

MARIANNE SKARDĒUS, YOU ARE A FEATHER IN YOUR CAP!

DKG International Nominations Committee announced nominees for 2022-2024. Members of DKG Europe Region were on cloud nine when they read that Marianne Skardēus was promoted the First Vice-President of the International DKG Society. Congratulations, Marianne! You are the pride of DKG Europe Region!

The following interview introduces Marianne's journey to the top.



1. How many years have you served in DKG?

I have served for 32 years since I was part of starting the Sigma chapter here in my hometown Skövde in 1989.

2. What positions have you hold in state organization and internationally?

State organization positions:

Chapter president, Editor of our INFO, State Secretary, Member of the Planning Committee for NE Regional Conference in 1997, started I chapter Chi in Borås, Sweden, in 2003, State President 2005-2007, Chairing the national expansion committee, expansion into Denmark in 2007 and Estonia in 2008, revitalized chapter Lambda, Karlstad, Sweden 2011, Chair the membership committee, Member of an AD-Hoc committee, Certificate committee, Nominations Committee, National Directory Committee, Programme Committee, Publications and Information committee, Committee developing a National Strategic Action Plan, Committee planning the Europe Regional Conference in Borås 2015.

International positions:

Chair of the Europe Forum 2000-2002, Professional Affairs Committee 2000-2002, Membership Committee 2002-2004, Expansion Committee 2004-2006, Educational Foundation, Board of Trustees 2008-2014 (first and so far, the only European in this Foundation), European Director 2014-2016, Chair of International Speakers Fund 2014-2016, Nominations Committee 2016-2020, Education Excellence Committee 2020-2022

3. Which awards have you got for such a list of contributions to DKG International?

I was a Golden Gift recipient in 2002. I was decorated with the Europe Award in 2011.

4. Are you the second European member after Sigrun Klara Hannesdottir who held the position as one of the International Vice-Presidents?

Sigrun Klara was the 2nd Vice-president and so far, the only European to hold that position. Earlier Christina Lindqvist from Epsilon, Uppsala, was Member-at-Large, she was the only European holding this position. So, I am the first European being nominated for 1st Vice-President.

5. What are 1st Vice-president's main responsibilities?

The main responsibility will be, if necessary, to replace the International President and help as much as possible to run the business. It is not possible as for today what the International President will ask me to do, but I will do my best to support and help the members in the Administrative Board.

6. What are you proud of in DKG?

I am proud of the comradery, our huge international network, and the respectfulness between members. I am also proud of all our gifted members and their work in their chapters and in their profession.

7. What are the things you would like to change in DKG?

I would like to simplify certain procedures, but I also know that we must follow Robert's Rules.

Our international website is full of good information both material that might be useful for educators and information about our Society. I wish we could find ways to make our members feel at home in this material. We might also consider that not all members are English native speakers.

8. What do you wish to our in-coming officers for their biennium?

I wish that our in-coming officers will discover all possibilities our Society brings, the network, the scholarships the friendship and that they will make good friends in their chapters and

9. What do you wish for DKG Europe Region?

It is my profound wish that we can keep the members, but also to recruit new and young members. Just now it was said in the news that the Youth sectors of our political parties have problems to survive.

10. What do you do in your free time when you are not thinking of DKG?

I take care of my family and our home. I am active in a couple of senior clubs, and I have started a pop choir for seniors. I have chaired the local Red Cross unit and chaired Skaraborg senioruniversitet. I arrange book clubs and study visit for the members of Skaraborgs senioruniversitet. I read a lot and try to exercise daily.

Dear Marianne, thank you for your time and your answers. With your new position as the First Vice-President in DKG International you have made history in DKG Europe Region. Thank you again. Warm congratulations! Take care of yourself like you take care of your best friend!

Margarita Hanschmidt

Europe Regional Director 2020-2022