Bylaws of the South Carolina Beta Chapter
of
The Tau Beta Pi Association

Bylaw I - General

Section 1. These Bylaws shall govern the proceedings of this Chapter in all matters not expressly provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws of The Tau Beta Pi Association, Inc.

Section 2. This Chapter shall conform to such rules and regulations of The University of South Carolina and of its College of Engineering as may apply to honor societies.

Section 3. In the event of conflict between the Constitution and Bylaws of The Tau Beta Pi Association, Inc., and the rules and regulations of The University of South Carolina and/or its College of Engineering, the rules of The University of South Carolina and/or the College of Engineering shall prevail, and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association shall be notified of the circumstances of the conflict.

Section 4. Abbreviated references herein to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association and to the various Bylaws of this document shall be made in the form illustrated by the following examples:

   a. C-VI, 1-National Constitution Article VI, Section 1.
   b. B-V, 5.02-National Bylaw V, Section 5.02.
   c. SCB-I, 4-South Carolina Beta Chapter Bylaw I, Section 4.

Bylaw II - Government and Officers

Section 1. The Chapter shall be composed of members chosen from among eligible students on the basis of distinguished scholarship or professional attainment and exemplary character, as enunciated in C-VIII and The Eligibility Code of the Association.

Section 2. The Chapter shall have full control over its individual affairs, subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, which control shall be exercised by the active membership of the Chapter and its Advisory Board. An "active member" of this Chapter shall be as defined in C-VI, 1, and only active undergraduate and graduate-student members, as defined therein, shall have the privilege of voting.

Section 3. The officers of this chapter shall be: President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Cataloger, Editor of the "Carolina Engineer", Assistant Editor of the "Carolina Engineer", and the Advisory Board. The office of
Treasurer shall be filled as outlined in SCB-2, 3a.

a. There shall be two Treasurers for this chapter: A Faculty Treasurer who shall be a member of the Advisory Board and elected for a term of three years so as to provide continuity in administration of the major funds of the chapter. He may be reelected. An undergraduate Treasurer who shall be an active member of the chapter elected during the regular election of officers.

Section 4. The Advisory Board of the Chapter shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, and four alumnus members of the Association, preferably elected from among the faculty of the College of Engineering with each representing a different department.

Section 5. Alumnus members of the Advisory Board shall serve four-year terms, as specified in C-VI, 7. All other officers shall serve for one year or until their successors are duly elected and installed.

Section 6. The duties of the officers shall be those usually performed by persons holding such offices, those prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, and those prescribed in these Bylaws or by Chapter action.

Section 7. The following extra duties shall be required of the officers:

a. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees.

b. The President shall see that each officer and committee and committee chair is provided with a written list of specific duties for which each is responsible. A copy of each list shall be placed in the Recording Secretary’s notebook and in the President’s Book.

c. The Recording Secretary shall see that each candidate accepting election receives copies of The Constitution and Bylaws and Eligibility Code of The Tau Beta Pi Association, Information About Tau Beta Pi, these Bylaws, and such other materials as the Chapter may deem desirable.

d. The Cataloger shall notify each active member and Advisor of the time, place, and purpose of each Chapter meeting at least one week in advance of the meeting.

e. The Recording Secretary shall serve as Secretary of the Advisory Board.

f. The President and Vice President shall pay a courtesy call on the Dean or Associate Dean of Undergraduate
Studies of Engineering early in the fall term to discuss ways in which the Chapter may be of service to the College. The substance of such discussions shall be reported to the Chapter at the next meeting.

g. The President shall cooperate with the Director of the Tau Beta Pi District 5 and shall encourage the Chapter members to participate in the District's activities.

Bylaw III - Meetings

Section 1. The following regular meetings shall be scheduled and held once each year: Organization, Election of Officers, and Installation of Officers.

Section 2. The following regular meetings shall be scheduled and held once in the Fall and once in the Spring semesters: Discussion of Election Procedures, Election of Candidates, Initiation of Electees, and one general meeting of a social, literary, or technical nature.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President, any alumnus member of the Advisory Board, or upon written request to the President signed by 20% of the active members of the Chapter.

Section 4. "Robert's Rules of Order" shall be the parliamentary guide of the Chapter in all matters not covered in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association or in these Bylaws.

Section 5. The first meeting of each semester shall be held within two weeks of the start of the semester.

Section 6. The officers shall present a complete calendar of the regular meeting of the Chapter for the semester to the active members for their approval no later than the second meeting of the semester.

Section 7. Business meetings other than the Election Meeting, shall last no longer than two hours, unless extended by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the active members present. The order of business at these meetings shall be as follows:

a. Roll call
b. Minutes of the previous meeting.
c. Reports of officers.
d. Reports of committees.
e. Unfinished business.
f. New business.
g. Adjournment.

Section 8. Attendance of active members shall be required at all regular, scheduled meetings of the Chapter, unless excused by the President for reasons which the chapter judges to be good and
sufficient. A member who must miss a regular, scheduled meeting shall submit his or her reasons to the President, in writing, before the meeting, unless the excuse is illness or a conflicting class.

Section 9. The President shall call a meeting of the Advisory Board at the beginning of each semester to discuss Chapter activities for the semester.

Section 10. A quorum for the consideration of routine business shall be a majority of the active membership of the Chapter; for the election of new members, for changing the initiation fee or Chapter dues, for passing an assessment on the members of the Chapter, for amending the Chapter Bylaws, and for approval or disapproval of a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Association, a quorum shall be three-fourths of the active membership.

Bylaw IV - Committees

Section 1. At the first meeting of each semester, the President shall appoint the following committees:

a. Membership
b. Initiation
c. Smoker
d. Banquet
e. Projects

Section 2. As early as possible after committee appointments are made, the President shall provide each committee chair with a list of his or her specific duties and responsibilities.

Section 3. Each committee chair shall make a report on the progress of his or her group's activities at each chapter meeting.

Bylaw V - Election of New Members

Section 1. Election of new members shall be held in the Fall and Spring semesters as soon as possible after grades for the previous term become available.

Section 2. All provisions of C-VIII and B-VI shall be strictly followed.

Section 3. Scholastically eligible students in the following curricula shall be considered for membership in the Chapter: Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering.

Section 4. Transfer students shall be eligible for consideration at the third regular election after their registration. Such
students may be eligible at the second regular election after their registration, provided the consent of three-fourths of the Advisory Board is obtained.

Section 5. The cases of students whose scholastic eligibility is in doubt because of irregularities in standing or curriculum shall be determined by the Advisory Board of the Chapter.

Section 6. The Chapter may elect to specify scholastic requirements higher than those stated in C-VIII.

Section 7. The membership committee shall periodically consult with the various department advisors in order to determine the names of graduate students, alumni, faculty members, and others who may be eligible for membership under the provisions of C-VIII, 3-6.

Section 8. 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.

d. A list of the eligible candidates shall be presented to select Tau Beta Pi Faculty members for their comments and recommendation.

Section 10. Voting Procedures

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 candidate 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.

Section 11. The President shall direct the membership committee to have sufficient letters of notification of election prepared in advance of the Election Meeting. These letters should be signed by the President, addressed to the electees, and mailed within one day of the Election Meeting.

Section 12. All members shall keep the election results in absolute confidence so that no candidate shall learn of his or her election except by means of the official letter; likewise, no candidate shall be informed of the details of the vote, especially concerning the personal matters discussed at the time of voting.

Section 13. At the first meeting of electees, the President shall explain the requirements, objectives, and activities of the Association and of the Chapter.

Section 14. Each electee who refuses initiation for financial reasons shall be interviewed by the Advisory Board, as required by C-VIII, 10 (a).

Section 15. Each electee shall be required to take part in an activity recommended or approved by the Chapter officers to foster a spirit of liberal culture. This activity may take the form of a project and/or the writing of an essay, as specified in B-VIII, 7.01. They shall also be required to read the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association and these Bylaws.

Section 16. The Chapter may assign additional duties to electees, subject to the provision of B-VII, 7.02.

Bylaw VI - Election and Installation of Officers

Section 1. The President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Cataloger, Editor and Assistant Editor of the "Carolina Engineer" shall be elected in the spring semester.

Section 2. Nominations for officers shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the President. The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office. Additional
nominations may be made from the floor at the Election of Officers Meeting.

Section 3. The Election of Officers Meeting shall be held at least six weeks prior to the end of the spring term. Officers-elect shall be formally installed at the last meeting of the year. The Chapter Officer Installation Procedure given in the President's Book shall be employed to install the new officers. During the period following the election until the installation, each Officer-elect shall work closely with his or her officer counterpart to learn the duties and responsibilities of the office.

Section 4. The election of officers shall be by secret ballot. Two-thirds of the active membership shall constitute a quorum for the Election of Officers Meeting and a majority of the quorum shall be required for election. A vote by the members present will cause the nominee receiving the least number of ballots to be dropped from further consideration until one receives a majority vote.

Section 5. If any office becomes vacant between regular elections, a special election shall be held at the next Chapter meeting to fill the vacancy. The officer elected shall serve until the next regular election.

Bylaw VII - 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. Within one week the Corresponding Secretary shall inform the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association of any changes in amounts of the Chapter's initiation fee, dues or assessments.

Section 2. The initiation fee for all initiates shall be determined by the officers and the Advisory Board and will be payable in advance of initiation to the Chapter Treasurer. This amount covers the national initiation fee, the national Convention assessment, the cost of one banquet following the initiation ceremony, the cost of a rough Bent casting, and the operating expenses of the local Chapter.

Section 3. The Chapter shall use the official bookkeeping system of the Association.

Section 4. There shall be at all times a balance of at least $50.00 in the Chapter treasury.

Section 5. The Chapter's fiscal year shall be June 1 to May 31.

Section 6. No part of the net earnings of the Chapter will inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, members or officers of the Chapter or to any other individual.
Bylaw VII - Discipline

Section 1. It is the intent of this disciplinary Bylaw to impress the membership with the seriousness of purpose of this Chapter and of The Tau Beta Pi Association, and to enable the officers and dedicated members of this Chapter to accomplish necessary business in a manner not inconvenienced or encumbered by a lack of interest on the part of a few members.

Section 2. Discipline shall be in accordance with C-IX, 4,5.

Section 3. A uniform system of fines for habitual absence or tardiness may be established each year in which it is desired by the Chapter. A majority vote of the active membership shall be required to establish this system of fines for a period of one year.

Bylaw IX - Records and Equipment

Section 1. All permanent records of the Chapter shall be kept current and up-to-date.

Section 2. The initiation equipment shall be maintained in good order and in a secure manner by the Corresponding Secretary and the Ritual and its related materials shall be kept up-to-date and under lock and key when not in use.

Section 3. All records and inventory of all physical equipment owned by the Chapter shall be turned over to the new officers at the Installation of Officers Meeting.

Section 4. The Charter of this Chapter shall be prominently displayed at a location determined by the Dean of Engineering.

Section 5. All records of this Chapter shall be open for inspection to any member of the Association and to any official of the University who has received approval from the Advisory Board, except that the Ritual may not be inspected by non-members of the Association.

Bylaw X - Suspension of the Bylaws

Section 1. These Bylaws may be suspended only by a three-fourths affirmative vote of the active membership of the Chapter and by a four-sevenths affirmative vote of the Advisory Board, as provided in C-VI, 5.

Bylaw XI - Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any three active members of the Chapter. A proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to the President and signed by the
members proposing it.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended by a three-fourths affirmative vote of the active membership of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Advisory Board, as provided in C-VI, 7(b).

Section 3. The Corresponding Secretary shall send a copy of the Bylaws as amended, to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association within two weeks after an amendment is adopted.

Bylaw XII - Dissolution

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of the Chapter, the residual assets shall be distributed to The Tau Beta Pi Association, Inc., a corporation organized and operated exclusively for educational and scientific purposes and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be distributed to a Federal, State, or Local Government for public purposes.
Bylaw XIII - Enactment

Section 1. These Bylaws were adopted by vote of this Chapter and its Advisory Board and became effective on March 4, 1985 (Date).

They were last amended on (Date)

Signed John D. Reynolds (President)

Signed (Advisory Board Chair)