

ASPIRATIONS

James H. Bearden, president of Sigma Beta Delta, helps install the new Sigma Beta Delta chapter April 6, 1999, at the U.S. Air Force Academy. The chapter inducted 43 new members.



AIR FORCE ACADEMY ENLISTS SBD

Membership in the newly formed Sigma Beta Delta chapter is a two-way street for students of business and management at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Their academic excellence earned them an invitation to the Society, and now part of their duties as members will be to lead the chapter.

“We can now give special recognition to those cadets who do particularly well in management classes,” said Kurt Heppard, faculty advisor of the Air Force Academy’s SBD chapter. “We have also been able to demonstrate our confidence in our cadets” by making them responsible and accountable for Society functions and resources. He said the student members help shape and implement the department’s vision for the Society.

This past April, 11 seniors, eight juniors, 22 faculty members and two honorary members were among the first group of inductees. James H. Bearden, president of Sigma Beta Delta, delivered the keynote address at the induction ceremony. Also on hand was Michael J.C. Roth, CEO of USAA Investment Management Company and Founding Sponsor of the chapter. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, and during his military career was awarded the Silver Star and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Along with their academy
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FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS EARN RECOGNITION, REWARDS

Each year, four outstanding students in business and management programs at SBD schools are recognized with \$500 Sigma Beta Delta fellowships. To qualify, a student must be a member of the Society or invited to become a member and accept the invitation. SBD fellowships help pay for senior or master’s level study in business at regionally accredited colleges and universities.

Each chapter is encouraged to nominate one qualifying member for the award. As the Society continues to grow, the Society hopes to increase the number of available fellowships. The generous donors listed on the back of this newsletter play a significant role in funding the Fellowship Program.

The following is a short introduction to Maida Kapidzic, one of the 1999 SBD Fellowship recipients. Her story, while

certainly unique and inspiring, is symbolic of the excellence and commitment of our recipients.

Maida Kapidzic certainly knows something about overcoming life’s obstacles. A senior management major at Robert Morris College (Penn.), she had to learn a new language at age 18, assimilate to a new culture, and put behind her a war that claimed the life of her father.

“Sometimes I was only able to think of all the things I am giving up in order to get my education when being far from home,” Kapidzic said. “There were so many differences that I had to learn of and so many fears that I had to overcome. But I did commit myself to studying and getting to know the culture.”

Maida has had plenty to overcome. Her father was killed in the Bosnian War.
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