

ΦΑΘ NEWS

JANUARY 2024



A MESSAGE FROM OUR ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

All the members of Phi Alpha Theta's executive committee, national council, advisory board, and headquarters office staff send you hearty greetings and best wishes for a safe, productive, and joyful New Year! It is my privilege to announce our plans for the next Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention to take place in early

January 2025. Our Society has held almost 50 of these scholarly gatherings since PAT's foundation in the 1920s, so this next Convention will be the continuation of a long and storied tradition. These conferences offer our members a wonderful opportunity to come together in warm fellowship to share our historical research with faculty and (mostly) students from colleges and universities all over the country. Convention participants will present papers they have written in history classes on a national stage while enjoying great meals, enlightening keynote addresses, and jovial camaraderie with like-minded students of the past. We hope you'll consider attending our Biennial Convention next year to help make 2025's gathering of Phi Alpha Thetans the best ever!

And now for the moment you've all been waiting for—I am pleased to announce that our next Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention will take place in the Washington DC area between 2-5 January 2025 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel! Following an exhaustive search to find the perfect location and venue for our Convention, the leadership of Phi Alpha Theta has contracted with the Renaissance Arlington to offer all our Biennial conventioners very reasonable guest room rates, appetizing and diverse meal packages, and plentiful meeting spaces for our paper panel sessions. Let me share with you our conference arrangements and walk you around the hotel so you can see why PAT's leadership is so excited about our upcoming Biennial Convention!

Located on the Virginia side of the Potomac River just across from Washington DC, The Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel is very close to Reagan-National Airport (DCA) and the DC Metro light-rail system, and offers FREE shuttle service to both locations. If coming to the Convention by air, we recommend flying into DCA and then catching the shuttle to the hotel for a quick and hassle-free arrival. If you live close enough to Washington to drive, leave your car home (parking is expensive) and take AmTrak to Washington or Alexandria, then Metro to the Crystal City stop and catch the free shuttle from there to the hotel. Because January 1st falls on a Wednesday in 2025, the Convention must fit primarily into three days instead of the usual four, so most attendees should plan to arrive as soon as possible on Thursday 2 January, and will leave on Sunday 5 January once the Convention has concluded.

Upon first arrival in the lobby of the Renaissance Arlington, the marble floors and walls, plush conversation nooks, and modern decorative art will take your breath away! The lobby also features an

“illy” gourmet coffee shop with delectable bites to consume on-site or take-away. Arriving on the second floor via the sweeping staircase or by elevator brings you to an enormous conference center with a huge ballroom/dining room, medium-sized spaces for board and chapter delegate meetings, and some 15 “breakout” rooms where our paper panel sessions will be scheduled in various time blocks during the course of the Convention. Having the “business end” of the convention occur on a single floor will minimize the confusion we’ve experienced in the past when meeting spaces were scattered across multiple floors or in distant parts of the hotel. The second floor also features a built-in reception desk (with rear storage and work rooms) where conventioners can sign-in, pick up their badges, and order Phi Alpha Theta “swag” (t-shirts and hats) from our “Shopify” store.

The guest rooms are modern, quiet (no airport noise!), and comfortable with plenty of two-bed accommodations for students who wish to share rooms and cut costs. PAT HQ will set up a “room-share” Facebook group prior to the convention for students to find possible roommates. Most rooms on the Potomac side of the building offer a stunning view of the US Capitol dome in the distance—hence the name of the hotel—and demonstrating just how close the sights of Washington DC really are! The hotel has an indoor pool, an exercise room, 14 floors, and an observation deck (with more “illy’s” gourmet coffee) at the top with impressive views of Reagan-National Airport, passing Metro trains, and yes, the Capitol dome in Washington once more.

The Renaissance (as an early modern Europeanist I love the name!) Arlington Capital View Hotel is located in the midst of a vibrant Arlington commercial district with many shopping, dining, and coffeehouse options within walking distance. A free shuttle ride and a \$5-6 Metro fare will take you into the heart of our nation’s capital city where you can visit the National Mall & Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the US Capitol, the various Smithsonian Museums (all free!), the African-American Museum, the Native-American Museum, the Holocaust Museum, the Vietnam War Memorial and many, many more attractions you may have only read about or seen on TV or the Internet. Some PAT’ers may want to book another day at the Renaissance Arlington (at inexpensive conference rates) so they can spend more time in Washington visiting the sights. We don’t expect snow (most DC snow comes in late January or early February) but do dress warmly as temperatures will likely be in the 40s (daytime) and mid-high 30s (evenings). We sincerely hope you’ll make plans to join us at the 2025 Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention and help to keep the great traditional gatherings of our Society alive and well!

Clay Drees
Advisory Board Chair

ΦΑΘ goes to
Washington

Mark your calendars and prepare to join us at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel for the Biennial Convention on January 2-5, 2025!



Regional Conferences

Interested in hosting a Regional Conference?
Visit: PhiAlphaTheta.org/guidelines-for-hosting

Feb. 22 - Dakota - University of South Dakota

Feb. 24 - Oklahoma - University of Central Oklahoma

Mar. 2 - Hawai'i - Brigham Young University-Hawai'i

Mar. 16 - California South - University of La Verne

Mar. 23 - Texas West/Central - Angelo State University

Mar. 23 - Tennessee - Tusculum University

Apr. 5 - Mountain West - Utah State University

Apr. 6 - Florida - University of Florida

Apr. 6 - Mid-Atlantic - Bowie State University

Apr. 11-13 - Pacific Northwest - Eastern Washington University

Apr. 13 - Arkansas - Ouachita Baptist University

Apr. 13 - Pennsylvania East - Rowan University

Apr. 13 - Texas East - Stephen F. Austin State University

Apr. 13 - Virginia - Virginia Military Institute

Apr. 20 - Colorado - University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Apr. 20 - New York/New Jersey - Dominican University

Apr. 26 - California North - Cal State East Bay

Due March 1, 2024

Doctoral Student Scholarship

Graduate Student Scholarship

Undergraduate Student
Scholarship

Gordon Morris Scholarship in
Western History

Due July 1, 2024

Book Awards

Best Chapter Awards

Paper Prize Awards

Nash History Journal

Faculty Advisor Research Grant

Prizes & Awards

Due September 16, 2024

Charles Redd Center Book Award

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prizes-and-awards/](https://PhiAlphaTheta.org/prizes-and-awards/)

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In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Clayton Lehmann, a long-time PAT Faculty Advisor at the University of South Dakota, a respected professor, and a beloved family member.

Dr. Lehmann was very involved at his university, he served on several academic committees, and created the interdisciplinary study abroad program, "The Isles of Greece!". He and his wife, Ángela Helmer, enjoyed teaching at USD together, traveling, and they even co-authored a book, *Francisco López de Gómara's General History of the Indies*.

Besides his love of history, Dr. Lehmann was passionate about music, especially playing his trumpet. He was also a self-taught carpenter, scuba diver, and sailor.

Dr. Lehmann inspired thousands during his 35 years as a professor and he touched many lives beyond the classroom.

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