

The Installation Ceremony
of
Kappa Mu Epsilon
Mathematics Honor Society
Revised August 8, 1996

(The initiates are arranged in alphabetical order and either seated in the initiation room or located in an outer room or hallway.)

Installing Officer, addressing the audience:

(Use if initiates are outside.) I request that the initiates be brought before us by the conductor. (All initiates are then brought in as a group and seated. The conductor is a visiting KME member or a local officer.)

You who are to be initiated at this meeting have satisfied the requirements for membership in Kappa Mu Epsilon. During this ceremony it is our purpose to acquaint you with the traditions of Kappa Mu Epsilon, including its history and ideals.

Would each initiate please rise as you are presented by the conductor?

Conductor, addressing the Installing Officer:

I have the pleasure of presenting these initiates for membership in Kappa Mu Epsilon.

(The conductor then reads the names. As each is read, the initiate rises and remains in place until instructed to be seated.)

Installing Officer, addressing the initiates:

We are assembled here for the purpose of initiating you into Kappa Mu Epsilon, National Mathematics Honor Society, and installing a new chapter of the Society. In becoming an integral part of the Society, you are assuming an obligation that you have not heretofore borne - the obligation of serving an organization which seeks to stimulate your interest in acquiring an understanding of mathematics and its place in our total pattern of thought. The ideas developed in your meetings may change your concept of mathematics and may even change the mathematics of future years. I strongly encourage you to make a worthy contribution to the Society. No matter how large or small your contribution may be, its chief value will be that it represents your best effort so that those who follow later may profit from your work. You may be seated while the officers and I instruct you in the history and ideals of the organization.

(Initiates seat themselves.)

Kappa Mu Epsilon is a national organization founded in 1931 to promote the interest of mathematics among undergraduate students. We, the members, recognize the great service of

mathematics in the development of civilization. Advancements continue to be made in the physical universe and in the sciences of human relationships by the application of mathematical knowledge. Mathematics as a pure science and art represents the height of intellectual endeavor.

From the time of the Pythagoreans, mathematicians have derived inspiration and strength from working together. History records the activities of many scholarly societies devoted to mathematical research and discussion. Most of these groups have limited their memberships to students possessing advanced training in mathematics. Kappa Mu Epsilon, however, is a society for undergraduate students, as well as beginning graduate students and faculty, who have a strong commitment to mathematics. It is our belief that the advancement of mathematics depends upon individuals such as you who are being initiated here today.

I now present _____, your vice-president, who will instruct you in the purposes of Kappa Mu Epsilon.

Vice-President, addressing the initiates:

All civilizations have depended upon mathematics. Philosophers and logicians have recognized and used its power to develop systems of logic and thought. In addition to the natural sciences, mathematics has had an impact on art, economics, political science, religion, and other social sciences. Mathematics also has aesthetic beauty; the geometer and applied mathematician study and appreciate the harmonious relationships which exist between mathematics and the world around us. Because those interested in other fields of knowledge have recognized its worth, mathematics is often called "The Queen of The Sciences."

The primary purposes of being a member of Kappa Mu Epsilon include the following:

- to further interest in mathematics,
- to emphasize the role of mathematics in the development of civilization,
- to develop an appreciation of the power and the beauty of mathematics,
- to recognize the outstanding mathematical achievement of its members,
- and
- to familiarize members with the advancements being made in mathematics.

Furthermore, Kappa Mu Epsilon strives to maintain a spirit of collegiality among men and women interested in mathematics. Friendship, cooperative enterprise, and willing service are essential in this relationship.

In brief, Kappa Mu Epsilon aspires to help you, as you will help others, to maintain a lasting interest in mathematics and its many contributions to society.

Installing Officer, addressing the initiates:

You have heard the purposes of Kappa Mu Epsilon. Is it your desire to join with us in the pursuit of the ideals expressed in these purposes?

If so, answer: It is. (*Pause for initiates to respond.*)

Do you agree to participate actively in the chapter affairs and abide by the constitution and bylaws?

If so, answer: I do. (*Pause for initiates to respond.*)

We now invite you to sign the chapter roll.

(The installing officer calls each initiate forward by name. After signing the chapter roll and receiving from the installing officer the membership card, the initiate is reseated. If available at initiation time, keypins can be distributed as well.)

Installing Officer continues:

I now introduce _____, your secretary, who will describe the insignia of Kappa Mu Epsilon.

(An option at this point is the projection of the slides provided to each chapter by the national office.)

Secretary, addressing the initiates:

The name of this organization is Kappa Mu Epsilon, National Mathematics Honor Society. The seal is a five pointed star, enclosing the five-leaf rose, and encircled by the legend, "Kappa Mu Epsilon, Founded 1931." The flower is the wild rose; the colors are rose-pink and silver.

The badge of the Society is a pentagon with the sides slightly concave. In the upper half is the five-leaf rose; in the lower half are the Greek letters Kappa Mu Epsilon.

The crest is a shield enclosing the five-pointed star. In the star is the graph of the rose, $\rho = a \sin 5\theta$, which represents pure mathematics. Around the star are symbols indicative of the many areas using and influencing mathematics. At the upper right is a butterfly, for the life sciences; at the lower right is a moon with three stars, for the physical sciences; at the bottom is the symbol "S angle n", for business and economics; at the lower left is a shamrock beneath a slide rule, for engineering; at the upper left is the book of knowledge for the many other areas that rely on recorded mathematical truths. Above the shield is the design of the badge of the society. Below the shield is a streamer upon which is printed in Greek the Kappa Mu Epsilon motto, which may be translated:

"Develop an appreciation for the beauty in mathematics." (*You may wish to use the phrase in Greek: A-na-ptus-se-te tan ek-te-ma-sin too kal-loos ton matha-ma-ti-kon.*)

Installing Officer, addressing the initiates:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Kappa Mu Epsilon, National Mathematics Honor Society, I declare this organization to be the _____ Chapter of Kappa Mu Epsilon, and convey to those who have signed the charter roll as charter members, and to their successors, all the privileges of the Society. In token thereof I now present the charter of the _____ Chapter to your President.

Installing Officer, addressing the audience:

Please join me in welcoming the _____ Chapter into the Kappa Mu Epsilon National Mathematics Honor Society. (*All applaud.*)

Installing Officer, continues:

Will the officers of the _____ Chapter appear before me?

To the President: _____, as president it is your duty to preside at all meetings, appoint committees and designate their duties, call special meetings when necessary, and see that all provisions of the national constitution and bylaws are duly observed. Should it be necessary for you to be absent, you are to instruct the proper officer to preside.

Do you accept the responsibilities connected with the office of President of the _____ Chapter?

If so, answer: I do.

To the Vice-President: _____, as vice-president it is your duty to preside in the absence of the president, and to assist and advise the president whenever your suggestions will be helpful to the Society.

Do you accept the responsibilities connected with the office of Vice-President of the _____ Chapter?

If so, answer: I do.

To the Recording Secretary: _____, as recording secretary it is your duty to keep a complete and precise record of all the proceedings of the chapter, and to keep a directory of all members with their present and permanent addresses.

Do you accept the responsibilities connected with the office of Recording Secretary of the _____ Chapter?

If so, answer: I do.

To the Treasurer: _____, as treasurer it is your duty to collect all fees, dues, assessments, to pay all bills approved by the president, to keep an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures, and to render an account of the same.

Do you accept the responsibilities connected with the office of Treasurer of the _____ Chapter?

If so, answer: I do.

To the Corresponding Secretary: _____, as the corresponding secretary it is your duty to carry on the correspondence with the national officers and other chapters. You will report all initiations to the National Secretary and file all communications with the proper national officer.

Do you accept the responsibilities connected with the office of Corresponding Secretary of the _____ Chapter?

If so, answer: I do.

To the Faculty Sponsor: _____, as the faculty sponsor it is your duty to direct and advise the chapter, and to provide liaison between the chapter and the faculty and administration.

Do you accept the responsibilities connected with the office of Faculty Sponsor of the _____ Chapter?

If so, answer: I do.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Kappa Mu Epsilon, National Mathematics Honor Society, I declare you to be the officers of the _____ Chapter of Kappa Mu Epsilon.

Installing Officer, addressing the audience:

Please join me in honoring the chapter officers of the _____ Chapter of Kappa Mu Epsilon. *(All applaud. Officers return to the group of new initiates.)*

Installing Officer, addressing the members of the chapter:

New members, would you please rise. *(Pause)*

Now that you are members of the Kappa Mu Epsilon National Mathematics Honor Society, I affirm your right to bear the name of the society and to wear its badge. I congratulate you and welcome you into the _____ Chapter of Kappa Mu Epsilon.

Installing Officer, addressing the audience:

Please join me in welcoming these new members. *(All applaud. Installing officer and others proceed to offer personal congratulations.)*