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## A Letter from the DSR-TKA President

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## A Letter from the DSR-TKA President

It is with great regret and sadness that I announce the dissolution of Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha (DSR-TKA). Our rich history as the oldest forensic organization can be traced back to DSR's founding in 1906 as a national honorary fraternity, and TKA's formation two years later. The two merged in 1963 and by 1967 the organization boasted more than 20,000 members. While once the largest and most competitive national tournaments, DSR-TKA hasn't hosted a national tournament since 2013.

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After much effort and energy by dedicated coaches to revive the organization, it has become clear that the needs of the community are being met by current forensic organizations. Forensic training is one of the most valuable education experiences that a student may have and therefore in April of 2018 the remaining organizational funds were distributed to the National Forensic Association to support their work with students and coaches and the American Forensic Association who will help the DSR-TKA name live on through an annual coaching award. We are thankful that the board at Novice Nationals voted an emphatic yes to housing the journal for many years to come.

Dr. Leroy T. Laase reminded the membership in his presidential address at the fourth annual Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha National Conference in Detroit, Michigan on March 30, 1967 that, "The mission of our Society is to promote interest in and to award suitable recognition for excellence in forensics and original speaking; and foster a respect for and an appreciation of freedom of speech as a vital element of a democracy." As programs and speech itself are currently under attack, it is our sincere hope that Lassey's reminder continues to guide forensic competition and education.

Mary Moore & Mike Edmonds