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are your PCT brothers
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Kidd*

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Meet The 2007 Scholarship Winners!

Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation is very proud of its scholarship program. At the 2007 Phi Chi Theta Fraternity Regional Meetings, the Foundation and the Fraternity awarded \$2,500 in scholarships. Those winners sent in the following testimonials on what it meant to win the scholarship; one provided several tips on filling out the scholarship application.

Elise Marie Kidd,
*Zeta Gamma – University
of Illinois, Urbana-
Champaign
Naomi L. Satterfield
Memorial Scholarship*



Winning a PCT scholarship two years in a row is both a privilege and an honor. I'd like to share with you some tips on how to write a great application so that you can win this year. First and foremost, start your application early!!! Double-check all portions of the application and then check it again after that for good measure. It helps to have someone else read all the writing portions to check for spelling or grammatical errors that the computer may have missed. I'd also

say that it is important to answer the written portions much like you would an interview question. I like to use the STAR approach:

Situation: Describe the situation and give some background information.

Task: Tell the reader what you needed to accomplish.

Action: Tell what you did to achieve the task – how you went about it and why you chose that course of action.

Result: Show that what you did made a positive difference and include quantifiable results here such as numbers.

Finally, remember that your best resources are your PCT brothers and sisters!!! Best of luck in all your endeavors!

Amy McMahon,
*Zeta Beta – University of
Michigan –
Anna E. Hall Memorial
Scholarship*



Being a part of Phi Chi Theta was an integral part of my college experience. I learned about various business industries, which allowed me to choose a career path for myself. I also experienced teamwork and took on diverse leadership roles to build management

skills for my future.

But most importantly, I developed life-long friendships and bonds with the other members that I will hold onto dearly. Being the Helen D. Snow Memorial Scholarship 2007 recipient is an amazing honor because the fraternity has given me so much over the past four years, and I am pleased to have given back.

Andrew Noh,
*Zeta Beta – University of
Michigan –
Helen D. Snow Memorial
Scholarship*



First of all, I would like to express my sincerest thanks for the Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation's generosity. On the surface, the Anna E. Hall Scholarship helped offset the daunting costs of tuition; however, the meaning, sentiment, and reflection I was afforded in the process of applying for and receiving the scholarship really helped me appreciate the prestige and selflessness of the Phi Chi Theta community. This experience, I found, was what it really meant to win

Meet the 2007 Scholarship Winners

a scholarship. The value of a scholarship, especially one awarded by a community such as Phi Chi Theta, cannot simply be measured by the numbers scrawled across the face of a check.

The value of a PCT Scholarship to me is only measured by the sum of the patience, time, and selfless encouragement given me by the other members in my chapter at the University of Michigan.

I am extremely grateful that Phi Chi Theta would award me the honor of a scholarship; however, the achievements I was acknowledged for were never done on my own. As Professional Chair, it was my committee who helped brainstorm ideas and lend its time and effort to run the BBA workshop. My experience applying to the U of M's Business School is only one story out of several; it was the willingness of our fraternity members to share their wisdom to younger members that guaranteed a successful acceptance rate.

As Networking chair, it was the dedicated alumni base that, even after several years into the rigors of professional careers in the US and internationally, would still respond to questionnaires asking for their support and information or would still take time out of their hectic schedules to read through our current newsletter.

Most of the value of my scholarship was derived from the moments I spent reflecting on the fraternal contributions of PCT's active and alumni members and how they continue to make it so much easier for everyone else to succeed.

I am honored to continue to play a role in PCT, and I am even more flattered and privileged to have been recognized for that role. I hope, more than anything, that my experiences will encourage others to not only be a part of this society but to embrace the opportunities and outlets it offers for service.

Clare Abdalla,

Alpha Iota – Pennsylvania State University – Trustees' Scholarship, in memory of Irene M. Meyer



I joined Phi Chi Theta as a first-semester freshman, not knowing much about the business world. But, through the years, this business fraternity provided me with comprehensive knowledge about my major, business opportunities, and networking communication. Phi Chi Theta has shaped my career objectives and goals.

I have put so much time and effort into our chapter over the past three years that I was ecstatic to find a financial benefit on top of the obvious career skills I gain from the fraternity. I am solely responsible for my educational costs, which leaves me with lots of debt even with over twenty hours of work each week at a local café.

Winning the Phi Chi theta scholarship is extremely important and influential, especially in my final year at Penn State, when interviews are frequent and I cannot work as much each week.

This scholarship, along with all of the professional experience I have gained from being a member of Phi Chi Theta, will help drive me to a successful future in the business world. I am very thankful to have been chosen for this prestigious award.

Memo from Your Scholarship Committee:

The Foundation and the Fraternity want your members to apply for the 2008 scholarships. Microsoft Word and Adobe Acrobat PDF versions of the application can be found on the Educational Foundation's web site: <http://www.phichitheta.org/foundation/foundation.htm>

Mentioning the scholarship program at every meeting will ensure a successful number of scholarship applications being sent to the Foundation. Start the process as soon as your Fall Semester grades are on your transcript but not later than April 1. The application deadline is May 1, 2008. The letters of recommendation and transcript are to be sent separately from the application to deem them official.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, contact Mary Ellen Lewis at PCTEdScholarship@aol.com or 303-757-2535.

Welcome Back...

... is an endearing term that we hear a lot this time of year as you and your colleagues return to school or work after the summer holidays. From reading scholarship applications and talking to some of you at the Regional Conferences, it sounds like many of you had interesting summer jobs, traveled abroad, or served in your local community. As you settle back into the daily grind, hopefully each of you found some time this summer to relax, spend time with friends and family, and recharge your batteries. For me, it was a couple trips to the beach and spending a long weekend in Lake Tahoe with some PCT friends that I've known for over 15 years.



*PCT Friends at Lake Tahoe in August 2007
(from l-r: Greg Holden, Kirk Bremer, Kim Gary, Lynnette Lemke, Leslie Trout, Stacey Counce, David Counce)*

The Foundation, too, had a busy summer. Our dedicated Board of Phi Chi Theta volunteers is back with enthusiasm and exciting programs that will enable us to continue "Building the Future" of Phi Chi Theta. In June, the Board met to define our goals and programs for the 2007-2008 year. Programs include increased outreach, awarding \$4,000 in scholarships next summer, and sponsoring educational workshops at the Regional Conferences and 2008 National Meeting. Then in August, the Foundation took the show on the road by sponsoring a Business Communications program and announcing the 2007 scholarship recipients at each of the four Regional Conferences. You can read more about the Foundation's road show, and highlights about each of the each of the scholarship recipients in this issue of [eEdNews](#).

We also continue our "Conversation with a Board Member" segment, with an in-depth interview with Dr. Tom Payne, Board member, Professor, and Faculty Advisor of the Beta Chi Chapter at University of Tennessee at Martin.

As we begin the second year of [eEdNews](#), we welcome aboard **Susan Stepan** of Downers Grove, IL, as the new Editor of our electronic newsletter. She brings a fresh new look and perspective to our electronic outreach programs. We welcome her to the team and hope that you enjoy the new look and find the content useful.

Programs for the 2007-2008 year include increasing outreach, awarding \$4,000 in scholarships, and conducting educational workshops at Regional Conferences and the National Meeting.

—Greg Holden, President

As summer quickly fades into fall, we welcome you back and wish each of you all the best in your academic studies, PCT chapter growth, and professional growth and challenging opportunities in the workplace.

A Word about Fundraising for the Foundation

No one —especially at this time of year — has time to plan a big, splashy, "knock your socks off" fundraiser for the PCT Educational Foundation.

So — let's start small — a one-on-one effort. How? *It can be so simple:* Keep your various sales receipts for all purchases for the two weeks starting on October 8. Then, on October 22, add up the sales tax figure from your receipts for each of the 14 days. Round the total amount up to the next dollar (i.e., \$7.68 = \$8.00), and send your check, payable to PCTEF, for this amount.

This is not much — how can it help? Well, if your contribution was \$5.00 and 200 members, alumni, and officers did the same, it would be \$1,000. Ask your parents to do the same thing, and it could mean enough dollars for us to fund additional scholarships in 2008. Or, ask your parents, a friend, or chapter officers to match your contribution.

So quick — so easy — so good for the PCTEF and you!



Remember our purpose is to raise scholarship funds for collegiate members. Each year we have so many great scholarship applicants, and so few scholarships.

Help us help you. Send your Foundation contributions to:

Phi Chi Theta
Educational Foundation
1508 East Beltline Road
Suite 104
Carrollton, TX 75006.

Scholarship Applications are Due May, 1, 2008!
Visit our [website](#) to download your application

A Conversation with New Trustee, Dr. Thomas Payne



Thomas Payne, PhD, one of the Foundation's newest Trustees, is a man of many talents and interests. When asked what animal he could be, he enthusiastically

answered "a razorback hog" the mascot of his alma mater, the University of Arkansas. His reading interests cover a wide array of subjects, ranging from Robin Cook's medical novels to the history of our founding fathers, with some science fiction, theology, and biblical history rounding out his bookshelf. In a recent interview with Frances Spencer, Dr. Payne offers insight into his personal background and his role in Phi Chi Theta.

Fran: *What do you think is the best part of your job?*

Dr. Payne: I love teaching; it is the reason I moved to education from corporate life. I also enjoy having a leadership role in our college and university. The privilege of being able to help students and colleagues is the best part of the job. Whether it is seeing the light bulbs (finally!) go off when students understand a concept or problem, helping a new faculty member through the promotion and tenure process, or assisting a new or soon-to-be graduate find a job or internship -- *the real "payoff" comes from helping others.*

Fran: *What was the reason for selecting your area of specialty in teaching?*

Dr. Payne: I recall that John Dillinger was asked once why he robbed banks. He reportedly answered "because that's where the money is!" Well, that is not the reason that I chose finance. Before going back to school, I was an integrated circuit design engineer for Texas Instruments and a Quality Assurance Project Manager for Rockwell International. In those jobs, I had the opportunity to learn that many corporate decisions were, at their root, financial decisions. I also had obtained my MBA and liked finance so much that I selected it as my area of concentration. Of course, my engineering background was useful as finance is a very quantitative field; at the same time, however, it has many elements of a social science. Finance combines elements of accounting, economics, psychology, and mathematics. Of course, when my engineering friends ask me why I moved into finance, I simply tell them that I joined the "dark side"!

Fran: *If you could do anything at all for six months what would it be and why?*

Assuming that my work slate was completely cleared (which has never happened!), I would go to work on a book; not a textbook - a real book. I would like to write a book about the current situation in America and how we can make a better future.

Fran: *What experience do you think collegiate members should take away from their time in Phi Chi Theta?*

Dr. Payne: **First**, students should learn that leadership is not about titles, awards, or recognitions. Leadership is about the hard work of serving -- getting your ego out of the way and doing what is right for other people and the organization as a whole. If you can carry this attitude with you daily, you can be a successful leader.

I recently had the privilege of meeting Tony Dungy, head coach of the Indianapolis Colts. He said that his father told him "if you have talent - be thankful; if you receive praise - be humble; and if you get to think too highly of yourself - be careful."

Second, you must prioritize your time, and don't waste it on useless projects or people who do not hold the same values that you do. This may sound harsh, but to be effective, you must prioritize your time and surround yourself with quality people.

. . . leadership is not about titles, awards, or recognitions . . .

Fran: *As a Foundation Trustee, what do you feel should be the highest priority for the Foundation to build awareness of its programs and funding needs?*

Dr. Payne: Foundation members need to take every opportunity to interact with the chapters and the students. We need to communicate with them, taking every opportunity to speak to groups or meet one-on-one with students.

Fran: *What do you like to do in your spare time - what is your hobby or passion?*

Dr. Payne: Besides watching college football, I enjoy jogging, lifting weights, and doing my best to stay in shape. Spare time is limited at this point in my career and family life, so I have learned to "grab" workouts wherever and whenever I can -- on the road, late at night, at lunch, or at 5:45 in the morning.

Fran: *What is the most important advice you have for PCT collegiate members regarding planning for their future?*

They should realize that their college degree and self-confidence will not take the place of hard work. There is simply no substitute in the workforce for effort and time on task. *Hard work trumps natural ability every time.*

Also, they shouldn't expect too much too soon; real jobs are different than those depicted in the movies. Careers are long term things and big promotions are earned over decades not months. That being said, they should also realize that there is no law saying that they must work for someone else the rest of their lives.

. If you would be embarrassed by your mother knowing it, then don't post it on the web or share it through email attachments that could be read by others.

Fran: *You deal with students every day. Technology is everywhere, from cell phones, to blogs, to MySpace. Which of these improvements do you feel has the most negative effect on our personal interactions and why?*

Dr. Payne: There is definitely too much personal information being shared on the internet. Students need to realize that much of this is permanent and that *perspective employers are doing their homework*. I have spoken to many employers who learned more than enough (through My Space or Facebook entries) to take a prospect out of the running for a job. This is too bad because much of it could be avoided with good judgment and common sense.

On a related note, the amount of text messaging has gone far beyond reason. It has an adverse effect on student productivity and personal relationships. "Texting" is going on during class, at work, and even during church services; it is worse than distracting, it is rude. At best, this is a bad habit that will need to be stopped before entering the workforce. The best advice I can give to anyone who is hooked on text messaging is just say no (or at least cut back to 10/day)!

Fran: *If you could have an all expense-paid vacation to anywhere in the world, where would you go?*

Dr. Payne: Probably Australia simply because I have never been there, and I have never met an Australian I didn't like!

My second choice would be Italy; I lived there as a child and have been back on vacation – it would be fun to go back for an extended visit, perhaps long enough to write that book!

Fran: *What was your favorite subject in college?*

Dr. Payne: The single class I enjoyed the most was organizational behavior at the graduate level. It covered everything from HR policy and law, to the psychology of work behavior, to ways of motivating people to do their best work.

As an engineering undergraduate, my favorite subject in college was a writing course that I took as a junior - and, although I made a B, I really deserved an A! So, while writing was not something that I saw as a career option, I still enjoy it and, along with all the math courses, it has served me well in my career.

Thank you, Dr. Payne, for sharing your experiences with us. Tom serves several roles in Phi Chi Theta. Not only is he a Foundation Trustee, he is also a chapter advisor at University of Tennessee, Martin, and is father of Rachel Payne, a previous Phi Chi Theta Foundation scholarship winner.



Taking the Show on the Road

The Foundation took the show on the road this summer by sponsoring a Business Communications program and announcing the 2007 scholarship recipients at each of the four Regional Conferences.

With a month of tour dates and exciting destinations including Philadelphia, PA, Nashville, TN, San Antonio, TX, and Stevensville, MI, our road show was a huge success and supplemented the strong programs put together by each of the Regional Directors.

Betsy Brasher, Phi Chi Theta National President said that the Foundation's Business Communications program "*reminded collegiates and alumni about the importance of written communication, while bringing it to the 21st century.*"



The first stop on our tour was Philadelphia, PA (August 4). With the Liberty Bell in the background and a strong future ahead of us, Board Members **Greg Holden** and **Silvia Picon** presented the Business Communications Workshop. They shared their own professional experiences and some humorous stories about using electronic communications in the 21st Century. They also made a really good team when running a special edition of **PCT Jeopardy** that

The Foundation is managed by Phi Chi Theta's who are committed to scholastic recognition and education advancement in our members

tested the attendee's knowledge of PCT history and trivia; including a really difficult question about who is the President of the Foundation.



Next up was Nashville, TN (August 11) where Board member and National President **Betsy Brasher** presented the workshop and observed that "email etiquette and social networks such as MySpace and Facebook were very eye-opening to many and will hopefully be shared with each chapter."

David Durham represented the Foundation that same weekend in San Antonio, TX, at the Western Regional Conference. Following the presentation, **Sandra Finley**, Executive Director, noted that the "Foundation continues to be a great support to the Fraternity by providing top notch programs and support to our members."



The last stop on our summer tour was Stevensville, MI for the Central Regional Conference (September 8-9). During the conference the attendees had the opportunity to take advantage of Michigan's great lakeshore recreational facilities by having a pizza party on the beach followed by a team building session on Saturday night.

Fran Spencer, Board member and Secretary, facilitated the workshop and did an outstanding job of dispelling the number one myth that the Foundation is run by outsiders and not members of Phi Chi Theta.

The most rewarding part of each of the Conferences was when the Board members announced the winners of the 2007 scholarship program and our plans to award over \$4,000 in scholarships next summer at the National Chapter Meeting.

Fran charged each of the attendees with submitting a scholarship application for next year and recommended they immediately download it from the website and start compiling the information they need.

The Foundation also provided each attendee with a magnetic memo board and pen, designed by our very own **Mary Ellen Lewis**, Treasurer and Scholarship Chair. The memo boards were well received by the attendees and provide a great place to jot down those important reminders.

At each stop, the feedback we received indicates that everyone enjoyed the conferences, and took away a lot of good knowledge and suggestions. **Betsy Brasher** wrapped it up best when she said, "Being in such a tech-savvy world, it is important that we present ourselves in a professional manner both off-line and on-line."

Look for our next appearance in August 2008 at the *National Chapter Meeting in Memphis, TN*. The Foundation will be sponsoring several programs including a special Awards and Recognition Dinner, Live Auction, an Alumni Breakfast, and a special educational outreach program.

You won't want to miss out!

Your Online Resources:

Email the Foundation at FoundationInfo@phichitheta.org



Our Next Issue - December 2007

Holiday Greetings

Highlights from Macy's Shop for a Cause Fundraiser

Supporting the Foundation in the Workplace

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