



Date: November 2007

From: J. Lynne Brown, f9a@psu.edu, President; Gary Moorman, Secretary- Treasurer, gmoorman@psu.edu

To: Gamma Sigma Delta Members

Re: 2007-2008 Chapter Activities

Please mark your calendars. Your officers have planned several excellent activities for the current academic year. We look forward to your participation in our local chapter activities.

**Scholarship Awards** – Gamma Sigma Delta awarded citations and scholarships to sophomore **Cory Ulisse**, junior **Clare Wagner**, and seniors **Allison Dotzel** and **Jacqueline Dow Pratt** at the April 2007 ceremony.

**Faculty Awards** – At the April ceremony, Gamma Sigma Delta recognized the following faculty members for their outstanding achievements: Teaching, **Dr. Frederick Gildow** (Prof. of Plant Pathology); Extension, **Dr. Gary Moorman** (Prof. of Plant Pathology); Research, **Dr. A. E. Luloff** (Assoc. Prof. of Rural Sociology).

**New Members Initiated** – Four juniors, 11 seniors, 10 graduate students, and 1 faculty were initiated into the Penn State Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta April 4, 2007. This year's speaker at the ceremony was **Dr. Louis Moore**, Professor of Ag Economics.

**Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition MARCH 21-22, 2007** – The Penn State Chapter and the College of Agricultural Sciences sponsored the first Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition in March 1995. In 2007, there were 41 graduate student and 18 undergraduate poster presentations by students from the College entered in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Student Research Exhibition. Our chapter, along with the Research and Resident Education offices of the College, provided approximately \$2,500 for student prizes at the EXPO. **Jim Mortensen**, Immediate Past - President, organized the 2007 held in the new Forestry Resources Building. The following students were recognized:

**Graduate**

**Biological Sciences:** 1. **Abhjit Gurjar** (Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences; Advisor B. M. Jayarao) 2. **Susan Krzysik-Walker** (Poultry Science; Advisor Ramesh Ramachandran) 3. **Jing Dai** (Crop and Soil Sciences; Advisors David Huff and Douglas

Archibald) 4. **Olga Ocon-Grove** (Poultry Science; Advisor Ramesh Ramachandran)  
5. **Valerie Reinoso** (Poultry Science; Advisor Guy Barbato).

**Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences:** 1. **Jason Stuckey** (Crop and Soil Sciences; Advisor Carmen Enid Martinez) 2. **Ashlee Dere** (Crop and Soil Sciences; Advisor Richard Stehouwer) 2. **Rachel Melnick** (Plant Pathology; Advisor Paul Backman)

**Physical and Engineering Sciences:** 1. **Katherine Bialka** (Agricultural and Biological Engineering; Advisor Ali Demirci).

**Social Sciences:** 1. **Melanie Sanborn** (Agricultural and Extension Education; Advisor John Ewing) 2. **Jennifer Heindel** (Agricultural and Extension Education; Advisor Connie Baggett) 3. **Jessica Hoyt** (Agricultural and Extension Education; Advisor Patreese Ingram)

### **Undergraduate**

1. **Pradeep Selvan** (Poultry Science; Advisor Ramesh Ramachandran) 2. **Matthew Gardner** (Entomology; Advisor Kelli Hoover) 3. **Isabel Ramos** (Entomology; Advisor Kelli Hoover) 4. **Amy Kaucher** (Dairy and Animal Science; Advisor Bhushan Jayarao) 5. **Amanda Conover** (Crop and Soil Sciences; Advisor Jason Kaye).

**Spring Initiation and Awards Reception April 2, 2008** – New initiates – **senior students, graduate students, faculty, and alumni** – and our 2007-2008 **extension, research, and teaching awards** will be presented during the Spring Initiation and Awards Reception. The outstanding **sophomore, junior, and senior students** in the College of Agricultural Sciences will also be recognized at this time.

Departmental GSD representatives and unit leaders are helping the officers coordinate the nomination process which may be made by faculty as well as GSD members. The initiation is an important occasion for student and faculty members, so we encourage attendance by our members for this event. The initiation will be held in the Mars Room of Johnston Commons.

**Membership Nominations** – All members are encouraged to nominate outstanding faculty, extension educators, alumni, and graduate students to become members. However, nominations should be directed to GSD representatives and unit leaders when possible. To become members, juniors must be in the upper 5% and seniors must be in the top 15% of their classes. The Office of Undergraduate Education identifies eligible juniors and seniors. Graduate students must have: (1) completed at least 2/5 of the required program for the Master's or Ph.D. degree; (2) shown **superior** ability to conduct research and/or advanced study in our College; (3) shown **promise** of making further contributions; and (4) obtained at least a 3.5 grade-point average in graduate work. The nomination forms are available from your GSD representative and unit leader. If you need copies of these forms, they are available on the Gamma Sigma Delta website (<http://gsd.cas.psu.edu>) or you may also contact Gary Moorman, Secretary-Treasurer, (3-7401, [gmoorman@psu.edu](mailto:gmoorman@psu.edu)). Nominations are due by **February 15, 2008**.

**Nominations for Awards** – Our extension, research, and teaching awards recognize excellent faculty for their contributions. Nomination forms are available from your GSD representative and unit leader. Please nominate outstanding faculty and help prepare the documentation by **February 15, 2008**. If you need copies of the forms, visit the GSD website (<http://gsd.cas.psu.edu>) or contact Gary Moorman, Secretary-Treasurer, (3-7401, [gmoorman@psu.edu](mailto:gmoorman@psu.edu))

**Contributions** – Our Gamma Sigma Delta chapter depends on contributions from the members to fund its programs. Each year we present cash awards to the outstanding sophomore, junior, and senior in the College; provide financial support for awards and expenses at the GSD/College of Agricultural Sciences Research Exhibition; and underwrite expenses at our Spring Initiation and Awards Reception. The chapter does not collect annual dues. Therefore, our ability to sponsor awards and have chapter activities rests solely on financial contributions. The officers appreciate very much the contributions of members in the past year. Please consider making a monetary contribution to the chapter this year so that we can continue our outstanding programs that emphasize the scholarly achievements and promise of our students, faculty, and staff. This year we are asking members to contribute \$20 or whatever each of us is able to contribute. It is particularly important that active members contribute. Last year, 20 retired and active faculty members donated a total of close to \$500. Please make your check payable to Gamma Sigma Delta and send it to Gary Moorman, 111 Buckhout Laboratory, University Park, PA 16802 by December 20, 2007. **Thank you for your support of our chapter.**

**Chapter Roster** – If you know of chapter members who passed away recently, please contact Gary Moorman, Secretary-Treasurer, (3-7401, [gmoorman@psu.edu](mailto:gmoorman@psu.edu)) so that we can continue to update our roster. Also, please contact Gary if you know of faculty or other individuals at Penn State who were inducted into GSD at another university, whether as a student or as a faculty member, so we can invite them to participate in our Penn State chapter activities.

**Department Representatives** – The following individuals are serving as GSD department/unit representatives during the 2007-2008 year. Contact them for tickets to the Spring Initiation and Awards Reception, to secure nomination forms, to get more information about Chapter activities, or to submit change of address information.

<b><u>Unit</u></b>	<b><u>GSD Rep</u></b>	<b><u>Address</u></b>	<b><u>Phone</u></b>	<b><u>E-mail</u></b>
Ag & Bio Eng	Rob Shannon	233 Ag Engr	5-7153	<a href="mailto:rshannon@psu.edu">rshannon@psu.edu</a>
Ag & Ext Ed	Joan Thomson	323 Ag Admin	3-3825	<a href="mailto:jthomson@psu.edu">jthomson@psu.edu</a>
Ag Ec & Rur Soc	Jill Findeis	112 E Armsby	3-8246	<a href="mailto:fa2@psu.edu">fa2@psu.edu</a>
Crop & Soil Sci	Marvin Risius	243 ASI	5-1169	<a href="mailto:mlr6@psu.edu">mlr6@psu.edu</a>
College Admin	Nancy Ellen Kiernan	311 Ag Admin	5-1209	<a href="mailto:n1k@psu.edu">n1k@psu.edu</a>

Dairy & An Sci	Gabriella Varga	324 Henning	3-4195	Gvarga@das.psu.edu
Entomology	Nancy Ostiguy	542 ASI	3-2872	nxo3@psu.edu
Food Sci	Bob Beelman	404 Food Sci.	3-2964	rbb6@psu.edu
Forest Resources	Bill Sharpe	104 Land & Water	3-8564	wes@psu.edu
Horticulture	Dan Stearns	306 Tyson	3-6167	dstearns@psu.edu
Plant Pathology	Paul Backman	221 Buckhout	5-6687	pbackman@psu.edu
Poultry Science	Roland Leach	205 Henning	5-5082	lnr@psu.edu
Veterinary Sci	Lester Griel	115 Henning	5-7696	lcg1@psu.edu

**2007- 2008 Officers** – With your active participation, we'll have a good year! Please contact the officers if you have questions about our activities or any other aspects of Gamma Sigma Delta.

The following individuals are your 2007-2008 Chapter Officers:

President: J. Lynne Brown, 219 Food Science , f9a@psu.edu

Vice President: Ronald Kensinger, 324 Henning, rsk7@psu.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: Gary Moorman, 111 Buckhout Lab, gmoorman@psu.edu

Historian: Nancy Ostiguy, 545 ASI, nxo3@psu.edu

Immediate Past-President: Robert Shannon, 233 Ag Engineering, rshannon@psu.edu

**Important Dates -**

Membership Nominations Due	February 15, 2008
Award Nominations Due	February 15, 2008
GSD Research Exhibition	March 19-20, 2008
Initiation and Awards Reception	April 2, 2008