Dear DPE Alpha Members,

As you know, membership numbers in professional organizations of all types is down. Delta Pi Epsilon is no exception, and leaders at the national level have been working on plans to address this problem.

After evaluating a number of options, DPE National is currently exploring an affiliation with the National Business Education Association (NBEA), the nation’s largest professional organization devoted exclusively to serving individuals and groups engaged in instruction, administration, research, and dissemination of information for and about business. NBEA describes itself as the leading association devoted to the recognition that business education competencies are essential for all individuals in today’s fast-changing society.

Through this affiliation, DPE would become a national association (as opposed to an honorary society) and would no longer be chapter based, although chapters could continue to operate at the local level at the discretion of the chapter. It is our current expectation that we will maintain the local Alpha Chapter.

Delta Pi Epsilon, which began here at New York University, has a long history of providing unique professional development opportunities for members of the business education community. Even though we are in a state of transition, both the national organization and the Alpha Executive Board are committed to continuing our focus on scholarship, leadership, and cooperation as we move into the 21st century.

We will keep you apprised of the progress as this transition continues to unfold. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Peter J. McAliney
Alpha Chapter President

Bridget N. O’Connor
Alpha Chapter Sponsor
The 2008 Delta Pi Epsilon National Conference was held in Chicago this past November 20-22. The conference theme, “The Professional Journey: Mapping the Future,” was brought to life through three days of keynote speakers, research reports, innovative instructional practices discussions, and presentations on current works in progress. The theme emphasized identifying future direction for our profession and DPE as a professional organization.

Topics ranged from E-Learning Quality Assurance to Strategies for Developing Online High School Business Courses and everything in-between.

Three of our Alpha Chapter representatives presented research works in progress:

- **Learning as becoming:** The transfer of learning from university to the individual and the organization-- Bridget O’Connor and Robert Cordova
- **The impact of an online homework system on student performance in introductory economics**--Lisa Ponti

The DPE National conference is held annually and is a fantastic way to build a network of distinguished professionals while developing your skills and knowledge within Business Education.

2009 DPE National Conference to be held in San Francisco from November 19-21. The call for papers deadline has been extended! More details can be found at www.dpe.org.

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**DPE Alpha Chapter Awards and Recognition**

### 2008 Best Published Book


**Candidate**

**2008 Best Article in a Peer Reviewed Journal**


**Candidate**

**2008 Best Conference Presentation First-Year Workplace Learning Experiences of New MBA Marketing Graduates, AERA**

**Candidate**

Amy T. Lui-Abel, PhD ’08 and Lynn Bacon Keane, PhD ’07 Win Outstanding Dissertation Awards

Two former Alpha Presidents, Lynn Bacon Keane and Amy T. Lui Abel, have received high accolades for their Steinhardt Business Education doctoral dissertations. Lynn Bacon Keane received the 2007 DPE Outstanding Dissertation Award at the recent National Business Education Association conference in Chicago. Lynn is teaching at the University of South Carolina and has delivered several presentations in the past year focusing on the use of technology in the classroom. Amy Lui Abel was given the 2008 Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award by the American Educational Research Association Special Interest Group, Workplace Learning at its annual conference in April, 2009. Amy is writing a chapter for the upcoming Sage *International Handbook of Workplace Learning*, which will focus on this research.
BUSINESS EDUCATION SPRING 09 PROGRAM

Six Business Education Scholars received Program Awards at the DPE/Business Education Graduation Gala on May 8, 2009. From left to right:

The Paul S. Lomax Award for the Outstanding Doctoral Graduate: Guy Adamo
The Karen Gillespie Award for Scholarship in the Advanced Certificate Program: Sultana Mustafa
The Business Education Alumni of the Year Award: Daniel Basil Kerr
The Herbert A Tonne Award for Scholarship: Stephen Bergan
The Peter L. Agnew Business Education Award for the Outstanding MA Graduate: Robert P. Cordova
The Business Education Service Award: Peter McAliney

2009 Graduates at the DPE/Business Education Graduation Gala May 8, 2009. Counterclockwise from left to right, starting with Professor Bronner: Jessie Shi, Marissa Daly (who spoke on behalf of all graduates), Aileen Alonso, Sultana Mustafa, Professor O’Connor, Nelson Zhao, Nana Ansah, Guy Adamo, Steve Bergan, and Rob Cordova

Business Education Alumni of the Year Awardee Daniel Kerr, his wife, Susan, and others listen to speakers at the 2009 Spring Awards program
Letter from your Sponsor

Happy Spring! As you’ll see throughout this newsletter, Alpha Chapter and your colleagues in Business Education have been busy and productive. Read about what we’ve been doing—and then catch up on what’s ahead as we wind down the Spring 2009 semester.

For example, NYU hosted the Spring 2009 Inter-university Colloquium, featuring NYU Biology Professor Neuroscientist Efrain Azmitia on April 6. “Learning and the Aging Brain” was his topic. At our Spring 09 graduation gala, we will be toasting our MA graduates and doctoral graduate. What an impressive group! Congratulations to all. And my thanks to your Alpha executive board, particularly President Peter McAliney and Chunhui Ma for all their efforts in planning and running these events and others we’ve held this year.

DPE National is taking steps to become an affiliate of the National Business Education Association. Should this affiliation occur, DPE will become a national organization (not honorary society) but we will have the option of continuing our chapter. Alpha President Peter McAliney has discussed this issue in this newsletter.

You can be exceptionally proud that two recent Business Education PhD Graduates (who are both past-presidents of Alpha Chapter!) have won major research awards from DPE and AERA for their doctoral dissertation work... Please read about these graduates in this newsletter and congratulate them on their accomplishments!

Please continue to review the wide range of services National DPE offers. AND I ask that each of you continue to be active members of the society and of the program. Volunteer at both our local chapter and national levels. And consider planning your own research projects.

Of course, it’s only fitting that I end this note with a special thank-you to our newsletter editors Melissa Bonaparte (master’s candidate) and Julie Cross (MA 2008), who are serving Alpha in this role. Please let them know that we all appreciate their efforts in ensuring that all Alphans stay connected. It’s communications that makes us (and keeps us) the Alpha chapter!

Professor Bridget O’Connor

Making New Connection in an Aging Brain

On April 6, Professor Efrain C. Azmitia presented a talk entitled "Making New Connections in an Aging Brain" as part of the inter-university colloquium of New York University, Teachers College at Columbia, and Fordham University. In this revealing and somewhat provocative talk, Dr. Azmitia discussed how the brain changes over time – it experiences reduced plasticity (ability to absorb new information) and slows in its ability to absorb new information - and what the implications are for adult learning. From a corporate educational perspective, he promoted: hiring young and retraining; teaching instrumentation and data acquisition; providing responsible mental health programs in the workplace (e.g., stress reduction, vacations, exercising); promoting from within; and, teaching data analysis, organizational skills, and prioritizing. He also made a case for “good brain health,” which can be promoted through exposure to sunlight, reduced stress, a plant based diet, and exercising the brain and body. He also cited findings on how to make a healthy memory work better. These included using multiple sensory systems when learning, paying close attention, linking new information to information you already know, and giving yourself extra time to recall.
On Saturday, April 25th, members of DPE Alpha Chapter participated in the 15th Annual “Hands On New York Day,” a community service event that provides for cleaner, greener parks, gardens, playgrounds, community centers, and schools in New York City.” Dispatched to the Linden-Bushwick “Secret Garden” in Brooklyn, Alpha members spent the day cleaning, weeding, and tidying a park that was once nothing more than a littered, empty lot. Additionally, Alpha chapter raised money for New York Cares.

An important aspect of DPE is the value of service. Alpha Chapter conducts an annual service project in the spirit of giving back to the community. In past years we have conducted forums and provided coaching to immigrant professionals seeking work in the United States. Special thanks to Alpha members Aileen Alonzo and Jennifer Viera for coordinating this event.