

**[title screen, as guests enter]**

**ADVISOR:** “On behalf of the members of the CHAPTER NAME of Sigma Tau Delta at SCHOOL, we welcome you to this special meeting to induct new members. I’m NAME, advisor of the chapter.” (MENTION CO-ADVISOR IF APPLICABLE)

**[ADVANCE SLIDE: OFFICERS]**

Before we get started, I’d like to introduce our chapter officers for this year (visible on screen, wave):

President - NAME

Vice President - NAME

Secretary - NAME

Treasurer - NAME

(ADDITIONAL POSITIONS IF APPLICABLE)

We’re especially happy to welcome new members for (SPRING/SUMMER/FALL) in tonight’s ceremony, and even though this event looks quite different than in years past, we’re certain that Sigma Tau Delta remains an important part of the department and campus community. Our induction ceremony, therefore, grounds our chapter with the resolve to remain steadfast and persevere by linking new members with current members and alumni within our rich tradition.

“Will (CO-ADVISOR OR PRESIDENT) please provide a brief history of Sigma Tau Delta and our local chapter?”

**[ADVANCE SLIDE: HISTORY]**

**CO-ADVISOR OR CHAPTER PRESIDENT:**

“Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society, was founded in

1924 at Dakota Wesleyan University, to confer distinction for high achievement in English language, literature, and writing; and to foster literacy and all aspects of the discipline of English. With over 900 chapters in large and small, public and private, colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad, Sigma Tau Delta is the most active honors organization in our field and one of the largest members of the Association of College Honor Societies.

In addition to the prestige of membership in an international honor society, there are many other benefits of affiliation: thousands of dollars in scholarship and award opportunities, regional and national conferences, and internship and publication possibilities. We hope that as members, you will take advantage of them.

The local CHAPTER NAME of Sigma Tau Delta was founded in YEAR. In that short time, the chapter has accomplished great things, both professionally and socially. *Its members have won society scholarships and internships, presented at local, regional, and national conferences, and participated in meaningful community service projects on campus and beyond.*

Today we're inducting ## new full members [IF APPLICABLE: and ## probationary members]. These students represent both achievement and potential from majors in English *but also (INSERT MAJORS OF NEW MEMBERS SUCH AS Journalism, Visual Arts, etc)*. With their induction, we congratulate them on their accomplishments and encourage them to keep up the good work.

**Vice President:** "Thank you. I have the honor of bringing before you and our chapter (SPRING/SUMMER/FALL) – ## candidates seeking full membership (IF APPLICABLE: and ## seeking probationary membership) in the CHAPTER NAME of Sigma Tau Delta."

We will first induct our full Society members, as announced by officer **NAME:**

**[ADVANCE SCREEN: SPRING/SUMMER/FALL FULL MEMBERS]**

**[READ BY NAME]**

**Vice President:** "Candidates, upon careful examination of your academic accomplishments in the field of English, in recognition of what you have already done, and in hopeful anticipation of what you will continue to do, I present you to this assembly, to our Chapter Advisors, and to our chapter officers."

**President:** Mr. Secretary, have these candidates satisfied all of the requirements for membership?"

**Secretary:** "Each has satisfied all chapter requirements for membership."

**President:** "Treasurer, are their membership documents in order?"

**Treasurer:** "Each has membership documents in order."

**President:** (to candidates) "Candidates, each of you has been recommended as a person of good scholarship and with enthusiasm for English language and literature. Having been presented by the Vice President and verified by the Treasurer and Secretary, are you ready to take upon yourselves the honors and obligations of membership in the CHAPTER NAME of Sigma Tau Delta. If you are ready to do so, answer, 'I am ready for membership.'"

**CANDIDATES:** (in unison) "I am ready for membership."

**President:** "Only persons of high scholarship in English are admitted to our fellowship. We join with others from the country and abroad in celebration of all the fields of English."

Please open your mics and share a round of applause for these new members of the national society.

[pause]

[IF ANNOUNCING PROBATIONARY/CONDITIONAL MEMBERS]:

Probationary members form an integral part of our chapter and department community, and we are happy to welcome ## more to our chapter tonight, as announced by officers NAME and NAME.

**[ADVANCE SCREEN: PROBATIONARY MEMBERS]**

Thank you, probationary members, for your early commitment to the chapter and to this community.

**President:** (to inductees) "I now declare you to be members in the CHAPTER NAME of Sigma Tau Delta. We welcome you to the fellowship of this chapter and to the larger fellowship of the international Society. We look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

(to audience) "Audience, please again open your mics and join me in welcoming our new members" (applause)

**PRESIDENT:** "Congratulations to you all. I'd now like to invite ADVISOR to say a few words."

**ADVISOR:** Thanks again and congratulations. INSERT MESSAGE ABOUT CHAPTER INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES....That concludes our ceremony, but stick around for a short member meeting led by our exec officers.

**Sigma Tau Delta Regents** recommend that chapters select quotations exemplifying *Sincerity, Truth, and Design* that are locally meaningful and that are directly connected to the department's curriculum and values. Here are a few other quotations that chapters use.

**Sincerity**

Leslie Marmon Silko: "I know the voices of the storytellers, and I know that if you tell their truth and don't try to be self-serving, they aren't dangerous -- in fact, they bring great protective power -- *great protective*

*power.*" from *Conversations with Leslie Marmon Silko*, ed. Ellen L. Arnold, University of Mississippi Press, p. 139 [Reprint of *Speaking of the Short Story: Interviews with Contemporary Writers*, ed. Farhat Iftekharuddin, Mary Rohrberger, and Maurice Rice (University of Mississippi, 1997)].

### **Truth**

There is greatness in the truth,  
A dignity to satisfy our wish,  
A solemn tone to make us still,  
A sorrow to fill our hearts,  
A beauty and a vision in the truth

From "The Blue Meridian" (ll. 760-764) in *The Collected Poems of Jean Toomer*, ed. By Robert B. Jones and Margery Toomer Latimer. London, 1988, pp. 50-75.

### **Design**

Toni Morrison wrote about design in the sense of creation when she wrote, "If you find a book you really want to read but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it." Speech to the Ohio Arts Council, 1981, reported by *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, Sun. September 27, 1981, p. 106.