**An Introduction to the American University Phi Delta Kappa Website**

The American University (AU) Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) website prides itself on the “learnability” and the links to resources on our website. The "learnability" of a website means that users can quickly understand your website’s content.

AU Kappans truly put their energies into upholding the ideals of service, professional networking and research. It is in this spirit that the chapter website was designed and developed. During the 2011 Summer Executive meeting, the team, (Mrs. Vassar Baldwin, Mrs. LaVerne Brown, Ms. Cynthia Greene, Dr. Katherine James, Mrs. Joan A. T. Kelley, Ms. Barbara McClurkin, Ms. Theresa McClurkin, Dr. Gwendolyn Means, Dr. Mildred Musgrove, Dr. Thomas Penn, Ms. Joanne Smackum, Mrs. Gloria Smith, and Mrs. Mariana Zimmerman) under the leadership of Past President, Mrs. Adrienne Herriott, engaged in a robust discussion about the components of websites and what our website should include. The idea that we had a minimal level of experience was ignored. Instead, we focused on outlining a timeline for researching and determining the design and content and launching the planned site. On November 19, 2011, the plan was implemented, resulting in the launching of our chapter website: [www.americanuniversitypdk0151.org](http://www.americanuniversitypdk0151.org)

Each year, the website team investigates what is new in website design. We face the same dilemma we faced when developing the original website… how to upgrade the site with the emergence of so many web tools, yet still make it user friendly. Even the simplest functions like uploading pictures and choosing fonts have specialized books to explain them. Although design techniques and methods are rapidly changing, we try to keep our design and upgrades simple.

When you search and click on our chapter web link, the home page emerges. Across the top are tabs that lead to additional information and resources:

* *Home page*: Includes our chapter’s version of AU-PDK Wikipedia.
* *Executive Board*: Includes the names and email addresses of the executive members of the chapter
* *Chapter Meetings and Events*: Includes the chapter calendar of events, programs and meetings and their locations
* *Chapter Meetings Continued*: Includes current pictures and highlights of current events
* Click the *More* tab and you can access additional tabs that include:
	+ Links to PDK International
	+ Website links to Professional Resources such as the Universities of Maryland, *Harvard Review,* and *Education Week*
	+ Website links to professional organizations such as the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), and the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics
	+ Information about our chapter’s activities including the Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance, the chapter newsletters (*Kappan Talk*), our chapter’s participation in the Annual Chalk Walk for Education, Chapter By-Laws, the induction of new members, the student symposium, and our chapter’s review of research being conducted by current Trinity University graduate students

We encourage you to visit our website often. We also welcome your feedback and suggestions. Send them to Wanda Means-Harris at wandlux@aol.com.