

# Sigma Pi Fraternity International

Eta Iota Chapter

California State University Dominguez Hills

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## CAL STATE DOMINGUEZ HILLS' SIGMA PI FRATERNITY CELEBRATE ITS ANNUAL ORCHID BALL

CARSON, CA - On May 19, 2001, after six years, the Eta Iota Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity once again celebrated its annual Orchid Ball at the Carson Hilton Hotel. This event celebrated the chapter's accomplishment over the past year as well as recognizing its officers who served. There were 83 people in attendance for the festivities, which included active members, alumni and parents.

"It is an exciting time for the Eta Iota Chapter and there's much to celebrate at this year's Orchid Ball" said Chapter Director Raul Castillo. The brothers celebrated receiving awards from its national chapter at its biennial convocation: *The Most Improved Chapter*, *The Scholarship Award* for highest GPA, and *The Efficiency Award* in operating the fraternity. California State University Dominguez Hills also handed Eta Iota the university's most prestigious student award, *The Toro Spirit Award*.

The Eta Iota alumni group, The Rancho Dominguez Alumni Association (RDAA) also accomplished much during the past year. The *Annual Robert Hashimoto Memorial Golf Tournament* was again a success. *The Sigma Pi Robert Hashimoto Memorial Endowment* was established with Cal State Dominguez Hills' University Foundation, as was the *Rancho Dominguez Scholarship Fund*, which is administered through Sigma Pi's Educational Foundation in Indiana.

The program was topped off by the presentation of the Hashimoto Scholarship. The scholarship was named after Robert Hashimoto, a fraternity brother whose life was cut short in 1991. The parents of Robert Hashimoto, who reside in nearby Gardena, were in attendance to help award the scholarship. This year's recipient of the Hashimoto Scholarship is Toshimi Minami, a freshman Education Major at Cal State Dominguez

Hills. "I am very grateful to the Rancho Dominguez Alumni and very honored to be the recipient of this scholarship, which pays tribute to Robert," said Minami.

The Eta Iota Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity was the first national fraternity on the campus of Cal State Dominguez Hills. Chartered on May 13, 1989, Sigma Pi made an immediate impact on campus. It hosted several comedy nights called *Comedy Thrills at Dominguez Hills* ®, which raised money in the late 80's and early 90's for the Multiple Sclerosis Society as well as Rape Crises and Sexual Assault Hotline in Torrance. Sigma Pi also frequently hosted picnics on campus for the developmentally disabled. After overcoming low membership and its dormancy in the late 1990's, Sigma Pi once again is a strong presence on the campus of Cal State Dominguez Hills as well as the local community.

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