



October 2019

Lambda Pi Eta Welcomes 7,303 New Members this Semester

Congratulations to our newest inductees, who hail from campuses nationwide. Lambda Pi Eta has welcomed 7,303 outstanding new student scholars in 2019!

Make Sure to Say "Hello" in Baltimore!



NCA's 105th Annual Convention in Baltimore will be held November 14-17, 2019! Lambda Pi Eta invites all convention attendants to participate in the LPH-sponsored sessions.

While at convention, keep an eye on the LPH Twitter feed @LambdaPiEta_NCA. NCA's student organizations will be hosting their first-ever Student Convention Scavenger Hunt. Attend convention events and tweet photos of them to earn points! The students with the most points will win exclusive NCA- and LPH-branded merchandise. The hunt begins Friday, November 15 at 8:00 am!

[LPH Top Paper Session](#) – Friday 11/15, 11:00 am – 12:15 pm, Paca (Third Floor Hilton)

The top four individually and group-authored papers will be presented, including this year's two Stephen A. Smith award winners, "'Victim' or 'Survivor': Navigating Self-Concept in the Wake of Sexual Violence," by Allison Kennon of Hastings College, and "Posting Over the Paint: Instagramming Central European Street Art and Digital Cultural Tourism," by Brelynn Hess of Willamette University. Other top papers to be presented include "The Portrayal of Immunizations in Television," by Stephanie Ambrosio of Quinnipiac University, and "Health Insurance Satisfaction on an Individual's Usage of E-Health Information," by Alma Musvosvi et al. of Pacific Union College.

[LPH Business Meeting](#) – Friday 11/15, 3:30 – 4:45 pm, Paca (Third Floor Hilton)

Join the LPH Faculty and Student Advisory Boards, along with NCA National Office representative Will Eichhorn, for discussions of current LPH issues. During this session, elections will be held for open Advisory Board positions, and this year's National Lambda Pi Eta Awards will be formally presented. Light snacks and appetizers will be served after the Lambda Pi Eta Business Meeting.

Join us in celebrating the achievements of our award winners and mingle with students from other institutions!

[Communication for Survival: Perspectives](#) – Saturday 11/16, 8:00 – 9:15 am, Paca (Third Floor Hilton)

Join members of Lambda Pi Eta and the Faculty Advisory Board for three presentations of individually authored undergraduate papers covering a variety of interesting topics. You'll hear from a variety of talented student scholars speaking on topics including: "Everlane and the Citizen-Consumer: Ethically Consuming Our Way to Social Change," by Rebekah Choi of Gordon College, "Surviving the Bias: Empathy and Curiosity among True Crime Genre Fans," by Jennifer Sanmiguel of The University of North Texas at Dallas, and "Marriage Across Borders: Intercultural Communication and Intercultural Conflict," by Kendal Lyssy of the University of North Texas.

Join SCH after Its Business Meeting for Coffee and Mingling!

SCH Student Reception – Saturday 11/16, 10:15 -10:45 am, Paca (Third Floor Hilton)

The advisory boards of SCH invite all Lambda Pi Eta members attending the convention to a light breakfast following their business meeting. This is a great chance to network and meet students from institutions outside your own!

New LPH Resources!

Preparing for your first academic convention? Lambda Pi Eta is publishing its first [guide](#) for students attending NCA's Annual Convention. Get the most out of convention by setting convention goals and creating a schedule of important events for students. Keep an eye out for more student resources in 2020! Lambda Pi Eta plans to create guides on publishing as an undergraduate, applying to graduate school, and much more. All guides will be published on Lambda Pi Eta's [website](#).

Attending a Regional This Year?



In addition to the National Communication Association, there are four regional Communication associations. Each association represents a different geographic section of the United States and hosts a convention. All Lambda Pi Eta members who submit individually authored papers to a regional convention will be eligible to earn a regional top paper award!

Please note that only individually authored papers will be considered. Authors must be members of Lambda Pi Eta upon submission. If you are interested in submitting your paper for the chance to win any of these awards, please read below:

Eastern Communication Association: The James C. McCroskey and Virginia P. Richmond Undergraduate Scholars Conference will take place April 1-5, 2020, during the ECA Annual Convention in Baltimore, Maryland. The submission deadline is 11:59 pm Eastern Time on December 13, 2019. Please be sure to indicate that you are a member of Lambda Pi Eta on the cover page of

your submission. For more information, including submission processes, please visit the [ECA website](#).

Central States Communication Association: The President's Undergraduate Honors Research Conference will take place April 17-18, 2020, during the CSCA Annual Convention in Chicago O'Hare Illinois. The submission deadline is January 10, 2020. For more information, including submission processes, please visit the Central States Communication Association [website](#).

Southern States Communication Association: The Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference will take place during the Southern States Communication Association's Annual Convention, which will be held April 1-5, 2020, in Frisco, Texas. The submission deadline is December 13, 2019. For more information, including submission processes, please monitor the SSCA [website](#).

Western States Communication Association: The Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference will take place on Friday, February 21, 2020, in Denver, Colorado. The submission deadline is 11:59 pm Pacific Time on December 1, 2019. Please be sure to indicate that you are a member of Lambda Pi Eta on your cover page upon submission. For further details, including submission processes please visit the WSCA [website](#).

NCA Hosts Public Program Communicating About Climate Change



On September 19, 2019, NCA presented "Communication About Climate," a public program focused on the role communication plays in educating, informing, and persuading publics about climate change. Panelists also discussed obstacles to communicating about this global issue, from climate change denial to divergent values and attitudes about climate change.

Panelists included Amy Cilimburg, Executive Director at Climate Smart Missoula; Matthew Frank, Fellow at the O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West; Peter McDonough, Coordinator of the Climate Change Studies Program at the University of Montana; Nick Mott, Producer of the podcast Threshold; and Steve Schwarze, Professor of Communication Studies and Director of the Climate Change Studies Program at the University of Montana. LaKesha Anderson, NCA Director of Academic and Professional Affairs, moderated the discussion.

The program was co-sponsored by the University of Montana Climate Change Studies Program and the University of Montana Department of Communication Studies.

Learn more about NCA's public programs here.

[Read More](#)

Congratulations to this Year's National LPH Award Winners!



Chapter of the Year Award - Xi Omega Chapter, Bloomsburg University

Since its founding, the Xi Omega chapter has had a profound impact on both its department and its campus. The chapter has made great strides toward advancing the discipline on its campus by establishing multiple outlets to highlight Communication student scholarship. The chapter hosts a Speakers Forum, where students deliver 5- to 7-minute speeches based on the theme “What Grinds Your Gears?” The chapter has also established a colloquium and paper award specifically recognizing the scholarship of Communication majors.

In the words of its advisor, “The Xi Omega chapter of Lambda Pi Eta at Bloomsburg University is comprised of hardworking, enthusiastic, and high-achieving students who work collectively to promote Communication Studies scholarship and dialogue, professional development, interpersonal relations between faculty, staff, and students, and continued higher education by exploring graduate studies opportunities. The members are genuinely excited to plan, promote, and host the events.... They continue to showcase the academic and professional achievements within our department to the university and local communities.” Congratulations, Xi Omega!

Thomas L. Veenendall Advisor – Tiffany Wang, Lambda Nu, University of Montevallo



Dr. Tiffany Wang serves as the advisor for the Lambda Nu chapter at Montevallo University. According to one student, “[Dr.Wang’s] talent for connecting with students, her ability to make even Structuration Theory seem simple, and, most importantly, her genuine desire to make our material a living and breathing entity, touchable and vivid, in the classroom and outside were the foremost attributes that made Dr. Tiffany R. Wang the most compassionate and remarkable teacher I’ve ever had.” Dr. Wang has been a dedicated servant to both the chapter that they advise and to the Lambda Pi Eta Faculty Advisory Board. Congratulations, Dr.Wang!

Rookie Advisor of the Year Award – Lori Britt, Gamma Beta, James Madison University



Dr. Lori Britt serves as the advisor for the Gamma Beta chapter at James Madison University. Dr. Britt has worked to revive the membership of the chapter; within two years, the Gamma Beta chapter has grown from two members to 20 students. In the words of Dr. Britt’s students, “She has overseen initiatives to increase membership, elect an executive board and invoke Communication programming. Now, our chapter includes 20 members. ... Her zeal and dedication have inspired a love of

Communication Studies within our members. Our chapter has come a long way since Dr. Britt revived it two years ago." Congratulations, Dr. Britt!



Rookie Chapter of the Year Award – Alpha Epsilon Mu Chapter, Willamette University

The Alpha Epsilon Mu Chapter of Willamette University was established in the fall of 2018. Starting with just eight students, the chapter has made significant progress toward establishing a sense of community within its Civic Communication and Media Department. In February, seven of the eight active members presented work at the Western States Communication Association Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference. In addition to its academic success, the chapter has launched a Communication-based series titled "Thursday Talks." The series brings together CCM major, minors, and faculty to discuss topics ranging from how to articulate a Communication major as a job seeker and how to apply Communication theories and rhetorical analysis in everyday

Stephen A. Smith Award – Brelynn Hess, Willamette University

Posting Over the Paint: Instagramming Central European Street Art and Digital Cultural Tourism

Created in the early 1980s, during the era of communism in former Czechoslovakia, the John Lennon Wall is a site of street art understood as a communal work of individual self-expression that actively subverts oppressive authority. However, in the age of digital tourism, the Wall is promoted as a popular tourist destination and "Instagrammable" spot. While Instagram has productive possibilities for sharing cultural histories and experiences through travel, it also suggests that modern digital tourist practices can result in a "cultural malfunction" that devalues the visual rhetoric and cultural context of sites of street art in the digital space. In this essay, Brelynn Hess engages in the Instagram practices that center on the Lennon Wall and its relationship to street art in popular culture, arguing that the practices of centering the self through appropriation and commodification make Instagram a tourist tool for cultural malfunction. To circumvent, or at least minimize, this complication, Hess suggests that we must call our tourist social media practices into question and engage in a new digital cultural tourism that reframes sites of street art as physical, visual cultural production rather than a backdrop for tourist practices.

Stephen A. Smith Award – Allison Kennon, Hastings College

"Victim" or "Survivor?": Navigating Self-Concept in the Wake of Sexual Violence

The labeling of identity can be a significant process for everyone. However, for people with sexual violence trauma (PWSVT), the battle is extremely difficult. Literature in the area of self-concept and sexual violence tends to focus on the external impact of broader society's view of sexual violence labels such as "victim" or "survivor" and the internal impact of labeling one as such. In this study, an

interpretative methodology, drawing upon symbolic interaction, attempts to understand the reasoning behind people with sexual violence trauma's (PWSVT) use of labels and how this reasoning either connects or collides with their self-concept. Using Creswell's understanding of phenomenology data coding, 14 surveys from PWSVT who ranged between the ages of 19 and 25 and identify as women or AFAB non-binary found the dominant themes behind the reasoning for the use of certain labels such as "victim," "survivor," both, neither, or another label. These themes, with those who leaned toward "victim" tending to feel their trauma more presently and those who identified with "survivor" tending to put their trauma behind them, supported prior research. However, respondents who chose both, neither, or another label confounded prior research by adding complexity to their trauma, rejecting normative labels for PWSVT, and separating their experiences from their own identity. The paper concludes with finding a particular dialectical tension between the two labels of "survivor" and "victim," causing some respondents to forgo both. The results indicate the need to complex the conventional narrative for PWSVT by providing further instances for this population to question their self-concept concerning sexual violence and deepen understanding of identity. Essentially, this study suggests we must allow PWSVT to name themselves on their terms, and then provide support.

Programming Highlight: The University of West Alabama Explores Life in the Marketing Industry



The Alpha Chi Nu chapter participated in its annual fall industry immersion trip. This year students focused on communications and marketing in the tourism industry. Students visited with professionals along the Gulf Coast of Alabama and Florida, including a stop at the WWII USS Alabama battleship.

Programming Highlight: The Mu Kappa Chapter Prepares Members

for Post-Graduation Employment



The Lambda Pi Eta chapter at Loyola University Maryland prides itself on encouraging the professional development of each of its members. In such a fast-paced professional market, where the demands on jobs seekers are constantly increasing, LPH chapters serve as a great resource for students, helping them develop the abilities and resources needed to obtain employment post-graduation. At the first general meeting of the academic year, the Mu Kappa Executive Committee sets aside time to take headshots for each member of the chapter. Students use these headshots to develop a professional social media presence and update their profiles on sites such as LinkedIn. Such an event can be done at little to no cost to your chapter, especially if your institution offers photography courses.

Programming Highlight: The Alpha Gamma Lambda Chapter Discusses Life in an Intergenerational Workplace



Middle Tennessee State University's Alpha Gamma Lambda chapter of Lambda Pi Eta is growing! The chapter has tripled its membership since the Spring semester. In September, members had the opportunity to attend an event with the Nashville chapter of the Association for Talent Development called *The Intergenerational Workplace: A Candid Conversation Among Generations*.

Want to be Featured?

Want to be featured on Lambda Pi Eta's official Instagram? Want to see your programming in the Spring 2020 newsletter? Submit photos and a short description of your event to lphinsta@gmail.com.

Follow Lambda Pi Eta on all social media platforms: @LambdaPiEta_NCA on [Twitter](#), @LambdaPiEta.NCA on [Instagram](#), and Lambda Pi Eta on [Facebook](#).

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