



Gamma Sigma Delta



Celebrating our 90th Year!

2012- 2013 Newsletter

Important Dates

Membership Nominations Due	January 22, 2013
Award Nominations Due	January 22, 2013
Abstracts for Research Expo Due	February 15, 2013
GSD Research Exhibition	March 13-14, 2013
Initiation and Awards Reception	April 3, 2013

Message from the Chapter President: Mike Saunders

Welcome to the 2012-2013 year of the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta. We look forward to another opportunity to support, recognize and showcase the talents and scholarship of graduate students, staff, and faculty of our College of Agricultural Sciences. We say goodbye and a hearty thank you to our Past President Ali Demirci. We welcome our new Secretary/Treasurer Cathy Cutter. In this edition of our annual newsletter, you will find information about last year's events including the faculty, staff and students honored with prestigious awards, as well as information and dates about this year's upcoming events. Mark your calendar for the research exhibition and spring awards and initiation ceremony. Also included in the newsletter is information about nominations for membership and the faculty awards. Let's make the 2012-2013 Graduate Research Expo another great success. Advisors, make sure your graduate students strongly consider entering an exhibit. Our research exhibition for students is highly successful, is well attended by student participants and has garnered the gold chapter recognition from Gamma Sigma Delta International several times. The success of the exhibition depends on the volunteer work of members in the College. Your support as a volunteer reviewer is critical. It is a great help to the chapter and provides satisfaction of seeing the students present their research. Overall, we can be proud that the quality of the posters is very high. We appreciate the generous support received from the College for the exhibition award funds and also last year for rental of the poster boards for this event. All other activities are funded through the \$15 membership fee and donations from members. This fee also covers the cost of the spring reception for members. Please consider this relatively small donation to help keep the chapter functioning. As always we also welcome additional donations. I look forward to participating with you during one of our events in the spring. Enjoy the newsletter!

New Members in 2012

This year, 27 undergraduates, 14 graduate students, and 1 faculty member were initiated into the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta at the April 2012 initiation/award ceremony. The keynote speaker was Dr. Gary Thompson, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education in the College of Agricultural Sciences.

Awards for 2012

Chapter Recognized as the Silver Chapter Award Recipient

In the past few years, Penn State Chapter was selected by the international organization of Gamma Sigma Delta to receive the 2007 Bronze Chapter award and the 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 Gold Chapter award. **Once again, we are among the elite chapters!** Our chapter won the 2012 Gamma Sigma Delta Silver Chapter award in recognition of the activities and accomplishments during 2011-2012 academic year. *Congratulations to all members and officers!*

Scholarship Awards – Gamma Sigma Delta awarded citations and scholarships to Sophomore **Emily J. Rice** (Major: Horticulture); Junior, **Alyssa M. Dietrich** (Major: Animal Sciences); Senior **Kirby L. Keller** (Major: Food Sciences) at the April 2012 initiation/awards ceremony.

Faculty Awards – At the April 2012 ceremony, Gamma Sigma Delta recognized the following faculty members for their outstanding achievements: Teaching, **Dr. James Dunn** (Ag Economics and Rural Sociology); Research, **Dr. Jeffrey Catchmark** (Agricultural and Biological Engineering); Extension, **Dr. Jeffrey Hyde** (Ag Economics and Rural Sociology).

Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition MARCH 14-15, 2012 – The Penn State Chapter and the College of Agricultural Sciences sponsored the first Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition in March 1995. On March 14 and 15, 2012, research posters were presented by graduate and undergraduate students from all academic units in the College at the 17th Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Research Expo. Our chapter, along with generous support from the Gerald T. Gentry Endowment for Graduate Education (\$3,000), Evans Family Endowment (\$750), and Resident Education office of the College (over \$700), provided for student awards at the Research Expo. We are also grateful to the College of Agricultural Sciences for covering the cost of poster board rental for the Research Expo. **Patreese Ingram**, Immediate Past President organized this year's event that was held in the Life Sciences Bridge and Auditorium. Many thanks to Patreese, the student presenters and the judges for making the 2012 Expo a rewarding and successful event!

The following students were recognized at the Research Expo.

Agricultural Education and International Agriculture

1st Place: Laura Sankey, Agricultural and Extension Education

Biological Sciences

1st Place: Anna Testen, Plant Pathology

2nd Place: Joshua Scheinberg, Food Science

3rd Place: Anjel Helms, Entomology

4th Place: Emily Helliwell, Plant Pathology

Environmental and Natural Resources Sciences

1st Place: Emily Duncan, Crop and Soil Sciences

2nd Place: Sarah J. Bardsley, Plant Pathology

3rd Place: Maggie Douglas, Entomology

Physical and Engineering Sciences

1st Place: Min Liu, Food Science

Social Sciences

1st Place: Carla Shoff, Rural Sociology

Planned Events and Deadlines: Check your calendars

Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Research Expo – The 2013 Research Expo will be held March 13-14, 2013. Abstracts deadline is February 15, 2013. Please check the website for more information (<http://gsd.cas.psu.edu>).

Spring Initiation and Awards Reception April 3, 2013 – The reception and Initiation and Award ceremony will be held in the Forest Resource building (room 112). This year's guest speaker is Dr. Tracy Hoover, our Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education. New initiates – senior students, graduate students, faculty, and alumni – and our 2012-2013 extension, research, and teaching awards will be presented during this Spring Initiation and Awards Ceremony. The outstanding sophomore, junior, and senior students in the College of Agricultural Sciences will also be recognized at this time. The Initiation and Awards Ceremony is an important occasion for student and faculty members, so we encourage attendance by our members for this event.

Membership Nominations – All members are encouraged to nominate outstanding faculty, staff, extension educators, alumni, and graduate students to become members. Nominations should be directed to GSD departmental representatives or unit leaders. Graduate students must have: (1) completed at least 2/5 of the required program for the Master's or Ph.D. degree; (2) shown **superior** ability to conduct research and/or advanced study in our College; (3) shown **promise** of making further contributions; and (4) obtained at least a 3.5 grade-point average in graduate work. The nomination forms are available from your GSD representative, or on the Gamma Sigma Delta website (<http://gsd.cas.psu.edu>) or you may also contact Cathy Cutter, Secretary-Treasurer, (814-865-8862, cnc3@psu.edu). Nominations are due by **January 22, 2013**.

Nominations for Awards – Our extension, research, and teaching awards recognize excellent faculty for their contributions. Please nominate outstanding faculty and help prepare the documentation by **January 22, 2013**. For copies of the forms, visit the GSD website (<http://gsd.cas.psu.edu>) or contact Cathy Cutter, Secretary-Treasurer, (814- 865-8862, cnc3@psu.edu).

Contributions needed– Our Gamma Sigma Delta chapter depends on contributions from the members to fund its programs. Each year we present cash awards to the outstanding sophomore, junior, and senior in the College; provide financial support for awards and expenses at the GSD/College of Agricultural Sciences Research Exhibition; and underwrite expenses at our Spring Initiation and Awards Reception. Our ability to sponsor awards and have chapter activities depends completely on your financial contributions. Four years ago, we initiated membership dues for active members. The response was outstanding this year; 158 members paid active membership dues and 28 members made additional contributions. Our end of year accounts totaled **\$4,511**. All these activities listed above wouldn't be possible without the financial help of GSD members and the college. The Gold and Bronze Chapter Awards that we received in the past years were clear indication of the success of our chapter. We should continue to do so. Along with the form at the end the newsletter, please make your check payable to Gamma Sigma Delta and send it to *Catherine N. Cutter, Dept. of Food Science, 433 Food Science Building, University Park, PA 16802* by December 31, 2012. **Thank you for your support of our chapter!**

Department Representatives – The following individuals are serving as GSD department/unit representatives during the 2012-2013 academic year. Contact them to get more information about Chapter activities, or to submit change of address information.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>GSD Rep</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ag & Bio Eng	Rob Shannon	233 Ag Engr	5-7153	rshannon@psu.edu
Ag Ec, Soc, & Ed	Rich Ready	112 E Armsby	3-5575	rready@psu.edu
College Admin	Patreese Ingram	208 Ferguson	3-7439	pdi1@psu.edu
Plant Science	Marvin Risius	414 Ag Admin	3-4428	mlr6@psu.edu
Plant Science	Dan Stearns	306 Tyson	3-6167	dstearns@psu.edu
Animal Science	To be determined			
Entomology	Nancy Ostiguy	542 ASI	3-2872	nxo3@psu.edu
Food Science	Luke LaBorde	442 Food Sci.	5-8862	lf15@psu.edu
Ecosystem Science	Margaret Brittingham	409 Forest Res	3-8442	mxb21@psu.edu
Plant Path & Env Microbiology	Gary Moorman	111A Buckhout	3-7401	gmoorman@psu.edu
Vet & Biomed Sci	Lester Griel	115 Henning	5-7696	lcg1@psu.edu

Chapter Roster – If you know of chapter members who passed away recently or have moved away from the University, please contact Cathy Cutter, Secretary-Treasurer, (814-865-8862, cnc3@psu.edu) so that we can continue to update our roster. Also, please contact Cathy if you know of faculty or other individuals at Penn State who were inducted into GSD at another university, whether as a student or as a faculty member, so we can invite them to participate in our Penn State chapter activities.

Thank You

A special thank you to our Penn State Chapter active members and donors in 2011-2012:

Christine Adams	Michael Fortunato	Joseph R. Loquasto	Laura L. Sankey
Ted Alter	Brian Frazier	Matthew Lukasak	Joshua Scheinberg
Paul Anderson	Alyson N. Frederick	Albert Luloff	Cameron Schirmer
Mary Barby P. Badayos-Jover	Iffa Gaffoor	Saadiqa Z. Lundy	M. Shafayet-Zamil
Zachary S. Baer	Justine George	Maria Velez Climent	Rob Shannon
Jason Bankert	Frederick Gildow	Douglas T. Masser	Mandeep Sharma
Christy Bartley	R. Graves	Marc E. McDill	Apurba Shee
Robin Bechtel	Lester Griel	Kolby McIntyre	Michael Shelley
John Becker	Beth Gugino	Lindsay G. McPhail	Carla Shoff
Ernest Bergman	Jean L. Haldeman	Bruce McPheron	Judith Sinn
Laura Bjanas	Marvin Hall	Walter McVey	Stephen Smith
Alessandro Bonanno	H. Harpster	Rebecca M. Migliore	L. Katherine Smith
Cathy Bowen	Nathan Hartwig	Mike Messina	Elina M. Snyder
Darwin Braund	Kevin Harvatine	Claudia Mincemoyer	Kelly R. Spore
Margaret Brittingham	Milford Heddleson	H. Moore	W. Burton Staniar
Mark Brennan	Arlyn Heinrichs	Gary Moorman	Dan Stearns
Kathleen Brown	Emily Helliwell	James Mortensen	Claire R. Steiner
J. Lynn Brown Brown	Matthew Henderson	Jannety Mosley	Matthew T. Sullenberger
Robert T. Caccese	Susan E. Henning	Dennis Murphy	Amanda L. Svoboda
Larry Campbell	Lisa Holden	Curtis Noll	David Sylvia
Barbara Christ	Tracy Hoover	Michael O'Conner	Sarah A. Taylor
Steven Conaway	Gregory Hoover	Lanre Odusote	Andrea Thieman
Katherine L. Cook	Patreese Ingram	Soo Hyun C. Oh	Joan Thomson
Marilyn Corbin	Lynn James	Bradley L. Olson	Bin Tian
Catherine Cutter	Dana M. James	Dale Olver	Daniel Tobin
Laura K. Davis	John J. Janowiak	Daniel Perkins	Wladir B. Valderrama
Ali Demirci	Maria del Mar Jimenez-Gasco	Morgan Pfeiffer	Robert Van Saun
Audrey Draper	Catherine Kananen	Emily Pfeufer	Phanchita Vejchasarn
Nancy A. Dreschel	Seogchan Kang	Jill Pollok	Bindhu Verghese
Dustin Dreyfuss	Margot Kaye	Alamgir Rahman	Donald Waddington
Joseph Duich	Philip Keeney	Richard Ready	Paul Wangsness
Sjoerd Duiker	Leon Kneebone	Anna D. Reibson	Nicole Webster
Robert Elkin	Emily Kuhn	Korey L. Rider	Jia Wen
Duygu Ercan	Larry Kuhns	Marvin Risius	Fern Willits
John Ewing	Gretchen Kuldau	Noelle S. Rizzardi	Woody M. Wilson
Samantha Fanelli	Hyun-Ju Lee	Erika D. Roach	D. Wolnick
James Feaga	Robert Leiby	Cameron Robert	Edgar Yoder
Amanda J. Fedunok	Risa S. Lisle	Claudia Rojas	
Robert Flipse	Michael Livinghouse	C. Peter Romaine	
		Gregory Roth	

2012- 2013 Officers – With your active participation, we'll have a good year! Please contact the officers if you have questions about our activities or any other aspects of Gamma Sigma Delta.

The following individuals are your 2011-2012 Chapter Officers:

President: Michael Saunders, 514 Ag Sci & Ind Bldg., 814-863-2979, mcs5@psu.edu

Vice President: Mark A. Brennan, 204C Ferguson Bldg., 814-863-0387,
mab187@psu.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: Catherine N. Cutter, 433 Food Science Bldg, 814- 865-8862,
cnc3@psu.edu

Historian: John Tooker, 506 Ag Sci & Ind Bldg, 814-865-7082, tookер@psu.edu

Past-President: Ali Demirci, 231 Agricultural Eng. Bldg., 814-863-1098,
demirci@psu.edu

For more information about the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, including links to forms for Research Expo participation, membership nominations, and Award nominations, please visit our website (<http://gsd.cas.psu.edu/>).



Gamma Sigma Delta



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

_____ I am enclosing \$15 as I wish to remain an active member for 2013.

_____ Payment in ADVANCE. I am enclosing \$ _____ to extend my active membership _____ years at \$15 per year.

_____ I would like to donate \$ _____ to be used for scholarships and various activities.

Please note that your membership fee will cover the initiation/awards reception fee (*participation needs to be confirmed prior to the reception*) and the names of the active members will be included on website and recognized at the initiation/awards ceremony.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Please return the check and completed form to Catherine N. Cutter.

***Dr. Catherine N. Cutter
Dept. of Food Science
433 Food Science Building
University Park, PA 16802***