
PST National Alumni Chapter

Bulletin #42

October, 2009

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2008-2009 Financial Report

(Category)	(Dollars)	(Percent)
INCOME		
Initiation fees	27,425.00	95.32
Dialogue subscriptions	167.50	0.58
NAC dues	330.00	1.15
Charter fees	600.00	2.08
Gifts	0.00	0.00
Retained Earnings	86,517.12	(not included)
Other income	250.00	0.87
Total	115,289.62	100.00

EXPENSES

Supplies	1,192.02	6.84
Printing costs	973.14	5.58
Postage	2,031.35	11.66
Dialogue printing	9,624.72	55.23
ACHS dues/expenses	771.00	4.42
Website	2,078.28	11.93
Other expenses	756.00	4.34
Total	17,426.51	100.00

Retained Earnings \$ 97,863.11

As is usual for Phi Sigma Tau, the majority of our income is from the initiation fees students pay for their membership in the society. Regularly, 95+% of our income is from those initiation fees. A small amount also comes from dues for the National Alumni Chapter, though the first year of that membership is included with the original initiation fee. This past year we chartered six new chapters, and that was 2% of our income.

Our largest expense is typically the cost of printing our journal, *Dialogue*. However, we also had a large expense for the design and construction of our website, nearly 12% of our expenses for the year; the design costs were one-time costs, however, and the hosting fee is only about \$250.00 per year. Of course

we continue to have rather large expenses for mailing, non-*Dialogue* printing, and supplies.

As you can see, we continue to be in a sound financial position with retained earnings several times the current yearly expenses. Our **Annual Report for 2008-2009** contains more details about the accounts as well as containing information about chapter activities and other projects. If you would like to have a copy of our **Annual Report**, please contact me; the report is available as an Adobe Acrobat email attachment.

Yours cordially,
David E. Gibson
Executive Secretary
david.gibson@pepperdine.edu

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News of the Society

After several years of declines in initiations, Phi Sigma Tau bounced back with the initiation of 1,097 new members for the 2008-2009 school year. That number was the fourth highest number of new members in our history. In addition, we chartered six new chapters for the year and have already granted one new charter for the 2009-2010 school year. We now have 229 chapters, though several of those are inactive. We continue to have inquiries about new chapters, and there may be several applications in this school year.

For about a year after the death of Dr. Jim Sauer, our former editor, we operated *Dialogue* with an interim editor, but in the fall of 2008, Dr. Steve Barbone agreed to serve as editor for our journal. Dr. Barbone is at San Diego State University and has had experience in editing; we are fortunate to have such an experienced person take on the task. Dr. Barbone's first issue was the April issue, and his second issue is the October 2009 one. *Dialogue* is a journal that is dedicated to publication of student work, although alumni members of Phi Sigma Tau are eligible to submit work if they have not completed terminal degrees in philosophy.

Shortly before the death of Dr. Sauer, the Executive Council was considering expanding *Dialogue*, but his death delayed the expansion. Now, with our new editor, we are again considering increasing the number of pages in the journal. This will give us the opportunity to publish more student work. Typically, over 55% of the expense budget is devoted to our journal, and encouraging student publication is one of the main aims and activities of Phi Sigma Tau.

I am including this Alumni Bulletin and our current Newsletter with your copy of the October issue of *Dialogue*. The Newsletter contains information about chapter activity for the Spring of 2009. The next Newsletter will be printed in November; that Newsletter, along with one for March 2010, will be included with the April issue of *Dialogue*.

The Phi Sigma Tau website was constructed in 2008; if you have not seen it, you can find it at

phi-sigma-tau.org

The website contains copies of recent Newsletters as well as a copy of the current Manual. The Manual is protected by password; if you wish to have a copy of the Manual or to view a page, the user name is **phi** and the password is **sigma**. The new version of the *PST Manual* is available in Adobe format. The Adobe version now contains information which is up to date, as well as all printed forms, memos, history, chapter lists, bulletins, and newsletters. NAC members who wish to receive the *PST Manual* as an email attachment should drop me a brief email message ("send Manual" is fine).

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NAC Membership

Membership in the National Alumni Chapter continues to be five dollars per year; we have no plans to increase that. Members will receive *Dialogue* for one year as well as Newsletters and the occasional NAC Bulletin. I will be able to contact you by email if you have given me your email address. However, I do not know when you move or change addresses. Please let me know if your street address or email address changes so that I can update the PST files. I would like to be able to keep in contact with you. If you need to change an address, please feel free to contact me by email.

Email addresses for members who make them available are taken from both NAC renewal and registration forms. If you neglected to provide an email address [or registered using an earlier registration form which did not contain a space for email information] and would like to be on the NAC email distribution

list, you need only drop me a message [david.gibson@pepperdine.edu] from your email account with the Subject Line: "ADD TO NAC EMAIL." **The NAC membership database (including email listings) is not given or sold to any other organization (educational or commercial).**

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From the Executive Secretary

From time to time, I try to print notes from Alumni Members about a favorite professor, about a philosophy program, or about a member's career. I have not received any reports recently, and I would like to encourage you to submit a short note for possible inclusion in our next Alumni Bulletin.

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PST Executive Council Members

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