Gamma Sigma Delta, Nebraska Chapter Newsletter, August 1991

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I first want to thank the Scholarship and Scholarship Recognition Dinner Committees for all their work in putting together this year’s annual dinner. Perhaps the most important thing we do as an organization is to recognize those of outstanding scholarship. The committees responsible for the activities associated with the Initiation and Awards Banquet are also to be thanked for all the fine work they did. Last fall’s banquet was extra special in that the Nebraska Chapter had the pleasure of recognizing one of its members as the Gamma Sigma Delta International Awardee for Distinguished Service to Agriculture. Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson received this highest award presented by Gamma Sigma Delta at the Biennial Conclave in June 1990.

It is hard to believe that summer is nearly over and the students will be back on campus before long. Associated with fall is the annual call for nominations for membership in Gamma Sigma Delta; including alumni, faculty, and graduate students; and preparation for the special awards. You will be receiving this information in the very near future. Also, please plan now to attend the annual business meeting scheduled for September 20 at 3:00 p.m. in the Nebraska East Union. This is an important meeting for all members, and committee chairs should be prepared to present their reports to the general membership.

Dr. Earl F. Ellington, 1990 Chapter President, is to be commended for his fine year of leadership. I also want to thank Dr. William L. Miller, Vice-President, for his efforts in putting together this newsletter. I congratulate our new officer, Dr. Dale Vanderholm, Treasurer, and look forward to working with him and the other officers.

Finally, I want to thank again all those who have worked on committees and the full membership of Gamma Sigma Delta for your interest and support of the Society. I will look forward to visiting with you at our fall functions.

Dr. Jack L. Schinstock
President, Nebraska Chapter
1990 INTERNATIONAL CONCLAVE

The International Conclave of Gamma Sigma Delta was held at Iowa State University on June 10th and 11th in the Summer of 1990. Dr.’s Rita Kean and Lowell Moser represented the Nebraska Chapter at this meeting.

Every chapter provided a brief report on activities. These activities included:

(1) involving business to sponsor students to attend GSD banquets;
(2) inviting local news services to cover the banquet activities;
(3) providing a written communication award for students based on competitively judged papers;
(4) giving a free lapel pin to each new initiate;
(5) having a freshman recognition ceremony;
(6) recognizing retired faculty who contribute financially to GSD programs; and
(7) listing former chapter presidents on the programs for banquets.

Two leadership sessions were included in the program. One focused on marketing GSD to members and nonmembers. It was suggested that marketing would be enhanced if potential members knew what the organization does, why it is worth joining, and how non-traditional agricultural faculty can benefit from GSD membership. The other session emphasized communication. Close coordination was encouraged between incoming and outgoing chapter officers. Active participation of membership needs emphasis if events are to be successful. Appropriate use of the media will inform more people of GSD activities.

1992 INTERNATIONAL CONCLAVE SCHEDULED

The Biannual International Conclave of Gamma Sigma Delta is scheduled to be held on June 13-16, 1992. The conclave will be hosted by the Ohio State Chapter. More information about this activity will be provided by the International Secretary later this Fall. It is not to early to mark your calendar for this event.

GAMMA SIGMA DELTA AWARD RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED

Initiation and Awards Banquet
November 18, 1990

Excellence in Teaching
Dr. Robert C. Sorensen
Professor, Agronomy

Excellence in Research
Dr. Robert G. Wilson, Jr.
Professor, Agronomy

Excellence in Extension
Dr. Dean E. Eisenhauer
Associate Professor
Biological Systems Engineering

Awards of Merit
Mr. Sid Salzman
Rancher, and
Mr. LaVerne E. Stetson
Adjunct Professor
Biological Systems Engineering

International Awardee for Distinguished Service to Agriculture
Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson
Professor (Emeritus)
Animal Science and
Collaborator ARS, USDA
Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson was recognized by Gamma Sigma Delta International for Distinguished Service to Agriculture. He was honored at the Fall Nebraska Chapter Initiation and Awards Banquet, by Dr. Richard I. Carter, President of International Gamma Sigma Delta, and by his colleagues in attendance at the banquet. His recognition, in part, indicates that, “For more than 50 years, Dr. Dickerson has been at the forefront among his professional peers in research and development of procedures for genetic improvement of farm animals. His pioneering includes, (1) early record of performance procedures for dairy herd improvement; (2) quantitative evaluation of the role of generation interval with selection intensity and accuracy of evaluation, in predicting relative emphasis on progeny, family, individual, and pedigree selection required to maximize expected rate of genetic improvement per unit of time; (3) evaluation of inbreeding effects on selection response in swine; (4) conceptualization and evaluation of transmitted and maternal genetic effects on growth, feed efficiency, and other traits in swine; (5) development of efficient experimental designs for separating genetic and environmental trends; and (6) development of “retrospective” procedures for evaluating response to selection for multiple traits.

All of these have been recognized as trademark contributions to animal breeding. In addition, he pioneered the use of computer simulations of production systems to derive relative economic importance of alternative genetic changes in performance in beef, swine, and sheep improvement programs.”

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Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson

OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS RECOGNIZED

Scholarship Recognition Dinner
March 10, 1991

Outstanding Sophomore
Eric T. Thurber
Ag Honors Major
from Roca, Nebraska

Outstanding Seniors
Scott B. Aden
Animal Science Major
from Cozad, Nebraska, and
Ryan D. Downs
Ag Honors Major (Agribusiness emphasis)
from North Platte, Nebraska

Senior Alumni Award
Curtis M. Baldwin
Agricultural Economics Major
from Cairo, Nebraska

1991

GAMMA SIGMA DELTA OFFICERS

President - Dr. Jack L. Schinstock
Assistant Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Professor, Biological Systems Engineering

Vice-President - Dr. William L. Miller
Executive Director, MidAmerica International Agricultural Consortium

Secretary - Dr. Rita C. Kean
Associate Professor and Chair, Textiles, Clothing & Design

Treasurer - Dr. Dale H. Vanderholm
Associate Dean, Agricultural Research Division
Associate Director, Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station
Professor, Agricultural Engineering

Historian - Dr. Charles H. Adams
Professor (Emeritus), Animal Science
FACTS ABOUT GAMMA SIGMA DELTA

- Gamma Sigma Delta began as a professional agricultural fraternity, Delta Theta Sigma, at the Ohio State University on December 1, 1905.

- Five additional chapters were established between 1905 and 1910 at Iowa State, Penn State, University of Missouri, Utah State, and Oregon State with the idea that the society would be strictly honorary.

- Following a dispute over whether the society should be strictly honorary, the name was changed on May 3, 1913, to Gamma Sigma Delta.

- On June 3, 1916, the Agricultural Honor Society of America and Gamma Sigma Delta merged into a single organization called, “The Honor Society of Agriculture Gamma Sigma Delta”.

- After 1916, chapter officers were elected from the faculty and staff rather than undergraduate students.

- The number of Gamma Sigma Delta chapters increased to 46 chapters with the installation of the Michigan State University Chapter on May 25, 1988.

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1991-92
Gamma Sigma Delta Activities

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Meeting</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>August 20, 1991</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<td>Annual Business Meeting</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>September 20, 1991</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>October 29, 1991</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<td>Initiation and Awards Banquet</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>November 24, 1991</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>December 18, 1991</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>February 5, 1992</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarship Recognition Dinner</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>March 8, 1992</td>
<td>Nebraska East Union</td>
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<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>May 13, 1992</td>
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