

Sample Induction Ceremony

The following is a sample script for an official induction ceremony for new Sigma Chi Eta members. Please feel free to use it as a guide and adapt it to meet the individual needs of your chapter.

[Room Set-up--Chairs are set in theater style with a center aisle. A table is in front of the room with the three main unlighted candles. To the right is a podium for speakers and to the rear of the room is a table for refreshments. Greeters meet people at the door with a program.]

President:

"I would like to begin by welcoming everyone to the Sigma Chi Eta Initiation Ceremony of **(name of the school)**. Sigma Chi Eta is the premiere national honorary society for communication students in community colleges.

First, it is my pleasure to introduce to you the executive board of our Sigma Chi Eta chapter **(name of the chapter)**, and our special guests."

[Introduce board members and guests.]

President:

"Over the years, numerous community college faculty members and students expressed interest in the creation of a communication honor society. The National Communication Association - the oldest and largest association of communication scholars in the world - chose to form Sigma Chi Eta in the year 2000 at the onset of a new century, as a way of honoring exemplary students in two-year communication programs."

Now, with your cooperation, I would like to ask all the new initiates to please assemble in the rear of the room, and for faculty and Sigma Chi Eta Board Members to please come to the front of the room to form the receiving line."

[Pause while people get in position for the ceremony, faculty should be at the front left side of the room, board members at the front right side of the room, and new members in the back lined up alphabetically.]

"The Greek letters Sigma Chi Eta are represented by the Arabic letters S, C, and H.

Students....in Communication....with Honors!

The candle-lighting ceremony will describe each of these Greek letters."

Board Member #1:

"Students are at the heart of our chapter here at **(school name)**. The students whom we honor **(today, tonight)** have demonstrated by their high level of academic achievement that they are deserving of membership in Sigma Chi Eta."

[Board Member lights first candle.]

Board Member #2:

"Students in communication. The students we honor have indicated that they both understand and value the study of human communication. They are committed to apply what they have learned about communication to the betterment of human relationships, the success of the organizations of which they will be part, and to the enhancement of social life and society as a collective."

[Board Member lights second candle.]

Board Member #3:

"Students... in communication... with honors. The students we pay tribute to (tonight, today) have performed honorably. They qualify to proudly wear the chapter lapel pin they are about to receive that indicates their membership in Sigma Chi Eta."

[Board Member lights third candle.]

Vice President:

"The purposes of this Communication Honor Society, according to our constitution are:

To recognize, foster, and reward outstanding scholastic achievement in communication studies; To stimulate interest in the field of Communication; To promote and encourage professional development among communication majors; To provide an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas in the field of Communication; and to establish and maintain closer relationships and mutual understanding between communication faculty and students."

Scholarship Officer:

"The membership of Sigma Chi Eta is composed of students who have declared an interest in the field of Communication at [**the institution where the chapter is recognized**], and who have achieved a high level of academic excellence.

To be eligible for membership, students must have completed 12 semester credit-hours (18 quarter credit-hours) in credit courses; have a cumulative undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0; have completed the equivalent of 9 semester credit hours (12 quarter credit-hours) in courses in Communication; and have a minimum grade point average of 3.25 in these courses. Lastly, he or she must be currently enrolled as a full-time student in good standing in a program with an active chapter."

[The faculty should be at the front left side of the room, while the president and the Sigma Chi Eta board are on the right side of the room, forming a receiving line. One at a time, the president should announce the new initiates in alphabetical order. Once the initiate's name is called, he or she will walk to the front of the room and receive their certificate.]

President:

"As newly inducted members of the [**chapter name**] Chapter of Sigma Chi Eta, please repeat after me: I [**recite your name**] accept the challenge to maintain the high academic and leadership standards set forth by the organization and to serve as examples for the achievement of excellence in the field of Communication. And I promise to work toward the achievement of the purpose and goals as set down by the local chapter and National Organization of Sigma Chi Eta.

I now present to you the newly initiated members of the [**chapter name**] Chapter of Sigma Chi Eta for the year [**state year**]. Welcome!

Will the faculty, administration, family, and friends please join the executive board in welcoming these new members.

Now, I would like to invite you to join the new members for refreshments in [**location**] and thank you for helping make this ceremony special."

[Initiates extinguish their candles and proceed to refreshments as the guests of honor.]