The Department of English and Foreign Languages at Norfolk State University

## Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society

### Xi Nu Chapter

**Purpose:** The purposes of Sigma Tau Delta are (a) to confer upon candidates distinction for high achievement in English language and literature studies in undergraduate, graduate, and professional work, (b) to promote student interest in literature and the English language on local campuses and their surrounding communities, and (c) to foster the discipline of English in all its aspects, including creative and critical writing.

Chapter members are eligible to apply for Sigma Tau Delta scholarships, participate in international conventions, and submit original written work for publication in *The Rectangle*, our international literary magazine.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** High academic standards required for membership. Eligible students

1. Must be currently enrolled as a graduate or undergraduate student
2. Must have completed at least 3 semesters or 5 quarters of college course work
3. Must have completed a minimum of 2 college courses in English language or literature beyond the usual requirements in freshman English
4. Must have a minimum of a B or equivalent grade point average in English and in general scholarship

Induction ceremonies are held during the spring semester.

**Activities:** Students hold fundraisers, accomplish campus and community work, and participate in various events to help promote the Chapter, NSU, and the surrounding community. Every year, in the month of February, Xi Nu Chapter holds its annual "Images in Black Voices" Black History Month Program.

**The History of Xi Nu Chapter:**

When Dr. Thelma Dixon Curl assumed chairmanship of the English and Foreign Languages Department some 40 years ago, she envisioned a society for college juniors and seniors of mature character, excellent scholarship, and commendable zeal.

### Current 2016-17 Officers:

- **President:** Divinity Stephens
- **Vice-President:** Rayanna Jowers
- **Secretary:** Patience Tait-Morris
- **Treasurer:** Ashlee Jordan

**Advisor/Sponsor:**

- Mr. Damani J. Drew
- **Contact Information:** (757) 823-9124
djdrew@nsu.edu

**Co-Advisor:**

- Dr. WaNelle Aderson
- **Contact Information:** (757) 823-2512
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In the fall of 1974, Dr. Curl began the planning stages by corresponding with the National Headquarters, petitioning them to establish a charter chapter on the campus of Norfolk State College. Necessary procedures were followed and in April 1976, a letter of acceptance was received by Dr. Curl. The chapter was named Xi Nu Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society.

The chapter began on November 4, 1976, at 6:00 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Mills E. Godwin Student Union building when Dr. Curl, Bernice Miller, Nellie Jones, Dorothy Valentine, and Frances Kamara became charter members. Thus, the organizational stages were completed. Since the beginning, the chapter has had numerous induction ceremonies.