

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA EPSILON OF THE
TAU BETA PI ASSOCIATION FOR THE COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING AT NORTH CAROLINA A & T STATE UNIVERSITY
(REVISED: DECEMBER 1, 2006)

Article I: Name

The organization shall be titled Tau Beta Pi, the Engineering Honor Society of the North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- 1) To give recognition to outstanding engineering students who have attained honor rating in their college courses.
- 2) To foster high scholarship among lower classmen by establishing an incentive for them to achieve honors necessary for admission to the society.
- 3) To keep contact with alumni, with the hope of furthering the aims of the society and the college.
- 4) To serve the College of Engineering and its students.

Article III: Government

Section 1: The general government of this organization shall be vested in an advisory board consisting of the President, Vice President, and the Corresponding Secretary-Cataloger of the organization, and four faculty advisors. The elected officers shall be a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary-Treasurer, the Corresponding Secretary-Cataloger. The faculty advisors shall be elected to terms of 1, 2, 3 and 4 years and thereafter one member shall be elected each Spring to a 4-year term. The faculty advisors must be members of Tau Beta Pi.

Section 2: All elected officials must be active members of the organization.

Section 3: There shall be an election of officers during the first meeting in April of each year. The officers will assume their position from May 1 for one calendar year. The election will be by secret ballot and by a majority of the quorum. If no candidate receives a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes on the first ballot for that particular office.

Section 4: In case a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice President shall automatically become President and a new Vice President shall be appointed by the advisory board. Other vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the advisory board. All such appointments shall be subject to the approval of a quorum of the active membership.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1: The active membership of the society shall consist of duly elected juniors and seniors regularly enrolled in the College of Engineering, North Carolina A & T State University.

Section 2: The alumni membership shall consist of graduated active members and duly elected past graduates of the College of Engineering.

Section 3: To be eligible for membership, the following requirements must be met:

- a) Students scholastically in the upper eighth of the junior engineering class and the upper fifth of the senior class shall be considered eligible for election.
- b) In computing one-eighth or one-fifth of the total enrollment of the junior or senior classes in engineering, any fraction shall be considered an integer. If the lower limit falls within a group of students who have the same point ratio, all such names shall be included in the list without distinction.

Article IV: Membership (Continued)

- c) Eligible seniors can be elected either semester of their senior year.
- d) Graduates, whose scholastic averages fall within the upper fifth of their graduating engineering classes, are eligible for election as alumni members.
- e) No person who has an academic average below 3.00 overall will be eligible for membership.
- f) Eligibility for membership shall be irrespective of race, sex, nationality, color, creed or other social prejudice, and candidate shall have met all the requirements of the Registrar's and Business Offices .

Section 4: A member in good standing is one who is not under censure by this organization or by N. C. A & T and who has paid his dues. A member not in good standing shall forfeit all rights and privileges of his membership until such time as he is reinstated.

Section 5: There will be two elections and initiations each year. They shall be held as soon as practicable after the data determining the scholastic eligibility of the candidates have been made.

Section 6: Access to any student records and any information obtained from student records is restricted to faculty members of the advisory board.

Section 7: A member may be censured or expelled from the society for continued inexcusable non-attendance to the assigned or elected duties to the organization, for moral delinquency, or for other just causes. Censure or expulsion proceedings shall be initiated by the advisory board and be subject to approval by secret ballot of seventy-five percent of the active members.

Article V: Meetings

The time for meetings shall be set by the President or advisory board. The number and nature of the meetings in addition to the three meetings for election of candidates and officers shall be at the discretion of the advisory board.

Article VI: Finances

Section 1: All members of this organization may be assessed fees as required for proper functioning of this organization, provided such an assessment is authorized by the advisory board and a three-fourths vote of the active membership.

Section 2: Funds are entrusted to the Recording Secretary-Treasurer for safe-keeping, subject to the semi-annual audit by the advisory board.

Article VII: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to this Constitution may be submitted by any member in good standing at any regular meeting. Notices of proposed amendments and notification of the next meeting time and place shall be sent to all active members at least two weeks prior to the next meeting at which time the amendments will be voted on.

Section 2: An amendment shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the quorum.

Article VIII: Rights and Duties

Undergraduate members:

- a) Shall have the right to vote on candidates for membership and for student officers.
- b) Shall have the right to vote on all matters pertaining to student business and on all matters of the society.
- c) Shall have the right to participate in all activities of the society.
- d) Shall have the duty of maintaining the standards of the society.
- e) Shall have the duty to participate in service-oriented activities of the chapter.

Article IX: Committees

Section 1: The chapter shall have standing committees on membership, program, initiation and social activities.

- a) The program committee shall have the duty of the advancement of technical and professional education of the active members and students in the College of Engineering.

Section 2: The President shall appoint such other committees as he shall desire to carry out the activities of the chapter. He shall determine the size of all committees.

BY-LAWS

I. General

Section 1: These By-Laws shall govern the proceedings of this chapter in all matters not expressly provided for in the Constitution.

Section 2: This chapter shall conform to such rules and regulations of the North Carolina A & T State University and the College of Engineering as may apply to honor students.

II. Government

Section 1: This chapter shall be composed of members chosen from among eligible students and alumni on the basis of distinguished scholarship or professional attainment and exemplary character.

Section 2: The chapter shall have full control of its individual affairs, which control shall be exercised by the active membership of this chapter and its advisory board.

Section 3: The officers of this chapter shall be a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary-Treasurer and a Corresponding Secretary-Cataloger who shall be active members of this chapter; also advisors, elected from among the faculty of the College of Engineering.

Section 4: The duties of the officer shall be those usually performed by persons holding such offices and those prescribed in these By-laws or by chapter action.

- a) It shall be the duty of the President to act as a responsible agent and leader of this chapter. He shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees (subject to the approval by a majority vote of the active body). He shall cast the deciding vote in case of a tie in all things except elections.
- b) The Vice President shall act in the capacity of any officer who is not present. He shall act as parliamentarian at all meetings. He shall be the chairman of the Program Committee.
- c) The Recording Secretary-Treasurer shall have the duties usually entrusted to this officer in all internal affairs of the chapter.
- d) The Corresponding Secretary-Cataloger shall have the duty to keep an up-to-date catalog of active and alumnus members of the chapter. He shall have the duties entrusted to a secretary in all matters external to the chapter.

III. Quorum

Section 1: Five-sevenths of the members of the advisory board shall constitute a quorum at the meetings of the advisory board.

Section 2: A majority of student members shall constitute a quorum at regular meetings.

Section 3: A quorum must be present at any meetings at which a vote is taken.

III. Quorum (Continued)

Section 4: A quorum for the election of officers consists of two-thirds of the active membership and a quorum is required for disciplinary action; candidate elections and constitution amendment consists of three-fourths of the active membership.

IV. Meetings

Refer to Article V of the Constitution.

V. Membership

Refer to Article IV of the Constitution.

Section 1: Scholastically Eligible

Day students in the following curricula of the College of Engineering shall be considered for membership in Tau Beta Pi; Bachelor of Science in: Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Bioenvironmental Engineering, Biological Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Interdisciplinary General Engineering and Mechanical Engineering; Master of Science in: Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering; and Doctor of Philosophy in: Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

Section 2: Transfer students shall be eligible for consideration at the third regular induction after their registration. Such students may be eligible at the second regular induction after their registration, provided the consent of five-sevenths of the advisory board is obtained.

Section 3: Exemplary Character Evaluation

- a) Letters shall be sent to scholastically eligible candidates inviting them to a get-acquainted meeting ("smoker").
- b) A get-acquainted meeting shall be held, at which the chapter members will meet the candidates. The candidates shall be introduced to the purposes and activities of Tau Beta Pi.
- c) The chapter members shall be asked to make recommendations on the candidates they met during the get-acquainted meeting, at the chapter's election meeting.

VI. Finances

Section 1: The expenses of the chapter shall be borne by the initiation fee, and by such dues and pro rata assessments as may be voted by the chapter. A three-fourths vote of the three-fourths active membership shall be required to change any fees or dues, or to levy any assessment.

Section 2: Refer to Article VI of the Constitution.

Section 3: An initiation fee shall be payable prior to initiation.

VII. Procedure

Section 1: Robert's "Rules of Order Revised" should govern in all points not specifically covered in the Constitution.

VIII. Voting ProceduresSection 1:

- a) At the Election Meeting, the Eligibility Code shall first be read.
- b) The names of eligible candidates will be submitted to the chapter membership in groups by the membership committee along with the committee's favorable recommendation for each candidate in the group. The size of the groups shall be determined by the membership committee.
- c) If any active member has a question about any of the candidates in a group, that candidate's name shall be removed from the group ("purged") and considered separately.
- d) A chapter vote shall be taken on the remainder of the group.
- e) Each candidate removed from a group and candidates who did not receive a favorable recommendation from the membership committee shall be considered separately after all groups have been voted on. Each name shall be presented for discussion and voted on before the following name is considered.
- f) After all names have been considered and voted on, there shall be a second individual ballot for each candidate who failed election on the first ballot.
- g) No candidate who fails election on the second ballot shall be considered further, unless 25% of the members present so request.
- h) No candidate who fails election on the third ballot shall be considered again at this election. He or she may be considered again at the next election if he or she is then eligible.