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## FOREWORD TO THE SPECIAL CENTENNIAL PUBLICATION OF *THE COMPASS*

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On the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, it was deemed appropriate to republish from *The COMPASS*, the Earth Science Journal of SGE, the major papers that have been written in regard to SGE's history. Two articles in particular, those by Patricia L. Daniel, make up the bulk of this special publication: The History of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, The First Twenty-Five Years, 1915-1940 (Vol. 72, No. 2, 1996) and The History of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, the Second Twenty-Five Years, 1941-1965 (Vol. 72, No.3, 1966). Patty was a graduate student in geology at the University of Kansas when she undertook this ambitious project. The third article in this special publication is that written by Richard L. Ford: Major Milestones in the Development of Sigma Gamma Epsilon's Core Traditions (Vol. 84, No. 1, 2012). Rick Ford (a Past National President of SGE) provides a summary of the early years of SGE and examines important events in SGE's history up to 2012. The final article in this publication was written by Paula Even, SGE Administrative Assistant. She updates the list of SGE Chapters and the chronological list of SGE National Biennial Conventions

that appear in Rick Ford's article and she provides additional information to bring SGE's history up to the present.

The issues by Patricia Daniel have long been out of print, and it is hoped that by presenting them here SGE members and other interested individuals will be able to have easy access to this part of the history of the Society. Rick Ford's paper was one of the first to appear in *The COMPASS* when it became an open-access online journal in 2012, and although easily obtainable, it makes sense to have it appear in this special centennial publication along with the Daniel issues. Also, it is obvious that the article by Paula Even is necessary to bring the history of the Society up to the current time. Note that the page numbers for the previously published articles are those from the original publications.

It will become immediately obvious when one peruses the articles in this special centennial publication that the history of the Society of Sigma Gamma Epsilon is interesting and intriguing. There have been many changes in the Society over its 100-year history, but it is clear that SGE, with almost 200 Chapters around the country, has made a lasting impact on many students in

the Earth Sciences. From the very beginning it has sought to promote the academic excellence and the professional growth of students in the Earth Sciences, and that remains at the forefront of its objectives.