



Board of Directors Advisor Representative Election

Name: Laura Dupree

College: Lone Star College – Tomball Campus

Chapter: Alpha Rho Mu

Advisor Start Date: 2000

How long have you served as a chapter advisor?

I've had the sincere privilege to serve as a ΦΘΚ Chapter Advisor since 2000. I served 21 years with the Alpha Rho Mu Chapter at Lone Star College (LSC)-North Harris and in 2019 started my journey with the Alpha Rho Mu Chapter at LSC-Tomball – serving both campuses two years concurrently. Since 2011, I've also served as Texas Region District IV Coordinator, mentoring advisors of 22 chapters and making memories with life-long mentors and friends.

What is your position at the college?

My position at Lone Star College-Tomball is Coordinator and Faculty of the Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) program and I serve as Chair of the System AAT Curriculum Team which includes eight campuses. Considering my love for students, I'm not only chapter advisor for Phi Theta Kappa, but also the Future Teachers Club.

What does student success mean to you, and where does Phi Theta Kappa fit into that story?

Student success means the ability to accomplish one's academic, personal, and professional goals through transformational experiences and with steadfast integrity while helping other people do the same. Everything about Phi Theta Kappa aligns with student success. In 1918, the visionaries of our Society could never have imagined what would be accomplished in the following years by the 4.3 million members. Here's to the next million!

Describe your most significant contribution to Phi Theta Kappa's mission.

When I was elected an International Officer, I knew ΦΘΚ community college scholarships were needed. I proposed having an annual commemorative pin made to give scholarship contributors at our annual conferences. Over the years, the Leaders of Promise (LOP) scholarship program expanded to include the Coca-Cola LOP, Coca-Cola Military LOP, and Global LOP for international students. Over 3000 students have benefitted from this initiative, and I'm extremely proud to have been a part since inception.

Why do you wish to serve as the Advisor Representative to Phi Theta Kappa's Board of Directors?

I've been a chapter and international officer, advisor, and district coordinator. I've been a scholarship winner, creator, and judge. Mentoring students, planning and implementing conferences, and presenting workshops have become a fulfilling part of my life. This has prepared me to serve as Advisor Representative to ΦΘΚ's Board of Directors. Humbly, I'd love to represent my peers by using my experiential knowledge while simultaneously learning new ways to provide additional opportunities through our life-changing Society.

Additionally, please provide a "PTK Bio" below that highlights your involvement with Phi Theta Kappa in list format (including key roles, dates, and recognition).

Involvement

- 1997 – Member, Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter at North Harris College (now LSC-North Harris)
- 1997-1998 – Concurrently Vice President of Fellowship and Reporter/Historian, Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter at North Harris College (now LSC-North Harris)
- 1997-present – Texas Honors Institute/Texas Honors (I may have missed a couple)
- 1997-present – Texas Leadership Conferences (I may have missed a couple)
- 1997-present – Texas Regional Conferences (except 2011 and 2023)
- 1997-present – International Convention/Catalyst (except 2022 and 2023)
- 1999-2001; 2006-2008; 2014-2017, 2025 – International Honors Institute/Honors Institute
- 1997-present – Charter Member and Chapter President, Alpha of North Harris Alumni Association
- 1997-present – Regularly present at Texas Regional Honors, Texas Leadership Conferences and Texas Regional Conventions as well as Texas Region District IV events
- 1998-1999 – Chapter President, Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter at North Harris College
- 1999-2000 – Elected International Southern Vice President, ΦΘΚ Honor Society
- 1999-2000 – Visionary for a commemorative pin to be given to people contributing to the Leaders of Promise Scholarship that was developed with help of my fellow

International Officer Team. This established ΦΘΚ's first funding for associate-degree studies. By 2011 it was known as Coca-Cola Leadership of Promise and now there's Coco-Cola Military LOP, and Global LOP earmarked for international students.

- 1999-present – Scholarship contributor for Leaders of Promise, Walter B. Cooper, Dr. Mary Hood STAR Scholarship, and Planned Giving.
- 1999 – Leadership Development Studies Course completed with Honors as a student, North Harris College
- 1999 – Leadership Development Studies Certificate of Leadership, North Harris College (the first to ever complete the program and only one other student ever completed the program)
- 1999-present – Keynote or Alumni Guest speaker at multiple chapter orientations and inductions throughout the International Division II and extensively in the Texas Region
- Dupree, A. L. (1999). *Children—Our Future*. Phi Theta Kappa International Convention, Anaheim, CA.
- Dec. 1999-Jan. 2000 – Traveled to Poland and shared the opportunity and benefits of chartering ΦΘΚ chapters at universities in multiple cities including the University of Warsaw, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, and University of Bialystok with the blessing of ΦΘΚ HQ Executive and Associate Directors. All of the Rectors wanted to bring ΦΘΚ there but translation of documents and the way the degrees were awarded were a challenge.
- 2000-2021 – Chapter Advisor, LSC-North Harris (two years concurrently when serving as advisor for LSC-Tomball while looking for and mentoring a new advisor to take my place)
- 2000 – Visionary and co-creator the Texas Pinnacle Award for Advisors Continued Excellence. This is the top award in the Texas Region and has been presented at Texas Regional Convention annually. It's sponsored by the Alpha of North Harris Alumni Association. Recipients get a certificate, lapel pin, brick in the Alpha Courtyard.
- 2000-present – Honors Seminar Leader, Texas Honors Institute/Texas Honors (except three or four years)
- 2000-present – Seminar Leader, Texas Leadership Conference (except one or two years)
- 2000, 2004, 2010, 2014-present – Served on the Texas Regional Convention Planning Committee/Leadership Team
- 2000, 2004, 2010, 2014-present – Served on the Texas Leadership Convention Planning Committee/Leadership Team
- 2000, 2004, 2010, 2014-present – Served on the Texas Regional Honors Institute Committee/Leadership Team
- 2000-present – Mentor of numerous members throughout their community college, university, and grad programs including admission and scholarship application processes and assistance/encouragement with coursework
- 2000-2008 – Presented Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development Studies principles in workshops for the Child Development Lab School staff and North Harris College Early Childhood Education students such as at the quarterly staff meetings
- 2001-present – Score Leadership of Promise, Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholars and later Fall and Spring Scholarship applications

- 2001-2018 – Chair or member of multiple initiatives such as Texas Regional Bylaw Revision Committees, Walter B. Cooper Scholarship Committee, Dr. Mary Hood STAR Scholarship Judging Committee, and Retiring Texas Phi Theta Kappa Advisor Recognition Committee
- 2001-present – Assist Headquarters staff annually at International Convention with VIP seating, front stage coordination of awards and previously with Opening Ceremony rehearsals (except 2022 and 2023 and not the virtual years)
- 2002 – Leadership Development Studies Certification, $\Phi\Theta K$ Honor Society
- 2002-present – Teaching Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development Studies principles in workshops for Early Childhood Education students
- 2007-2008 – Faculty Scholar Conferences
- 2007-2008 – Faculty Scholar and Seminar Leader, International Honors Institute
- 2009 – Relay For Life Visionary and Annual Fundraiser for the Choppin' Cancer Team which has raised over \$55,000 in eight years
- 2009-2013 – Co-developed and presented “Leadership Academy: Helping Future Generations” Workshop Series based on the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development Studies Program for Brother for Brother members
- 2009 – Alpha of North Harris Alumni Association presented the Community College Alumni Award of Merit at International Convention and showcased for work with Relay for Life. I was serving as Association President.
- 2011-present – Texas Region District IV Coordinator working with 22 chapters, the elected Regional Officer, and the rest of the Texas Leadership Team
- 2013-2016 – Established the Bryan and Dee Barrows Living Legacy Endowment Scholarship, LSC-North Harris, funds raised by multiple fundraisers as an initiative of the Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter, endowed 2016 and funds go only to members of the AAP Chapter.
- 2016-present – Coordinator of the Bryan and Dee Barrows Living Legacy Endowment Scholarship working to ensure $\Phi\Theta K$ members apply and are awarded annually
- 2018 –Designed and personally laid out *Student Resource Guide: Engaging and Empowering Students from Application to Graduation*, a previously defunct publication I originally designed in 2009, (an initiative of the Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter worked with students and employees to determine what should be included then provided graphic and editorial support), final production by Graphics and Publication Department, LSC-North Harris
- 2018 and 2019 – Established and Co-chaired Graduate Resource Fair (along with the Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter of $\Phi\Theta K$ officers and members), LSC-North Harris. Passed off to the Career and Transfer Center for institutionalization.
- Dupree, A. L., & Treadway, R. (2018, April). *Breaking the Code: Transferring to University without a Financial Burden*, Phi Theta Kappa International Convention (Catalyst), Kansas City, Missouri.
- 2019-present – Chapter Advisor, Alpha Rho Mu Chapter at LSC-Tomball
- 2019-2024 – Coordinator/Nominator All-USA Academic Team Scholarship at LSC-North Harris

- 2019-present – Coordinator/Nominator All-USA Academic Team Scholarship at LSC-Tomball
- 2019 – Traveled again to Poland when on a Fulbright and met with multiple University Rectors including the University of Lodz about establishing ΦΘΚ there considering translation is no longer an issue with the use of technology and there been some changes to the educational system there. Then the pandemic occurred.
- 2019 – Chartering Advisor for S.A.F.E. (Securing Adopted and Foster Education) Registered Student Organization (mentored the Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa officers and members throughout the chartering process), LSC-North Harris
- 2020 – Coordinator and Student Mentor of First-Ever Texas Region District IV Virtual Symposium *Angles of Diversity*
- Khakimova, S., Dupree, A. L., Curl, S., Lakin, J. C., McKinley, E., Hurt, S., Hand, T., Colquitt, K., Capozzoli, V., Vittoria, K., and Trevino, D. (2020, December). *Advocating for Foster Youth and Helping Them Overcome All Odds: Change Their Legacy*. Virtual event co-hosted by San Jacinto College-South and HAY Center, Houston, Texas.
- 2020 – Documented the history of the Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter
- Dupree, A. L., Nguyen, M. E., & Price, K. (2022). D2L is not just for teaching course content!: Increasing student success using Timberwolves helpful resources in the virtual environment (T.H.R.I.V.E.). *NISOD Innovation Abstracts, XLIV*(9).
https://www.nisod.org/archive_files/abstracts/pdf/XLIV_9.pdf I collaborated with two officers of Phi Theta Kappa to write this article.
- 2022-2024 – Worked with administrators of LSC-Houston North to charter a chapter and mentored the new advisors which is ongoing. Beta Omega Zeta was charted in 2024.
- 2023 – Wrote and presented a LSC Foundation Mini-Grant “Unpacking Phi Theta Kappa (ΦΘΚ) Awards” to unpack the numerous (over 90 international and regional) stored, historical and future awards earned by the Alpha Rho Mu Chapter and display them in a nice case to increase ΦΘΚ membership acceptance and participation that in turn will promote increased completion, persistence, and graduation. The grant was unfunded, but College President Dr. Lee Ann Nutt said the cause was noteworthy and she would watch for funding streams as did I. Funding was provided Fall 2024.
- 2023 – Chapter Advisor Five Star Training
- 2024 – Worked with faculty member of LSC-Online to charter a chapter and mentored the new advisors which is ongoing. Beta Omega Xi was chartered in 2024.
- 2024 – Chartering Ceremony and Keynote Speaker for the Beta Omega Zeta Chapter at LSC-Houston North
- Dupree, A. L., & Edwards, C. (2024, April). *Experiencing Play Increases Members' Engagement*. Phi Theta Kappa International Convention-Catalyst, Orlando, Florida.
- Dupree, A. L., & Witt, D. (2025, April). *Advisors Educational Forum-Visionary Leadership: A Few Simple Steps Dramatically Improve Success*. Phi Theta Kappa International Convention-Catalyst, Kansas City, Missouri.
- 2025 – Working as Co-chair to endow the Dr. Michael “Dusty” Capistran Scholarship Endowment at LSC-Tomball. Dusty was a former chapter advisor at the same college and staunch supporter of ΦΘΚ. He passed away in 2025. Co-coordinated a silent

auction Dec. 2025 to Jan. 2026; results are pending.

Recognitions

Personal

- 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 – Texas Region Award of Service
- 2024, 2022 – Texas Region Stole of Gratitude (presented by Regional Officers)
- 2022 – Texas Region Horizon Award for Advisors
- 2021 – Texas Region Regional Coordinator Award (one presented rarely)
- 2021 – Competitive Edge for Advisors
- 2021 – Transfer Edge for Members
- 2018 – Texas Region Certificate of Appreciation
- 2017 – Texas Region Pinnacle Award for Continued Excellence (one presented annually)
- 2016 – Texas Region Certificate of Appreciation
- 2014 – International Continued Excellence Award for Advisors
- 2014 – International Athena Society Award
- 2014 – Texas Region Hall of Honor for Advisors
- 2013 – Texas Region Horizon Award for Advisors
- 2011 – Board of Directors Alumni Achievement Award (one presented annually)
- 2010 – International Distinguished Advisor Award
- 2010 – Texas Region Most Outstanding Advisor Award
- 2010 – Excellent Advisor Award, Lone Star College-North Harris Brother for Brother Chapter for Co-developing and presenting the “Leadership Academy: Helping Future Generations” Workshop Series based on the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development Studies Program for Brother for Brother members
- 2007 – Faculty Scholar Award
- 2005 – Paragon Award for New Advisors
- 2005 – Texas Region Hall of Honor for Advisors
- 2004 – Texas Region District IV Hall of Honor
- 2004 – Texas Region Horizon Award for New Advisors
- 2004 – UHD Scholarship because of Phi Theta Kappa involvement and leadership
- 2000 – International Officer Scholarship of \$1,000
- 1999 – International Officer Scholarship – \$1,500 for travel, campaigning, then expenses when elected plus laptop provided by North Harris College President’s Office
- 1998 – All-Texas Academic First Team Member and Scholarship
- 1998 – All-USA Academic Second Team Member and Scholarship
- 1997 – Chapter Travel Scholarship for Texas Regional Convention provided by the North Harris College President’s Office

Chapter

Both the Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter and Alpha Rho Mu Chapter have been recognized both Regionally and Internationally repeatedly during my involvement including as the Texas Most Distinguished Chapter, a Texas Top Chapter as well as 4th Runner-Up Internationally and

Distinguished Chapter Award. The chapters have received numerous Service and Distinguished College Project Awards. The chapters have been Five Star every year too.

Individual Student

The number of Distinguished Officer, Distinguished Officer Team, and Hall of Honor Awards are extensive.

A significant number of members I've mentored and assisted with applications have earned noteworthy honors including Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Scholarships, Internships, and Graduate Scholarships, Terry Foundation Scholarships, Leaders of Promise Scholarships, Coca-Cola Scholarships, All-USA and All-Texas Academic Team Scholarships, Dr. Mary Hood STAR Scholarships, Walter B. Cooper Scholarships, and university scholarships – several fully funded.

It's important to note that I tell my students it's not the awards that matters but what they have learned throughout the processes and what's been accomplished.

*The information included is to the best of my recollection and records. There's no intent to leave anything out nor include inaccurate information. A lot has happened since 1997 when I first became involved with Phi Theta Kappa.