

DKG Oregon State Virtual Conference

April 23 - 24, 2021



2021 State President's Annual Report

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your Oregon State Organization President for the 2019-2021 biennium!

As your president, I serve as chair of the Executive Committee, the Executive Board, and the Alpha Rho Foundation Board of Directors. I am an ex-officio member of all state committees except the Nominations Committee. I also represent you at all levels of our Society.

International

I was registered to attend the 2020 International Convention scheduled for July 7-10, 2020 in Philadelphia. However due to COVID-19 restrictions, the in-person convention was cancelled and many of the scheduled events were moved to a virtual platform. I participated in several of the virtual activities including the opening ceremonies, keynote speakers, installation of officers, announcement of Dr. Helen Popovich as the recipient of the 2020 International Achievement Award, and several workshops.

With meetings and activities cancelled and stay-at-home orders in place, our International Society and most State Organizations took to Zoom. I participated in several workshops and meetings offered by other states (Tennessee, Ohio and Wyoming), a "campfire session" with our 2018-2020 International Leadership Committee, and two meetings of the NW Presidents organized by Barbara Clausen, our NW Regional Director. I attended three webinars presented by the US Forum Steering Committee, "Best Practices for Successful Legislative Programs," "Amending the Gap: The 19th and 28th Amendments," and "Legislative Issues for Our 117th Congress," and one webinar by CTAUN, "The United Nations and Indigenous Peoples: Advocating for Education." I will register for the virtual Illinois State Convention in April.

As a member of the International Executive Board, I voted for our 2020-2022 International Officers and DKGIEF Board of Directors. I voted on the international available fund budget and on repairs to the roof at our Society Headquarters in Austin, Texas. I voted to approve the following: dissolution of San Luis Potosí State Organization; postponing the 2021 International Conference in Europe to 2023 with Finland as the site; San Antonio as the site of a 2021 International Conference; Michigan as the site of a 2023 International Conference; formation of a Centennial Celebration Committee; and The Technology Infrastructure Management Schedule with funds to come from the permanent fund. I voted for Aurora Vignau to serve a six-year term on the Holden Fund Committee and for authorization of monies from the Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund for transition and orientation meetings for

our International Leadership Team, and non-member women speakers for the 2020 International Convention and 2021 International Conferences. I completed a survey from the International Leadership and Task Force Committees; and surveys for training of new state organization personnel and a preferred virtual platform for International; and surveys on our Oregon State Convention, and membership and expansion committees for NW Regional Director Barbara Clausen. This spring I will vote on candidates for the 2021 International Achievement Award.

As host state for the Portland International Conference, many Oregon members are working hard to prepare for the four-day event. I serve on the Conference Steering Committee as Chair of the Emergency Fund and Co-Chair of the Sponsorship Committee. One of my goals for the biennium is to encourage members to become more involved at the state and international levels of DKG. Our state is offering \$100 stipends for Oregon members attending the conference. I hope many of you will register and take advantage of this opportunity to see our International Society at work!

State

In March of 2020 our State Conference scheduled for April 24-26 at The Oregon Garden Resort was cancelled. In order to complete the work of our State Organization, we scheduled a virtual Executive Board Meeting for June 23, 2020. At that meeting the Board approved the operating budget for 2020-2021 and voted to extend the work of the Ad Hoc Expansion Committee for another year. Gamma and Alpha Pi Chapters were dissolved. On June 30, 2020 a virtual training for chapter officers was held. In September an email vote of the Executive Board approved the proposal to align the State Bylaws with the State Standing Rules and the International Constitution so that both documents are revised on a two-year cycle beginning in 2021.

With the expertise of Webmaster Grace Pitzer, we became more proficient at using Zoom! In August we began a series of President to President Sharing Sessions. Four meetings were held: August 6, November 14, January 23 and March 6. The hour and a half long sessions allowed for sharing of information and group discussion. The meetings were well-attended. On October 17th our State Educational Excellence Committee, chaired by Dana Murphy, sponsored a four-member panel symposium, "Displaced Children and Youth: Let's Meet Their Needs Together." It was very successful with approximately 35 members and guests attending! On May 22nd our EEC will organize a birthday celebration to recognize our 80 years as a State Organization! Thank you to our Executive Committee for making decisions on policies and programs this past year.

Throughout the year I worked with our Convention Steering Committee to plan our virtual State Convention scheduled for April 23rd and 24th on Zoom. After cancelling three attempts to get together at The Oregon Garden Resort, we will finally meet as a State Organization! Thanks to our Steering Committee headed by State Vice President Brenda Jensen for the many hours of work organizing the workshops, White Rose Ceremony, awards presentation, and Friday night social event. Kudos especially to the members of Beta Beta who were the backbone of the year and a half long planning effort!

Due to the efforts of Treasurer Vickie Jackson and the Alpha Rho Foundation Board, we are now a 501(c)(3) corporation! The Foundation Board has met three times since getting started on October 20th. The 501(c)(3) status will allow our members and other contributors more flexibility in giving

toward grants and awards. You will hear more about this exciting adventure as plans and details unfold!

Chapter

One of my goals for the biennium is to attend a meeting or event of all of our 19 chapters. Prior to the shutdown, I was able to visit in-person meetings of Omicron, Omega, Lambda, Psi, Alpha Epsilon, Beta Beta, Eta, Chi and Beta Gamma. I also met with many members at our District 1 and Districts 4/5/6 Fall Conferences and the Portland Area Chapter Brunch. This year my in-person visits have been limited to the Psi Excellence in Action Award Presentation and traveling with Kathy Martell and Sandy Watts to honor our 2019 Achievement Award Recipients. Congratulations to Service to Society Recipient Bridget E. Honan/Alpha; Service to Education Recipient Kim Roberts/Omega; and Service to Community Recipient Kris Field-Eaton/Beta Beta.

Thank you also to Alpha, Omega, Lambda, Sigma, Alpha Omicron, Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Nu, Psi, Beta Beta, Chi, Alpha Phi and Beta Gamma who have invited me into your hearts and homes this past year via email or Zoom. I have been able to experience installations, induction ceremonies and great programs without leaving home! Even through the turmoil of the past year, it is so rewarding to see all the outstanding programs, activities and services that our chapters are providing to their members and their communities!

Looking into the future

As I write this report, we are coming to the end of the current biennium. On July 1 our new officers and committee chairs will begin their term in office. As Immediate Past State President, I will move into another area of service to our state association. The past two years have been an exciting, awesome journey! Thank you for your friendship, support and dedication to DKG Oregon. Yes, it truly has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Oregon State Organization President!

With much gratitude,

Darlene

Darlene Cook
Oregon State Organization President, 2019-2021
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Oregon State Organization Executive Committee, 2019-2021
Darlene Cook, President
Brenda Jensen, Vice President
Kate Kelleher, Secretary
Vickie Jackson, Treasurer
Nancy Lewis, Parliamentarian
Dr. Kelly McIntyre, Immediate Past President
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