessarily relate, even remotely, to the social sciences, as evidenced by several dinner addresses, including the one selected for the 1945 dinner:

The main address of the evening was delivered by Dr. [John N.] Fogg, a brilliant botanist, as well as an able educational administrator. It was entitled “Around the World in Thirty Minutes,” and consisted of a brief but brilliant summary of the interrelationships of the world’s flora, explained in terms of basic geological factors and changes. The success of this meeting, the high standing of our society on the Pennsylvania campus, and the sound condition of this chapter are due, in large measure, to the able leadership of Dr. Carter.\textsuperscript{54}

There were a few years when the annual dinner was hosted by Pennsylvania Delta jointly with another local (Pennsylvania) chapter, such as the one held in 1938:

The University of Pennsylvania and Temple University chapters held a joint dinner on May 20, 1938, in honor of President Harold W. Dodds of Princeton University, who was elected an honorary member of the University of Pennsylvania chapter and awarded an honor key by the national board of trustees. Dr. James T. Young, Professor of Political Science in the University of Pennsylvania, presided. The other speakers included Dr. Dodds, President Beury of Temple University, Vice-President Brakeley of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Francis J. Lucey, Regent of the Georgetown University School of Law and [Pi Gamma Mu] Chancellor of the Region, Dr. James J. Hayden, and Dr. S. Howard Patterson.\textsuperscript{55}

The annual chapter dinners lasted well into the 1970s. In 1977 and 1978, they were the highlight of the chapter’s 50\textsuperscript{th} (or golden) anniversary celebration. The annual dinner tradition

\textsuperscript{53} Pi Gamma Mu News, Social Science 21 (July 1946): 266-267.
\textsuperscript{54} Pi Gamma Mu News, Social Science 20 (July 1945): 191.
\textsuperscript{55} Minutes of the Seventh National Convention, op.cit., 30.
continues today as a dinner hosted by the Executive Council for the invited speaker at the Edward B. Shils Memorial Lecture as earlier noted.

**Student-Sponsored Activities**

In some of today’s Pi Gamma Mu chapters, the bulk of chapter activities and events go to a variety of community service projects (including cause-oriented fund-raising campaigns) and social functions (e.g., field trips, outdoor barbecues, etc.). This has not traditionally been the case with Pennsylvania Delta. Its year-long chapter program closely resembles that of its sister chapter, the University of the Philippines, and other chapters like the University of Vermont, De La Salle University, and Brown University, where greater emphasis is placed on the sponsorship of scholarly activities, such as lectures, seminars and paper presentations, debates, and recognition convocations for outstanding faculty and students in the social sciences. Collegiate chapters that sponsor mostly academic activities also tend to be governed entirely, or almost entirely, by the faculty.

Nonetheless, the present Executive Council under the leadership of Dr. Henry Teune has begun to stress the ideal of social service through partnership with a few, multi-awarded non-profit organizations like the Philadelphia branches of the American Red Cross, United Way, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, where some Pennsylvania Delta alumni members are also employed. On October 25, 2007, Pennsylvania Delta held an informal meeting (over pizza and refreshments) with representatives of these partner organizations who were allotted some time to
present the mission of their organizations as well as volunteer community service opportunities available to the student members of the chapter.\textsuperscript{56} This is expected to become a yearly event.

In November 2007, a few student members gathered at the Benjamin Franklin Parkway to participate in a walkathon sponsored by one of the chapter’s partner organizations, A Better Philadelphia, at the invitation of its president that was coursed to the chapter’s student affairs vice-president.

Pennsylvania Delta’s partnership with these select organizations marks a departure from the annual student activity – a dance party or ball -- it sponsored in the 1920s through the 1950s, and which the social pages of \textit{The Daily Pennsylvanian} adequately covered.\textsuperscript{57} The same campus newspaper reported in 2007 that “[t]he storied society, long recognized for its interdisciplinary work by Penn undergraduates in the social sciences, hopes to encourage community improvement through its work at Penn.”\textsuperscript{58}

To foster awareness of Pi Gamma Mu among new and returning students, the Vice-President for Student Affairs manages an information booth or table for the chapter during the annual Student Organization Fair (left) held at Locust Walk on the first day of the school year.

\textsuperscript{57} Chapter files at the University Archives and Records Center contain a representative sample of news clippings of social functions held by the chapter before the 1960s.
\textsuperscript{58} Chen, \textit{op.cit.}
The booth/table displays copies of the Pi Gamma Mu journal and newsletter and the chapter banner.\textsuperscript{59} No membership applications are accepted at this event (since membership is only by invitation of the chapter).

\section*{Rotating Fraternity Plaques}

One tradition unique to Pennsylvania Delta that the present Executive Council has been, and perhaps will be, unable to restore is the awarding of Pi Gamma Mu plaques annually during the Hey Day Exercises\textsuperscript{60} at the end of the school year.

For many years, Pennsylvania Delta “owned two beautiful Pi Gamma Mu plaques, which rotate[d] among local fraternity houses.”\textsuperscript{61} The following provisions governed their annual rotation:

One is awarded [by the Executive Committee] each year to the men’s fraternity having the highest scholastic average, or showing the greatest scholastic improvement. The other goes to a women’s fraternity having the highest scholastic average, or showing the greatest scholastic improvement. Either basis may be used, but a change from one basis to another must be announced in advance."\textsuperscript{62}

\textsuperscript{60} Hey Day was originally established at Penn as a ”Moving-Up” celebration, patterned after a similar custom at another university. Its purpose was to mark the advancement of each class. The celebration consisted of a traditional ceremony in Irvine Auditorium, which included the reading of the Class History, Class Prophecy and Class Poem, the presentation of the four Senior Honors Awards, and the announcement of those elected into various honor societies.
\textsuperscript{61} Chapter News, \textit{Social Science} 23 (April 1948): 127.
\textsuperscript{62} \textit{Ibid.} See also Chapter News, \textit{Social Science} 24 (April 1949): 111-112.
The 1951 photograph (right) of the presentation of the men’s fraternity plaque to Theta Chi at Penn by the Pi Gamma Mu national president, Dr. S. Howard Patterson, illustrates this chapter tradition. Pennsylvania Delta encouraged other chapters to adopt it. The plaques were made by L.G. Balfour Company, Pi Gamma Mu’s official jeweler for over 50 years.63

Although this tradition was covered in many published chapter reports, it is not clear why fraternities and sororities (or “women’s fraternities,” as they were called then) were the intended awardees and how “the highest scholastic average” among them was determined. The chapter has been unable to locate either one of these two shield-shaped plaques, which could still be hanging from the walls of their last recipient-fraternities in the late 1960s. After that time, nothing more was reported about these plaques.

**Annual Batch Elections**

In a span of 81 years, Pennsylvania Delta has elected a total of 2,428 regular life members (i.e., excluding honorary members) of Pi Gamma Mu. Of this number, almost 95 percent were elected as undergraduates, over 3 per cent were graduate students, and 2 per cent were faculty and Penn alumni.

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The election process for a new batch of members still constitutes the chapter’s longest and most involved activity during the school year. The process includes the determination of eligible candidates for life membership, issuance of written invitations, responding to various inquiries from the candidates, collection and submission to the international headquarters of application forms and dues payments, election of the new members by majority vote of the Executive Committee/Council, preparation of a batch roster (above left) and, since 2007, the holding of an orientation session. It is also during this period that graduating students submit their orders for optional merchandise, such as honor cords.

From 1927 to 1969, Pennsylvania Delta issued Pi Gamma Mu membership invitations (right) to no more than the first 30 eligible juniors and seniors in the social sciences with the highest records (i.e., cumulative GPA) from the four Penn undergraduate schools. These schools were the College, College for Women, Wharton School, and School of Education. The 30 candidates were then interviewed individually by the Executive Committee. The restrictive undergraduate quota “based on scholastic averages and interview results”64 in a sense made Pennsylvania Delta more selective in many years than the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Penn, which opted for the top 10 percent of eligible juniors and seniors in the arts and sciences.65 In the late 1960s, invitations and interviews were extended to the top 50 juniors and seniors at Penn. The

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64 18 at Penn Selected by Pi Gamma Mu, The Daily Record, December 6, 1942, 3.
present undergraduate criteria are based on a combination of GPAs (cumulative and social sciences), class ranking (upper-third of junior and senior classes), and coursework (minimum of 21 credit hours in social sciences with no failed or unjustified incomplete marks). They were largely adopted following the ratification of the 1985 Pi Gamma Mu international constitution. Interviews are no longer conducted by the Executive Council due to the large number of eligible candidates. Then, as now, good moral character is a prerequisite for invitation to Pi Gamma Mu. The character requirement is defined by Pennsylvania Delta as the absence of any form of disciplinary action imposed upon the candidate by the university.

For graduate students, faculty, and alumni, on the other hand, a written nomination was traditionally required from a member of the Executive Committee representing the candidate’s department or related field. The present chapter Constitution and By-Laws dispensed with the written nomination (and interview) required for graduate students. Instead, it opted for membership requirements similar to the undergraduates. However, the chapter retained the requirement of a written nomination for faculty and alumni candidates.

It is interesting to note that until the mid-1940s, when biology qualified as a social science “used in the widest sense,” Pennsylvania Delta elected a few outstanding students and faculty from that discipline. An amendment to the Pi Gamma Mu constitution subsequently removed biology as an eligible discipline.

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66 Ibid.
67 Sections 2-3, Article IV, Constitution and By-Laws of the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu.
68 Allen, op. cit., 3.
Following tradition, the current Executive Council meets in the spring to elect by written resolution all students, faculty, and alumni who have accepted the chapter’s invitation to life membership. In the past, faculty representatives to the Executive Committee submitted their respective lists of candidates contained in “Pi Gamma Mu Record Sheets,” which were used to assemble data regarding prospective members. The current practice is to obtain the list of eligible students directly from the University Registrar in January. It is then “purged” by the chapter secretary to eliminate duplicate listings and address various eligibility-related issues. Members of the Executive Council are furnished copies of the roster of candidates at least seven calendar days before the election meeting to enable them to review it (and presumably to question or object to certain candidates if so warranted).

In April 2007, the chapter instituted the practice of holding an Orientation Session for incoming members to provide them with an overview of chapter activities during the school year and introduce them, particularly those who may be unable to attend the initiation ceremony, to Pi Gamma Mu’s mission and the benefits of life membership. A PowerPoint presentation is conducted by the Vice-President for Student Affairs for this purpose (above).

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69 Ibid., Section 4.
Spring Initiations and Banquets

Like most other Pi Gamma Mu chapters, the induction of a new batch of student, faculty and alumni members caps Pennsylvania Delta’s school year program.

The annual “candlestick” initiation ceremony and banquet were traditionally held at the Christian Association Building (now ARCH Building), and later at the theatre (now Class of ’49 auditorium) of Houston Hall. The initiation ceremony, then as now, is based on the Ritual of Initiation developed by Dean Leroy Allen, founder of the Society, back in the 1920s.

While initiations conformed to society rituals, a banquet traditionally followed and served as an occasion for the new members to meet faculty officers and members of Pennsylvania Delta and elect their student leader/s. A published report on the 1931 banquet offers an illustration:

The graduation luncheon of the University of Pennsylvania chapter was held at one o’clock on Monday, May 25th, at the new Christian Association Building on the campus. The luncheon was tendered to the new initiates by the members of the Society.

Dr. S. Howard Patterson, retiring President of the local chapter, newly elected National Secretary-Treasurer of Pi Gamma Mu, presided. He first introduced Dr. W.C. Plummer of the Department of Economics, the newly elected President of the local chapter.

After Dr. Plummer’s presentation, there followed two of the earliest faculty members of Pi Gamma Mu: namely, Dr. Ernest Minor Patterson, Chairman of the Department of Economics, President of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and Dr. S.S. Huebner, Chairman of the Department of Insurance of the University of Pennsylvania, and author of numerous books on insurance.
Dr. Patterson announced that Dr. Emory R. Johnson, Dean of the Wharton School, and another of the three original faculty members of Pi Gamma Mu, had written his regrets at being unable to be present by virtue of an important University engagement.

Next were introduced the following charter faculty members of the organization: Dr. J.H.S. Brossard, Professor of Sociology, Dr. Paul F. Gemmill, Professor of Sociology, Dr. Karl W. Scholz, Professor of Economics, Dr. Waldo E. Fisher, Assistant Professor of Industry, and Dr. Wallace Weaver, Instructor in Sociology.

After their presentation, the following three new faculty members were introduced: namely, Dr. William N. Loucks, Assistant Professor of Economics, Dr. H. LaRue Frain, Assistant Professor of Economics, and Dr. Leland J. Gordon, Instructor in Economics.

After the hearty luncheon, the student members of the organization elected as chairman for the ensuing academic year, Mr. Charles P. Kindleberger. Mr. Kindleberger is now a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences and is specializing in the subject of economics.

There were some years when the initiation ceremony and banquet were held on separate days due to the arrangements involved and the availability of the guest speaker only at one or the other event, as the published account of the 1947 initiation banquet indicates:

The Pennsylvania Delta chapter of Pi Gamma Mu in the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, held a luncheon in honor of its initiates on Friday, March 7, in the campus Union at Houston Hall. It was addressed by Professor Earl G. Harrison, Dean of the Law School, who advocated liberalization of present immigration restrictions. Dean Harrison was presented with the Pi Gamma Mu honor key for distinguished service in social science by President S. Howard Patterson, also a member of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. This award had been approved by the National Trustees in 1945, but at that time Dean Harrison had been unable to be present at the chapter meeting because of his absence from this country as a special emissary of the President of the United States to investigate the conditions of misplaced peoples of Europe. Dean Harrison was introduced by his colleague, Professor Paul W. Bruton of the Law School, who had been received into the Pi Gamma Mu chapter at Duke University while at that institution. Dr. Edward W. Carter, Associate Professor of Political Science, presided at the luncheon, which was attended also by Vice Provost Fogg, Dean Morrow of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dean Karl G. Miller of the College for Women, Dean of Women Althea K. Hottel (all of whom are Pi Gamma Mu members), and other faculty members of the University of Pennsylvania Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu.

Pi Gamma Mu News, Social Science 6 (July 1931): 343.
Present-day initiation rites (below) held by Pennsylvania Delta are longer because they feature musical selections (*The Impossible Dream*, the adopted theme song, and the university hymn, *The Red and the Blue*), a convocation address that is no longer delivered at the induction dinner, and a student response. The number of initiates has also grown significantly from an average of 25 to 30 between the 1920s and 1960s to around 50 to 75 from the early 1970s to the 1980s, down to the 40s in the late 1980s, and to over 200 since 2007. Beginning in 2007, an official program has been printed out for the ceremony along with the roster containing the names of new batch members, which is also posted at the Hall of Flags during the initiation ceremony. The current initiation ritual may be gleaned from the following newsletter account:

The Pennsylvania Delta Chapter at the University of Pennsylvania, the third oldest of the Ivy League universities, held its annual ceremony with pomp and pageantry on April 29, 2007. Over 200 outstanding juniors and seniors were initiated in a solemn candlelight ceremony at the Hall of Flags of Houston Hall from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The program included a processional, the presentation of Pi Gamma Mu’s mission, history, symbols, seven ideals and activities, a convocation address [by Pi Gamma Mu member and former U.S. Transportation Secretary William T. Coleman, Jr.], the lighting of the seven candles, and two musical selections. Initiates were individually recognized and went up the stage to receive their membership credentials. A formal reception at the Bishop White Room of Houston Hall was hosted by the chapter executive council at 7:00 p.m. Built in the Collegiate Gothic style of the 1880s, Houston Hall was America’s first student union building and site of past Pi Gamma Mu chapter initiation rites.73

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Pennsylvania Delta’s spring initiation rites/dinners have been addressed by several distinguished speakers, including U.S. Solicitor-General Francis B. Biddle (1937), Princeton University president Harold W. Dodds (1938), Pan-American Union director-general Leo S. Rowe74 (1941), second from left in 1941 pre-ceremony photo, Philadelphia mayor Richardson Dilworth (1949), former Minnesota Governor and Penn President Harold Stassen (1951), who was elected as an honorary member of Pennsylvania Delta during the initiation ceremony, former U.S. Transportation Secretary William T. Coleman, Jr. (2007), and Philippine ambassador to the U.S. Willy C. Gaa (2008).

Prominent Chapter Members

Several of those who were initiated by Pennsylvania Delta have gained national and international renown. The list below is not exhaustive. It merely provides an overview of the various fields of endeavor in which chapter members have been involved:

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74 Pi Gamma Mu held a series of events in May 1940 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Pan-American Union (later renamed Organization of American States) headed by Dr. Rowe, a member of the Society and former president of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, including an entire issue of its journal, Social Science (January 1941), which was devoted to addresses, programs, and photographs of the commemorative events.
Henry J. Abraham (1950) - internationally recognized authority on American constitutional law and James Hart professor of Government and Foreign Affairs, University of Virginia


Robert D. Eilers (1959) – originator of health care management

Ray Evans (1937) - Oscar-winning composer of the classic songs, *Mona Lisa*, *Tammy*, *Que Sera Sera*, and *Silver Bells*

Paul Finkelson (1963) – President and CEO of Regis Corporation, a Fortune 500 Corporation and the world’s largest hair salon industry


Emory Johnson (1927) - America’s “first specialized business professor” and “towering figure in early transportation studies”

Reginald H. Jones (1937) – Chairman and CEO of General Electric, Inc.

Charles P. Kindleberger (1931) – MIT economist and chief architect of the Marshall Plan for the postwar rehabilitation of Europe

Simon S. Kuznets (1935) – awarded the Nobel Prize (Economic Science, 1971) for developing measurements of national output

Roy F. Nichols (1932) - first Penn professor to receive the Pulitzer Prize (History, 1949)

Judith S. Rodin (1965) - groundbreaking experimental psychologist, Penn’s first female president, and president of the Rockefeller Foundation

Arlen Specter (1951) - U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania

Joseph H. Willitts (1927) – President of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)
III

THE CHAPTER TODAY
Decline and Rebirth

There is no gainsaying that “good faculty officers are of primary importance in an effective chapter” of Pi Gamma Mu. Any honor society, for that matter, must rely heavily on the combination of their sheer volunteerism and commitment to its vision and mission if it is to succeed. Dr. Arleigh P. Hess, Jr., Pennsylvania Delta’s president for 11 years, recalled that he obtained a “reprieve” from his successor, Dr. Edward B. Shils, Associate Professor of Industry (later renamed Management), when the latter accepted his nomination as chapter president in 1959. Shils apparently “did not immediately realize the amount of work involved in running the chapter.”

Like most outgoing chapter presidents before him, Hess thought that it might be better if the chapter president came from the ranks of assistant or associate professors because they usually have more time to devote to an honor society.

Over the years, the number of chapter officers and faculty representatives in the Executive Committee/Council of Pennsylvania Delta has increased almost proportionately to the activities and events the chapter has chosen to sponsor annually. Between 1927 and 1930, the Committee consisted of the faculty president, secretary-treasurer, and departmental representatives. A student chapter leader was added to the Committee in 1930. The number of faculty representatives increased in the 1940s and 1950s. Dr. Shils established the position of vice-president-secretary before his official retirement from Penn in 1986 and offered it to then Department of Political Science Chairman Edwin Haefele. Upon Haefele’s own retirement in 1989, the position was assumed temporarily by Dr. Oliver Williams, and later by Shils’ former associate.

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75 S.D. Johnston correspondence to M. M. Myerson, September 27, 1982.
77 A.P. Hess, Jr. correspondence to Pennsylvania Delta chapter members, December 1, 1958.
graduate students, Dr. Jean-Marc F. Blanchard, a Pi Gamma Mu Scholarship recipient and Lecturer in Political Science, beginning in 1992, and Elizabeth LaPuma, from 1998 to 2000. However, as in the case of many other outstanding honor society chapters that became quiescent or died, the decline of Pennsylvania Delta began in the late 1990s. Dr. Blanchard left Penn for a teaching position in California, Ms. LaPuma was recruited from the Wharton School by a New York investment firm, Dr. Williams retired, and Dr. Shils “retired” from active teaching and later passed away in a car accident.

In spite of the loss of its remaining faculty and student officers by 2000, neither the 1927 Charter nor the remaining chapter fund of Pennsylvania Delta was ever surrendered to the international headquarters, as Pi Gamma Mu’s international Constitution provides. The Charter remained with the Shils family until they returned it in April 2008 (right). The fund balance was transferred to the University Treasurer who returned it to the chapter treasurer, Ms. Allina Boutilier, upon Pennsylvania Delta’s reactivation. The international headquarters did not receive any form of communication from any chapter officer or member to officially close Pennsylvania Delta. For these reasons, the chapter remained on the inactive rolls of the Society until such time that its final status could be taken up by the international Board of Trustees.

79 Dr. Shils, professor emeritus of management at the Wharton School, offered his last course at the Department of Political Science in 1999. He later agreed to handle a one-term course at the Wharton School until he passed away in 2003.
That time never came. In early December 2006, the present chapter president, Dr. Henry Teune, and secretary, Dr. Roger Mendoza, moved to reactivate the chapter by notifying Pi Gamma Mu’s international president and executive-director. With the assistance of incumbent Vice-President for Student Affairs Anthony Orlando, key officers of undergraduate student organizations at Penn were informally “surveyed” about their interest in Pi Gamma Mu. Specifically, they were asked to pick up and randomly circulate 50 Pi Gamma Mu application forms to their organization members within a short period of seven days in January 2007. There was clearly much interest in Pi Gamma Mu when Mr. Orlando reported at the first meeting of the Executive Council that the forms were all taken in less than a week.\textsuperscript{80}

In early January 2007, the slate of chapter officers was completed when two other Pi Gamma Mu members, Dr. Jacqueline C. Mancall and Ms. Allina Boutilier, were designated by the Board of Trustees as vice-president for programs and treasurer, respectively. The current chapter officers include the president, two vice-presidents (programs and student affairs), a secretary, and treasurer (assisted by appointive student assistant treasurers). The Executive Council also consists of faculty and alumni from the major social science disciplines. The current set-up is intended to achieve broader representation and efficient chapter management, especially in view of the several activities it sponsors each year. The Executive Council meets \textit{en banc} or in committees at least twice each semester,\textsuperscript{81} as provided for in the international

\textsuperscript{80} \textit{Minutes}, February 16, 2007, \textit{op.cit.}
\textsuperscript{81} Some committees meet more often than the Executive Council. For example, the Finance Committee chaired by the chapter treasurer with three assistant treasurers as members constitutes itself as an \textit{ad hoc} enrollment committee in the spring and meets several times to register new members.
Constitution of Pi Gamma Mu and the chapter’s Constitution and By-Laws, which it passed in 2007.  

**Revitalization Initiatives**

One of the key initiatives undertaken by the Executive Council under the leadership of Dr. Henry Teune (right) was to extend membership invitations to two groups of students who were previously and expressly excluded from consideration by the chapter. These are students who major in non-traditional social science programs that clearly build on the core social science disciplines (such as the history and sociology of science, biological basis of behavior, cultural area studies, business and public policy), and non-traditional students who are not classifiable as juniors or seniors (for example, those from the College of General Studies). The inclusion of these students reflects the changing student demographics in colleges and universities nationwide, broader concept of interdisciplinarity in the social sciences, and adoption of the current policy of other general honor societies, such as Phi Beta Kappa and Golden Key.

At the same time, the Executive Council raised the eligibility requirements for election to life membership in Pi Gamma Mu and resolved to review them periodically to address the issue of grade inflation at Penn and many other colleges and universities in the U.S. In 2007, the Council voted to increase the cumulative and social science GPAs to 3.50. It also prescribed

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82 Resolution No. 3 of the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, February 16, 2007.  
83 Resolution No. 4 of the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, March 14, 2007.  
84 Resolution No. 8 of the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, April 9, 2008.
that the social science GPA must be obtained in a minimum of 21 credit units or seven courses in
the social sciences, as defined in the chapter’s Constitution and By-Laws, whichever
combination of social science credit units or courses shall yield the minimum GPA of 3.50.85

Chapter dues remain the “lifeblood” of Pennsylvania Delta. The chapter has preserved
its long-standing practice (dating back to the 1920s) of charging the one-time chapter dues at the
rate of about 50 per cent of current international society dues. The chapter also applies for
grants annually from the international society (e.g., it was awarded lectureship grants in 2007
and 2008 and the chapter heritage award in 2008) and from a few Penn academic departments
(notably Political Science) as additional sources of financial support. Like any other honor or
leadership society at Penn, the chapter does not receive any funding from the Office of Student
Life because it is considered a “closed organization” by virtue of its “exclusive” membership
criteria. However, the chapter is officially recognized and listed as a Penn organization in the
Office of Student Life website.

In order to keep chapter operations cost-efficient, the chapter secretary and treasurer, with
some assistance from the international headquarters, devised in 2007 an electronic process for
the annual selection of new members. The University Registrar’s list of candidates, invitation
letters, membership application forms, orientation materials, batch roster/form, and merchandise
order forms are now in spreadsheet or PDF format, which can be sent and received electronically.
Other chapter forms, such as the annual reports and grants applications, are also completed and
submitted electronically.

85 Resolution No. 6 of the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, November 29, 2007.
In February 2008, as part of its “electronic” initiatives, a chapter website\(^86\) was launched to serve as a vehicle for disseminating information about the chapter’s work and sponsored events, and as a vital tool to link chapter alumni and Penn-based members. The website contains separate sections on chapter and international society history, chapter news, annual program and events schedule, newsletter archive, optional merchandise, and a photo gallery, among others.

Finally, the University Archives and Records Center, which has been supportive of the reactivation of the chapter, has created a depository with its own classification number for all documents and materials submitted to it by Pennsylvania Delta at the end of each school year. This arrangement also seeks to foster continuity in chapter operations given the rich and diverse sources of historical materials and other information about the chapter.

Looking Beyond the Past

“The past is prologue,” said Shakespeare.\(^87\) Events in the life of the Pennsylvania Delta chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, its sponsors and partners, and that ongoing stream of now over 2,400 members, will continue to acquire depth and dimension over time when they are informed by memories of past experience.

One of the key challenges to Pennsylvania Delta is to remain faithful to its storied past while charting a future that is both relevant and responsive to changing membership needs or

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\(^86\) See www.freewebs.com/pennpgm.


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expectations. Another concern is the sustained interest and participation of Pi Gamma Mu faculty, students, and staff in collaborative chapter activities on the Penn campus. Pennsylvania Delta’s commitment to the objectives of Pi Gamma Mu can help bridge its past, present, and future, and address those challenges. It should strive to inculcate the ideals of scholarship, interdisciplinary cooperation, and social service in the scientific study of all social problems. In this sense, too, it is hoped that the writing of Pennsylvania Delta’s history will continue beyond 2008, and be infused with the same vigor and enthusiasm that attended the coverage of its first 81 years.