

THE KEY OF PI KAPPA DELTA

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GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE—GLENDALE, AZ

SCOTT JENSEN, EDITOR

The Key is a newsletter published at each Pi Kappa Delta biennial convention and tournament. The daily publication provides information about the convention and tournament, along with the national honorary. Important news and information, such as candidate statements, tournament and convention updates, and profiles of people and events is standard content. Additionally, I hope you will email me with your own ideas—including stories and news that is fit enough to print...or at least close to fit. There will also be a trivia contest as part of some issues, with winners drawn from the correct entries to receive items from the PKD Store. **IMPORTANTLY**, if you become a candidate for office, please email me your candidate statement. All candidates should have statements (brief please—100-200 words) submitted by **9:00 am Sunday morning**, earlier if possible.

Please help fill each issue with content. Email me at jensensc@webster.edu. Contributions must be either email text or Word attachments. Enjoy all of the issues of volume 54 of *The Key*.

Scott Jensen, Editor

Where to Go for Help and Information...

Help Desk
(513) 279-8535

Internet Access
PKD2024!

PKD Website
www.pikappadelta.net

PKD Facebook
www.facebook.com/pikappadelta

Instagram
[@pikappadelta](https://www.instagram.com/pikappadelta)

LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com/company/pi-kappa-delta

Candidates for National Council

Balloting is open at the Help Desk in the Student Union. **Remember your voting delegate's ribbon.** Good luck to all of our candidates and thank you for your commitment to serve!

At-Large Members

Jonathan Conway

For all my forensics career as a competitor and most of my earlier years as a coach I was an NFA first kind of guy. But the more I experienced PKD, I realized it was the right place for me. Forensics is not about getting to nationals or just winning competitions to qualify. The process of forensics is what should be emphasized. That's what PKD is for me and why I feel so driven to serve. I want to grow this activity from the ground up. I have done that as president of the Florida Intercollegiate Forensics Association and want to continue that at a national level. Building forensics programs and supporting them in whatever goals they have. Doing this activity matters, no matter what.

Taylor Corlee

My name is Taylor Corlee, and I am the Assistant Professor of Communication and Director of Forensics at Southwest Baptist University. I currently serve as the Governor for the Heartland Province for Pi Kappa Delta, and I aspire to contribute further at a national level as an at-large council member. My academic and professional journey is rooted in the field of higher educational administration and leadership, specifically tailored towards strengthening and supporting

liberal arts programs. My commitment is to innovate and advocate for effective strategies that bolster the integration of speech and debate activities within the educational framework, ensuring they receive the necessary support and recognition. Thank you.

Mary Joseph

I have known since the moment I first stepped into the 2016 PKD NCT in Kentucky that this was the organization that I belonged to. For the first time in my life I was given permission and encouraged to occupy space with my voice and has allowed me to find an institution I call home. A lot has happened in 8 years. As such, my platform supports an active effort to secure the resources we need in order to thrive as a model institution during this time utilizing the principles of equity, adaptability and initiative. I hope to develop policies like forming a PKD specific research collaborative to help keep us informed about the needs of the community we serve as well as evaluating the forensics space itself in an attempt to improve and innovate. In addition, I hope to develop a technology specific help team to aid us as we get settled in our increasingly digital world. As the 2023 Bob Derryberry New Coach of the Year, I believe that I possess the drive to serve as an effective member of your PKD National Council.

Marisa Mayo

I began my PKD career in 2016 competing for Southwest Baptist University. Afterwards, I attended the University of Central Missouri where I received a MA in Communication and received two years of experience as a graduate assistant for the team. In 2021, I began my current position as the Assistant Director of Speech and Debate at Simpson College. My time in the community and at each of these institutions has been truly life changing as it has shaped my career, but also my love of the activity. I would love to use my experience coupled with my commitment to this organization to continue making this the most inclusive space where all students have a seat at the table. I am eager to announce that I, Marisa Mayo, am running for a Council Member at Large. This community has been a home for so many people because it offers a safe place for dialogue, storytelling, and learning. I am consistently in awe of the commitment to advocacy and equality that it showcases. However, there are challenges, in this activity, that prevent students from having their voices heard. My goal, as a council member, is to increase the accessibility of this activity by streamlining a process for accommodations where it is the obligation of PKD to communicate needs without forcing students to disclose their disabilities in order to access the debate space. Although we have made strides in the right direction, we have not reached the destination needed to guarantee a safe and equitable place for all. Lastly, I believe PKD must implement strategies to assist student run teams or those with minimal funding. The PKD grant provides support, but we need to do more by exploring alternative solutions to ensure that anyone who would like to attend has an opportunity to do so. This showcases that PKD is committed to inclusivity and that we have the chance to make this organization's future even brighter. **If there are policy ideas you have, please reach out to me at marisa.mayo@simpson.edu.**

Douglas Roberts

My name is Douglas Roberts (they/them), and I am running for a national council at-large seat. I am a current coach at Minnesota State University, Mankato and I am running because I am a firm believer in making our activity more accessible. Ever since my first PKD, I have loved the culture and atmosphere that PKD has, but for so long I have seen too many inequities that have limited teams and individuals from being able to enjoy the activity, educational qualities, and competitive potential. My goals if elected is to expand accessibility not only at the tournament, but building resources and tools that can be implemented across the entire community. Second, we need to provide support on a mental health level to our judges and coaches on the circuit and develop a means to protect them. Third, I want to provide support and access to teams who are student run and support those who are struggling through financial support, coaching resources, and additional accessible educational opportunities. We must support and defend our struggling teams because their advocacy and efforts also matter.

Trent Webb

PKD continues to strive for an atmosphere of tolerance, inclusiveness and diversity. For that reason, I seek to run for an At-Large council member position. I believe there is more work to do including: diversifying the judging pool, bringing limited prep into the 21st century, more student involvement in the governance of PKD, and creating more opportunities for scholarship. After completing my certification in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Cornell University, I realized how many of the principles learned can be brought into forensics organizations. It is my hope and goal to bring that to PKD. Thanks for considering me.

Community College Representative

Kaila Todd

I am running for a second term as the community college representative. While I am no longer an active coach, I have a strong understanding of the needs of community college programs and want to continue to be an advocate for community colleges. I want to continue to give back to Pi Kappa Delta, and to help create a place for community colleges in our organization. I have also recently been doing work surrounding the need for greater accessibility in forensics and debate, especially as it pertains to neurodiversity.

Graduate Student Representative

Jillian A. Rosa

Hi, my name is Jillian Rosa and I am running for the graduate student representative position with PKD. I competed in Speech and Debate in my undergraduate and currently coach with Murray State as a graduate student. I am committed to PKD and furthering the sport of speech and debate in terms of inclusivity, accessibility, innovation, and excellence by advocating for positive change, supporting new and aspiring member chapters, and endeavoring to make PKD's website and social media presence more accessible to everyone. I believe that speech and debate is for everyone, and that stems from my personal experience of finding belonging in the sport. Since we can only be as good as the voices we listen to, I believe that diversity will drive excellence and innovation, for PKD and forensics, to great heights. I look forward to being your next graduate student representative and thank you for your vote.

John Wallis

It is with great passion and enthusiasm that I am running for re-election as the Graduate Student Representative on the National Council. In every interaction I have within the forensics community, I am inspired by our commitment to this activity and our resolve to continue despite adversity in the form of budget cuts and other threats to our programs. These issues motivate me to serve this organization and continue to serve. My vision for our future involves the PKD National Council, province leaders, and each chapter and member of PKD to create a strategy that will be focused on our future. Through this outreach, we can identify chapters that are struggling, developing, and thriving to partner schools together and build up membership. While focusing on outreach across the country, I would like to see PKD create a committee that is focused on advocacy at the state and national levels. As leaders in the forensics community, this is the logical next step in order to expand our outreach efforts and success as an organization and to bring institutions back into the fold and add new chapters in the future.

Growing Our Community, Advocate for You, John Wallis - Advocate for our Future!

I want to hear from YOU! Send me an email at wallisjohn2017@gmail.com

At-Large Student Representative

Ellie Griffin

Jordan Johnson

Hey everyone! My name is Jordan Johnson and I want to run for student undergraduate representative. I am striving to create a better environment for all. I have extreme passion for speech and debate, my mission is to transcend this PKD national counsel. I currently run my own student government at my respected school and i have the ability to lead everyone in the right direction. Let me be the voice and fire for you Move forward with me with this so together we can change lives with speech and debate.

Joshua Kofahl

Hello everybody, I hope PKD is going amazing! My name is Joshua Kofahl, a Political Science Major at the University of Central Missouri. I compete in all three genres of Individual Events, as well as debate making a comprehensive competitor. I hope to receive your vote for a few reasons including giving a voice to community college students at PKD, as a former community college competitor myself. If you were to vote for me I would be an individual you can talk to any day, anytime, anywhere so that there is a close connection between the National Council and the students. Regardless of

the candidate you choose, I can promise that every one of us will promise equality for all students at future PKD events. Have a great rest of the Tournament! Come talk to me if you see me around! Thanks!

Sophia Pilling

I am the vice-president of the Panhellenic Council at Whitman and a prominent member of the Delta Gamma sorority. I am proud and excited to run for this position. Anchors up!

Sydney Rettig

Hello, my name is Sydney Rettig I am interested in becoming your new undergrad student representative. Due to parents involvement in this activity of course they had to have a kid in it lol. I have been apart of this activity all through high school and then decided to compete again in college. I am a sophomore here at 'BGSU studying hospitality tourism and event management. As of a person who has seen the process of this activity over the course of these few years I have seen the value this activity brings. As of my main goal is to bring underfunded teams to be able to come to these National tournaments and tournaments in general. My main goal also is to bring things like dietary needs and allergy's more to light of this activity as food sources are not always the best available. Of course equity is other main problem we are facing. I hope to bring general student meetings and possibly student representation from each of the schools as equity officers.

Maddie Waddingman

I would be honored to serve as your graduate student representative for many reasons. First off my experience, all four years of high school I was a part of the student council, and even with it just being my first year in college I am already a senator in my school's student governance. I have also been competing in speech all throughout my high school career, and this being my first year in college forensics plays into why I am the perfect candidate. I truly love college forensics, even though I have never had the chance to debate before this year, I truly have fallen in love with every debate form I have done. The community around forensics is one of the best parts! What I want to work on improving is two fold equity and the novice experience. Equity is a big part of what I believe in, with myself using accommodations I understand the struggle so many of us deal with. Some judges and competitors do not understand why we need certain accommodations. I plan to work on ensuring everyone has what they need to make forensics as fair and enjoyable as possible. Finally the novice experience, novice's have a unique position in forensics with me currently going through the transition I will work to ensure all novices have a clean and clear transition from high school to college forensics.

From Saturday's Business Meeting

A number of important updates and some less serious sharing were part of our last business meeting Saturday night. Some highlights follow...

Roll Call

Some of the responses were a little more creative than others—and some were not in any recognizable language. There are a few generalizations we can make...

1. Thursday was an evening of spelling. SO much spelling.
2. Saturday was an evening of acknowledging mascots.
3. McNeese State University is *still* cold...and likely in continued search for beads, parades, and hot sauce.
4. SO much banging on tables, we think reflecting a combination of tantrums, squad rituals, or demands for dinner.
5. Cameron University and Whitman College uttered screams and noises of distress. We are worried about you.
6. Murray State wins—who brings a ukulele and song to Roll Call? If we'd been on *The Voice*, you would have had four chair turns.

Our Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Adam Blood, our COO, finally found his way to Glendale CC after his adventures with American Airlines. He wasted no time sharing many quips and important information. Consider these rhetorical moments...

"This COO report is *not* brought to you by American Airlines."

(after many schools not responding when their name was called) "This is like a parli draw at a tournament going terribly wrong."

“I was waiting for this...a COO named Blood asking if Transylvania is here.”

His COO report was a good one. The honorary is in a sound fiscal position. He shared information about PKD’s grant and funding assistance program, reporting that \$8,000.00 was awarded to programs in need for this year’s convention and tournament. He also made reference to PKD’s Code of Conduct, the new document and procedure for affirming chapters’ commitment to civility and other expectations for appropriate behavior.

Congratulations to our First Rising Star Winners

This is the first year in which we are awarding the *Rising Star* awards, intended to recognize exceptional PKD students in their first or second years of forensics. Congratulations to this year’s five winners:

Rachel Garcia	Simpson College
Sophia Pilling	Whitman College
Sidney Powell	Simpson College
Charles Russell III	Marian University
Emma Wittenauer	Webster University

Important Convention and Other Announcements

Our banquet will be Monday night at the Hilton Resort at the Peak. Doors will open at 6:30, with dinner served after sunset in honor of Ramadam Kareem. Seating is first come—first serve. This is also a great opportunity for schools to take team and individual photos.

For those looking to submit ideas and scholarship for presentation, we encourage you to submit proposals to the National Communication Association—Pi Kappa Delta division. The convention is November 20-24 in New Orleans. The site for submission is <https://www.natcom.org/nca-109th-annual-convention-freedom>.

Today’s Professional Development Panel is at 12:15. It will feature a panel discussion with a focus on individuals who have used forensic experience and training for success and making impacts in communities outside competitive contexts.

Voting for candidates will take place at the PKD Store. The *Meet the Candidates Forum* will take place at 1:00 in the Ballroom of the Student Union. Come and ask questions of and hear ideas from candidates seeking your support for office.

Intergenerational Debate kicks off with the preliminary round at 3:00. Four intergenerational debates will be held, with a showcase round featuring the top two teams scheduled for Monday afternoon.

Please remember tonight’s Hall of Fame Induction at Fleming’s Steakhouse—9712 West Northern Avenue, Peoria AZ. Phil Voight, a past president and COO, will be honored for his profound contributions to PKD. Join us at 8:00—food and a cash bar will be provided.

Girl Talk and Talkback Discussion Session on Monday

The film *Girl Talk* was shown Friday night. It is an outstanding documentary featuring a successful, largely student-run high school debate program. Among the many features of the film are the narratives of the young women and their navigation of a world in which sex and gender influence how one is perceived as a communicator. Hannah Phan, one of the students featured in the film, has joined us this weekend. One of our events, discussion, has been addressing how PKD can better serve minoritized communities. Monday morning, a panel discussion will include top students from this event, along with Hannah, talking about what was discussed in the event, the film, and the future. Join us Monday morning at 11:00 in the Student Union Ballroom.

Meet Your National Council

Each of the three issues of this year's *The Key* will feature a brief profile of members of the national council. You will learn a bit about each featured member...information you probably would not otherwise know. Today we meet your Chief Operations Officer, Historian, and Editor.

Adam Blood—Chief Operations Officer

Dr. Adam Blood is Director of Forensics at University of West Florida. His journey has taken him from his hometown of Joplin, MO, through the University of Central Missouri and University of Nebraska-Lincoln, to his current home in Pensacola. "My hobbies include fishing and woodworking, but the coolest thing about me is my wife, Shea. We met at a college debate tournament, coached together for two years, and somehow I convinced her to marry me. I call it "The Art of Persuasion, Beautiful and Extremely Lucky." The other fun fact, in Adam's words, is "I used to dance in talent shows. The past tense is important... key words... used to." Dr. Blood is motivated by watching students find their confidence and a sense of belonging. He loves that PKD is a supportive environment where students can find their own unique voice.

Gina Jensen—Historian

Professor Gina Jensen is Director of Forensics at Webster University. In her role as PKD's Historian, Gina also serves as Convention Coordinator at our biennial tournament/conventions. She was born and raised in St. Louis and has been a member of PKD since her first biennial at Monmouth College in 1991. Her non-forensic world includes three children, a step-son, and a granddaughter. Her "happy" place is anywhere she can watch and share moments with her kids. The fun fact about Gina is that her students nominated her to be on TLC's *What Not to Wear*. She was "Mom Jeans Gina" on season seven in 2008. As Gina says, "I have always loved PKD. It has given so much to me. I really want to give back to an organization that has given me so much." Among many favorite PKD memories for Gina are serving as PKD President and hosting the Centennial Convention and Tournament in 2013. She is also a member of PKD's Hall of Fame.

Scott Jensen—Editor

Scott Jensen is Professor at Webster University. He is completing his 45th year in forensics as a competitor or coach. He coaches "on the side" while spending most of his professional time coordinating Webster's BA degree in Sports Communication. If he's got time to kill, Scott is probably weeping while watching a movie involving a sport, a dad, and a kid, or at a field watching a baseball game, ideally one with his son behind the plate. He may also be found spoiling his granddaughter and trying to secure her commitment to Cubs fandom. Scott has been a PKD member since 1981 and has missed only two national tournaments since his freshman year in college. He directed 15 PKD national tournaments, served as President from 1999-2001, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2015. About PKD, he notes, "there is not an organization or collection of experiences that has shaped me more, professionally, than Pi Kappa Delta. It is home to the ideals of forensics and communication that I value most, and has brought the people into my life who have had the most profound influence on me as an educator and forensic-citizen."

Notes from the Tournament Director

Dr. Jessica Furgerson

Congratulations on reaching the end of Day 2 of PKD 2024! From what we've heard in tab, the competition is inspiring, beautiful, and just in the true tradition of Pi Kappa Delta.

Some Day 3 reminders:

- * Debaters - if you are DE in IEs and your Debate Draw time is nearing, leave your IE rounds once you have performed to go to Debate Draw.
- * Debate Judges for Prelim Round 5- Please remember not to disclose round decisions or give oral critiques in debate prelims.
- * INT Round 3 Judges - This round is the resume round. When you open your ballot, you will see students' resumes along with a rubric for evaluating them. Please use this rubric in your evaluation and leave feedback for students.
- * Coaches/Asynch Judges - Remember to submit your Asynch Ballots by 5 pm tournament time tomorrow Sunday March 10.

Note on Elim Rounds for Debate - Coaches share these with all your students! Elimination rounds for Debate begin tomorrow. Students PLEASE note:

* If you are DE in both flights of Debate, do not wait for judge decisions or oral critiques if doing so would make you late to your next debate round. Go to your next debate round. Failure to do this will hold up the entire tournament and could result in disqualification.

* Review the Debate Draw procedures for Elimination rounds, which you can find under Files for Download on Speechwire.

Thank you to everyone for making this an excellent day 2 of PKD!

(From the Editor...)

Thanks, too, to Dr. Victoria Ledford, our Assistant Tournament Director. She has to leave us today for teaching commitments next week, but she has served with Dr. Ferguson since their first year of directing our national tournament in 2019. Both serve PKD in this very important capacity each year as professors not affiliated with forensic programs at their schools. They give to PKD because of their commitment to our honorary and its membership. Thank you Dr. Ledford—and safe travels home.

Notes from the Convention Coordinator

Professor Gina Jensen

There are several exciting convention events today. Each is noted elsewhere in this issue of *The Key*. If you ever have a question about any of these events, or why things are a little different at this tournament, please ask! I am generally at the store, and if not, there is someone there who can talk to you about these nuances that make PKD different from other forensic experiences.

Please join us in the Ballroom of the Student Union for

Professional Development Panel—Beyond the Round at 1:00

Meet the Candidates Forum—1:00

VOTE! We have several outstanding candidates for three offices—At-Large Council, Community College Representative, Graduate Student Representative, and At-Large Student Representative. You must have your black Voting Delegate ribbon in order to vote. Voting will take place at the PKD Store; it will begin after the Meet-the-Candidates Forum and close at 5:00.

Join us for the Hall of Fame induction tonight at 8:00. We look forward to seeing you at Fleming's Steakhouse—food provided!

2024 Biennial Convention and Tournament Chapter Trivia Contest

THE ANSWERS—Mascots

Arizona State University

Sun Devils

Carson-Newman University

Eagles

John Carroll University

Wolves or Blue Streaks

Maricpo Speech and Debate

Fighting Artichokes or Gaucho

Newbury College

Wolves or Nigel the Nighthawk

Sterling College

Warriors

University of West Florida

Argonauts

Bowling Green State University

Falcons

Gustavus Adolphus College

Lions

Kansas Wesleyan University

Coyotes

Missouri Valley College

Vikings

Otterbein University

Cardinals

Texas Christian University

Horned Frogs

Webster University

Gorloks

Congratulations to the two winners from a large pool of players!

Bethanie Majewski and Aaron Schwartz—claim your prize at the PKD Store