The Department of Sociology and Criminology held its annual *Spring Recognition Ceremony* on Friday, June 3, 2016—to initiate new members into Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD); recognize this year’s Sociology/Criminology thesis writers (for Distinction in the Major); and to recognize our award winners for this year.

**Alpha Kappa Delta Initiation Ceremony**

*Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)* is the International Sociology Honor Society. AKD’s purpose is to promote excellence in scholarship in the study of sociology, the research of social problems, and such other social and intellectual activities as will lead to improvement in the human condition. This is a merit-based award.

**2016 Inductees**

Della Agbeke  
Mitchell Alton  
Kaitlyn Brassette  
Alejandro Garcia Fernandez  
Molly Gummersheimer  
Lauren Padama  
Sarah Porter  
Kristen Powell  
Evan Steinhorst

**Distinction in Sociology and Criminology**

*Distinction in Sociology & Criminology* is awarded to students who successfully complete a senior thesis in either Sociology or Criminology. Distinction was awarded to:

- **Molly Gummersheimer** (Criminology)
- **Lauren Padama** (Sociology)
- **Kristen Powell** (Sociology)
- **Rachael Weatherly** (Criminology)

**Sociology/Criminology Awards**

- **The OMNI Award for Sociological Contribution in the Area of Public Policy** is presented to a Sociology/Criminology student who has demonstrated outstanding work in the area of Public Policy. The 2016 winner of this award is **Alejandro Garcia Fernandez**.

- **The William H. Key Award for Outstanding Work in Applied Sociology** is given to the student who excels in the internship or practicum research. **Molly Gummersheimer** is the 2016 Key Award winner.

- **The Wilbert E. Moore Award for Outstanding Scholarship** is given to the student who has exemplified excellent scholarship through an article, paper, or presentation. The 2016 winner of the Moore Award is **Lauren Padama**.

(Our OMNI, Key and Moore Awards were formally given out on Thursday, May 19, at the Pioneer All-University Awards Ceremony)
The ceremony was followed by a luncheon for students, guests, faculty and staff.