

9-11-1997

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "09/11/1997 - Chen Honored.pdf" (1997). 1997. 355.
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97-259

September 11, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHEN HONORED

CHARLESTON -- Ping Chen, professor of political science at Eastern Illinois University, has been named Pi Sigma Alpha's "Best Chapter Advisor of the Year" for his leadership, commitment and initiative on behalf of his political science students and chapter at Eastern.

Chen competed against 480 Pi Sigma Alpha chapter advisors from leading institutions across the country, including Stanford, Yale and Columbia, and was named one of the nation's four best advisors. He was honored at the political science honor society's 61st annual convention in August in Washington, D.C., where Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala was the speaker. In its 77th year, Pi Sigma Alpha is the third largest honor society in the country comprised of leading political scientists and politicians.

Chen made Eastern his academic home 30 years ago and is one of the founders of the local chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha which has reached national prominence for its programming activities.

He credits the university and its political science faculty and the Charleston community for the chapter's success. "With the same support and encouragement the chapter has always received from the Charleston and university communities and my colleagues and students, I am certain that Pi Sigma Alpha will be able to continue to provide central Illinois with quality speakers."

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