



**Sigma Delta Pi:
A Brief History
Recounting a Decade
1995-2004**

By John H. LaPrade and Mark P. Del Mastro

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Supplementary Chapters

In 1994, T. Earle Hamilton published *Sigma Delta Pi, A Brief History (1919-1994)* to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Sigma Delta Pi. During the 2001 Executive Committee Meeting in San Francisco, the idea was born to continue the commemorative efforts of the late Dr. Hamilton by publishing two supplementary installments of the *History*: 1) one for the eighty-fifth anniversary of the Society covering the years 1994-2004 and authored by John H. LaPrade and Mark P. Del Mastro; 2) one for Sigma Delta Pi's one-hundredth anniversary covering the years 2004-2019. It is our intention that all the supplementary chapters be published along with a second edition of Hamilton's *History* in 2019.

As authors of the following Chapters XI and XII (LaPrade and Del Mastro, respectively) of the ongoing *History* of Sigma Delta Pi, we are proud to present the following first supplementary installment in commemoration of our beloved Society's eighty-fifth birthday.

Finally, on behalf of the current Executive Committee of Sigma Delta Pi (Germán D. Carrillo, President; John H. LaPrade, Past President and President Emeritus; Richard E. Chandler, President Emeritus and Honorary President; Mark P. Del Mastro, Executive Secretary-Treasurer), we hope that the following chapters represent adequately the ongoing efforts first begun with the 1994 publication of Hamilton's *History* and that the Society's centennial in 2019 will enjoy the second supplementary installment along with other forms of celebration appropriate to a one-hundredth birthday.

John H. LaPrade and Mark P. Del Mastro
Dallas, Texas, and Charleston, South Carolina
November 2004

Chapter XI

John H. LaPrade, 1995-1998

A Period of Mourning and Recovery

Conclusion of the 1992-1995 Triennium

During the last year of LaPrade's first term as President, Sigma Delta Pi celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary (November 14, 1994). The day was marked by the completion of T. Earle Hamilton's manuscript for *Sigma Delta Pi: A Brief History, 1919-1994*. Although plans had been made to mail copies of the book to all chapters during the academic year, 1994-1995, it was decided to delay distribution until the following year since the printer (Cushing-Malloy, Inc. of Ann Arbor, Michigan) was unable to complete production of the book until May 1995. The Executive Committee decided the book would be made available at the Triennial Convention in San Diego on August 10, 1995, with Hamilton in attendance to autograph copies for the delegates and guests. Unfortunately, Hamilton's health prevented his attendance at the meeting in San Diego; nevertheless, initial distribution began at the convention, and copies were mailed to chapters not in attendance early in Fall 1995.

Other plans for the Triennial Convention in San Diego included taking advantage of the banquet of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese to recognize Richard E. Chandler for his election on April 22, 1994, as Honorary President of Sigma Delta Pi. Unfortunately again, Chandler's health prevented his attendance. The final disruption of plans for the gathering in San Diego occurred when President LaPrade's wife, Margaret, was hospitalized for neck surgery two days before the convention.

In spite of the fact that only one member of the Executive Committee, Executive Secretary-Treasurer Ignacio R. M. Galbis (ably assisted by his wife and longtime assistant, Sophie), was in attendance, the 1995 Triennial Convention was memorable and successful. Among those in attendance were AATSP President Jean Chittenden, Trinity University, and former Sigma Delta Pi President (1969-1971) Dolores Brown, University of Arizona. In his report to the delegates the Executive Secretary-Treasurer highlighted several accomplishments:

Number of initiates: 2950 in 1992-93, 3094 in 1993-94, 3154 in 1994-95

Reactivated chapters: 10 in 1992-93, 9 in 1993-94, 7 in 1994-95 (Several of these 26 chapters had been dormant for more than fifteen years.)

New chapters installed:

463. Tau Iota, The Citadel, Charleston, SC, January 1993

464. Tau Kappa, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA, March 1993

465. Tau Lambda, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, April 1993

466. Tau Mu, Union College, Schenectady, NY, June 1993

467. Tau Nu, Charleston Southern University, Charleston, SC, June 1993

468. Tau Xi, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA, April 1994

469. Tau Omicron, Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA, May 1994
470. Tau Pi, Howard Payne University, Brownwood, TX, April 1995
471. Tau Rho, University of North Dakota, Grand Lakes, ND, May 1995
472. Tau Sigma, Eastern Oregon State College, La Grande, OR, May 1995
Funds for summer scholarships in Mexico and Spain: \$16,800.00, 1993; \$20,200.00, 1994; \$22,500.00, 1995
Income has continued to meet or exceed expenses, and investments have increased to almost a half million dollars.

Galbis recognized contributions of members of the Executive Council (1992-1995), including those of the Regional Vice Presidents: Marie-Lise Gazarian, Northeast, Saint John's University; Amado Lay, Midwest, Gustavus Adolphus College; J. Bernardo Pérez, Southwest, Rice University; Annette G. Cash, Southeast, Agnes Scott College; and Amy Williamsen, West, The University of Arizona. (In the 1992 election there were no candidates for vice president in the Southeast and the West. A special election was held in Fall 1992 to fill these posts. The three newly elected Vice Presidents comprised the election committee, with J. Bernardo Pérez serving as chair.)

The report of the 1995 election committee (Mark P. Del Mastro, The Citadel, Chair; David G. Anderson, John Carroll University; Héctor Márquez, University of Redlands) was presented by Del Mastro. Reelected president was John H. LaPrade, Southern Methodist University. Reelected as regional vice presidents were Marie-Lise Gazarian, Northeast, Saint John's University, and Amado Lay, Midwest, Gustavus Adolphus College. Newly elected vice presidents were Lee A. Daniel, Southwest, Texas Christian University; Joann McFerran Mount, Southeast, University of North Carolina at Wilmington; and Domnita Dumitrescu, West, California State University at Los Angeles.

The meeting continued with the presentation of several awards. Domnita Dumitrescu, California State University at Los Angeles, received the 1995 *Premio Martel* in recognition of her outstanding work as adviser to Chapter Gamma Psi. (The 1992 *Premio Martel* was not awarded until 1993 because the call for nominations was inadvertently not issued before the 1992 Triennial Convention. The award was made to Faustina Pereda, Chapter Mu Delta, Nazareth College of Rochester, Rochester, NY.) Roma Hoff of the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire was recognized, *in absentia*, for thirty years of service as adviser to Chapter Delta Psi. Kevin J. O'Connor, The Colorado College, was inducted into the *Orden de los Descubridores* in recognition of his long and distinguished service as chair of the scholarship committee.

Galbis called attention to the fact that beginning in 1992 he had again become editor of *Entre Nosotros* and that the journal had once more become an annual publication in the form of a booklet. The first issue of the triennium (Vol. XXXV, December 1992) consisted of a tribute to Richard E. Chandler celebrating his fifteen years as President of Sigma Delta Pi. Business was concluded by the announcement of Galbis's reappointment as Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the 1995-1998 triennium. A reception for delegates and guests followed.

State Directors

The concept of appointing State Directors was begun during the presidency of T. Earle Hamilton in 1966. Although the system worked well in many instances, it would eventually be abandoned in 2001. Throughout the two terms of LaPrade's presidency several individuals served with distinction in the office. Except as noted, the following were State Directors during the triennia 1992-1995 and 1995-1998:

NORTHEAST

Connecticut, Sharon Magnarelli, Quinnipiac College, 1992-1995
Delaware, A. Julián Valbuena, University of Delaware
Maryland & D.C., Jorge A. Giró, Towson State Univ.
Mass., John H. Twomey, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, 1992-1995
New Jersey, Daniel Zalacaín, Seton Hall University, 1992-1995
New York-zip codes 10000-12999, Ela R. Gómez-Quintero, Iona College
New York-zip codes 13000 & above, Tina Pereda, Nazareth College of Rochester
Vermont, Ana María Alfaro-Alexander, Castleton State College, 1992-1995

SOUTHEAST

Alabama, Myralyn F. Allgood, Samford University, 1992-1995
Florida, Martín A. Favata, University of Tampa, 1992-1995
Georgia, Cleveland Johnson, Spelman College
Kentucky, Joseph R. Jones, University of Kentucky
Mississippi, Robert J. Kahn, Millsaps College
North Carolina, Guy M. Arcuri, Wake Forest University, 1992-1995
North Carolina, Guy M. Arcuri, High Point University, 1995-1998
South Carolina, Mark P. Del Mastro, The Citadel, 1992-1997
South Carolina, Jhon C. Akers, Wofford College, 1997-1998
Tennessee, Eduardo Zayas-Bazán, East Tennessee State University
Virginia, James D. Lavin, College of William & Mary, 1992-1995
Virginia, Justo Ulloa, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1995-1998
West Virginia, Amanda Plumlee, Davis & Elkins College, 1992-1995

MIDWEST

Illinois, John A. Kerr, Jr., Northern Illinois University
Indiana, Guillermo Latorre, Univ. of Southern Indiana
Iowa, George Zucker, University of Northern Iowa
Michigan, Rebecca Torres-Rivera, Central Michigan University
Minnesota, Jami L. Strandberg, College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, 1992-1995
Minnesota, Robert L. Irvin, Gustavus Adolphus College, 1995-1998
Nebraska, Angela Valle, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Ohio, David G. Burton, Ohio University, 1992-1995
South Dakota & North Dakota, Dennis A. Klein, University of South Dakota
Wisconsin, Paul Hoff, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

SOUTHWEST

Missouri, Lucy Lee, Northeast Missouri State University/Truman State University
Texas-zip codes 75000-77999, Joseph F. Vélez, Baylor University
Texas-zip codes 78000-79999, Roberto A. Galván, Southwest Texas State University

WEST

California-zip codes 90000-93999, Domnita Dumitrescu, Cal. State U., Los Angeles,
1992-1995
California-zip codes 94000 & above, Robert W. Dash, University of the Pacific

Executive Committee Meeting, 1996

For the first time since the inception of annual meetings of the Executive Committee during the presidency of Richard E. Chandler, President Emeritus T. Earle Hamilton was unable to participate. The meeting was held at Days Inn-West in Houston, Texas, May 19-21. Committee Members present were Richard E. Chandler (Past President), Ignacio Galbis (Executive Secretary-Treasurer), and John H. LaPrade (President). Although Hamilton was not present for the discussion of business, on the last day of the meeting Hamilton's son Charles escorted Committee Members to visit his father at the River Oaks Nursing Home in nearby Columbus, Texas, where Hamilton was recuperating from a fall at church in March, 1996, in which he broke his hip, shoulder, and a vertebra in his back.

Before its visit to Hamilton, the Executive Committee dealt with most of the articles on its agenda and took action on four especially significant items: the designation of honor chapters, the charter fee, the appointment of an Assistant Editor for *Entre Nosotros*, and the Constitution and By-laws.

The committee approved awarding a credit to the top ten honor chapters. The resulting saving in amounts payable to the Treasurer may be used to pay initiation fees of needy students, to reduce the initiation fee of candidates, or to support worthwhile activities of the chapter.

A proposal to raise the fee for application for a charter from \$50.00 to \$75.00, effective January 1, 1997, was made. This proposal was later submitted to the Executive Council and was approved.

The committee authorized LaPrade to explore the appointment of an Assistant Editor for *Entre Nosotros* to help Galbis, especially in preparing copy for the printer, and possibly to find a new printing company. Immediately following the meeting in Houston, LaPrade contacted Mark P. Del Mastro, a young professor at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, who readily accepted the appointment. Del Mastro had submitted the first petition for a new chapter during the first year of LaPrade's presidency and had served with great distinction and enthusiasm as adviser to Chapter Tau Iota and as State Director for South Carolina. He had met Galbis at the Triennial Convention in San Diego in 1995, where they had discussed ways of improving the appearance of *Entre Nosotros* and where Del Mastro had expressed his willingness to assist in any way possible. As a result of this appointment, and because of the failing health of Ignacio Galbis, Del Mastro became Coeditor of the next issue of *Entre Nosotros* (1996-1997) and oversaw the printing process at The Citadel.

The Executive Committee carefully reviewed the Sigma Delta Pi National Constitution (As Revised in 1987) and produced a new document, the Sigma Delta Pi National By-laws (As Revised in 1997), which was first submitted to the Executive Council for suggestions and approval. Finally, in March 1997 the new By-laws were sent to all active chapters for approval by mail ballot. The By-laws were officially adopted on April 10, 1997.

To assist chapters in voting on the new By-laws, a summary of changes was distributed. The name of the document was changed from Constitution to By-laws, as recommended in *Robert's Rules of Order*, to eliminate duplication in former By-laws and to consolidate in one location material relevant to a particular issue. Editorial changes, non-substantive in nature, were made to enhance clarity and consistency and to avoid unnecessary duplication. References to the following obsolete practices were removed: 1) the never-used category of distinguished membership. In its place honorary membership or presentation of one of the Orders (*Don Quijote*, *Descubridores*) may be used; 2) the position of National Artist, not occupied for several years, was unnecessary; 3) the National Endowment Fund no longer existed as a separate entity. The Fund's assets were combined with other assets of the Society several years earlier; 4) the Optimates Chapter, never viable, was terminated. Other changes of substance were: 1) reference to a specific cumulative grade point average as a substitute for rank in the upper 35% of one's class was eliminated in order to comply with the Constitution of the Association of College Honor Societies, of which Sigma Delta Pi is a member; 2) a new and more specific statement of requirements for admission as a graduate student was formulated; 3) authority for the disbursement of funds was granted to the Executive Committee, which in fact had exercised that authority for several years; 4) the appointment of the new Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall take place before, rather than after, the Triennial Convention; 5) the Executive Council may elect more than one President Emeritus; 6) procedures for dealing with inactive chapters were changed. A chapter may be suspended if no election to active membership is held during a five-year period. Suspended chapters may be reinstated upon submission and approval of a petition and upon payment of a reinstatement fee equal to the fee required for a new chapter.

The Death of T. Earle Hamilton

On October 9, 1996, President LaPrade wrote to the chapters: "It is my sad duty to inform you of the death of our President Emeritus, T. Earle Hamilton. Earle died October 2 of complications from a fall in March of this year in which he broke his hip, shoulder, and a vertebra in his back. Since March he had been back and forth between hospitals and nursing homes. Dick Chandler, Ignacio Galbis, and I were fortunate enough to see him briefly in May in a nursing home. At that time there was hope for a full recovery. Before Earle's fall he was an active member of the Executive Committee of Sigma Delta Pi. He had finished writing the history of our Society less than two years ago. The funeral service was October 5 in Columbus, Texas." Hamilton was interred in the family plot in Rock Island, Texas, where his mother was buried. A few years before his death Hamilton confided to members of the Executive Committee that the marker on his grave would contain the *escudo* of Sigma Delta Pi as a final testimony of his belief in the goal of honoring students for high achievement.

Domnita Dumitrescu, Vice President-West, published a moving tribute to Hamilton in the March 1997 issue of *Hispania*. The 1996-1997 issue of *Entre Nosotros* was dedicated to Hamilton and contained many stirring eulogies from friends and colleagues.

Robert G. Mead, Jr., and Stuart M. Gross

Almost a year before Hamilton's death Sigma Delta Pi learned of the loss of Honorary President Robert G. Mead, Jr., on October 21, 1995. In addition to serving as Honorary President of Sigma Delta Pi since 1986, Mead (Professor Emeritus, University of Connecticut) had served as President of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese and as Editor of *Hispania*.

On August 8, 1996, Sigma Delta Pi mourned the loss of still another Honorary President, Stuart M. Gross. Gross (Professor Emeritus, University of Maine) was named Honorary President in 1980 and had previously served the Society as Executive Secretary-Treasurer on two different occasions, 1942-1947 and 1968-1977.

1996-1997

Although the academic year began with a sense of sadness over the loss of T. Earle Hamilton, the Executive Council remained optimistic about the future. Unfortunately, more bad news for the Society was soon to come. Executive Secretary-Treasurer Ignacio Galbis had courageously dealt with several serious health problems since 1993. Early in 1997 he realized that he would be unable to participate fully in editing the 1996-1997 issue of *Entre Nosotros* and turned most of the responsibility for that issue over to Mark P. Del Mastro.

In March 1997, after being pronounced terminally ill with pancreatic cancer, Galbis called President LaPrade and informed him that he would be unable to continue processing orders for pins and certificates from the chapters. He immediately sent LaPrade supplies for performing these duties, and LaPrade wrote chapter advisers on March 5, 1997: "I regret to announce that for reasons of ill health Ignacio Galbis, our Executive Secretary-Treasurer, is unable to perform many of the functions of his office. As a result, effective immediately and until further notice, please send all requests for membership certificates and pins directly to me. Please give me as much advance notice as possible of your requirements, and I shall try to handle your requests with the efficiency to which you have been accustomed. I seek your forbearance at this difficult time. I beg also your prayers for Professor Galbis and his family." Expressions of support were immediately forthcoming, both directly to Galbis and to LaPrade, who forwarded the messages to Galbis.

Although Galbis was in considerable pain, he maintained his sense of humor and set about the task of organizing the records of his office in order to forward them to LaPrade. LaPrade insisted that he delay his resignation until the end of the fiscal year, August 31, 1997. In accepting Galbis's resignation LaPrade wrote on August 10, 1997: "Your many years of distinguished service to our Society will not soon be forgotten. In correspondence with chapters the last few months I have heard nothing but the highest praise for you personally and professionally. Sigma Delta Pi will miss the skillful and

efficient manner in which you, with the help of your beloved Sophie, performed the duties of your office."

Executive Committee Meeting, 1997

The Executive Committee met August 16-18, 1997, at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Committee Members present were Richard E. Chandler (Past President) and John H. LaPrade (President). Ignacio Galbis (Executive Secretary-Treasurer) was unable to attend. Mark P. Del Mastro was invited to attend as guest in order to be interviewed for the post of Executive Secretary-Treasurer. Much of the meeting was spent explaining the duties of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer and obtaining Del Mastro's views on the position. Convinced of Del Mastro's qualifications and impressed by his enthusiasm for Sigma Delta Pi, Chandler and LaPrade appointed Del Mastro as Executive Secretary-Treasurer, effective September 1, 1997, to complete the unexpired term of Galbis (until August 1998). To facilitate his work as Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Del Mastro was authorized to purchase new computer equipment for Sigma Delta Pi.

Del Mastro was also appointed Editor of *Entre Nosotros* as one of his duties in the office of Executive Secretary-Treasurer. Plans were made to dedicate the next issue of *Entre Nosotros* to Ignacio Galbis. Galbis's friends and colleagues would be asked to send tributes for inclusion in the volume.

Other business conducted at the meeting included the creation of the T. Earle Hamilton Scholarship to be given annually in Hamilton's memory. The highest ranked applicant who accepts one of the scholarships for study in Spain or Mexico will receive the award. The scholarship will consist of a supplement to the basic award and will be accompanied by an appropriate certificate.

Another award, *El Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis*, was created to honor two individuals who served Sigma Delta Pi for more than two decades with uncommon love, dedication, and efficiency. The award will be given annually to the chapter whose annual report of activities is judged to be indicative of the most outstanding work in the furtherance of our purposes. The award will consist of a certificate and a credit to be used toward the payment of obligations to the national office. Gamma Gamma Chapter, Marquette University, (Adviser, German D. Carrillo) was awarded the first *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis*.

Subject to approval by the Executive Council, plans were made to name Chandler President Emeritus. In this post he would continue to serve on both the Executive Committee and the Executive Council when he ceased to serve on those bodies in his capacity as Immediate Past President. On April 16, 1998, LaPrade and Del Mastro formally sought approval from the Executive Council, which approved the nomination unanimously. The award was presented to Chandler on May 30, 1998, during the Executive Committee meeting in Dallas, Texas.

In view of the loss of Honorary Presidents Gross, Hamilton, and Mead, plans were made to nominate three new Honorary Presidents: Donald William Bleznick, Emeritus, University of Cincinnati; James Agustín Castañeda, Rice University; and James Ray Chatham, Emeritus, Mississippi State University. Bleznick, in addition to serving as Chapter Adviser at the University of Cincinnati for many years, was Ohio State Director

(1968-1974), Vice President-Midwest (1975-1983), recipient of the *Premio Martel*, member of the *Orden de Don Quijote*, and speaker for the installation of Chapter #300 at Tulane University. Castañeda served Sigma Delta Pi several years as Executive Director of the Board of Trustees of the National Endowment Fund. In this capacity he was instrumental in securing contributions to support our scholarship program. Chatham, during his term as Executive Director of the AATSP (1984-1993), befriended Sigma Delta Pi in many ways. He made it possible for the Society to hold its Triennial Conventions in conjunction with meetings of the AATSP and, through the AATSP, provided material support for the Society. On May 22, 1998, the Executive Committee (LaPrade, Chandler, and Del Mastro) formally nominated these individuals. The Executive Council approved unanimously the new Honorary Presidents. LaPrade informed the nominees of their appointment on June 1, 1998, and invited them to attend the formal announcement of their election at the Triennial Convention during the AATSP meeting in Madrid on Sunday, August 2, 1998, in the Hotel Eurobuilding. All three men were able to honor Sigma Delta Pi by their presence on this occasion.

1997-1998

The 1997-1998 academic year began with LaPrade's announcement to the chapters of the appointment of a new Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Mark P. Del Mastro, who was faced with the very formidable task of transferring national headquarters from Riverside, California, to The Citadel at Charleston, South Carolina. Del Mastro quickly set about the task of assuming his new duties and of taking care of the many legal and financial issues involved. During the course of the year, LaPrade closed numerous financial accounts in California and transferred them to financial institutions in South Carolina, where they could be managed by Del Mastro. Whenever necessary Del Mastro sought the advice of other members of the Executive Committee and was careful in following established procedures. At the same time, Del Mastro demonstrated from his first days in office great creativity in suggesting and implementing new ideas for the conduct of the Society's business.

Using data supplied by Galbis and LaPrade, the annual audit for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1997, was conducted by the same Certified Public Accountant in California who had performed this service for Sigma Delta Pi in recent years. His report was published in the Spring 1998 issue of *Entre Nosotros*. Del Mastro employed a new Certified Public Accountant in South Carolina to perform future audits.

Plans for the next triennium were begun with the appointment of an Election Committee consisting of Jhon C. Akers, Wofford College, Chair; Paul Hoff, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and Joseph Vélez, Baylor University. Plans were also initiated for the 1998 Triennial Convention to be held in Madrid on August 2, 1998, in conjunction with the meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

The Death of Ignacio R. M. Galbis

Concern over the condition of recently retired Executive Secretary-Treasurer Galbis was on the minds of officers and chapter advisers during early Fall 1997. On October 13, 1997, LaPrade sent a letter to chapter advisers announcing that Galbis had died in Eugene, Oregon, on Friday, October 10, 1997. Ignacio and his wife, Sophie, had moved to Eugene from Riverside, California, a short time earlier in order to be with their daughter.

The plans made earlier for a volume of *Entre Nosotros* in honor of Galbis turned into plans for a memorial issue. Del Mastro immediately began receiving magnificent testimonies to Galbis's life and work which led to the production of a volume in Spring 1998 that was truly worthy of the man to whom it was dedicated.

The End of the Triennium

In spite of the loss of so many individuals who had played such significant roles in the history of the Society, Sigma Delta Pi ended the 1995-1998 triennium on a positive note with an orderly election of new officers for 1998-2001. A meeting of the Executive Committee was held at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, on May 28-30, 1998; and the Triennial Convention was held in Madrid on August 2, 1998, to mark both the end of an era and a new beginning. (Details of these two events are discussed in Chapter XII.)

During 1995-1998, the following attainments were recorded:

Number of initiates: 3157 in 1995-96, 3325 in 1996-97, 3231 in 1997-98

Reactivated chapters: 9 in 1995-96, 0 in 1996-97, 3 in 1997-98

New chapters installed:

473. Tau Tau, Jersey City State College, Jersey City, NJ, Dec. 1995

474. Tau Upsilon, DePauw University, Greenville, IN, April 1996

475. Tau Phi, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, Dec. 1996

476. Tau Chi, University of Texas at Brownsville, Nov. 1996

477. Tau Psi, Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC, Dec. 1996

478. Tau Omega, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC, April 1997

479. Upsilon Alpha, Rockhurst College, Kansas City, MO, April 1997

480. Upsilon Beta, Peace College, Raleigh, NC, April 1997

481. Upsilon Gamma, North Carolina A & T State Univ., Greensboro, NC, May 1997

482. Upsilon Delta, Rose-Hulman Institute of Tech., Terre Haute, IN, May 1997

483. Upsilon Epsilon, Quinnipiac College, Hamden, CT, April 1998

484. Upsilon Zeta, University of Southern Colorado, Pueblo, CO, April 1998

485. Upsilon Eta, Hollins College, Roanoke, VA, April 1998

486. Upsilon Theta, Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC, April 1998

Funds for summer scholarships in Mexico and Spain: \$21,380.00, 1996; \$20,240.00, 1997; \$21,887.00, 1998

Income has continued to meet or exceed expenses, and investments have increased to over half a million dollars.

Chapter XII

Germán D. Carrillo, 1999-2004

Forging Ahead

The Delayed Presidency and By-laws Amendments

Following the election of national officers in the spring of 1998, Sigma Delta Pi was preparing optimistically for the transition between the exemplary leadership of John H. LaPrade—whom the Executive Committee could not persuade to serve a third term—and the newly elected president, Kevin J. O'Connor of Colorado College, who had so impressively directed Sigma Delta Pi's scholarship program for several years. Unexpectedly, however, Dr. O'Connor resigned the presidency with a letter dated September 23, 1998 and sent to Past President LaPrade, who received the missive via overnight courier on September 24. Dr. LaPrade reacted immediately by calling Mark P. Del Mastro, the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, to inform him of the unexplained resignation. This was a critical step given the National By-laws' call for the Executive Secretary-Treasurer to assume presidential duties in cases of "death, resignation or incapacitation of the President."

With the help of Professor LaPrade, Dr. Del Mastro informed all the chapters of the temporary change of leadership. However, because the national constitution called for the Executive Secretary-Treasurer to assume the President's responsibilities "until the end of the triennium in progress" (Clearly such a rapid presidential resignation as O'Connor's was never foreseen by the authors of the By-laws.), the Executive Committee promptly drafted a proposal to amend the By-laws in order "to provide for the immediate election of a new president to serve during the remainder of the triennium 1998-2001." Fortunately, and due to the expeditious efforts of the Executive Council and the chapters, the amendments were unanimously approved. Professor Jhon C. Akers of Wofford College was appointed Chair of the Election Committee that began the election procedures in November of 1998. Professors Ellen Frye (Monmouth University of Long Branch, N.J.) and Dale J. Pratt (Brigham Young University) also served on this committee.

Concluding one of the quickest and most efficient elections for National President in the history of Sigma Delta Pi, Akers notified Del Mastro via e-mail the morning of March 2, 1999, that Marquette University's Dr. Germán D. Carrillo had won the presidency against Dr. Paul J. Hoff, another accomplished chapter adviser at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. This also concluded Del Mastro's time as Acting President, the second shortest presidential term (five months) in the history of the Society.

Executive Committee Meeting, 1998

From May 28-30, the members of the Executive Committee (Richard E. Chandler, Immediate Past President; John H. LaPrade, President; Mark P. Del Mastro, Executive Secretary-Treasurer) held their annual meeting in Dallas, Texas. President-elect Kevin J.

O'Connor was an invited guest so the Committee could review with him his future duties to be assumed at the conclusion of the Triennial Convention in Madrid on August 2, 1998. Some of the more notable issues addressed during formal discussions were 1) the reappointment of Del Mastro as Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the triennium 1998-2001; 2) plans for the Triennial Convention; 3) the expansion of the 1999 scholarship program to include two additional awards for study in Spain; 4) the launching of Sigma Delta Pi's first-ever website, to be directed and maintained by Del Mastro at The Citadel.

During a break of the formal meeting sessions, LaPrade and Del Mastro recognized Chandler with a plaque representing his unanimous approval by the Executive Council as President Emeritus of Sigma Delta Pi. Chandler's years of invaluable contributions to the Society as outlined in previous chapters of this *History* are a testimony to such a deserving recognition. As President Emeritus, Dr. Chandler was granted membership-for-life in the Executive Committee.

The Triennial Convention of 1998

The meeting in Madrid the afternoon of August 2 represented an occasion not only to announce the new officers elected for the triennium 1998-2001, but also to recognize several individuals for their noteworthy contributions to Sigma Delta Pi.

Jhon C. Akers, Chair of the 1998 Election Committee, announced the following Regional Vice Presidents elected to serve for the new triennium: Marie-Lise Gazarian of St. John's University (Northeast), Joann McFerran Mount of the University of North Carolina-Wilmington (Southeast), Germán D. Carrillo of Marquette University (Midwest), Lee A. Daniel of Texas Christian University (Southwest) and Domnita Dumitrescu of California State University-Los Angeles (West).

Following this announcement and the presentation of commemorative certificates, President LaPrade bestowed Honorary President-status upon three long-time supporters of the Society: Donald William Bleznick (University of Cincinnati), James Agustín Castañeda (Rice University) and James Ray Chatham (Mississippi State University).

Afterward, President LaPrade invoked a moment of silence to remember four significant supporters of Sigma Delta Pi who passed away during the 1995-1998 triennium: Robert G. Mead, Jr., Honorary President; Stuart M. Gross, Honorary President and Past Executive Secretary-Treasurer; T. Earle Hamilton, Ex-President, Honorary President and President Emeritus; Ignacio R.M. Galbis, Past Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

With LaPrade's concluding remarks, he officially completed two impressive terms as National President (1992-1998) characterized by the technological conversion of the Society's operations, the continued growth of the scholarship program, the installation of 24 new chapters (#463-486), and his noble assumption of the Secretariat's duties during the spring of 1997 when the health of then Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Ignacio R.M. Galbis, prevented Galbis's performing those functions.

Following LaPrade's presidential farewell address, the Executive Committee summarized the following lifetime contributions of Dr. LaPrade to Sigma Delta Pi:

- c. 1963-1992: Chapter Adviser, SMU (almost 30 years)
- 1966-72: First State Director of North Texas
- 1972-83: V.P. Southwest (3 triennia)
- 1975-83: Director, Southwest Regional Literary and Scholarship Contests
- 1977: Conducted the historic initiation ceremony on December 2 of the three-hundredth chapter, Theta of Louisiana (Tulane University) with President T. Earle Hamilton, Ignacio R.M. Galbis, and Louisiana State Director Richard E. Chandler (National President, 1978-92).
- 1989: Election Committee Chair
- 1992-98: National President (2 triennia)

In recognition of this impeccable service, and to conclude the formal meeting, Dr. LaPrade was inducted into the *Orden de Don Quijote*, Sigma Delta Pi's highest honor, thereby joining such past initiates as Elena Poniatowska, Carmen Laforet, Dámaso Alonso, Antonio Buero Vallejo and Fernando Arrabal, among others.

The meeting was followed by an elaborate reception with abundant *tapas* (*jamón serrano, queso manchego, chorizo, tortilla española* and *aceitunas*) and unlimited red wine and non-alcoholic refreshments.

Stabilizing the Presidency

On March 3, 1999, following the expeditious work of Dr. Jhon C. Akers, Chair of that year's Presidential Election Committee, Dr. Germán D. Carrillo of Marquette University became National President. Of course, following this assumption of duties, Carrillo had to vacate the post of Regional Vice President of the Midwest, to which he had just been elected the previous year. In accordance with the National By-laws, Carrillo therefore immediately appointed Dr. Paul J. Hoff of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire to replace him as Vice President.

One of Carrillo's admirable qualities as he immediately exhibited upon his assumption of the President's duties was his reliance upon the counsel of the other Executive Committee Members who, especially in the cases of Chandler and LaPrade, represented a collective total of over 80 years of service to the Society. This experience served Carrillo well since it greatly facilitated his efforts to direct Sigma Delta Pi in the midst of an ongoing academic year, a daunting task for any new president.

Carrillo's commitment to the presidency became immediately clear through his regular and frequent electronic correspondence with the Executive Secretary-Treasurer. These exchanges were characterized by an ever-growing mutual trust and understanding encouraged by Carrillo's unassuming approach to directing the Society's operations.

National Website

In February 1999, Dr. Del Mastro launched Sigma Delta Pi's website at www.citadel.edu/sigmadeltapi. This was the product of several months of careful planning on behalf of the Executive Committee, and its initiation was an important step for the continued modernization of the Society's operations. All of Sigma Delta Pi's

official forms were published on the original webpage in addition to the National By-laws, news and announcements, contact information for the national officers, and a directory of chapters. Of course, the original version of the first website continued to evolve quite dramatically over the subsequent months and years—including the change of address to www.sigmadeltapi.org in the fall of 2002—as is the dynamic nature of any active website. Today, with the exception of scholarship applications that are distributed only to chapter advisers directly, all information that traditionally was available through either the National President or the Executive Secretary-Treasurer is now accessible from the Society's website.

Scholarship Program

When Executive Secretary-Treasurer Del Mastro was faced with assuming presidential duties in late September of 1998, Past President LaPrade immediately volunteered to direct all the operations of the Society's scholarship program, including the directorship of the Judging Committee and the handling of all paperwork (correspondence, contracts, etc.) with the sponsoring language academies, the scholarship applicants and the eventual award recipients. Such assistance was a huge relief to Del Mastro who would have unlikely been able to manage these overwhelming chores together with all the other Sigma Delta Pi-related responsibilities he undertook during those five transitional months (until Carrillo was confirmed the new President in March 1999). LaPrade's broad experience with the scholarship program was an enormous asset, and his generous collaboration with the 1999 process ensured that the Society's operations continued unhampered. To serve as members of the Judging Committee, LaPrade appointed the following able colleagues: Linda B. Bartlett (Furman University), Dale J. Pratt (Brigham Young University), and Samuel A. Zimmerman (Southern Methodist University).

Although the number of total scholarships awarded in 1999 only exceeded 1998's figure by one (20 vs. 19), this extra scholarship was an important step for Sigma Delta Pi's expansion of the program into other countries in Spanish America. For the first time in the history of the Society, a scholarship was awarded for summer study in Ecuador (to Ms. Angela D. Lussier of Oklahoma State University).

The 2000 scholarship contest saw further advances as initiated during the Executive Committee Meeting in Dallas, Texas, on June 18-20, 1999. First, Spanish minors were permitted to apply for the first time in the history of the program. Also, a stipend of \$300 for travel expenses was granted to each awardee studying in Mexico. Finally, a total of 25 scholarships were granted for study in Mexico (20), Spain (4) and Ecuador (1). This was a 20% increase in awards compared to the 1999 contest. The program also enjoyed the leadership of Dr. Linda B. Bartlett of Furman University, member of the 1999 Judging Committee, who assumed the directorship of the 2000 Committee and subsequently appointed Professors Jhon Akers (Wofford College), Michael Iarocci (University of California-Berkeley) and Dale J. Pratt (Brigham Young University) to assist her with the evaluation of scholarship applications.

An increase of three more summer scholarships totaling 28 were awarded to students for study in 2001. This increase was based upon two factors: 1) the generosity of the *Estudio Internacional Sampere*, one of Sigma Delta Pi's sponsoring language academies;

2) the Executive Committee's desire to balance better the representation of Hispanic countries in the program. The result was an increase from one scholarship in Ecuador (the number given in both 1999 and 2000) to five; three awards were given for Spain, and the remaining 20 for Mexico. Dr. Bartlett repeated her role as Director of the 2001 Judging Committee, and in addition to appointing Akers and Pratt from the previous year's group, she recruited the efforts of Dr. Ellen Frye of Monmouth University.

In the fall of 2000, Del Mastro began investigating numerous language academies in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico to establish The Citadel's Maymester in the Andes study abroad program. As a result of this research, Del Mastro determined that the *Academia Latinoamericana* (based in Quito, Ecuador, with branches in Bolivia and Peru) was best qualified to accommodate his college's students. Therefore, in May of 2001, Del Mastro traveled with 15 cadets to Quito for the inaugural program of The Citadel. Because he was so impressed with the overall operations of the *Academia* (quality of language instruction, organization of cultural excursions, administration, etc.), Del Mastro asked permission of the Executive Committee to approach the *Academia* to determine their interest in future participation in Sigma Delta Pi's scholarship program. The Executive Committee consented, and following a brief meeting between Del Mastro and Dr. Diego del Corral, Director of the *Academia Latinoamericana*, Sigma Delta Pi not only gained two additional scholarship sponsors—the *Academia Latinoamericana* and *Enforex* (an affiliate of the *Academia*)—but it also expanded its program to include a total of eight additional scholarships: three to be hosted by the *Academia* in Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru; five to be hosted by *Enforex* in various locations in Spain. Such generosity by the del Corral family and Antonio Anadón, Director of *Enforex*, afforded Sigma Delta Pi the ability to further diversify country representation in its program as well as provide more of its members the opportunity to study abroad. The ultimate result was the awarding of 29 total scholarships in 2002: 13 for Mexico, 10 for Spain, four for Ecuador, one for Bolivia and one for Peru. It must be noted that because of budgetary reasons and attempts to balance country representation, Sigma Delta Pi did reduce the number of scholarships offered for study in Cuernavaca, Mexico.

Another important change to the program in 2002 was the Richard E. Chandler Scholarship, a proposal that Dr. LaPrade presented and the Executive Committee unanimously approved during its meeting in San Francisco in July 2001. The recognition would be given annually in the form of an additional stipend and a certificate to the top applicant who studied in Spain. The T. Earl Hamilton Scholarship, which prior to 2002 had been given to the top applicant of all the scholarship recipients, would in the future be awarded in the form of an additional stipend and a certificate to the top applicant who studied in Spanish America. The inaugural recipient (2002) of the Richard E. Chandler Scholarship was Emily Drenan of Oklahoma State University. During their annual meeting on July 29, 2004 in Acapulco, Mexico, the Executive Committee agreed to increase these stipends for the 2005 scholarship program.

The dynamics of the 2002 Judging Committee experienced some major changes. First, the Executive Committee determined that dividing the judging body into two groups—Spain and Spanish America—would greatly facilitate the evaluation process for both the judges and the Director. Consequently, the committee was expanded to include six members instead of the traditional three (excluding the Director). Because of the increasing demands that her deanship at Furman presented her, Dr. Bartlett declined

Carrillo's attempt to reappoint her as Director of the Judging Committee. Subsequently, Dr. Dale J. Pratt, previous member of the committee, accepted Carrillo's invitation to serve as the new Director. In turn, Pratt appointed the following professors to serve in 2002: Barabara Bonyata (St. John's University, Minnesota), David Laraway (Brigham Young University), Joann McFerran Mount (University of North Carolina at Wilmington), Vincente Pérez-León (Oberlin College), Benjamin Smith (Minnesota State University Moorhead) and Thomas Stephens (Rutgers University).

For the 2003 program, given the sagging world economy at the time, Sigma Delta Pi was fortunate enough to enjoy continued generosity from its donors, thereby matching 2002's number of 29 total scholarships awarded.

Dr. Pratt continued as Director of the Judging Committee for the 2002-03 academic year, and he appointed the following professors to serve on the two sub-committees (Spain and Spanish America): Michael Kidd (University of New Mexico), Andrew Brown (Washington University of St. Louis), Benjamin Smith (Minnesota State University Moorhead), Amalia Gladhart (University of Oregon), William R. Blue (Penn State University) and Blair Bateman (Brigham Young University).

Worldwide economic conditions in 2003 finally had an impact on the ability of one of Sigma Delta Pi's scholarship donors to meet its 2002 offerings. This resulted in the reduction of scholarships offered for study in Ecuador. However, the unexpected generosity of the *Universidad Internacional* of Cuernavaca, which donated the Society's first semester scholarship, together with the Executive Committee's last-minute decision to fund additional awards, produced a 2004 program that offered 30 scholarships, one above the previous year's sum.

Assisting the program once again, Dr. Pratt served his third consecutive year of service as Director of the Judging Committee. For the 2004 sub-committees, he appointed the following colleagues: Rob Strong (Wartburg College), Benjamin Smith (Minnesota State University Moorhead), Mary Coffey (Pomona College), Cathy Jaffe (Texas State University), Ann Cerminaro-Costanzi (Chestnut Hill College) and Laura Vidler (U.S. Military Academy).

Although the Society enjoyed the continued growth of its scholarship program during the aforementioned years, if not for the dedicated service of Dale Pratt and the other Committee Members who also selflessly devoted many hours of their valuable time to evaluate the applications, the successful execution of the ambitious awards agenda would be impossible. Sigma Delta Pi is truly indebted to their collaboration.

La Orden de los Descubridores:
A Special Recognition Opportunity in Blacksburg, Virginia

In September 1998, Dr. Justo Ulloa, State Director of Virginia, sent to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer a nomination of three individuals for induction into the prestigious *Orden de los Descubridores* with an invitation to Del Mastro to preside at the induction (to coincide with the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference hosted by Virginia Tech University) in Blacksburg provided the nominees were approved. Considering the impressive contributions that all three nominees had made to Sigma Delta Pi for many years, the candidates were easily approved. In a special ceremony arranged by Dr. Ulloa, Del Mastro inducted into the *Orden de los Descubridores* two

annual sponsors of Sigma Delta Pi's scholarship program: Mr. Alberto Sampere and his son, Mr. Juan Manuel Sampere, directors of the *Estudio Internacional Sampere* of Madrid. The third inductee was Dr. Leonor Ulloa, Chapter Adviser at Radford University, whose noteworthy contributions to Hispanic literary criticism and teaching merited such a distinction. Few are the opportunities of the Executive Committee to recognize in person the outstanding contributions of its many members, associates and friends; Sigma Delta Pi was grateful to Justo Ulloa for his decisive role in making this occasion possible.

Dissolution of Corporate Status in California; Reincorporation in South Carolina

When Del Mastro assumed the National Secretariat on September 1, 1997, and the Society's headquarters were thereby officially transferred from Riverside, California (the residence of Ignacio R.M. Galbis, past Executive Secretary-Treasurer) to The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina (although Dallas, Texas, had actually been serving as headquarters since LaPrade assumed the duties of the Secretariat from the spring of 1997 until Del Mastro was appointed to the post), it became increasingly clear for operational reasons that the Society would need to be reincorporated in South Carolina. Following Del Mastro's formal application in November 1997, the Office of Secretary of State of South Carolina issued Sigma Delta Pi a "Certificate of Incorporation, Nonprofit Corporation" dated December 5, 1997.

Despite this important step, however, Sigma Delta Pi still needed to dissolve its nonprofit corporation in the State of California, a process that also required soliciting federal tax exempt status for operations in South Carolina (a status already authorized for Sigma Delta Pi). Instead of hiring a lawyer to handle this complex bureaucratic procedure on behalf of the Society, Del Mastro, in consultation with LaPrade, determined that without legal counsel he could carry out the process, which he officially began in September 1998. With a letter dated June 8, 1999, the Society was granted federal tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service for its operations in South Carolina. In September of the same year, Sigma Delta Pi finally completed the final step for successful dissolution in the State of California.

Executive Committee Meeting, 1999

On June 18-20 in Dallas, Texas, at Southern Methodist University, the Executive Committee held its annual meeting with President Carrillo, Past President LaPrade and Executive Secretary-Treasurer Del Mastro in attendance. Richard E. Chandler, President Emeritus, was absent due to health, but those attending were confident that he would return to a future meeting.

During the conference, Del Mastro reported on the installation of five chapters during the spring 1999 term (installation date in parentheses): Upsilon Iota at Alma College (March 25), Upsilon Kappa at Chadron State College (April 23), Upsilon Lambda at Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia (now the University of Virginia's College at Wise, April 28), Upsilon Mu at Case Western Reserve University (April 20), and Upsilon Nu at Southern Connecticut State University (May 21).

Carrillo observed that Sigma Delta Pi had not taken any measures to commemorate the eightieth birthday of the Society. It was clear that this was the result of the time devoted to the unanticipated presidential transition undergone during the 1998-99 academic year. However, it was agreed that arranging a "pilgrimage" to Alpha Chapter at the University of California-Berkeley on November 14, 1999 (Sigma Delta Pi's birthday) would serve as a worthwhile recognition for the Society's anniversary.

Enhancement of the website followed with Carrillo's unanimously approved proposal to post Sigma Delta Pi's *Ritual* with the provision that a password be required for access. Although this was indeed done in the fall of 1999, later the *Ritual* link was simply converted to a blind webpage where access could be achieved by obtaining the "secret" web address directly from the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Discussion also focused on the *Premio José Martel Award*, the history of which is described by Hamilton in previous chapters of this book. The problem noted by all was that deserving chapter advisers were frequently overlooked inexplicably for nominations by their own chapters. To prevent such oversights as 1998's when not a single chapter forwarded a nomination to the President, the Committee agreed that the process should be monitored more closely by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer and the President who are best familiar with the activities of the most outstanding chapter advisers.

Another noteworthy issue discussed was the By-laws. Recent events exposed a need for rewording to ensure that a President who resigned or was removed from office did not have the privilege of remaining on the Executive Committee as the Immediate Past President. Although this seemed commonsensical, those present at the meeting agreed that changing the By-laws was still necessary. Therefore, in accordance with LaPrade's suggestion, the following parenthetical amendment was presented to all chapters for a vote in the fall of 1999: "(The immediate past President is one who has served to the end of his/her elected term)." Chapters approved the amendment unanimously.

The final item was the selection of Honor Chapters and the recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis* on the basis of the annual reports received for the 1998-99 academic year. For the 1999 Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award, the Executive Committee chose Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University) under the direction of Professor Roberto A. Galván; for the Honor Chapter Awards, 16 institutions were chosen (chapter advisers in parentheses): Auburn University (Zachary D. Zuwiyya), Brigham Young University (Dale J. Pratt), California State University-Los Angeles (Domnita Dumitrescu), Chadron State College (Hilda López-Laval), Eastern Connecticut State University (Sonia Cintrón-Marrero), Friends University (Jerry Smartt), Gardner-Webb University (Marvin E. Taylor), Kansas State University (Antonia Pigno), Marquette University (Germán D. Carrillo), Michigan State University (Joseph T. Snow), Nazareth College of Rochester (Tina Pereda), St. John's University (Marie-Lise Gazarian), The Citadel (Mark P. Del Mastro), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Paul Hoff) and Wofford College (Jhon C. Akers).

The Pilgrimage of '99

In accordance with discussions from the prior Executive Committee Meeting in Dallas, Del Mastro pursued plans for him and Carrillo to visit the Alpha Chapter of the University of California-Berkeley for a special eightieth anniversary induction ceremony

of new members. On November 13, 1999, Carrillo and Del Mastro flew to Berkeley and enjoyed the gracious hospitality of Dr. Michael Iarocci (Chapter Adviser of Alpha), Chapter Alpha itself, as well as the University's Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

On November 14, the eightieth birthday of Sigma Delta Pi, Carrillo and Del Mastro devoted time to visiting important sites of the Society's early history; specifically, the original home of Ruth Barnes, founder of Sigma Delta Pi, at 2545 Dwight Way where the first meeting took place on November 14, 1919. Unfortunately, Carrillo and Del Mastro were disappointed to find that People's Park, a site made famous during the Vietnam War protests in the late 1960s, occupied the site where Ruth Barnes' home was originally located. Carrillo and Del Mastro later learned that Barnes' home was initially one of numerous private residences along Dwight Way that had been converted to apartments and rooming houses (conditions under which Barnes likely lived), but were later demolished by July 1968 in accordance with the University of California Board of Regent's June 6, 1967 approval of the allocation of \$1,300,000 to purchase the property surrounded by Haste, Dwight and Bowditch streets to "clear the site for athletic fields until a long-range plan for residential student housing can be realized." On April 20, 1969, the landscaping of People's Park began, and the park remains today a symbol of free speech in Berkeley.

After taking a few pictures of the place where Barnes' home once stood, Carrillo and Del Mastro proceeded to 1629 Walnut Drive hoping that the site of Sigma Delta Pi's first induction ceremony on May 1, 1920, did not suffer the same fate as 2545 Dwight Way. They were pleased to find a home that appeared to date to the period of the Society's inaugural initiation. Without bothering the residents to verify the home's age, Carrillo and Del Mastro took photographs.

They then continued to the University's library eager to find a period map of Berkeley or pictures showing 2545 Dwight Way. Although they did find some 1920s street maps, they were unsuccessful in locating the desired information.

Culminating their visit was the commemorative induction ceremony that began at 4:00pm in the library of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in Dwinelle Hall. Iarocci directed the initiation of 20 new active members of Chapter Alpha, which was followed with addresses by Carrillo, Del Mastro and Dr. Domnita Dumitrescu, Sigma Delta Pi's Vice President of the West, who traveled from California State University-Los Angeles to participate in the historic celebration. Upon the event's conclusion, Carrillo, Del Mastro and Dumitrescu presented the Alpha Chapter with a commemorative plaque signed by all three to recognize Sigma Delta Pi's eightieth anniversary.

Following the celebration, and on behalf of UC-Berkeley's Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Dr. Iarocci—joined by Professor John Polt—treated Carrillo, Del Mastro and Dumitrescu to an exquisite dinner in the Faculty House on the university campus.

Replacement Membership Pins

With the dwindling supply of membership pins in 1997, the Executive Committee planned for re-stocking its inventory. The Immediate Past President at that time, Dr. Richard E. Chandler, was referred by his son-in-law, Charles Castille, to a manufacturer in China, Kunshan Toptree Decoration Company, that might produce an acceptable membership pin for the Society. In a letter dated January 14, 1998, Chandler wrote to

Chad E. Blackwell of Kunshan requesting a quote for 30-50,000 pins as well as a duplicate of the Society's membership pin. The following month, Chandler was able to forward to the two other Executive Committee Members (LaPrade and Del Mastro) samples he received from Kunshan along with an estimate for the purchase of 50,000 pins (a supply of approximately 17 years).

In reviewing the samples, all three Committee Members decided that the quality of Kunshan's sample was at the very least equivalent to Sigma Delta Pi's stock at the time. However, they did agree to change the fastening mechanism to a "jewelry clutch" partially in response to several years of chapters' remarks that the pin and catch of the traditional pin was difficult for initiates to fasten.

On July 7, 1998, President LaPrade signed a contract with Kunshan to purchase 50,000 of the new pins, which were delivered later that summer to Del Mastro at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. This purchase resulted in a 90.6% savings over the cost of what the leading competitor in the U.S. quoted to the Society; this savings also benefited future initiates by enabling Sigma Delta Pi to delay increasing the induction fee until January 1, 2004 (a topic discussed ahead in this chapter).

The Pin of the *Orden de Don Quijote* (and Recognition for the *Orden de los Descubridores*)

Because the Order of Don Quijote is the highest honor that the Society may bestow, few members of Sigma Delta Pi have had the opportunity to see the pin that commemorates an individual's induction into this Order. The brooch displays the bust of Don Quijote with an "antiqued" gold finish set on a shield-shaped, glossy black background with a gold border; the top of the shield displays a crown in a shiny gold finish with the antiqued effect applied between the spokes of the crown; the bottom of the shield extends with a shiny gold finish and the vertical black engraving of "ΣΔΠ."

In anticipation of the eventual depletion of this pin in the spring term of 1999, LaPrade had obtained replacement samples during the summer of 1997 from Legacy Division of Masters of Design, in Attleboro, Massachusetts. After the Executive Committee examined carefully two rounds of samples, it was clear that the esthetic quality was not equivalent to the previous stock; specifically, Legacy could not reproduce the handsome "antiqued" finish of both the Don Quijote bust and the areas between the crown spokes. Therefore, the Executive Committee unanimously rejected the samples prior to their 1999 meeting in Dallas. Responding to the likelihood that a suitable replacement for the Order of Don Quijote pin was unobtainable, Chandler suggested that a single plaque be used to replace both the traditional certificate and pin. At the Executive Committee Meeting in Dallas in 1999, all approved Chandler's proposal, and until the fall of 2003, induction into the Order of Don Quijote was recognized only with the plaque.

On February 20-23, 2003, the annual meeting of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) was held in Savannah, Georgia. Because of Savannah's proximity to Charleston, South Carolina (less than a two hour drive), Dr. LaPrade, Sigma Delta Pi's official ACHS representative, invited Executive Secretary-Treasurer Del Mastro to join him at the meeting. On Friday, February 21, during the conference's luncheon/vendor exhibit held in the ground floor ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Savannah, Mr. Buddy Coté, Director of the Legacy Division of Masters of Design (the same company unable to

produce acceptable pin samples six years earlier), approached Del Mastro and inquired about possible business with Sigma Delta Pi. Prior to this, LaPrade and Del Mastro had informally discussed repeatedly their continued hopes to acquire an acceptable replacement pin, despite the 1999 agreement to offer just the plaque. Consequently, while speaking with Coté in Savannah, it occurred to Del Mastro that maybe Legacy could successfully reproduce the pin to Sigma Delta Pi's expectations. Coté was surprised by Del Mastro and LaPrade's account that Legacy was previously unable to reproduce a satisfactory pin (LaPrade was wearing his Order of Don Quijote pin, so Coté was able to examine the brooch on site), but he was confident that Legacy could produce a quality sample. LaPrade and Del Mastro agreed to give the company another opportunity, and by the 2003 Executive Committee meeting held on June 6-8 in Louisiana, Legacy provided a sample that was finally deemed acceptable. By early October 2003, the company delivered the second and final installment of the 100-pin order that Sigma Delta Pi originally had made in June.

In retrospect, the preliminary difficulties experienced in 1997 with Legacy eventually proved beneficial for enhancing the commemoration of induction into both the Orders of Don Quijote and the Discoverers. When the Executive Committee concurred during their 2003 annual meeting that Sigma Delta Pi should proceed with the purchase of 100 Don Quijote pins, the Society had been issuing just a commemorative plaque to the respective inductees during the previous three years. With the re-adoption of the pin, the immediate question was whether Sigma Delta Pi should discontinue issuing the plaque and return to the traditional certificate that originally accompanied the pin. Del Mastro presented a cost-analysis to support his proposal that both the plaque and pin be issued for the Order of Don Quijote. He also argued that consistency should exist between the commemoration of the Order of Don Quijote and that of the Discoverers. The latter was at the time recognized with both a pin and certificate; he therefore proposed that, in addition to recognizing with a plaque and pin the initiates of the Order of Don Quijote, the same should be done for the inductees of the Order of the Discoverers. After some deliberation, the Committee agreed by majority vote to approve the two-fold proposal, which was formally adopted for implementation in the fall of 2003.

Executive Committee Meeting, 2000

In planning the 2000 meeting, which in previous years had been traditionally held in Dallas, Texas, the Executive Committee decided to change the venue due to the impending birth of Dr. Del Mastro's first child (daughter Isabel, b. July 18, 2000). All agreed, therefore, to meet at Del Mastro's college: The Citadel in Charleston, S.C. This was the first time that an Executive Committee Meeting was ever held in the Palmetto State.

Although Carrillo, LaPrade and Del Mastro greatly missed the attendance and critical participation of President Emeritus Chandler, they succeeded in addressing numerous important issues that included plans for installing Chapter #500, changes to the *Ritual*, the appointment of Election Committee Members for the 2001-04 triennium, and the 2001 Triennial Convention. Also, and for the first time in the history of the Society, the Committee approved funds for the purchase of a computer for the President to facilitate his Society-related duties.

Del Mastro reported that three chapters were installed during the spring of 2000 (dates in parentheses): Upsilon Xi of Tarleton State University (April 20), Upsilon Omicron of Augustana College (May 3), and Upsilon Pi of Whittier College (May 19).

As is customary, the Committee Members concluded official business with the selection of the Honor Chapters and the recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis*. The University of California-Irvine, under the direction of Professor Juergen Kempff, was chosen for the Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award; the following 18 institutions were selected as Honor Chapters (advisers in parentheses): Eastern Connecticut State University (Sonia Cintrón Morrero), Friends University (Jerry Smartt), Marquette University (Germán D. Carrillo), Nazareth College of Rochester (Tina Pereda), St. Bonaventure University (Frank J. Bianco), St. John's University (Marie-Lise Gazarian), St. Louis University (Teresa H. Johnson), Southwest Texas State University (Roberto A. Galván), Texas Tech University (Alberto Julián Pérez), The Citadel (Mark P. Del Mastro), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), University of Northern Iowa (George K. Zucker), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Oralia Preble-Niemi), University of Texas at Brownsville (Cheryl Phelps and Roberto Cortina), University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Paul Hoff), Washington College (George R. Shivers), West Virginia University (Sandra L. Dixon) and Wofford College (Jhon C. Akers).

The Ritual

As Hamilton noted previously in this book, over the years some members of the Society expressed concerns over passages of the *Ritual* perceived as peninsular-biased. At their 1999 meeting in Dallas, Executive Committee Members tabled this issue and agreed that to avoid a complete revision of the *Ritual*, a minor change to the "lema" could be made to evade the aforementioned perceptions. They decided to continue studying the issue so that a proposal could be made in the future.

At the 2000 Executive Committee Meeting in South Carolina, LaPrade presented a proposal for the *Ritual* issue. On pages 6 and 22 of the *Ritual*, the following passage reads: "Ahora repitamos todos juntos la traducción española de estas palabras: 'Prosigamos bajo la inspiración de España.' Esperamos que sea éste el lema de cada miembro de hoy en adelante." LaPrade proposed giving chapters the option of replacing this section with "Estas palabras nos llaman a proseguir bajo la inspiración de los valores universales de la cultura hispánica." Del Mastro extended this proposal to include an editorial change on pages 12 and 23 of the ritual to "la literatura de la madre España." LaPrade suggested that "de la madre España" be replaced with "hispánica." The Committee approved these changes, thereby allowing chapters beginning the fall 2000 term to choose between the new wording or retain the original text.

Chapter #500: Alpha of Wyoming

In accordance with plans discussed during the 2000 Executive Committee Meeting in South Carolina, Del Mastro began in January 2001 to contact select institutions that might be interested in establishing the five hundredth chapter of the Society. Because at that time Wyoming and Alaska were the only states without Sigma Delta Pi chapters, it was agreed that their respective universities with the same names (U. of Wyoming in

Laramie and U. of Alaska in Anchorage) would be among the best choices. On February 13, 2001, after discussing the possibility with her institution's Spanish faculty and department head, Mrs. Patricia McClean e-mailed Del Mastro with the news that the University of Wyoming accepted Sigma Delta Pi's invitation to apply for a charter as the five hundredth chapter. On March 15, Carrillo received the petition via overnight courier from Laramie. Before the month's end, the Executive Council unanimously approved the application, and Del Mastro and Carrillo made plans to preside at the historic installation at the University of Wyoming.

When Carrillo and Del Mastro landed in Laramie the evening of April 26, they were met immediately with Pat McClean and her husband Dann's kind hospitality, which the entire Spanish faculty continued throughout the three-day visit of the National President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer. It was very clear from the onset of Carrillo and Del Mastro's arrival that the University of Wyoming appreciated the magnitude of this historic induction as exemplified by the magnificently organized installation ceremony held on Friday, April 27, at 4:00pm on campus at Cooper Mansion. Dr. Pat Hamel, Adviser of Chapter Alpha of Wyoming, conducted the ceremony with the assistance of Del Mastro and Carrillo who also made brief addresses to the newly-inducted, active (12) and honorary (3) members.

During his address, Del Mastro asked the newly elected student president if she was prepared to lead Alpha of Wyoming to the distinction of Honor Chapter in the upcoming academic year. She sheepishly replied affirmatively, but neither Del Mastro nor Carrillo expected the chapter, its new president, and Adviser Hamel to fulfill so faithfully its reluctant promise. In 2002 the University of Wyoming was granted the Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award for its outstanding activities realized during the 2001-02 academic year.

In retrospect, the University of Wyoming, the State's first and at the time only chapter, could not have been a better choice for #500, but the Executive Committee did not expect Dr. Hamel and her group to distinguish themselves so exceptionally among the other chapters in the U.S. Clearly Alpha of Wyoming serves as a model for every chapter of Sigma Delta Pi.

Chapter Adviser Handbook

Believing that both new and established chapter advisers would benefit from a handbook outlining the duties of the adviser and chapter officers along with suggested activities, Del Mastro decided to update the *Guidelines for Chapter Advisers* that was first printed in the December 1992 edition of *Entre Nosotros* and authored by Richard E. Chandler, Ignacio R.M. Galbis and T. Earle Hamilton. In the "Foreword" of the *Guidelines*, the authors explained that the publication was a draft to be reviewed by chapter advisers who would send comments to the authors. In turn, the authors would prepare a definitive edition for distribution to all chapters. However, no subsequent publication of the booklet was ever printed; hence Del Mastro decided to follow through with the authors' original plans. Immediately prior to the 2001 Executive Committee Meeting in San Francisco, Del Mastro forwarded to the Executive Committee an updated and revised draft of the booklet renamed *Chapter Adviser Handbook*, and after some

additional revisions, the manual was published in September 2001 in hard copy and in electronic format on the national website.

Executive Committee Meeting, 2001

As is customary when a national president is re-elected, the Executive Committee Meeting was held in conjunction with the annual assembly of the AATSP and immediately prior to the Triennial Convention (also concurring with the AATSP conference). Del Mastro, Carrillo and LaPrade attended the 2001 Executive Committee Meeting that was held in San Francisco at the Renaissance Parc 55 Hotel on July 5-7.

Among the agenda items, Carrillo reported the installment of seven new chapters—including #500—during the 2000-01 academic year: Upsilon Rho of Illinois Wesleyan University (December 2), Upsilon Sigma of Minnesota State University Moorhead (December 11), Upsilon Tau of the University of Notre Dame (March 27), Upsilon Upsilon of California Lutheran University (April 5), Upsilon Phi of Indiana University Southeast (April 21), Alpha of Wyoming at University of Wyoming (April 27), and Upsilon Chi of Kutztown University (April 27).

In order to assist the regional vice presidents with their duties, Carrillo proposed the adoption of a new Regional V.P. Annual Report Form that each vice president would be asked to complete annually in the spring. All agreed that such a form would also serve the vice presidents well in reminding them of their various duties.

Del Mastro also proposed several items that were met with unanimous approval:

- 1) the addition of a "Chapter in Focus" link on the national website to highlight the activities of an exemplary chapter; Carrillo suggested renaming the link to "En el foco," the current name;
- 2) the creation of a chapter e-mail distribution list in order to keep chapters informed of important Sigma Delta Pi-related news such as the annual scholarship program;
- 3) the writing of a supplement for Hamilton's *History of Sigma Delta Pi* to be authored by LaPrade, Carrillo and Del Mastro. LaPrade would author the years 1994-98, and Carrillo and Del Mastro would collaborate for the years 1998-2004. For the hundredth anniversary of Sigma Delta Pi, a second edition of Hamilton's *History* would be published to include supplementary chapters for the years 1994-2019, the 25 years following the first edition, and authored by LaPrade, Carrillo and Del Mastro;
- 4) a certificate to recognize chapter advisers who retire after numerous years of service.

Concluding the meeting, the Committee Members selected the Honor Chapters and the recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis* for the 2000-01 academic year. St. John's University, advised by Professor Marie-Lise Gazarian, was granted the Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award; the following 17 institutions were selected as Honor Chapters (advisers in parentheses): California State University-Los Angeles (Ignacio López-Calvo), Friends University (Jerry Smartt), Marquette University (Germán D. Carrillo), Michigan State University (Joseph T. Snow), Minnesota State University Moorhead

(Benjamin Smith), Montclair State University (Edwin M. Lamboy), Nazareth College of Rochester (Tina Pereda), North Carolina State University (Jorge Marí), St. Louis University (Teresa H. Johnson), Southwest Texas State University (Roberto A. Galván), The Citadel (Mark P. Del Mastro), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), University of California-Irvine (Juergen Kempff), University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Paul Hoff), Virginia Tech University (Antonio Fernández-Vázquez), West Virginia University (Sandra L. Dixon) and Wofford College (Jhon C. Akers).

The Triennial Convention of 2001

San Francisco's meeting began at 3:30pm on July 8 in the Cervantes Room of the Renaissance Parc 55 Hotel and followed the custom of announcing the new officers elected for the upcoming triennium (2001-2004), highlighting the Society's progress during the previous triennium (1998-2001), and recognizing several individuals for their impressive contributions to the Society.

Del Mastro, on behalf of Joan Clifford (absent), Chair of the National Elections Committee, announced the newly-elected Regional Vice Presidents: Ellen C. Frye, Monmouth University (Northeast); Jhon Akers, Wofford College (Southeast); Lucy Lee, Truman State University (Southwest); Paul Hoff, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Midwest); Domnita Dumitrescu, California State University-Los Angeles (West). Secretary Del Mastro also congratulated Germán D. Carrillo of Marquette University for being reelected as National President for the 2001-04 triennium.

President Carrillo then announced that Del Mastro had been appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as Executive Secretary-Treasurer for another term during the triennium 2001-04.

Carrillo also read the list of 15 re-activated and 16 newly-installed chapters (#487-501) from the past triennium.

Carrillo then followed by recognizing Dr. Diego del Corral of the *Academia Latinoamericana de Español* as a new collaborator in Sigma Delta Pi's scholarship program. To honor Dr. del Corral, the Executive Committee had inducted him as an Honorary Member of Sigma Delta Pi the previous night (July 7) at 6:00pm in a private ceremony that included Mr. del Corral's parents, wife and a family friend.

President Carrillo announced the Honor Chapters for the 2000-01 academic year and recognized St. John's University as the 2001 recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis*.

Secretary Del Mastro continued the meeting with a report on statistics for the 2000-01 fiscal year:

- a) 3,598 initiates
- b) 5 inductees into the *Orden de los Descubridores*
- c) 4 inductees into the *Orden de Don Quijote*
- d) \$71,865.00 received in dues
- e) \$75,859.00 total received
- f) over \$650,000 in the national treasury

Del Mastro then announced that the first edition of the *Chapter Adviser Handbook* would be published and sent to all chapters in September 2001. This publication would also be available on the national website (www.citadel.edu/sigmadeltapi).

President Carrillo resumed with an explanation of the new By-laws amendments proposal, which eliminated the state director system in order to give regional vice presidents more responsibility and authority in their respective regions. Secretary Del Mastro distributed the amendments ballot, and the proposal was approved unanimously by all voting chapters (this includes votes received via e-mail prior to the convention).

To begin the recognition portion of the program, Professor Carrillo presented the 2001 *Premio José Martel*—granted each triennium to the most outstanding Chapter Adviser of Sigma Delta Pi—to Professor Roberto A. Galván of Southwest Texas State University.

For her many years of outstanding service and scholarship dedicated to the ideals of the Society, Professor Marie-Lise Gazarian of St. John's University was inducted into the *Orden de Don Quijote*, Sigma Delta Pi's highest honor.

In recognition of his exemplary service to the Society since the early 1960s, Dr. John H. LaPrade of Southern Methodist University was named President Emeritus by Carrillo on behalf of the Executive Council.

Carrillo concluded the awards portion of the Triennial Convention by inducting Del Mastro into the *Orden de los Descubridores* for his distinguished service to the Society as Executive Secretary-Treasurer since 1997.

Concluding the meeting at 4:30pm, Del Mastro invited the 25 guests in attendance to remain and enjoy Sigma Delta Pi's reception that served abundant red wine and appetizers.

During the reception and in recognition of the forty-fifth anniversary of the Estudio Internacional Sampere—yearly collaborator in Sigma Delta Pi's summer scholarship program—President Carrillo presented Mr. Juan Manuel Sampere with a commemorative plaque.

The reception concluded at 6:00pm.

Gran Maestre de la Orden de Don Quijote

Recalling the noble efforts in 1980 by then President Richard E. Chandler to recognize King Juan Carlos I of Spain by inducting him as *Gran Maestre* into the *Orden de Don Quijote*—efforts frustrated by the King's cancellation of his trip to the U.S.—Carrillo and Del Mastro decided to revisit the possibility of recognizing the Spanish monarch. At the 2001 AATSP President's reception sponsored by the Spanish Embassy at the Parc 55 Hotel in San Francisco, Carrillo and Del Mastro shared this idea with Jesús Cruz, Education and Science Counselor of the Spanish Embassy of Washington, D.C. Mr. Cruz was receptive, but he noted that it would be easier to recognize the King's son, Don Felipe de Borbón y Grecia, since his majesty Juan Carlos I had been limiting his travel to the U.S. Carrillo and Del Mastro welcomed this suggestion and agreed to maintain contact in the following months with Mr. Cruz who agreed to assist Sigma Delta Pi with this endeavor.

With feedback from the Executive Committee Members, Del Mastro wrote a formal proposal with supporting material that he sent with a cover letter dated September 26,

2001 to Mr. Jesús Cruz in Washington, D.C. The proposal, in addition to describing in detail the operations of the Society, explained its plans to recognize the Prince during a ceremony that would coincide with a Friday afternoon military parade at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Four tentative dates in 2002 (two Fridays in March and two in October) were presented along with three alternate locations (the University of Virginia, Georgetown University and St. John's University) in order to accommodate the Prince's travel plans.

Accompanying a letter from Jesús Cruz addressed to Del Mastro and dated March 27, 2002, was a copy of a letter dated March 5, 2002, that Jaime Alfonsín, Chief Secretary of the Prince, sent from the Royal Palace in Madrid to Javier Rupérez, Ambassador of Spain in D.C. The letter declined the proposal graciously with the following paragraph:

Su Alteza Real me encarga que te trasmita Su deseo de que agradezcas a esa entidad su amable ofrecimiento que, sintiendo mucho, no Le es posible aceptar pues venimos manteniendo un criterio muy restrictivo respecto a la aceptación de honores y distinciones por Su Alteza Real y en ese sentido se vienen contestando los ofrecimientos que se vienen recibiendo.

Of course, the Executive Committee speculated that the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, and the United States' subsequent war in Afghanistan had a significant impact on the Prince's response to the Society's proposal.

In May 2003, Del Mastro e-mailed Mr Cruz to determine if there was any change in the Prince's "criterio muy restrictivo" and if any further consideration had been made by the Spain's Royal Palace regarding Sigma Delta Pi's proposal. Mr. Cruz responded in an e-mail message dated May 18, 2003, stating that it was still too early to re-submit Sigma Delta Pi's plans to the *Casa Real* due to the war in Iraq and the pending Spanish elections in March 2004. With the likelihood that a new Spanish Ambassador and corresponding staff would be appointed following the Spanish elections, Mr. Cruz advised Sigma Delta Pi to wait until the spring of 2004 before re-submitting the proposal. He also recommended that the Executive Committee speak in person with the new Education and Science Counselor of the Spanish Embassy of Washington, D.C., who would be attending the 2003 AATSP meeting. Since Sigma Delta Pi's Triennial Convention was not scheduled until the AATSP meeting in 2004, neither Del Mastro nor the other Members of the Executive Committee had the opportunity to meet the new Education Adviser.

Entre Nosotros

In May 1996, the Executive Committee appointed Del Mastro as Assistant Editor for *Entre Nosotros* to assist Ignacio R.M. Galbis, then Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Director of the annual. Because of the progressively failing health of Ignacio, Del Mastro, who had already been directing a student journal at The Citadel, became Co-editor of the 1996-97 edition of *EN*. Unfortunately, however, No. 1, Vol. 39 of the Society's journal would be the last publication under Galbis's direction. The very next edition of *Entre Nosotros* (No. 1, Vol. 40) was dedicated to the memory of Galbis who died on October 10, 1997. Del Mastro directed this and subsequent editions, including the sixtieth and sixty-fifth anniversary issues that were published early in 1999 and 2004 respectively.

El repostero

Sigma Delta Pi's *repostero*, a handsome 3.5' X 5' banner was first made available in May of 1948 by the L.G. Balfour Company (see Chapter IV). Later, during the Triennial Convention of 1965, Dr. José Martel, then Regional Vice President of the Northeast, reported that he had found a possible new *repostero* supplier in Barcelona, Spain. A sample was acquired shortly thereafter, and Dr. Hamilton, then National President, subsequently approved it, and the Society purchased 50 of the hand-made felt banners. During the spring of 2002, Del Mastro noticed that this supply had dwindled due to increased sales from greater advertisement to chapters. Consequently, Del Mastro began searching for a new provider, an endeavor complicated by the reality that reproducing the original banners might result in a product too costly for most of the Society's chapters. However, after extensive research and negotiations that included dozens of banner manufacturers across the U.S. and in Ecuador, Del Mastro found a company in Michigan that would hand-sew the banners and match the esthetic quality of the original Spanish stock, but would make the *repostero* with nylon appliqué instead of felt (no manufacturer contacted was using felt due to its fragility, nor was one willing to use it in production). In October 2002, the Executive Committee unanimously approved a sample provided by BrittenMedia Inc. of Traverse City, Michigan, and the Committee subsequently agreed to purchase 50 *reposteros* for the price of \$245 each. Since the previous amount charged to chapters per banner was \$250, the Committee was pleased that BrittenMedia's price would allow the future cost for chapters to remain the same.

New Membership Certificates

In the spring of 2002, Del Mastro reported to the Executive Committee that the Society needed to re-order membership certificates since the supply would be exhausted by late fall of the same year. LaPrade proposed that the Committee consider replacing the 6.25" x 8.5" certificates with a standard 8.5" x 11" size so that chapter advisers—or the designated individual—could easily print the membership information (inductee's and chapter's names, membership class, day, month and year) on a desktop printer. Since Committee Members disagreed on this idea, Del Mastro proposed that the Society survey the preferences of chapters. Following an e-mail poll sent to all active chapters, 150 responded: 104 favored the 8.5" x 11" size, 41 preferred the traditional size and nine were undecided. In addition to changing to the new certificate dimensions, the Committee also agreed on some formatting changes to accommodate the larger size document, and on a slight modification to the last line of the certificate from "En virtud de la autoridad que me concede la presidencia de esta Sociedad expido este certificado..." to "En virtud de la autoridad que nos concede el Consejo Ejecutivo de esta Sociedad, espedimos este certificado..."

After reviewing bids from several companies in the Charleston area, the Executive Committee hired J.R. Rowell Printing in November of 2002 to produce 49,000 membership and 1,000 general award certificates, a supply that would last the Society for the subsequent 11-12 years.

Canvas Charters

In the summer of 1999, in an effort to continue streamlining and centralizing operations of the Society, Del Mastro volunteered to prepare the charters for newly founded chapters, a duty that the President had previously assumed. Following initial difficulties finding a business in Charleston, S.C., willing to type-set the print to be inserted on our charters, The Citadel Print Shop proposed an acceptable technique of running the documents through an advanced photocopy machine to achieve the desired outcome. After four years employing this method, Del Mastro became increasingly frustrated with inconsistent results, and while he was negotiating with J.R. Rowell in the fall of 2002 to replenish the membership certificate stock, he learned of a superior alternative to printing the charters: the replacement of the paper stock with canvas and high-resolution, uniform lettering with Old English Font. Upon careful review, and with some formatting changes, the Executive Committee approved the new charter, and in the spring of 2003 the canvas documents were issued to newly installed chapters.

Executive Committee Meeting, 2002

Because of Dr. Richard E. Chandler's reluctance to travel long distances, the Executive Committee agreed to hold its annual meeting during the summer of 2002 in Lafayette, Louisiana at the Comfort Inn on August 1-4. This was a memorable reunion for the Committee since it was President Carrillo's first opportunity to meet Dr. Chandler in person and the first time since 1998 that President Emeritus Chandler was able to attend an Executive Committee Meeting. All the Committee Members—Carrillo, Chandler, Del Mastro and LaPrade—were in attendance.

Of the agenda items, Carrillo reported that six new chapters (#502-507) were installed in the 2001-02 academic year: Upsilon Psi of The College of New Jersey (December 2), Upsilon Omega of North Georgia College & State University (April 11), Phi Alpha of Northern Michigan University (December 12), Phi Beta of Luther College, IA (February 28), Phi Gamma of California State University, Fullerton (May 14) and Phi Delta of St. Joseph's College, NY (May 3). There were also five reactivated chapters: Zeta Xi of the University of Montana, Zeta Zeta of the University of Virginia, Delta Omicron of Mount Saint Mary's College, Beta Omega of Washington University in St. Louis and Sigma Mu of Armstrong Atlantic State University, GA.

President Emeritus LaPrade suggested, and all agreed, that Sigma Delta Pi register its logo as a trademark with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Del Mastro subsequently began this application process in the fall of 2003.

Del Mastro also presented several proposals that were approved unanimously:

- 1) purchasing and adopting the domain name "sigmadeltapi.org" for the national website while simultaneously retaining the address www.citadel.edu/sigmadeltapi.org;
- 2) designation of Kalamazoo Regalia as the sole, authorized distributor of Sigma Delta Pi honor cords with the condition that the Society earn no proceeds from the sales;
- 3) LaPrade's idea to implement an award for chapters that maintain "Honor

Chapter" status for a complete triennium. Named the "Premio Octavio Paz," the prize would be announced in the fall of 2002 and presented at the 2004 Triennial Convention;

4) an informative session at the 2003 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference to be held in April in Lexington and presided by the President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer;

5) a new computer for the national office (Executive Secretary-Treasurer) in order to meet the growing technological demands of the Society.

Closing the meeting, the Committee Members selected the Honor Chapters and the recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis* for the 2001-02 academic year. The University of Wyoming, advised by Professor Patricia Hamel, was granted the Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award. The following 16 institutions were selected as Honor Chapters (advisers in parentheses): Southwest Texas State University (Roberto A. Galván), University of California-Irvine (Juergen Kempff), The Citadel (Maria R. Rippon and Mark P. Del Mastro), University of Hawaii at Manoa (Lucía Aranda), Marquette University (Germán D. Carrillo), St. John's University (Marie-Lise Gazarian), University of Toledo (Dagmar Varela), University of Texas at Brownsville (Roberto Cortina and Cheryl Phelps), Brigham Young University (Dale J. Pratt), University of Kentucky (Susan Carvalho), Texas Tech University (Eduardo Cabrera), West Virginia University (Sandra L. Dixon), Minnesota State University Moorhead (Benjamin Smith), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), Purdue University (Araceli Merrell) and the University of Wisconsin, Eau-Claire (Paul Hoff).

Highlighting the meeting in Lafayette was the wonderful hospitality extended to Carrillo, Del Mastro and LaPrade by Dr. Chandler and his gracious wife Tag.

Executive Committee Meeting, 2003

Following the tradition begun in 2002, the Executive Committee held its 2003 meeting in Lafayette, Louisiana at the Comfort Inn on June 6-8, and Carrillo, Del Mastro and LaPrade continued to enjoy the warm welcome from their colleague and friend, Dr. Richard Chandler, and his wife Tag.

One of the top items of the meeting's agenda was Del Mastro's justification for increasing membership fees from \$20 to \$25. He explained that it had been 15 years since the previous increase (1988); with a majority vote of approval from both the Executive Council and the chapters, the Society realized a 67% increase (from \$12-\$20) over a two-year period (1986-88). If the Society had followed the Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation Rate since 1988, dues would have been \$31 per member in 2003. However, the proposed increase of \$20 to \$25 would have only reflected a 25% increase (significantly lower than the 1988 raise, and less than the compound inflation rate of 54% since 1988). The Committee also observed that the tremendous growth of the scholarship program in recent years (a 51% increase just since the 1997-98 fiscal year) along with other advances in the Society's operations within the previous decade demanded an increase in membership fees. The Committee unanimously approved the proposal, and in the fall of 2003 Del Mastro sent ballots to all active chapters in order to obtain the necessary

majority vote of approval. Voting chapters passed the dues increase plan by an overwhelming margin, and the fee increase became effective January 1, 2004.

Del Mastro proceeded with his report on the installation of eight new chapters (#508-516) during the 2002-03 academic year: Phi Epsilon of Lyon College, AR (March 23), Phi Zeta of Hendrix College, AR (January 20), Phi Eta of William Paterson University, NJ (April 21), Phi Theta of the University of St. Thomas, MN (February 27), Phi Iota of Southern Utah University (April 25), Phi Kappa of Southeastern Oklahoma State University (April 22), Phi Lambda of Columbus State University, GA (April 10), Phi Mu of SUNY College at Old Westbury (April 23). There were also three reactivated chapters: Rho Omicron of Florida Atlantic University, Pi Iota of the University of Tulsa and Rho Zeta of SUNY New Paltz.

To assist chapters with the printing of membership certificates, LaPrade proposed that a photocopy of a sample, filled-in diploma be included with future orders when shipping pins and certificates to institutions. The Executive Committee approved this idea unanimously.

In preparations for the 2004 Elections Committee for National Officers, the President in consultation with the Executive Committee agreed to appoint the following chapter advisers to serve as members of the 2004 Elections Committee for National Officers: Doreen O'Connor of Whittier College (Chair), Camila Bari de López of Westminster College, and Natalia Gómez of Grand Valley State University.

Following a careful review of the chapter annual reports of 45 of the most outstanding received for the 2002-03 academic year, the Committee chose the following 22 institutions as Honor Chapters (advisers in parentheses): The Citadel (Maria R. Rippon and Mark P. Del Mastro), Marquette University (Germán D. Carrillo), University of Hawaii at Manoa (Lucía Aranda), University of California, Irvine (Juergen Kempff), University of Wyoming (Patricia Hamel), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), University of Toledo (Dagmar Varela), Southwest Texas State University (Roberto A. Galván), California State University, Fullerton (Pilar Valero-Costa), Florida Atlantic University (Yolanda Gamboa), Minnesota State University Moorhead (Benjamin Smith), St. Louis University (Teresa H. Johnson), Towson University (Lee Ramsdell), Drury University (Elizabeth G. Nichols), St. John's University (Marie-Lise Gazarian), Baylor University (Michael D. Thomas), Wofford College (Jhon C. Akers), Nazareth College of Rochester (Tina Pereda), Friends University (Jerry Smartt), Columbus State University (Efraín E. Garza), Lyon College (Mónica Rodríguez) and Charleston Southern University (Pamela Peek). For its outstanding activities, Brigham Young University, under the direction of Dr. Dale J. Pratt, was awarded the 2003 *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis*. Consequently, Del Mastro proposed, and all agreed, that Brigham Young University be included in the "En el Foco" section of the national website for the 2003-04 academic year.

As the final item of the agenda, Del Mastro submitted a proposal for amendments to the national constitution that included the addition of articles and sections devoted to the post of Webmaster, the José Martel Award, Honor Chapters, the Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award, the Octavio Paz Award and the Hamilton and Chandler scholarships. The proposal also included minor changes to the responsibilities listed for the National President and Executive Secretary-Treasurer as well as small modifications to the process for submitting charter petitions. The Committee approved the amendments with minor

editorial revisions, and in the fall of 2003 a vote for these changes was brought before all active chapters. All voting chapters approved the amendments unanimously.

Upon concluding the conference, although the Committee Members recognized that they would not enjoy Dr. Chandler's participation in the 2004 meeting because of its location in Acapulco (to correspond with the Triennial Convention and the AATSP assembly), Carrillo, Del Mastro and LaPrade pledged to return to Lafayette to join Chandler for the 2005 Executive Committee Meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting, 2004

Following procedure after the re-election of a National President, the Executive Committee Meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the AATSP and immediately prior to the Triennial Convention (also concurring with the AATSP conference). Del Mastro, Carrillo and LaPrade attended the 2004 Executive Committee Meeting which was held in Acapulco, Mexico at the Fairmont Acapulco Princess Hotel on July 29-31.

Of the topics discussed, Del Mastro reported that five new chapters (#516-520) were installed during the 2003-04 academic year: Phi Nu of Idaho State University (October 24), Phi Xi of Texas A&M International University (November 14), Phi Omicron of Azusa Pacific University, CA (March 19), Phi Pi of Marist College, NY (February 22) and Phi Rho of Assumption College, MA (April 27). There were also four reactivated chapters: Theta Epsilon of Arizona State University, Theta of Louisiana of Tulane University, Gamma Theta of the University of Oklahoma and Eta Alpha of SUNY College at Freedonia.

Del Mastro distributed a nineteen-page draft of a history supplement (a preliminary form of this chapter) for T.E. Hamilton's book that he composed during the 2003-04 academic year. He reported that this chapter was near completion, and that he would have the final version ready for review by the Executive Committee in early September. President Emeritus LaPrade agreed to finish authoring his chapter (XI) by mid-October and in time for the Executive Committee to review before electronic publication around November 14, the eighty-fifth birthday of the Society. LaPrade then proposed, and the Committee agreed, that at the end of January 2005, Del Mastro would forward hard copies of the supplement (both Chapters XI and XII) together with a copy of Hamilton's book to all active chapters.

Del Mastro also proposed the following items that were met with unanimous approval:

- 1) establishing a "National Charter Week" to commemorate the eighty-fifth birthday of Sigma Delta Pi where chapters would be asked to display their charters during the week of November 14 (the Society's anniversary);
- 2) submitting the nomination of Sigma Delta Pi to the University of Salamanca for the 2005 *Premio Elio Antonio de Nebrija*, an international award granted by the aforementioned university for "la labor desarrollada en pro del estudio y difusión de la lengua española y las culturas hispánicas, tanto por personas de lengua materna no española, como por instituciones españolas";
- 3) increasing the stipends for the Chandler and Hamilton scholarships.

As one of the meeting's final matters of business, the Committee Members selected the Honor Chapters and the recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis* for the 2003-04 academic year. The University of Hawaii, advised by Professor Lucía Aranda, was chosen for the Ignacio and Sophie Galbis Award. The following 25 institutions were selected as Honor Chapters (advisers in parentheses): Arizona State University (Teresa Valdivieso), Austin Peay State University (Ramón Magrán), Brigham Young University (Dale J. Pratt), California State University, Los Angeles (Domnita Dumitrescu), California State University, Fullerton (Pilar Valero-Costa), College of the Holy Cross (Daniel Frost), Columbus State University (Efraín E. Garza), Florida Atlantic University (Yolanda Gamboa), Friends University (Jerry Smart), Marquette University (Germán Carrillo), Minnesota State University Moorhead (Benjamin Smith), Nazareth College of Rochester (Tina Pereda), St. John's University (Marie-Lise Gazarian), Texas A&M International University (Ezra S. Engling), Texas State University (Roberto A. Galván), The Citadel (Maria R. Rippon and Mark P. Del Mastro), Towson University (Lea Ramsdell), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), University of California, Irvine (Juergen Kempff), University of Texas at San Antonio (Frank Pino), University of Toledo (Dagmar Varela), University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Paul Hoff), University of Wyoming, (Patricia Hamel), Virginia Tech University (Antonio A. Fernández-Vázquez), and Wofford College (Jhon C. Akers).

The Triennial Convention of 2004

On July 31 at 5:00pm in the Princess II meeting room of the Fairmont Acapulco Princess Hotel, Executive Secretary-Treasurer Del Mastro began an agenda that included revealing the newly elected officers for the upcoming triennium (2004-2007), highlighting the Society's progress during the prior triennium (2001-2004), and acknowledging several persons for their notable contributions to Sigma Delta Pi.

On behalf of Doreen O'Connor-Gómez (absent), Chair of the 2004 National Elections Committee, Del Mastro announced the newly-elected Regional Vice Presidents: Marie-Lise Gazarian, St. John's University (Northeast); Jhon Akers, Wofford College (Southeast); Lucy Lee, Truman State University (Southwest); Benjamin Smith, Minnesota State University Moorhead, (Midwest); Domnita Dumitrescu, California State University-Los Angeles (West). Del Mastro also thanked outgoing Vice Presidents Paul Hoff (Midwest) of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Ellen Frye of William Paterson University (Northeast)—who were not present—for their past service to the Society. He then congratulated Germán D. Carrillo of Marquette University for being re-elected National President for the 2004-07 triennium, his third term. Del Mastro also recognized Dr. John H. LaPrade, Past President and President Emeritus, and Dr. James Castañeda, Honorary President, for their outstanding contributions to the Society.

President Carrillo then announced that Del Mastro had been appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the triennium 2004-07 (his fourth term; in the 1997-98 academic year, Del Mastro finished Ignacio Galbis's term).

Carrillo then read the list of 12 re-activated and 19 newly-founded chapters (#502-520) from the past triennium (2001-04).

The President expressed Sigma Delta Pi's appreciation to Mr. Javier Espinosa of the *Universidad Internacional*, Mr. Juan Manuel Sampere of *Estudio Internacional Sampere*, Dr. Diego del Corral of the *Academia Latinoamericana de Español*, and Antonio Anadón of *Enforex, Spanish Language School* for their generous collaboration with the Society's scholarship program.

Carrillo also revealed the 25 Honor Chapters for the 2003-04 academic year and recognized the University of Hawaii at Manoa as the 2004 recipient of the *Premio Ignacio y Sophie Galbis*. He then congratulated the following 11 chapters for earning the inaugural *Premio Octavio Paz* for maintaining Honor Chapter status for the complete 2001-04 triennium (advisers in parentheses): Brigham Young University (Dale Pratt), Marquette University (Germán D. Carrillo), Minnesota State University Moorhead (Benjamin Smith), St. John's University (Marie-Lise Gazarian), Texas State University (Roberto A. Galván), The Citadel (Maria Rippon y Mark P. Del Mastro), Truman State University (Lucy Lee), University of California-Irvine (Juergen Kempff), University of Hawaii at Manoa (Lucía Aranda), University of Toledo (Dagmar Varela), and the University of Wyoming (Patricia Hamel). Chapters whose delegates were in attendance at the Convention were presented their awards.

Secretary Del Mastro followed with his report on statistics for the 2003-04 fiscal year:

- a) 4,106 initiates
- b) 5 inductees into the *Orden de los Descubridores*
- c) 2 inductees into the *Orden de Don Quijote*
- d) \$97,000.00 received in dues
- e) \$102,300.00 total received
- f) over \$778,450 in the national treasury (an increase of almost \$130,000 since the last triennial convention in 2001)

It was also announced that in commemoration of the eighty-fifth birthday of Sigma Delta Pi, the supplement to T. Earle Hamilton's *History*, authored by LaPrade and Del Mastro with editorial supervision by the entire Executive Committee, would be published in electronic format on the national website (www.sigmadeltapi.org) in November 2004. A hard copy version along with Hamilton's book would be sent together to all chapters in late January 2005.

Continuing the awards portion of the meeting, Dr. Carrillo presented the 2004 *Premio José Martel*—granted each triennium to the most outstanding Chapter Adviser of Sigma Delta Pi—to Professor Lucy Lee of Truman State University.

For her outstanding service as Vice President of the Southwest and for his leadership as Director of the Scholarship Committee, Professors Lucy Lee of Truman State University and Dale J. Pratt of Brigham Young University, respectively, were inducted into the *Orden de los Descubridores* by President Carrillo.

Carrillo ended the awards segment of the Triennial Convention by inducting Mark P. Del Mastro into the *Orden de Don Quijote* for his distinguished service to the Society as Executive Secretary-Treasurer since 1997.

At 5:45pm, Del Mastro concluded the meeting with an invitation to all attending to enjoy Sigma Delta Pi's reception in the Princesa I (adjacent to the Princesa II) of

abundant *entremeses* and unlimited red wine, Mexican beer and non-alcoholic refreshments. The reception was perhaps one of the longest hosted by the Society, not concluding until 7:30pm, at which time the AATSP commenced its *fiesta de despedida* with its own generous banquet that included a buffet, open bar and music.

The 2004 Triennial Convention will long be remembered not only for the beautiful location—both the hotel itself and the wonderful city of Acapulco and its surroundings—but also for commemorating another impressive period of accomplishments for Sigma Delta Pi.