

**OMICRON TAU THETA  
THE CEREMONY OF INITIATION OF OMICRON TAU THETA  
GRADUATE HONOR SOCIETY IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

ITEMS NEEDED FOR INITIATION

1. Table cloth
2. Candles and holders
3. Banner
4. Gavel
5. Registration and book and pen
6. Flowers
7. Certificates and membership cards

\*\*\*Dues should be paid before a member undergoes initiation.

All persons taking part in the initiation ceremony must be members of Omicron Tau Theta. Academic gowns may be worn by initiating officers and/or by candidates for membership.

President

(Rap gavel three times.)

Would the candidates for membership into Omicron Tau Theta please rise. (P A U S E)

The initiation ceremony for candidates for membership in Omicron Tau Theta, ( ) Chapter, will begin. The candidates for membership are . . . (President reads the names of each candidate starting with Honorary Members, if any, first.)

Have you declared that your primary professional interest is to foster the welfare of career and technical education? If you so believe, please answer, "I do."

(The candidates respond together, "I do.")

## Parliamentarian

As career and technical educators, we need the skills, knowledge, behavior, and attitudes to accomplish our unique role in education. We can fulfill our commitment to career and technical education through professional leadership in teaching, research, and service.

Please be seated.

## Secretary

Candidates for membership, as secretary, I will read the purposes of Omicron Tau Theta. This organization shall seek to improve career and technical education by striving to:

promote leadership in career and technical education.

encourage research in career and technical education.

foster closer relationships in the career and technical community, including schools, government, business, and industry.

promote awareness of the benefits of career and technical education to the individual, society, and work.

Further the general welfare of those in the profession of career and technical education.

## Historian

Candidates for membership, as historian, I will briefly review the historical development of career and technical education:

The history of career and technical education dates back to those individuals who sought to teach productive skills to youth and adults for an improved quality of life and to increase the chances for survival.

Apprenticeship training, cooperative education, and other modes of education for the world of work have existed in all societies.

The history of education for vocations is marked by many achievements. career and technical knowledge has stimulated the world-wide linkage of many nations and perhaps, in the future, career and technical education will be the common thread to bridge the ideas of peoples, the goals of societies, and the philosophies of governments.

(P A U S E)

A vision of the future mandates that leadership in career and technical education rests with you--the initiates of Omicron Tau Theta. Being here today ranks you as a leader. As leaders in career and technical education, "we are now at the point where we must educate people in what nobody knew yesterday, and prepare in our schools for what no one knows yet but what some people must know tomorrow." (Margaret Mead)

## **Vice President**

(Secretary point to Seal)

Omicron (P A U S E) represented by the circle, signifies the cycle of human resources in society. The circle of Omicron is the cycle of life, including the Alpha and the Omega--the beginning and the end. It is human resources that are most valued to us as educators and are a paramount resource in the world of work.

Tau (P A U S E) represented by the "T," signifies the truth each of us must maintain when working with learners. The value of "truth" within our decisions is of highest importance. We must be true to the goal that career and technical education must provide equal opportunities for all people. No program of career and technical preparation should be assigned to a class of people because of their handicap, their background, or other unique characteristics that will limit their horizons.

**Theta** (P A U S E) represented by the circle and centered banner, signifies you, the individual. You are the Theta, who is needed to assure that Omicron, the cycle of human resources, and Tau, the maintenance of truth are assured for future generations.

This is the symbolism of the crest:

Acanthus leaves signify leadership and growth. The burning torch represents a quest for enduring knowledge. The circle represents the environment of human resources. The bridge signifies our mission in career and technical education to bridge the individual with society through the productive contributions that each individual can share with neighbors.

Omicron Tau Theta, as a graduate honor society in career and technical education, pledges itself to professionalism within the structure of education, communities, and governments. As a member of Omicron Tau Theta, do you pledge yourself to uphold the professional standards to which Omicron Tau Theta is committed? If so, please answer, "I do."

(Candidates respond "I do.")

Will the candidates and members please rise. Will the candidates please repeat the following:

"I . . . (give your name in full) . . . / do accept the leadership responsibilities/ and, consistent with the goals of Omicron Tau Theta,/ promise to promote leadership in career and technical education;/ encourage research in career and technical education;/ foster closer relationships in the career and technical community;/ promote awareness of the benefits of career and technical education;/ and further the general welfare of those in the profession of career and technical education.

Please be seated.

Treasurer

Candidates for membership, we are pleased to welcome you into the fellowship of Omicron Tau Theta. Please come forward to sign the membership registration book and receive your membership certificate. I will announce your name so that all present will hear and note the name of a career and technical education leader.

(Treasurer reads all candidates' names and presents membership certificates to each.)

Publications Editor

Congratulations on your acceptance of a leadership commitment. To paraphrase Charles Prosser (1913), the American school will become truly democratic when we learn to educate all kinds of people, in all kinds of ways, for all kinds of things. Let it hereby be known to all that you rank among those career and technical educators who have helped to build nations. The fellowship that you extend to your neighbors around you will be your leadership key.

President

This concludes the initiation ceremony. (President may wish to make some closing remarks or announcements.)