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## The Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha (Agriculture)

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To: Chapter Advisors and Presidents

Can we say behind...yes, I believe we can. I am behind on everything. Better late than never so here is my second newsletter. I am probably supposed to write more of these, but reality has a way of creeping in.

### **Musings:**

Recently, I was at the National Cattlemen's Meetings and last week was at the Association of American Colleges and University meetings.

I did learn a few important things at both the NCBA and the AACU meetings I will share them with you.

1. Be careful who takes your pictures. A few of my students had their pictures taken at booth promoting the NCBA meetings. Unfortunately, the pictures were photo shopped in ways that were less than professional. We didn't know the pictures had been photo shopped until one of the student's friends sent them a text from clear across the country telling them about the photo. As a chapter, we were mad and embarrassed. After visiting with several officials, the pictures were removed from Facebook. Still, a lesson was learned. In today's world, a photo can travel around the world in seconds and it is your reputation that may be harmed. Be careful out there.

2. According to the Hart Survey found at [https://www.aacu.org/sites/default/files/files/LEAP/2013\\_EmployerSurvey.pdf](https://www.aacu.org/sites/default/files/files/LEAP/2013_EmployerSurvey.pdf), "More than three in four employers say they want colleges to place more emphasis on helping students develop five key learning outcomes:

1. critical thinking
2. complex problem-solving
3. written communication
4. oral communication

5. applied knowledge in real-world settings”

Further -

- (93%) agree, “a candidate’s demonstrated capacity to **think critically, communicate clearly**, and **solve complex problems** is **more** important than their undergraduate major.”
- More than nine in ten of those surveyed say it is important that those they hire demonstrate **ethical judgment and integrity**; **intercultural skills**; and **the capacity for continued new learning**.

I see a lot of what makes DTA great included in these learning outcomes and character traits. Not saying we should give ourselves a pat on the back, but I will say we need to remind ourselves of why we do what we do.

#### **DTA Website:**

I have a student working on this and I have made arrangements with the Ag Communications instructor that if this student doesn’t complete the website, she and I will sit down and complete it by National Convention time. This is a huge goal for me and I am bothered that my goal hasn’t been reached.

**National Convention:** [www.fhsu.edu/agriculture/DTA-National-Convention](http://www.fhsu.edu/agriculture/DTA-National-Convention). Don’t forget to register for the National DTA Convention at Ft. Hays! Registration is \$110 per person payable no later than March 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Due Dates:**

March 1 – Payment and list of new members is due

March 1 – Proposal for Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws need to be sent to me.

March 21 – Application for National Council are due at least 10 days prior to the National Convention.

March 31 – April 2 – National Convention

#### **DTA Merchandise**

- Lapel pins, graduation honor cords, graduation medallions, a brief bag, and fleece pullovers recognizing membership in DTA are available. Merchandise may be viewed at <http://bigcat.fhsu.edu/agriculture/natdta/merchandise>. To order merchandise advisors should contact Kenneth E. Jernigan & Associates by phone (850)-469-0344, Fax (850)-434-3728 or email [ken@kenjernigan.com](mailto:ken@kenjernigan.com) and indicate you are with DTA. You will be required to guarantee the order with a credit card. Chapters must be current in national chapter dues to order merchandise. Allow at least 2 weeks to receive your order.
- To order DTA t-shirts advisors should contact me [Ewalker@Missouristate.edu](mailto:Ewalker@Missouristate.edu). Indicate short (\$11) or long-sleeved t-shirts (\$16), color (black or light grey) and sizes (additional charge for 2X and larger). Postage will be added to each order. Chapters must be current in national chapter dues to order t-shirts. This date will allow me to order a group quantity and save money. Allow at least 2 weeks to receive your order.

**Tax-Exempt Status**

- DTA has tax-exempt status. The number is 47-0889516. If you have questions about the use of the number, please contact me.

**Officer Information**

DTA now has a google drive account where the National Officers and I share information and place documents. I think this will evolve and be a great warehouse for exchanging documents.

**Famous Quote:** “Tell me and forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn”  
Benjamin Franklin