November 13, 2015

Phi Theta Kappa Announces 2016/2017 Faculty Scholars

Jackson, MS – Thirty community college instructors have been selected from among nearly 3,000 chapter advisors to serve as Phi Theta Kappa’s 2016/2017 Faculty Scholars.

Among those selected as Faculty Scholars are eight advisors who were chosen to serve on Phi Theta Kappa’s Honors Program Council. Members of the council serve four-year terms and help assess the Society’s honors programming. They have also been charged with developing the 2016/2017 Honors Study Topic, *How The World Works: Global Perspectives*.

The scholars were selected through a rigorous application process through which they demonstrated excellence in teaching or administration. The selection committee also considered where the applicant lives, the Phi Theta Kappa division in which they advise, the teaching or professional discipline and the variety in terms of the number of years the applicant has served as a chapter advisor. The result is a strong, diverse group of Faculty Scholars.

“We congratulate them for being selected to serve and for their willingness and desire to surpass the traditional duties of an advisor by contributing in this manner,” said Susan Edwards, Phi Theta Kappa’s Dean of Academic Affairs and Honors Programs.

The group will attend the annual Faculty Scholar Conference at Phi Theta Kappa’s Center for Excellence in Jackson, Mississippi, January 27-30, where they will study the 2016/2017 Honors Study Topic and prepare to serve as discussion facilitators for the 2016 Honors Institute at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The group will also serve as Faculty Scholars for the 2017 Honors Institute.

“The Faculty Scholar Conference is recognized internationally as one of the finest professional development programs available for community college faculty members,” Edwards said. “We are proud to once again offer this intense training experience to a new crop of Faculty Scholars as they prepare to serve as facilitators for Honors Institute.

“Approximately 450 Phi Theta Kappa members and chapter advisors from around the world will join us at Wake Forest University for Honors Institute next year, and our Faculty Scholars will be ready to guide them through this pinnacle of honors programming experiences.”

During Honors Institute, the Faculty Scholars will lead groups of 15 to 18 honor students in seminar discussions of the issues presented by experts on the Honors Study Topic throughout the week.

Karen McCall Dale is the 2016/2017 Parnell Scholar. This scholarship goes to the Faculty Scholar whose application was judged to be the most outstanding among the applicants who have never before participated in NerdNation or Honors Institute. The scholarship covers registration, airfare and hotel for NerdNation 2016.
Dr. Rebecca Tate is the 2016/2017 Mayfield Scholar. This scholarship goes to the Faculty Scholar whose application was judged to be the most outstanding among the applicants who have not been certified to teach Phi Theta Kappa’s Leadership Development Program. The scholarship covers registration for one of the summer certification sessions during Tate’s tenure as a Faculty Scholar.

The 2016/2017 Faculty Scholars, along with their community college, state and academic field, are

Dr. Gisela (Bennie) Ables  
Houston Community College, Texas  
History

Dr. Roxanna Anderson  
Palm Beach State College, Florida  
Psychology

Dr. Rosie Banks  
Harold Washington College, Illinois  
English

Michael Bauer  
Leeward Community College, Hawaii  
Information and Computer Sciences

Kevin Blackwell  
Neosho County Community College, Kansas  
History/Humanities

Cindy Carbone  
Oakland Community College, Michigan  
English

Justin Carvalho  
Kauai Community College, Hawaii  
Carpentry, Facilities Engineering and Maintenance

Dr. Lisa Draughon  
Johnston Community College, North Carolina  
Biology

Dr. Blake Ellis  
Lone Star College-CyFair, Texas  
History

Jo Fritts  
Ozarks Technical Community College, Missouri  
American Sign Language/Leadership/Adult Learning Honors Program Council Member
**Lori Garrett**  
Parkland College, Illinois  
Biology

**Cathy Gillis**  
Napa Valley College, California  
English

**Dr. Kari Kahler**  
Northwestern Michigan College, Michigan  
Student Development, Higher Education and Adult Learning

**Mary Linder**  
Grayson County College, Texas  
Government/History

**Karen McCall Dale**  
Cleveland State Community College, Tennessee  
Music

**Dr. Tomas Ramos**  
Tacoma Community College, Washington  
Communications

**Lara Roemer**  
Carl Sandburg College, Illinois  
Political Science  
Honors Program Council Member

**Leila Rogers**  
Horry Georgetown Technical College, South Carolina  
Sociology

**Glenn Rohlfing**  
Pikes Peak Community College, Colorado  
History  
Honors Program Council Member

**Paul Roscelli**  
Cañada College, California  
Economics

**Dr. Sauda Smith**  
H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, British Virgin Islands  
English  
Honors Program Council Member

**Chris Solomon**  
Trident Technical College, South Carolina  
Accounting  
Honors Program Council Member
Dr. Leo Studach  
Ivy Tech Community College, Indiana  
Life and Physical Science

Dr. Rebecca Tate  
Lone Star College-Tomball, Texas  
English

Samuel Clay Wallace  
Montgomery County Community College, Pennsylvania  
Geography and Religious Studies

Dr. Melissa Weinbrenner  
Northeast Texas Community College, Texas  
History  
Honors Program Council Member

Dr. Pat West  
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Mississippi  
Communications

Dr. Johannah Williams  
Hinds Community College, Mississippi  
Computer Science  
Honors Program Council Member

Dr. Kevin Windham  
Shelton State Community College, Alabama  
History

Lisa York  
Asheville-Buncombe Community College, North Carolina  
English  
Honors Program Council Member

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in higher education with 1,285 chapters on college campuses in all 50 of the United States, U.S. territorial possessions and eight sovereign nations. More than 3 million students have been inducted since its founding in 1918, with approximately 134,000 students inducted annually.