It is Not Whether You Win...

by Roger E. Hawks, Assistant Secretary Treasurer

PROJECT WORK plays an important role in Tau Beta Pi. A student's participation is one means of determining character. The types of projects a chapter undertakes and the manner in which they are carried out is how Tau Beta Pi's character is shown. The Association recognizes this through the many awards presented. These include: *Secretary's Commendations* for perfect reporting and prompt payment, *Project Awards* to chapters which conduct and report on a variety of outstanding projects, the *R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award* given to that chapter which has shown the most improvement over a three-year period, and the *R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award* which recognizes the chapter which performed the best overall in fulfilling the objectives of TBΠ.

Descriptions of the awards available, the process of selecting the recipients, and tips on preparing project reports will be outlined in this article. Great care is taken to include all 241 chapters in the evaluation process and to conduct it fairly and without prejudice to chapter size. The main criterion is **quality** of the work, whether it is a report of election or a chapter service project.

Collegiate chapter members at OH Mu, Wright State Univ., polish the Bent monument outside the Russ Engineering Center. Photo by: Wright State University

Secretary's Commendations & Project Awards

The first two sets of awards are certificates presented by the Secretary-Treasurer at the annual Convention. Secretary's Commendations recognize those chapters which properly complete all reports, submit them on time, and pay the fees when due. Each of the 16 required reports and fees receives a score of zero-to-four points, with four representing an on-time and accurate report and zero for no report. Among the items graded are membership process reports, officer information reports, chapter surveys, initiation fees, and Convention reports. A complete list including deadlines is available on the website. Secretary's Commendations are presented to all chapters scoring 100 percent. Last year, 33 commendations were awarded.

Project Awards recognize superior project activity. Information provided in the annual chapter survey and the chapter's project reports is evaluated by the Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. There were 26 TBΠ chapters that conducted outstanding projects during the previous year which received commendations.

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ISSUE AVAILABLE AT WWW.TBP.ORG

Nagel & Matthews Awards

Winners of these two awards are selected at the annual Convention by the Awards Committee. The HQ staff provides a pre-screened list of candidate chapters for the committee to consider. Chapters must receive a Secretary's Commendation and a Project Award to be in contention for the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award.

Chapter performance over a three-year period forms the basis of the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award. The HQ staff compares the reporting performance and project activity for the current year with that of the two previous years. A list of those chapters which have shown a steady, significant improvement is presented to the Awards Committee. Steady improvement is important. A chapter whose ratings varied from excellent to good to outstanding would not be included. The 2011-12 winner, Kentucky Gamma, doubled its chapter size, increased their project scores, and conducted a large body of projects.

Finally, the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award recognizes the one chapter which performs best overall in fulfilling the objectives of Tau Beta Pi, as determined by fellow students on the Awards Committee. This award represents a goal for which all chapters should strive in the spirit of friendly competition. HQ evaluates all chapters based on reporting performance and project activity to pre-select a dozen or so candidates for the committee's consideration. The committee then chooses the outstanding chapter (and honorable mentions) which are based on all information and the chapter surveys. The committee presented the 2011-12 award to Florida Alpha for its successful GatorTRAX program, extensive tutoring program, and numerous community service projects.

Project Grading

Because project activity is such a major portion of the grading, a great deal of time and effort is spent by the HQ staff in evaluating each chapter's survey. To begin the process, the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer evaluates each and every project in a chapter's survey. Points are awarded in several categories: originality, quality, and the time and effort involved. An original project can be new to either TBΠ or the chapter. Quality points are awarded to projects which can be placed in one of the following categories:
• Promoting liberal culture (breadth of interest); examples are blood drives, food collection, and community service.
• Supporting your school (honoring your alma mater); examples are fundraising activities.
• Supporting our engineering profession; examples are EIT reviews.
• Supporting the individual (professional development); examples are Engineering Futures sessions.
• Social; examples are banquets and cookouts.
• K-12 MindSET activities & K-12 tutoring.

Not all projects listed in the survey receive points. Projects which are, in reality, requirements for the chapter (examples are holding meetings, sending a delegate to the Convention, etc.) are not graded. (They do, unfortunately, add to the time involved in grading.) Also, small projects which are obviously parts of a large project, divided to pad the survey, are combined in the grading.

Once the total number of points has been determined, a points-per-eligible-student ratio is calculated. The number of eligible students is the total of the top eighth of the junior and top fifth of the senior class. This ratio compensates for the differences in size among the 241 chapters. This way, a large chapter cannot simply generate an overwhelming score by conducting many projects. Any chapter, large or small, is equally capable, through good leadership and efficient planning, of obtaining a good ratio.

The Project Report

The most important document in this process is the project report. Its content and form can affect a chapter's score. A well prepared and concisely documented (this does not mean long) report is recommended. The easier it is to determine whether a project is in one of the target categories, and how much time and effort was spent to complete it, the more likely the project will receive the score it deserves.

Appropriate documentation includes: pictures, posters, forms, and any other paperwork that could enable another chapter to do the same project. The project description should be brief and contain just enough details to explain how, when, where, who, and how much time.

The addition of unnecessary paper work does not help in the grading process. Please remember that the project report is part of the chapter survey. Chapters listing reports on the survey that fail to submit the project reports *will not* receive a Secretary's Commendation.

… but How you play the Game

Now that the award process has, we hope, been made a little clearer, there are still a few points concerning the Matthews Award. **MEMBERSHIP** is the first and most important job of a TBΠ chapter— not winning awards. Those chapters which do the best in membership usually do well in the area of awards. These chapters report promptly and conduct well-planned projects. As a result, they have an excellent image on campus which makes the membership process that much easier. On the other hand, chapters which are overly concerned with winning awards tend to place an over emphasis on project work in order to score big. This emphasis can, and usually does, turn potential members away from TBΠ. This only makes the membership process more difficult and less efficient.

While it is true that only one chapter can win the Matthews Award each year, the prize is a goal that all chapters may strive for in a spirit of friendly competition. To those that fall short one year, there are honorable mentions, Project Awards, and Secretary's Commendations. Each of these awards represents a job well done and should be a source of chapter pride.

The chapter survey and the project reports must be submitted to HQ by June 1. The survey is completed in the reporting system. Project Report templates are available here. Chapters are encouraged to email the PDF package of project reports to *tbp@tbp.org*.

Greater Interest In Government: MI Kappa

In November 2012, twelve members of the Michigan Kappa Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at Western Michigan University completed work on a twenty-eight foot wheelchair ramp for a family in southwest Michigan.

The project was funded through a Tau Beta Pi Greater Interest in Government (GIG) grant. The original GIG grant was secured by past chapter president, Andrew J. Peruski, *MI K '11*.

The project was coordinated by chapter student officer Thomas R. Wheeler (*MI K '13*), engineering faculty member and chapter advisor Damon A. Miller, Ph.D. (*KY B '89*), and David Orchanian from the College of Health and Human Services, who located a family in need of a wheelchair ramp.

The ramp and set of stairs were completed within a single day of construction with the invaluable assistance of carpenter Dennis Uhlir. The project was also supported by a hydraulic post-hole digger loaned by Neil's Hardware in Mattawan, MI, vehicles from the WMU College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the Local Township and building inspector, who provided a free inspection.

TBP GIG Awards and Proposals
- Projects should emphasize engineering service
- Maximum grant amount is $750 (per chapter)
- Projects should involve significant portion of active membership of chapter
- Proposals may be submitted at anytime
- Proposals will be reviewed by the Executive Council. Submit proposals to *tbp@tbp.org*

GIG volunteer Tau Beta Pi members: (left to right) Andrew Biscupski, Thomas Wheeler, Jolica Dias, Nicholas Munyan, Daniel O'Hare, Devin Semrau, and Mikkhael O'Dell, and carpenter Dennis Uhlir (next to the nearly completed wheelchair ramp). ΤΒΠ member volunteers not pictured: Nasir Alfaraj, Jason Faulconer, Damon Miller, Caleb Start, and Chengjie Tian.

Community Service: Indiana Delta

Habitat for Humanity volunteers from IN Delta, including Aaron T. Baldwin, Anthony M. Dary, Kaitlin M. Forke, Nathan L. Maassel, Ben B. Macy, Zach Schlecht, Andrew J. Schrader, Todd M. Vervynckt, and (non-ΤΒΠ) Erik Kispert.
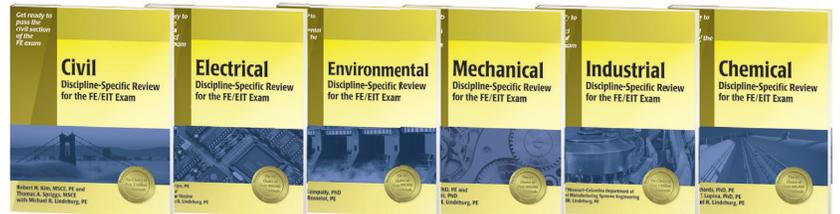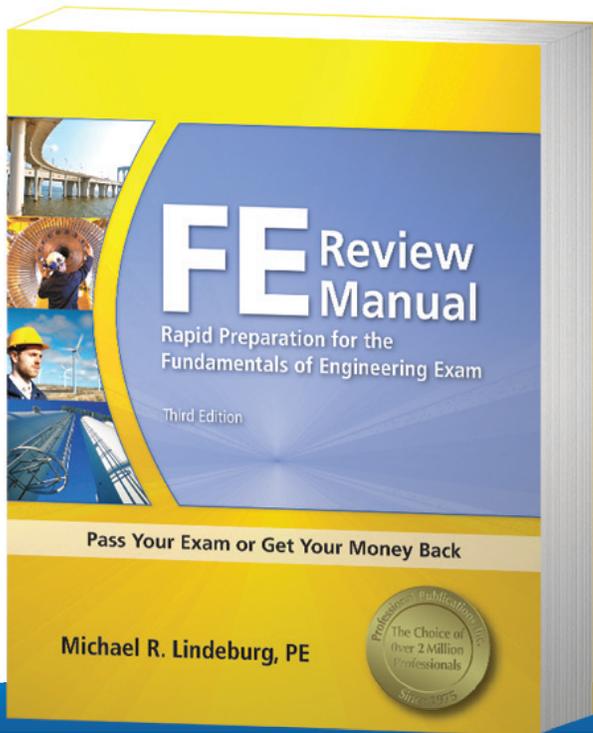
On March 23rd, 2013, the Indiana Delta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at Valparaiso University, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity of Porter County (IN). The students also presented Habitat for Humanity with a $500 donation that they raised selling college of engineering hats.

The eight students spent the day cleaning and painting at a Habitat for Humanity house in Hebron, Indiana. The home is being built for a family of five.

TBP advisor Professor G. Scott Duncan had this to say about the event, "Valpo engineering students not only perform admirably in the classroom, but are known for their commitment to service and helping others. The Habitat event is one of many service activities that these dedicated students participate in."

The IN Δ chapter is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Since the chapter's founding in 1963, 867 Valpo engineering students have been initiated into Tau Beta Pi.

Tau Beta Pi Chapter Operations

Do We Have All of Our Reports In?

To check the status of your chapter reports to HQ, visit TBP Eligibility. After logging on, click on the Report Status button. After you login, click the Chapters button on the left and then the Report Status button. This page reports the current status of your reports. If your chapter is missing a report, please check with your fellow chapter officers and then with HQ at 1-800-TAU-BETA. Please make sure they are all submitted by the end of this term (or June 1), whichever comes first.

REPORT	DEADLINE
Fall Contact Information Update	Submit online by October 15 (submitted in the fall)
Officer Signatures	Postmark Oct. 15 or if there is a change in officers
Top Portion of Convention Credentials	Bring to Convention Registration
Convention Expense Report	Postmark by deadline on expense report
Report of Eligibility	Submit Report online five weeks after school begins
Report of Election	Submit Report as soon as electees accept (at least two weeks before initiation)
Catalog Cards	Electees submit catalog cards (at least 2 weeks before initiation)
Report of Final Action	Submit Report online immediately after initiation
Roll Book Signatures	Mail, email, or fax a copy of the roll book signatures to HQ
Initiation fees	Mail to HQ within 2 weeks after initiation
Ratification Ballot	Postmark by April 1 (no extensions)
Bottom Portion of Convention Credentials	Due to HQ within two weeks after election of delegate (bring top portion to Convention)
Officer Election Report	Submit online within 2 weeks after election
IRS Form 990-N	Due 15th day of 5th month after close of fiscal year - email confirmation to HQ.
Financial Report	Submit online by June 1
Chapter Survey	Submit online by June 1
Project Reports	Email to HQ or postmark by June 1

Curriculum Appeals Due June 1

Are you considering adding a curriculum to your chapter bylaws?

First, review the current list of your chapter's eligible curricula in the online system from the Eligibility Menu (click Membership under Menu Selections, then Eligibility, then Eligible Curricula).

Review Constitution Article VIII, Section 2, for the criteria to be an eligible curriculum. Curricula not meeting these criteria may be appealed at Convention.

A chapter appealing to include a non-compliant curriculum should submit the following cover sheet and documents to HQ no later than June 1:

• A one-page summary for each curriculum being appealed describing why that curriculum should be deemed worthy to qualify a student candidate for eligibility.

• One letter of support each from the dean of engineering and from the department chair of each appealed curriculum.

• A CD of or a link to the institution's current course catalog.

Please visit the website for recommendations from previous Convention Curriculum Appeal Committees and a checklist.

Why Submit a 990-N

Chapters are required by the IRS to submit an annual 990-N. This form is found on the IRS website. Information about the 990-N and a link to the IRS may be found here.

Failure to submit a 990-N for three consecutive years will result in the chapter losing its tax exempt status. This means ALL income, including initiation fees, would be taxable! The cost to reapply is $500.

This is a graded report. Proof of submission in the form of a confirmation email sent by the IRS must be forwarded to HQ. If you have questions, please contact Roger Hawks by phone or email.

** Keep in mind that the Report of Final Action, Roll Book Signatures, Catalog Cards, and the Initiation Fees must be submitted and processed by HQ before your newly initiated members are listed as members (and can be considered for a Tau Beta Pi Scholarship).

Successful Officer Transitions

A smooth transition of officer responsibilities from one school year to the next is critical to the success of a TBΠ student chapter.

This process can be especially challenging when the president, vice president, and/or treasurer is graduating. Information regarding initiation procedures, locations of key documents and files, financial information, and contacts with HQ may not be transmitted from the old officers to the new officers successfully.

Some chapters may have a transition meeting just after initiation and officer elections to allow the old and new officers to meet and discuss their respective positions and the locations of any relevant materials.

Some chapters may plan a summer meeting, either in person or electronically, at a convenient time for this purpose.

Other chapters may invite the advisors to meet with the new officers early in the new school year to discuss procedures and policies.

It is particularly critical that the financial information is transmitted from the old treasurer to the new treasurer. Often new signatures on accounts may be required; sometimes the outgoing treasurer must authorize this transition of the account responsibilities.

The outgoing officers should also be sure to introduce the new officers to the advisors, dean, chief financial officer, and any other important people in their school or college of engineering.

Best wishes for a successful chapter transition!

William R. Goodin, Ph.D., *CA Epsilon '75*, is currently the Chief Advisor to the California Epsilon Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he is Associate Director of Alumni Relations at UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering & Applied Science.

As an advisor and Chief Advisor to CA Epsilon, Dr. Goodin has provided project funding and speakers through his previous role as president of the UCLA Engineering Alumni Association. As a result, he was selected as the 2011 TBΠ McDonald Mentor.

He earned a master's, Ph.D., & M.Engr. from UCLA and a bachelor's degree from San Jose State University.

New officers at the Ohio Iota Chapter are typically elected in March and officially take over in August of the following fall semester.

Bob Ward, Ph. D., P.E., *OH Iota '88*, is currently an Advisor to the Ohio Iota Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at Ohio Northern University, where he is a professor of civil engineering.

As an advisor and former Chief Advisor to OH Iota for 18 years, Dr. Ward has guided one of the Association's smallest collegiate chapters to annual success, including the 2002-03 TBΠ R.C. Matthews Most Outstanding Chapter award. As a result, he was selected as the 2011 TBΠ Outstanding Advisor.

He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas and bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Missouri.

During March and April they work closely with the current officers to learn about the Tau Beta Pi website (particularly e-reports, chapter survey, the chapter project report, and the financial report), our financial structure (off-campus and on-campus accounts), and correspondence with parents, faculty, and HQ.

We will have a couple of officer meetings in which both new and current officers attend. We discuss initiation for the next fall and service projects we typically take part in.

The first real responsibility the new officers take on as a group during this time in spring semester — before they officially take over the following fall — is the TBΠ

senior member picnic. This designated Saturday is what is called "Honors Day" on our campus when many activities take place including the college of engineering senior ring ceremony. Most senior parents come for the day and our new officers invite the parents (by formal letter) to a picnic honoring their senior son or daughter after the official activities are over.

This includes the formal invitations being sent out, reserving the outdoor patio, and having tables and chairs set up, planning the meal and buying the food, and finally, doing the grilling. It is a great experience in working together as the semester ends.

Subscriptions to THE BENT of Tau Beta Pi

Annual subscriptions to this excellent publication are only $10 and are also available to non-members. TBΠ members are encouraged to purchase life subscriptions to THE BENT which are $60. Fully paid subscribers will be sent a copy of our quarterly magazine for life. The unused portion of the four-year subscription you received as part of your initiation fee may be applied toward a Life Subscription, which may be paid over a five-year period. A service charge of $2.50 is added to the $60.

New District Directors

Christina M. Harrison, TN A '93

Tau Beta Pi welcomes **Christina M. Harrison,** *Tennessee Alpha '93,* a new Director in District 11. She is an account executive at Procter & Gamble in Maple Grove, Minnesota.

She has previously served as an Engineering Futures Facilitator for Tau Beta Pi. She also has an M.B.A. from the University of Tennessee.

Chapters in District 11 include the geographic region of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa.

Andrea M. Ramsey, KY A '12

Tau Beta Pi welcomes **Andrea M. Ramsey,** *Kentucky Alpha '12,* a new Director in District 6. She recently began working for Eastman Chemical Company as a chemical engineer near Kingsport, Tennessee.

During her time as an undergraduate, she was vice president of the KY Alpha Chapter and helped organize the chapter's annual fundraiser and the college of engineering banquet. She also volunteered at the 2012 TBΠ Convention in Lexington, KY.

She will be responsible for the following Chapters within District 6: KY Alpha, KY Beta, TN Alpha, TN Gamma, and TN Zeta.

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 no later than 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)

In addition, the Executive Council would like to start long range planning for the 2017-2020 Conventions. If your chapter is considering a bid to host in those years, please let the Executive Director know by June 1.

District 15 Conference — San Jose, California

Held on April 6, the D15 Conference was hosted by the California Eta Chapter at San Jose State University. With more than 80 students in attendance, the 2013 Conference was the largest in recent memory.

To kick things off, the large group tried an ice breaker. Using the *Sim-Semester* module, the students were divided into three groups where everyone gave a quick introduction and each group had three minutes for each week of the semester. Given the short time permitted for each week, everyone had to participate for the group to be successful. Not only did the students appreciate how much work is needed to complete all the necessary tasks, but they were able to interact and get to know many more of their peers.

The *Discussion with Industry* module was also a great success. More than 15 TBΠ alumni in industry attended, with the aerospace, mechanical, civil, and computer engineering fields well-represented. Utilizing an open forum approach, the students were able to engage the alumni by asking questions that ranged from "what is a normal day like," to "what makes a good manager?"   **— Joe R. Burnett, DD15**

See THE BENT summer issue for more District Conference and alumni gathering summaries.

JOBTARGET

Find Info to Grow on TBP.org Website

In February, the Association launched a redesign of the website. Please update your bookmarks as almost all of the previous URLs have changed.

Accordingly, there is no longer a separate landing page or site for ΤΒΠ chapters. The majority of the information is now located under the "Officer" pages, starting here (image below).

Due to the new site organization, many ΤΒΠ chapters and officers are struggling to locate items. There are two web pages with important information for daily chapter operations (see the two images on the right). The "Reporting" web page has information regarding paper and online reports. You can also access the online (reporting) system here. If you have questions about a report, please check out the FAQs at the top of the page.

On the "Resources" page you will find references such as the *President's Book*, *Info Book*, *Constitution & Bylaws*, and much more. Visit this web page for membership process schedules, an interactive district map, and other officer details.

Please contact *dylan@tbp.org* with feedback, questions, or if you are having trouble locating something on the website.
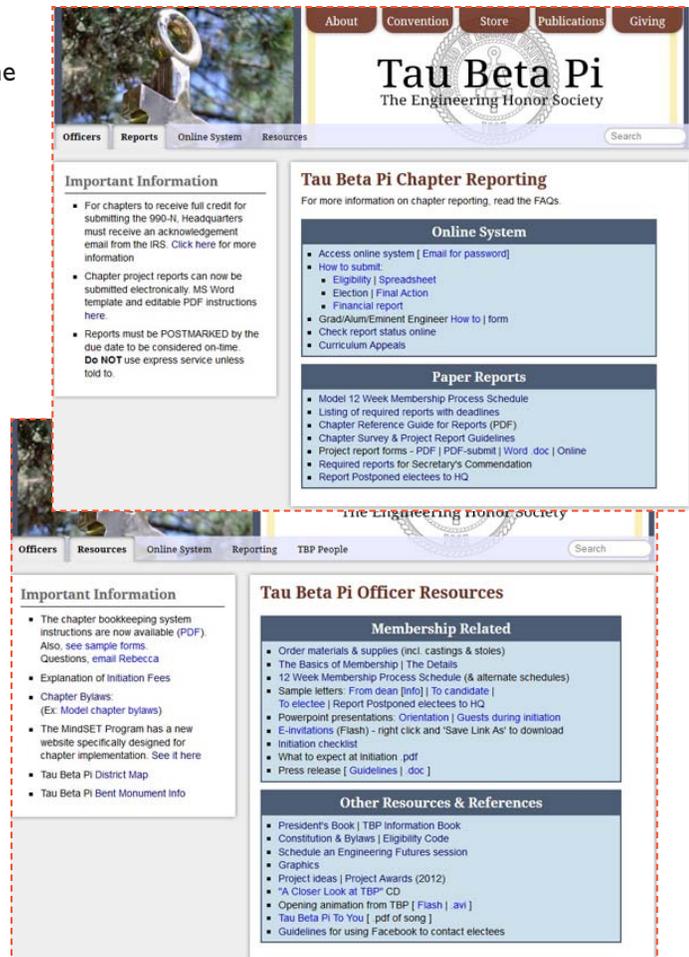
Below is a screen shot of the "Reporting" web page.
- *The title bar currently shows the "Officers" and "Reports" tabs as active with other choices to the right.*
- *The box to left has important reminders about ΤΒΠ chapter reports.*
- *In the center of the page you will find two blue boxes dedicated to "Online Reports" and "Paper Reports" respectively.*
- *Some reports must be submitted online or printed and mailed to HQ.*

Above is a screen shot of the "Officers" landing page for ΤΒΠ chapter officers on the redesigned website.
- *Notice the title bar currently shows the "Officers" tab as active with other important links/choices to the right.*
- *The first box on the left contain links to The Bulletin and monthly chapter officer eNotes.*
- *The second box will contain important updates, such as scholarship info, District Conference schedules, and IRS details.*
- *The main box on the page (center) highlights different aspects of chapter officer opportunities and responsibilities.*

Above is a screen shot of the "Resources" web page.
- *The title bar currently shows the "Officers" and "Resources" tabs as active with other choices to the right.*
- *The box to left has information and reminders about ΤΒΠ chapter resources of interest.*
- *In the center of the page you will find two blue boxes dedicated to "Membership" and "References" respectively. Several of these links are important to successful chapter operation.*

Chapter Branding: Texas Epsilon

University of Houston's Tau Beta Pi chapter was very successful in the early 2000s. In addition to simply initiating new members, they were a recognizable society at the engineering college, attending many college-wide events as well as hosting socials of their own. However, sustaining a lively and active chapter is a difficult task. As faculty advisors retired and some of the more active members graduated, the chapter had a few years where it was unable to do much more than survive through initiations.

At the beginning of the Fall 2011 semester, an almost entirely new officer group was elected that was motivated to make the chapter exciting again. This group was full of great ideas to accomplish this goal, but soon realized that it would take a few semesters to get things rolling.

One of the ideas this group came up with was a way to replace the signature sheet requirement for initiation with something more unique to pique the interest of aspiring Tau Bates. The signature sheets were designed as a way for initiates to spread the news about ΤΒΠ to underclassmen and get them interested in joining. In practice, however, they were a nuisance for the initiates and not very effective at attracting underclassmen. The idea to replace the signature sheets was inspired by the "sig blocks" used at Texas Alpha, the University of Texas, which caught the attention of our officer group at the 2012 District 10 Conference. What would set our chapter's signature blocks apart was a custom brand on the blocks displaying the ΤΒΠ logo and our chapter name. By the Fall of 2012, we had saved up enough funds and finalized a clean design for a custom branding iron. We just needed the new officer group to be on board with the ideas of the graduated officers.

One of the best things we had learned over the last year was that genuinely caring about making the organization something special was contagious. Where we had only a single applicant for each officer position for the Fall 2012 semester, each position in the most recent Spring 2013 election had two or three members vying for position. Because officers were motivated to help empower the organization's brand, the idea of using the branding iron to make the signature blocks, which we call "Tau Beta Blocks", was an exciting proposition for our new officer group.

This new group had other ideas for the branding iron including, most notably, a giant Jenga game for use at large gatherings and parties. Cesar Figueroa (Spring 2013 TX E President), Gustavo Chamusca (Spring 2013 TX E Vice President), and Dustin Burge (Spring 2013 Chief Advisor) got together on a Saturday and built the set with two-by-fours in a garage. The wood was purchased at the local Home Depot and its cost (not including the branding iron) was about $30. Cutting the wood pieces and the assembly of the game proved to be a fast and fun activity.

The Jenga set has been used twice this semester at both the Cullen College of Engineering's beginning of semester (BOS) party and our local IEEE chapter's annual chili cookoff. At both events, the Jenga set was hugely popular and a great cost-effective and fun way to spread awareness and get people excited about our honor society. In addition, it's a game that tests a lot of engineering concepts taught in class that are now able to be applied in the real world. These notions are decision making skills, the ability to take into account the consequences to every action, the ability to manage an increasingly unstable structure as the game progresses, testing the effects of physics in nature, and ultimately being able to work under pressure, to name a few.

It is undeniable that these small efforts have brought about great changes in the morale and involvement of the whole chapter and its potential initiates. This is just one of the ways the Texas Epsilon Chapter is working successfully to build a chapter that is not only exciting now, but a highly sustainable chapter that members of the future will be proud to be a part of.

—Cesar A. Figueroa, President
TX Epsilon '13

Student Advisory Board

The Student Advisory Board was selected and met via teleconference in April to receive input on areas of concern and how to improve the Association. The next meeting is scheduled for June.

Current Members:

Timothy D. Anderson, *KY G '12*

Past President KY G,
Most Improved Chapter 2011-12

Stewart R. Baskin, *FL E '13*

Past VP & *Rec. Sec.* FL E,
Past President FL E

Michael J. Hand III, *MI G '11*

Past President MI G,
TBP Fellow 2012-13,
Advisor to MI G

Darick W. LaSelle, *CO E '13, Vice Chair*

TBP 2011 Convention
Petitions Chair,
Past President CO E

Alexander H. Lee, *NJ A '13, Secretary*

Former Corresponding
Secretary NJ A,
TBP Scholar 2012-13

Lauren H. Logan, *OH D '10, Chair*

TBP Scholar 2009-10,
TBP Fellow 2011-12,
Past President OH D,
Advisor to IN A

Adrianne L. Shearer, *KY A '13*

President KY A,
TBP 2012 Convention Host
Chapter

Gerald (Jerry) J. Wang, *CT A '13*

TBP 2012 Convention
Awards Chair,
President CT A

Abigail R. Wooldridge, *KY B '11*

TBP 2011 Convention
Awards Chair,
Past President KY B,
TBP Fellow 2012-13

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 ΤΒΠ 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

K-12 MindSET Program Update

Thanks to the hard work of our Tau Beta Pi collegiate chapters, the MindSET program is having a productive 2013. Building on the momentum from the 2012 TBP Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, MindSET has awarded 18 grants, to 11 chapters, for more than $4,000 through April 1.

The Google form for chapters to submit summaries of their MindSET activity sessions has been a huge success with 25 project summaries submitted to date. Several TBP chapters have recently started MindSET projects including: DC Gamma (George Washington); Florida Eta (Florida A&M-Florida State); Idaho Gamma (Boise State); and Texas Epsilon (University of Houston).

Other TBP chapters continue to do great work with local K-12 schools, including but not limited to: AL Gamma (UAB); GA Alpha (Georgia Tech); FL Alpha (University of Florida); FL Theta (FIU); MD Beta (University of Maryland); and NJ Beta (Rutgers).

A TBΠ Maryland Beta volunteer works with a middle school student from Prince Georges County during a MindSET rocket building module.
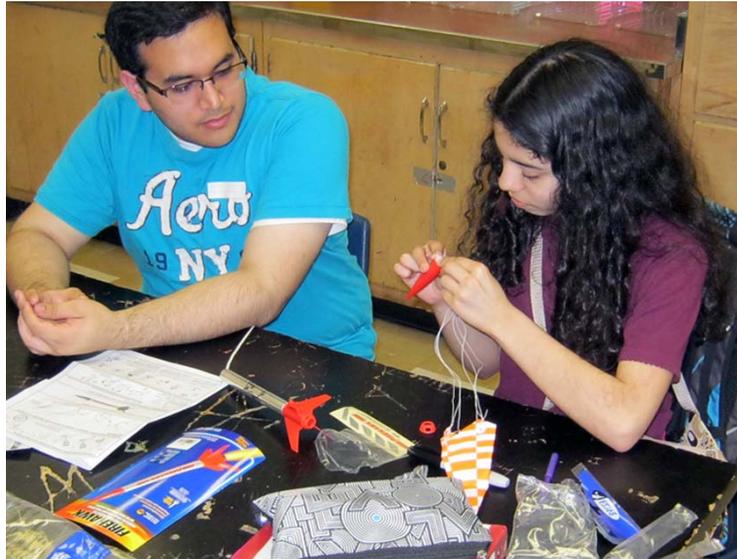
Lastly, several TBP alumni and alumni chapters are supporting MindSET projects. More than 30 TBP alumni have volunteered to be MindSET coaches to ensure the continuity and quality of MindSET projects and activities from academic year-to-year. With several new alumni chapters forming and re-activating across the country, we hope that they too can take an active role in the MindSET program.

Teach For America & TBP STEM Gap Awareness

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 Univ. of Maryland). The STEM Opportunity Gap Awareness event was a week-long project, coordinated by campus representatives of Teach For America (TFA) and Tau Beta Pi collegiate chapter officers.

By co-sponsoring this STEM awareness event, TBP and TFA plan 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 event, which will take place April through May, at several TBP chapters, including NYU Polytechnic Inst., Univ. of Florida, Univ. of Michigan, and UC San Diego. Please stay tuned for more details! In the meantime, you can check out the TBP/TFA partnership page to learn more about opportunities for you to get involved with this initiative.

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*.]

Member Benefits

- **GEICO**—additional discounts on automobile insurance.

- **Linked-In**—join 13,000 members in our official group for professional networking and career discussions. (Search: Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society)

- **LTCFP**—long-term care outreach and education program with access to favorable rates on long-term care insurance.

- **My Home Benefits**—moving discounts & real-estate services.

- **PPI**—discounts on professional licensing exam review materials (FE/EIT, PE, LEED, & more).

- **TBP Job Board**—post a résumé online and browse through hundreds of engineering jobs at top companies.

- **TBP Hotel Discount**—members now have access to a worldwide inventory of hotels at discounted rates. Book today and save an average of 10-20 percent.

Important Deadlines

- June 1   Convention Credentials
- June 1   Financial Report
- June 1   Chapter Survey
- June 1   Project Reports
- June 1   Curriculum Appeal
- June 1   2016 Convention Interest

As You Become Alumni

On February 22, in Denver, CO, 80 ΤΒΠ *alumni and student members gathered at the Old Spaghetti Factory.*

For those of you that have served as chapter officers or advisors this year, thank you for all your hard work and perseverance. For those of you graduating this semester, congratulations! Good luck and best wishes in your future endeavors! Remember that there are ways to participate in Tau Beta Pi after college:

1. Join or start an alumni chapter. There are many alumni chapters around the country. Some are inactive; you could help restart them. Click here. Additional alumni chapter information can be found here.

2. Become an Association Official. An Engineering Futures facilitator, District Director, or chapter advisor are all possible options. Contact HQ if you are interested in pursuing one of these positions. Volunteer opportunities can be found here.

3. Please remember to keep your email and mailing addresses current with HQ. You can contact HQ via tbp@tbp.org. Purchase a life subscription to THE BENT for only $60 to receive the magazine for life.

4. Check out the other alumni opportunities online regarding jobs, insurance, moving, buying a house, graduate school, and other benefits here.

Please forward these alumni opportunities to your graduating members.