



# CHAPTER NEWS

*Chi Epsilon Chapter, Chi Sigma Iota International  
Georgia State University*

Spring 2009 Edition

Volume 7, Issue 1

**Would you like to write for  
CSI Chapter News?**

Email: Margaret Guernsey  
margaretguernsey@gmail.com

## **Chapter News Staff**

### **Editor:**

Margaret Guernsey

### **Technical Editor:**

Philip Gnilka

### **Contributors:**

Misti Storie

Stephanie Eberts

Natalie Grubbs

June Hyun

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

**By: Philip Gnilka**

Hi Everyone!

I hope spring semester is going well for all of you. It is really an honor for me to serve as the president of such an outstanding and thriving chapter of Chi Sigma Iota (CSI).

Chi Epsilon is already off to a great start this semester, and I want to quickly touch on several upcoming events and key individuals that are making everything possible. Our organization would not be possible without hard working officers and members, so I want to take time to point out each person who is working to make our organization successful!

June Hyun has been working diligently this year in keeping our Research Interest Network Project (see report for more info) in full swing. This year we had over 50 students sign up doubling previous year's number. If you currently are a professor and doctoral student conducting a research study and are looking for research assistants, please contact June!

Stephanie Eberts has been keeping us all on track as treasurer of our organization (see budget report). Not only does she keep track of all the books and bank accounts, she has also

## WORKING WITH EMO AND GOTH ADOLESCENTS



**LUNCH & LEARN SERIES**

**JOIN  
AMANDA WOLFE  
COUNSELOR EDUCATION &  
PRACTICE PHD STUDENT**

**IN A PRESENTATION ABOUT  
HOW TO WORK WITH THIS  
UNIQUE POPULATION**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>  
NOON – 1PM  
COE ROOM 915**



been in charge of the service committee.

Next I want to introduce Maggie Eberz (yes, I do get Eberts and Eberz confused). Maggie was of great help last semester making the Fall Welcome run smoothly. Maggie also is heading up our fundraising this semester, so be on the lookout for a Silent Auction soon. Maggie is also President-Elect, so you will be seeing more of her next year! If anyone sees Maggie in the hallway, give her a big smile!

Then there is Amanda Wolfe who serves as secretary. Amanda is quite simply the most organized person I have run into so far during my doctoral program. She keeps us all on schedule, helps get things done, runs our chapter elections and awards, and is always lending a helpful hand to everyone. A big THANK-YOU is in order!

Margaret Guernsey is our newsletter editor, and she is amazing. If anyone has tried to put together a newsletter recently, you know it takes considerable time and a great eye towards detail. Margaret luckily was able to not only make time in her busy schedule but has that 'eye' that is a rare find.

Natalie Grubbs is our membership chair this year (by the way, see the announcement about joining in this

newsletter). Even though Natalie has a full load of courses and works as a school counselor, she fills one of the most important positions (and busiest in the spring) in our organization. Without her, we would not have such a vibrant and large membership. It is because of our large membership, that we are able to put on such programs as the Fall Welcome and Career Night.

Lastly, I want to thank Dr. Catharina Chang who serves as one of our faculty advisors. Dr. Chang offers countless hours of her time to helping keep our chapter working smoothly. We feel particularly proud of her being elected CSI National President next year! I know that her leadership and genuine support for our chapter will be felt across the country next year under her guidance.

As you can see, our organization has many busy and dedicated individuals that make everything we do possible. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please do not hesitate to contact any of us!

I wish everyone the best and hope that you have a wonderful and productive spring semester!

Please feel free to contact me at anytime with questions, comments, or to grab a cup of coffee ([pgnilka1@student.gsu.edu](mailto:pgnilka1@student.gsu.edu)).



## Graduate Research Assistant: More Than a Day Job

**By: Misti Storie**

My watch says 12:16 a.m., only 7 minutes after I last checked it. It is hard not to count the minutes when it is 19 degrees and you have been standing outside a Midtown bar for the past two hours, handing out flyers to every passer-by and asking if they would be willing to participate in a study with GSU. Needless to say, this task is not exactly what I imagined I would be doing when I accepted the Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) position, but to shrug it off as simply grunt work would be overlooking the value of the opportunity, much like all those who have turned down my offer of \$20 for their participation in the study.

The skills, experience, and mentoring hours gained through my GRA has, and continues to be, invaluable to my education and future career. Because our team consists of six members, I am intimately involved with every aspect of the research project, including screening of potential participants, conducting individual interviews, protocol development, data analysis, recruitment, transcription, you name it. The skills and exposure I am gaining now will provide me with a foundation from which to design and conduct my own sound, scientific research in the future – a benefit that

## INITIATION & AWARDS CEREMONY SPEAKER



**WE ARE EXCITED TO  
ANNOUNCE THAT  
DONNA HENDERSON, PH.D.  
WILL BE THE KEYNOTE  
SPEAKER FOR THE CHAPTER  
INITIATION & AWARDS  
CEREMONY THIS YEAR. DR.  
HENDERSON IS A PROFESSOR  
OF COUNSELING AT WAKE  
FOREST UNIVERSITY AND  
CURRENT CSI PRESIDENT.**

**WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US  
ON TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH!**



is priceless for prospective doctoral students. In addition, by participating in research, you are directly contributing to the body of knowledge that is shared with and referenced by counselors around the world. No other experience allows students to not only acquire knowledge about the counseling profession but also to craft that knowledge. Call me a nerd, but I think that is pretty significant.

With that said, research is not for everyone. Taking on a research project in addition to a normal course load is, at best, rewarding and, at worst, overwhelming. To assist those considering a research position, below are five tips I wish I had known prior to pursuing a position:

- 1.) **Either really love research or really love the topic area.** Something has to keep you motivated when you are standing outside in January to recruit participants for a research study. I say, either love what you are doing, or love yourself enough to go home!
- 2.) **Visit professors with whom you wish to work in person.** Emailing your resume to a professor is no replacement for showing up in person and directly articulating what you want out of the research experience. And, yes, the old saying is true: “The early bird *does* get the worm.”

- 3.) **Be prepared to be busy.** No other time in my life has been as busy or as demanding as now. Juggling all of the responsibilities that accompany a research position requires massive amounts of organization, time management, and efficiency to accomplish all that is expected.
- 4.) **Pay attention in your ethics course.** Of course, everyone pays attention in ethics, but seriously, pay particular attention to the chapters involving research participants and publications. Looking up this information during a potential ethical dilemma is unsettling.
- 5.) **Speak to other students about their experiences.** No other College of Education resource is as valuable as the students who have already been down the road at which you are staring. Seek them out and sit them down.

### [Membership report](#)

**By: Natalie Grubbs**

The Chi Epsilon chapter of CSI at Georgia State boasts 130 active members making us one of the largest and active student organizations at Georgia State University.



**WE WANT YOU!**



**JOIN THE LARGEST  
COUNSELING HONOR SOCIETY  
IN THE COUNTRY AND A  
VIBRANT STUDENT  
ORGANIZATION!!!**

**PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS  
MUST HAVE AT LEAST NINE  
CREDIT HOURS AND A  
3.5 GPA**

**FIRST YEAR MEMBERSHIP  
DUES ARE \$55 (\$25  
ANNUALLY AFTER 1ST YEAR)**

**CONTACT NATALIE GRUBBS  
AT  
NKANE1@STUDENT.GSU.EDU**

The spring deadline for joining will be MARCH 10th. We will be especially encouraging renewals which can be done at anytime online at [www.csi-net.org](http://www.csi-net.org) by paying your \$25 annual dues. If you are not a member would like to join a vibrant organization, prospective members must have at least 9 credit hours and a 3.5 GPA. Membership dues for joining are \$55. \$35 goes to CSI national and can be paid online, while the remaining \$20 goes to the chapter and can be paid by check made out to CSI and put in my mailbox in the CPS office.

Benefits of joining include professionalism, recognition, the *Exemplar* publication, leadership development, awards, professional development and more! Our chapter also sponsors many important events in the department including the Fall Welcome, Career & Internship Fair, Initiation Speakers, discounted hotel rooms at ACA conventions, and leadership opportunities to put on your resume.

Visit [www.csi-net.org](http://www.csi-net.org) for further information about being part of this unique, esteemed organization!

**Did you know...**

**Our chapter has initiated 748 members since being founded by Dr. White in 1992.**



Budget report

By: Stephanie Eberts

Chi Sigma Iota - Chi Epsilon  
2008-2009 Working Budget

INCOME:

New Membership Dues	\$ 1,000
Annual Chapter Rebate	980
ACA Hotel Room Fee	160
CSI Speaker Matching Funds	288
Student Activity Fee	1,382
Fundraisers	<u>600</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 4,410

EXPENSES:

Fall Welcome	\$ 300
Lunch & Learns	100
Career Night	1,000
Newsletter Printing	200
ACA Hotel Room Sponsorship	800
Initiation Ceremony	1,000
Chapter Awards	450
Fundraising Expense	22
CSI Fellows	200
Other (summer retreat, etc.)	<u>50</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,122

PROFIT/LOSS	<u>\$ 288</u>
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Research Interest Network Report

By: June Hyun

This marks the third year we have created a Research Interest Network here in the department, and this year

**5TH ANNUAL  
CAREER &  
INTERNSHIP FAIR**



**LOOKING FOR A POSSIBLE  
INTERNSHIP SITE NEXT YEAR?  
OVER 20 SITES ARE SENDING  
REPRESENTATIVES! EVEN IF  
YOU ARE NOT LOOKING FOR A  
SITE, FEEL FREE TO JOIN US  
FOR REFRESHMENTS AND FUN**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24  
6 – 8 PM  
10TH FLOOR  
DEAN’S VIP ROOM**

represented the biggest response yet with over 50 students signing up! Any faculty, PhD students, or other students that are looking for



assistance on their research, please contact June at [hurray77@gmail.com](mailto:hurray77@gmail.com) who will get you in contact with potential matches.

### Upcoming Events

Chapter Membership Drive  
February 23 – 27

Career & Internship Fair  
Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 8 PM  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Dean's VIP Room

2009 ACA Convention, Charlotte, NC  
CSI Showcase of Chapters  
Friday, March 20, 4 – 5 PM  
Contact Philip Gnilka for more information  
([pgnilka1@student.gsu.edu](mailto:pgnilka1@student.gsu.edu))

Silent Auction to Benefit the Chapter  
TBA  
Contact Maggie Eberz for more information  
([maggie.eberz@gmail.com](mailto:maggie.eberz@gmail.com))

Chapter Election of Officers  
March 16 – 27  
Contact Amanda Wolfe for more information  
([awolfe2@student.gsu.edu](mailto:awolfe2@student.gsu.edu))

Working with Emo & Goth  
Adolescents  
Speaker: Amanda Wolfe  
Wednesday, March 25, Noon – 1PM  
COE Room 915

Initiation & Awards Ceremony  
Speaker: Donna Henderson, Ph.D.

Tuesday, April 14, Noon – 2PM  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Dean's VIP Room

## DELUXE HONOR CORDS AVAILABLE!



**DISTINGUISH YOURSELF AT  
GRADUATION BY PROUDLY  
WEARING A BEAUTIFUL  
ROYAL BLUE AND WHITE  
HONOR CORD THAT  
SYMBOLIZES YOUR CSI  
MEMBERSHIP!**

**CONTACT  
STEPHANIE EBERTS AT  
[STEPHEBERTS@YAHOO.COM](mailto:STEPHEBERTS@YAHOO.COM)  
TO PURCHASE YOUR HONOR  
CORDS TODAY!!**

**PLEASE MAKE A \$20 CHECK  
PAYABLE TO CSI**