

# Sigma Beta Delta

## Ritual



THE CEREMONY FOR INDUCTING STUDENT AND FACULTY  
MEMBERS INTO SIGMA BETA DELTA

*Presiding Officer (typically the Chapter President):*

Sigma Beta Delta Chapter at \_\_\_\_\_, we will now proceed with the induction of newly elected members. Please present the candidates.

*(The prospective new student members proceed in alphabetical order to their assigned location near the front of the presentation area and facing the audience. Prospective faculty members may already be in place. Both student and faculty new members must participate in the ritual. The inducting officers stand to one side, between the audience and the prospective new members.)*

*Presiding Officer : (addresses member candidates)*

Do you desire to be admitted into Sigma Beta Delta? If so, say "I do."

*Each Candidate: I do.*

*Presiding Officer:* Based on your academic achievements in business, management and administration, you have been invited to membership in Sigma Beta Delta. We are honored to have you join the society that encourages and recognizes scholarship and accomplishment among students of business, management, and administration, and encourages and promotes aspirations toward personal and professional improvement and a life distinguished by honorable service to humankind.

The principles of Sigma Beta Delta are represented by three Greek words, the initials of which form the name of our society: SIGMA (pause) BETA (pause) DELTA (pause).

Hear now what SIGMA means to us:

Statement of Sigma *(Speaker presenting the explanation of Sigma faces the inductees.)*

Sigma is the initial letter of the Greek word **ΣΟΦΙΑ** (Sa-'phe-ä), which means wisdom. Wisdom is knowledge gained over time, analyzed and used with discernment. Wisdom is not merely information, but allows one to acknowledge information, consider its validity and relevance, and then incorporate into one's own life what is appropriate. The wise person realizes the importance of continual learning and accepts the challenge to do so and to gain a more complete understanding of new knowledge. Wisdom is knowledge applied. The wise person seeks to apply knowledge to benefit humankind. As a member of Sigma Beta Delta, I challenge you to pursue wisdom throughout your life.

*Presiding officer:* Listen now to the explanation of Beta:

Statement of Beta (*Speaker presenting the explanation of Beta faces the inductees.*)

Beta is the initial letter of the Greek word **ΒΕΒΑΙΟΣ** (Be-'bi-os), which signifies honor. Honor is a personal quality of the highest value. Honorable persons are held in esteem, considered to be trustworthy, and admired by others because they live a life that is worthy of such recognition. Honorable persons have chosen to live a life that is bounded by integrity and ethical decision-making so that they may be free of the tyranny of dishonor. Honorable persons strive to do that which is right even in the face of opposition. Honorable persons respect others and are willing to provide leadership to the benefit of humankind. As a member of Sigma Beta Delta, I challenge you to accept honor as a constant companion throughout your life.

*Presiding officer:* And now please listen finally to the explanation of Delta:

Statement of Delta (*Speaker presenting the explanation of Delta faces the inductees.*)

Delta is the initial letter of the Greek word **ΔΙΩΚΩ** (Di-'o-ko), which signifies the pursuit of meaningful aspirations. To aspire to worthy goals sets apart persons of accomplishment from those who merely mark time with their lives. Persons of wisdom and honor must aspire to a course to achieve their objectives, for goals without action are no more fulfilling than action without goals. To aspire toward the fulfillment of one's goals to serve humankind and develop personally and professionally will lead to a life of meaning and satisfaction. As a member of Sigma Beta Delta, I challenge you to aspire to goals that will chart you on the path of wisdom and honor throughout your life.

*Presiding Officer:* You have now heard the principles which members of Sigma Beta Delta support and strive to uphold: WISDOM, HONOR and ASPIRATION. Do you accept these principles as your own? If so, say "I do."

*Candidates:* I do.

*Presiding Officer:* Please repeat after me a statement in which you formally accept the principles of Sigma Beta Delta.

*(If any candidate objects to taking an “oath” or “pledge”, that candidate may be excused at the discretion of the Presiding Officer.)*

I pledge myself to maintain and uphold / the principles of Sigma Beta Delta, / international honor society in business, management, and administration. / I will pursue Wisdom; / I will accept Honor; / I will aspire to fulfill worthy goals. / As a member of this chapter of Sigma Beta Delta, / I will accept my responsibility / to support and encourage its purposes. / I will continually seek / to represent well / my chapter, / my (university or college) / and my nation / throughout my life.

*Presiding Officer: (Insignia and certificates should be readied for presentation.):* In recognition of your academic achievement and of your pledge to the principles of Sigma Beta Delta, we will now present to you the insignia of the society. This insignia provides a tangible symbol of the principles of Wisdom, Honor and Aspiration which you have accepted.

*(Insignia and certificates presented individually to new members as their names are read by the presiding officer.)*

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April 1994

Rev. September 1995

Rev. May 1999