

# Summation Notes from October 7, 2025, Inside International

## Overview

Members of the International Membership and Expansion Committee, chaired by Patti Belknap, hosted the October Inside International event. They were joined by Dr. Shannon Manley and Bonnie Pearce, who shared their experience organizing a *Collegiate Community* at East Texas A&M University.

A *Collegiate Community* is a DKG entity formed at the college or university level as a recognized student organization. These student-led groups include officers titled chair, co-chair, scribe, and financial officer, replacing the traditional president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer roles.

One of the first steps in starting a collegiate chapter is to invite university instructors and administrators to a local chapter meeting to introduce them to DKG and its mission. Once the university grants permission, students receive guidance and mentorship from local DKG chapter members. Local chapters often plan meetings and events designed to engage collegiate members and foster a sense of community.

Getting a collegiate community started can be strengthened by involving university faculty who are DKG members themselves.

## Benefits of Collegiate Membership

Collegiate members gain numerous benefits from DKG membership, including:

- Networking opportunities and professional support
- Development of leadership and presentation skills
- Access to mentoring and professional growth experiences

## Benefits to Chapters

Chapters also gain from connecting with collegiate members:

- Chapter growth as collegiate members continue their DKG journey after graduation
- Opportunities to mentor preservice educators and learn about current educational trends
- Engagement with active teachers in student teaching schools
- Collegiate members often contribute fresh ideas—some have even taken on managing chapter newsletters

## Overcoming Barriers

A common challenge for students can be membership dues. However, assistance may be available through university grants or chapter fundraising activities, such as:

- Tee-shirt sales
- Game nights or social fundraisers
- Restaurant “give-back” nights

Additional grants can also help students pay for certification exam preparation or voucher costs.

## **Key Considerations for Starting a Collegiate Chapter**

- Connect with the university’s Department of Education
- Participate in campus education classes and recruitment fairs
- Highlight the benefits of DKG membership
- Maintain a strong social media presence
- Encourage faculty members to join DKG
- Plan events that are relevant, meaningful, and engaging for students
- Stay connected and involved when collegiate members visit chapter meetings

## **Collegiate Member Perspectives**

Two collegiate members, Kayla and Amanda, shared what they value most from current DKG members:

- Open communication about various teaching experiences
- A willingness to ask what students need and to show empathy and understanding
- Genuine listening and mentorship
- Constructive feedback and guidance on classroom situations

Their insights remind us that building strong relationships and offering authentic support are key to helping collegiate members grow into confident, connected educators and lifelong DKG members.

## **Questions about starting a Collegiate Chapter can be addressed to:**

[pmbelknap@yahoo.com](mailto:pmbelknap@yahoo.com) or [Shannon.Manley@etamu.edu](mailto:Shannon.Manley@etamu.edu)

## **Upcoming Events (Central Time)**

October 13, 20, 27	<i>Roses of Hope</i> Visionary Network @ 7:00 PM
October 11 @ 10 AM	Treasurers Talk
October 14 @ 12:30 PM	Inside Connections (Membership/Expansion)
October 15	Centennial Membership Challenge Begins
October 15	Society Representative Request Forms Due from State Presidents
October 22 @ 6:00 PM	US Forum Discussion: Department of Education <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Th7Ip2UGT9GDsV3Fq9zv6Q">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Th7Ip2UGT9GDsV3Fq9zv6Q</a>

October 23@12:30 PM	Inside Impact (Educational Excellence)
November 1	Cornetet Individual & Seminar Professional Development Applications Due
November 1	Visionary Network Facilitator Proposals Due
November 1	International Speaker Requests Due
November 4	Inside International with International Speakers Fund and the Administrative Board Members @ 12:30 PM
November 11	Inside Connections (Membership Myths) @ 5:30 PM
November 15	All U.S. treasurers file IRS 990
November 20	Inside Impact (Educational Excellence) @ 5:30 PM
December 1	Applications due for DKG IGNITE

## **Ongoing Submissions**

### *Bulletin*

Centennial Celebration Campaign Fund

Support letters for commemorative US Postage Stamp

Impact Spotlight

Leadership Discovery Centre

Membership Spotlight

*Quotes That Inspire Us*