



2018-2020 CHAPTER HISTORY

2018-2020 Officers

- President: Marta Patiño Douce
- 1st Vice President: Diane Lutz
- 2nd Vice President: Freda Giles
- Corresponding Secretary: Mary Jim Combs Tate
- Recording Secretary: Laura Viera (2018-19), Beverly Tuttle (2019-20)
- Treasurer: Carolyn Ashley
- Parliamentarian: Wanda Grogan

2018-2019 Activities

- September: 2018: The program “Insight into Books for Keeps” by Books for Keeps Executive Director Leslie Hale attracted the attention of many members due to the remarkable impact it has on students reading skills.
- October 2018:
 - Dr. Lisa Renzi Hammond (UGA – Psychology) presented the program “Your Changing Sleep Patterns: What to Do About Aging Brains” – a quick tour on the characteristics of sleep and its restorative function in humans and other mammals.
 - The chapter organized the “Fit for Good” event, Latin dance with Zumba Instructors as a fundraiser for Hilsman Middle School Connections Club. Member participation was instrumental in creating partnerships with local businesses who donated prizes to be raffled during the event.
 - The “No Show Tea” fundraiser was launched with the objective of supporting Gaines Elementary School Special Education class and Hilsman Middle School students.
- November 2018: Chapter president Marta Patiño Douce presented the program “*The Best Gemstone Your Money Can Buy – Insight on How Gemstones are Evaluated*”. Hands on presentation using gemstone samples.

- December 2018: Holiday celebration at Carolyn Howell's provided the opportunity to chat with long-time friends during brunch. Members enjoyed fellowship while assembling gift boxes with clothing, uniforms, and school supplies for Gaines Elementary and Hilsman Middle Schools. Carolyn's home was exquisitely decorated with Nativity scenes from all over the world and two gorgeous Christmas trees that were everyone's delight. Clothes and present drive in support of two local schools.
- January 2019: The Beta Sigma Executive Board gathered at Barbara McConnell's home to work on the 2019 programs' last details. This potluck meeting with the promise of Barbara's delicious chili, a favorite, because at that time Barbara's home becomes the best restaurant in Athens.
- February 2019: *"The history of Home Economics – where we've been and where we're headed"*. Dr. Sheri Lokken Worthy – Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, UGA, brought ideas of the Department's history and brought fond memories from members once working among its ranks.
- March 2019: the very interesting program *"Displaying Empire: Towards a Visual Anthropology of Ottoman Photography (1870-1922)"* by our own member, Dr. Pam Sezgin, University of North Georgia attracted a good number of members and UNG students. A brief reception with refreshments was held to close a wonderful evening.
- April 2019: Induction of new members and end of year celebration. Beta Sigma members were honored by the visit of GSO Communication Chair Betty Richardson and GSO Membership Chair Alice Bass. Betty presented an interactive program emphasizing the importance of good communications and Alice's words focused on the qualities that we identify in a leader. Gwen Hartman and Rachel Rotz were inducted as new members. Rachel is our first inductee at the collegiate level. We had to say good-bye to Laura Viera, recording secretary, moving to California and to Anita Picas returning to her native Catalunya, Spain after many years in the U.S. The Chapter honored outstanding members for their leadership within the chapter and the community: Freda Giles, Jane Kelly, Diane Lutz, and Evelyn Wood
- May 2019: Audrey Hughes and Liz French were inducted during an additional ceremony at Campus View Church.

2019-2020 Activities

- August 2019: Executive Board meeting at president Marta Patino's home – Assessment of the program status for the 2019-2020 cycle.
- September 2019: First Responder, EMT and trainer Dennis Luckey presented the program "A Day in the Life of an EMT Volunteer." Dennis has received local, state and national recognition for his strong commitment as a volunteer and leader in EMT programs. His program kept us entertained and even tested our knowledge on first aid terminology.
- October 2019: Beta Sigma chapter received the visit of State Representative Spencer Frye. His talk about *2020 Georgia Legislative Issues focusing on Education* attracted the attention of members and the general public at the Athens Clarke County Library. Three members of the Alpha Theta Chapter were also present. Mr. Frye outlined the workings of the legislative process

and the importance of cooperation between opposing parties in government to develop legislation that benefits students and schools.

- November 2019: Joan Prittie, Executive Director of Project Safe presented a gripping program on the multifaceted activities carried out by the Project Safe organization: from education to identify signs of domestic violence, to advocacy, counseling and administration of a safe shelter where victims can reorganize their lives. Chapter members generously donated cleaning and personal care supplies in great need at the shelter, occupying two long tables at the library. Second No-Show Tea Fundraiser to benefit Hilsman Science and Energy Team. The chapter voted to create the Virginia Macagnoni Grant in Aid and the Janett Gibbs Scholarship to honor two of the Chapter's Charter members.
- December 2019: Celebrating the Holidays and each other at the Mary Jim Comb's home. Time to get to know each other and build on our fellowship in the lovely decorated environment prepared by Mary Jim. Team building activities organized by First Vice-President Diane Lutz kept everyone entertained. Fundraiser for chapter projects.
- January 2020: Our traditional Executive Board meeting at Barbara's, enjoying her famous chili. Board members assessed revisions to the Standing rules to be presented to the membership for a vote at a future meeting. The programs for the remainder of the year reviewed. The Virginia Macagnoni Grant in Aid was awarded to Rachel Rotz, Collegiate Member.
- February 2020: *W.E.B. Dubois*, program by Beta Sigma reserve member Dr. Freda Giles – Dubois was the first black person that earned a doctorate from Harvard. Fellowship dinner afterwards. During Leap Day Luncheon, the chapter awarded funds to members Audrey Hughes (\$600) and Liz French (\$400), in support of their project with students. DKG International approves our Beta Sigma Website: <https://dkggs.weebly.com/>
- March 2020: Program to learn about the educational mission of the GA State Botanical Garden from Ms. Cora Keber, Director of Education, to be followed by a walking tour of the new Alice H. Richards Children's Garden was postponed, due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- April 2020: Beta Sigma End of Year Celebration and Installation of new Officers postponed until further notice due to COVID-19 restrictions.

IMPORTANT COMMITTEES REPORTS

- 2018 Professional Development Committee recommends continued involvement with and support to local schools: Gaines Elementary School and Hilsman Middle School
- Membership Committee presents prospective members
- 2019 Ad-Hoc Scholarship Committee recommends the chapter creation of the Janett Gibbs Scholarship and the Virginia Macagnoni Grant-in-Aid in support of member's professional growth and to promote excellence in education.
- Professional and Personal Development Committees proposed to concentrate chapter fundraising efforts to support Beta Sigma members still active in education.

CHAPTER PROJECTS

2018-2020

2018

- Supporting Books for Keeps – Chapter donation. members volunteer at the BFK warehouse, book sale and Spring distribution

- Chapter donated \$100 to World Fellowship Recipient Aalam Farhad
- Chapter donated 20 beach towels and over \$300 in \$5 restaurant gift certificates to Gaines Elementary School Special Education class
- “Fit for Good Latin Dance” Fundraiser benefitting Hilsman Middle School Connection Club in aid of their Mardi Gras project. Members solicited raffle item donations from local businesses.
- “No Show-Tea Fundraiser” to support Gaines Elementary School Special Education Class (30 T-shirts and art supplies for Tie and Dye project) and Hilsman Middle School Student’s Emergency Wardrobe (School uniform shirts and pants, socks and underwear).
- Christmas Drive: socks and underwear, \$90 in \$5 gift certificates and presents of Santa’s hats and glasses in support of Gaines Elementary School Special Education class.
- Members volunteer to help in the instruction about Watershed issues with Hilsmans Science and Energy Team afterschool program.

2019

- Supporting Books for Keeps – Chapter donation. members volunteer at the BFK warehouse, book sale, Spring distribution and translation to Spanish of the “Tips for Parents “ BFK webpages.
- Supply drive in support of Project Safe: Chapter donated school supplies, toiletries and cleaning supplies for Project Safe’s shelter for domestic violence.
- “No-Show Tea II” – fundraiser in support of Hilsman Middle School Science and Energy Team.
- Christmas fundraiser in support of members educational projects and activities who are still active in teaching: Audrey Hughes and Liz French.
- Supporting Early Career Educators: Liz French
- Gathered materials to develop chapter website

2020

- Chapter website developed by Rachel Rotz is launched.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATION AT STATE LEVEL

July 2018-July 2019

- President Marta Patiño served as Chair for the 2017-2019 Scrapbook Committee
- President Marta Patiño attended the 2018 Leadership Institute (Nita Scott speaker)
- President Marta Patiño attended the 2018 Day at the Capitol
- President Marta Patiño attended the August 2018 Planning Day.
- Member Linda Griffith Participated in Delta Hostel
- President Marta Patiño and Recording Secretary Laura Viera attended the 2018 Fall Executive Board and Membership Meeting

July 2019-2020

- President Marta Patiño advised chapter members useful strategies to produce their 2017-2019 Scrapbook at the Spring Leadership Conference
- President Marta Patiño and Professional Development Chair Jane Kelly attended the 2019 Day at the Capitol
- President Marta Patiño attended the 2019 Leadership Institute (speaker Dr. Jensi Souders)
- President Marta Patiño attended the 2019 GSO Convention at Jekyll Island Resort

- President Marta Patiño presented “Insight to Books for Keeps” during the General Assembly session of the 2019 GSO Convention at Jekyll Island Resort
- President Marta Patiño serves as member of the GSO 2019-2021 Professional Development Committee
- President Marta Patiño, 1st VP Diane Lutz and Collegiate Member Rachel Rotz attended the Fall 2019 Executive Board and Members Meeting
- First VP Diane Lutz and members Jane Kelly and Evelyn Wood attended the 2020 Day at the Capitol

AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CHAPTER

2019

- GSO Outstanding Chapter Program: Beta Sigma Chapter – Marta Patiño President: “Creating a Sense of Community Through the Study of a Watershed”
- GSO Merit Communication Chapter Beta Sigma
- Beta Sigma Chapter Supporting Early Career Educators Project for the 2017-2019 Biennium

AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS

2018

- Beta Sigma Woman with the Golden Heart Certificate: Ms. Carolyn Howell
- Beta Sigma Sage and Communicator Extraordinaire Certificate: Dr. Mary Jim Combs
- Beta Sigma Spice and Wit of Beta Sigma Certificate: Ms. Anne Cook
- 2018 Board of Regents eHero Award: Dr. Marta Patiño
- 2nd VP Dr. Freda Giles delivered UGA’s Founder’s Day Lecture at the University of Georgia Chappel.

2019

- Beta Sigma Leading Woman Educator Certificate: Dr. Freda Giles
- Beta Sigma Leading Woman Educator Certificate: Ms. Jane Kelly
- Beta Sigma Leading Woman Educator Certificate: Ms. Evelyn Wood
- GSO Leading Woman Educator: Dr. Freda Giles
- GSO Leading Woman Educator: Ms. Jane Kelly
- GSO Leading Woman Educator: Ms. Diane Lutz
- GSO Leading Woman Educator: Ms. Evelyn Wood
- GSO Leading Woman Educator: Dr. Marta Patiño-Douce
- Audrey Hughes Science and Energy Team (Hilsman Middle School) won First Place in the State of Georgia and First Place in the Nation for their project “Everyone Needs Energy” – Recognition awarded by the National Energy Education Development (NEED) project.
- Rachel Rotz (Beta Sigma’s first Collegiate Member) received the Geological Society of America’s Farouk El-Baz Student Research Grant

2020

- Rachel Rotz received the Beta Sigma Chapter *Virginia Macagnoni Grant-in-Aid* for \$400
- Audrey Hughes receives a *GSO Boylston Foundation Grant* for \$720. Her project is called “Clarke Middle Owls need STEM”
- Rachel Rotz is the recipient of the 2019 GSO Scholarship for \$2,000

- Liz French and her students win first place at the Spring 2020 River's Alive event for their Jefferson City Lake and Currie Creek cleanup project.

NEW MEMBERS

Rachel Rotz (Collegiate Member)

Gwen Hartman

Audrey Hughes

Liz French

Transfer Member: Beverly Tuttle

NECROLOGY REPORT

Member Anne Cook