Maryland Beta: Winter 2013 Community Service Trip

FOURTEEN MEMBERS of the Maryland Beta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi, at the University of Maryland, met up with Christine E. Evans, *AL B '13*, current chapter president at Alabama Beta, at the University of Alabama, in Tuscaloosa, on January 12.

The students were welcomed by the First United Methodist Church, Tuscaloosa, and stayed at Camp Coker – a building that had been converted from a warehouse space into living quarters for those that came to volunteer after the outbreak of tornadoes in 2011.

The next day, along with Evans and ten other AL Beta members, the students participated in a joint service project working with the Compassion Coalition. The project included clearing a house that had recently been damaged by a fallen tree. The following day before heading to New Orleans, LA, the group helped renovate a house and was treated to a tour of the City of Tuscaloosa city hall.

For three days working with Habitat for Humanity New Orleans, the group completed projects on two houses; the work included installing floor tiles, painting, hanging all doors, and much more.

After finishing their work on the houses, the team took their new friends from Habitat out for lunch. The final day in New Orleans was spent sightseeing and, after seven days on the road, the three vans of volunteers headed back home.

The eight day journey was a rewarding community service activity that has become an annual event for the MD Beta Chapter. A group of ТВП students has participated in this alternative winter break trip for the past six years, dating back to Hurricane Katrina. This year Barry McMenamin was in charge of organizing the outreach trip. The team of volunteers included: *Elizabeth Ashley, Caleb Barrett, Lauren Dorsey, Max Frantz, Alden Grobicki, Tim Lee, Ted Lillie, Randy Liu, Eisha Nathan, Peter Oas, Colin Qualters, Mark Reese, and Rachel Stein.*

Mark S. Reese, MD Beta '13, works to install the baseboards during the Habitat for Humanity build.

Maryland Beta group with Habitat for Humanity crew outside a nearly-completed house in New Orleans.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ISSUE AVAILABLE AT WWW.TBP.ORG

Why Chapter Advisors?

I have had officers say "What can an advisor do for our chapter?" Or better yet, "Why do I need an advisor; our chapter is functioning very well?"

In short, an advisor is there to provide continuity from year to year, help stimulate your chapter to do its best, or help pick up the pieces when a chapter falls apart. According to Robert Ward, *OH I '88* & Outstanding Advisor 2011, "advisors become the continuity that is absolutely necessary to maintain a top quality chapter that has an excellent record of timely reports, well run initiations, and are very active in service to others."

Yes, your chapter may be functioning very well this year, but what about next year? A chapter's performance is highly correlated with the skills and enthusiasm of the officers. If you and your officers have put together an ambitious plan for this year's activities, you do not want to lose that momentum next year. And that often happens if you have a less than stellar officer board. Here is where an advisor can really benefit your chapter in continuing your excellent work.

An effective advisor has access to campus resources and can point you to the right people and offices to get things done and to help you leverage your resources. They assist with financial issues, specifically finding money for chapter activities. They will also ensure that your chapter follows university and TBΠ Association procedures.

The Tau Beta Pi Constitution (*Const. Art. VI. Sec. 7*) expects that each chapter have an advisory board of (at least)four alumnus advisors.

A team of advisors provides flexibility, and succession, for a chapter. Each advisor can work with your chapter in an area of interest, i.e. financial, traditional projects, reports, membership elections, community involvement, etc. When an advisor steps down, you will always have others ready to step up.

So how do you go about recruiting a team of advisors for your chapter? Diversity is good – department and/or program, gender, level of experience. Advisors of a chapter should be as diverse as the students they are advising!

All of your advisors do not need to be connected to the university (even though this is extremely helpful with student information); they can also be alumni or industry personnel in the area, who can give your chapter access to career and funding opportunities. They can be your instructors, mentors in a research lab, retired faculty, or they can be your supervisor in an internship position or practicing engineers. You may need to enlist the dean in your search for new advisors. The main qualifications are whether a future advisor wants to interact on a regular basis with your officers and your members, which includes attending your meetings. They also need to be a member of Tau Beta Pi.

On rare occasions, an advisor is just not a good fit for your chapter. What can you do? You can suggest to the advisor that he/she might want to help the chapter when it is more convenient or that there might be other people who can provide your chapter with more time and/or effort. Or you can add advisor(s) that you think will inspire your members to greater functionality.

Now is the time to elect new advisors, or re-elect current advisors who are doing a great job. As you are selecting your new members, think about adding some new advisors.

One final thought: Be sure to thank your advisors. Their reward for their service is your chapter's gratitude, so show it in a meaningful way.

Dr. Sally J. Steadman, *WY Alpha '69*, is currently Chief Advisor to the Alabama Epsilon Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at the University of South Alabama, where she is an adjunct professor.

As an advisor to the Wyoming Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi for 15 years, Dr. Steadman helped guide the chapter to TBΠ R.C. Matthews Most Outstanding Chapter awards in 2001 and 2004. As a result, she was selected as the 2005 TBΠ Outstanding Advisor.

Her Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming is in mechanical engineering and she was a senior lecturer at the Univ. of Wyoming for 20 years.

Engineering Futures — Your Key to Success

In the summer of 1992, I received a letter from Tau Beta Pi Executive Councillor and former Tau Beta Pi President, Martha Polston (*TN A '79*), asking if I would consider donating to a new program called Engineering Futures (EF). The letter went on to explain that EF was a program to teach engineering students the non-technical skills, sometimes referred to as the "soft skills," necessary to be successful in their engineering careers. These "soft skills" include being able to effectively resolve interpersonal conflicts, forming and developing effective teams, planning and conducting productive meetings, and solving real-world problems in a team environment.

At the time I was mid-level manager in a major U.S. aerospace company and frequently had to hire associate engineers right out of college. I was painfully aware that most of them were woefully lacking in those "soft skills," so I was very pleased to learn that Tau Beta Pi was making an effort to mitigate this lack of essential skills. I therefore not only made a donation, I also asked how I might become involved more directly in the program.

As a result, I was invited to attend the 1992 National Convention in East Lansing, Michigan, where I received a morning of training, then a *baptism of fire* as I was tasked with facilitating sections of an EF module that I had never seen until that morning. Fortunately, I had Norman Pih (*TN A '82*), a member of the current Executive Council, and a veteran EF Facilitator to guide me through it. I survived that ordeal, and a week later, I was requested to go to SUNY, Buffalo to facilitate a session of the People Skills module solo. It was terrifying, but, again, I survived and have been with this outstanding program since. I now have the privilege to serve as the Director of the EF Program.

We no longer subject our new Facilitators to the trauma that I had to face. Today's new Facilitators are much better trained than I was and the quality of the facilitation has improved immeasurably as a result.

In 2006, the Executive Council tasked the EF Program with developing a new module. Based upon the results of student surveys, we chose to add a module on public speaking and presentation skills. We also set about modifying all the other modules to make them more relevant to today's students. In 2007, the EF Program was the winner of the ASEE Corporate Member Council's "Excellence in Engineering Collaboration Award."

The curriculum now comprises five modules:

1. **People Skills** – Resolving interpersonal conflict
2. **Team Chartering** – Forming and building effective teams
3. **Group Process** – Planning and conducting productive meetings
4. **Analytical Problem Solving** – Solving problems in a team environment
5. **Effective Presentation Skills**

If you would like additional information on the program or would like to schedule a session at your chapter, please contact Sherry King at Tau Beta Pi Headquarters at sherry@tbp.org or by phone at (800) TAU-BETA.
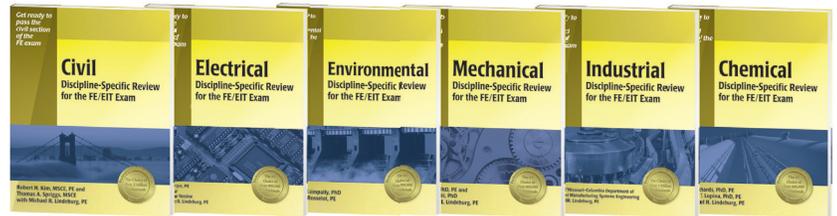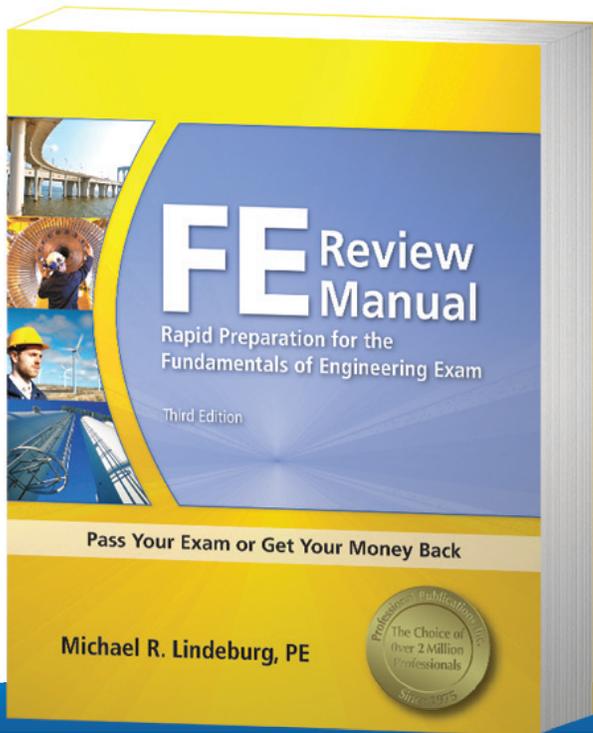
**—Russ Pierce, *WA A '70*,
Director of Engineering Futures**

Chapter Anniversaries

The following Tau Beta Pi chapters will celebrate an anniversary of their installation into the Association in 2013:

Anniversary	Chapter	Institution	Date Established
25th	California Phi	University of the Pacific	March 5, 1988
50th	District of Columbia Gamma	George Washington University	February 16, 1963
50th	Arizona Beta	Arizona State University	March 9, 1963
50th	Indiana Delta	Valparaiso University	March 23, 1963

K-12 MindSET: Chapter Information

The MindSET Committee at the 2012 Convention finalized a program information document for collegiate chapters to help with chapter implementation of their own MindSET project. *To be available electronically soon!*

Mission

The Tau Beta Pi (ΤΒΠ) MindSET program's mission is to establish and support math and science intervention programs that contribute to enhanced preparation of students in the K-12 system, thus enabling them to pursue careers in STEM disciplines, preparing them for competitive success in the global marketplace, and equipping them for driving the nation's economy.

Tau Beta Pi is offering a National K-12 Math & Science Initiative and engaging the creativity and resources of ΤΒΠ members. With chapters and motivated members across the nation, ΤΒΠ will implement projects, provide training and support for K-12 math and science instructors, and assist parents in understanding student needs and educational system issues.

Objectives

The primary MindSET goal is to increase the number of students in the K-12 system that successfully complete higher-level math and science courses prior to graduation from high school. Specifically, more 8th graders must complete Algebra 1 and more 12th graders must complete calculus.

Implementation

Start your chapter's MindSET project by discussing the 10-step chapter implementation guide at your next ΤΒΠ chapter meeting.

It is important for your chapter to establish an implementation team that will work to share the responsibilities. This team should include a MindSET chair, MindSET advisor, other chapter members, and local ΤΒΠ alumni if possible.

The most important part of the process is finding a liaison at a local K-12 school or school district. This contact person will help you get in touch with administrators and teachers. You may want to find out if your college has any existing K-12 partnerships that you can build upon.

Arrange to meet with your partner school to provide information about Tau Beta Pi and to outline the goals and strategy for MindSET activity sessions. It is important to identify the curriculum for the grade levels of your participating K-12 students, and to offer a module that will cover the appropriate math and science learning goals.

Establishment

Try and be flexible when scheduling your MindSET session. It is important that you have enough volunteers available to keep the students in smaller groups. This will improve the hands-on participation. If time allows, it is recommended that the chapter host a practice session of the MindSET module to increase comfort level of the volunteers and to minimize any mistakes.

After your session, please remember to submit the MindSET summary session form as soon as possible. If your chapter completes all the necessary MindSET reporting requirements, ΤΒΠ will award your chapter an additional $50 with your next grant request.

It is important to the MindSET program that you report how many K-12 students participate at each session. Also, please discuss with your school liaison ways in which you can track the percentage of students that are on track to complete Algebra 1 by 8th grade at your partner school.

Modules

The MindSET website provides a list of modules that have been created and tested for use in MindSET activity sessions. This module bank is organized by engineering discipline and also contains information on presenting the modules for elementary, middle, and high school students.

Modules may be adapted to meet the needs of the respective curriculum and experience level of the K-12 students participating. Planning is essential to creating a module that will meet the needs and expectations of the school teacher or administrator.

After successfully completing pre-existing modules, a chapter is permitted to create their own. The learning goals and materials cost are two important factors to consider in a new module. **All modules must be approved by the MindSET National Management Committee before being used**.

Grants are available to chapters to offset the expenses related to purchasing materials and running activity sessions. A MindSET grant should be submitted before completion of the project. Funds are available on a first serve basis and limited to $1,000 per chapter per semester.

"As a Tau Beta Pi initiate, I helped my chapter start a MindSET project, a program for introducing math and science to 6-8th graders. We volunteered every week after school and the results have been amazing! This experience gave me the confidence to pursue other leadership roles. Now I am president of the NY Γ Chapter of ΤΒΠ working hard to expand the reach of our MindSET program."

— Chelsea Ehlert (NY G '13)

Tau Beta Pi Chapter Operations

Officer Election Report

The purpose of this report is to provide Headquarters with the chapter officers information. This report should be submitted to HQ two weeks after officer election and **MUST** be submitted **BEFORE** school is out. The exception to this rule is if the term for the officers runs from January to December, February to January, etc.

Chapter Officers are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Cataloger. Your chapter may have additional officers/positions, but they aren't required by the Constitution & Bylaws. However, this information can be useful; email Rebecca with the additional positions.

Smaller chapters usually "double" up people in officer positions. For example: President, Treasurer, Cataloger and Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary.

When officers are elected, advisor information should be updated also. Each chapter should have at least four advisors — the chief advisor and four regular advisors. Terms for the advisors should be staggered – 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017. Chapters that do not update the advisor terms or do not have at least four advisors are not eligible for a Secretary's Commendation.

If the chapter doesn't have enough advisors, request a list of Tau Bates in your zip code. Make sure you check with your school before electing someone who is not a faculty member as an advisor. At some schools, all advisors for campus organizations must be faculty members.

Another option is a faculty member who is not a member but would be a good advisor; consider that person for membership into Tau Beta Pi.

Officer Fall Information Report

The purpose of this report is to ensure that HQ has the correct contact information for each officer along with shipping information for supplies that are ordered. We prefer that it be submitted within two weeks after school starts; however, the deadline is October 15.

If a chapter submits the report and then emails HQ soon after indicating that several addresses for the officers are incorrect, this tells HQ that the report was submitted without checking with the officers. The chapter **CANNOT** make changes to the permanent addresses; HQ **MUST** do that.

Host a Convention

At the 2012 Convention, the body voted to adopt a three-year trial procedure for Convention Site selection that allows chapters to submit a request to host and requires at least three proposals to be considered each year. The Convention site will be selected only two years in advance.

The Executive Director is accepting requests to host the 2016 Convention this year, so that the 2013 Convention Site Committee may run through the process and make any recommendations for changes before it is officially used the following year. If your chapter is interested in hosting the 2016 Convention, please submit your request by email with the following items to the Executive Director by June 1:

• Letter of invitation from chapter expressing an interest in hosting the Convention (1 page)
• Letter from your Dean supporting the bid (1 page)
• Biographical sheet on your chapter, including its activities, total membership, etc. (1 page)
• Information on host city, including closest airport with number of flights per day and potential hotels (need at least 275 hotel rooms, one room large enough for 500 people, and 17 breakout rooms).

The Ratification Ballot on constitution amendments approved by the 2012 Convention is a graded report. There are **six** amendments to be voted on:

1. Consider graduate students eligible if they are "*enrolled*" rather than "*in residence.*"
2. Allow certain required actions to be completed without written documentation.
3. Update Association officials' terms to begin at any point and be up to three years in length.
4. Clarify the amending process by removing the words "*undergraduate"* and "*collegiate.*"
5. Establish a position of Director of Alumni Affairs.
6. Change the name of "*Alumnus"* Chapters to "*Alumni"* Chapters.

The deadline is April 1, 2013, for TBΠ chapters to either scan a signed copy of the ballot and email it to tbp@tbp.org or send the signed ballot through postal mail (postmark April1). Please see the summary sheet on the "Constitution Amendment Approved by the Convention but Subject to Ratification by the Chapters" for Convention minutes references, and the "Instructions for Ratification Balloting" on page 3 for explanation of quorum requirements and active status. Download the Ratification Ballot here

2013 District Conferences

THE DISTRICT PROGRAM provides a vital link between the Association and every chapter. Each year Directors gather students for regional conferences to provide retiring and new officers opportunities to improve chapter operations and socialize. Chapters are urged to elect new officers before their District Conference. New and outgoing officers are encouraged to attend. Please note new dates for Districts 6 and 13.

DISTRICT	LOCATION	DATE
1	Durham, NH	Feb. 1-2
2	Schenectady, NY	Feb. 2-3
3	Newark, DE	Feb. 8-9
4	Greensboro, NC	April 6
5	Savannah, GA	Mar. 2-3
6	Cookeville, TN	April 20
7	Ann Arbor, MI	April 5-6
8	Chicago, IL	April 5-6
9	Norman, OK	Mar. 9
10	Houston, TX	Mar. 8-9
11	Minneapolis, MN	April 5-6
12	Denver, CO	Feb. 23
13	Lubbock, TX	Mar. 2
14	Portland, OR	Mar. 2
15	San Jose, CA	April 6
16	Irvine, CA	Mar. 9

2013 Alumni Gatherings

IN an effort to re-connect with Tau Beta Pi alumni and keep them involved with the Association, many alumni gatherings have been planed. Several will be in conjunction with the 2013 District Conferences.

Emails will be sent out to local alumni inviting them to these events. Collegiate members of TBΠ are welcome to attend to meet and network with local alumni.

The goal is to increase the number of active alumni and alumnus chapters in the United States. We encourage TBΠ collegiate chapters to stay connected with these alumni groups and work together on projects and community service, including the MindSET program.

DISTRICT	LOCATION	DATE
1	Boston, MA	Jan. 31
1	Portsmouth, NH	Feb. 1
2	Schenectady, NY	Feb. 2
3	Wilmington, DE	Feb. 9
4	Arlington, VA	Feb. 10
4	Baltimore, MD	Feb. 12
12	Denver, CO	Feb. 22
3	Philadelphia, PA	March 1
13	Lubbock, TX	March 2
5	Savannah, GA	March 2
14	Portland, OR	March 2
2	Ewing, NJ	March 2
4	Charlotte, NC	March 15

Vision Development
Student Advisory Board

Student Advisory Board Purpose

- Supports the Association in identifying strategic initiatives that would improve the appeal of membership to candidates and enhance chapter operations
- Provides a student perspective on proposed initiatives of the Executive Council or the Executive Director
- Identifies areas of potential improvement with TBΠ programs and member benefits and offers opinions regarding priorities
- Shares issues and concerns being faced by the Collegiate Chapters that should be addressed by Headquarters or the Executive Council
- Works with the Executive Director to enhance resources used by Collegiate Chapter officers

In the November 2012 issue of THE BULLETIN, the recommendation from the Vision Development Group (VDG) of a Student Advisory Board was presented. Applications were solicited from current students and recent graduates, and several were received. Executive Director Gomulinski plans to finalize the selection of Board members in March and move forward with receiving regular input from students on areas of concern and how to improve the Association.

Current Members:

Timothy D. Anderson, *KY G '12*
Stewart R. Baskin, *FL E '13*
Michael J. Hand III, *MI G '12*
Darick W. LaSelle, *CO E '13*
Alexander H. Lee, *NJ A '13*
Lauren H. Logan, *OH D '10*
Adrianne L. Shearer, *KY A '13*
Gerald (Jerry) Wang, *CT A '13*
Abigail R. Wooldridge, *KY B '11*

New District Director & Engineering Futures Facilitators

Kevin A. Davis, CA A '08

TAU BETA PI WELCOMES **Kevin A. Davis,** *California Alpha '08,* a new Engineering Futures Facilitator for District 15. He is a manager of business solutions at FindTheBest in Santa Barbara, CA.

He has served as an Advisor to the California Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at the University of California, Berkeley, since 2008. As an undergraduate, he held multiple positions in the CA Alpha chapter, including President, Cataloger, and Treasurer.

He will facilitate Engineering Futures sessions to TBΠ chapters in southern California.

Josuan Hilerio-Sanchez, PR A '07

TAU BETA PI WELCOMES **Josuan Hilerio-Sanchez,** *Puerto Rico Alpha '07,* a new Director in District 5. He is a sales associate and photographer for Qualex, Inc., in Titusville, FL.

He currently serves as Chief Advisor to the Puerto Rico Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at the University of Puerto Rico. During his time as an undergraduate, he was president of the PR Alpha Chapter.

He will be responsible for FL Alpha, FL Delta, FL Eta, FL Zeta, and FL Iota Chapters within District 5. Josuan has attended the past seven TBΠ Conventions.

Ryan C. Morrison, UT A '10

TAU BETA PI WELCOMES **Ryan C. Morrison,** *Utah Alpha '10,* a new Engineering Futures Facilitator for District 1. He works for Allegheny Ludlum as a process engineer in Dartmouth, MA.
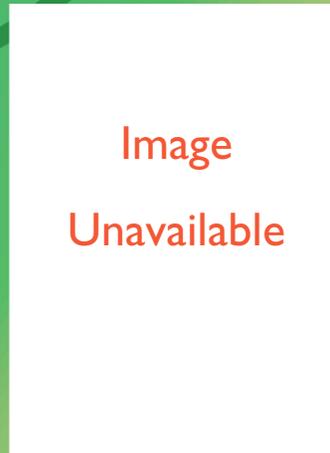
As an undergraduate, he was president of the Utah Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at the University of Utah. He also attended the 2009 Convention in New Jersey and the 2010 District 12 Conference in Wyoming.

He looks forward to getting to know the Boston chapters and being an EF Facilitator for District 1.

James P. Sandman, TX Z '11

TAU BETA PI WELCOMES **James P. Sandman,** *Texas Zeta '11,* a new Engineering Futures Facilitator for District 8. He is a project engineer for BMW Constructors, Inc., in Munster, IN.

He attended the 2011 TBΠ Convention - determined to maintain a relationship with the organization after graduation and throughout his career.

He attended several EF sessions at Convention and has assisted in facilitating sessions at Trine University.

Sandman lives south of Chicago and near the IL/IN border. He will be available as an EF Facilitator for Districts 7 & 8.

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Distinguished Alumnus Program

The Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumnus Award was first given in 1993 to recognize alumni who have continued to live up to the ideals of Tau Beta Pi as stated in our Eligibility Code throughout their lives after their college years. The program is an opportunity to mark in a fitting manner exemplary performance by alumni.

Any chapter or member of Tau Beta Pi may nominate one (or more) alumni members for the award. A nomination must be submitted by February 1, but the deadline has been extended this year to March 1. Selection is made by a committee of Association officials. The Distinguished Alumnus nomination form is available online. Each winner is invited to the TBΠ Convention to receive a recognition plaque. Since 2003, a $2,000 TBΠ scholarship is also named in his or her honor and awarded to a student member.

New TBP.org Website

On recommendations from the 2011 TBΠ Convention, the Association hosted a competition to create a new template and structure for the Tau Beta Pi website.

Two collegiate chapters submitted proposals for a redesign of the Association's website. The winning submission came from a group of collegiate and alumni members from the California Alpha Chapter at the University of California, Berkeley.

The 2012 Convention website committee included several CA A representatives that helped create the new website design. The committee worked through the website and made suggestions for the final site to be made live at "tbp.org" in February 2013. The previous website will be removed or phased out where necessary.

There are some new and important features for Tau Beta Pi members to be aware of on the new site.

There will no longer be a separate landing page or site for TBΠ chapters. The majority on the information will now be located under the "Officer" pages.

General information and updates can be found of the "home" page. Specific updates for members can be found on the "Membership" pages or for chapter officers on the "Officer" pages.

In a continued effort to simplify the website structure and to reduce clicks, the title bar located near the top of each page will include tabs that act as "breadcrumbs" to let users know their location and progression on the website.

It is important that our users provide feedback and help identify any necessary changes, such as dead links. Please contact dylan@tbp.org with questions or concerns.

Above is a screen shot of the new Tau Beta Pi website home page. The content is centered on the page, there is a scrolling image/text box to reduce the need for vertical scrolling, and there are no drop down lists. The five brown tabs at the top of the page represent the main destination pages. The four choices within the black box offer more specific destinations based on the visitor. There is a limited amount of information that can be displayed on the home page; users will have to learn where to look for other useful information.

Below is a screen shot of the landing page for Tau Beta Pi officers on the new website.
- *The title bar currently shows the "Officers" tab as active with other choices to the right.*
- *The five brown tabs at the top of the page will be consistent throughout the new website.*
- *At the bottom of the page, there are links for "Contact Us" and "Site Map." If you are ever unsure of where something is located on the website, it is best to start on the site map.*

Association Updates: Mission, Purpose, & Vision

THE VISION DEVELOPMENT GROUP OF TAU BETA PI was created to do "blue-sky thinking" for the Association. A group of former corporate CEOs with a genuine interest in the Association have volunteered valuable personal time to serve our Society and to work with the Executive Council to propose recommendations that will focus Tau Beta Pi's energy on representing the "gold standard of engineering."

The Vision Development Group, with approval from the Executive Council, adopted a new vision, mission, and purpose for Tau Beta Pi.

Mission of Tau Beta Pi is to:

Recognize – accomplishments among engineering students and professionals

Celebrate – exemplary people and their important engineering contributions to society

Champion – engineering as a highly valued career

Vision of Tau Beta Pi is to:

Recognize, celebrate, and champion excellence in engineering.

Purpose of Tau Beta Pi is to:

1. Recognize and promote leadership, excellence, innovation, and ethics in the profession of engineering through membership in its honor society.

2. Celebrate and gain recognition in academic, professional, and business circles that its members are the best, the brightest, and the most talented engineers in America.

3. Champion ongoing education and advancement of the engineering profession.

4. Seek to make the engineering profession exciting and cool.

5. Formulate and promote unbiased, independent education to the population at-large on important engineering issues.

Nominate A Laureate

Exceptional Tau Bates are recognized annually at each Convention for their talents and contributions to society beyond the normal perimeters of engineering. Last year, five outstanding students were recognized for accomplishments in athletics, arts, and diverse achievements. They each received a $2,500 cash prize, plaque, and publicity in THE BENT and on the website. Chapters select nominees from their members; information on how to proceed is found in the *President's Book* (pp. C-33 & 34) and on the website. If an extraordinary member in your chapter qualifies, submit a nomination to HQ by April 1—to the attention of Secretary Treasurer Gomulinski.

McDonald Mentor Nominees

Marion and Capers W. (*NC Gamma '74*) McDonald and the Association have established an award to celebrate excellence in mentoring and advising among Tau Beta Pi educators and engineers. The honor recognizes those who have consistently supported the personal and professional development of their students and colleagues through mentorship. Application deadline is April 1.

The TBΠ-McDonald Mentor is chosen by a committee of Association officials and will be presented a special medallion and a $2,000 cash award ($1,000 to honoree and $1,000 to the nominating chapter—or to the honoree's chapter if nominated by a member). Only one award will be presented at any annual Convention.

The Best People Engineering Job Board is a resource for Tau Beta Pi members to search nearly 1,700 engineering jobs, post résumés, and look for internship opportunities. Two newly highlighted job postings can be found daily on the TBΠ website home page.

◎JOBTARGET

Current positions are available with Boeing, ITT, Near Space Corp., Raytheon, and more!

Teach For America (TFA)

February Deadline to Apply!

Today's math whiz should have every opportunity to become tomorrow's engineer.

Join Tau Beta Pi's partner, Teach For America, the national corps of outstanding recent college graduates and professionals—of all majors, backgrounds, and career interests—who commit to teach for two years in urban and rural low-income communities and become lifelong leaders in expanding educational opportunity.

APPLY NOW to the 2013 Teach For America corps. FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, February 15, 2013.

If you're interested in learning more, find out who we look for and explore how you can get involved.

Joseph Patrick Wilson, FL A '07

I grew up in the suburbs outside of Orlando, FL, and was fortunate enough to attend academically strong public schools and was encouraged to challenge myself, from enrolling in advanced math classes to joining a rigorous science research program that allowed me to turn my budding interest in science into a passion.

As an undergraduate at the Univ. of Florida, I was drawn to electrical engineering because of its use in the numerous gadgets I carried around with me. I joined Tau Beta Pi, was actively involved on campus, and took full advantage of every opportunity to travel and do research.
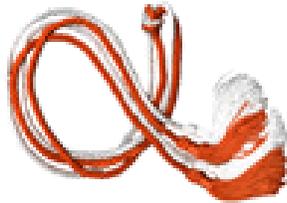
Beyond my engineering studies, I developed a keener sense of my surroundings. I saw that many of my peers were outrageously intelligent but lacked the academic foundation to succeed because they did not have the support and resources I had in my school district.

As someone with an analytical brain and activist heart, I strove to personify the socially conscious engineer. I knew I wanted to use my engineering abilities in a broader context. I was accepted to a Ph.D. program in bioengineering, but I was torn. I had been offered admission to a world-class program, but I was angered that others my age didn't have this incredible opportunity because I had access to resources they did not.

Compelled to make a difference at the ground level, I deferred my enrollment in graduate school to join Teach For America, where I taught high school science in a low-income, rural community west of Phoenix. Teaching was the most grueling and life-changing experience I have had.

As a member of TBP, you are expected to uphold integrity and excellence in engineering. As a TFA Corps member, you will live this creed everyday by educating the youth of America. You will bring a passion for science, engineering, and math that is sorely needed in low-income schools. I urge each of you to consider becoming TFA Corps members and help positively transform the lives of future engineers (& TBP members) across the country. Read the full letter here

Tau Beta Pi & Teach For America STEM Week

Last year, Teach For America and Tau Beta Pi launched the STEM Opportunity Gap Awareness Week pilot at four college campuses (Cornell, Michigan, Penn State, and University of Maryland). The STEM Opportunity Gap Awareness Week is a one-week long project, coordinated by campus representatives of Teach For America and Tau Beta Pi.

By co-sponsoring a STEM Opportunity Gap Awareness Week, TBP and TFA hope to work together to achieve our shared vision of ensuring all students have access to a high-quality STEM education.

We are excited to launch this year's STEM Opportunity Gap Awareness Week, which will take place in April, at every Tau Beta Pi chapter. Please stay tuned for more details! In the meantime, you can check out the TBP/TFA partnership page to learn more about our work together on campus.

TBΠ Apparel & Graduation Regalia

Tau Beta Pi honor cord is official 'engineering orange' and white graduation tassels in regular 'cum laude' size.
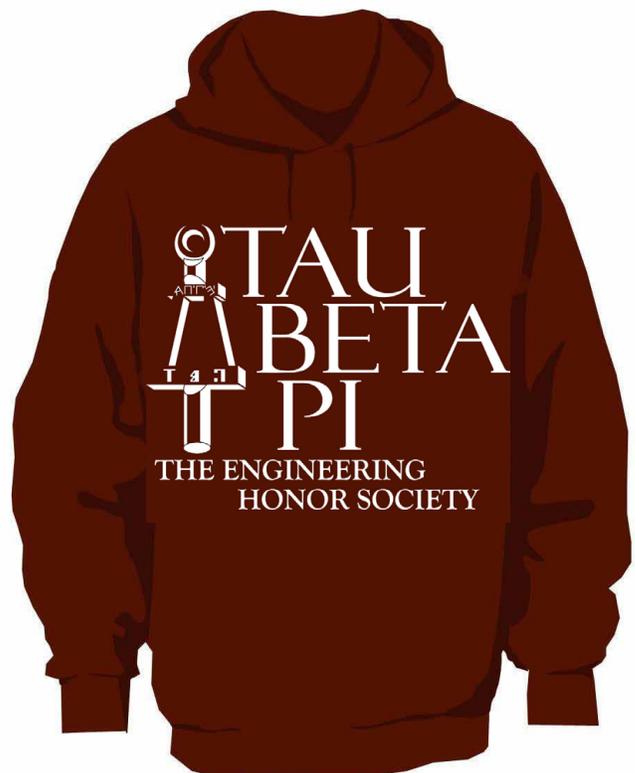
Tau Beta Pi white satin graduation (collar) stole is embroidered with Bent in orange.

Order Yours Today!

Bulk prices available for chapters that order quantities of 10 or more. Please order early! Call 1-800-TAU-BETA to place your chapter order.

T-shirt now available in ash gray and pink!

Hoodies now available in the following colors: (check website - some sizes SOLD OUT)
deep forest green; black; carolina blue; navy; grey; maroon

Got Engineering Futures?

BRING THE TAU BETA PI ENGINEERING FUTURES PROGRAM to your campus. Contact Sherry King (*sherry@tbp.org*) today about hosting an EF session.

The program won the American Society of Engineering Education Corporate Member Council's 2007 Excellence in Engineering Education Collaboration Award. This recognition validated two decades of effort by Facilitators since 1988. Approximately 3,100 engineering students annually participate in 234 sessions to learn interpersonal skills.

[Read more about EF at *www.tbp.org/EF* and in this issue.]

Scholarships

In 2012, 200 Tau Beta Pi collegiate members were awarded scholarships for their senior-year of academic study.

Scholarships of $1,000 or $2,000 are given to members on the competitive bases of scholarship, campus leadership and service, and promise of contributions to the engineering profession, with consideration given to economic need and academic commitment.

Winners for the 2013-14 academic year will be the 15th group of TBΠ Scholars. The deadline to apply is April 1, 2013. You must register and receive the complete application online. For more information, read about the Scholarship program and eligibility on the website.

GIG Grant Dollars

YOUR CHAPTER could receive up to $750 to conduct a project involving civic affairs and public policy issues. The money is available under Tau Beta Pi's Greater Interest in Government Program, to involve students in their communities and the political process. Send your chapter's proposal to Headquarters. Application guidelines are on page C-30 of the *President's Book* on the website.

Proposals will be considered on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is no deadline for proposals.

[See *Chapter Projects* at *www.tbp.org*.]

Important Deadlines

• March 1	Distinguished Alumnus Nominations (extended)
• April 1	Outstanding Advisor, McDonald Mentor, and Laureate Nominations
• April 1	Scholarship Application
• April 1	Executive Council Slate Nominations
• June 1	2016 Convention Interest

Outstanding Advisor

Each year Tau Beta Pi recognizes an Outstanding Advisor at Convention for their superior performance and dedication to serving collegiate engineering students and supporting the Association. Any chapter may nominate one Advisor for the award. The winner will receive a $1,000 cash prize, a plaque, publicity in THE BENT and on the website, and $1,000 to the dean's discretionary fund.

The Tau Beta Pi Outstanding Advisor Program has been recognizing outstanding performance among chapter advisors since 1994. Chapters must submit a letter of nomination; other information on how to proceed is found in the *President's Book* (pp. C-38) and on the website.

If your advisor is an extraordinary leader for your chapter, submit a nomination to Headquarters by April 1—to the attention of Secretary Treasurer Gomulinski.