The many grade point average honor societies at the College all had different objectives. While students were selected for membership based upon their cumulative or semester grade point average, once inducted into the societies there were many other aspects besides academic ability that went into being a part of the brotherhood.

Prospective members found out about their eligibility for membership either by receiving a formal invitation in the mail or being invited to an information session. The information sessions featured information about the activities of the fraternity from fundraising, service projects, and, in some cases, intramural sport teams.

Though each society had a slightly different purpose and mission, each was about more than just academics. Some, like the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, focused on outreach to the community, oftentimes especially aimed at high-schoolers. Through their Planning for College Success program, NSCS volunteers paired up with local teens who were interested in college and answered their questions and provided the necessary guidance and advice.

Others, like the Gamma Psi chapter of the national honors fraternity Phi Sigma Pi, included a social aspect. “I figured that since PSP was an honors fraternity it probably wasn’t anything I’d be interested in, but all the people were really nice, and I learned that it was more than just an academic fraternity,” sophomore Jessica Johnson said.

“In fact, one of the stipulations of membership is that you have to attend a certain amount of social, scholarship and service events. We even rented a beach house for the weekend,” Johnson said.

While different in purpose and activity, all the honor societies gave special recognition and opportunities to those who worked hard on their studies.