

Gamma Sigma Delta

The Honor Society of Agriculture

Mississippi State University Chapter NEWSLETTER

January 30, 2004

2003-2004 Officers

PRESIDENT	JIM DELPRINCE	325-1965
<hr/>		
VICE PRESIDENT	JAN COOPER TAYLOR	325-7690
<hr/>		
SECRETARY	HART BAILEY	325-7726
<hr/>		
TREASURER	KIRK SWORTZEL	325-7837
<hr/>		
HISTORIAN	YVONNE VIZZIER THAXTON	325-9087
<hr/>		

- **New Member Nomination - It's Time to Nominate New Members and Recognize Excellence.** GSD is the most prestigious honorary society within agriculture. Its purpose is to encourage high standards of scholarship and leadership, high quality achievement, professional ethics and devotion to service, and to promote better understanding of the agriculture sector by the general public.

GSD honors are respected throughout the country, yet many of our faculty and students are not aware of the tribute bestowed upon them when invited to membership. The only way anyone can become a member of Gamma Sigma Delta is to be nominated. Please take a few moments and nominate your qualified undergraduate, graduate and CVM students, faculty and staff, and alumni for membership. Deadline is February 20.

Send nomination forms to the Gamma Sigma Delta Secretary, Hart Bailey, CVM Basic Science, Mail Stop 9825, Mississippi State, MS 39762. Again, the deadline for nominations is Deadline is February 20.

- **Annual Dues - Please Renew Your Membership!** Send your membership form and \$20 annual dues by March 26 to the Gamma Sigma Delta Treasurer Kirk Swortzel, Ag Information Sciences, Mail Stop 9731, Mississippi State, MS 39762. The monies collected for dues provide funds for student scholarships.

Please fill out the Membership Initiation/Renewal and Banquet form attached. You can pay your dues and register for the banquet all on one form.

- **Annual Business Meeting** - The Gamma Sigma Delta Annual Business Meeting will be held **Thursday March 4, 2004, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 120 Dorman Hall**. Officers for the 2004-05 year will be elected and candidates will be proposed for initiation. The criteria for membership in Gamma Sigma Delta are included on the nomination forms. Please try to attend.
- The annual **Gamma Sigma Delta Initiation and Awards Banquet** will be held on **Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the "M" Club**. Please submit reservation fees (\$15 per person) by March 26 to the Gamma Sigma Delta Treasurer **Kirk Swortzel, Ag Information Sciences, Mail Stop 9731, Mississippi State, MS 39762**. Banquet fees and membership renewal are both on one form.

Guest speaker for this year's banquet is Mr. J Schwanke, Grand Rapids, Michigan, motivational speaker in the floral industry. Mr. Schwanke is one of the most sought-after speakers in the floral industry and his lively commentary will celebrate the induction of our newest members and award honorees.

- **Gamma Sigma Delta Speaker's Fund** – The Gamma Sigma Delta Speaker's Fund was established to bring noteworthy speakers to Mississippi State. If you would like to contribute to the Gamma Sigma Delta Speaker Fund, there is a line on your membership dues form to write in the amount of your donation. If you have any suggestions for speakers throughout the year, please let us know.
- **Gamma Sigma Delta Lecture** – J Schwanke, speaker at the GSD Awards and Initiation Banquet, will present a lecture titled "Colors for Your Every Mood" from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 7, room 128 Dorman Hall. The lecture is free and open to all GSD members and those with interest in the topic. The program is sponsored by the GSD Speaker Fund and SAIFD, the Student Chapter of the American Institute of Floral Designers.
- **Scholarship and Awards Nomination Forms** - Please encourage your outstanding undergraduate students to apply for the Gamma Sigma Delta Junior and Senior Undergraduate Scholarships. The Junior Award is \$400.00 and the Senior Award is \$500.00. We would like to especially encourage nominations for Staff memberships this year. Please nominate those special staff members who enable others to attain goals within the university. Also, please encourage nominations for the Faculty Teaching, Research and Extension Awards (form attached). Deadline for these submissions is Friday, February 20. Send nomination forms to the Gamma Sigma Delta Secretary **Hart Bailey, CVM Basic Science, Mail Stop 9825, Mississippi State, MS 39762**.

- **Special Thanks to Anna Hood and Wanda Dodson** for their willingness to assume the responsibility of the arrangements for the Annual Initiation and Awards Banquet.
- **2004-2005 Officers:** If you are interested in serving as an officer of the Mississippi State University Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, please contact the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, **Ned Browning**, at 325-1718, Mail Stop 9625, nedb@ext.msstate.edu or any other member of the Committee.
- **E-Mail List** - If you have not submitted your E-mail address or if it has changed since you last submitted it, please **include** your E-mail address on your membership form. This is the best means Gamma Sigma Delta has of communicating with everyone.