Alumna leaves Northwest with bequest for scholarships, technology enhancements

Northwest Missouri State University has received a $186,400 bequest from the late Mary Margaret Gantt Perry that will have lasting impact on students studying in a variety of subject areas. These funds will be designated to three $25,000 endowed scholarships that will be awarded to students studying business, math, biology, chemistry, or speech/theatre.

Originally from Maryville, Perry, 85, of San Leandro, CA, died January 15, 2011. She received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Economics/Commerce with a minor in Mathematics and Spanish from Northwest in 1946 and later completed a Master's in Education, also from Northwest, in 1972.

Perry, a retired educator, was a member of the Alpha Sigma Alpha, while a student at Northwest, and also served as President of the Beta Chapter of Pi Omega Pi. Perry and her husband, Peter, had no children. Dr. Doug Dunham, Northwest Provost, praises the gift by saying, "These scholarships will help ease the financial burden of students after they have successfully completed their first year, thereby having a positive effect on retention and completion."
Student Teachers

Spring 2012
Jessica James- Northwest Technical School
Maryville, MO
Lisa Perkins- North Nodaway High School
Hopkins, MO

Fall 2012
Emily Frueh- North Andrew High School
Rosendale, MO
Scott Singleton- Meadville High School
Meadville, MO
Rachel Willis- Bueker Middle School
Marshall, MO

Beta Chapter Officers

President- Emily Hoffman
Vice President- Kelly Critten
Secretary/Treas.- Victoria Beckman
Reporter- Deyton Thomson
Sponsor- Dr. Nancy Zeliff

Beta Chapter Members

Mike Hollingsworth
Jessica James
Alycia Landon
Lisa Perkins
Courtney Ray
Elizabeth Sheffer
Scott Singleton
Rachel Willis

Spring 2012 Initiation

Deyton Thomson was the initiate in the Spring semester of 2012. Deyton is a Business Education Major from Tarkio, MO and pictured in the back row, at left. Other members in back row are: Emily Hoffman, Scott Singleton, and Jessica James. Members in the front row are: Rachel Willis, Emily Frueh, and Kelly Critten.

Fall 2012 Initiation

Three new members joined Beta Chapter. New members are: Alycia Landon, a Middle School Math/Business Education Major from Fairborn, OH; Courtney Ray, a Middle School Math/ Business Education Major from Gallatin, MO; and Elizabeth Sheffer from Kansas City who is majoring in Secondary Business Education with a minor in Marketing Education.

Chapter Members at the Fall 2012 Initiation Meeting.
Front row left to right- Emily Frueh, Elizabeth Sheffer, Courtney Ray; Back row left to right- Alycia Landon, Emily Hoffman, Deyton Thomson, Kelly Critten
Emily Frueh received the NW-MBEA Business Education Scholarship in March 2012. The scholarship is awarded by the Northwest District of the Missouri Business Education Association. The $300 scholarship is awarded during the student's student teaching semester and is given to a business education major who graduated from a high school in the Northwest District.

Northwest MBEA Scholarship

The C & C Taylor/Pi Omega Pi Scholarship awarded nearly $8,500 this past year to Pi Omega Pi senior and graduate members. Almni may be able to receive the Taylor Graduate Tuition Scholarship. If you are interested, contact Dr. Zeliff. Scholarship recipients for the 2012 year included: Undergraduates - Victoria Beckman, Kelly Critten, Emily Frueh, Emily Hoffman, Jessica James, Lisa Perkins, Scott Singleton, Dayton Thomson, Rachel Willis; Graduate - William Michael Hollingsworth. Celeste Taylor was a former Pi Omega Pi member.

Taylor Scholarships

Stephanie Burge received the NBEA Award of Merit, Jessica James received the award for Outstanding Senior Member, Kelly Critten received the Outstanding Underclassmen Member Award, and Emily Frueh received the Outstanding Senior Member Award.

Chapter awards recognize leadership and service to the Chapter and the business education program at Northwest. Stephanie Burge received the NBEA Award of Merit, Jessica James received the award for Outstanding Senior Member, Kelly Critten received the Outstanding Underclassmen Member Award, and Emily Frueh received the Outstanding Senior Member Award.

Pictured from left to right are: Jessica James, Emily Frueh, and Kelly Critten (Stephanie Burge not pictured).

Graduate Business Education Scholarship

The Graduate Business Education Scholarship is awarded to a middle or secondary business education teacher who is pursuing a master’s in Teaching: Instructional Technology at Northwest Missouri State University. The award is for $500 for a summer of study. The scholarship is given by Marilyn Hamm and the late Carolyn Elswick. Marilyn Hamm earned her BS in Accounting in 1996 and her M.S. Ed in Vocational Business Education in 2000. Hamm was a business education teacher and currently is an adjunct instructor and self-employed accountant. Carolyn Elswick was a Northwest Education graduate in 1971. She had been employed as a News Editor at the Maryville Daily Forum and a news contributor for The Nodaway News Leader.

The application deadline is February 15 each year. Preference is given to Missouri business educators. The scholarship application can be obtained from and must be returned to:

Dr. Nancy Zeliff, Professor
CS/IS Department
Northwest Missouri State University
800 University Drive
Maryville, MO 64468

Chapter Awards
Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief agency that has been fulfilling its commitment to end hunger for more than 12 years. Since 1998, the organization has coordinated the distribution of food and other lifesaving aid to children and families in countries all over the world. The National Council of Pi Omega Pi has set a national goal of raising $2500, which would distribute 10,000 meals. At the Biennial Convention in 2013 held in Atlanta, chapter members will assemble meal packets of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a flavoring mix that includes 21 essential vitamins. These meals can be made for a mere 25 cents and have a shelf-life of five years. Packets will be distributed to schools and orphanages located in a third-world country.

The national Pi Omega Pi organization is launching this project, because addressing hunger is a key strategy to increasing education rates and providing a way out of poverty in developing countries. Providing meals in schools increases enrollment. As education levels rise, birth rates and disease rates fall, and communities begin to sustain themselves. The food resources needed to eradicate life-threatening malnutrition are sustainable and hunger experts agree that school feeding programs are the most effective tool for increasing access to education and improving the nutritional status of children. For additional information see: http://www.stophungernow.org

In February 2012, Pi Omega Pi members helped with two FBLA District Conferences. Web-based competitive events were judged for the District 4 FBLA contest in the Kansas City area. Several Beta Chapter members served as competitive event judges for the District I Conference held on the Northwest Campus.

Pi Omega Pi officer and member Victoria Beckman (center, green), is the Libero for the Northwest Missouri State Women's Volleyball team. Tori was 8th in the nation for digs and set many Northwest records in her three seasons at Northwest!