**Distinguished Chapter Member Award - Application**

Question

**Select the nominee for Distinguished Chapter Member Award from the list of eligible members below. A student may receive this award only once. Members holding office during the 2011 calendar year are ineligible for this award. Team leaders or committee chairpersons are eligible if the leadership position is by appointment, not election.**

Selection:

Niswonger, Jamey

**Nomination 1 (3 Questions Listed Below): To be completed by a Chapter Officer or Current Member.**

Question 2

**Describe the nominee’s most significant contributions to the chapter’s Honors in Action and/or chapter development activities and the impact of these contributions on the chapter, college, community and/or region.**
*(Response cannot exceed 400 words.)*

Answer:

Jamey Niswonger has been extremely active in the Beta Delta Phi chapter since his induction into Phi Theta Kappa. Although he is not an officer, he has attended every chapter meeting, he has been present at each event sponsored by the chapter, and he has personally taken on the responsibility of updating the chapter website. In addition to his involvement in activities, Jamey has been tremendously helpful to his fellow students. He never fails to offer kindness to students who are in need of guidance. Having held a position as a student worker for the BRTC Business Department, Jamey possesses an extensive knowledge of the school and has working relationships with many of the instructors and staff members of the campus. These attributes are of great help to Jamey in his contributions to PTK. Jamey has been indispensible in coordinating the advertising of chapter and officer meetings. He is exceptionally dependable in his participation in fundraising and recruitment events volunteering at each opportunity. In regards to attending Regional conventions, Jamey is our strongest fundraiser and shows more enthusiasm for enjoying the fellowship of the other chapters of our region than any other PTK member on our campus. Jamey is frequently expressing his eagerness to contribute and be involved in helping PTK to support our community through chapter events. In the short time he has been a member of PTK, Jamey Niswonger has become an asset to the Beta Delta Phi chapter.

Question 3

**Provide specific examples of how the nominee has positively influenced one or more chapter members.**
*(Response cannot exceed 400 words).*

Answer:

Jamey Niswonger’s support of the Beta Delta Phi chapter and Black River Technical College has proven to be of great value. He has been a constant presence at campus events and has become a recognizable figure to the many students who support and attend those events. His congeniality has led to an increase in student interest, and he has personally recruited more than a dozen new inductees for the spring semester. In fundraising, Jamey has led the chapter with more than $650 earned in candy bar sales alone. He also took the lead on a cookie sale which earned a total of $250 for the chapter. In addition to his support of chapter events, Jamey has also used his involvement in other student organizations as a means of encouraging cooperation between them. As a result of his influence, PTK is now partnering with the Phi Beta Lambda Business Honor Society and the English Club of Black River Technical College in both campus and community events. Jamey’s contributions to Phi Theta Kappa have improved the strength, reputation, and effectiveness of this chapter.

Jamey Niswonger sets a wonderful example of professionalism for his peers. He is an accomplished student, and he does not withhold his abilities from those in need. Whenever a fellow student is in need of scholastic guidance, Jamey is quick to offer any assistance he can provide. His attitude is always positive and respectful, and, as such, he is well respected by the entire campus. Jamey has developed strong relationships with many members of the faculty and staff through his excellent record of service. He is also recognized and respected by much of the student body. This is entirely due to Jamey’s quality of character and warm personality which he exhibits at all times. Jamey is an excellent mentor to his fellow students and an excellent human being.

Question 4

**Provide specific examples of how the nominee has distinguished himself/herself from others in the chapter.**
*(Response cannot exceed 400 words.)*

Answer:

Jamey Niswonger has made it a priority to maintain constant communication with the Beta Delta Phi advisor, Dr. Linda Moss, and with each of the officers of the chapter. Preceding each meeting, Jamey has offered his assistance in advertising the event to the other members. Throughout the development of each project, Jamey has made himself readily available for contact even when engaged in other obligations. Jamey has also been invaluable in disseminating information between members and officers. His relationship with the faculty and staff makes him an ideal courier of information between the chapter and campus officials, a responsibility which Jamey has gladly accepted. Particularly remarkable is the progress Jamey has made on the chapter website. The Beta Delta Phi chapter site is a well-constructed and highly functional site for which the chapter received an award in 2011. Unfortunately, due to other obligations the designer of the site has been unable to keep it updated. Jamey has taken personal responsibility of the maintenance of the chapter website and has even made improvements which have given the site an even more welcoming appearance. The website, which is accessed by students via a link directly from the BRTC website, is a digital billboard for the chapter; therefore, Jamey’s work on the site is yet another way he has improved the chapter’s image and credibility to the student body.

Question 5

**Describe the nominee’s most significant contributions to the chapter’s Honors in Action and/or chapter development activities and the impact of these contributions on the chapter, college, community and/or region.**
*(Response cannot exceed 400 words.)*

Answer:

Jamey Niswonger has been a very active member. Mr. Niswonger has attended every officer and chapter meeting, and activity, even though he is not an officer. Mr. Niswonger attended the Regional Mini-Honors Institute in Tahlequah, OK, shortly after becoming a member. Mr. Niswonger’s bubbling personality puts even the most timid individual at ease. He encourages others to become active. Mr. Niswonger assisted Beta Delta Phi with the college’s Researching Early Arkansas Cultural Heritage (REACH) celebration. The college asked the chapter to participate by running a concession stand for visitors from the community and beyond during the dedication ceremony. Two of the oldest structures in the state of Arkansas were restored through the efforts of the college’s Project REACH.

Question 6

**Provide specific examples of how the nominee has distinguished himself/herself from others in the chapter.**
*(Response cannot exceed 400 words.)*

Answer:

Jamey Niswonger has distinguished himself from other members of the chapter by participating in all events of the chapter. Mr. Niswonger holds the record for the chapter for fundraising. He has sold over 650 candy bars since late September 2011. In addition to candy bars, he baked and sold cookies to the students, faculty, and staff of the Black River Technical College campus. Mr. Niswonger is responsible for setting up the equipment for each chapter and officer meeting which is broadcast between the two campuses via compressed video network. Mr. Niswonger, shortly after becoming a member, took over maintenance the chapter’s website. Through his efforts he has made a great improvement to the website. He volunteers to post signs about activities and meetings Beta Delta Phi hosts. At Christmas time the chapter collected food for the food bank, toys for the community, and Children’s Shelter. Mr. Niswonger was instrumental inplacing collection boxes throughout campus, monitoring the boxes, collecting items, organizing the items and delivery. In addition to delivering food to the food bank, Mr. Niswonger went with the chapter officers to deliver toys to the emergency room at the hospital, ambulance service, and Children’s Shelter. Mr. Niswonger also assisted in packaging and delivering items to nursing home residents in both Pocahontas and Paragould.

Question 7

**Describe the nominee's academic abilities, commitment to scholarship, and how he or she has shared his or her acquired knowledge with others.**

**If you as chapter advisor have not taught the nominee, contact a faculty member who has and summarize below his/her response to this question. Please include the name of the faculty member and when he/she taught the nominee. (Example: John Smith is a history professor who taught this member in the Spring 2011 semester.)** *(Response cannot exceed 400 words.)*

Answer:

Dr. Linda Moss taught Jamey Niswonger in Physical Science and Laboratory during the Summer 2011 semester. It was a pleasure to have Jamey as a student in my Physical Science and Laboratory. Mr. Niswonger is a very honest individual with a strong work ethic. He always had his assignments completed in a timely manner. Mr. Niswonger’s commitment to scholarship is superb. He is a devoted learner who aspires to achieve a degree in bachelor’s degree in accounting. Mr. Niswoger is very courteous and respectful to his classmates and instructor. Mr. Niswonger shares his knowledge with others almost on a daily basis. He volunteers as a peer tutor for students in his area of expertise which is business. He will take time out of his busy schedule to assist another student who does not understand the course information. Mr. Niswonger was nominated by Black River Technical College faculty for Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.