



SIGMA TAU DELTA

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME II ISSUE I

WINTER 2015

MEETING INFORMATION

Sigma meetings are held in Building 24, room 107, during U-hour. Our winter quarter meetings are on Jan. 15, Jan. 29, Feb. 12, Feb. 26, and Mar. 5.

Come visit us and meet others who are interested in the English language, literature, and writing.

“The life of a chapter comes from the events and activities its members engage in together. The number of fun, educational, and rewarding activities a chapter may conduct is nearly endless.”

A Letter From Our President

Thanks for picking up this quarterly newsletter! Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society is the only Cal Poly Pomona club specifically for English majors and minors, as well as lovers of literature and language.

Although our club is an internationally recognized honor society, we welcome all students to attend our meetings and events. Whether you're a freshman wondering what Sigma Tau Delta is or an upperclassman wanting to be more involved on campus, our club offers something for everyone.

Inside this newsletter, you'll find fall quarter meeting recaps, club officer bios and more information on our club. For even more information, visit www.stdepp.weebly.com.

If you have any questions about Sigma Tau Delta, feel free to reach out to any of the officers.

Zoe Lance

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Additional questions you say? Fear not, and get them answered through our email at sigmacpp@gmail.com

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Fall 2014 Recap

POEMS BY THE ROSE GARDEN

Sigma Tau Delta members and non-members spent a relaxing day sharing poems near the Rose Garden on Oct. 23. On this warm yet windy day under a



tree's shade, everyone gathered into a circle. Some students volunteered to read their favorite poems for others to hear and

appreciate. Most poems illustrated various scenes of nature, some of them ranging from beautiful, mysterious, and dangerous. In the comfort of this meeting, individuals also shared their diverse experiences and honest opinion about the poetry related assignments from their current and past classes to help others who are curious about them.

RESOURCES WITH WENDY VERMEER

Wendy Vermeer, our subject librarian from the University Library, introduced many helpful library resources to us on our third Sigma meeting. Wendy showed us how to reach a list of English subject resources through Cal Poly Pomona's library databases and how to use some of these catalogued sites. Scholarly sources such as academic journals, books, pamphlets, pictures, and films, extending from topics beyond literature and linguistics can be found on <http://xerxes.calstate.edu/pomona/databases/subject/english>.

Wendy also told us about Mango Languages, a language learning site, and asked everyone if the library should add it to our campus's resources. Email Wendy at wvermeer@cpp.edu if you ever need help with research or want to learn more about library resources.

SIGMA SATURDAY AT THE GETTY

We had a grand time at our first Sigma Saturday of the year, at the Getty Museum. On Nov. 8, our Sigma collective tried our best to stick close as a group, but the antiquated statues of Roman gods and goddesses, splendid Rococo and Baroque interior architect and furniture, exquisite medieval book collection, and the manifold paintings successfully lured away and reunited everyone continuously.

The majority of us strolled through a winding path of blossom covered trellises to take a closer look at the



extravagant circular central fountain. Afterwards, everyone reunited and talked for a while before we headed for the gift shops to buy items for gifts or mementos. For the rest of this trip, some of us hung out at the food court for lunch and talked about good and bad foods, linguistics, and troublesome job experiences. This Sigma Saturday at the Getty featured many masterpieces to admire. Be sure to stay tuned for the announcement of the next Sigma Saturday.

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Fall 2014 Recap : Continued

WORD GAME WITH DR. KRAEMER

On Nov. 20, Dr. Kraemer entertained Sigma by hosting several rounds of a phrasal template word game. Everyone in the room was asked to fold papers into three sections, with each side to be written on by a different person. Everyone participating in this game had to write an article followed by a noun phrase on the first flap of the paper, before passing it to a neighboring person who wrote a verb or adjective phrase on the paper's middle section. This person then has to hand the paper to a last person to complete the paper's sentence with a noun phrase. Each round had a different phrase template for different participants to fill out. Participants were not allowed to look at what others wrote, and the absurd sentences generated lots of laughs. Despite the sentences already being ridiculous, Dr. Kraemer humored us further by constantly describing different unrealistic contexts where these sentences may be appropriate. This game boggled everyone's minds with its outrageousness and gave everyone a great time. In the last round, everyone worked around with a different structure from the previous ones, using the format: "1st writer: If (noun) is (adjective), 2nd writer: and (noun) is (adjective),

3rd writer: then (make a sentence)," so there are many ways this word structure game can be played. With this idea in mind, you can also try to make your own Mad Libs-like word structure game if you want show something silly to friends or family, and . . . (shameless plug time) give Sigma Tau Delta a visit, if you want to amuse yourself.

WINTER BREAK READING PLANS

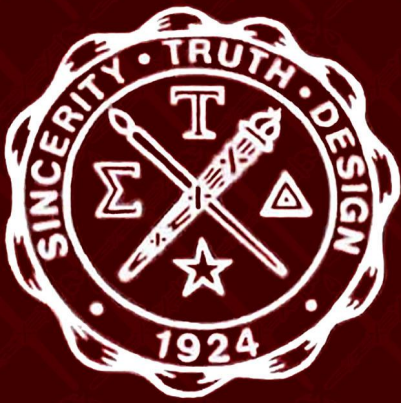
We closed our last Sigma Tau Delta fall meeting on Dec. 4 by asking all of our Sigma people what books they plan to read after finals. According to what books were chosen, the most popular book genre was fantasy, though some people did choose other genres such as science fiction, advice, and cultural studies. Almost everyone chose different books, but two people selected "The Hobbit" for their winter reading: one person had never read it and the other wanted to reread it. We also talked about other books, English classes, and wild life events, while asking questions, giving advices, and support to others. Delicious homemade brownies were brought by our president, Zoe, and it made for an excellent lunch and snack before the meeting and quarter's end.

*MISSED ANY OF THESE EVENTS?
DON'T WORRY, WE HAVE PLENTY OF OTHER
ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR YOU IN OUR
WINTER QUARTER MEETINGS!*

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OFFICER CONTACTS

President

Zoe Lance
zllance@cpp.edu

Vice President

Amanda Riggle
alriggle@cpp.com

Treasurer

**John Micah
Cadornigara**
jcadornigara@cpp.edu

Secretary

Bonnie Yang
bonnieyang@cpp.edu

You, too, can become a
Sigma Tau Delta Officer!
Contact our president for
more information on how you
can help our organization.

Meet Our 2014-2015 Officers



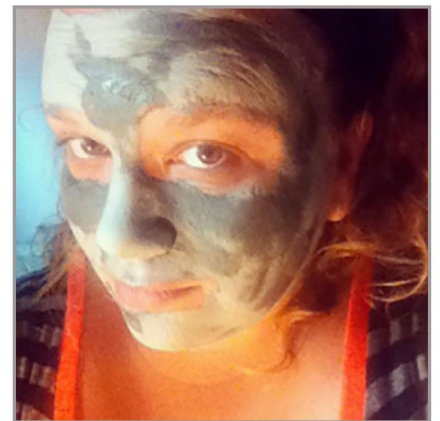
Zoe Lance the President

I'm a senior English Literature student, and this is my second year as Sigma president. My favorite books include *Absalom, Absalom!*, *Infinite Jest* and Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. I'm planning to pursue my master's degree in journalism and a career as a magazine or newspaper editor.

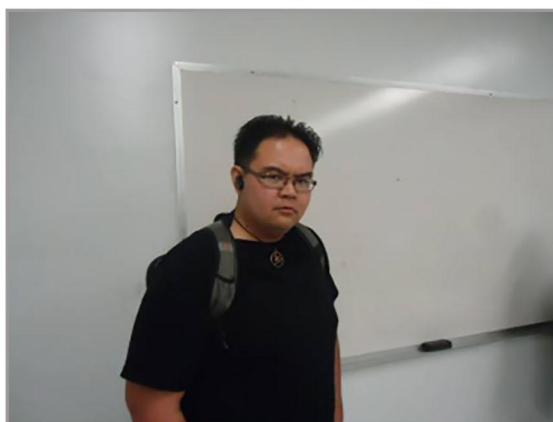
"The ability to think for one's self depends upon one's mastery of the language." -Joan Didion, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*

Amanda Riggle the Vice President

Amanda is the managing editor at The Poetics Project and an undergraduate student majoring in English Education with a minor in Political Science. During her free time, she enjoys writing poetry, reading, traveling, watching entire seasons of campy shows on Netflix, and, of course, writing blog posts. Two of her favorite books are *Atonement* by Ian McEwan and *The Enchanted Forest Chronicles* by Patricia C. Wrede.



"Until we love individual words, we won't love language and if we don't, we won't be able to use it properly." -John Barton



John Micah Cadornigara the Treasurer

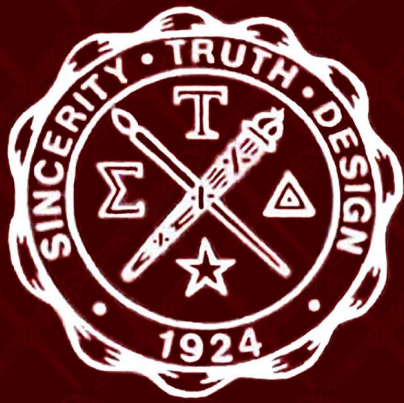
This will be my first year of grad school to get my M.A. in English Rhetoric and Composition with a second emphasis in Literature. I plan on eventually teaching my own composition class in order to do my part in

keeping up the literacy rate in our great nation. My favorite books are

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Zoe Lance
zllance@cpp.edu

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Amanda Riggle
alriggle@cpp.com

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Cadornigara**
jcadornigara@cpp.edu

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bonnieyang@cpp.edu

You, too, can become a Sigma Tau Delta Officer! Contact our president for more information on how you can help our organization.

Meet Our 2014-2015 Officers : Continued

dang near everything in the post-apocalyptic and sci-fi genres, but I suppose for now the specific series that I would point out are the Partial series by Dan Wells, the Outside series by Shalini Boland, and Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card. I will also add The Last of Us to this list because the game runs like a novel, and like a professor of mine here at Cal Poly Pomona once said, video games are the new literature, both in level of immersion and subversive effect.

"But it ain't about how hard ya hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward. How much you can take and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done!" -Rocky Balboa

Bonnie Yang the Secretary

Good morning, afternoon, or evening, person looking at this message. I am a junior majoring in English Literature and I plan on using my great and powerful language skills to not sound awkward in everything I write. I often explore Wikipedia, TV Tropes, and miscellaneous articles online for literature, science, humanities, history, and art information when I have the time. When I have more time to spare, I sculpt, sew, and cut crafting materials while I somewhat watch cartoons and movies. When I have more than more time to spare, I think of more things to do. Sometimes even more so than usual. My favorite books include The Catcher in the Rye, No Exit, and the A Series of Unfortunate Events children's novel series.



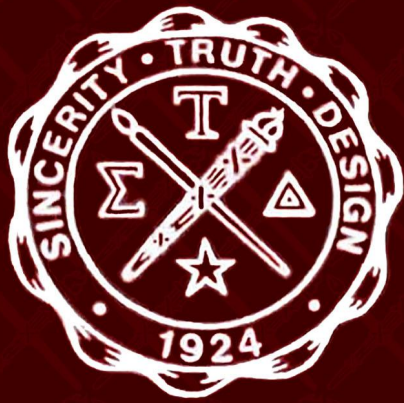
"Believe in yourself. You'll exist either way, but, eh, why not?"
Welcome to Night Vale



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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Our Sigma Tau Delta membership includes scholarship and internship opportunities. Sigma Tau Delta memberships can even be used on resumes and graduate school applications, so it is very beneficial.

Members and nonmembers are equally welcomed at our meetings, but if you are not a member yet and you want to become one, then go to our website or talk with an officer for more details.

About Our Organization . . .

This club provides exceptional students with opportunities for advancing the study of language and literature, for developing skills in creative and analytical writing, and for meeting other scholars and professionals in the discipline of English. Members of Sigma Tau Delta also have the opportunity to publish their writing in the organization's literary publication, *The Rectangle*, and student members are eligible to compete for a number of writing awards. In addition, student members may receive international recognition through academic scholarships, professional internships, and teaching awards. At regional conferences and at the annual international convention, students may present original creative and analytical work and network with other students, faculty, and professionals from around the country and abroad.

Teachers are invited to come and talk with students in a more informal setting presenting papers written for conferences, sections of their published books and even outside texts not normally covered in classes. Meetings are also themed based on specific genres, authors, book-based movies, and more. Writing contests, held once a quarter, give students the opportunity to write creatively outside of the academic realm and prizes are awarded to the winners. "Sigma Saturdays" are events planned outside of school that include plays, movies, readings and destinations. The International Office holds an annual convention which we have attended and plan on keeping the tradition! We also have our own literature magazine, *Portfolio*, produced annually featuring texts from students, as well as teachers. These opportunities for communication, creativity and external learning allow for a strong social network that leads to strong bonds and great opportunities.



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