

SIGMA PHI SOCIETY

The Elihu Root Distinguished Sigma Phi Award

Namesake

Elihu Root H'1860: Attorney and International Statesman (born 1845 - deceased 1937)
Secretary of War - McKinley Cabinet (1899-1904)
Secretary of State - Roosevelt Cabinet (1905-1909)
United States Senator - New York (1909-1915)
President - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1910-1925)
Nobel Peace Prize Winner (1912)
Woodrow Wilson Foundation Medal and Prize Winner (1926)

Award's Purposes

- To recognize and honor a Sigma Phi alumnus for lifetime achievement that reflects Sigma Phi's values and brings credit to the Society.
- To acknowledge one amongst the many superb career efforts that are continually being made by Sigma Phi graduate members.
- To provide inspiration and a role model for all Sigs and in particular for undergraduates, who are society's leaders of the future.

Selection Criteria

Graduate brothers who have distinguished themselves in as many of the following ways are worthy candidates for selection as an Elihu Root Distinguished Sigma Phi Award recipient.

- Broad public service to others in society.
- National or international public figure of prominence.
- Achievements that have commanded national or international respect and recognition in any field, including those of a professional, technical, business, or educational nature.
- Outstanding service to Sigma Phi or to the fraternity system.

Nomination, Selection, and Presentation Process

1. Formal nominations are to be forwarded to the Nominating Committee Chairman for receipt no later than July 1 each year. Candidates may be nominated, with or without the nominee's knowledge, by any individual or group and may be nominated in succeeding years if not selected previously.

The identities of all nominees will remain confidential to members of the Nominating Committee and officers of the Society who are involved in the deliberations. There will be no "losers."

2. The Nominating Committee will review and assess nominees' qualifications and accomplishments, relying on the selection criteria as its guidelines.

Nominations that are descriptive, comprehensive, and in a publishable form (for use in the Sigma Phi Flame or Sigma Phi Bulletin) will receive highest consideration when other factors of the contending candidates are relatively comparable.

On or about August 15, the committee will recommend its selection to the Executive Committee of the Society's Standing and Advisory Committee for its approval. In an unusual circumstance, the Nominating Committee may recommend at most two candidates to the S & A Executive Committee for its selection of one.

The award winner will be announced at the Society's annual General Convention.

3. The recipient will be requested to accept his award and to address those gathered at the following March Fourth Banquet at its "flagship" location. The site will be designated annually by the Standing and Advisory Committee and may be in or near the recipient's residence city or that of his initiation chapter. Alternatively the Committee may elect to bestow the honor at its traditional flagship location, New York City.

The recipient may also be requested to provide additional background information to supplement that already included in the nomination materials.