

ΦΑΘ NEWS

MAY 2024

A MESSAGE FROM DR. TUELLER

Hiki mai e nā pua i ka la'i ē...

(see <https://about.byuh.edu/hiki-mai> for full chant and history)



On March 2, the Phi Alpha Theta Hawaii Regional Conference began with mele ka'i, a Hawaiian chant, welcoming historians from five universities to the Laie and the BYU-Hawaii campus. The words invite visitors to come and metaphorically “climb the majestic mountain” of education. Members of Phi Alpha Theta from the University of Hawai'i – Mānoa, the University of Hawai'i – Hilo, Hawaii Pacific University, the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu and BYUH gathered to give, hear and discuss twenty history papers, befriend each other, eat together and celebrate the end-of-conference awards.

Lily Oh, 2023 BYUH Xi Delta chapter member and a History Education major, presented her senior paper. She wrote about the experience: “When I arrived, I immediately felt the sense of comradery among everyone there. Even though we came from different schools on Oahu and studied different things, we all shared a love for history and our own research. Looking at the conference schedule, I was amazed at the wide range of topics people were exploring, from ancient history to modern-day issues.

Presenting my own research was intimidating. I had spent months digging into my topic, trying to understand it deeply and make it interesting for others. I felt a personal connection to the main subject of my research, a man named Edward Payson Church. When it was my turn to speak, I felt a mix of excitement and nerves. But seeing the supportive faces in the crowd gave me confidence. Presenting my research in the short time given was hard. Like many researchers we love our topics and could talk for hours on end! I shared what I felt was most important and found the crowd was just as interested in my research! When I finished presenting, I felt I had given my topic the respect it deserved and felt a unique reward showing off my months of hard work. Listening to the other presenters inspired me to look at my own research from a different perspective. Many used modern-day resources like interviews or diaries. Others relied on scholarly articles that were written about their topic and added their own critique.



As my first Phi Alpha Theta conference wrapped up, I felt thankful for the experience. I had shared my research, but I had also learned so much from others. I learned about ways to explore my topic and strengthen my research. Looking ahead, I'm excited to keep exploring history and seeing where it takes me. Thanks to Phi Alpha Theta and BYUH, I feel ready for whatever comes next in my academic journey."

Lily and the other presenters continued the forty-year tradition of having the Hawaii Regional Conference. First meeting in 1985, the Alpha Beta Epsilon chapter at UH-Mānoa has hosted the conference most years. Chaminade University, UH-Hilo, HPU and BYUH have taken turns. The General Federation of Women's Clubs GFCW History Club of Honolulu generously supports the conference with prize money. In addition, the Sidney Stern Foundation donates funding to each university for the annual event. Over the years, emeritus professors and memorial endowments provide books and cash awards for excellent research and writing in American History, Historiography, Biography, World History and History of Oceania. New members may not have known Jerry Bentley, Idus Newby, Sara Sohmer, Walter Vella, Herbert F. Margulies, Mimi Henriksen, Fritze Rehbock, and Robert E. McGlone but everyone appreciates their past contributions.

We will begin another forty years of conferences in 2025. E komo mai, we welcome you to our island state and say Aloha.

Jim Tueller

Brigham Young University-Hawaii
Faculty Advisor

**ΦΑΘ Biennial
Convention**
January 2-5, 2025

We can't wait to see you at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel! Visit PhiAlphaTheta.org/Biennial-Convention or join our [Facebook Group](#) to get all the details.



Prizes & Awards

Due July 1, 2024

Book Awards

Best Chapter Awards

Paper Prize Awards

Nash History Journal

Faculty Advisor Research Grant

Due September 16, 2024

Charles Redd Center Book Award

Discover award opportunities:

[PhiAlphaTheta.org/
prizes-and-awards/](https://PhiAlphaTheta.org/prizes-and-awards/)

Due March 3, 2025

Doctoral Student Scholarship

Graduate Student Scholarship

Undergraduate Student
Scholarship

Gordon Morris Scholarship in
Western History

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1

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members

2

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OR send one check to PAT
that includes all new
member dues

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and addresses to
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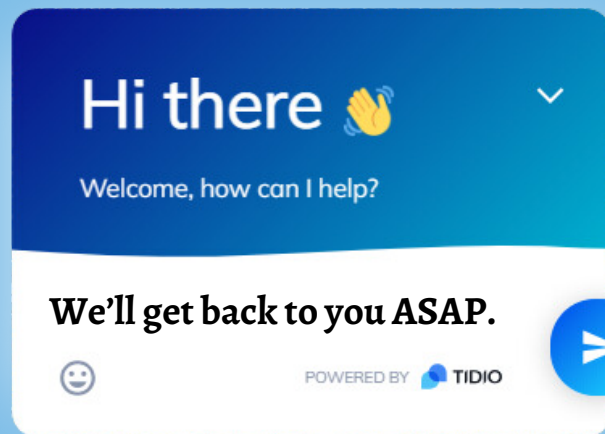
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