



Application for International Sweetheart of Sigma Chi

Serving as the Sigma Chi Fraternity International Sweetheart provides a unique opportunity for a female student to visit campuses throughout North America, meet hundreds of undergraduates and alumni, participate in enjoyable and educational events, and contribute to and benefit from a number of positive experiences that provide opportunities for educational and personal growth.

The undergraduate representatives at this year's Grand Chapter, which will take place from June 25 to 28, 2015, in San Diego, will elect the 34th International Sweetheart of Sigma Chi. Each undergraduate chapter is strongly encouraged to nominate its sweetheart as a candidate for this prestigious honor and role as the 2015 to 2017 International Sweetheart. Regardless of whether your sweetheart is selected, your nomination packet will be a tribute to the many ways she has affected your members, and something she will cherish for a lifetime.

A Note From Mary Sugden, 2013 to 2015 International Sweetheart

It is my honor and great pleasure to be writing this note. I would like to congratulate you on your selection as chapter sweetheart and thank you for the dedication, time, energy, and love you have brought to your brothers.

The mere fact your brothers would like to nominate you for International Sweetheart, speaks to the lasting impression you have left on your brothers. It's obvious you have earned their love and respect if they believe that you are worthy of representing something they hold so dear.

Serving as International Sweetheart is a once in a lifetime experience. You will have the opportunity to meet brothers and sweethearts from all walks of life, or as we like to say in Sigma Chi: different temperaments, talents, and convictions. You will gain an even greater appreciation for Sigma Chi through watching its values in action, and seeing the way it shapes these men. You will have the immense responsibility of representing the Fraternity for two years by acting as its female ambassador and speaking on behalf of sweethearts throughout North America.

While you will be responsible for representing Sigma Chi's values of friendship, justice, and learning, you will also have the opportunity to speak and promote issues that matter to you. For me, it was easy to find a platform I felt passionate about. My dad is a Sigma Chi, and he was going through chemotherapy treatments when I became Sweetheart. The opportunity to promote the Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) and raise funds for cancer research is something I could not be more passionate about. Whether it is philanthropic issues that pertain to undergraduates, or issues that pertain to women specifically, it is up to you to find your platform and discover your voice. Having the opportunity to positively impact thousands of undergraduates is extremely rewarding. In these two years you will grow, learn, push yourself, and ultimately love this fraternity in ways you never imagined.

Let your application come from the heart and be yourself. This application is a lovely gift from your brothers that you will cherish forever. I cannot express how excited I am for you as you embark on this new journey and relationship with Sigma Chi. I know how intimidating the process can seem, so I hope you know that I am always here should you have any questions.

-Mary Sugden, 2013 to 2015 International Sweetheart

Elected Term and Expectations

The International Sweetheart will serve for a two-year term. Throughout that period, she will be expected to travel to a number of chapters, provincial and international events including the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, Grand Council, and Grand Chapter. She will also have the opportunity to share in numerous optional events such as province workshops, chapter anniversaries, leadership retreats and sweetheart balls. A more detailed description of the International Sweetheart's role has been provided with this application. Brothers and sweethearts are encouraged to review this document before submitting an application to ensure that the candidate will be excited and able to fulfill her responsibilities if elected.

International Sweetheart Educational Grant

Thanks to the generosity of several alumni brothers and former International Sweethearts, the 2015 to 2017 International Sweetheart will receive a special educational grant. The fund provides the International Sweetheart with \$5,000 for each of the two years of her term to assist with the expense of completing her education or expenses relating to her travel for selected Sigma Chi events.

Eligibility

Each nominee must fulfill the following requirements:

1. She must hold the title of official Sweetheart of the nominating chapter at some point during the period of Jan. 1, 2014 through March 1, 2015;
2. She must be a registered full-time student at the nominating chapter's school or, if such has only a male student body, from a nearby college, university or finishing school;
3. The nominee must have been elected as the chapter sweetheart by the members of the nominating active chapter; and
4. Each nominee must be unmarried as of the time of the Grand Chapter at which the International Sweetheart is selected.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Finalists are chosen on the basis of campus and Sigma Chi activity, general achievements, community service, academic performance, character, personality and public speaking abilities. Candidates are further encouraged to have a firm understanding of the values and ideals that the Fraternity embodies.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Nominations must be submitted by email to sweetheart@sigmachi.org by end of day on March 1, 2015.

All nominations must be submitted in a single Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat .pdf file. Any pictures, documents, or transcripts that have to be submitted should be scanned and inserted into the nomination document. **All pictures for the application must be submitted as jpg files.** (*Please note:* In order to ensure fairness, paper applications sent to International Headquarters by mail will not be accepted; however, files that are too large to be submitted via email may be sent by mail to International Headquarters on a disk or CD.) If you are having any difficulties submitting your application materials, please contact Liz Brignall at (847) 869-3655, ext. 231, or email sweetheart@sigmachi.org.

The application must include the following items and strictly adhere to the page limitations provided:

Page	Item
1	Cover page including the candidate's name, nominating chapter and university
2	Candidate Information: college program and anticipated graduation date, current and summer address, phone numbers and email address
3	One 5" x 7" color picture displaying the head and shoulders of the candidate.
4	A formal, written letter from the chapter, indicating why its members have nominated their sweetheart for the role of International Sweetheart
5-6	Candidate's resume
7 ¹	Candidate's educational transcript
8	Letter of recommendation from a Sigma Chi alumnus
9	Letter of recommendation from a non-Sigma Chi
10-11	A formal, written letter by the candidate to the International Sweetheart Selection Committee answering the following question: <i>Please compile a personal statement telling us why you are applying for the position and, if selected, what your ambitions are for the 2015 to 2017 term of office. Your statement should be no more than two pages, single-spaced in 12-point font, and should give selection committee members insight into your unique character and personality that your other supporting materials do not.</i>
12-14	Three additional 5" x 7" color pictures of the candidate's choice. (Note: Please select pictures that portray the candidate's unique personality, interests, friends, family, or community involvement. I.e. the candidate with the chapter, at a campus event; or, if she has traveled abroad, an image depicting a memorable experience; etc.)

Please note: Pictures, letters and academic transcripts should be scanned and inserted directly into the document. All pictures for the application must be submitted as .jpg files.

¹ We understand that transcripts may be more than one page; thus, the page restriction for this item does not apply.

SELECTION PROCESS

The International Sweetheart Selection Committee will review all applications received by the March 1, 2015, deadline that adhere to the previously stated requirements. The committee will select three finalists who will attend the 2015 Grand Chapter in San Diego, at which our new International Sweetheart will be chosen. Your chapter will be notified of the committee's decision no later than May 1, 2015. All travel and lodging expenses for the finalists will be paid by the Fraternity. The new International Sweetheart will be selected by a vote of the undergraduate chapter delegates during a special session at Grand Chapter. The official crowning will occur at the Grand Chapter Sweetheart event.

At Grand Chapter, the candidates will have the opportunity to meet all of the brothers in attendance. They will have a chance to attend social functions, meetings, and events that will give them an opportunity to speak with all of the voting delegates. Further details will be provided to the three finalists prior to Grand Chapter.

QUESTIONS

Please direct any questions to sweetheart@sigmachicago.org, or call Liz Brignall at Sigma Chi International Headquarters at (847) 869-3655, ext. 231.

