



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

Candidate Questionnaire: Getting to Know You

*Please complete this questionnaire. Answers should be brief.
Responses will appear unedited on Phi Theta Kappa's Catalyst website.*

Candidate for (highlight ONE):

- International President
- Division I Vice President
- Division II Vice President
- Division III Vice President
- Division IV Vice President

Your Name: Catherine Derival

1. What is your college major?

My college major is Computer Systems & Business Analysis. I think it is a really neat major because it combines the best of both worlds – Business and Computer Science.

2. What is your ultimate career goal?

My ultimate career goal is to develop instructional design and educational technology software for organizations committed to making education more accessible. As of right now, I'm particularly interested in pursuing HR-centric roles like Employee Experience Designer, where I can work to enhance organizational behavior through integrating digital media and business psychology. A career that allows me to develop technology to help others in any way would be most meaningful to me.

3. What was your primary reason for accepting PTK membership?

My primary reason for accepting PTK membership was to explore the numerous scholarship opportunities. As an advocate for gift-aid, that was what reeled me in. It was only after I joined my chapter for Catalyst, that I realized there is so much more to being a Phi Theta Kappa member.

4. What's your go-to “fun fact” during an icebreaker?

My go-to fun fact during an icebreaker is that I develop video games in my free time.

5. If you could thank your past self for one decision, what would it be?

If I could thank my past self for one decision, it would be taking the initiative to e-mail my advisor for the first time and ask, “What is Phi Theta Kappa?”. A non-PTK related decision would most likely be me choosing to send that essay about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and winning my first scholarship!

6. What's a small, everyday thing that brings you joy?

A small, everyday thing that brings me joy is my giant, orange-shaped Squishmallow – who I've named Orangetholomew. Pronounced like Bartholomew but replace “bar” with “orange”. I use him as a pillow for traveling!

7. If you could instantly master a random skill (tightrope walking, speaking fluent whale), what would it be and why?

If I could instantly master a random skill, it would be knowing every programming language because then I would have an easier time completing my computer science homework.

8. What's your go-to hype song when you want to feel unstoppable?

My go-to hype song when I want to feel unstoppable is “Chase the Devil” by Max Romeo and the Upsetters. It fills me with hope and reminds me that even when it feels like the odds are stacked against you, you still have the power to rise, push through, and overcome anything in your way so long as you persevere.

9. What's your favorite way to recharge when you're running on empty?

My favorite way to recharge when I'm running on empty, is to put all my devices on Do Not Disturb, shut my blackout curtains, and take a fat nap. Then when I wake up, I get Wendy's 20 pc nuggets with barbecue sauce!

10. What's your favorite tradition – family, personal, or something you invented?

One of my favorite traditions is staying up till midnight to be the first one to sing “Happy Birthday” to my friends. If my grandma is up, I get her to sing along with me, and it makes for such a sweet surprise when my friends wake up.