

ASPIRATIONS

ALWAYS ASPIRE TOWARD SOMETHING BETTER



SIGMA BETA DELTA'S 2017 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Sigma Beta Delta's much-anticipated Leadership Academy was held November 5-7 in Bentonville, AR, home to three major U.S. corporations. Members from all over the country spent the weekend studying the many different roles leaders play and how students become leaders. The Academy was a great success in providing students a learning opportunity outside the classroom.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

“We are looking for people who have a value system.”

This statement, in some form or fashion, was reverberated throughout Sigma Beta Delta's recent Leadership Academy from literally every leader that presented or shared their story to the students in attendance.

I don't recall any presenter saying we are looking for students with a particular major or GPA. They all were looking for someone with “core values”.



If you Google the phrase “core values” you will be greeted with this description: “Core values are the fundamental beliefs of a person or organization. These guiding principles dictate behavior and can help people understand the difference between right and wrong. Core values also help companies to determine if they are on the right path and fulfilling their goals by creating an unwavering guide.”

We have been blessed at Sigma Beta Delta to have leaders, who from the beginning, documented the society's core values. They are in SBD's mission statement and in the member pledge ensuring that the pursuit of Wisdom, Honor and Aspirations permeates the society from top to bottom.

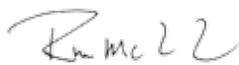
We are proud of the success of SBD's Leadership Academy and believe those in attendance were able to leave with many “take aways”, a phrase one of our board members, Lee Kenyon, uses and stresses frequently to illustrate key principles learned that can be put into action when you get back home.

No individual, company, or organization is a success without a team to assist in the process. The Leadership Academy would not have been a success without the hard work of the planning committee chaired by Dr. Barbara H. Nemecek.

I am excited about the student leaders involved with Sigma Beta Delta. They represent a wonderful generation of multi-taskers, technologically proficient, young minds. They are patient and tolerant of others and are quick to accept that people are not perfect but strive to make this world a better place.

Excitement abounds with our Board of Directors as we look forward to launching a new year when we will be putting the finishing touches on a strategic plan to enhance chapter services, update our webpage, and improve our online capabilities as we explore the world of alumni chapters. We believe it will be a blueprint to lead us into the future as we approach our 25th anniversary in 2019 and continue to induct student members with core values.

Sincerely,



Randall M. McLeod
President, Sigma Beta Delta

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DRAY SCHREIBER

Dray Schreiber is due to graduate from Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA, in May 2018. Scan his resume and you begin to understand why he was awarded a Sigma Beta Delta Fellowship.

Maintaining a 3.8 GPA and a heavy course load that includes two minors in Economics and Computer Science, Schreiber has landed internships at Rockwell Collins, the largest employer in Cedar Rapids, and a paid internship with KPMG last summer. KPMG has offered to pay him to pursue a graduate degree that combines training in both programming and accounting.

Dray's leadership skills helped him revive the university's accounting club, rewriting its constitution to include business students, and serving as its president. His



2017 SIGMA BETA DELTA FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

AIMEE MICHELLE FORD

Aimee Ford says she enjoys a challenging schedule. This year she jumped right into an accelerated MBA program at Benedictine University, in Lisle, IL. before she even completed her bachelor's degree. She works full time as a logistics coordinator for a large multi-national food company, is the mother of two, a wife, and more recently an entrepreneur.

Ford's venture into entrepreneurship took place in 2016 with the completion of the Gateway to Laughter playground for families with disabilities in her hometown of Aurora, IL. "Our inclusive park was designed as a place of joy and laughter for families to heal. As a business major, I enjoyed the opportunity to project plan, network in the community, apply various marketing strategies, fundraise, design and orchestrate the Gateway to Laughter playground build."

Congratulations to the Class of 2017 Sigma Beta Delta Fellowship Award winners. A total of \$30,000 was awarded to 33 students for their outstanding academic achievements and career aspirations to make a difference in other people's lives.

All of our students have exceptional stories to tell and dreams to share. An award of \$1,000 or \$1,500 can make a big difference in a student's life. Space does not allow us to tell all of their stories. We have singled out four of this year's winners to illustrate the dedication to scholarship and desire to make a difference in our world expressed by all the applicants.

advisor calls him "an invaluable member" of the accounting department serving as a teaching assistant, and tutor.

Two years ago Schreiber was seriously injured in a car accident after working a long night shift in a poultry factory. Dray was overwhelmed by the help he received from his community. But it left his family in debt and Dray the sole support of his own college education. "The day forever changed me," he wrote in his Fellowship application. "I decided then I would be the best I could be and help others along the way. Receiving the Sigma Beta Delta Award will help me pay for college and at the same time recognize my hard work and determination."

The group raised \$20,000 and received another \$20,000 of in-kind donations from local businesses. Her leadership has resulted in recognition and awards along with efforts to ensure that Aurora has adequate facilities for the disabled throughout the city.

"These experiences have changed me forever," she wrote. "Although the next chapter of my future is unwritten, I know servant-leader will forever be a part of my future."



Fellowship winners continued on page 6

SIGMA BETA DELTA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Leadership Academy events for the 24 students, their advisers and Sigma Beta Delta board and staff included visits to the headquarters of Tyson Foods, J.B. Hunt and Walmart. The group met with executives at several levels, took on personal challenges, and worked to further develop their leadership skills.



“I’m an adult student, a police officer, volunteer firefighter, and a father of three, but I had never been inside the headquarters of a major corporation. I was blown away by the experience,” said Leonard Herrman, a senior at Baker University in Baldwin City, KS. “I got a lot out of the weekend, and the younger students got even more.”

“It’s both inspiring and fascinating to hear from a highly-experienced corporate executive speaking with great depth and humility.”

Benjamin Tse,
Nyack College



Planning for the Academy was in the making for more than a year, according to Barbara Nemecek, a member of the SBD Board of Directors and chair of the Leadership Academy planning committee.

“We wanted the students to understand what leadership is and how it differs from person to person, industry to industry,” she said. “We wanted them to know they could develop their own style of leadership as they move up in their careers and assume leadership positions.” Nemecek said the students were encouraged to research the companies and the people they were to meet and prepare thoughtful questions. They did just that.

The diverse group, which included SBD board members and staff in addition to students and their four advisers, jumped right into team building exercises and personal assessments on day one. The next day students and their faculty advisers toured Tyson Foods, an American multi-national company involved in the processing and marketing of chicken, beef and pork, and J.B. Hunt a Fortune 500 trucking and transportation company. Tours were conducted by executives in the marketing and financial operations ends of the companies.



“Tyson Foods’ corporate culture has been evolving for the last three years, from an older, more traditional corporate structure to a younger, more collaborative structure that appealed to many of the students,” said Peter Banholzer, Sigma Beta Delta Executive Director. He said two individuals with titles that likely didn’t exist ten years ago conducted the tours – the Digital Media Manager, and Corporate Chef who’s also the Online Community Manager.

“This experience offered every individual in attendance the opportunity to meet exceptional leaders from the best corporations in the country. There were so many takeaways that will help us succeed in the future.”

Bailyn Yost,
University of Pittsburg –Johnstown



From the hip and art-filled corridors of Tyson, the group moved to the towering edifice that is J.B. Hunt, where they learned about the human resources side of business. According to Herrman, the J.B. Hunt atmosphere was more traditional and formal. They met in the company’s boardroom and discussion centered around safety concerns, meeting goals, awareness and other concerns of the trucking industry.

The group toured Sam Walton’s first store, a five and dime in Bentonville. It’s now the Walmart Museum, a tiny monument to the world’s largest company by revenue.

Friday evening’s guest speaker was Julie Gehrki, Vice President of Programs for the Walmart Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the company. The Walmart Foundation recently ended a five-year \$2 billion effort to help end hunger in America, a business function often foreign to many students.

According to Nemecek, exposing the students to the work of corporate community relations not only further broadened their concept of leadership, but also illustrated SBD’s challenge of honorable service to humankind.



FACE YOUR FUTURE!

Saturday morning the students were treated to a panel discussion. The panel included Walmart IT and marketing executives, a local bank executive, a corporate general counsel, and a small business veterinarian. The panel answered many questions about leadership from the students and shared their insights from their business experiences.

At Saturday evening’s banquet, students got to meet and interact with guest speaker JoAnne Brandes, retired Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and General Counsel of JohnsonDiversey, Inc., and founder of the Center for Leadership Excellence. A dynamic, engaging speaker, Brandes shared her knowledge and experiences with the students.



“I looked around the room when JoAnne Brandes was speaking and students were sitting on the edge of their chairs just waiting to ask another question,” recalled Herrman.

Back in Massachusetts, Fatiya Diallo, an Academy participant and accounting major at Springfield College is the subject of a student profile video on the school’s website. When asked about her experiences at the SBD Leadership Academy, she had this to say:

“I learned a lot about myself. I learned how to speak my mind, and how to compromise without losing myself in the process. I would encourage other students to work hard to become a part of the Sigma Beta Delta honor society and take part in the Leadership Academy.”

2017 SIGMA BETA DELTA FELLOWSHIP WINNERS

Continued from page 3

QIN MCCAULEY

Ten years ago, Qin McCauley fell in love, married and moved from her home in China to her husband's hometown in Bemidji, MN. In her essay applying for a Sigma Beta Delta Fellowship Award McCauley wrote about her move to the United States:

"I was happy, excited, curious, and lost also, as I became a zero when I tried to start a career here." She enrolled in college and worked tirelessly figuring out the differences between the taxation system and business laws of her two countries, maintaining a 4.0 GPA, working full time and raising a son. She impressed her first American employer sufficiently to earn six raises in two years!

McCauley volunteers at her son's school, at a local church and she and her family were a host family for a Chinese student studying at Bemidji State University.

Currently a junior at BSU, McCauley said the Fellowship will help towards her dream of becoming a Certified Public Accountant.



"I will represent Sigma Beta Delta well during my years at the university and beyond. If selected, I can assure you that I will be a dedicated professional that you will be proud to count in your ranks."

SCOTT GRADEL

Following 30 years in the United States Coast Guard, including a yearlong stint in an Operation Iraqi Freedom combat zone, Scott Gradel decided to finish his college education.

"Pursuing my bachelor's degree in business management began in the early days of my military career." While serving, he completed numerous USCG mission support related courses and achieved 10 military promotions in his career receiving commendation medals for outstanding military achievement. But he yearned for that college degree.



"Because of my full-time commitment to USCG missions, the non-traditional path was my only choice," he continued. "However, my academic strengths, desire, focus, discipline and self-assurance paved the way for my educational resilience."

Gradel used that educational resilience to complete his bachelor's degree in September 2017 with a 3.95 GPA and will advance into an MBA program. Gradel is an active role model and mentor to young people in his community and assists the USO and Operation Homefront in supporting America's service men and women.

"As a new, proud lifetime member of SBD...I plan to quickly assume the responsibilities of gathering in more of the top international students in business, management, and administration into this profound international honor society," he wrote.

Complete list of 2017 SBD Fellowship Winners

Christopher Acton
Siena Heights University

Tammy L. Brewer
Wilmington University

Aimee Michelle Ford
Benedictine University

John S. Maniatty
Stevenson University

Kye Ryong Park
Dickinson College

Tiffany Anderson-Thomas
Cambridge College

Taryn Lace Campbell
Montana Tech

Scott Gradel
University of Phoenix

Qin McCauley
Bemidji State University

Kelsi Robins
Virginia Wesleyan University

Rhiannon M. Avvisato
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Laconya Clemons
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Whittier College

Dray Schreiber
Coe College

Erika L. Betz
Hilbert College

James Crow
Howard Payne University

Christian Habeil
Springfield College

Connor Hensley Mitchell
Saint Michael's College

Jamie Sholar
William Carey University

Darcia Bevis
Cornerstone University

Brandon Davis
Sullivan University -
Louisville

Gabriel L. Hamilton
American Public University

Michella Mousaed
Mount Saint Mary's
University

Olivia Thomas
Daytona State College

Jody Ann Bohnenblust
Central Christian College
of Kansas

Stephanie Monae DuBord
College of Saint Benedict &
Saint John's University

Qeashaunda Johnson
Chowan University

Ryan J. Mulder
Castleton University

Paige Elizabeth Webster
Culver-Stockton College

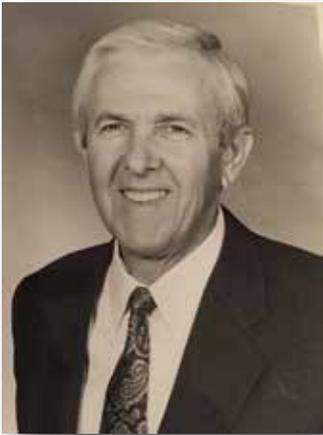
Leanne Lavelle
Dominican College

Kelly Napolitano
Hartwick College

Mikayla Wombacher
Ashford University

SIGMA BETA DELTA REMEMBERS A FOUNDING MEMBER

RICHARD SCOTT, SBD FOUNDER, REMEMBERED



As Sigma Beta Delta officers began planning for the organization's 25th anniversary in 2019, some of its founders remembered Richard Scott, professor, dean and administrator at Baylor University and one of its founders. Scott died in November, 2015. He was 81 years old.

For nearly 40 years, Dr. Richard C. Scott, served Baylor University as a faculty member, dean and vice president of development. Dr. Scott grew up in Waco, Texas, and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at Baylor and a DBA in 1968 from the University of Indiana in Bloomington. He also served as an officer in the U.S. Navy on active duty for three years and another 17 years in the Navy Reserves, retiring as a commander.

Scott was an active member of the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society. He, along with two of his business school colleagues, James Bearden, who taught at East Carolina University in North Carolina and Donald Driemeier, who taught at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, began work on creating a new business honor society. The three men are recognized as Sigma Beta Delta's founding members.

"The three of us were all officers in Beta Gamma Sigma honor society," recalled Driemeier. "It was an older organization and made up of members from more than 500 chapters in business schools accredited by AACSB. By the late 1980s our research indicated

there were more than 900 schools with business programs, both public and private that received regional accreditation, rather than program specific specialized accreditation. Those schools were granting business degrees and turning out first-class students with no way of honoring their very best students. Something needed to be done."

Driemeier recalled a long-range planning meeting for Beta Gamma Sigma. Led by Scott, Bearden and Driemeier, the group presented their research and a decision was made to create a new academic business honor society.

"We knew we had to fill the gap," recalled Bearden. "We all had a history of working in the honor society movement and had studied how they were created. Working with Jim Viehland, the former executive director of Beta Gamma Sigma, we created a document that spelled out what we wanted. I have always taken great pride in moving that idea forward."

Bearden said the Greek letters chosen for the new society – Sigma meaning wisdom, Beta meaning honor, and Delta meaning the pursuit of meaningful aspirations – used the first letters of each of the founder's last names.



(Scott, Bearden, Driemeier)



In 2019 Sigma Beta Delta will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary.
Plan to celebrate with us! More information to follow.

25th Anniversary

SIGMA BETA DELTA CONTRIBUTORS 2016-2017

Contributors are members of Sigma Beta Delta listed by chapter.

\$10,000+

Sigma Chapter
James H. Bearden

\$1,000+

ACBSP region 4

Texas Wesleyan University
Sandra Hile Hart

\$100-500

Alaska Pacific University
Frances L. Marbarger

Benedictine University
Edward Moran

Carroll College
Charles E. Rolling

Columbia College
Gregory Buck

DeVry University Pomona
Jonathan P. Tang

East Texas Baptist University
Ann Droptini
Ned Calvert

Holy Family University
Michelle Pickles

Howard Payne University
Jeff R. Turner

Kean University
Phyllis H. Warden

Keller Graduate School
Steven Wollenburg

Liberty University
Mona Ables

Lynn University
Katherine Steenberg

Robert Morris University
Robert G. Ontolchik

Rogers State University
Israel Rodriguez

Shorter University
George O'Neill

Texas Wesleyan University
Linda Arredondo

University of Tampa
Steven Shaw

Wayne State College
Timothy Benes

Wilmington University
Wilma & Victoria Yu

up to \$100

Alaska Pacific University
Kathryn J. Kunemund

American InterContinental University
Elizabeth A. Hresko Davis

American Military University
Mojisola Ogunleye-Johnson

Argosy University
Jacqueline Cheng

Argosy University - Chicago
Lynete L. Elmes
Cecelia A. Brantley

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Hamline University
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Lean Reyes

Hood College
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Thank you for your contribution!

