Published by the Joint Senate of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies as an Informational Pamphlet by Order of Article I, Section A of General Statute G2-209-1, Revised in the Fall Session of Two Thousand Twelve

Towards Virtue, Liberty, & Knowledge.

A Guide to Petitioning the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies
members, alumni Senators, serve in rotating four-year terms.

Committees Not Mandated by the Constitution

Philanthropy Committee- will motivate the Societies toward the improvement of the community

December Committee- will plan and coordinate the December Graduation Committee- will secure a calligrapher, and plan the graduation ceremony

Portrait Committee- will help catalogue or move portraits as needed

 Traditions Committee- will consider the adoption of new traditions and evaluate the relevance of old traditions

White & Blue Committee- will publish the White & Blue

Additional Resources

Again, petitioners are required to possess ONLY this unofficial guide, and all information that is needed for petitioning will come from this and the sponsor. However if petitioners have time and wish to learn more about Di-Phi or to learn about Di-Phi in a different way, there are several sources which could be helpful:


The Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies Portrait Index, updated by John O’Connor (originally published 1980)


The Di-Phi Epic Poem by President Emeritus Daniel Friedman, modified by John O’Connor (Originally delivered 2009)
What Di-Phi does in addition to the debates:

*The White and Blue* is an occasional publication of the Societies. It reflects the eclectic interests of the Senators. Found within its pages are fiction, political commentary, history, poetry, reviews, and anything else the Societies see fit to print. It also exists as a blog.

*The Mangum Medal* is the oldest student-given award at UNC. It is the Chancellor’s Award for oratory, given each year to a graduating senior. This award is managed by the Societies.

*The December* is a white-tie affair, the Societies’ formal winter ball. *The April* is the Societies’ semi-formal spring dance.

*The Century Debates* are formal debates that pit the Di against the Phi on a question debated one hundred years ago, in the case of the Centennial Debate (held in the Fall), or two hundred years ago, as in the Bi-Centennial Debate (held in the Spring).

*The Kemp Plummer Battle Lecture* is a formal lecture which seeks to enlighten the University community regarding its past, traditionally given on the evening of University Day.

The Chambers

The Societies originally met in members’ rooms and later in Person Hall. The first Society chambers were in South Building, moving then to Old East and West, and finally to New East and West. The Di chamber today houses Monday meetings, and social events, receptions, and committee meetings are held in the Phi.

The chamber plans supposedly contain freemasonic influence, since both face East, the desks on the dais are arranged as an equilateral triangle, and the President is three steps above Senators.

The Di-Phi Foundation

Established July 9, 1974 as a non-profit corporation to preserve, maintain, restore, and enhance the properties of the Societies. It operates as the legal arm of the Societies and holds the legal titles to the portrait collection, furnishings, and other items of value. The Joint Senate President and the Dialectic and the Philanthropic Society Presidents are ex-officio Foundation members. Other

Purpose of Petitioning

The purpose of formally petitioning the Societies for membership is to allow petitioners to demonstrate a genuine zeal for the Societies and their purpose. All of the following information in this guide is designed to help petitioners through the process, but knowledge of information presented in this guide is not a guarantee of a petitioner’s acceptance into the Societies. Above all, petitioners must show a dedicated commitment to the Societies that will continue even after acceptance.

Guide to Petitioning

Petitioners shall read the most updated “Guide to Petitioning the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies” as mandated by the General Statutes of the Societies.

Attendance

Petitioners shall attend at least three (3) meetings, including their petitioning meeting and the meeting immediately prior to it, within the six (6) weeks prior to, and inclusive of, their petition. Petitioners shall be present for the entirety of at least one (1) of these meetings. Guests are always welcome to join the senators for refreshments after the meetings and at social events.

Speeches Prior to Petitioning

Petitioners shall speak on at least two (2) occasions before, and not inclusive of, their petitioning speeches. One (1) of these occasions shall be in debate during the meeting’s program.

Sponsorship

It is the responsibility of petitioners to express their interest in joining the Societies by each approaching a senator about sponsorship; senators do NOT approach guests offering to be their sponsor. Petitioners should be careful in selecting sponsors as they will be responsible for helping them prepare their petitions. Petitioners shall meet with their sponsors at least three (3) days
prior to their petitions. At this meeting, they shall discuss the topic of their petitioning speeches with their sponsors.

Petitioners must provide the following information, which sponsors will present to the rest of the Societies:
--local address
--hometown, places of residence
--year and major
--high school and college activities
--hobbies
--previous speech or debate experience, if any
--reason for petitioning
--what the petitioner hopes to offer the Societies
--what the petitioner plans to gain from the Societies
--number of Joint Senate meetings attended
   (must be at least 3, inclusive of the petition meeting)
--which debates the petitioner has spoken in (it is helpful to know which side the petitioner took)
--any PPMAs the petitioner has given, and appropriate details to refresh senators’ memories
--extent of the petitioner’s social interactions with current senators, including any participation in service activities for the Societies

Petitioning Speech
Petitioners should speak on topics important to them. Speeches must include a clear, well-stated thesis, and an argument for this thesis. Petitioners shall be knowledgeable on their topics and be ready to defend their positions. Creativity is encouraged.

When called on to speak, petitioners must say, “Mr./Madam President, at this time I request the honor of petitioning the Dialectic/Philanthropic Society for membership.” The ONLY thing that may be brought up to the rostrum is the written speech. NO seating charts; NO visual aids for the portraits; NO notes.

PRIOR to speaking, the petitioner must (without stepping on the dais) give a copy of the speech to the Clerk with the following on the heading: name; county, state, or country of origin; and society of petitioning.

AFTER the speech, there will be a question and answer session of
Portrait Tips
Know which portraits depict nonmembers of the Societies, indicated by (N/A). Also, group portraits together by common accomplishments, such as NC Governors, Secretaries of the Navy, NC Supreme Court Justices, Senators influential in education, etc.

Indeterminable length (although it is generally known to last approximately twenty to thirty minutes). The purpose of this session is to challenge petitioners to defend their speeches and to speak on other aspects of the topic at hand. It will also consist of questions regarding Di-Phi and personal questions. No matter what the question, petitioners must always answer fully. “Yes”/ “No”/ “I don’t know” answers are unacceptable. If petitioners do not know the answer, they must be creative.

First Things First
The first step in the petitioning process is deciding which Society you wish to join and who will be your sponsor. Traditionally your region of origin in North Carolina determined the Society you petitioned. Di’s were from west of Orange County, while Phi’s were from the east. Students from Orange County or out of state could choose to petition either Society. Now all students may petition either Society. You may only petition one Society, and you cannot change affiliation after petitioning. After choosing a Society, you’ll need to pick an active Senator in this Society to be your sponsor. Your sponsor will tell you everything you need to know, but you’ll have to work with him or her to schedule meetings.

Preparation
Through your meetings with your sponsor and your own planning, you should begin to gather a working knowledge of the history and operation of Di-Phi along with what you feel you would like to make a speech about on the night of your petition. Your sponsor should also set a date for your petition: some Monday a few weeks in the future. During these weeks, you should make a point to speak a few more times in regular Di-Phi meetings and introduce yourself to ALL the Senators. This will help you satisfy the requirements that you speak at least two (2) times before your petitioning speech and that you know the names of all active Senators. Also try to get to know senators better by going to social events and special meetings.
Week of Your Petition

You should try to have your speech for the night of the petition done as far ahead of time as possible. Your sponsor can look over it and give you feedback about what would be better said in other ways. Also, this allows you time to practice giving the speech, which will help you better the mechanics and delivery of the speech. On top of preparations for your speech, you should spend a fair amount of time studying the history and Constitution of Di-Phi because you'll need to answer questions about those following your speech.

Petition Night

Get to the Di early so you aren't worried about it. Wait through the debate and PPMA and then, when everyone is done speaking, stand up and say, “Mr./Madam President, at this time I request the honor of petitioning the Dialectic/Philanthropic Society for membership.” Walk up, hand copies of your speech to both the Critic and the Clerk, and give your speech from the rostrum. After your speech, you will answer questions about your argument for about five to ten minutes. After that, you’ll answer questions about Di-Phi and its history for about five to ten minutes, and then you’ll be asked random questions for about five to ten minutes. Then you wait outside while the Senators deliberate about your petition. You’ll receive a message sometime in the upcoming week about your acceptance or rejection.

All about the Constitution

Overview

While petitioners are not expected to memorize and quote the entire Joint Senate Constitution, it can be very helpful look over the document, taking note particularly of Article II because it deals with membership. However, know that most of the important information from the Constitution for petitioning is already contained within this guide. It also may be useful to peruse the By-Laws and General Statutes of the Societies as well as the

A. Davie, William R. (N/A): “Father of UNC;” NC Governor; NC Delegate to Constitutional Convention
B. Butler, Marion (Di): President, National Farmer’s Alliance; US Senator
C. Gardner, Oliver M. (Di): NC Governor who consolidated UNC into 3 campuses (Greensboro, Raleigh, Chapel Hill)
D. Bobbit, William H. (Di): Chief Justice, NC Supreme Court
E. Polk, James K. (Di): Speaker, US Congress; President of the US who saw greatest increase of US territory
F. Murphey, Archibald D. (Di): “Father of NC Public Education;” NC Senator who presented a plan for public education to the NC Senate
G. Morehead, John M. (Di): NC Governor who was a champion of transportation; First President, NC Railroad
H. Graham, William A. (Di): NC Governor; US Senator; Secretary of the Navy; Whig Vice-presidential Candidate (1852); Instituted State School for Deaf and Dumb
I. Mebane, James (Di): First Di President; NC Senator
J. Swain, David L. (Di): NC Governor; UNC President during Civil War
K. Clingman, Thomas L. (Di): “Prince of Politicians;” US Congressman; US Senator who was expelled after refusing to resign during the Civil War; General, CSA; Naturalist and Namesake of Clingman’s Dome
L. Cameron, Paul C. (Di): Promoter of NC Railroad; Cotton Manufacturer; Largest Slaveholder in NC
M. Wolfe, Thomas C (Di): Prolific Author of Look Homeward, Angel and many other books, short stories, and plays; Editor of DTH (he pompously claimed in his petition that a portrait of him would one day hang next to Vance’s, as it does now)
N. Ervin Jr., Samuel J. (Di): US Senator who chaired the Senate Watergate Committee
O. Vance, Zebulon B. (Di): NC Governor who supplied the greatest number of troops to the CSA; US Congressman; US Senator; Worked to improve education for all races after the war (When laughing was a fineable offense in the chambers, he gave a speech so hilarious that enough Senators were fined to get the Society out of financial trouble)
P. Aycock, Charles B. (N/A): “Educational Governor;” NC Governor who advocated improving schools
Q. McIver, Charles D. (Di): First UNCG President; President, NC Teachers Assembly
The Works as Exhibited in the Chambers

The following pages offer diagrams of both chambers and the currently exhibited portraits. Information about the men whom these portraits depict (including their Society) is included. Pay close attention to where these portraits are located and what makes the men depicted important, and know the portraits in the Di especially well because petitioning occurs there. Also, petitioners must not forget about the busts!

The Preamble

The only part of the Constitution that petitioners are expected to know from memory is the Preamble. Petitioners should understand the purposes of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies stated here, and know which are most important to them:

WE, the members of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies, in order to promote the ideals of our Societies; namely to stimulate and advance interest in parliamentary discussion, to encourage public speaking, culture, and the arts, to facilitate a free interchange of ideas, to encourage rational thought, to promote the welfare of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and to promote the study of the history of this University, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Joint Senate of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies.

Officers

Petitioners should know the offices of the Joint Senate, what duties are associated with them, which current Senators hold them, and the order of succession. The following is a list of the offices in order of succession with a general statement of their duties:

President of the Joint Senate- runs the meeting, breaks ties in votes, serves as an ex-officio member of the Di-Phi Foundation

President Pro Tempore- fills in for the President if needed, the Constitutional scholar for the Societies

Critic- serves as chair of the Programs Committee and manages the debate schedule; critiques speeches (the critic does not critique guest speeches)
**Clerk**– responsible for recording the minutes from each meeting, also for delivering acceptance/rejection letters (the clerk is the only Senator to not pay dues)

**Treasurer**– responsible for collecting dues from senators and maintaining the Societies’ finances; serves on the Finance Committee

**Sergeant at Arms**– responsible for cataloguing the portrait collection, also in charge of the roll book, keeping order during meetings, and maintaining the Societies’ properties

**Historian**– responsible for archiving minutes in the archives, organizes the Kemp Plummer Battle lecture, the Mangum Medal competition, and the Centennial and Bicentennial debates

**Officers Outside of the Line of Succession**

**Di President**– serves as president of the Dialectic Senate, leads the Dialectic Caucus prior to elections, serves as an ex-officio member on the Di-Phi Foundation

**Phi President**– serves as president of the Philanthropic Assembly, leads the Philanthropic Caucus, serves as an ex-officio member on the Di-Phi Foundation

**Individual Society Officers**– each society also has a set of officers who fulfill their duties mainly during the individual caucus of that society; a list of these officers can be found in the individual society constitutions.

**Voting**

Petitioners should also know some general facts about voting. A quorum of the **majority** of active senators is required for any business to be conducted at a meeting.

A **two-thirds majority** vote of the senators present at two consecutive meetings is required for the passage of a constitutional amendment.

Election to an office requires a **simple majority** vote by secret ballot of the senators present at the election.

The acceptance of a petitioner requires a **two-thirds majority** vote

White and Blue newspaper in 1894 to rival the Tar Heel (now the DTH). For several semesters it fiercely competed for the subscriptions of the several hundred students, providing a view “less biased” by fraternities and the athletic association.

**The Di v. Phi Election**

In the 1852 national presidential election both the vice-presidential candidates were Carolina alumni. William Alexander Graham, was a Di and William R. King, who won with eventual President Franklin Pierce, was his rival from the Phi.

**The Navy**

Di-Phi, and indeed the Phi Society itself, has graduated more Secretaries of the US Navy than the US Naval Academy.

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**The Collection**

Di-Phi has the largest privately-owned portrait collection in the Southeastern United States. The Dialectic Society Collection is comprised of fifty-two portrait paintings, prints, drawings, photographs, and busts, while the Philanthropic Society Collection has fifty. The Joint-Senate also owns eight pieces, giving the Society Collections a total of one hundred ten artworks. Some portraits are displayed outside of the Society Chambers in places such as Wilson Library and the Carolina Inn. Here is some of our portrait trivia:

Phi’s began collecting first in 1818, followed by the Di’s in 1826. President James K. Polk’s portrait is one of the few likenesses of him painted from life and the only one done during his presidency.

The portrait of Thomas L. Clingman is among the most notable in the collection and is unique in the foreshortening of his upraised right arm, a difficult artistic technique seldom seen in portraiture.

The Archangel Michael is thought to be painted by Samuel Morse (of Morse Code fame) as a copy of a Guido Reni original.

Benjamin Franklin’s portrait cost $10. The frame was $15.

The Societies own twenty-one portraits by William Garl Browne, making these holdings one of the largest collections of his work.
Di-Phi’s influence on the library
Di-Phi’s interest and support for books and literature began with the Debating Society’s first order of business to purchase books. Following the Civil War and Reconstruction in 1886, the two Societies merged their collections with the University to form the modern UNC Library. By then, each group owned more than 10,000 volumes, which was much larger than the University library. Di-Phi started the library, and now all books purchased by the library say “Endowed by the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies.”

Diversity in Di-Phi
The Phi Society initiated the first women on April 29, 1930. Three women, Beatrice Crisfield, Katherine P. Wells and Virginia Douglass were inducted. The Di Society, thinking the Phi’s had been “hasty” in admitting women, held off until 1935. The Phi’s elected the first woman to the office of President in 1937, when Marian Igo became the Phi Society President.

The first African-American member of the Societies was James Walker Jr., who was a Phi. He was admitted in 1952, which was progressive compared to the rest of the University and the Southeast in general.

The President’s Exclusive Accessories
The practice of wearing hats in the Societies, as is permitted in the English Parliament, was forbidden. The President, however, of at least the Dialectic Society was after some years required to preside with a hat on, to afford him or her the highest respect. The Joint-Senate President is now the only member allowed to wear a hat during the meeting. The President is also the only member allowed to carry a cane, which is used to maintain decorum. Allegedly, senators once caned a member of the opposite society who was caught spying on a meeting. Thereafter only the President could carry a cane at a meeting.

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The Societies created what became the General Alumni Association, the Yackety-Yack (yearbook), the University Magazine (which became the Carolina Quarterly), the Honor System, and many of the academic schools (i.e. Law, Medicine, Journalism and Mass Communication). The Societies originally published the
What was the original name of the Society: The Debating Society

When the Debating Society was formed: June 3, 1795 (The first query was: “Is the study of ancient authors useful?”)

First President of the Debating Society: James Mebane

When the Society split: A motion was made June 25, 1795 to split. The actual split on July 2 created the Concord Society.

First President of the Concord Society: David Gillespie

When the Societies’ names changed: After working for about a year it occurred to the members of both Societies that the original names were not of sufficient dignity. Accordingly on August 25, 1796, the name Debating was changed into its Greek equivalent, Dialectic (from διάλεκτικός). Four days later, on August 29, 1796, the Greek Philanthropic (from φιλανθρωπικός) replaced Concord.

When the Di and Phi Societies re-merged: May 19, 1959

Who built the rostrum and the desks on the dais: Thomas Day (1801-1861), free man of color and master craftsman of Milton, NC

Di-Phi’s Colors

The trim of the Di Chamber is light blue, symbolizing excellence, while the trim of the Phi chambers is white, symbolizing purity. These, the official society colors, are the origin of “Carolina Blue and White.” Carolina’s colors, light blue and white, began as emblems of factional division between members of the Di and Phi.

The Di, it appears, decided to put blue ribbons on its diplomas, which are given to graduates in addition to the University’s diplomas. In addition to blue standing for honor, blue ribbons were the universal symbol for excellence in agricultural regions like North Carolina. The Di prided itself on excellence.

The Phi chose white ribbons, indicative of truth and virtue, for its diplomas. When intercollegiate football began in the 1880s, students noticed the school colors worn by schools like Virginia and Wake Forest. They wanted similar identification as Carolina students. Quite naturally, they adopted the Societies’ light blue and white signifying that students of both the Di and Phi were on the team and supported it to victory.

Difference between Di’s and Phi’s

After the split, these two organizations were soon locked in heated competition, especially over new members. Di’s and Phi’s would ride out to meet prospective students arriving in Chapel Hill in order to influence their choice of Societies. This competition became so fierce that, according to legend, duels were fought. The trustees of the University quelled this practice of cajoling prospective members around 1850 by formalizing a dividing line that the Societies had unofficially observed for years. Students from east of Orange County were Phi’s and students from west of Orange County were Di’s. Those students from Orange County and those from out of state could still choose their Society. In 2012 the right to petition either society was returned to all students.

Students were required to be members of either the Di or the Phi until the 1890s, when the University allowed students to chose not to be in either society. Additionally, students who were not members were not allowed to live in University housing until then.

The title of “Senator”

After World War I, the Societies reorganized themselves after the State Legislature. The Phi became an “Assembly” and called members representatives. The Dialectic Society likewise became a “Senate.” Now, after joining together, members of the Societies (whether Di or Phi) call each other “Senator.”

Burial Plots

The Societies established the first burial plots within the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery. The Societies provided these plots for members who died while at the University, since sending the body home was not practical. Each society has a separate plot with gothic fencing. The Phi plot has six monuments while the Di plot has five.

Senators are not allowed to walk on McCorkle place (the upper quad between South Building and Franklin Street). The official reason is reverence and respect for the resting place of the first president of the University, Joseph Caldwell. It is at an unknown location on McCorkle place. (Senators are also not allowed to step onto the dais during a meeting without permission.)
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constitution of the society you are petitioning. The By-Laws are a set of rules, secondary to the Constitution, which outline internal administrative and operating procedures for the Societies. The General statutes are rules for the Societies which do not fit naturally within the Constitution or By-Laws, such as the necessity to read this guide before petitioning.

The Preamble

The only part of the Constitution that petitioners are expected to know from memory is the Preamble. Petitioners should understand the purposes of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies stated here, and know which are most important to them:

WE, the members of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies, in order to promote the ideals of our Societies; namely to stimulate and advance interest in parliamentary discussion, to encourage public speaking, culture, and the arts, to facilitate a free interchange of ideas, to encourage rational thought, to promote the welfare of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and to promote the study of the history of this University, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Joint Senate of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies.

Officers

Petitioners should know the offices of the Joint Senate, what duties are associated with them, which current Senators hold them, and the order of succession. The following is a list of the offices in order of succession with a general statement of their duties:

President of the Joint Senate- runs the meeting, breaks ties in votes, serves as an ex-officio member of the Di-Phi Foundation

President Pro Tempore- fills in for the President if needed, the Constitutional scholar for the Societies

Critic- serves as chair of the Programs Committee and manages the debate schedule; critiques speeches (the critic does not critique guest speeches)
**Week of Your Petition**

You should try to have your speech for the night of the petition done as far ahead of time as possible. Your sponsor can look over it and give you feedback about what would be better said in other ways. Also, this allows you time to practice giving the speech, which will help you better the mechanics and delivery of the speech. On top of preparations for your speech, you should spend a fair amount of time studying the history and Constitution of Di-Phi because you’ll need to answer questions about those following your speech.

**Petition Night**

Get to the Di early so you aren’t worried about it. Wait through the debate and PPMA and then, when everyone is done speaking, stand up and say, “Mr./Madam President, at this time I request the honor of petitioning the Dialectic/Philanthropic Society for membership.” Walk up, hand copies of your speech to both the Critic and the Clerk, and give your speech from the rostrum. After your speech, you will answer questions about your argument for about five to ten minutes. After that, you’ll answer questions about Di-Phi and its history for about five to ten minutes, and then you’ll be asked random questions for about five to ten minutes. Then you wait outside while the Senators deliberate about your petition. You’ll receive a message sometime in the upcoming week about your acceptance or rejection.

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**All about the Constitution**

**Overview**

While petitioners are not expected to memorize and quote the entire Joint Senate Constitution, it can be very helpful look over the document, taking note particularly of Article II because it deals with membership. However, know that most of the important information from the Constitution for petitioning is already contained within this guide. It also may be useful to peruse the By-Laws and General Statutes of the Societies as well as the

| A. Davie, William R. (N/A): “Father of UNC;” NC Governor; NC Delegate to Constitutional Convention |
| B. Butler, Marion (Di): President, National Farmer’s Alliance; US Senator |
| C. Gardner, Oliver M. (Di): NC Governor who consolidated UNC into 3 campuses (Greensboro, Raleigh, Chapel Hill) |
| D. Bobbit, William H. (Di): Chief Justice, NC Supreme Court |
| E. Polk, James K. (Di): Speaker, US Congress; President of the US who saw greatest increase of US territory |
| F. Murphey, Archibald D. (Di): “Father of NC Public Education;” NC Senator who presented a plan for public education to the NC Senate |
| G. Morehead, John M. (Di): NC Governor who was a champion of transportation; First President, NC Railroad |
| H. Graham, William A. (Di): NC Governor; US Senator; Secretary of the Navy; Whig Vice-presidential Candidate (1852); Instituted State School for Deaf and Dumb |
| I. Mebane, James (Di): First Di President; NC Senator |
| J. Swain, David L. (Di): NC Governor; UNC President during Civil War |
| K. Clingman, Thomas L. (Di): “Prince of Politicians;” US Congressman; US Senator who was expelled after refusing to resign during the Civil War; General, CSA; Naturalist and Namesake of Clingman’s Dome |
| L. Cameron, Paul C. (Di): Promoter of NC Railroad; Cotton Manufacturer; Largest Slaveholder in NC |
| M. Wolfe, Thomas C (Di): Prolific Author of Look Homeward, Angel and many other books, short stories, and plays; Editor of DTH (he pompously claimed in his petition that a portrait of him would one day hang next to Vance’s, as it does now) |
| N. Ervin Jr., Samuel J. (Di): US Senator who chaired the Senate Watergate Committee |
| O. Vance, Zebulon B. (Di): NC Governor who supplied the greatest number of troops to the CSA; US Congressman; US Senator; Worked to improve education for all races after the war (When laughing was a fineable offense in the chambers, he gave a speech so hilarious that enough Senators were fined to get the Society out of financial trouble) |
| P. Aycock, Charles B. (N/A): “Educational Governor;” NC Governor who advocated improving schools |
| Q. McIver, Charles D. (Di): First UNCG President; President, NC Teachers Assembly |
**Portrait Tips**

Know which portraits depict nonmembers of the Societies, indicated by (N/A). Also, group portraits together by common accomplishments, such as NC Governors, Secretaries of the Navy, NC Supreme Court Justices, Senators influential in education, etc.

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**Petitioning Timeline**

**First Things First**

The first step in the petitioning process is deciding which society you wish to join and who will be your sponsor. You are allowed to petition either society, and you might choose your society based on connections with the current Senators in the society, the historical figures from the society, or the ideals from the motto of the society. You are encouraged to choose a society based on the traditional division, see page 11. You may only petition one society, and you cannot change affiliation after petitioning. After choosing a society, you’ll need to pick an active Senator in this society to be your sponsor. Your sponsor will tell you everything you need to know, but you’ll have to work with him or her to schedule meetings.

**Preparation**

Through your meetings with your sponsor and your own planning, you should begin to gather a working knowledge of the history and operation of Di-Phi along with what you feel you would like to make a speech about on the night of your petition. Your sponsor should also set a date for your petition: some Monday a few weeks in the future. During these weeks, you should make a point to speak a few more times in regular Di-Phi meetings and introduce yourself to ALL the Senators. This will help you satisfy the requirements that you speak at least two (2) times before your petitioning speech and that you know the names of all active Senators. Also try to get to know senators better by going to social events and special meetings.
prior to their petitions. At this meeting, they shall discuss the topic of their petitioning speeches with their sponsors.

**Petitioners must provide the following information, which sponsors will present to the rest of the Societies:**

--local address
--hometown, places of residence
--year and major
--high school and college activities
--hobbies
--previous speech or debate experience, if any
--reason for petitioning
--what the petitioner hopes to offer the Societies
--what the petitioner plans to gain from the Societies
--number of Joint Senate meetings attended
(must be at least 3, inclusive of the petition meeting)
--which debates the petitioner has spoken in (it is helpful to know which side the petitioner took)
--any PPMAs the petitioner has given, and appropriate details to refresh senators’ memories
--extent of the petitioner’s social interactions with current senators, including any participation in service activities for the Societies

**Petitioning Speech**

Petitioners should speak on topics important to them. Speeches must include a clear, well-stated thesis, and an argument for this thesis. Petitioners shall be knowledgeable on their topics and be ready to defend their positions. Creativity is encouraged.

When called on to speak, petitioners must say, “Mr./Madam President, at this time I request the honor of petitioning the Dialectic/Philanthropic Society for membership.” The ONLY thing that may be brought up to the rostrum is the written speech. NO seating charts; NO visual aids for the portraits; NO notes. PRIOR to speaking, the petitioner must (without stepping on the dais) give a copy of the speech to the Clerk with the following on the heading: **name; county, state, or country of origin; and society of petitioning.**

AFTER the speech, there will be a question and answer session of

1. Caldwell, Joseph (N/A): First UNC President
2. Franklin, Benjamin (N/A): Printer; Inventor; Statesman
3. Clark, Walter M. (Phi): Chief Justice, NC Supreme Court; Lt. Colonel, CSA; Proposed “Esse Quam Videri” as State Motto
4. Thompson, Jacob (Phi): US Congressman; US Secretary of the Interior; Secret Agent to Canada, CSA
5. Green, Paul E. (Phi): Playwright who won a Pulitzer Prize for *In Abraham’s Bosom;* Movie Scriptwriter; UNC Professor of Dramatic Art
6. House, Robert B. (Phi): First Chancellor of UNC-CH
7. Badger, George E. (N/A): Secretary of the Navy; US Senator
8. King, William R. (Phi): US Congressman; US Senator; Democratic Vice President under Franklin Pierce (1852 election against Graham) who died of TB after 45 days in office
9. Gaston, William (N/A): US Congressman; Associate Justice, NC Supreme Court
10. Pettigrew, James J. (Phi): Professor, US Naval Observatory; General, CSA, who led Pickett’s Charge at Gettysburg; died at Bunker Hill
12. Mason, John Y. (Phi): US Congressman; US Attorney General; Secretary of the Navy
14. Mitchell, Elisha (N/A): UNC Professor of the Sciences; Measured the height of Mt. Mitchell, the highest point east of the Mississippi River (located in N.C.); Fell to his death at Mitchell Falls
15. Scott, Sir Walter (N/A): Author who originated the historical novel and wrote *Ivanhoe, Quentin Durward,* and *The Lady of the Lake*
16. Bridgers, Robert R. (Phi): President, Wilmington and Weldon RR
17. Saint Michael the Archangel (N/A): Scene from Revelation 20:1-2; After Guido Reni’s version in the Church of Santa Maria della Concezione dei Cappuccini, Rome
18. Dobbin, James C. (Phi): Secretary of Navy who introduced steam ships; US Congressman; helped establish NC Asylum for the Insane
19. Coates, Albert (Phi): Professor of Law, UNC; Founder and Director of the NC Institute of Government (First such institution in the US)
20. Cook, Charles A. (Phi): NC Senator; Associate Justice, NC Supreme Court; US District Attorney
21. Miller, William (Phi): NC Governor; NC Senator; NC Attorney General
22. Blakely, Johnston (Phi): Commander of the USS Wasp (War of 1812) who sunk 15 British ships; was lost at sea after a final victory
Additional Information

What Di-Phi does in addition to the debates:

The White and Blue is an occasional publication of the Societies. It reflects the eclectic interests of the Senators. Found within its pages are fiction, political commentary, history, poetry, reviews, and anything else the Societies see fit to print. It also exists as a blog.

The Mangum Medal is the oldest student-given award at UNC. It is the Chancellor’s Award for oratory, given each year to a graduating senior. This award is managed by the Societies.

The December is a white-tie affair, the Societies’ formal winter ball. The April is the Societies’ semi-formal spring dance.

The Century Debates are formal debates that pit the Di against the Phi on a question debated one hundred years ago, in the case of the Centennial Debate (held in the Fall), or two hundred years ago, as in the Bi-Centennial Debate (held in the Spring).

The Kemp Plummer Battle Lecture is a formal lecture which seeks to enlighten the University community regarding its past, traditionally given on the evening of University Day.

The Chambers

The Societies originally met in members’ rooms and later in Person Hall. The first Society chambers were in South Building, moving then to Old East and West, and finally to New East and West. The Di chamber today houses Monday meetings, and social events, receptions, and committee meetings are held in the Phi.

The chamber plans supposedly contain freemasonic influence, since both face East, the desks on the dais are arranged as an equilateral triangle, and the President is three steps above Senators.

The Di-Phi Foundation

Established July 9, 1974 as a non-profit corporation to preserve, maintain, restore, and enhance the properties of the Societies. It operates as the legal arm of the Societies and holds the legal titles to the portrait collection, furnishings, and other items of value. The Joint Senate President and the Dialectic and the Philanthropic Society Presidents are ex-officio Foundation members. Other

Purpose of Petitioning

The purpose of formally petitioning the Societies for membership is to allow petitioners to demonstrate a genuine zeal for the Societies and their purpose. All of the following information in this guide is designed to help petitioners through the process, but knowledge of information presented in this guide is not a guarantee of a petitioner’s acceptance into the Societies. Above all, petitioners must show a dedicated commitment to the Societies that will continue even after acceptance.

Guide to Petitioning

Petitioners shall read the most updated “Guide to Petitioning the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies” as mandated by the General Statutes of the Societies.

Attendance

Petitioners shall attend at least three (3) meetings, including their petitioning meeting and the meeting immediately prior to it, within the six (6) weeks prior to, and inclusive of, their petition. Petitioners shall be present for the entirety of at least one (1) of these meetings. Guests are always welcome to join the senators for refreshments after the meetings and at social events.

Speeches Prior to Petitioning

Petitioners shall speak on at least two (2) occasions before, and not inclusive of, their petitioning speeches. One (1) of these occasions shall be in debate during the meeting’s program.

Sponsorship

It is the responsibility of petitioners to express their interest in joining the Societies by each approaching a senator about sponsorship; senators do NOT approach guests offering to be their sponsor. Petitioners should be careful in selecting sponsors as they will be responsible for helping them prepare their petitions. Petitioners shall meet with their sponsors at least three (3) days
Again, petitioners are required to possess ONLY this unofficial guide, and all information that is needed for petitioning will come from this and the sponsor. However if petitioners have time and wish to learn more about Di-Phi or to learn about Di-Phi in a different way, there are several sources which could be helpful:

- The Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies Portrait Index, updated by John O’Connor (originally published 1980)
- The Di-Phi Epic Poem by President Emeritus Daniel Friedman, modified by John O’Connor (Originally delivered 2009)
Joining the Societies

Towards Virtue,

Liberty, & Knowledge.

A Guide to Petitioning the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies

Published by the Joint Senate of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies as an Informational Pamphlet by Order of Article I, Section A of General Statute G2-209-1, Revised in the Fall Session of Two Thousand Twelve.