**Recognition Ceremony- Sample Script**

**Introduction and Welcome**

On behalf of the Beta Gamma Sigma Board of Governors and the Global Headquarters staff, we/I would like to welcome you to this membership recognition ceremony. You have been invited to become a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, as you have shown an outstanding aptitude for business studies and have demonstrated your work ethic and determination. This event is a testament to your hard work. We are honored to have you join us a new member.

This recognition ceremony symbolizes your induction into a very exclusive group of top business scholars. Beta Gamma Sigma chapters are only permitted to establish at business institutions who have worked to attain prestigious AACSB accreditation. Currently, just over 845 universities have earned this accreditation. Of that number, over 600 have established a Beta Gamma Sigma chapter. From the pool of Beta Gamma Sigma chapters, only the top 10% of undergraduate students, the top 20% of graduate students and some of the most accomplished business practitioners are eligible to be recognized as a member.

**History of the Organization and Members**

Beta Gamma Sigma’s origin dates back to the earliest years of the 20th century. During that time, business students were largely excluded from consideration for other societies recognizing academic excellence. As such, three student recognition societies on the campuses of the University of California-Berkley, University of Illinois and the University of Wisconsin came together in 1913 to establish a national organization which was named Beta Gamma Sigma. This name was chosen to represent the initials of three distinguished business professors at the University of Wisconsin.

100+ years later, Beta Gamma Sigma is the largest organization in the world, honoring business school graduates internationally. Beta Gamma Sigma membership is the highest honor that a business student, attending an AACSB accredited institution can achieve. Members are all over the world and currently reside in over 190 countries. BGS members serve in a wide array of industries and are not focused on one specific professional area. This allows unique opportunities for our members to network with a variety of other business professionals from all walks of life.

**Principles of Beta Gamma Sigma**

Beta Gamma Sigma is founded on a set of three principles, which serve as pillars for everything the society does. Each principle is represented by a Greek word. These words coincide with the initials of our Society. I’d like to share these principles with you now.

***Beta***

Beta is the initial letter of the Greek word, ***BEBAEOS* (beb-i-os),** which signifies honor. Honor is defined as personal integrity, as well as excellence of character. It is a prerequisite for those who lead others. It also encourages altruism and enlightened social responsibility and service.

***Gamma***

Gamma is the initial letter of the Greek word, ***GNOSIS* (no-sis),** which signifies wisdom. Wisdom is knowledge tested by experience and tempered by discerning judgment. It avoids prejudice and insists on freedom of thought and expression. Those who are wise seek a better comprehension and a more fruitful application of what is known. They engage in a continuous quest for understanding.

***Sigma***

Sigma is the initial letter of the Greek word, ***SPOUDE* (spoo-day),** which signifies earnestness. Earnestness is enthusiasm measured by achievement, reason and sincerity. It is that dynamic quality which is essential for all great achievements. Individuals who reflect earnestness inspire confidence, invite action, and generate progress.

**Explanation of the Key Symbol**

The symbol of Beta Gamma Sigma is the key. This symbol also represents our ideals of honor, wisdom and earnestness and is inscribed with the Greek letters which represent the Society’s name. We ask that all members who wear this key do so with our principles in mind.

**Closing and Congratulations**

Now that the principles and symbols of our Society have been shared with you I would like to present you with your membership certificate and key lapel pin, to outwardly symbolize your membership.

Please send my/our sincerest congratulations and welcome to Beta Gamma Sigma.