

# Phi Kappa Phi



*BYU Chapter Newsletter*  
**Spring 2021**

## The Phi Kappa Phi Chapter Needs Your Service!

We need faculty and staff who are members of Phi Kappa Phi to volunteer to serve as officers, as college liaisons, and as nominators for our awards. Anyone who is interested in serving in Phi Kappa Phi, please contact Michael Goates ([michael\\_goates@byu.edu](mailto:michael_goates@byu.edu)) or Timothy Smith ([tim\\_smith@byu.edu](mailto:tim_smith@byu.edu)).

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## President's Message

### Thriving in Challenging Times



Congratulations on the completion of another school year, especially to you graduating seniors and graduate students! The 2020-2021 academic year was anything but conventional. Little did any of us expect that after the initial transition to online learning in March of

2020 that we would still be where we are today, physically distanced in a hybrid of online and in-person learning and service interactions. Despite the challenges of this past year, the BYU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi has been enthusiastically engaged in a variety of service projects and other activities. Chapter members participated in meaningful service to others in the community through two online service activities. We also sponsored the annual distinguished faculty lecture as an online event this past November with Dr. Valerie Hegstrom from the BYU Department of Spanish & Portuguese as the speaker. As the 2020 initiation ceremony was canceled last year due to the pandemic, we honored both the 2020 and 2021 initiates at this year's ceremony in March. Dr. Brent L. Top from the BYU Department of Church History & Doctrine provided the keynote address at this wonderful online event. Several BYU students, faculty, and alumni were awarded national and chapter Phi Kappa Phi awards. Highlights from each of these activities and awards are provided throughout this newsletter.

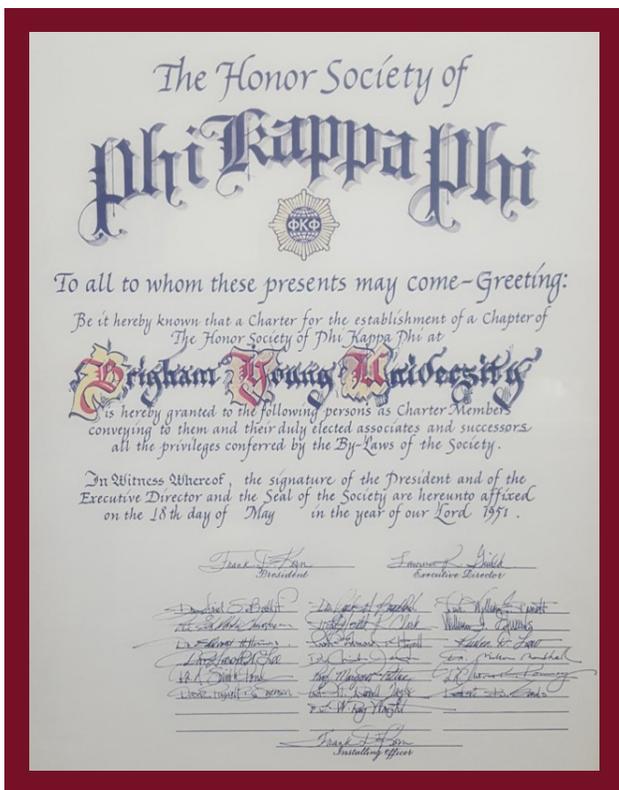
In short, we as a chapter and BYU community adapted to the challenges before us, not only surviving this past year, but thriving in our current circumstances. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the initial charter of the BYU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. Since its establishment in 1951, the BYU Chapter has regularly been recognized as one of the top Phi Kappa Phi chapters in the nation. Fittingly, the National Phi Kappa Phi Office awarded the BYU Chapter the Circle of Excellence Gold Award for the 2020-2021 academic year in recognition of our chapter's work in promoting excellence at our institution and engaging the community of scholars in service to others. This is an impressive accomplishment, especially during the current pandemic.



As fellow BYU chapter members, I encourage you to internalize the mission statement of Phi Kappa Phi “to engage the community of scholars in service to others.” Likewise, the BYU chapter bylaws stipulate that chapter members exhibit good character and “accept the challenge to live constantly above reproach.” As we strive to live up to these lofty objectives, we will in turn be better suited to provide service in our communities, wherever we may be. Despite the unique and sometimes uncertain circumstances in which we find ourselves, I hope that we can take the lessons learned from these challenging times and apply them to the betterment of the world around us.

Michael Goates

*BYU Chapter President  
Phi Kappa Phi*



# Student Vice Presidents' Message



We hope you are all experiencing that being a member of Phi Kappa Phi can be much more than just another line on your resume.

The mission of Phi Kappa Phi is to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.

BYU's chapter of Phi Kappa Phi is committed to three main goals:

1. Provide opportunities to serve
2. Provide professional development activities
3. Provide events to network and develop friendships

This last year, we have been limited on completing all three goals due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we have completed meaningful online service through two projects. During the Fall semester, our chapter participated in a virtual service project of transcribing photos of graves through Billion-Graves, to make the photos even more useful and help people discover their ancestors.

This past semester, we teamed up with Vine-

yard, a Y-Serve organization, to do service for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We were able to help with FamilySearch indexing, transcribing Church music, and transcribing the historic Nauvoo Neighbor Newspaper.

We are hoping that next school year (depending on the pandemic) we will be able to provide in-person events to network and develop friendships! To get the most out of your Phi Kappa Phi experience, we encourage you to get involved and take advantage of opportunities to learn and serve.

Robert Nay and Alex Reed

*BYU Chapter Student Vice Presidents  
Phi Kappa Phi*



## 2020 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Award

*Dr. Valerie Hegstrom*, professor in the BYU Department of Spanish & Portuguese, provided the Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Faculty Lecture on Thursday, November 5, 2020 entitled *The Love of Learning: Early Modern Iberian Women Writers as Advocates for Women's Education*



In the Middle Ages and the Early

Modern period, many societal forces limited women's access to education. Debates circulated about whether women were capable of learning and whether it was appropriate to educate them. Not surprisingly, women writers of the time held strong opinions about their own learning, about what kinds of knowledge women should be taught, and about women's capabilities to learn and contribute. Dr. Hegstrom described what early women writers from Spain and Portugal had to say about learning and related it to problems we face today as we strive to educate women and men.

A video recording of Dr. Hegstrom's lecture is available at: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/486048054>

Dr. Valerie Hegstrom received her PhD from the University of Kansas. Her research focuses on the recovery of literary works by Early Modern women who wrote in Spanish and Portuguese. She coordinates the BYU Global Women's Studies Program and serves as faculty advisor to the Women's Studies Honor Society.



## Recent Chapter Activities

### Vineyard Service Project

On Tuesday, April 13th, the BYU Chapter joined Vineyard, a Y-Serve organization, to do an online service project. Vineyard at BYU does online service for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and meets online every Tuesday at 5:30 PM.



During this project Phi Kappa Phi members participated in a variety of online projects, including:

- FamilySearch Indexing <https://tech.churchofjesuschrist.org/projects>
- Transcribing the Historic Nauvoo Neighbor Newspaper <https://goo.gl/g485Jo>
- Donating Photos as Stock Images for the Church <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/topics/service/create/photos/get-involved?lang=eng>
- Cleaning up Sources on Church History Wikipedia Pages [bit.ly/VineyardWikipedia](http://bit.ly/VineyardWikipedia)

You can volunteer for future Vineyard service projects at: <https://yserve.byu.edu/Vineyard>

### BillionGraves Service Project

Across the world, gravestones are deteriorating, and erosion is erasing precious details of our ancestors' lives. Volunteers have uploaded photos of these gravestones to BillionGraves to preserve them. During November and December 2020, BYU Phi Kappa Phi members transcribed the information on some of these



photos (similar to FamilySearch Indexing) to make it easier for people to discover their ancestors.

This project continued over a three week period, ending on December 7, 2020. Those who completed at least 15 transcriptions were entered into a drawing to win Cougar Cash, and those who completed at least 30 were entered into a second drawing!

Even though this activity is over, you can still be involved. To participate, go to <https://billiongraves.com> and click on ‘Transcribe’ under the ‘Volunteer’ tab.



# Highlights from the 70th Annual BYU Phi Kappa Phi Initiation Ceremony March 17, 2021

## Initiations

As the 2020 initiation banquet was canceled due to the pandemic, we recognized both the 2020 and 2021 initiates during this online cer-

emony. In total, 162 candidates from 2020 and 167 from 2021 were initiated at the ceremony: 10 faculty members, 54 graduate students, 179 senior students, and 86 junior students.

## Keynote Address:

**Brent L. Top**  
**BYU Professor of Church  
History & Doctrine**

Dr. Brent L. Top of the BYU Department of Church History & Doctrine delivered the keynote address at the 2021 annual initiation ceremony, entitled *Honors, Honorable, and Honoring: What It Means to Be in the Lord’s Honor Society*.



In this address, Dr. Top discussed the various meanings of the word *honor*. Dr. Top explained that he was honored to be inducted into the BYU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi in 1985 as a PhD student in the College of Education. This specific honor represents one of



the meanings of this word, which is *great achievement*. Synonyms include such terms as *acclaim*, *commendation*, *ac-*

*colades*, or *praise*. These terms reflect many of the worldly views of honor. A second set of synonyms for *honor* provides a substantially different view of the meaning of this word. Terms such as *obeisance*, *veneration*, *reverence*, or *exaltation* provide a nobler, more profound view of honor. Dr. Top invited the new initiates to consider the expectations and stan-

dards required to belong in the Lord's honor society. For the Lord, honor can be defined as *high moral worth*.

Dr. Top explained that President Russell M. Nelson is an example of an individual who exemplifies both types of honor, having accomplished outstanding medical discoveries and advancements, while also devoting his life to living the Lord's standards to encourage high moral worth, both in himself and others. Dr. Top further explained that the word *honorable* has to do with people and actions that are honest, fair, and worthy of respect. A particularly insightful definition of honorable is *to bring honor, credit, and respect to its owner*. Dr. Top compared this definition to the Hebrew word *segullah* that appears in the Hebrew Bible.



*Segullah* literally means *a peculiar treasure*, signifying that something or someone is a *prized possession* or a *jewel of great worth*. Members of the Lord's honor society are indeed a peculiar treasure, a prized possession, and a pearl of great price. We truly become honorable as we seek to bring honor, credit, and respect to our Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lastly, Dr. Top elaborated on the word *honoring*, which he defined as treating others as *valuable, costly, and precious* as beloved daughters and sons of God in their own right. Important synonyms for honoring include *seeing others through God's eyes, loving, respecting, serving, and forgiving*. Dr. Top encouraged all to seek to obtain and maintain membership in the Lord's honor society by having high moral worth, being honorable, and continually honoring, loving, serving, and understanding others.

A recording of Dr. Top's keynote address is available at: <https://byu.box.com/s/9u2whu16ii9k648gu9hhhc8l37u5mwt>



## BYU Chapter Award Recipients

### 2020 Distinguished Service Award

**Dr. Lawrence Rees**, emeritus professor of the BYU Department of Physics and Astronomy, received the 2020 Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Service Award. Larry retired in 2019 after 33 years at the University. For nearly 20 of those years, Larry served on the executive committee of the BYU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, holding positions as chapter president and grants and scholarships coordinator. However, it was as secretary that Larry dedicated most of his time in service to the Chapter, maintaining the website, managing membership responsibilities, and coordinating official chapter communications with members. Larry provided steady and enthusiastic leadership to our chapter and was an ardent champion of the success of our student members.



### 2021 Distinguished Service Award

**Connie Lamb**, Women's Studies, Anthropol-



ogy, & Middle East Studies Librarian, received the 2021 Phi Kappa Phi Distinguished Service Award. Connie retired in December 2020 after 41 years of service at the University. Connie has served in various positions in the BYU

Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi since 1991, including the special projects officer (precursor to the college contests) from 1991 to 2001, treasurer from 2004 to 2011, and most recently as historian from 2010 to 2020, where she helped to preserve an important history of chapter functions and activities. As a valued member of the chapter's executive committee, Connie provided sound advice and regularly volunteered to help with countless service projects and activities.

## 2021 Honored Member Award

*Dr. Brent L. Top*, BYU professor of Church History & Doctrine, received the 2021 Phi Kappa Phi Honored Member Award. Dr. Top also provided the keynote address at the online initiation ceremony. He received a Bachelors degree in history, Masters degrees in Instructional Media and Ancient Scripture, and a PhD in Instructional Science and Technology, all from BYU, where he graduated with honors.



As dean of Religious Education, he created the Office of Religious Outreach and the Religious Outreach Council. In that capacity he hosted scores of religious leaders and scholars

of religion at BYU. After his term as dean, he was appointed the coordinator of the Office of Religious Outreach and chair of the Religious Outreach Council. He served in those roles until his appointment as holder of the Richard L. Evans Chair of Religious Understanding.

He is member of the Latter-day Saint-Jewish Academic Dialogue group as well as the LDS-Evangelical Dialogue group. He is the author of 20 Latter-day Saint books and numerous articles on doctrinal, historical, educational, and sociological subjects. Professor Top has received the Student Alumni Association's Teacher of the Year Award and the Robert J. Matthews Award for Teaching Excellence in Religious Education at BYU.



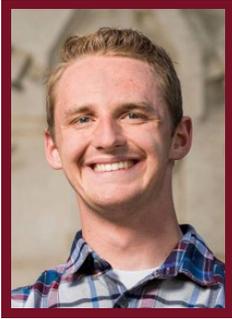
## National Award & Grant Recipients

### Phi Kappa Phi National Fellowship

Each year the national Phi Kappa Phi organization awards fifty-four graduate fellowships of \$8,500 each, six at \$20,000 each, and two at \$35,000 each to members entering the first year of graduate or professional study. Each chapter can choose one nominee to represent the chapter in the fellowship competition.



**2021 National Fellowship  
Nominee**                      **Runner Up**



Tyler Mansfield



Justin Hendricks

## Love of Learning Awards

Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards 200 Love of Learning Awards, valued at \$500 each. Love of Learning Awards help fund post-baccalaureate studies and/or career development for active Phi Kappa Phi members to include, but not limited to, graduate or professional studies, doctoral dissertations, continuing education, career development, and travel related to teaching or studies.



### 2020 BYU Love of Learning Winners



Jacquelyn Dunn



Jonathan Garcia



Chanel Mercado

## Study Abroad Grants

Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grants are designed to help support undergraduates as they

seek knowledge and experience in their academic fields by studying abroad. Seventy-five \$1,000 grants are awarded each year. Typically several BYU students are awarded Study Abroad Grants each year.



*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Study Abroad Grants are on a temporary hiatus. We look forward to offering these awards in the near future.*



# Chapter Scholarship & Grant Recipients

## Chapter Scholarships

Each year, the BYU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi awards multiple full-tuition scholarships for one semester to undergraduate chapter members. These scholarships are made possible by the generous endowments from Ruth Brasher and



Carol Ellsworth. Carol (*left*) and Ruth (*right*) are retired BYU professors in Home Economics and have been supportive of Phi Kappa Phi for many years.

## 2020-2021 Brasher Scholarship Recipients



Rebekah  
Leavitt-Hatch



Emma Benson



Austin Stewart

## 2020-2021 Ellsworth Scholarship Recipients



Ethan Izu



Samantha  
Layton Palmer



Daniel Rose

## 2021 College Competition Winners

### Family, Home & Social Sciences



Janna Pickett



George Garcia



Colt Halter

### Fine Arts & Communications



Mariah Sam



Eliza Smith-Driggs

### Humanities



Hannah Johnson



Sam Jacob

### Life Sciences



Ella Nysetvold



Curtis Hoffman



Morgan McBride

### Nursing



Mikayla Stevens

### Physical & Mathematical Sciences



Connor Morris



Amy Woodall

## J. Reuben Clark Law School



Cory Fisher



Christopher Melling

## Kennedy Center



Lydia Shaw

## Marriott School of Business



Daniel Case



Alex Reed

## McKay School of Education



Amanda Brown



# Upcoming Grant & Award Deadlines

## Love of Learning Award

*Deadline: 30 June 2021*

Two hundred awards, at \$500 each, are distributed each year and help fund post-baccalaureate studies and career development including graduate or professional studies, doctoral dissertations, continuing education, travel related to teaching/studies, and more. For more details see: <http://www.phikappaphi.org/grants-awards/love-of-learning#.WG7f9LYrK3U>

## Dissertation Fellowship

*Deadline: 30 November 2021*

Ten Dissertation Fellowships of \$10,000 each are awarded annually to active members who are doctoral candidates and are completing dissertations. The fellowship supports students in the dissertation writing stage of doctoral study and is for 12 months of dissertation writing. For more details see: <http://www.phikappaphi.org/grants-awards/dissertation-fellowship#.WG7Yd7Yr16g>

## Graduate Research Grant

*Deadline: 30 November 2021*

Grants of up to \$1,500 are available to members attending graduate school to provide funding for research in support of career development opportunities, such as conducting or presenting research. For more details see: <https://www.phikappaphi.org/grants-awards/graduate-students/graduate-research#.YHXKA-hKg2w>



# 2021 Phi Kappa Phi Initiates

## **FACULTY/STAFF**

Kristen DeTienne  
Jeanette Drake  
Valerie Hegstrom  
James O. Mayo  
Charles Swift

## **GRADUATES**

Devri Denise Adams  
Meagan C. Anderson  
Farah Arabian  
Donika Dianne Byng  
Diana Gabriela Calvopiña  
Chavez  
Michael Clark  
Travis S. Corbin  
C Chanel Earl  
Alexander Erikson  
Caroline (Cory) Fisher  
Spencer Flake  
Cassiopeia Fletcher  
Annalisa Freire  
Susanna Fullmer  
Tyler Gatherum  
Melissa True Gibbs  
Bethany Gustafson  
Michele Ivins Halls  
Jacob A. Larson  
Sylvie Diana Littledale  
William Grant Ludlam  
Christopher F. Melling  
John H. Oldroyd  
Abraham Quaye  
Rachel Rackham  
Chloe Rampton  
Suzanne Rice  
Rajarshi Roy  
Jonathan Skaggs  
Lourdes Vieira  
Summer Weaver  
Mallory Keith Wixom  
Ryan Mitchell Worth

## **SENIORS**

Trevor Andrus

Cynthia Beck  
Cayden Blake  
Alexandra Bonner  
Rexford V. Boody  
Kallie Brown  
Olivia G. Carver  
Daniel B. Case  
Zoë Catron  
Leanne Noelle Chun  
Jacob Nielsen Conlin  
Alexah Coon  
Ivana Borba Cordy  
Isaac Lyman Cress  
Joelle Curtis  
Theo Dawson  
Challis Debenham  
Braden Drake  
Anne Robinson Driggs  
Austin Duersch  
Lacey Lucille Duncan  
Laura Ann Oviatt Elggren  
Jansen Engelbrecht  
Grace Evans  
Elly Ferguson  
Sarah Fotheringham  
Rylan S. Fowers  
Katie Freeman  
Tate Joseph Frodsham  
Emma Fuller  
Emily Gabler  
George Reuben Garcia III  
Emily Gardner  
Ariel George  
Michelle Haddock  
Colt M. Halter  
Isaac Randle Hamm  
Joseph Hanny  
Justin J. Hendricks  
Kaitlin Nicole Hoelzer  
Curtis S. Hoffmann  
Matthew Holdaway  
Hannah K. Johnson  
Zachary Jones  
Cade Ryan Kartchner  
Katie Kim  
Talmage Lamb  
Ashley Leptich  
Patricia MacCabe

Kyle Charles Manwaring  
Carly Matheson  
Morgan Shae McBride  
Kaylen I. McGuire  
Finnegan A. McKinley  
Emma Elizabeth  
McNeely  
Connor Morris  
Justin Morwood  
Alec W. Mueller  
Leslie Neville  
Ella Nysetvold  
Alyssa Oman  
Logan Page  
Anessa Liane Pennington  
A. Claire Peterson  
Janna Pickett  
Jessica Prince  
Benjamin Quist  
Garrett Ritchie  
Phoebe Laine Thomas  
Roberts  
Joseph W. Rowley  
Mariah Sam  
Isaac Sanabria  
David Sant  
Morgan Nelson Sasser  
Tiana M. Scott  
Lydia Shaw  
Joseph M. Shearer  
Sarah Nadine Simpson  
Sherren  
Ryan Sorensen  
Mikayla Stevens  
Rebekah E. Todd  
Ryan W. Tucker  
Matthew J. Van Leeuwen  
Kenneth Virgin  
Sabrina Warren  
Amber Curtis White  
Caleb Clemens Witsken  
Cameron Youngblood  
Angel Zhong

## **JUNIORS**

Connor James Alder  
Boston Jay Andersen

Paul Argyle  
Kate Barker  
Aubry Black  
Isabel Rupp Black  
Nicholas Bond  
LeeAnn Broderick  
Matthew J. Bruun  
Peter L. Christensen  
William Coca  
Penelope Daurio  
Austin Davis  
Kirstyn Marie Dewsnup  
William Dixon  
Lindsey LaRene Duncan  
Tanner Glenn Fuller  
Katelynn Hales  
Aubrye Hall  
Ryan Alan Hanson  
Spencer Jarvis  
Nathan Jensen  
Madelyn Elizabeth  
Kartchner  
Simon Laraway  
John Lerohl  
Rachel Lindeman  
Owen Spencer Lunt  
Luke Lyman  
McKenna A. Mason  
Michael B. Matthews  
Nathan Todd Miller  
Dylan J. Parry  
Jonathan J. Pershing  
Darien Reed  
Reilly Reid  
Clelland Ukiah Reynolds  
Isaac James Richards  
Julia Hope Rowley  
William Sims  
Rachel Sowa  
Pearl Elizabeth Spencer  
Brayden M. Tolman  
Carson Townsend  
Rebecca Wells  
Mitchell Wilde  
Abigail Shannon Willis  
Amy E. Woodall

