Note from the Faculty Advisor

Welcome to all 35 of our new members of the Alpha Theta WSU-Pullman Chapter!! Founded, in 1939 by Charles O. Johnson our chapter has a total of 921 members – membership is for life. In Fall 2017, as the Director of Undergraduate Studies of the School of Politics, Philosophy and Public Affairs (PPPA), I re-launched our chapter.

Our first class was comprised of 23 majors who received their honor's certificates and regalia at PPPA’s awards ceremony last April. We will be having a second convocation ceremony this April for our next class of society members at the School's Awards event this April. We will be contacting all Political Science majors with a 3.0 GPA or higher this month to invite them to become members. Membership is $35 with the possibility of purchasing an honor chord and pin for a minimal additional amount.

Membership allows you to take advantage of Chapter and National level funding, services and activities- see below – and it looks great on your resumé. This year we received a Chapter Activity Grant from the National Honor Society ($1500) to fund the attendance of chapter members to the Conference on Initiative on Public Deliberation in late February at WSU-Vancouver (see below). Many thanks to Nicholas Lovrich (Political Science Emeritus) for his generous contribution to this effort ($500).

Read on for more information about the activities, services and funding from both our chapter and the national level honor's society, including new members in 2017 and CO Johnson’s correspondence with the national honor’s office, called a fraternity!, in 1951. I urge you to consider submitting your research to the Pi Sigma Journal, participating in the annual national meeting or applying for the Pi Sigma scholarships. We will be nominating one best senior paper by Alpha Theta Members for the National Award for best class paper this semester. Please do not hesitate to contact me or, better yet, come by my office in Johnson Tower (822) to say hi and update me on your political science related activities.

Have a great year !!!!

Amy G. Mazur, CO Johnson Distinguished Professor of Political Science  (mazur@wsu.edu)
New Alpha Theta Members in 2017 (35)

UNDERGRADUATES (26)
Daniel DiLeonardo
Nicholas Gagner
Jesse Martorano
Olivia Parish
Ruth-Flam Nord
Reed Simock
Cole Bonvallet
Bailey Bressler
Kalina Cook
Brandon Dudley
Catherine Dunn
Bailey Fillinger
Erika Ibarra Perez
Stella Kim
Makennah Little
Jarred Mac
Matthew Morrow
Milissa Munoz
Sana Nawid

Gavin Pielow
Micah Ramos
Heidi Stallman
Adam Tradii
Hannah Oliason
Emma Pitts
Jessica Do

GRADUATES (6)
Pip Cawley
Timothy Chatburn
Jeffrey David
Sam Rhodes
Joel Preuninger
Tyler Smotherman

FACULTY (3)
Amy Mazur
Nicholas Lovrich
Ashly Townsend

Public Deliberation Training Conference at WSU- Vancouver.
February 26th and 27th (An initiative of the WSU - Vancouver and the Foley Institute led by Dr. Carolyn Long Sam Reed Distinguished Professor in Civic Education and Public Civility).

Join the Initiative for Public Deliberation for a conference on civil dialogue. In these polarized times, schools and universities have the opportunity to become centers of healthy deliberation, where divisive issues are discussed and common ground is identified. This conference will equip you with the skills and knowledge to become a champion of civility.

Martín Carcasson, founder and director of the Center for Public Deliberation at Colorado State University, will give plenary remarks. Learn and practice the skills necessary to become an IPD Civility Fellow.
Topics include:

• Deliberative Democracy
• Cultural Competency
Facilitation Skills
How to Guide Conversations
Ways to Foster Understanding

You will have the opportunity to practice your new skills during a public forum on the opioid crisis. Registration is $25 and includes breakfast, two lunches, evening reception, parking and conference materials. Registration is available online through Feb. 9. Space is limited! For more registration and additional information to bit.ly/ipdconference. Contact Dr. Mazur, if you are interested in receiving funding to attend the conference.

Highlights of National Honor's Society Services Available to All Chapter Members (http://office2248.wixsite.com/pi-sigma-alpha)

Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics -- The Journal welcomes submissions from undergraduates of any class or major; submissions from Pi Sigma Alpha members are especially encouraged. It strives to publish manuscripts of the highest quality in all areas of political science. In general, papers selected for publication have been well-written with a well-developed thesis, compelling argument, and original analysis. Authors may be asked to revise their manuscripts before they are accepted for publication. Submissions deadlines are October 1, 2017, for the Fall issue and February 1, 2018, for the Spring issue. Manuscripts are accepted on a rolling basis, so earlier submissions are encouraged. To submit your work, please email your manuscript (as a Word document) to psajournalou@gmail.com. Please include your name, university affiliation, and contact information. If possible, please also include a short comment about how you heard about the Journal.

National Honor's Conference - Established in 2014, this event is designed to provide Pi Sigma Alpha members the opportunity to present original research in a professional conference setting. The event takes place over President's Day Weekend in February in Washington D.C. Proposal deadlines are the December 1st prior.

Best Class Paper Award--Each chapter advisor may nominate one per year in each category. Only Pi Sigma Alpha members are eligible to participate. Nominations are due on June 1; winners are announced by August 15. The cash awards are $250 for each first-place winner and $100 each for runners-up.

Best Thesis Award--Each chapter advisor may nominate one per year in each category. Only Pi Sigma Alpha members are eligible to participate. Nominations are due on June 1; winners are announced by August 15. The cash awards are $250 for each first-place winner and $100 each for runners-up. Each chapter advisor may nominate one per year in each category. Only Pi Sigma Alpha members are eligible to participate. Nominations are due on June 1; winners are announced by August 15. The cash awards are $250 for each first-place winner and $100 each for runners-up.

Pi Sigma Alpha awards four McManus Washington Internship Scholarships annually to members participating in political science internship programs in Washington, DC, for either the summer term or fall semester. Each scholarship is $2,000. Applications are due May 1.

Howard Penniman Scholarships for Graduate Study are awarded annually to up to 5 members entering graduate school in political science. Nominations must come from the
chapter advisors, accompanied by an official application. Nominations are due by May 1, and the winners are announced by June 15. Each scholarship is $2,000.
Correspondence between Chapter Founder C.O Johnson and the National Honors Fraternity (!) from 1951