

March 28, 2012

BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ALPHA CHAPTER OF THE

TAU BETA PI ASSOCIATION

Article I

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. The president, the vice-president, the treasurer, the recording secretary, the corresponding secretary, cataloger, historian, web designer, and social chair shall be elected ~~on or before the last regular meeting before regional conference~~ **immediately following the spring initiation ceremony**. The elected officers shall take office at the next ~~regular~~ **officer** meeting.

Section 2. The president shall be the official delegate to the national convention and the vice-president shall be the alternate delegate to the national convention.

Section 3. The election of officers shall be by secret ballot. Two-thirds of the total active chapter membership shall constitute a quorum and a simple majority vote of the members attending the election meeting shall be required for election.

Section 4. The officers shall hold office for one year.

Section 5. If any office shall become vacant between regular elections, the remainder of the term shall be filled by a special election at the next meeting after the vacancy occurs.

Section 6. At the last meeting ~~before regional convention~~ **of the year**, the president shall appoint the following standing committees to serve for that year:

- a) Program Committee: The corresponding secretary shall serve as chairman of the program committee and shall be assisted by three active members of the chapter. The program committee shall arrange technical and non-technical meetings as well as set dates for ~~(1) elections; (2) all general and informational meetings; (3) banquets; (4) Engineering Futures Sessions.~~ **all general and informational meetings.**
- b) Membership Committee: The recording secretary shall serve as chairman of the membership committee and shall be assisted by three active members of the chapter. The committee shall perform the duties prescribed in the Constitution.
- c) Initiation Committee: The vice president shall serve as chairman of the initiation committee and shall be assisted by three active members of the chapter. The initiation committee shall be responsible for preparing and conduction the examination of candidates for membership **and election of**

new members. The committee shall arrange the formal initiation and banquet jointly with the program committee.

- d) **Social Committee:** The social chair shall serve as director of the social committee and shall be assisted by three active members of the chapter. The social committee shall arrange and coordinate all social functions of the chapter.
- e) **Service Committee:** The ~~cataloger~~ **service chair** shall serve as chairman of the service committee and shall be assisted by three active members of the chapter. The service committee is in charge of planning and implementing service projects for members and candidates.

Section 7. The president shall appoint other committees as required. The president shall be a member ex-officio of all committees.

Article II

MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings shall be held each month of the academic year at a time and place to be selected by the chapter.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the president at any time. The president shall be required to call a special meetings on the written request signed by five members of the chapter.

Section 3. Initiation may be held at the time of a regular meeting or a special meeting may be called for the purpose.

Section 4. A quorum for the consideration of routine business shall consist of one-half the active chapter membership. Three-fourths of the active membership shall constitute a quorum for the election of new members, for approval or disapproval of amendments to the constitution and by-laws, and for financial assessments.

Section 5. The order of business at a regular meeting shall be as follows: (1) Attendance; (2) Reading of minutes of the previous meeting; (3) Reports of officers and committees; (4) New business; (5) Program; and (6) Adjournment.

Section 6. The advisory board shall meet at least once during the academic semester.

Article III

METHODS OF SELECTING MEMBERS

Section 1. The members of this chapter shall be elected in the accordance with the National Constitution and by-laws.

Section 2. Definitions:

- 1) Criteria for classification as a senior:
 - a) majoring in an eligible undergraduate engineering curriculum
 - b) university classification as a senior
- 2) Criteria for classification as a junior:
 - a) majoring in an eligible undergraduate engineering curriculum
 - b) university classification as a junior or a senior

Section 3. Those eligible for membership in the chapter each semester shall be:

- a) All juniors scholastically in the upper eighth of the junior engineering class
- b) All seniors scholastically in the upper fifth of the senior engineering class.

Section 4. After all candidates have been determined based on scholastic eligibility requirements, the character of candidates shall be evaluated as to its exemplary nature. The prime consideration is the integrity of the candidate:

- a) The candidate's interest and participation in the student chapter of their professional engineering society,
- b) The candidate's attendance and participation in professional development,
- c) The candidate's participation in an assigned service project,
- d) The candidate's manifestation of exemplary character.

~~Section 5. The procedure for evaluation for the exemplary nature of the candidate shall be conducted in the following manner:~~

- ~~a) Faculty and member recommendations shall be sought. A list of the candidates shall be sent to the faculty and be made available to the members at a pre-election meeting with a list of the criteria and/or the eligibility code. An opinion shall be solicited from the faculty and members as to the acceptability or unacceptability of the candidates. Approval shall be shown in the form of a signature on a specified form given to the candidate.~~
- ~~b) A chapter member shall investigate those candidates for whom recommendations from at least one faculty member cannot be obtained.~~
- ~~c) Each candidate shall be interviewed by a current member to determine whether he or she has exemplary character.~~

Section 56. Anyone eligible under chapter by-laws must be elected by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the active undergraduate members present. In computing this ratio, any fraction one-half or greater shall be counted as a whole number. The voting procedure shall be:

- a) A list of candidates shall be distributed to each member as a ballot.

- b) The eligibility code shall be made known to the members.
- c) Recommendations, oral and written, on any candidate shall be made.
- d) The ballot shall be collected from each member after all candidates have been voted upon.

Section 67. The grade point ratio (GPR) shall be calculated on a basis of 4.0 points per credit of A, 3.0 for B, 2.0 for C, 1.0 for D, and no points for F.

Section 78. Within one week after election the ~~corresponding secretary~~ **Vice President** shall prepare a written notification of election for each candidate in which he or she will be instructed as to the requirement for initiation.

Article IV

FINANCES

Section 1. The expenses of the chapter shall be borne by the initiation fees and by such assessments as may be voted at any meeting of the chapter. The initiation fee shall be ~~seventy~~ **seventy-five** dollars, which must be paid before the initiation ceremony.

Article V

DEFINITION OF AN ACTIVE MEMBER

Section 1. An active member:

- a) Has attended at least fifty percent of the current semester's member meetings or attends the Election meeting
- b) Has participated or scheduled to participate in two hours of service for the current semester

Article VI

ELIGIBILITY OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Section 1. To be eligible for election, the candidate shall be a student in one of the following undergraduate degree programs:

- a) Bioengineering
- b) Biosystems Engineering
- c) ~~Ceramic Engineering~~
- d) ~~Ceramic and Material~~ **Science and** Engineering
- e) Chemical Engineering
- f) Civil Engineering
- g) Computer Engineering

- h) Electrical Engineering
- i) Industrial Engineering
- j) Mechanical Engineering
- k) Environmental Engineering

Article VII

ELIGIBILITY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Section 1. To be eligible for election, the candidate shall be a student in one of the following graduate degree programs:

- a) Bioengineering
- b) Biosystems Engineering
- ~~e) Ceramic Engineering~~
- d) ~~Ceramic~~ and Material **Science and** Engineering
- e) Chemical Engineering
- f) Civil Engineering
- g) Computer Engineering
- h) Electrical Engineering
- i) Industrial Engineering
- j) Mechanical Engineering
- k) Environmental Engineering ~~and Science~~
- ~~l) Materials Science and Engineering~~

Article VIII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the total members present, with a quorum necessary for consideration of an amendment, subject to the approval of the Advisory Board.