

GREATER NORTHWEST REGION



Fall District Conferences

Join Beta Iota at
Grays Harbor College
November 12
or

Rho Zeta at
Big Bend Community College
in Moses Lake
November 19

Leadership and opportunities to write for
Honors in Action and/or College Projects.

Want to boost your chapter status up
another star?

Participate in a your district conference and
network with fellow nerds! **Advisors:** See
more about district conference opportunities on the
last page.

Regional Team

Contact Information
Regional President:

Melinda Dourte
melindad@bigbend.edu

District I VP:
Vacant

District II VP:
Jennifer White
Jwhite97929@tacomacc.edu

District III VP:
Vacant

District IV VP:
Vacant

District V VP:
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Regional Coordinator:
Dr. Tomas Ramos
tramos@tacomacc.edu

Associate Regional Coordinator:
Michaelann Allen
michaelann.allen@seattlecolleges.edu



[Greater Northwest Region Rho Zeta Beta Phi Delta Alpha Epsilon Rho Alpha Chi Beta Iota Omega Phi](#)

Does your chapter have a Facebook page? We'd love to add you to our chapter list!

Summer Conference

Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake

PTK hugs, water balloons, goodbyes, beauty, responsibilities, and stars are just a few of the highlights from the Greater NW Regional Conference. Eighty students and advisors from 13 chapters brought their hearts and brains together for individual growth and the benefit of our collective region.

Regional Coordinator Dr. Ramos kicked off the conference with a quote by Clemson football coach Dabo Swinney, “To be successful you have to do the following: a. over believe, b. overachieve, and c. bloom where you are planted.” Regional President Johnathon Hendren and VP Melinda Dourte recapped Honors Institute in Winston-Salem, NC and said it was a time of connection and fear busting. Dr. David Holliday used the Sapir Whorf linguistic relativity theory, sociological imagination, and construction of reality ideas to expound on HIA theme 5 Beauty & Vulgarly. Faline Jett shared thoughts about HIA theme 3 Rights & Responsibilities encouraging us all to be “master craftsmen of ourselves.” We learned the importance of understanding terms related to LGBTQIA and social justice.

Regional Officers led workshops on award-winning College Projects while Associate Regional Coordinator Michaelann Allen provided information on successful Honors In Action efforts. Dr. Ramos met with advisors to discuss regional challenges and projects, and an advisors’ retreat.

The Saturday night BBQ hosted by Rho Zeta was a great time to connect. Sunday morning we joined together again and learned from an HIA themed Icebreaker followed by the business meeting.

HOW THE WORLD WORKS: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

What are the characteristics of a distinguished officer team?

“The officers should demonstrate an exceptional atmosphere of teamwork, leadership abilities, promotion of Honors in Action and other engagement in the Society, and enthusiasm for the Society’s Hallmarks.” [Read more...](#)

Honors in Action

Study Topic:

How the World Works: Global Perspectives.

Honors in Action Themes

- Theme 1. Myth and Reality
- Theme 2. Individualism and Collectivism
- Theme 3. Rights and Responsibilities
- Theme 4. Peace and War
- Theme 5. Beauty and Vulgarity
- Theme 6. Natural and Engineered
- Theme 7. Innovation and Replication
- Theme 8. Nostalgia and Pathos

Honors in Action Theme 7:

Innovation & Replication

"We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them." (Albert Einstein)

What a poignant quote to describe the deviation between innovation and replication. The definition of innovation is the act or process of introducing new ideas, devices or methods (Webster's Dictionary). According to Brittany Walker from the University of Wisconsin, the innovation of technology has had both negative and positive impacts on how we communicate as a society. Although technology has improved the way we are able to communicate with people half way around the world, it has disconnected us from the personal connection that is normally made from face to face communication. Studies have been done to show that most people prefer to communicate by text, widening that gap. "We may not realize it, but in my opinion, being dependent upon technology has only conditioned us to become less social, interactive, and outgoing." <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/innovation><https://www.uwplatt.edu/u/icet-news/positive-and-negative-impacts-technology-has-our-daily-lives>

New PTK.org
coming soon

Honors in Action Theme 8:

Nostalgia & Pathos

Nostalgia "pleasure and sadness that is caused by remembering" and pathos "a quality that causes people to feel sympathy and sadness" are triggered by the senses. Sensations like the scent of Hugo Boss perfume, the *I will always love you* song by Whitney Houston, an old black and white photo, biscuits and gravy just like grandma made, and the soft silkiness of a baby's bald head connect us. According to Logan Martinez of the Tribune Business News, nostalgia is "a twinge in your heart far more powerful than memory alone. This device isn't a spaceship, it's a time machine."

Nostalgia and pathos can drive us to actions and decisions. Martinez wrote, "Nostalgia has reached nirvana... "Pokemon Go" has captured the imagination of youth and adults" using the original characters, Ash and Pikachu, that many users remember fondly. Other items like reflections on the death of a loved one or Picasso's *Scream* can stir up pathos. Our memories and experiences influence our thoughts and actions, we may be stuck or motivated by them and in turn influence how our world works.

<http://www.learnersdictionary.com>

Martinez, Logan. "OPINION: Nostalgia is Millennials' greatest weakness." McClatchy - Tribune Business News. 24 Jul. 2016 eLibrary. Web. 25 Jul. 2016.



Scholarship News

Joan Fedor Scholarship

Congratulations to Tiffany Carpenter, President of Alpha Epsilon Omega! She was nominated for the scholarship by her advisor Michaelann Allen who said, "Tiffany is the glue that holds our chapter together and the rock that supports me as an advisor."



Active participation with Phi Theta Kappa has introduced me to a wonderful community, provided a successful path to personal development, and opened the academic and professional doors to many exciting opportunities. The 2016 International NerdNation Conference held in Washington, D.C. let me walk in the footsteps of our Founding Fathers; I even looked out for the President (though I didn't see him). A fellow Chapter President and I were able to visit her Guam Congresswoman's office. Becoming a chapter President, actively promoting and building membership, and creating an exciting Honors in Action project involving nanotechnology has transformed my time at North Seattle College. Leading the chapter developed my confidence to the point of applying for a summer job at the University of Washington. The result was professional employment with significant responsibilities in the Dean of Medicine's office, where I manage a database for credentialing physicians. Participating with Phi Theta Kappa provides real-world experience, which can be economically beneficial. In short, Phi Theta Kappa continues to enrich my studies, friendships, and life in diverse and meaningful ways. Contributing—whether by helping manage our AEO chapter Canvas page, inviting experts to be involved in our projects, or encouraging members and potential members to take the next step—truly makes it a moment of service, fellowship, scholarship, and leadership. At the 2016 Summer Regional Conference, I was surprised and honored to be selected as the recipient of the Joan Fedor Award of Distinction. As a recipient of this distinguished award, I am even more inspired, and know that with Phi Theta Kappa, my achievements and ability to be of service to others will only continue to grow. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all this Fall!

New! Johnathon Hendren Scholarship

Attendees at the NW summer regional conference held at Moses Lake July 16, 2016 voted to establish the Johnathon Hendren Regional President scholarship in the amount of \$100 to be awarded to regional presidents who exhibit exemplary behavior and leadership representing the region. The scholarship will be awarded at the end of the awardee's tenure after serving in the position for a minimum of one year. Exemplary behavior and leadership is defined as attendance and leadership at the Spring Regional Conference, International Conference, Summer Conference, Fall District Conference, and participating in at least 85% of the online meetings required to lead the regional team through successful programming and organization. In addition, one member of the regional team must verbally nominate the candidate at least one week before the conclusion of the one-year tenure. Awarding the scholarship is accomplished by the regional team agreeing by majority of vote, or a majority of vote by the membership in attendance.



Meet District II VP Jennifer White



*“The value of a college education is not the learning of many facts
but the training of the mind to think.” ~Albert Einstein*

Hello, PTK!! My name is Jennifer White, proud mother to 3 teenagers and wife of 23 years. In my not-so-free time (who really has any free time?!) I enjoy painting, reading, being a girl-scout leader, fanatic soccer mom and under-appreciated chauffer to the before mentioned teenagers. I am a second year student at Tacoma Community College where I serve as chapter President for Chi Gamma and I am also new to the regional VP position for district III!! My plan is to transfer to UW Tacoma after I obtain my Associates in Accounting. I still haven't figured out what I want to be when I grow up, so my major for my BA is still undecided. I find learning to be invigorating and am excited to embark on the Honors in Action and College projects with all of you!!

Interested in Running for Regional Office?

There are many perks that come with being a Greater Northwest Region, Regional Officer. The opportunity to travel, at the region's expense, to NerdNation, Honors Institute, and many regional conferences. You truly build lifelong relationships with the other officers and the advisors. Time commitment is minimal considering the opportunities given. There are monthly video chats which last no longer than one hour. The week before any sort of conference will be the busiest with constant emails back and forth, just to be sure everything is in order. This is the same just before NerdNation and Honors Institute, just to be sure everything is squared away, and the officers are prepared.

Applying is simple. Go to gnrptk.org and click on the **Greater Northwest Region Resource Page**. Once there, click on the **Regional Officer Application**, read through the application and be sure everything is understood. Complete two copies, be sure to have your advisor fill out their information, and get your college president's signature, which allows Dr. Ramos and Michaelann to know you are eligible to be in the position. Follow directions to mail a copy to both Dr. Ramos and Michaelann by **October 6 at 5:00 p.m.**

Current Regional Officer information is on the first page of this newsletter. If you have any questions, any officer would be more than happy to answer them or contact Dr. Ramos or Michaelann.



Advisors:

Interested in Presenting at a District Conference?

Stipend of \$400

Please submit a letter of intent demonstrating your authority in the relevant HIA theme(s) and provide a synopsis of your presentation and how it relates to one or more HIA themes.

Presenter/Presentation Requirements:

1. Current advisor from the Greater Northwest Region
2. Area of expertise relevant to the Honors in Action Theme(s)
3. Currently working with chapter to develop and submit Honors in Action to headquarters
4. Attending Fall District Conference at Grays Harbor College, Saturday, Nov 12 or Big Bend Community College, Saturday, Nov 19.
5. 60-minute presentation based on area of expertise including 5 qualified resources to support the high quality of a regional level seminar/workshop.

The selection committee (Regional Coordinator Tomas Ramos, Ph.D., Associate Regional Coordinator Michaelann Allen, Regional President Melinda Dourte, and Regional VP of District III Jennifer White) will select one speaker to participate in each of the two conferences. Candidates traveling more than 150 miles may request up to \$200 for travel expenses.

Letter of intent with all relevant information to be mailed to tramos@tacomacc.edu and Michaelann.allen@seattlecolleges.edu by September 7, 5:00 p.m.