

ΦBK KEY NOTES

The PBKAAGA Newsletter

October 2, 2018



Key Notes highlights Association news, recent and upcoming events and recent developments in the Association's continued evolution. Additional details can be found on the Association website: <http://pbkaaga.wildapricot.org/>

Trent Jimenez of Bastrop High School is Announced as Winner of the 2018 Award for Teaching Excellence!

The presentation of PBKAAGA's newly established **Award for Teaching Excellence** will be made to **Trent Jimenez** of Bastrop High School by Austin Mayor **Steve Adler** on November 4th at our **Fall General Meeting**. The meeting will be held at a venue on **Lake Lady Bird** and will also feature a talk by **Dr. Alan Tully**, Professor and former Chair of the UT History Department, who will be introduced by UT's Dean Randy Diehl.

We are delighted that **Henry N. Bell, III** and **Pamela Roberts Bell** - donors for the award - will be present to congratulate Mr. Jimenez. This promises to be a very special meeting at a venue overlooking the Lake. **Don't miss it – you may want to snap a photo!**

See Upcoming Events below for time and parking details.

End of Term Message from President Suzon Kemp

My term as president of the Association finishes at the end of this year. I have been privileged to serve and I'm pleased with what the board and the Association have accomplished during my tenure. We have sought to revitalize the Association, adding fresh programming, finding more

interesting venues and speakers, coordinating with initiatives from the national PBK office, and initiating our Award for Teaching Excellence. We have sought and received external funding for the first time; I'm delighted to report that thanks to our (ongoing) fund drive and especially to our generous donors for the teaching award, Henry and Pamela Bell, we are fully funded for the teaching award through 2019 and are on our way to fully fund next years' scholarships.

Thanks to our board members whose energy and support in these efforts have been essential, and to the Scholarship Committee, whose substantial work underpins our scholarship program. Special thanks this year to the Teaching Award Committee, chair Pam Autrey and members William Schleuse and Joyce Statz, with crucial assistance from Mary Diehl, whose experience and knowledge helped formulate procedures and be ready to present the inaugural award less than a year after the board authorized its establishment!

Our other main effort has been to increase our cooperation with the Texas Alpha chapter, at a time when Phi Beta Kappa and its advocacy for the liberal arts and sciences needs all the support we can muster. A beginning has been made, with more contact, a fledgling mentoring program, and plans to consider joining other associations in assisting newly elected members with application expenses, which for some are a barrier.

Finally, thanks to all members for your support, both with dues and contributions. To those who've dropped, please rejoin us! Supporting liberal arts and sciences has never been more important, and we're having fun! A request to all: please be sure to attend on November 4th. It will be a very special occasion, and it will be even more special if you're there!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 4, 2018, 3-5 p.m. - Fall General Meeting and presentation of the Teaching Excellence Award – see the lead article for program details. Join us for this very special meeting, hosted by Susan and John Palombo. Enjoy a cocktail buffet and beverages, with a viewpoint overlooking Lake Lady Bird at the **Northshore Austin**, 110 San Antonio Street, Suite 503. Complimentary parking will be available at Northshore's adjacent garage.

A Final Word: Please make sure to renew your membership for next year. And ask a Phi Beta Kappan who's not a PBKAAGA member to join. If you haven't yet contributed to the 2018 Scholarship Drive, please do so now. Remember that potential outside donors always look for a strong and contributing membership. **Thanks!**