Pi Sigma Alpha Announces 2008 Grant Winners

Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society, is proud to announce the winners of its 2008 Chapter Activity Grants Competition. In this annual program Pi Sigma Alpha chapters submit proposals for activities they would not be able to carry out without funding. The maximum grant to any chapter is $2,000. The proposed activities may be in areas such as chapter and student development, social service and the like. A grants committee* reviews the proposals competitively and makes awards based on the quality and feasibility of the activity proposed, the completeness and appropriateness of the budget, and other factors. Chapters may submit proposals for one or two activities. Some proposals received full funding, some received partial funding with instructions on how to scale back the activity, and some were rejected. Now in its twenty-eighth year, the Chapter Activity Grants program is the biggest and most important of the honor society's award programs both because of the size of its budget and the very large number of students who benefit from it.

SCHOOL	ACTIVITY	AMOUNT
Abilene Christian University	Service activity with school children	$2,000
Adelphi University	Political science film event; Initiation banquet	75; 137.50
University of Akron	Initiation banquet	1,037.50
University of Alaska, Fairbanks	Forum on environmental issues	983
Auburn University	Initiation & awards banquet with speaker	587
Austin College	Lecture by Prof. Markus	927.50
Barton College	Essay contest, prizes	225
Boise State University	Awards luncheon	400
University of Bridgeport	Symposium	900
Brigham Young University	Newsletter publication	1,000
California State University, Chico	Initiation banquet with speaker	1,400
California State University, San Bernardino	Initiation banquet with speaker	1,087.50
Capital University	Breakfast, speaker & panel for MLK Day	900
Centenary College of Louisiana	Initiation ceremony with speaker	350
University of Central Oklahoma	Initiation banquet with speaker; Easter baskets for children	375.50; 400
Chapman University	Paper contest, reception	298
Chicago State University	Banquet and lecture	1,500
Creighton University	Initiation banquet; political film series	625; 405
East Central University	Community dinner with speaker	1,150
Elizabethtown College	Forum on Iraq and Afghanistan	650
Emory and Henry College	Student trip to D.C.	960
Emory University	Internship program; banquet, Initiation banquet	462.50
University of Florida	Student trip to D.C.. Election pamphlet	1,000
Florida International University	Initiation banquet	750
Gettysburg College	Student trip to D.C.	300
Hobart & William Smith Colleges	Initiation banquet with speaker; Panel of political science alumni	400; 300
Hope College	Political science awards banquet	1,250
University of Illinois at Springfield	Initiation banquet	1,250
Illinois State University	Best paper awards and speaker	600
Indiana University Northwest	Human Rights Awareness Week speakers; Essay contest on law and ethics	1,651; 225
Loyola University of Chicago	Initiation banquet and essay contest	600
Loyola University, New Orleans	Initiation banquet and best paper prize	600
University of Maine	Initiation banquet with speaker; Presidential "briefing book"	650; 600
University of Maryland, Baltimore County	Undergraduate research conference, prizes	925
Mercer University	Conference on race and American regime; Symposium on politics and higher ed.	475; 325
Mercyhurst College	Initiation banquet with speaker	1,000
Minnesota State University, Mankato	Initiation banquet with other chapter	1,160
Mississippi Valley State University	Easter baskets for nursing home residents; Initiation banquet	700; 250
University of Montana	Banquet, student paper awards	675
Morgan State University	Luncheon with speaker; service awards	675
Muhlenberg College	Student trip to D.C.; Initiation banquet with speaker	570; 650
Murray State University	Symposium on politics and religion	670
New Mexico State University	Student trip to state capitol	753

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Binghamton University, SUNY	Banquet with speaker, essay contest	1,037.50
University at Buffalo, SUNY	Initiation banquet with speaker; Paper contest on ethics	1,117.50; 225
SUNY, Cortland	Induction luncheon and awards	617.50
SUNY, Geneseo	Conference on political science careers	1,625
SUNY , New Paltz	Essay contest, luncheon	435
University of North Carolina, Charlotte	Banquet, best paper awards	687.5
University of North Carolina, Greensboro	Student trip to DC	1,920
Northeastern Illinois University	Symposium, banquet	1,450
University of Oregon	Speaker; banquet	1,420
University of Pennsylvania	Two political science lectures; Journal, *Sound Politicks*	372; 600
Providence College	Initiation banquet with speaker, awards	1,475
Purdue University	Initiation and awards cookout	350
Purdue University Calumet	Banquet, best paper contest	1,225
University of Richmond	Awards dinner with speaker	525
St. Lawrence University	Initiation banquet with best paper prizes; State of the Union viewing	700; 200
Saint Michael's College	Initiation banquet with speaker	712.50
St. Olaf College	Forum on ethics and nation-building	1,320
University of St. Thomas (TX)	Easter baskets for children's cancer center; Panel on "First 100 Days"	429; 475
University of St. Thomas (MN)	Initiation banquet with best paper prizes	637.50
Sewanee, the University of the South	New members reception; thesis awards	320
University of South Florida	Member trip to State Capitol	2,000
Temple University	Initiation banquet with speaker	1,468
Texas State University-San Marcos	Two speakers, refreshments	250
University of Texas, El Paso	Awards banquet	625
Tri-College University	Initiation banquet	212.50
Union College	Essay contest and awards dinner	850
Utah State University	Initiation banquet with speaker, awards	1,250
University of Vermont	Student-faculty dinner	325
Wake Forest University	Initiation banquet	750
University of Washington	Publication of journal *The Orator;* Pi Sigma Alpha lecture	1,200; 300
Wheaton College (IL)	Initiation banquet; Election watch party	375; 200
Wilkes University	Speaker and dinner	350
Winthrop University	Forum on business ethics	1,155
University of Wisconsin–Lacrosse	Reception and banquet	590
University of Wisconsin–Madison	Undergraduate journal, paper awards; Student-faculty dinner series	725; 325

**The 2008 Grants Selection Committee members were professors Diana Owen of Georgetown University and Stephen Farnsworth of George Mason University, and Pi Sigma Alpha administrator Nancy McManus.*

About Pi Sigma Alpha

Pi Sigma Alpha is the only honor society for college students of political science and government in the United States. It was founded in 1920 at the University of Texas for the purpose of bringing together students and faculty interested in the study of government and politics. The success of the honor society at the University of Texas prompted other institutions to apply for chapters, with the Universities of Oklahoma and Kansas establishing chapters by 1922. In March of that year the society held its first national convention at the University of Oklahoma. Growth in the honor society was gradual throughout the 1920s and 1930s and accelerated after the Second World War; there are now over 687 chapters of Pi Sigma Alpha located on college and university campuses in every state of the U.S. and in Guam.

Its Articles of Incorporation state that one of its purposes is to "stimulate scholarship and intelligent interest in political science." The society functions at the national level, sponsoring programs and events of value to the profession and the teaching of political science, and at the chapter level. Each chapter is encouraged to provide a framework for enriching the exposure of its members and the wider university community to the study of government and issues of public concern.

After meeting eligibility requirements, membership in Pi Sigma Alpha is open to juniors, seniors, and graduate students currently enrolled in programs of political science in institutions where chapters are located. Members of the faculty of the department, school, or division in which the chapter is located are automatically eligible for membership. Pi Sigma Alpha is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) and is designated as a "Specialized, Upper-Division" society by ACHS. Contact the national office by calling 202-483-2512 or e-mailing office@pisigmaalpha.org.

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