



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*85 Years at Michigan State University*  
**1927 - 2012**

Michigan State University Chapter 041

***Annual Initiation Ceremony and Banquet***

**April 21, 2012**

Kellogg Center, Lincoln Room  
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

## **PROGRAM**

### **Welcome**

Burton A. Bargerstock  
President, MSU Chapter 041

### **Lunch**

### **Invited Speaker**

Dr. Claire D. Vallotton

### **Initiation Ceremony and Induction**

All Honored Candidates

### **Awards Presentation**

Phi Kappa Phi National Graduate Fellowship Nominee

Erika Vivyan

Love of Learning Award

Marisa A. Rinkus

Literacy Grant

Angelika N. Kraemer

Excellence Award in Interdisciplinary Scholarship

The Avida-ED Project

### **Conclusion**

Burton A. Bargerstock

Founded in 1897, the primary objective of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi is the recognition and encouragement of superior scholarship in all academic disciplines. The society believes that by recognizing and honoring those persons of good character, who have excelled in scholarship, that others will be stimulated to similar goals of excellence.

## **Michigan State University 2012 New Phi Kappa Phi Members**

### **Undergraduate Initiates**

Madison Boden  
Kayla Brenner  
Michael Caldwell  
Rebecca Champagne  
Ashley Clark  
Andrew Claussen  
Shannon Conaway  
Joshua Corteville  
Katherine Edmundson  
Zachary English  
Morgan Feenie  
Allison Good  
Kathryn Gradowski  
Ryan Groendyk  
Kenneth Hanson  
Courtney Hilden  
Sarah Hogarth  
Jacqueline Hulderman  
Mariyam Isa  
Jason Kowalski  
Julia Kramer  
Samantha Kusek  
Rachel Lambert  
Michael Lane  
Jessica Love  
Sarah Matto  
Lauren Mausolf  
Sarah Mazur  
Kathryn Meyers  
William Miller  
Emily Nott  
Anna Perrin  
Erika Popovich  
Jessica Poth  
Mira Preston  
Irina Pushel  
Veronica Quesnell  
Leah Ritchie

Aaron Rivkin  
Frederick Rizzo  
Kerri Runions  
Rebecca Schmid  
Shelby Schulte  
Kathryn Sezniak  
Caitlin Shanahan  
Jessica Shaw  
Stephen Sheldon  
Kyle Siebert  
Bryan Smith  
Noor Taraben  
Aditi Upadhye  
Annika VanRaalte  
Erin Weisler  
Cody Wendell  
Elizabeth Witcher  
Mengyi Xie  
Patrycja Zdziarska  
Casandra Zeni

### **Graduate Initiates**

Jenn Anderson  
Leah Beasley-Wojick  
John Bonnell  
Badi Boulos  
Dana Brazil  
Lu Cao  
Alison Chrisler  
Nate Clason  
Ngoc Lan Dang  
Jing Du  
Chad Garland  
Erica Giorda  
Stephanie Henderson  
Zebulon Highben  
Emily Jacobsen  
Tenglong Li  
Jason Martina  
Kathryn Meyers

Heather Peyton  
Jennifer Sano-Franchini  
Melissa Soto  
John Walcott  
Joe Walsh  
Cameron Whitley

### **Faculty Initiates**

Mark A. Largent  
Claire D. Vallotton

**Congratulations,  
2012 Initiates!**  
Phi Kappa Phi is proud to  
have you as members.

## — FACULTY INITIATES —

The outstanding achievements of these faculty members represent the high standard of scholarship, professionalism, and public service that Phi Kappa Phi symbolizes and supports. The Michigan State University Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi is proud to grant membership to them.

### **Mark A. Largent, Ph.D.**

Mark Largent is an historian of science and medicine, an associate professor with James Madison College at Michigan State University, and the director of the MSU Science, Technology, Environment and Public Policy Specialization (STEPPS). He earned a B.A. in political science from Minnesota State University, Moorhead, an M.A. in history from the University of North Texas, and his Ph.D. in history of science from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Largent's research and teaching focuses on the role of American scientists in twentieth century public affairs. He has written on the evolution-creation debate, the professionalization of American biology, Darwinism, the history of the American eugenics movement, and recent debates over compulsory vaccination. Dr. Largent is the author of *Breeding Contempt: The History of Compulsory Sterilization in the United States* (Rutgers 2008) and the forthcoming *Vaccine: The Debate in Modern America* (Johns Hopkins 2012). Dr. Largent is spending the 2011-2012 academic year in Washington, D.C. as an American Association for the Advancement of Science Policy Fellow at the National Science Foundation.

### **Claire D. Vallotton, Ph.D.**

Claire Vallotton is an assistant professor at Michigan State University. She studies the development of young children's language/communication and social-emotional skills from infancy through early childhood. Many of her studies involve the use of signs with infants and toddlers in order to understand: (1) how the use of signs affects children's relationships with parents and other caregivers, (2) how using signs affects children's own cognitive and social-emotional skills, and (3) how the specific gestures and signs used with young children vary across cultures and are a reflection of cultural values for parenting. Dr. Vallotton earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Simpson College, and a Ph.D. in human development from the University of California, Davis. She won a research training grant from the National Institutes of Health to study as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University. She received the Young Investigator Award from the World Association for Infant Mental Health in 2006 for her research showing that preverbal infants and toddlers can express emotions and feelings through infant signs. Dr. Vallotton teaches undergraduate and graduate classes on infant development, social-emotional development, child assessment, and quantitative methodology in the study of behavior and development.

## — AWARDS —

### **Phi Kappa Phi National Graduate Fellowship Nominee**

#### **Erika Vivyan**

Erika Vivyan has attended Michigan State University since 2009, earning a bachelor's degree at the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities with a secondary major in psychology and a minor in educational studies. She is a member of the Honors College and maintains a 4.0 GPA. Ms. Vivyan has been employed as a resident mentor in Snyder-Phillips Hall for two years, and she serves as a leader both on campus and in the community. She plans on starting a Ph.D. program in school psychology in the fall, where she will be pursuing a career as a psychologist and university professor. She hopes to focus her research and practice on high-risk student populations. Ms. Vivyan plans to use the fellowship money to pay for tuition and expenses in her graduate studies.

### **Love of Learning Award**

#### **Marisa Rinkus**

Marisa Rinkus earned a master of science degree in MSU's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife with a specialization in gender, justice, and environmental change in 2008. In 2011, she was awarded the Fulbright International Educational Exchange Program scholarship from the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. This scholarship is helping her to complete her doctoral research exploring the role of social capital and gender in perceptions and participation in sea turtle conservation in Brazil. Ms. Rinkus plans to use the Love of Learning Award to support the community mapping exercises and focus groups needed to complete her research.

### **Literacy Grant**

#### **Angelika N. Kraemer, Ph.D.**

Angelika Kraemer is the outreach and co-curricular coordinator in the Center for Language Teaching Advancement at Michigan State University, where she also directs the Community Language School. Dr. Kraemer has taught German, EFL/ESL, teaching methods, and general education courses at all levels for over 10 years. Her research focuses on early language learning, program administration, online and blended learning, and second language acquisition. She was inducted into MSU's Phi Kappa Phi chapter in 2004.

The Community Language School at MSU specializes in teaching languages to children and involving college students in community outreach and service learning. With Phi Kappa Phi funds a special program at public libraries in mid- and southeast Michigan will expose young children to different cultures through reading the book "One World, One Day." Participating children will receive a free copy of the book and additional copies will be donated to participating libraries.

## — AWARDS —

### **Excellence Award in Interdisciplinary Scholarship**

#### **Avida-ED: Technology for Teaching Evolution Using Digital Organisms**

National educational standards emphasize the centrality of evolution as a unifying theme in the science curriculum. There is also a significant trend in science education to involve students in active learning as a better way to learn scientific methods of inquiry. However, the evolutionary process is difficult to demonstrate in the classroom. The Avida-ED project meets this need through the development of educational software that adapts and extends an established research platform for use as an educational tool.

The Avida-ED project is interdisciplinary from its core. Computer scientists, inspired by the workings of evolution in nature, realized that they could apply the same powerful Darwinian mechanism for their own purposes, such as complex industrial design. In turn, this technology has progressed to the point where biologists can use it for their research. Avida is the platform of choice for certain difficult questions in experimental evolution. Now Avida-ED, which uses the Avida research engine, is helping undergraduate students—our future researchers and teachers—understand and appreciate the power of evolutionary mechanisms and the nature of scientific reasoning. Avida-ED makes it possible for students to run evolution experiments in a laboratory. Using digital organisms in a virtual Petri dish, they can learn to observe and manipulate the emergent properties of complex systems.

Avida-ED research has resulted in numerous scholarly publications and presentations, as well as significant media attention. We regularly receive requests for new features and Avida-ED 2.0, now in preparation, will add some of the most requested functions. We also plan to develop a version for use in middle and high schools and to extend our classroom assessment study to the national level.

**Robert T. Pennock, Ph.D.**

Professor, Lyman Briggs College, Department of Philosophy, and  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

**Charles A. Ofria, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, and  
Deputy Director, BEACON Center for the Study of Evolution in Action

**Richard E. Lenski, Ph.D.**

Hannah Distinguished Professor, Department of Microbiology and Molecular  
Genetics, Department of Crop and Soil Science, and Department of Zoology

**Diane Ebert-May, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Plant Biology

Louise Mead, Ph.D.

Education Director, BEACON Center for the Study of Evolution in Action

James J. Smith, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Lyman Briggs College and Department of Entomology

Douglas B. Luckie, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Lyman Briggs College and Department of Physiology

Barry L. Williams, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology and Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Tammy M. Long, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Division of Science and Mathematics Education

Elena Bray Speth

Graduate Student (2008-2009), now  
Ph.D., Department of Plant Biology

Wesley Elsberry

Postdoctoral Fellow and Programmer (2008-2009), Lyman Briggs College

Amy Lark

Graduate Student (2011-present), Department of Teacher Education

Wendy Johnson

Graduate Student (2011-present) and High School Teacher,  
Lansing Catholic Central High School

David Bryson

Graduate Student and Programmer (2010-present),  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Jeff Clune

Graduate Student and Programmer (2004-2010), now  
Ph.D., Department of Philosophy and Department  
of Computer Science and Engineering

Kaben Nanlohy

Programmer (2004-2007), Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Brian Baer

Programmer (2004-2007), Department of Computer Science and Engineering

# Michigan State University Chapter of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

## 2011-2012 Chapter Executive Committee

Burton A. Bargerstock, President  
Hiram E. Fitzgerald, Vice President  
Lauren J. Harris, Secretary

## Chapter Administrative Assistant

Julie L. Crowgey

## 2011-2012 Committee Chairpersons

Burton A. Bargerstock      George Mansour      Francisco A. Villarruel

## Committee Members and Other Contributors

The Executive Committee would like to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions of time, energy, and creativity over the past several months:

Catherine Bargerstock  
Mike Davis  
Diane Doberneck

Ghada Georgis  
Linda Chapel Jackson  
Paul Phipps  
John Revitte

Bradley Smith  
Mary Taylor  
Laurie Van Egeren

## MSU Chapter Office

The Chapter is administratively located in the offices of  
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MOTTO

*Philosophía Krateitō Phōtôn*

*Let the love of learning rule humanity*