



Initiation of new chapter members

Advisor: [Mr. / Madame] President, I present these individuals to you for initiation into Phi Lambda Sigma. [Calls each initiate forward by name and asks that they form a semi-circle. Initiates should face the PLS Officers]

President: Each of you has been tapped for membership in Phi Lambda Sigma because of the outstanding qualities of leadership and service which you have demonstrated on behalf of the profession of pharmacy, and because we believe that you have the moral character, the ethical standards, and the leadership ability to advance pharmacy to the highest level.

V President: Phi Lambda Sigma is the Pharmacy Leadership Society. Our goal is to recognize outstanding leaders in our profession. The symbol of the society is the key which each member receives. It bears a mortar and pestle, long recognized as the symbol of the ethical pharmacist.

The mortar and pestle, which bears the letters of Phi Lambda Sigma, is surrounded by a wreath of laurel, symbolic of leadership and wisdom. The date of our founding, 1965, appears below the mortar and pestle. Our colors are green and gold; green, symbolizing strength, and gold, symbolizing fineness of character.

President: As we of Phi Lambda Sigma have done before you, so are you required to take the following Oath. Will you raise your right hand and repeat after me:

I, (please state your name), / do solemnly promise, / to uphold the standards and ideals / of Phi Lambda Sigma, / to work for the advancement of pharmacy / through leadership and service, / and to practice the duties of my profession / with dignity, / knowledge, / ethics, / and a genuine concern / for the well-being of those I serve.

(Pin each initiates and congratulates each one. Recommend having all officers assist with this process.)

[Advisor and/or PLS officers, provide each initiate with a candle and lights the first one with his/her own. The initiate then lights the candle of the person next to them and so on until all candles are lit. If the group is large you may light the candle of the person at both ends and they in turn light the candle to the person next to them and so on until all are lit. When the last candle is lit, proceed with the following:]

Secretary: Just as the lighting of many candles from one does not diminish the light of the initial flame, so too adding other leaders to our circle does not diminish, but rather strengthens the existing members so that, together, we can strengthen . . . and shed light on . . . our profession.

President: As members of Phi Lambda Sigma, you are expected to uphold the high standards of our society and our profession in your own work. Further, you are expected to dedicate yourselves to the further advancement of pharmacy through exemplary leadership, character, encouragement and achievement.

I now declare you duly initiated into Phi Lambda Sigma.

(End of official ceremony)

Suggestion: Have new initiates sign membership book if one is used by the chapter.