

United States Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colorado
Society of Physics Students - Chapter #7502
Sigma Pi Sigma – Chapter #555

**“First Sigma Pi Sigma Induction Ceremony – Building the
Sigma Pi Sigma Community”
Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Report**

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Submitted on
May 25th, 2014

Project Summary:

On May 21st, 2014 the United States Air Force Academy held its first Sigma Pi Sigma Induction Ceremony in recognition of outstanding students and faculty in USAFA's Department of Physics. SPS President Toni Sauncy presided over the event and was the keynote speaker. Over thirty individuals attended the dinner and nineteen students and faculty members were inducted.

Event Report:

Event planning and organization was led by Dr. Devin Della-Rose, Lt Col Mario Serna, 2^d Lt Ed Schroder, and C3C Anita Dunsmore (SPS Chapter Treasurer). The planning team determined that the event should be held at the Edelweiss Restaurant in Colorado Springs.



Edelweiss Restaurant in Colorado Springs

For a student to receive a nomination to become a member of the SPS chapter, they first needed to fulfill the GPA requirements. A 3.25 major's GPA was required in their major's classes, and a 3.25 overall GPA was also required for all of their classes. Additionally, students must have completed their 2nd or 1st class year (junior or senior year) to be inducted. Finally, the student needed to receive an endorsement from their faculty advisor in the physics department. Each inductee was presented with a laser-etched piece of marble taken from the terrazzo – the Air Force Academy's marching square. The chapter possesses enough cut spares

to last for several future induction ceremonies. The pieces of marble were engraved with the names of the inductees and the Sigma Pi Sigma emblem. The dinner and ceremony lasted from 5:30 pm to about 8:45 pm and was a great success! The pictures and captions below tell the story of how the event went!

Budget:

Description	Cost Per Item	# Needed	Total Cost
Dinner cost for student initiates and speakers	\$25	9	\$225
Engraved marble plaques for Initiates	\$15	19	\$285
Total			\$510

Pictures of a successful Induction Ceremony!



SPS President Dr. Toni Saucy gives the history of Sigma Pi Sigma to the new inductees.



Dr. Sauncy spoke of how Sigma Pi Sigma was started, and how rapidly it has expanded. The USAFA chapter is the 555th to be granted a charter.



Dr. Richard J. Cook, a Professor at the Air Force Academy, was guest speaker for the night. He gave the new inductees advice for their future careers.



Lieutenant Colonel Christian Wohlwend presents Dr. Cook with a present from the physics department – a piece of the Academy’s terrazzo with the physics and meteorology coins on it.



All of the inductees – faculty and students – were presented with pieces of the Academy’s terrazzo, with their names and the Sigma Pi Sigma logo engraved on them.



Lt Col Mario Serna accepts the charter for USAFA's chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma.



Cadet Second Class Evan Weld is inducted into Sigma Pi Sigma by newly inducted Sigma Pi Sigma chapter advisor LtCol Mario Serna.



Lt Col Mario Serna inducts Major Christina Dugan into the USAFA Chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma. The rest of the inductees are not pictured but everyone loved the event! After receiving their marble plaques each inductee signed their name in the chapter's new "red book."