

Quarter Century for Delta Pi Chapter

By Dr. Faith M. Pereira

Silver Bells!! Silver Bells!! No, it is not Christmas time in the city. But we in the School of Business of Dowling College certainly have every reason to sing "Silver Bells" this year.

At Dowling College on November 4, 1984, the Delta Pi Chapter of Delta Mu Delta, the International Honor Society in Business, was installed. For us, Dean Condon, Dr. Betty K (as she was affectionately known) and me, Dr. Faith M. Pereira,

acceptance into this prestigious organization was indeed a major achievement. It was the culmination of constant communications, oral and written, with the top executives of the Society of Delta Mu Delta, over more than two years. Our situation was unique. At that time we had just two majors: General Management and Accounting.



Dr. Pereira (center) holds the anniversary plaque while Professors Walter Schimpf (left) and James Burke look on.

We were determined to gain acceptance for **all** our Dowling business students. Prof. A.J. Forenoce came to Dowling College, examined the required documents, including my CV, as the Faculty Adviser, and the Course Outline & Syllabus of each of the courses I taught at that time. He obtained a better idea of Dowling College and what it stood for, based on his conversations with the then President, Provost, the Dean of Students, Dr. K., and me. We were later informed that A.J. and the Society Board seemed to consider us in a favorable light. They were ready to accept the Management major; but they had great difficulty accepting our Accounting program, only because courses in Marketing (and Management) were not required for the major at that time. After much deliberation we arrived at the conclusion that students who are Accounting majors, and who are interested in being inducted into this Honor Society, would have to complete at least one course in Management and one in Marketing, for inclusion in this invitation. Delta Mu Delta then conducted a poll of their active chapters to see if this conditional acceptance was to be acknowledged by the Society. Since November 4, 1984 we inducted nearly 940 business majors, all of whom satisfied the complete academic demands of the Society.

Realizing that most of our graduates would seek employment in corporations in Long Island, the then Provost was anxious to satisfy the requirements of local owners and managers. I was assigned the task of conducting a research project on Long Island, consulting randomly selected leaders of corporations, finding out if they had any suggestions to improve our academic offerings. They seemed to like our Accounting program; but preferred more specific majors than our General Management program. To satisfy their requirements, I was asked to prepare a specific major for Management and another for Marketing. Once I completed these two majors, Dr. James Newman prepared the Finance major, and the late Dr. Merv Kamran prepared the CIS major. For each new major, I followed the stipulations of our Delta Mu Delta Chapter Bylaws. As time went by, other majors were added on. For each one the same procedure was meticulously followed.

Having crossed all these hurdles successfully, my Executive Committee felt that we should have a *big splash* to commemorate our **Silver Jubilee** this year, 2009. The choice of the person to be honored was a no-brainer. Our Executive Committee unanimously agreed that there is only one person who could be rightfully chosen for this special occasion: the one and only, **Trustee Terry Townsend**.

This is one tiny way in which we can express our appreciation for all that the Townsends have done for Long Island, for Dowling College, for the School of Business that bears their



Dr. Faith Pereira presents the silver pin celebrating Delta Pi's 25 years on trustee Terry Townsend.

name, and especially for the interest she has in our Delta Pi Chapter of Delta Mu Delta at Dowling College. This celebration was dedicated to Trustee Townsend.

We had very elaborate plans to celebrate the occasion; but much of it had to be toned down because of the sudden death of one of our Executive Committee members, Ms. Ceil Weinstein. We are pleased to dedicate this celebration also to Ceil in appreciation for all she has done for our Delta Pi Chapter over the years, twenty-three to be exact – since the day she was inducted, as a young student. We

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can never forget what Ceil has done for our Chapter all these years. She was the one person I could depend on at all times.

Ceil was the personification of **class and respect**. To me, she was a true **friend**, and not just a student, and an important member of our Executive Committee. Everything she did was done to perfection. Ceil had her own business in Patchogue. In addition, she excelled in so many things: accounting, needlepoint, cooking . . . and the list goes on and on. She is best described as a wonderful wife, mother, grand-mother, daughter and sister. Her entire family was present at this Induction Ceremony. Through Ceil, we have come to love and respect her entire family. We send our condolences officially to each one of them.

To commemorate this Silver Jubilee event I managed to give **SILVER** pins and **Silver-tone** frames to our Honoree, Trustee Terry Townsend, to the Co-Founders of the Delta Pi Chapter, Dean W.J. Condon, Dr. Betty Knuth and the loyal members of our Executive Committee.

We now have a new Dean in the School of Business, Dr. Matthew Cordaro. We look forward to working with him. On this occasion, as I conclude, I must officially express my sincere gratitude to Drs. W. J. Condon and Betty Knuth, Professors Walter Schimpf, Glen Brauchle, and James Burke, for their help and involvement in our ceremonies over these many years. Many thanks to the late Ceil Weinstein for her very many contributions. And to the late Dr. David Millman, who always attended our Induction Ceremonies along with his wife Stecia and daughter Harrah. I am also grateful to Toni and Maryellen for their help in recent years.

For an appropriate conclusion I must express my very sincere thanks to the Secretary / Executive Director, Richard Sosnowski et al. That includes **each one** of the office staff and the Board Members of Delta Mu Delta, and to Dean Condon, for their staunch support when I needed them most – during those dark days of dire distress. I can only end with the words of the English proverb, “*A friend in need is a friend indeed!*” Thank the good Lord I have so many **real friends!** God bless them all - always.

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Trustee Terry Townsend and Dr. Faith Pereira are surrounded by the family of Ceil Weinstein, long time member and officer of Delta Pi Chapter



New student members of Delta Pi with their membership certificates.



From left: Professor Glen Brauchle, Richard Turan, Terry Townsend, Dr. Faith Pereira, Professor Walter Schimpf, and Dr. Jack Turan