Academic Honor Societies

Commonwealth Honors College supports two major honor societies:

**Phi Kappa Phi**

[http://www.phikappaphi.org/web/](http://www.phikappaphi.org/web/)

“...**Founded in 1897** at the University of Maine, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest, and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Its chapters are on more than 300 campuses in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. Each year, approximately 30,000 members are initiated. ...”

Campus Contact: Prof. Theresa Y. Austin, College of Education, Chapter President; Jennifer Bennett, Commonwealth Honors College, Secretary/Treasurer

**Phi Beta Kappa**

[https://www.pbk.org/web](https://www.pbk.org/web)

“...Five students at the College of William and Mary founded Phi Beta Kappa in 1776, during the American Revolution. For over two and a quarter centuries, the Society has embraced the principles of freedom of inquiry and liberty of thought and expression. Laptops have replaced quill pens, but these ideas, symbolized on Phi Beta Kappa's distinctive gold key, still lay the foundations of personal freedom, scientific inquiry, liberty of conscience, and creative endeavor. Phi Beta Kappa celebrates and advocates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. Its campus chapters invite for induction the most outstanding arts and sciences students at America’s leading colleges and universities. The Society sponsors activities to advance these studies — the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences — in higher education and in society at large. ...”

Campus Contact: Prof. Joseph Bartolomeo, English

For more information on invitation to each society and their induction ceremonies, please see each society’s website.

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https://www.honors.umass.edu/academics/honorsocieties