Phi Theta Kappa Fall Activities:

Awards:

Peggy Hicks (President of the chapter) won the Oberndorf Lifeline to Completion Challenge (Info here: http://www.ptk.org/news/Oberndorf-Scholarship-Winners-Announced)

Briana Aguado won the Terry Transfer Scholarship (Details: Terry Transfer Scholarship)

The Terry Transfer Scholarship is intended to provide scholarships at $13,000 to outstanding transfer students for a two or three year award period, depending on when the number of hours you entered into Texas A&M with. In selection of transfer students there are several variables that will be reviewed, transfer GPR, extracurricular activities, employment and community service.

Students transferring into Texas A&M in a fall semester are eligible to apply and be considered for this scholarship. To determine whether or not you might be eligible to apply for and/or receive the Terry Transfer Scholarship, please visit our Terry Transfer Scholarship Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page.)

Nicholas Develle was selected as a 2014 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar. (Details: This scholarship is designed to provide new Phi Theta Kappa members with financial resources to help defray educational expenses while enrolled in a two-year college while also encouraging participation in Society programs. This year’s recipients were selected by a panel of independent judges from more than 900 applicants. Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholars are selected based on outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated leadership potential.)

Induction:

Held on November 6, 2014. The Beta Lambda Mu chapter inducted 180 new members, each of whom holds at least a 3.5+ GPA over 12 hours of coursework towards a college degree. At the induction, students heard from Susan Edwards, Dean of Academic Affairs and Honors Programs at Phi Theta Kappa, and Debbra Esparza, Coordinator of the Texas Region for Phi Theta Kappa.

Activities:

Completion College: Mentoring for Success: This fall, Phi Theta Kappa students are participating in an innovative mentoring program. Phi Theta Kappa students serve as mentors for three groups of Lone Star College-CyFair students: financial aid recipients, Schroeder Scholars, and minority males (through our new campus program Men of Honor). The mentors and mentees attended “Committing to Complete,” an event held by Phi Theta Kappa that drew over 300 students to sign “Completion Cards,” committing to complete their college education. As part of the mentoring program, Phi Theta Kappa members have been staying in touch with mentees throughout the semester, inviting them to campus events and meeting to touch base on their academic progress. (Special thanks to Dr. Audre Levy and Dr. Ivan Harrell, who met with PTK students in the spring and helped them come up with this great program. Dr. Levy even provided meal cards so that mentors can meet with students regularly for coffee and snacks.
Honors in Action: This fall, PTK students have continued their study of “Frontiers and the Spirit of Exploration” by researching immigration to the Houston area. They have conducted hours of research about Houston’s unique role in attracting immigrants to the US and developing a vibrant economy based on diversity and inclusion. They have given particular attention to the role that public education has played in helping Houston become a hub for immigration and economic innovation. As part of this project, students hosted a forum called “Immigration, Education, and Opportunity in Houston.” At that forum, immigrants told their stories and explained how Houston provided unique educational and professional opportunities that resulted in their success.

Howl-O-Ween Maze: PTK students once again provided a “Haunted Maze” as part of the campus’s annual Howl-O-Ween celebration.

Texas Leadership Conference: Beta Lambda Mu took seven students and two advisors to the Texas Leadership Conference, held at the campus of Grayson College October 10-12th. Our students led two panel sessions on the topic of “Developing Leadership within an Officer Team.”

Advisor Quotes:

Dr. Blake Ellis, Associate Professor of History: “This fall has been an exciting time for our chapter. Not only have we grown numerically, inducting nearly 200 new members, but we have grown in our leadership on campus. This officer team has taken our chapter to new heights by developing Honors in Action and College Projects that required intensive research, thoughtful planning, successful implementation, and data-driven follow-up.”

“We could not be more pleased with our officers and chapter members. Their dedication to scholarship, service, and our campus community has inspired me. At LSC-CyFair, we are especially fortunate to have such strong administrative support. Our members have benefitted from working closely with Dr. Levy and other campus administrators on a variety of projects this fall.”

Daniel Villanueva, Dean of Enrollment Management: “These students are some of the greatest students I’ve had the pleasure of working with. They are driven and work so hard to ensure that they are competitive at every level. They apply for national scholarships, compete for national awards, and excel locally with their academics!”

“Phi Theta Kappa is a very rewarding program that allows for student scholarship, academic achievement, and leadership. These students work above and beyond most of the students on campus and their work represents the college very well.”