



EUFORIA
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Greetings from your Regional Director

First of all : congratulations and all best wishes to the European nominees for the international positions : Drs. Trijny E. Schmitz du Moulin- Dijkema, The Netherlands, for Europe Regional Director 2006-2008 and Mrs. Mary Wardrop, Great Britain, for membership in Nominations Committee 2006-2010. Both of these candidates have a lot of experience of work at the international level in our Society, so they are excellent representatives for our Europe region.

The spring is the time for national conventions in our state organizations. I'm very privileged to be sent to the state conventions of Great Britain and Germany as the international representative. Both state organizations have found exciting venues for their conventions: Great Britain has chosen Torquay in the English Riviera in Devon and Germany a baroque monastery near Freiburg. The state presidents have sent invitations to all European member countries to attend these meetings. Do accept their kind invitations and come, keeping in mind the European Forum's decision that guests need not pay the registration fee and that the hosts are recommended to offer hospitality. The international speakers to state conventions have been selected: Sandra Broderick from Kentucky is going to The Netherlands and Jeanne Nelson Fiske is going to Sweden.

By now even here in arctic Finland the amount of daylight has increased, if not considerably, to a perceivable extent anyway. According to an old Finnish saying we count the length by a cock's steps! My special wish for long clear days is that the tones of colour in the 1000 -piece jigsaw puzzle just aren't discernible enough except in clear daylight. Actually, putting this puzzle together slowly day by day I came to think of the big puzzle of women's organizations that we through our Society are part of. I had known that The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International/ Finland State is a member of The National Council of Women of Finland, established in 1911, which is the umbrella organization of women's organizations in Finland. A glance at their web page showed that fifty-nine women's organizations are its members with their total membership of c. half a million. Surfing the net further revealed the next link: The National Council of Women of Finland belongs to The International Council of Women (ICW), established in 1888 and to its European Centre of the International Council of Women (ECICW). The latter was founded in 1961 in Switzerland, has national councils in 23 European countries (Germany, Great Britain, The Netherlands and Finland of our DKG member countries), 900 member organizations and c. eight million members. The puzzle was much bigger than I had guessed! But why I'm telling you all this is that if your state organizations are members of these councils or some other nationwide council of women's organizations in your country, they offer you opportunities for networking and channels to pursue our common goals more widely. Our small chapters and state organizations cannot do much on their own, but through these umbrella organizations we can be heard and probably our good suggestions will be taken up on international forums one day. To start with, contacts with other women's organizations in each country will certainly result in exchanging ideas, comparing goals, supporting and strengthening each other, probably arranging something bigger together. Maybe you have done something of the sort already. For example, in

the last few years The National Council of Women in Finland has arranged a cruise from Helsinki to Tallinn by hiring a whole boat for all willing members and providing a top class programme for a weekend. Last year 1000 women took part and the feedback was very positive. Meeting committed members from other organizations empowers everybody for sure! We speak about the importance of networking. What could be the first step in networking in your country? No doubt this is also a way of making our Society more visible in our countries and towns.

Now that it is minus 27 degrees C it feels nice to think about California and San Diego in July. Have you made your travel plans already? Hope to see as many of you as possible there. Our Europe regional breakfast takes place at 06.15 - 08.15 a.m. in a room called Manchester. Did you know that each region is collecting some items for charity to be delivered in California area? We Europeans have promised to bring children's socks – preferably pretty and colourful.

Marja-Leena Leskinen

European Forum

Greetings from the European Forum Committee.

Please, tell me what is the European Forum?

Have you ever heard this question? Even though the first Forum meeting took place in 1999 in Breukelen, many of our members are not familiar with this Forum and its tasks.

Do we really need a Forum?

This query is certainly something to take seriously. My answer would be: Yes, indeed we need a Forum. This is the place where we have the possibility to serve the interests of members concerning their different professional issues. This is also the place where we can learn from each other and use our skills as educators.

One of the goals of the European Forum for this biennium is: *“to recognise ongoing research by members by establishing contacts and exchanges between members' schools/work places”*

At the Forum planning meeting in Malmo last November the committee members discussed this goal and how to fulfill it. Every State representative is responsible for reporting and for trying to increase the contacts between our member countries.

Preparations for the Forum meeting in San Diego this summer was an important issue on our agenda. The theme of the meeting will be *“Democracy at schools, theory or practice?”* Another issue was to work out guidelines for the proposed *“European Achievement Award”*. This proposal is to be sent to the State Presidents for their consideration. The proposal will then be discussed in San Diego where the members will come to a decision.

Now it is time for every State to recommend a Forum representative for the next biennium. The State Presidents have received recommendation forms as well as endorsement forms. I would appreciate receiving the completed forms by 1st March 2006 latest. The chairman will be elected from within the committee.

Welcome to the European Forum meeting in San Diego!

Birgit Svensson, Chairman European Forum Committee

Report from the International Nominations Committee

Gudrun Nylander, Sweden, and Dorothy Haley, Great Britain, your representatives on the Nominations Committee, have just returned from the States after a very exciting meeting.

We hope you are delighted with the results of the Committee's decisions.

We have permission to tell you that Barbara Day has been nominated to be our truly International President – we all know her well, as she has been interested and involved with Europe since she came to Canterbury in 1995. Congratulations from Europe.

After great deliberations, Trijny Schmitz de Moulin, has been recommended to be our European Director. Trijny has served not only in the Netherlands and in Europe, but among others, she has contributed to two very especially important Ad hoc committees for major international events within Delta Kappa Gamma – We are delighted to be able to congratulate her.

Mary Wardrop has also been chosen from the recommendations received, to fill the second European position on the Nominations Committee when Dorothy's term of office ends in 2006. Once again, her knowledge of personalities over the years throughout the society, was a deciding factor in her selection.

We would like to thank you all for your attendance at our workshop in Turku, and the fact that you supported our region by submitting so many recommendations and endorsements. You excelled this year, and we were proud that so many people were recommended. **Keep it up!**

As soon as the name of the new "president elect" is officially published, it will be time for us to consider recommending people for all the International committees which are not elected, but are selected by the President herself. Consider now if you would like to serve on a Committee, and if you have special expertise for one committee, then emphasize this.

Do not be shy or modest – we want more Europeans on these committees – one on each committee if possible. Every state president bears the responsibility of insuring that these recommendations are sent to the incoming president as soon as possible, as she must start to plan immediately if she is to begin her biennium fully organized.

Remember our message in Turku – we want new, mature and vital Europeans to move into the International Field. Only by serving on one of the committees which runs the society, can we become truly international.

The International President selects committee members for the following committees and all members are eligible:

1. Communications Committee
2. Constitution Committee
3. Educator's Award Committee
4. Expansion Committee
5. Golden Gift Fund Committee
6. Leadership development Committee
7. Membership Committee
8. Personnel Committee
9. Personal Growth and Services Committee
10. Professional Affairs Committee
11. Program Committee
12. Research Committee
13. Scholarships Committee
14. Travel and Study Committee
15. World Fellowships Committee

GERMANY

An invitation from Delta Kappa Gamma members in Germany:

BAROQUE CLOISTER ST. TRUDPERT,

Black Forest, Muenstertal, 25 km south of Freiburg, Germany

- During the 7th century the martyr Trudpert founded a hermitage in the midst of peaceful valleys and hills
- During the 9th century Benedictines from St. Gallen built the St. Trudpert Abbey
- 1806 the abbey became secularised
- 1919 the nuns of the Holy Joseph moved there
- **2006 the Germany State Meeting** will be held at this lovely place

On **Thursday, May 25** we want to take attractive walks and excursions.

Cars and Drivers are waiting to take people around.

On **Friday, May 26** we are planning an excursion by train to Freiburg: historical guided tour, lunch at the Dattler on the Schlossberg in Freiburg, time for individual sightseeing.

At 7 p.m. we will have dinner at a historical place close to St. Trudpert.

On **Saturday, May 27** will be the official state meeting

with our guest from International Headquarters, Marja-Leena Leskinen from Finland and our keynote speaker on an interesting pedagogical topic.

At night: Dinner and special program at St. Trudpert

Members and guests will stay in the convenient guest houses St. Joseph and St. Agnes and the meetings will be held in the modern conference rooms.

Accompanying persons will have the opportunity to do sightseeing tours to Colmar (Isenheimer Altar), Basel (Fondation Beyeler), Freiburg (Muenster Unserer Lieben Frau).

This might also be attractive for those who will have time to stay longer.

An invitation with detailed information and application form will be available from March 1.

Today I would like to cordially invite you to attend our state-meeting.

I do hope many of you will be our guests and will make this meeting special.

Ulrike Gottlob State President, Germany

Great Britain

A very Happy New Year to all European members. Thank you for the invitations to your State Conferences that we have received in Great Britain. I will do my best to attend those that don't clash with our own conference in Torquay on April 1st and 2nd. There are details given below and everyone who would like to come will be very welcome – your State President has an e-mail version of the booking form – please ask her for it!

It was good to be able to see the names 'slated' by the Nominations Committee on the Society's website just before Christmas. Particular congratulations go to Trijny Schmitz du Moulin Dijkema of the Netherlands for her nomination as next European Director. We are delighted that Trijny will be joining Regional Director Marja Leena at our Torquay conference.

I wonder what is happening on the education scene in other countries in Europe? In this country we face further upheaval with government plans for changes in the arrangements for admissions to schools, but there is considerable opposition from all sides in Parliament, so we are waiting to see what the outcome will be.

Are lots of you planning to go to San Diego in July? I hope that I will meet many of you there if I don't see you in Torquay or at your own conferences.

Kate York State President

GREAT BRITAIN STATE CONFERENCE 2006

BELGRAVE HOTEL, TORQUAY, S. DEVON

1ST - 3RD APRIL

Saturday 1st April: Informal evening social gathering.

Sunday 2nd April: Main conference day

Keynote speaker - Trisha Roberts

'The work of the Jubilee Debt Campaign'

(part of the "Make Poverty History" initiative)

Monday 3rd April: Morning visit to Buckfast Abbey

We look forward to seeing our European sisters in Torquay. We have a very full and stimulating programme. Also this is an opportunity to see a most lovely part of our country. For delegates travelling to Great Britain via London there is easy direct access to Torquay by both rail and coach. Join us!

The Netherlands

Conference The Netherlands 30 years anniversary Delta Kappa Gamma Netherlands
20 May, Amersfoort.

We will all invite you to celebrate our 30 year Delta Kappa Gamma of the Netherlands anniversary 20 May 2006.

In Amersfoort , in the center of the country.

You can find friends, hear interesting speeches.

We invited Sandra Broderick from Louiseville(US) to speak:

“Infusing multicultural education into your curriculum.”

There will be an opportunity to visit the old Town of Amersfoort , with houses in the town wall.

You like to hear more?

Mail to Vivian Repko : vivianrepko@hotmail.com

Finland

The Europe Region congress successfully behind us we have returned to normal life.

The board has had four meetings, where we have discussed the goals of our society. One of the imminent goals is to wake up our sleeping Delta chapter. It is not an easy task, but we are sure we will get them back into our group. We have now about 110 members and hope to increase the number. The average age of our members is pretty high and to keep the society going we need young members.

In the autumn Epsilon celebrated its 20th anniversary and Zeta its 15th anniversary

Our annual seminar will be on 1 April in Helsinki and the theme is” The Ethical Challenges to Growth”. Kaija Teikari will speak about ethics from the point of view of the educator. Mirja Talib will speak about” Time, values and humanity”. Kirsti Relander’s presentation is about Finnish identity. In the evening we will see a new Finnish play, which deals with ethics in health care.

We will give a scholarship to a student who is aiming to become a teacher of immigrants. There is a great demand on teachers for immigrants, because we are getting more and more people from different countries. We raised the money for the scholarship by selling postcards made for Delta Kappa Gamma Finland.

We have our homepage, which is mostly in Finnish, because the target group is our own members and other Finns interested in our organisation. You are welcome to have a look at it:
www.deltakappagamma.org/finland

I would like to send you the view I have right now into our garden, which is covered in puffy snow in bright sunshine. We do not have snow like this very often here in southern Finland.

Tuula Penttilä State President

Sweden

Celebrate, celebrate, celebrate!

Delta Kappa Gamma is a wonderful network! And we should salute and celebrate all women doing a fantastic job in our chapters!

But we should also encourage them and ourselves to give recognition to our work by celebrating!

In Sweden we are good at organising serious programmes at our meetings, so good that we sometimes may forget that we also have other needs.

The handbook says the members should have professional, social and personal support. So let us also have programmes where we not just share our professionalism but also take our social and personal needs in account by having fun and by celebrating like the anniversaries of our chapters, the arrival of spring, the arrival of Christmas or other happy events! Many Swedish chapters come together to sing the Christmas carols and taste the typical Christmas dishes in December.

I recently visited three Swedish chapters. My chapter was celebrating its 22nd birthday and almost all chapter members turn up and this on a Saturday and under very hard weather conditions! Beta chapter has a tradition arranging a fine dinner – a Nobel dinner – together with a lecture on the Nobel prize laureates of the year, this time of course Harold Pinter was on the agenda. A worthy event where the members allow themselves to enjoy the written and the gastronomic culture!

Eta chapter celebrated the fact that they one more could use the premises where the chapter once started and we got a nice review of the history of the chapter.

There are lots of reasons to celebrate! Don't forget to enjoy and having fun!

Create your own chapter traditions!

Marianne Skardéus State President, Sweden



**Welcome to join the Swedish Executive Board meeting
6-7 May 2006
at the University of Borås in Borås (40 Km east of Landvetter airport)**

Our keynote speaker:

- 10 00** **Welcome to University of Borås. A university of the Professions**
Professor *Lena Nordholm*, acting Rector of University of Borås
- 10.30** **A success story of our time. About the picture of girls as being the winners of the educational system.**
Professor *Elisabet Öhrn*, Universities of Borås and Göteborg
- 11.30** **Break**
- 11.45** **Topic: Native Peoples of Alaska: History and Culture**
International Speaker *Jeanne Nelson Fiske*, Anchorage, Alaska
- 12.45** **From the Sparkle of the Past to the Brilliance of the Future**

For a complete programme, information about hotels, registration fee etc. contact marianne.skardeus@telia.com or look into our website www.deltakappagamma.se

Thank you to all our contributors. Good wishes for a healthy, peaceful and prosperous year in 2006. May we have many happy meetings together during this year. The deadline for contributions to the Summer edition of EuForia is 24th May.

Joan Carroll