

— — Annual Report — —
to the Association of College Honor Societies
2010-2011 Academic Year

Society

Phi Sigma Tau

1. Key contacts

a) Official ACHS Representative for fiscal year October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011
(the official representative who is appointed by the governance body of the organization)

i. Name Dr. David E. Gibson

Title Executive Secretary

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v. E-mail address gibson@pepperdine.edu

b) National Headquarters

i. Headquarters executive Dr. David E. Gibson

Title Executive Secretary

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vii. National Web site <http://phi-sigma-tau.org>

c) President/ Board Chair

i. Name Dr. Lee C. Rice

Title President

ii. Address Philosophy Department

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Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881

iii. Phone

iv. Fax 414-288-3010

v. E-mail lee.rice@marquette.edu

2. Internal performance and key concerns

a) Membership

i. Annual 1193

ii. Grand Total 35648

b) Membership trends

Our 2010-2011 school year was our second best year ever. Our new member total for the year was up 17% over the preceding year, though the preceding year had been down quite a bit. We had been in a slight downward trend for our new members, but the last year was very good.

c) Number of chapters

i. Total 238

ii. New in last academic year 9

d) National has an IRS Group Exemption Number (GEN).

No.

e) 990-N IRS Form

Chapter

f) Benefits to members

Our main activity is the publication of *Dialogue*, our journal dedicated to student publications of work in philosophy. We also publish a *Newsletter* three times per year describing the activity of individual chapters.

g) Benefits to profession and society at large

One of our main goals is to encourage philosophical inquiry and discussion on college campuses by making students aware of the importance of philosophy. Our chapters often do that by holding conferences on their campuses, participating in local conferences, holding meetings that are open to the campus, and engaging in other activities. During the past year, we changed the binding on our journal, and this has allowed us to increase the number of articles we are able to publish.

h) Accomplishments

i) Challenges to your society

One main challenge is to encourage chapters to remain active. Since chapters are often small (philosophy programs are often small), a committed advisor is essential to keeping the chapter active and operating. Advisors are essential to encouraging students to plan and execute various activities. Usually a junior faculty member is assigned the role of advisor; this means that there is quite a lot of advisor turnover, and the advisors often have heavy demands placed upon them for publication and tenure.

j) Renewal efforts of your society

Since all of our staff work on a voluntary basis, time is limited. We need to work more to encourage chapters that are inactive to become active again. Sometimes inactivity is because an advisor has left, and often it is difficult to find out that an advisor has left a school. We are also looking to get some younger members onto our Executive Council to replace some members who are retiring.

k) Trends in higher education with potential impact

Rising costs may impact membership, both because of possible lower enrollments and because students may have difficulty with the membership fee (though we have kept our membership fee quite low). The costs may have affected our membership requests this year. Alternatively, in some years, when job possibilities are limited, philosophy programs have seen increases in enrollment.

3. Summary of revenue and expenditures

a) Fees

- i. Initial membership fee \$25.00
- ii. Annual dues NONE

b) Total revenue

Percentage from:

- i. Initial member fees 95%
- ii. Dues 0%
- iii. Other sources 5%

c) Total expenditures

Percentage for:

- i. Administration 30% (postage, supplies, website, etc.)
- ii. Governance 0% (all staff are volunteers)
- iii. Publication 69%
- iv. Scholarships/awards 1%
- v. Conventions 0%

d) Retirement benefits for employees? None.

iii. Company

e) i. Official Audit No

ii. Compilation No
iii. Member/Committee No
review

f) **Staff** Number Full Time: 0
Number Part Time: 0

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