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Professional Development Sessions, 2016 National Convention

### **Chapter Fun on Any Budget**

#### **Session Blurb:**

*So, now that you are a chapter officer, do you find yourself wondering what to do next? You know that there is more to Tau Beta Pi than initiations and membership, but are you having trouble making it happen? You don't need a lot of funding to make a great chapter project or event. Tau Beta Pi should be a lot of fun, and you can make it happen in your chapter, no matter what your budget is!*

#### **Session:**

This professional development is about brainstorming ideas to help your chapter, but hopefully you will pick up some idea generation methods that will serve you in the future as well. I'm not going to stand up here and talk for an hour, because I want you to walk through some ideas as a group, rather than just hearing what has worked for me.

Every chapter is likely to have a unique financial and involvement profile, so there is not a one-size-fits-all solution that I can present to you. The goal here is to start the conversation and then have you come up with a plan that will work in your chapter. So, we will have some questions to get the ball rolling.

- What does Tau Beta Pi mean to you?
  - What makes you want to participate in the organization (in college and after)
  - What makes your officers want to participate?
  - What makes your members participate?
  
- What makes a chapter activity successful?
  - *Seed answers: Participation, enthusiasm (i.e. we want to do that again)*
  
- What successful events can your chapter afford?
  - Remember that some things might be hiding in plain sight
    - Go to a campus event together – if you wear TBP gear, this could even be a good image event/project
    - Do you have common interests that you can meet up for?
      - Games
      - Movies
      - Outdoor Activities
      - Etc.
  - Are there events that members might be willing to pay for (in whole or in part)?
    - Bowling
    - Movie at the Theater
    - Comedy Show
    - Etc.

- What needs to happen for the event to occur?
  - Place – do you need to reserve a room?
  - Equipment – do you need to rent, reserve, or arrange for any equipment to be on hand for your event?
  - Attendance – engage members early, drum up support and have your members help arrange the event, people are more likely to show up if they feel like they are part of the team.
  - Transportation – if you are off campus, how is everyone going to get there?
  - Partner Organizations – Are there other organizations/clubs that you can co-host an event with? Might they be able to help you with funding?
  - BOTTOM LINE – Get your members engaged early so that they know the event is taking place and they get excited about it.

Now, come up with a plan for your chapter – we can do this as a room exercise!