

CONSTITUTION  
TENNESSEE ETA CHAPTER OF TAU BETA PI  
NATIONAL ENGINEERING HONOR SOCIETY

ARTICLE I: Name

The Society shall be titled Tennessee Eta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society.

ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of the Society shall be:

- 1) To give recognition to outstanding engineering students of good character who have achieved academic excellence within the Raymond B. Jones College of Engineering at Lipscomb University.
- 2) To foster high scholarship among under classmen by establishing an incentive for them to achieve honors necessary for admission to the society.
- 3) To keep contact with the alumni, with the hope of furthering the aims of the society and the college.
- 4) To foster a spirit of liberal education in engineering colleges.

ARTICLE III: Government

Section 1: The general government of the Society shall be vested in an Advisory Board consisting of the elected President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: All elected officials must be active members of the Society. All candidates for President shall have senior class standing for their term of office and have been a member of the society for at least one year.

Section 3: There shall be an election of officers during the first meeting in March of each year. The offices will be held until the next election. The election shall be by secret ballot and by 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 of a vacancy 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 through appointments by the current officers. All such appointments shall be subject to approval of a quorum of the active membership.

Section 5: An officer may be removed by a three quarter vote of the active membership for neglecting or abusing his/her office.



#### ARTICLE IV: Membership

Section 1: The active membership of the Society shall consist of duly elected juniors and seniors regularly enrolled in The Raymond B. Jones College of Engineering at Lipscomb University. For the purposes of the organization, juniors and seniors are defined as follows:

- a) A junior is a student expected to graduate in the following academic year and on their second to last year of engineering curriculum, identified by planned participation in senior design project in the following academic year.
- b) A senior is a student participating in the final year of engineering curriculum, identified by participation in a senior design project (e.g. a student participating in a senior design project in the current fall but that does not plan on graduating until the following fall will be classified as a senior).
- c) Classification for the society is to be defined by the definitions enclosed in IV.1(a) and IV.1(b) exclusively. Other, non-applicable, definitions include those based on the numbers of hours completed or the years elapsed as a college student.

Section 2: The alumni membership shall consist of graduated active members and duly elected past graduates of The Raymond B. Jones College of Engineering at Lipscomb University.

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 at the beginning of the junior year are immediately eligible for election.
- b) Those senior students whose scholastic averages fall within the upper fifth of the engineering class are eligible for election at the beginning of their senior year.
- c) Eminent engineers who have been of service to the profession and to the University may also be elected to membership.
- d) Eligibility for membership shall be any Lipscomb University student who has completed at least 30 hours as an engineering major at Lipscomb University, has met the above criteria, and has met all the requirements of the Registrar and Business Offices.



Section 4: A member in good standing is one who is not under censure by this Society and has paid his/her dues. A member not in good standing shall, upon recommendation of the majority of the Society's members, forfeit all rights and privileges of his/her membership if so directed by the society officers until such time as he/she is reinstated. This prescribed probationary period is not to exceed one year, during which the member on probation can appeal the disciplinary action taken.

Section 5: Election of candidates shall be by secret ballot and by a three fourths majority vote of the active membership of the Society.

Section 6: The Society shall hold an election of new members each academic year.

Section 7: A member may be censured or expelled from the society for continued and inexcusable non-attendance to assigned or elected duties to the Society, for moral delinquency, or for other just cause as determined by the society officers and approved by the membership

#### ARTICLE V: Meetings

This Society may arrange for and hold such meetings as necessary, but at least one business meeting and one general meeting of a social, literary, or technical character shall be held each semester, except in the summer, in addition to the meetings held for the consideration, election, and initiation of candidates for membership. The times and locations for the meetings shall be set by the President.

#### ARTICLE VI: Finances

Section 1: All members of the Society may be assessed fees as required for the proper functioning of the Society provided such assessment is authorized by the officers and a three fourths majority vote of the membership.

Section 2: Funds are to be entrusted to the treasurer for safe keeping, subject to semi-annual audit.

#### 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 members at least two weeks prior to the next meeting at which time the amendment will be voted on.

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



BY-LAWS  
TENNESSEE ETA CHAPTER OF TAU BETA PI  
NATIONAL ENGINEERING HONOR SOCIETY

By-Law I – General

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

Section 2: This Society shall conform to such rules and regulations of Lipscomb University and of The Raymond B. Jones College of Engineering as may apply to honor societies.

By-Law II – Government

Section 1: The Society shall be composed of members chosen from among eligible students, alumni, and eminent engineers on the basis of distinguished scholarship or professional attainment and exemplary character.

Section 2: The Society shall have full control of its individual affairs, which control shall be exercised by the active membership of the Society.

Section 3: The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be active members of the Society.

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

- a) It shall be the duty of the President to act as a responsible agent and leader of this Society. He/She shall preside at all meetings, and appoint all committees and committee chairmen, except by special Society action by a three fourths majority vote. He/She shall cast the deciding vote in all things except elections.
- b) The Vice President shall act in the capacity of any officer who is not present at the meeting. He/She shall act a parliamentarian at all meetings.
- c) The Secretary will be responsible for recording minutes of meetings, correspondence, and other duties as needed.
- d) The Treasurer shall have the responsibility of collecting dues, paying bills, and other duties as needed.



### By-Law III – Quorum

Section 1: A majority of student members shall constitute a quorum at regular meetings.

Section 2: A quorum must be present at any meeting at which a vote is taken committing the Society to any proposal. Without a quorum, meetings may be held at which members are inducted, proposals are submitted to the Society, matters of interest are discussed, or programs are formulated, but there shall be no formal voting on such matters.

Section 3: The quorum for purposes of the constitutional amendments, elections, and disciplinary action shall consist of 75% of the active membership.

### By-Law IV – Meetings

Section 1: Meetings shall be in accordance with Article V of the Constitution.

### By-Law V – Membership

Section 1: Membership shall be in accordance with Article IV, Section 3, of the Constitution.

Section 2: Junior standing is defined as being within four semesters of completing requirements for a qualifying engineering degree.

Section 3: Senior standing is defined as being within two semesters of completing requirements for a qualifying engineering degree.

Section 4: Undergraduate students must be enrolled in one of the Engineering programs at The Raymond B. Jones College of Engineering, Lipscomb University.

### By-Law VI – Finances

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

Section 2: Finances shall be handled in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution.

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

Section 4: The Society shall keep an account with Lipscomb University and shall abide by the procedures prescribed by this organization.



### By-Law VII – Procedure

Section 1: All undergraduate members and active alumni members shall have equal voting power.

Section 2: “Robert’s ‘Rules of Order’, Revised” shall govern in all points not specifically covered in the Constitution and By-Laws of this Society.

### By-Law VIII – Rights and Duties

Section 1: Members who are undergraduates or active alumni:

- 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 duty of maintaining the standards of the Society.

### By-Law IX – Committees

Section 1: The President shall appoint such committees as he/she shall desire to establish to carry out the activities of this Society. (See By-Law II, Section 4a.)

Section 2: The President shall provide written lists of specific duties and responsibilities to the committee chairpersons.