

Kappan Newsletter

New York University Chapter #0017



March 2011-Dec 2011 / Spring 2012, Issue 2

PDK At A Glance: Membership Meetings & Presentations

2012-2013 Executive Board

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President's Note

Dear Kappans,

We welcome you to the second edition of the Phi Delta Kappa, New York University Chapter newsletter for 2012! Sophia James is the talented creator of the newsletter which contains news of our chapter events and international initiatives. We invite you to share professional writing that would be of interest to the membership. Submissions for the newsletter may be sent to Sophia James. It is our goal to include various opinions and topics in future publications.

We are now accepting applications for membership. If you would like to submit a candidate for membership please contact Gene Mann our Membership Vice President. Please join us at our summer installation ceremony on June 7th at Apple Restaurant, 17 Waverly Place, New York, at 6 PM.

Our chapter newsletter will be distributed on a seasonal basis following the University semester schedule.

Fraternally yours,

Linda Patterson, Ph.D
President
PDK, NYU Chapter

~ May 2011 Induction Ceremony ~



PDK At A Glance

The May 2011 Induction Ceremony included a presentation by Martine Guerrier, who has served as policy advisor in the Mayor's Office and was appointed by Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Joel Klein in 2007 as Chief Family Engagement Officer for New York City Public Schools. Ms. Guerrier continues to make a difference in civic life through ESMNYC, a networking salon for young professionals in both the public and private sector, introducing them as the next generation of leaders to the movers and shakers of today. The evening introduced new members to the NYU chapter and Henri Belfon Scholarship Award recipients.

2011 Inductees:

Thea J. Butler
Lisa Choi
Michael Delaney
Jessica Hubbard
Nikita Hunter
Krystal Kaplan
Patricia Oscatequi
Jinghong Tian
Pamela Wilson

2011 Henri Belfon Scholarship Awards:

Diamond Parks
Nicole Sampson
Sylvia Ametsohu
Troy Armstrong
Omoaihue Agans-Oliha
Liz Beras

~ March 2011 Membership Meeting ~

The New York University Chapter of Phi Kappa Delta held its general membership meeting on March 17, 2011 at the Department of Teaching & Learning at New York University. The chapter welcomed Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, author of *Driven by Data: A Practical Guide to Improve Instruction*, who has a successful track record in helping schools achieve tremendous gains. He is the managing director of Uncommon Schools, leading six schools in the North Star Academy network. Over 2,000 school leaders nationwide have been trained by Paul and he is the Data Driven Instruction faculty member for New Leaders for New Schools. Prior to joining North Star, Paul worked of six years in a bilingual school in Mexico City, where he founded the International Baccalaureate Program at the middle school level, and became teacher of the year in 1999. He earned a B.A. in Social Justice from Duke University, and his M.Ed. in school administration from City University of New York, Baruch College.

One reviewer of his book, Kim Marshall, said the following: "The book is brilliant, tightly organized, and highly practical."



PDK At A Glance

~ December 2011 Membership Meeting ~



The New York University Chapter of Phi Kappa Delta held its general membership meeting on December 1, 2011 at 6 PM, at the NYU Torch Club. The meeting's focus was on the research of guest speaker Jackie Bennett, Special Representative for the United Federation of Teachers. Ms. Bennett shared her findings from "Pawns in Their Game: Accountability and School Closings under Mayor Bloomberg".

Jackie Bennett taught high school English in NYC for eighteen years. When she joined the staff of a K-12 school, she became interested in educational issues from the early grades up, and found in the UFT a venue for pushing school improvement. She is committed to bringing the voice of ordinary teachers to the school reform movement, and has been active in many areas of education policy in New York, including as a member of City Council's task force for middle school improvement. Ms. Bennett has also served on the accountability committee of the Broader, Bolder Approach to Education campaign, and most recently on the New York State Task Force on Teacher Evaluation. At the UFT, Bennett researches and writes about a wide variety of issues, including school closings. She is a regular writer for Edwise.org and The National Journal Online.

Close Up: Membership



Gene J. Mann

Vice President of Membership, PDK-NYU Chapter

Career: Adjunct Lecturer, Queensborough Community College, 1991-Present

Higher Education:

M.A. English Education, May 1968

New York University, 1967-8

B.S. English Education, May 1967

New York University, 1963-7

Certificate in Greek and Latin, May 2012

New York University, School of Continuing and Professional Studies

Teaching Experience:

Benjamin N. Cardozo HS Teacher, English - 1997-2004

Queens Gateway HS Teacher, English - 1996-97

Eastern District HS Teacher, English - 1968-96

Relevant Non-Teaching Experience:

United Federation of Teachers, Organizer - 2004-Present

Child Abuse Prevention Services, Presenter - 2005-Present

Academic and Professional Honors:

Founders' Award, NYU (Valedictorian)

Deans List, NYU (Eight Times)

Phi Delta Kappa

Teacher of the Year, Eastern District High School, 1977

Educator of the Year, Queens Gateway Secondary School, 1997

Trachtenberg Award, United Federation of Teachers, 1993, 1996, 2001, 2004

Outstanding Teacher Award, University of Chicago, 2000

Publications (Last five years only):

Weekly newsletter, The Organizer (circulation 8,290), 2005-Present

"Abe Rich and Family" (E-publication and Wikipedia), which traced the history of a family of wood-turners from Lithuania to the present day via the Kovno Ghetto, Dachau, and Israel.

Gene lives in Bayville, NY with his wife Lorna, a retired New York City English teacher who is an agent for Prudential Douglas Elliman Real Estate in Locust Valley and Trident Maritime Services, a yacht chartering business in Oyster Bay.

Gene and wife Lorna have five children:

Adam Zimmerman of Los Angeles and Zac Zimmerman of Brooklyn, who work in commercial filming and have been involved in many well-known projects together and separately. Both are 1990 NYU Tisch graduates.

Marino Mann, a captain for Chautaugua Airlines, graduated in aviation from Dowling College. Matthew Mann, who has graduate and undergraduate degrees from Johns Hopkins University, is a computer programmer for ING Bank of Wilmington, Delaware.

Molly Mann, a graduate of the Honors College of Adelphi University and also studied at New College, Oxford University, is an MLS candidate at St. John's University in Queens where she works in the Registrar's Office. She is looking forward to her marriage to John Waligroski in October.

Scholarships and Recognition

PDK Emerging Leaders

PDK Emerging Leaders are accomplished educators who have clearly demonstrated early in their careers that they will make important contributions in transforming education. Selection as a PDK Emerging Leader brings great individual recognition and provides an exciting opportunity to meet other outstanding young educators. We encourage our most accomplished members (under the age of 40) to apply for this prestigious honor. Please note: Pi Lambda Theta members are eligible, but they must also be a member of PDK. [Application materials are available at the PDK web site](http://www.pdkintl.org/awards/emerging.htm): <http://www.pdkintl.org/awards/emerging.htm>. **Deadline to apply is June 18.**

Other News & Announcements

Special Announcement:

The NYU Chapter launches its new website! You can visit us at <http://pdk-nyu.weebly.com>
Please direct all website communication to Linda Patterson, President of the New York University PDK Chapter, at pdknyu@gmail.com.

Important Webinar for PDK and Pi Lambda Theta Chapter Leaders

In April, PDK members received a personal letter from International President Kathy Andreson describing the work of the board-established Task Force on Chapters. In the letter, Kathy advised of an upcoming webinar that will inform of several exciting, new initiatives for PDK and Pi Lambda Theta chapters. This important webinar will take place at 7:00 p.m. EDT, Thursday, June 21.

[Register now for this webinar:](https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/s/showReg?udc=8f3op8aeb59p) <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/s/showReg?udc=8f3op8aeb59p>

Local PDK and PLT chapters have faced important challenges given recent social and technological changes. Knowing this, the PDK International Board of Directors established a Task Force on Chapters to research these challenges and identify ways to help all PDK and PLT chapters. The task force identified a number of ways that we can advance our network of local chapters, and in February 2012, the PDK International Board adopted the task force's recommendations.

The 60-minute webinar, led by PDK Executive Director Bill Bushaw, will share the findings of the task force, discuss efforts planned for the future, and seek additional ideas from current PDK and PLT chapter leaders.

What Kappans and Thetans Want Most

Last September, more than 450 members responded to a survey asking them about their attendance at local association events and activities. Members said they would attend a local event if:

- notice is given well in advance (at least one month prior), preferably by email;
- the event is scheduled between one and two hours in length;
- the topic is relevant to professional interests, not just socializing (although we imagine having a brief social/networking component is good);
- the meeting is conducted face-to-face (virtual meetings were not warmly embraced); and
- the event is easily accessible and scheduled for the middle of the week.

We also learned members are willing to pay up to \$20 to attend a local PDK event. Bottom line, members and prospective members enjoy gathering face-to-face, prefer planning well in advance, enjoy events that are affordable and do not last too long, and want programs that focus on professional interests.

Update on New CCSSI Assessments

From the Center for K-12 Assessment and Performance Management at ETS, entitled “*Coming Together to Raise Achievement*” describes **in detail** the progress on the new assessments for the Common Core State Standards (CCSSI). It was just updated in April.

http://www.k12center.org/rsc/pdf/Coming_Together_April_2012_Final.PDF

Additionally:

“The Center will work with nationally recognized measurement experts from across the country to explore possible solutions to the measurement challenges inherent in the designs of the new assessments and will share the resulting ideas and recommendations through webinars and our website.”

For more helpful resources about the assessment Consortia and next generation assessments, go to: www.k12center.org

To sign up for notices as these resources are made available, go to:

www.k12center.org/subscribe

Innovations in Teaching & Learning: 2011 PDK International Conference Report

The 2011 PDK International Conference took place February 17-18, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme was “Innovations in Teaching and Learning”, selected because of its relevance to educators everywhere as new and effective educational practices continue to emerge. The conference included scholarly research sessions, roundtable presentations consisting of brief action research reports, topical sessions, and networking events. The conference provided the opportunity to meet passionate educators with high levels of expertise, and to be exposed to a wide variety of materials, research presentations, and Kappans from around the world.

A Review Report was presented by Sophia James and Irma Godlin, Executive Board Members of the New York University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. It is available through Chapter online distribution and hard copy, if requested.

The Kappan Newsletter is calling for members to submit their original research or editorial pieces on current issues in education. We are also interested in publishing good news you would like to share. We require that you keep submissions current and short (within a page to a paragraph). Please send your submissions to SJames80s@gmail.com. Thank you.

The Executive Board Members of Phi Delta Kappa NYU Chapter want to **Wish PDK Members a Great Summer!!** We will return in Fall 2012 with continued dedication to our principals of **Leadership, Research & Service**. The NYU Kappan Newsletter will highlight the many important programs we offer during the year.

*Thank you for your Dedicated Membership & We Look Forward to
Seeing You at Future Meetings.*

Please Send All
Inquiries and
Submissions to the
Contact below:

Sophia James
Email:
SJJames80s@gmail.com

Upcoming Events



Membership Meetings

6 PM – 8 PM

Location: Torch Club – 18 Waverly Place, New York, NY
(usual meeting location unless otherwise identified)

June 7th, 2012 – Induction Ceremony

TBA – Summer Cocktail Reception

Education is more than a luxury; it is a responsibility that society owes to itself.

~ Robin Cook

Let us never be betrayed into saying we have finished our education; because that would mean we had stopped growing.

~ Julia H. Gulliver