



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

February 2022

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Table of Contents

Recent Events

Int'l Health & Dev. Salon, p.1

Coffee & Conversation, p.1

Young Professionals, p. 2

Upcoming Events

Spanish Language Group, p. 2

A German Happy Hour, p. 2

Book Club News & Reviews,

p. 3

Announcements:

High School Awards, pp. 4

Mentorship News, p.4

Open Position, pp. 4-5

DCPBK Board Meeting, p. 5

DCPBK Board Listing, p. 6

Recent Events

International Health and Development Salon: Global Warming

Our DCPBK Salons invite members each quarter to discuss health and development in a global context.

In our last Salon, on January 23, we addressed the complexities of **Climate Change and Global Warming**, following the rich outputs from the UN Climate Change Conference COP26 held last November in Glasgow. Participants debated whether it was realistic to expect countries and companies to reduce their carbon emissions by 2050 (or soon thereafter) to "net-zero" so that global warming does not rise above 1.5 degrees C. What will it take to achieve this goal? The lively exchange exposed some skepticism about whether all stakeholders are likely to pursue necessary policies and regulation, provide financing for

green energy and new technologies, and report their efforts honestly without "greenwashing." Everyone agreed that tackling global warming was a "huge and ambitious" endeavor that requires both individual commitment and strong governance.

Our next quarterly Salon, to be held at noon on a Sunday in Spring, will unpack the latest trend in public and private development known as **ESG**. The acronym stands for **Environmental, Social, and Governance** dimensions in organizations. What standards are needed to ensure that we live in a world that is sustainable and just? Please check monthly newsletters, your emails, and our website at dcpbk.org for the date and joining instructions. Meanwhile, feel free to email **Dr. Deirdre LaPin** at dlapin21@yahoo.com for topic suggestions, information or questions.

Coffee & Conversation Series

We're working diligently on setting up the next installment of **Coffee & Conversation!** Last year, members heard from a variety of speakers, including the Chief of Investments for the National Gallery of Art, the immediate past President and CEO of the International Center for Research on Women, an expert on risk assessment and analysis, and a leading scholar in Middle East politics and constitutionalism. If you have any suggestions for possible speakers, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dan Rosenberg at dmborg8@gmail.com.

Young Professionals (YP) Network

DC YP Network Kicks off 2022 with Virtual Happy Hour

Last month, more than 15 DC Phi Betes came together for a night filled with drinks and exciting conversation! Throughout the night both new and current members alike discussed a variety of topics including upcoming DCPBK events for the new year, speakeasies to attend, and the best breakfast places in the DC area.

DCPBK Young Professionals Series: Networking 101

On February 10, the DC YP Network held the first webinar a part of their Professional Series entitled, "**Networking 101: How to Grow and Maintain Your Network.**" This webinar taught ambitious young professionals how to do several things such as 1) Finding ways to grow your professional network through cold-calling, 2) Tips and tricks for maintaining your connections, and 3) Unorthodox ways to connect with people. This is the first part of the series, so please keep on the lookout for the next part!

Have Ideas for the YP Network? Contact Us!

Are you someone who has lots of good ideas for the DC YP Network? Have a cool event you think we would enjoy? Then let us know!

If you are interested in getting involved with the DC YP network, or would like to get a copy of the webinar, or if you have any other questions or ideas for the future, please contact Hunter Hamrick (hunterhamrick@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events

Spanish Language Group Meeting

The **Spanish Language Group** met on February 7th for an evening of lively discussion, including movies, theater, and TV shows the group has been watching recently.

Our next meeting will be on **March 21** via Zoom. To register:

<https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/register/2022/3/21/march-spanish-language-group>

As always, the meeting will be conducted in Spanish, so a basic conversational level is recommended to participate in the discussion. Please contact Hadley Ashford (hadley.ashford@alumni.unc.edu) with questions.

A German Happy Hour—Die Plauder-Stunde

March 24, 6:30-7:30 PM

As members of PBK, many of us have had the opportunity to learn different languages and immerse ourselves in other cultures. However, between the pandemic, careers, and the normal hustle and bustle of life, how often do we have a chance to sit down with friends to have a fun and relaxed conversation to practice our language skills and share stories of adventures abroad?

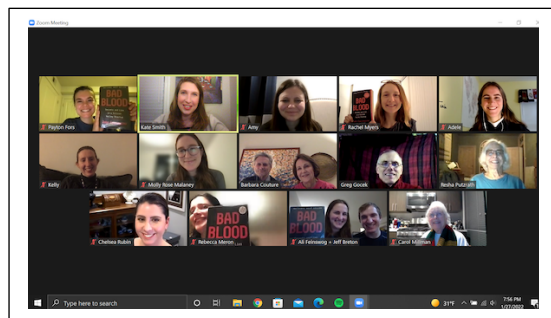
DCPBK will once again be hosting opportunities to practice German language skills in an informal, virtual setting. If you are interested in joining us to "*plauder*" about German culture, food, current events, politics, sports, US-German transatlantic relations, literature, music, or anything else, we welcome you to register: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2022/3/24/a-german-happy-hour-quot-die-plauder-stunde-quot>.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kenny Sobek (jksobek@gmail.com) and Christel McDonald (ChrisJohnMcDon@aol.com).

Book Club News and Reviews

January 2022 DCPBK Book Club Review

On January 27, 16 members and guests met via Zoom to discuss *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup* by John Carreyrou. The timeliness and buzz around Theranos and the recent guilty verdict of founder Elizabeth Holmes certainly generated a lively discussion. Generally, the group gave this selection high marks, as it reads like an engaging, fast-paced thriller. Disbelief that someone could get away with potentially life-threatening deceptions for so long was a common reaction. The book certainly forced us to consider other instances where profit incentives plus compelling personalities may undermine the very best intentions of regulators and investors. We felt Carreyrou did miss an opportunity to speak more on the male/female dynamics at play, especially in the male-dominated Silicon Valley technology world. His narrative choices elucidate bad behavior from the start, a decision frustrating to readers since all the decision-makers seem obviously, negligently blind. However, the author is careful to balance this presentation with all the forces that stood in the way of best practices, including hefty legal and physical protection, threats, and coercive surveillance. With a Netflix series on Holmes to be released soon, the book club highly recommends this compelling look at the rise and fall of Theranos.



February 2022 DC PBK Book Club Meeting:

***Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler**

Monday, February 28, 6:30 PM

Please join us to discuss the *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler (Classic, 345 pages). All DCPBK members and guests are invited to attend.

Please see below for the full list of upcoming selections for the Spring 2022 Series:

- **March: *The Silence of the Girls*** by Pat Barker (International, United Kingdom, 325 pages)
- **Mid-March Bonus: *The Handmaid's Tale*** by Margaret Atwood
- **April: *Until the End of Time: Mind, Matter, and Our Search for Meaning in an Evolving Universe*** by Brian Greene (Nonfiction, 384 pages)
- **Mid-May Bonus: *Fathers & Sons*** by Ivan Turgenev (Classic, 244 pages)
- **May: *The Skin of the Sea*** by Natasha Bowen (International, Nigeria/West Africa, 336 pages)
- **June: *The Sentence*** by Louise Erdrich (Fiction, 387 pages)

As noted earlier, because of the global efforts to slow the spread of Covid-19, the DC PBK Book Club will continue meeting via Zoom, at least through March. **Members who RSVP Yes on the website will receive the meeting link and login information in their registration confirmation email.** We all start together, and break into smaller group chats, as needed, after introductions. Feel free to grab food and drink for the meeting, as we normally would!

I hope to see many of you there!

Sincerely, Kate Smith
Book Club Coordinator

Announcements

High School Awards Program for 2021-2022

The **High School Awards Program** seeks one Committee Member to assist with outreach and selection of awardees for the 2021-22 academic year. The committee's work takes place from January-May. The committee selects high school seniors in the DMV based on their academic achievements and community service. In recent years DCPBK has offered up to four awards to college-bound seniors of \$1,000 each.

Position Description:

- Conduct outreach to DMV-area high schools to inform school counselors about the scholarship opportunity
- Evaluate applications and participate in selection process of 2022 awardees
- Assist in planning the annual Awards ceremony.

To apply, please email High School Awards Committee Chair **Mackenzie Fusco** at awards@dcpbk.org with a resume and a brief statement of your interest in joining the Committee.

Mentorship Network News

We have new mentors joining our **Mentorship Directory**! If you are looking for career support, check out our lists of mentors by logging into the DCPBK website and reviewing our Mentorship Directory!

We are continuing to seek mentors! Currently, we have a need for mentors in political advocacy or non-profits, natural sciences (biology, chemistry, etc.), public policy, education, finance, and law. We are also looking for more mentors of all career stages and industries; young professionals who can support recent graduates, mid-career professionals who can help members become a supervisor for the first time, and retired members who can support members in seeing the big picture in their careers. Everyone has the ability to become a mentor! In addition, by signing up with the **DCPBK Mentorship Network** as a mentor, you will get access to resources and workshops that will help you develop your coaching skills and boost your mentor confidence!

Becoming a mentor for our Mentor Directory is a very low-time commitment! Mentors and mentees, once connected, can meet together on their own terms—virtually, in-person, once a week, once every two months, whatever they decide! To join the Mentor Directory, simply log into your account on dcpbk.org, click on "Profile," and select "Check below if you would like to be a mentor." Answer a few questions, click "save," and you're all set! To learn more about the new Mentorship Network, please visit <https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship>.

Rebecca DeSantis-Randall
DCPBK President
rdesantis2@gmail.com

Open Volunteer Positions

Are you looking to get more involved with DCPBK? Our Board is currently putting together numerous committees to help organize events, raise funds, and engage with our membership, as well as getting more members involved who may be interested in growing into leadership roles. We are currently seeking applications for the office of **2nd Vice-President**.

2nd Vice-President

The **2nd Vice-President** is an officer of the DCPBK board and is responsible for coordinating the Association's monthly programming for general membership, in collaboration with event sponsors. The 2nd Vice-President is NOT responsible for overseeing the programming related to the Young Professionals Network, the Book Club, or the Mentorship Program. Other duties and responsibilities include:

- Coordinating monthly programs for general membership. Examples include tours of museums, lectures, and parties. In particular, the 2nd Vice-President is responsible for helping to plan the two largest annual events for general membership: the Annual Holiday Party in December, and the Spring Fling.
- Marketing and promoting the monthly programs, which includes collaborating with the newsletter coordinator to populate the monthly newsletter with content, with the social media coordinator to publicize events on social media channels and setting up RSVP portals for events through the website.
- Developing budgets and managing costs for programs when necessary, and helping to arrange transportation/directions when necessary.
- Attending quarterly meetings of the DC Area PBK Board
- Other duties which may be assigned from time to time by the President.

Applicants for this position should be members of DCPBK in good standing, and should have experience in outreach to community members, community engagement, utilization of social media platforms for outreach, and web-designing skills. If you are interested in this position, please visit our website at www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions or send an email to volunteer@dcpbk.org

DCPBK Spring Board Meeting

Our quarterly board meetings are open to any DCPBK member in good standing. The Spring board meeting will be on **Saturday, April 9th at 10:00 AM** on Zoom. You can register for the meeting here: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2022/4/9/dcpbk-april-board-meeting>.

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2021-2022 Officers

PRESIDENT: Rebecca DeSantis-Randell (Washington College, 2016)
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: (Jim Stricker, George Washington University, 2015)
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT: OPEN
SECRETARY: Hadley Ashford (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2018)
TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

Breann Watt (University of California, Riverside, 2011)—Past President
Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)—Past President
Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)—Newsletter Editor
Liz Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)—Past President
Kate H. Smith (Boston University, 2010)—Book Club Coordinator
Dan Rosenberg (George Washington University, 2014)—Member Engagement Coordinator

Advisory Council

Deirdre LaPin (Agnes Scott College, 1967)—Past Vice-President
Christel G. McDonald (George Washington University, 1986)—Past President
Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)—Past President

Additional Volunteers

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COORDINATOR: Hunter Hamrick (Florida State University, 2015)
HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS COORDINATOR: Mackenzie Fusco (George Washington University,
MENTORSHIP NETWORK COORDINATOR: OPEN



Love of Learning is the Guide of Life