

Activities of Phi Zeta

The Executive Committee, consisting of the president, president-elect, secretary-treasurer, and the three most recent past-presidents, oversees and promotes the objectives of Phi Zeta through activities of the various chapters. **Meetings** of the Society of Phi Zeta are held annually in conjunction with the AVMA Convention. All members of the Society are invited to attend these meetings.

Each year the Society sponsors two **Research Awards** and helps fund lectures at various Chapters. Chapters recognize and promote high scholarship and research through an annual initiation ceremony, by sponsoring research days, and by inviting outstanding lecturers to speak on topics relevant to veterinary medicine and the welfare of animals.

Chapters of Phi Zeta

Name	Institution, Year Chartered
<i>Alpha</i>	Cornell University, 1925
<i>Beta</i>	University of Pennsylvania, 1929
<i>Gamma</i>	Iowa State University, 1931
<i>Delta</i>	The Ohio State University, 1934
<i>Epsilon</i>	Auburn University, 1948
<i>Zeta</i>	Michigan State University, 1950
<i>Eta</i>	Texas A & M University, 1950
<i>Theta</i>	Colorado State University, 1950
<i>Iota</i>	Washington State University, 1952
<i>Kappa</i>	University of Minnesota, 1952
<i>Lambda</i>	University of California, 1953
<i>Mu</i>	University of Illinois, 1953
<i>Nu</i>	Oklahoma State University, 1958
<i>Xi</i>	University of Georgia, 1959
<i>Omicron</i>	Purdue University, 1962
<i>Pi</i>	University of Missouri, 1965
<i>Rho</i>	Tuskegee University, 1967
<i>Sigma</i>	Kansas State University, 1969
<i>Tau</i>	Louisiana State University, 1977
<i>Upsilon</i>	University of Florida, 1979
<i>Phi</i>	University of Tennessee, 1979
<i>Chi</i>	Virginia-Maryland Regional CVM, 1984
<i>Psi</i>	North Carolina State University, 1984
<i>Alpha Alpha</i>	University of Wisconsin, 1987
<i>Alpha Gamma</i>	Oregon State University, 1987
<i>Omega</i>	Mississippi State University, 1988
<i>Alpha Beta</i>	Tufts University, 1991
<i>Alpha Delta</i>	St. George's University, 2005
<i>Alpha Epsilon</i>	Western U Health Sciences, 2006

The Society of PHI ZETA



The Honor Society of Veterinary Medicine

Founded 1925

This brochure provides information on the history, objectives, and activities of Phi Zeta, the honor society of veterinary medicine. For additional information, contact your chapter officers or the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society:

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History of Phi Zeta

Phi Zeta was originated in 1925 by a group of senior veterinary students in the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell University. With the assistance of a group of faculty members, including the Dean of the College, **Dr. Veranus A. Moore**, the Society was formally organized, and Dean Moore was elected as the first president of the *Alpha* Chapter. The **Society of Phi Zeta** was organized in 1929 at a meeting in Detroit, Michigan, and Dean Moore became the first president of the Society.

Also in 1929, a charter was granted to the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and the *Beta* Chapter was established. In 1931, the Executive Committee approved the petition of a group from Iowa State College, and the *Gamma* Chapter was established. Since then twenty-four chapters have been chartered, bringing the total number of chapters to twenty-seven. Chapters of the Society may be formed at any recognized veterinary medical college or at any other institution of learning or of animal research.

From its beginning, it has been the aim of Phi Zeta to stand for the constant advancement of the veterinary profession, for higher educational requirements, and for high scholarship. As stated in the Constitution, the **Object of the Society** shall be to recognize and promote scholarship and research in matters pertaining to the welfare and diseases of animals.

Name and Symbols of the Society

The organizers of the Society, when seeking a suitable name, sought the help of a learned Greek scholar, **Professor George P. Bristol** of Cornell University. Professor Bristol suggested a Greek word, which in the Latin form is spelled **PHILOZOI**, and means "love for animals." The abbreviation of **Phi Zeta** was adopted as the name of the Society.

The emblem consists of a pendant formed by the letter *Phi* superimposed over the letter *Zeta*. The design was the work of **Louis Agassiz Fuertes**, the great naturalist and artist.

Selection of Membership

Membership in the Society consists of two classifications, Active and Honorary. Those eligible to election as **Active Members** are:

A. Any candidate for the DVM/VMD degree in a veterinary medical college where a chapter exists, and who has completed at least two years of the professional curriculum, and who meets the following requirements:

1. The candidate must have an acceptable personality, be of good moral character, and possess high ideals regarding professional service and conduct.

2. When elected in the junior or third year, students must rank scholastically in the highest 10% of their veterinary medical class.

3. When elected in the senior or fourth year, students must rank scholastically in the highest 25% of their veterinary medical class.

B. Any veterinarian who has been in possession of a veterinary medical degree for at least two years, and who has displayed ability of high order in dealing with one or more phases of the science of veterinary medicine, and who meets one of the following criteria:

1. The candidate is enrolled as a graduate student in a college of veterinary medicine and has completed at least twenty semester (thirty quarter) hours of graduate credit or has successfully passed preliminary examinations.

2. The candidate has been engaged in an intern or residency program for at least two years or has become board certified in his/her speciality.

3. The candidate has completed two years or more on the faculty of the institution or scientific staff of a scientific institution within commuting distance of the nearest chapter of Phi Zeta and has been involved in veterinary research or service.

Those eligible to election as **Honorary Members** are:

A. Distinguished veterinarians in possession of their veterinary medical degrees for at least five years and who have rendered notable service to their profession.

B. Persons not in possession of the veterinary medical degree, who have rendered distinguished service in the advancement of the science relating to the animal industry and particularly of animal diseases.

C. Only in exceptional instances shall more than two honorary members be elected by any one chapter in any one academic year.

Active members who move from the residence of their chapter may: **(1)** become known as **inactive members** and not subject to the payment of dues; or **(2) transfer** their membership to another chapter.