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Honor Society
Xi Sigma Pi

Michael T. Miller
Forester

Alpha Gamma is Iowa State University's chapter of Xi Sigma Pi, a national forest resource management honorary society. Xi Sigma Pi has the objectives of maintaining high standards of scholarship and improving the forest resource management profession; it serves as a form of recognition of personal achievement and also provides funds for a $200 scholarship given each year to one U.S. undergraduate student member.

Student members of Xi Sigma Pi are chosen from juniors and above, in the forest resource management field, on the basis of scholastic record and character traits indicative of a person highly interested in his or her field and likely to reach high professional achievements.

A student who accepts an invitation to become a member of the Alpha Gamma chapter goes through an initiation which is followed by a banquet. Initiation involves a week of wearing semi-formal clothing, carrying out the tree tradition and going through an initiation ceremony. The tree tradition is the wearing of a piece of wood cut in the form of a tree, with Xi Sigma Pi written on one side; it is hung around the initiate's neck with a piece of white and green ribbon. The tree is taken to current members for signatures thus serving as a means of bringing new and old members together for the first time.

Activities taken on by Alpha Gamma this year included aiding Dr. Dwight Bensend in updating employment files and the employment bulletin board, and helping Dr. Bensend in setting up a seminar series which had the purpose of bringing information to students concerning job hunting and resume preparation. Initiation week is planned for the week of April 20 - April 23, and the banquet will be held on the night of April 23. Between now and the end of May our chapter will also be holding elections for officer positions to be held during the next academic year.