

Lock Haven University Official Release

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LHU Honor Society welcomes new members Phi Kappa Phi initiation ceremony

The Lock Haven University chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi welcomed new members at its 2011 dinner and induction ceremony.

The induction ceremony took place on Thursday, November 10 in Bentley Hall. Dr. David L. White, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs, extended congratulations and best wishes on behalf of President Michael Fiorentino Jr., who could not be present for the ceremony. Dr. White told the initiates that their membership in PKP indicates their place at the height of the academic world. "You are among the academic elite," he said. While elite athletes and entertainers can take our minds off our problems, he said, it is the intellectual elite who will solve problems. He urged the students to be proud of their achievement and again congratulated them.



Lock Haven University Chapter President Scott Eldredge echoed Dr. White's remarks. "This evening we celebrate excellence," he said. He welcomed the initiates into PKP, "a century old community of scholars and professionals that includes individuals who have distinguished themselves in positions of leadership and whose careers have been characterized by achievement."

Students inducted into Phi Kappa Phi were seniors Jami L. Acker, Zachary S. Barcikowski, Erica Borden, Eric W. Driscoll, Casey Hawksworth, Joseph K. Hoy, Devon M. Juliano, Troy T. Kyles Jr., Kurt W. Ledebur, Thomas E. Levendusky, Austin J. Merges, Austin J. Mohny, Rachael A. Nines, Alexander H. Sprague, and juniors Mariah K. Easton, Sarah B. Flowers, Matthew J. Knarr, Katelyn A. Long, Megan E. Shaw, Abby M. Skripko, Amy S. Skripko, and Christopher W. Smyth.

Following the induction ceremony, Dr. Beth F. McMahon, professor, Health Science department, made a presentation. She thanked the parents present for instilling the love of learning in their children. “Our first teachers are our parents,” she said. She spoke about volunteerism, urging all those present to use their skills and talents to aid humanity. “Volunteerism,” she said, “is simply reaching out to others who need you there.” She also noted that those who do reach out to others live happier, healthier, and longer lives. Volunteerism leads, she said, to “moments that leave a footprint on your heart.”

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. The society motto is “Let the love of learning rule humanity.” The society’s mission is to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 % of juniors are eligible for membership.

The Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania chapter has been in existence since 1975.

Lock Haven University is a member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE), the largest provider of higher education in the commonwealth. Its 14 universities offer more than 250 degree and certificate programs in more than 120 areas of study. Nearly 405,000 system alumni live and work in Pennsylvania.

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