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President's Message



Hau'oli Lanui! (Happy Holidays!)

It has been busy behind the scenes since the fabulous Fall Forum in September. Thank you to Lisa Anne Tsuruda and Iota chapter for hosting and presenting such an insightful and thought provoking event. Beginning with the Beta Beta State Executive Board meeting and the convening of the Fall Forum 2015, the day was filled with guest speakers, shopping, and fellowship. One of the wonderful things about Delta Kappa Gamma is the excitement that permeates through the room as sisters meet and greet each other whether it has been a while since they have seen each other or just had lunch in the past week.

In October, I was invited to Eta and Xi Chapters' (Kauai) planning meeting for the 2015-2016 year. Presidents Millicent Wellington (Eta) and Lisa Tomita and Sandy Magnussen (Xi) graciously combined their first chapter meeting to host me at a dinner and then met separately to plan their meetings. It was wonderful to see old friends, people I had worked with in the past, and meet members I didn't know before.

In December, I was invited to not one but two chapter Christmas parties. Thank you to Mindy Nakashima-Inouye and Delta Chapter and Soo Boo Tan and Mu Chapter. I had a blast. The talented women of Delta Chapter had beautiful (and delicious) hand-made items in their Country Store. And, wow, do they love to sing!! And then there is Mu Chapter. These fun-loving sisters love to shop!! The Silent and Live Auction saw some heated action.

Beta Beta State Highlights:

- The official Membership data report has just been released. As of July 2015, Beta Beta State is 500 sisters strong. Special thanks to 2nd Vice President Lori Furoyama for keeping Chapter Membership Chairs (2nd VPs) up to date and informed.
- Ellen Tanoura (Mu) and Sharon Inamine (Mu) along with Pat Park (Epsilon) have returned from Kochi, Japan, where they worked with the teachers and students of Seiwa School through the Seiwaloa Grant.
- International President Lyn Babb Schmid wrote to ask if Hawaii would perform a dance for the "Ceremony of Remembrance" in Nashville. Thank you to Jennylee Tam (Mu) and Mohala Boncales (Mu) who are heading this.
- The Chapter Report format, due February 1, 2016, has changed. Instead of individual committee reports, it is now just one form and it is online!!
- Delta Chapter is busy planning the Spring Convention to be held on April 8 & 9, 2016, at JCCH. If you are interested in doing a presentation, forms are posted on the BBS website and are due January 15.
- The new biennium for Chapter Officers starts in 2016. Have your chapter officers ready by May so that they can register for the Leadership Development Workshop – June 4, 2016.

There is a lot happening. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Wishing you and your families a joyous holiday season.

Aloha Pumehana,

Donna Min Shiroma

Looking Ahead to 2017 Southwest Regional Conference in Hawaii



At Fall Forum, each chapter was tasked to work on an Aloha response, based on the presentation by Pono Shim, to deepen understanding of a lifestyle of Aloha. Each chapter liaison or representative was given a poster from Pono's office entitled, "What is Aloha?" that captures the essence of the Aloha response to use as a guide. In the spring, we would like each chapter to share their Aloha response. It could be in Aloha i ke Akea, or in a breakout session at Spring Convention. What is your chapter learning about our lifestyle of Aloha, and what can you share with others so we can all have an Aloha response in 2017?

The Steering Committee is currently working on providing guidelines for each committee based on the notes that were collected by the participant members who attended the 2015 Southwest Regional Conference in Kansas. The committee is also utilizing documents from two previous SWR conferences and a draft of a manual from International. Thank you to everyone for attending and collecting notes!

Consider attending the International Convention, July 5-9, 2016 in Nashville, TN. It would be great to have a member from each chapter attend and be there to invite DKG members from other states to come to Hawaii for SWR 2017 when we host.

With Gratitude,
Fay Toyama, 2017 SWR Conference Chair

WHITE ROSES

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Helen T. Sunakoda, our Alpha sister, on November 19, 2015.



Helen worked at Niu Valley Middle School, Campbell High and Intermediate and Waipahu High. She gave her time and devotion to Alpha Chapter. We will miss her dearly.

Did you know that if you go to this address you can listen to an instrumental version of the DKG song in E flat?

<https://www.dkg.org/content/delta-gamma-song-e-flat-audio-recording>



Upcoming DKG Events! Save the dates! Mark your calendars!



Spring Conference: **April 8 – 9, 2016**; Japanese Cultural Center
Beta Beta State Leadership Workshop: **June 4, 2016**
International Convention: **July 5 – 9, 2016**; Nashville, TN
Fall Forum on Maui: **October 15, 2016**

RED ROSES

Good News!



Congratulations to **Patricia Ann Park** from Epsilon Chapter who has been nominated to the position of Southwest Regional Director for the International 2016 - 2018 biennium. Pat has served DKG and BBS in so many capacities and continues to be a vital part of the Society. Thank you Pat!

We're So Proud of **Soo Boo Tan**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Arts & Humanities Jury is pleased to announce the publication of *Sea turtle*, by **Soo Boo Tan** in the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts, an online gallery of works of art and letters at www.dkg.org. Soo Boo is a member of Mu Chapter. Please have a look at her beautiful photograph in the online gallery!



"I didn't want it to end . . . it was such a great day that I wished it continued," was a comment shared about Beta Beta State's Fall Forum 2015 held on September 12th at the Pacific Beach Hotel. True to its theme of "Strength in Sisterhood," it was a day full of workshops and speakers that empowered each of the 100 Delta Kappa Gamma sisters in attendance, including a record 15 first-time attendees.

With the new one-day format, the Executive Board met in the early morning as DKG sisters arrived, shopped in the charming, picturesque Country Store, and networked with colleagues and friends. Our generous and creative sisters donated beautiful plants, yummy baked items, precious hand-made crafts, white elephant treasures, and more, managing to raise over \$2,000.



We began Fall Forum getting primed for our hosting of the 2017 Southwest Regional Conference with speaker Pono Shim, President and CEO of Enterprise Hawaii. He was privileged to be chosen by revered Kupuna Pilahi Pahi to learn the deep, true essence of the word "aloha" which he so eloquently shared with us. His session was followed by our own gracious DKG sisters' hula rendition of "These Islands".

First Lady Dawn Ige delivered our luncheon welcome address, recounting her first days as a new teacher. She recalled that she was forever appreciative for the assistance provided to her by veteran teachers whose single act of kindness of doing her bulletin boards was never forgotten. She, in turn, was so grateful that she was able to repay the kindness years later when she helped a new hire with his bulletin boards. Her comments served to strengthen our resolve to embrace DKG's SEE (Support Early-Career Educators) initiative.

Keynote speaker Ari South shared her moving and personal journey as a young child of a single mother, raised on a fish farm in Waianae, to a finalist on Project Runway and owner of her own fashion business. She attributed her strength in overcoming prejudices and other obstacles to the strong influences of her mother and teachers – mainly women – who reinforced her talents in the arts and encouraged her expressions of creativity. Such mentors were never forgotten and has shaped Ari's commitment to now mentor students. An added treat for conference participants was our Fall Forum bag, designed especially for Beta Beta State by Ari. Many conference participants shopped in Ari's pop-up store, with all items deeply discounted. One DKG member managed to get a lot of her Christmas shopping done!

The workshops served to strengthen our skills, knowledge and perspectives as women educators. These included workshops by President Donna Shiroma for officers and committee chairs, scholarship and grant opportunities by Epsilon's Pat Park and Gamma's Gail Topolinski, innovative use of Google to enhance teaching by Alpha's Megan Cummings and Iota's Lynele Basug, and inspiring, energy boosters by Happiness University's Alice Inoue.

Newly-initiated and first-time attendee Kim Fuller of Lambda Chapter shared that she "came with an open mind and left the conference with a heart filled with the aloha spirit." She noted that "each of us can make a difference in building and strengthening our connections to each other in our sisterhood, as well as in our personal and professional lives. Overall Fall Forum was amazing with motivational guest speakers, delicious food, informational breakout sessions and great country store bargains."

Everyone left Fall Forum a winner, quite literally as each person received a lucky number prize including the beautiful orchid centerpieces. Most important, each of us left with a sense of renewed commitment, excitement and energy to carry on the mission and vision of our beloved Society.

Kudos to hostess chapter Iota for a fabulous Fall Forum!



The 2015-2017 biennium is just beginning yet we must begin preparing for the 2017-2019 biennium. We are also in the final year of preparing to host the South West Regional Convention in 2017. Reflecting on our past, Beta Beta State has a rich legacy that must be sustained. At the same time we need to create a future through our leadership to inspire continued distinction, attract new membership, and find effective and exciting ways to make a difference in education in Hawaii.

Leadership is the key to sustain Beta Beta State. During this biennium, the Beta Beta State (BBS) Nominations Committee will:

- Provide nomination information to chapters via Aloha i ke Akea; email chapter presidents and chapter nomination chairs.
- Upload nomination forms on the Beta Beta State website.
- Review nominations.
- Publish the 2017-2019 slate in the Aloha i ke Akea.
- Present the 2017-2019 slate at the 2017 Spring Convention.



The BBS Nominations Committee needs help from every chapter and every member. Help by looking within your chapter to identify key sisters who are ready for state leadership. Members can look at friends in other chapters as nominees for a BBS office. Our Bylaws encourage any member to be nominated to any office.

What does it take to be a Beta Beta State officer? BBS Bylaws state that officers shall perform the duties prescribed in the DKG Constitution, Article VI. Other duties prescribed by BBS Bylaws are:

- The State President shall appoint a parliamentarian, editor of Aloha i ke Akea and the webmaster.
- The first vice-president shall be the chair of the Educational Excellence Committee.
- The second vice-president shall be the chair of the Membership Committee.
- The secretary shall keep a record of all state Executive Board and General Membership meetings on file, make available a copy of the State Convention and Fall Workshop minutes to the host chapter for packet insertion, distribute copies of the Executive Board minutes to board members, and have the latest minutes of the Fall Workshop and State Convention available at every meeting for easy reference in case of questions.

BBS Bylaws also state the officers are elected by the State Convention for a term of two (2) years and no elected officer may serve in the same office longer than two terms in succession. All officers shall take office on July 1 following their election.

The BBS Nominations Committee challenges all sisters to enrich our legacy through leadership. Look for the nomination form from the Beta Beta State website: <http://deltakappagammahi.org/forms.htm>. When you get to the website, look for the **Beta Beta State Forms section** and click on:

Nomination Forms [doc](#) | pdf

Each chapter should commit to submit at least one nomination with the nominee's photo. Please ensure that nominees know that:

- Elected candidates are required to attend the Southwest Regional Conference to receive training for their office.
- Attendance does incur personal cost, but there is a stipend from Beta Beta State.
- If an elected candidate does not attend training, then the officer would not have been introduced to international initiatives and would not be able to communicate them to Beta Beta State and/or chapters.

Submitted by BBS Nominations Committee



Beta Beta State Seiwaloaha Project - Global Women Educators

by Pat Park (Chairman, Expansion Committee), Sharon Inamine and Ellen Tanoura (Selectees)

Made possible by a **DKG International Educational Foundation Grant** awarded to Beta Beta State, Hawaii, Expansion Committee, the Seiwaloaha Project provided a wonderful opportunity for Ellen Tanoura, Sharon Inamine and Pat Park to further support the Japan expansion Beta Beta State and our Delta Kappa Gamma celebrated in October 2012. It is with pleasure and joy that Ellen, Sharon and Pat were able to participate in implementing this ongoing DKG International **Seiwaloaha Project** at Seiwa Girls Christian School (Grades 7-12) in Kochi, Japan. In addition, as part of the process and system, there is collaboration by partnering with DKG Alpha Japan State Sisters, which was initiated in 2014. In October 2014 Dr. Eileen Clarke and Pat Park initiated the beginning of this comprehensive English Language Learning Model for the teachers and students at Seiwa School. This recent site visit to Kochi, Japan took place from November 15-29, 2015. Prior to the visit and throughout the year, the **Expansion Committee** has been actively engaged in designing a professional development model to generate interactive and authentic learning in English. By purposefully and intentionally engaging both learners (teachers and students), they are being empowered to be lifelong learners, to develop their English knowledge and skills and to become very active global citizens.

Ellen, Sharon and Pat designed and taught very comprehensive lesson plans that incorporated cooperative learning engagement strategies, Thinking Maps Strategies, teacher/student self reflection and self assessment components, and setting goals for possible next steps and outcomes. Emphasis was also placed on bridging and scaffolding the learning to prior personal knowledge/experiences, being a Japanese student from Japan, and future personal and career goals.

Throughout this quality visit, Ellen, Sharon, and Pat also were actively engaged in after school activities, Saturday events, community meetings, and a variety of other engagements. All of these events helped to develop positive relationships with the teachers, adults, and especially the students. Based on these associations, especially with the teachers and students, deeper understanding and trust resulted along with future commitments.

Two of the Key Outcomes of this Seiwaloaha Project are having students being able to function in English and enhance their English learning through the use of technology as a learning tool to truly be using and proficient in 21st Century Knowledge and Skills to learn and to implement. Hence, by participating in authentic, interactive and relevant English Language activities, self-reflecting and self-assessing, the students will have many opportunities to learn, communicate, be self directive and be life long learners. These correlate to the school's theme of servicing humanity and being actively engaged as a global citizen.

In alignment with goals of the Seiwaloaha Project, Ellen, Sharon, and Pat met many times with our Japan Alpha Sisters and especially Fusa Nakagawa, Japan Alpha State President. On Monday, November 23rd, we were able to attend and participate in their Fall Forum. It was a meaningful, relevant and an active workshop, which included a small group discussion and presentation on their partnership project with some Kochi Elementary Schools: **Blue-eyed Dolls**, learning a hula for **"I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas**, which was taught by DKG Alpha Sister, Toyo Nakagawa, who has the largest hula halau in Japan, and initiating a new member to DKG. Throughout the visits and conversations, many of our DKG Japan sisters are planning on coming to Southwest Regional Conference, Honolulu, 2017. They are also planning on applying to present multiple breakout sessions at this conference. You will all have an opportunity to meet and have meaningful times with them.

As we are moving forward, the **BBS Expansion Committee** is planning on submitting to DKG International a second year proposal to continue this meaningful project. A required Mid Year Report will also be filed shortly. More information will be shared in the future. Please consider, either as an individual chapter member or as a chapter being part of this ongoing, relevant project and being actively engaged as Global Women Educators. We are one – **"Spirit of Aloha"**.
(See photos on next page)



Beta Beta State Sisters and Alpha Japan Sisters Making A Difference in the Lives of Seiwa Students



An Announcement from Stacey Chicoine
Delta Kappa Gamma International - Webmaster

The new *Collegial Exchange* will reach members' mailboxes in late November! Be on the lookout for this inaugural issue **AND** consider contributing to the magazine yourself! You might not make the December 15, 2015 deadline for this issue but keep on eye out for future submission deadlines.

The *Exchange* focuses on practical tips for the classroom and for DKG; on sharing viewpoints on educational and DKG topics; and on providing a place for creative expression. In particular, the editorial board hopes that the magazine will be a place to exchange ideas about "controversial" topics such as: Are national standards productive? Is technology helping or hurting education? Are traditional grades a thing of the past? Would year-round, 4-day school weeks advance education? How much homework is necessary? What is the proper role of schools in promoting students' health and morality? Should school boards be eliminated to give educators autonomy?

Should the name of DKG be changed? What are the advantages of recruitment vs. invitation only? What DKG myths need to be debunked? Should college education majors be invited to DKG? What might be the advantages of membership at only the international or only the state level? Should the Society take political stands?

This is the place to express your thoughts and ideas!
Submissions should be sent to bulletin@dkg.org.

????? Question: Do you know what building this is? ?????



Answer: The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Headquarters in Austin, Texas

I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit.
John Steinbeck



Highlights from Across the State

Delta Chapter - Oahu



Gloria Kishi, BBS First Vice-President, presenting to Delta Chapter members at their November 14 meeting. Gloria spoke about the Supporting Early-Career Educator (SEE) initiative and shared the different ways that chapters have supported SEE.

Delta Chapter's goody bag for the SEE initiative. These goody bags were shared with beginning teachers in several complexes and schools on Oahu.



Eta Chapter - Kauai

Senior Project is a right-of-passage for all seniors at Kapa'a High School on Kauai, and sisters of the Eta Chapter of DKG volunteered to be a part of this passage.

The process begins with students addressing the Driving Question - How can I make my world a better place? Topics are discussed, and then each student chooses an issue that they feel strongly about. Next comes the Four Ps: the research Paper, the Project (15 hours of service), the Portfolio, and the Presentation. This is where the Eta Sister came in. Students give a ten-minute formal presentation to a panel of 6 to 7 judges, made up of teachers and volunteer community members. Judges viewed presentation on topics such as, Saving Our Coral Reefs, Climate Change, Feminism, Road Safety, Immunizations, Stolen Valor, and Sustainable Energy, to name a few. The Sisters and other panelists scored the students on content, organization, and use of PowerPoint, but also attire, eye contact, and verbal skills.

How did the Sisters feel about their experience? "I loved the opportunity to kokua with students & staff. I'm in for May," said Donna Aana Nakahara. "Thank you for the rewarding experience of seeing my middle school ducklings blossom into confident young adults! I also volunteer for May!" was Roberta Zarbaugh's reaction. The volunteers were Maryanne Kusaka, Roberta Zarbaugh, Mindy Ching, Joanne Nakashima, Vicky Medeiros, Bonnie Lake, Donna Aana Nakahara, Kunie Quon, Nancy Graf, Robyn Keawe, and Janis Gowan. A slide show of the experience was shared at the next DKG meeting and more sisters have volunteered for the May presentations. Thank you ladies for your support!

Epsilon Chapter - Oahu



Epsilon members Teri Tokushige, Donna Ede, Ruby Jung, and Tamara Martinez spent Halloween morning at Mayor Wright Housing reading stories, creating healthy snacks, and face painting. Thank you to Tamara Martinez for organizing this fun and educational activity.



????? **Question:** Can you guess which of these countries have established Delta Kappa Gamma chapters? ??????

Finland Costa Rica Estonia Iceland Panama Germany Sweden

Answer: All of them do! DKG is established in seventeen countries worldwide including the United States, Canada, Norway, Mexico, Guatemala, The Netherlands, Puerto Rico, Great Britain, El Salvador, and the newest member country – Japan.



Alpha Chapter - Oahu

Our own Alpha Chapter was established on February 20, 1954 and currently has twenty-seven members. Our Chapter President is Megan Cummings, whose term runs from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016.

Our other officers include:
First Vice President- Kara Ono
Second Vice President- Janet Jim
Secretary- Daye Tominaga
Treasurer- Melinda Pamatigan

This year we will host four meetings. During our planning meeting in October, we work together to create three exciting meeting events.

Our February 2016 meeting will be an evening to "Reach for the Stars." Our meeting will be at The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum followed by a private touring to celebrate our 61st birthday as a chapter. It will also be an opportunity to invite prospective new members who share in the mission of Delta Kappa Gamma.

In March we will host an online meeting somewhere in cyberspace. This meeting will focus on being a connected educator and supporting World Fellowship with Aloha. This is our second online meeting and an excellent way to promote flexible meeting space and time. To support our members who need help, we will have a Honolulu Hub where members can meet, join and learn.

Our year culminates with a lunch meeting and tour at the Honolulu Museum of Arts where we will have our installation of new officers and hopefully initiation of new members into Alpha Chapter.



Alpha Chapter touring Ho'okele Elementary School, the newest Department of Education school campus in Kapolei. It was a treat to see and experience their flow of learning space and design.

Mu Chapter – Oahu



Mu sisters **Ellen Tanoura** and **Sharon Inamine** represented Beta-beta State to Japan in November to work with our Japan Alpha sisters at their Fall Workshop and with English at Seiwa School for two weeks. It was a "heartwarming and satisfying experience of learning, modeling and collaboration, wrote Ellen, and one "I will never forget!" said Sharon.



Mu sisters turned out to celebrate our annual Holiday Event at Hale Koa on Dec 6. We took the opportunity to reconnect and invite past members and the State President **Donna Shiroma** to join the fun. It was a time to build and foster connections, and to raise funds to support members' attendance at state and international events.

Our October program for early career educators on "SMARTER-BALANCE ASSESSMENT" featured speaker Dr. Dan Doerger from UH followed by a panel discussion with our own MU classroom teachers **Cara Dote** (4th grade), **Tristen Kumashiro** (5th grade) **Jan Ikawa** (1st grade) **Lynn Sakata** (5th grade) on SBA, facilitated by our program chair **Ronnette Miyashiro-Wong**.

Mu sisters also answered the call to volunteer again in the community. **Lori Furoyama**, **Vivian Hee**, **Ruby Hiraishi**, **Sharon Inamine** and **Soo Boo Tan** worked the registration desks for at Bishop Museum's KidFest on Oct 25, and **Vivian Hee** and **Jennifer Lee** volunteered at Hawaii Pacific Health's Nov 11 event Ala Moana Hotel, while **Karen Ueyama** volunteered at Pali Momi.

