The Tau Beta Pi Association
Chapter Project Report

Chapter: SD A
Project number: 18

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete each of the seven sections below. Any additional information which may be helpful to another chapter would also be appreciated, but do not send extraneous material that would not be useful to other chapters.

Project name: Production of Personalized Letter to Candidates
Date(s) of Project: Fall '01/Spring '02

Project area: ___ Community/ Liberal Culture
___ University/ College
___ Profession/ Engineering
___ Chapter/ Social
x Chapter/ Prof. Dev.

Number of persons who participated in this project (Please attach a list of names.)
Members: 6    Electees: 0

Hours spent on this project. Organizing: 1    Participating: 4

DESCRIPTION:

I. General Description: The intent of this project was to better inform the inductees of their achievements, which have allowed them to be elected to membership to Tau Beta Pi.

II. Purpose & Relationship to Objectives of TBP: The goal of this project was to increase the number of students who accept the invitation to join Tau Beta Pi. This letter also includes a list of current members and was personally delivered to each inductee by a current member.

III. Organization & Administration: (in conjunction with another group? ___ Yes  x No)
The planning consisted of writing and revising the letter that would be sent our to the new inductees. Once the letter was written, it was mail merged with a database containing the mailing information of the eligible students.

IV. Cost & Personnel Requirements: None

V. Special Problems: None

VI. Over-all Evaluation/Results (Be Specific): The letter better informs the new inductees of the details of initiation (when, where, etc.), the cost of membership, and the eligibility requirements of Tau Beta Pi.

VII. Index of Exhibits:
Congratulations! We are happy to inform you that your high academic standing (top one-eighth of junior engineering students or the top one-fifth of senior engineering students, including Computer Science) permits our chapter to offer you membership in Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society. Membership in Tau Beta Pi offers opportunities for you to become more involved in areas other than academics where you have already demonstrated success. Some people join just to have another activity on their resume; others join and become active in areas outside the classroom. Potential employers often focus on extracurricular activities in their interview and selection process. Active participation may be just what they are looking for.

Senior [Junior] engineering students are defined for Tau Beta Pi eligibility purposes as those students taking senior [junior] courses within their major. The cut-off grade point ratio for this semester is 3.44 for seniors and 3.62 for juniors based on SDSM&T grades. Please let us know if you find that we have overlooked anyone who meets the above grade point average requirements.

We have arranged an informational meeting for you and other eligible candidates. The meeting will be held in EE/P 252 at 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 28. Please complete the enclosed catalog card if you are interested in joining Tau Beta Pi and return it at the meeting on Thursday, to one of the officers, or to one of the advisors as soon as possible. The initiation fee is $50, most of which goes toward national dues. The initiation fee will cover all expenses, including those associated with Tau Beta Pi social events while you are a student member; there are no other fees associated with membership. You will also receive a pin, a certificate, and a wooden plaque with a mounted Bent (a Tau Beta Pi symbol).

The spring initiation for Tau Beta Pi will likely be held in the middle of March. The social event for this semester is yet to be scheduled. You will be contacted regarding details. If you have any questions about Tau Beta Pi or if you will not be able to attend this meeting, please contact me by e-mail (Mark.Fersdahl@gold.sdsmt.edu) or call me at 342-8029. I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, February 28 at 6:00 pm in EE/P 252.

Sincerely,

Mark Fersdahl, President
South Dakota Alpha Chapter

Attachments (3): Catalog Card
Member/Eligible Candidate list
Tau Beta Pi Information sheet