THE Bulletin of Tau Beta Pi

Building a Community

by Darick W. LaSelle, CO E ’15

The most effective way to have a successful chapter is to build it as a community. While the honor and prestige of being a part of Tau Beta Pi will always be a draw to students, it will have much more meaning to both the students and to the school if the chapter itself has meaning, and is something to believe in. This article is about how we turned a struggling chapter into a community.

No “I” in Team

Being a part of Tau Beta Pi means you have excelled in technical disciplines, and you are cognizant of recognition. Add that to wanting to help build a chapter into something stronger, and your personality is probably that of a fiercely independent go-getter. To really make a long-term difference in your chapter, you will need to put that aside and learn how to ask for help. During the first year that I was a chapter president, I thought I could just grow the chapter by force of will. That first year saw a significant growth in membership by sheer brute force. While the membership piece is certainly vital, we now had members, but no activities, no purpose, no sense of community. The second year was significantly more improved because I didn’t try to do everything. I asked the dean for help. I asked for more advisors, I asked for more corps for help. I asked the local alumni association and the district directors. At the end of the year, we had a project log sixteen pages long. More importantly, over half of the membership participated in events. Tau Beta Pi is no longer just something to include in a resume.

Find a purpose

In order to really build a community, you need something to bring you together – some sort of purpose. The belief in liberal culture is a part of our DNA in Tau Beta Pi, but not specific enough to rally around. We found that the professional development of students outside of the classroom fit what our students needed, and fit Tau Beta Pi. We held Engineering Futures sessions both semesters. We had volunteers from industry to help review resumes. We conducted mock interviews. We found ourselves providing things – not only to our members, but to the engineering college as a whole, that are out of scope for the school, but vital to being a successful engineer. When word started getting out, people came looking for us, as opposed to the other way around.

Tell them about it

One thing I found difficult was reaching a larger audience. There are only so many people you will reach via word of mouth and social media. One project included building a TBP board right next to the main engineering computer lab, which definitely had a positive impact.
However, the piece that really launched us was befriending the communications specialist in the dean’s office. It turned out that her goals were aligned very closely with ours. Most colleges will be happy to help publicize things that make them look good (which most TBP events do). She also helped get official word out to eligible members, so that even if they did not know who Tau Beta Pi was, the email would come from the dean’s office. This relationship continued to grow. When one of our student officers was organizing an engineering job fair, they not only publicized it, they participated!

Pass the torch
The running joke was that I became chapter president because there was not anybody else available (although not far from the truth). This situation makes it very difficult for any continuity. During the spring semester of my second year, we had several members and even prospective members meeting with the officers in advance of hopefully becoming officers themselves. Not only does that make it easier for them to get elected, but they can see how the logistics of the chapter work. This advance work is a way to get the next set of officers excited about the things they can accomplish, as opposed to worries about how to submit reports. The group following us, led by President Christopher Florence, plans to add a MindSET Committee in addition to the professional development piece of the chapter. This will help to bring together even more people looking for a sense of “doing something” and being a part of something. They will be part of a community. We all look forward to what they will accomplish. It is important to believe that true success of leadership is what is done after you are no longer the leader. “Leave big shoes to fill, but help fill them.”

Darick LaSelle was the Colorado Epsilon (University of Colorado, Denver) Chapter President for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 school years. He has been a committee chairman at the annual convention and is currently the vice chair of the Student Advisory Board. He was recently selected as a 2013 TBP Laureate.

Communication is Key

A friend of mine says, “You can’t have bad communication UNTIL you have communication.” If you’re talking and no one is listening, then communication is not happening. Communication takes two sides—a teller and a hearer. A teller needs to get the word out in a form that the desired hearers will hear. Communicate in a variety of forms—email, Facebook, a website, texting, phone, word of mouth, etc.

With Your Fellow Officers
Does your chapter have goals? Do you and your fellow officers know what needs to be done when? Do you know who does what job? As school begins, sit down with your officers and advisors, and create a collective vision for your chapter by the end of your term. Set some goals you can measure—initiate five more people than last year, hold a meeting a month, organize two social events each term, host an Engineering Futures session this year—and lay the plans out to get there. Assign action items. If you need to ask for volunteers from the rest of your membership, do it.

Set up a schedule for the term and/or the year with report deadlines, initiation dates, and other activities and events. Establish a regular meeting time. Send out reminder notices via email, and check in with your fellow officers. Are tasks getting done to meet the goals?

With Your Advisors
Involve your advisors—all of them! You mean we have more than one?! Yes, you see your chief advisor most of the time, but chapters are to have at least four advisors. To find out your slate of advisors, go online to your report of officer election, and click on View Advisor. Let them know the dates and times of your events and meetings as you plan them, so they can make arrangements to attend if possible.

With Your Members
If your members don’t know about the event, how can they attend? Notify them via all forms of communication with plenty of time to add it to their schedule. Send out reminder notices. Maintain the website to include the officer names and contact information, dates of your meetings, and information about upcoming events. Post the event details to your website and submit to your school newspaper. Do you know what types of activities your members would like to do? Ask them! They might have good ideas and actually want to participate in them.

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Did You Know?
Tau Beta Pi members receive a 30% discount on all PPI-published products.

PPI has you covered for both the 2013 pencil-and-paper and 2014 computer-based (CBT) FE exams.

No matter which FE exam you choose, PPI is your resource.

Visit www.tbp.org/PPI for details.

Introducing FE Prep

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Tau Beta Pi will host the Association’s 108th annual Convention this year in Ames, Iowa. The Iowa Alpha Chapter at Iowa State University will be the host.

Convention activities and meals will take place at the Iowa State Center Scheman Building and the Gateway Center Hotel beginning Thursday, October 31, and ending Saturday, November 2.

According to the Association’s Constitution & Bylaws, each TBP chapter must send one voting delegate to the Convention at the Association’s expense. Additionally, chapters are encouraged to send non-voting delegates and Advisors at their expense. The on-site expenses of one Advisor per chapter will be paid by Tau Beta Pi.

If you are planning to attend this year’s Convention, register ASAP and submit your travel plans by September 30.

Changes have been made to the 2013 Convention schedule to allow for greater participation in professional development sessions, campus tours, and Engineering Futures sessions. All of these activities, including the Recruiting Fair, will take place on Thursday, October 31, at the Scheman Building. We encourage attendees to arrive early on Thursday in order to participate in the Fair and these development sessions.

The deadline to submit your chapter’s resumes to HQ is October 11. Many corporate recruiters have already purchased the rights to the TBP resume DVD.

Lastly, please remember to submit a Convention expense report immediately after returning home; deadline is November 16. This is a graded report. Learn more about this year’s Convention on the TBP website.

Advisors: Four (or More) Make a Corps
Did you know that your chapter should have four chapter advisors? See the Communication article on page 2 on how to view your current advisor list. The chapter is supposed to elect or re-elect an advisor with the expiring term at your annual officer elections. Each advisor would serve a four-year term, and one would rotate off the corps each year (unless you re-elected them with a new term expiration). Advisors are reported on the Report of Officer and Advisor Election.

If your chapter needs more (you can have more than four), this could be a good chapter project. Organize a committee. Sometimes it works best to spread the advisors among the disciplines at your school. What would they do? Talk with them, and see what they are interested in, but you could have someone in charge of getting the eligibility list, one to help with the rest of the membership process and oversee initiation, one to oversee the finances of the chapter, and others for activities such as MindSET, Engineering Days or Engineers Week activities, or other activities important to the chapter.

If you need to find more advisors, you can submit a list of your engineering faculty to Tricia (tricia@tbp.org) or Rebecca at HQ (rebecca@tbp.org). We may have to ask for schools, middle initials, or more information, but it may provide you with possible advisors. Good luck!

Tau Beta Pi has a travel benefit for members and their families. Members now have access to a worldwide inventory of hotels at exclusive discounted rates. Take advantage of average savings of 10-20 percent anytime at any hotel.
Chapter Operations: Membership Reports

Your eligibility report is due five weeks after school starts in the fall and spring. For those of you who have already started school or will be starting soon, you need to start requesting the list now. You need the top 1/8 of the junior class and the top 1/5 of the senior class. Students who are already members MUST be included on the list if they are currently eligible. If they aren’t currently eligible, don’t put them on the eligibility report. They’re still members, just not listed this term. The reports MUST include first and last names, major, month and class year, whether they are a junior or senior, and their email addresses.

Make sure you ask the person who gets the list for you to include that information. If it’s not included, you will have problems filling out the online eligibility report. Each chapter has a different place to get the list. For some of you, it will be the chapter’s chief advisor. Others will go to the Registrar’s office. Some will get the information from the Dean’s office. Many times, it is a secretary or administrative assistant who gets the list for you and the same person does it consistently year after year. Make friends with that person. Tau Beta Pi probably isn’t the only organization requesting items or help. Thank the person for their assistance.

After you get the list, it can be uploaded into the Tau Beta Pi spreadsheet; include current members. It is easier for the officers if the spreadsheet is populated with the current members so the names are exactly like they are in our membership system. Make sure that you delete those members who weren’t in the top percentile of the report AND that current members aren’t on the report twice. You will also need to include certain information, for example: 250 seniors, the top 1/5 of which is 50 and 200 juniors, the top 1/8 of which is 40. After you’ve done that, submit the spreadsheet to tbp@tbp.org or Rebecca@tbp.org. After it is received, it will be downloaded into the membership system. Your chapter will receive a message that the report is in draft status. You must do what the message says and then click Submit to HQ button or the chapter will receive a reminder that the report hasn’t been submitted yet. Please note that each member’s name MUST be listed on the report exactly like it is in our membership database or the system won’t accept them as a member when the spreadsheet is downloaded into the system. If your chapter is small, it is easier for you to fill out the eligibility report manually than it is to do the spreadsheet.

The chapter should get to know the potential members. Talk to the candidates. Larger chapters can break the list into smaller pieces and have chapter members personally contact the eligible candidates. Each student who is eligible should be contacted.

Have them do projects (but not so many that their school work suffers). Four to six hours of projects should be sufficient. Not all chapters have their candidates do projects.

Most chapters won’t elect everyone. If non-members aren’t elected, they have to be marked Rejected on the Report of Election. There is information on the report that explains the rejection codes.

The Constitution & Bylaws states that your Report of Election MUST be received at HQ two weeks BEFORE your initiation. However, if you want keys and certificates to hand out at initiation, it is four weeks. It takes our vendor three weeks to make the keys and you also have to allow time for shipping. It is to a chapter’s advantage to make arrangements for distribution of keys and certificates at initiation. Please note that each electee should fill out their own catalog card online; not the chapter. This is the reason you need their email address. There is a place on the catalog card web page for the chapter to send an email to each electee asking them to fill out their cards. Give them a deadline. A couple of days before the deadline, check to see if everyone has filled out their card. If not, send another email. It will only go to those whose card hasn’t been filled out. Approval can be given if the cards haven’t been filled out, but it’s preferred that all of the cards be filled out. DO NOT HOLD AN UNAPPROVED INITIATION. Six unapproved initiations were held during 2012-13. That is unacceptable, especially since the previous year, none were held.

At least a week before, preferably two, check your initiation equipment. Ensure the lights are working. Also make sure you have all the information that is needed in the ritual. Find your roll book. Please don’t wait until the day before or the day of your initiation to contact HQ stating that you need something. It’s almost impossible for us to get items to you in that short amount of time. No one should come into the ceremony after it has started. Always have someone at the door to prevent that, and ONLY TBP members are allowed in the ceremony. Don’t start serving food or letting anyone leave until the roll book has been signed. If they don’t sign the roll book, they’re not considered members.

After the initiation, the Report of Final Action should be filled out and submitted to HQ. If someone wasn’t initiated, the chapter needs to mark them either Refused (A) for lack of interest, Refused (B) for financial reasons (loans are available to help pay initiation fees), or postponed. A date must be keyed in if someone is postponed. It is a tentative date because we know that most of you won’t know the exact date of your next initiation. After initiation, email, mail, or fax a copy of your rollbook signatures. Names should be printed beside each signature. If not, a list of the names in the order the initiates signed must be included.

The Constitution & Bylaws states that the initiation fees are due two weeks after your initiation, see B-V, 5.03(e). An extension can be given, BUT HQ needs to know the amount of time you need. The fee is $39.00 per initiate. If you go through one of the offices at school and are required to have a statement, we are working on sending the chapter a statement electronically immediately after the Final Action is submitted. However, if the chapter doesn’t submit the Final Action in a timely manner, your fees will be late. HQ can also email you a statement following the initiation, if you aren’t able to submit the Final Action immediately. To receive a statement in that manner, email Rebecca with the number of people that were initiated.
Tau Beta Pi Fellowship Reports

Below are fellow reports from the 2011-12 and 2012-13 recipients. These reports are the only specific obligation that Fellows have to the Association after their appointment by the Fellowship Board.

The verb tenses may sound wrong when read due to the timing of when these reports were written. Each of the recipients expresses appreciation to their advisors, teachers, family, friends, Tau Beta Pi, donors, and the Fellowship Board for the honor of being named a Tau Beta Pi Fellow. You are encouraged to visit the TBP website to read all of the reports. (2011-12 and 2012-13)

TBP Fellows 2011-12

Matthew T. Grant, OK I ’11
Fife Fellow No. 142

After earning a B.S. in chemical engineering with minors in economics and Spanish from Oklahoma State University, I completed a year-long master’s in bioscience enterprise at the University of Cambridge. My experience has been life changing, and this opportunity would not have been possible without the support and generosity of TBP.

My class was comprised of twenty-five students from sixteen countries, expanding my learning well beyond the classroom. Since my studies focused on global healthcare and entrepreneurship, the international perspective was immensely valuable.

For my dissertation I researched the clinical decision making, reimbursement pathways, and market data for a medical device known as the Cytosponge. The device will be used to screen and to assist in the diagnosis of several gastroenterological disorders. My work outlined a launch strategy to introduce the device into a few European nations, while also exploring additional development criteria to encourage adoption by physicians.

My course covered many topics that combined my background in engineering and my future career as a physician. I know that my year in Cambridge will prove immeasurably useful for my professional and personal development. For this, I cannot fully express my gratitude to TBP. Now that I have completed my M.Phil., I will begin my medical education at Baylor College of Medicine in July 2012.

Raguez Taha, IL Z ’11
Fife Fellow No. 150

I began my graduate career enrolled in a professional master’s program in structural engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology. After attending the Structures Congress 2012, I became more interested in pursuing research.

Shortly after the conference, I was approached by my professor about a research opportunity in the area of structural reliability, which I immediately accepted. The research will be an investigation of the correlation between probability and possibility approaches in structural reliability analysis.

I will finish my M.S. in civil engineering in December, after which I will spend some time working in the industry. After gaining some technical experience, I would like to come back to academia to pursue a Ph.D. and eventually become a professor.

Because of the generosity of Tau Beta Pi and constant encouragement from passionate professors, I have been given a great opportunity to continue my education. I hope with the degree I earn, I will be able to make important contributions to the field of structural engineering.

TBP Fellows 2012-13

Erinn C. Dandley, MA Z’12
TBP Fellows No. 793

After my first year at North Carolina State University my pursuit of a Ph.D. in chemical engineering is off to an excellent start. In addition to the Tau Beta Pi fellowship, I was awarded the College of Engineering Graduate Merit Award and an NCSU Graduate Research Fellowship.

I was accepted into the Parsons group; the focus of our research is atomic layer deposition (ALD). It allows for angstrom length scale precision in the formation of thin films. I am using this technique to study the toxicity of carbon nanotubes that have been coated using ALD in a lung model to see how the coating will affect pulmonary fibrosis formation. I am also using ALD to create an ultra light nanolattice for NASA that has optimized thermal, optical, and mechanical properties.

Being able to focus on multiple projects at once has helped me to find connections in disparate areas and answer questions more efficiently. My career goal is to become an engineering consultant so that I can resolve different problems on a day to day basis.

In addition to research and classes I have been able to maintain a well rounded life. I am able to go on hikes, go to concerts, travel to see family and friends, garden, and rock climb.

Kalman A. Katlowitz, NY I’12
Nagel Fellow No. 15

As an M.D./Ph.D. student at NYU, I am offered the opportunity to straddle both the research and treatment sides of medicine. Last summer, I began examining how cooling the cortex of the brain locally could change the temporal dynamics of various thalamocortical patterns. I then continued with a year of medical school courses, studying everything from anatomy to biochemistry. Far more than rote learning, we had the opportunity to put what we learned into practice. Every week my classmates and I would have the opportunity to interact with patients. We would treat, watch, listen, and learn what it means to be a doctor from the patient’s perspective.

This summer I am back studying neuroscience, investigating the spatial relationships of the neuronal assemblies responsible for voice production in both humans and songbirds. This knowledge will provide insight into the encoding of learned movements.

All of this comes together for my career goals. I truly believe that the next frontier of medicine will be in refining the human body, not only to replace what is lost but also to enhance what is already present. With a dual degree as both a physician and a researcher, I will be able to treat and improve my patients. I use my engineering background every day; whether it is encoding custom algorithms to process voice snippets or even simply calculating the torque on a ligament during a sports injury, it is thanks to my engineering background that I can do what I love.
This special member discount is eight percent in most states and is available to qualified members in 45 states and the District of Columbia. In addition, GEICO offers many other money-saving discounts and a choice of convenient payment plans, 24-hour access for sales, service, and claims, and a nationwide network of claims adjusters.

Call 800/368-2734 to see what savings your membership could bring. If you currently have a GEICO policy, identify yourself as a Tau Bate to see if you are eligible for the member discount or go to www.geico.com for a free rate quote.
Communication is Key

With Your Potential Members

Do you tell them to just show up for initiation three days later? NO! You invite them to an informational meeting to talk about Tau Beta Pi and give them materials and more info. Do you invite your members and advisors (and dean if a member) to speak and tell about their experiences in Tau Beta Pi? Think about it – it’s a good idea! Let everyone know when, where to report, what to wear, that non-member guests are not allowed in the ceremony, etc.

With Headquarters

We don’t know that you need help if you don’t tell us. Please read and answer any email that comes from HQ. We may have questions that need answers, and if we don’t know you are having problems, we can’t help you. If you can’t make a report deadline, contact Rebecca before the deadline. Do NOT initiate without approval from HQ! Check with Rebecca at 1-800-TAU-BETA at least a couple days before your initiation to make sure you are approved.

On Your Campus

After your officer meeting or during a break between classes, take a walk around your campus and see if you can tell there is a Tau Beta Pi chapter on your campus. Are there posters? A display case? A Bent monument? Order free posters from HQ and post them around your engineering buildings (after getting approval, of course). Have you met the Dean? Do they know Tau Beta Pi exists on their campus?

“I Didn’t Know”

Be organized for your meetings. Communicate! Discuss topics with your fellow officers and advisors. Send emails to the membership on meetings and the minutes from those meetings for those who couldn’t attend. Put up posters to publicize your events. Get the word out! Put “I didn’t know about that” out of existence!

Creating & Maintaining a Chapter Website

The Internet has changed today’s communication and recruitment strategies. It is important that Tau Beta Pi chapters have an online presence. Prospective members at your university will likely search the web for information about our Association and your specific chapter as soon as they find out they are eligible to join.

First, do your homework and determine the simplest route for your chapter to create a website. In the past, schools would often offer space on their server for campus organizations to have a website. Unfortunately, that trend is reversing.

There are still options available at little or no cost to the chapter. Your decision should be based on experience level with website design, the amount of expected content (including pictures), and a budget.

Using free hosting sites such as WordPress and Google’s Blogger/Sites are ideal because they are simple to create, easy to manage, and in most cases free, unless you want to purchase a personal URL. Here are some current examples: California Mu (WordPress), FL Iota (Google Sites), & District 6 (Wordpress).

If your university offers student organizations a presence within the school’s web services, it is definitely worth the effort. It is even better if you are fortunate enough and have the chapter resources to host your own website.

Here are some basic guidelines, rules, and tips for creating and maintaining a positive web presence.

- Be sure that the login and password information is stored in a secure location that can be accessed by at least two members, other than the webmaster, and for future chapter leaders.
- Start simple, your site does not need to be huge. Focus on a historical page, an officers page (with contact info), and a calendar.
- Be professional, do not post obscene content or lewd images. Your site is a direct reflection on the Association and its 500,000 members. Designating those in the chapter that can make changes helps ensure quality content.
- Be creative, the great part about Tau Beta Pi websites is that they reflect the ingenuity and the personality of the chapter and its members.
- Finally, do not forget about your website! It makes a bad first impression when the ‘last modified’ date is more than two years old.

I encourage you to visit the Tau Beta Pi collegiate chapters list to view other chapter websites. If you have questions or concerns, contact dylan@tbp.org. Please keep HQ updated on any changes in chapter website URLs.
New Insignia

The Tau Beta Pi General Store has new merchandise. The Greg Norman white golf shirt has the Association’s logo embroidered onto a 100 percent polyester, Play Dry moisture management pique knit body with UPF 50+, and the shark logo on the back neck. The Greg Norman black golf shirt has the Association’s logo embroidered onto a 60 percent cotton and 40 percent polyester double tuck pique knit body, rib-knit collar, and striped twill tape in neck and vents. A black coffee mug with two-sided print and renewed classic design.

![Greg Norman Golf Shirt](image1)

ACHS Adviser Grant Program

The Association of College Honor Societies would like to share information about the 2013-14 Adviser Grant Program with Tau Beta Pi chapters. The goal of the grant program is to encourage cross-campus collaboration and new initiatives among student organizations related to social responsibility through service learning. The deadline to electronically submit proposals is October 15, 2013.

This year there are six $500 grants available. Participating groups must conduct initiative or pilot project related to social responsibility or strengthen current social responsibility or sustainability initiatives. Funds for the project should be provided by the honor societies (such as Greater Interest in Government grant) or through fundraising activities. Winners of the grant will receive a monetary award after the final project report is received. For more information visit the [ACHS website](http://www.achs.org).

Hoodies available in the following colors: deep forest green; black; light blue; navy; grey; maroon. Check website or contact TBP HQ as some sizes are SOLD OUT.

If your chapter is interested in placing a large order, discounts apply. Contact [angie@tbp.org](mailto:angie@tbp.org) for details.

![Hoodies](image2)

![MUG](image3)
Important Chapter Officer Information

- Chapter officers, please make every effort to ensure that keys and certificates are distributed to your new initiates. If a recent initiate places an order with HQ for these items (because they were not distributed by the chapter) the chapter will be charged – key is $29 and certificate is $13. Keep in mind that new initiates are proud to be a member of TBP and will want to wear their key and display their certificate. Also, if you have keys and certificates that have not been distributed, please contact HQ for address information.

- Please review the TBP website at the chapter materials order and general store pages under stoles and honor cords. Many chapters have placed a restriction on HQ selling individual honor cords and stoles to student members. This is the chapters’ responsibility to notify members of this policy. If you would like your chapter added or removed from this list, contact HQ.

Current Member Benefits

- **GEICO**—additional discounts on automobile insurance.

- **Linked-In**—join 14,000 members in our official group for professional networking and career discussions. (Search: Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society)

- **LTCFP**—long-term care outreach and education program with access to favorable rates on long-term care insurance.

- **My Home Benefits**—moving discounts & real-estate services.

- **PPI**—discounts on professional licensing exam review materials (FE/EIT, PE, LEED, & more).

- **TBP Job Board**—post a resume online and browse through hundreds of engineering jobs at top companies.

- **TBP Hotel Discount**—members now have access to a worldwide inventory of hotels at discounted rates. Book today and save an average of 10-20 percent.
Member News

Laureates: In June, five Tau Beta Pi Laureates were selected and will be recognized at the 2013 Convention. They are Michael R. Lacey, SC G ’13; Darick W. LaSelle, CO E ’13; Benjamin B. Macy, IN D ’13; Glenn M. Miltenberg, CO Z ’13; and Adam R. Pizzaia, NJ B ’13.

Outstanding Advisor: Bruce L. Walcott, Ph.D., IN A ’81, was chosen as the 2013 Outstanding Advisor. He is Chief Advisor to Kentucky Alpha.

Scholars: The Association announced 210 Scholars for the 2013-14 academic year. Read the press release on the website and look for short bios to be available in September.

Fellows: The 80th class of TBPI Fellows was announced in May. Bios available in the Summer issue of THE BENT and online.

Academic All-Americans: Track & Field/Cross Country – Russell E. Drummond, CO A ’13; Christopher D. Galvin, MD G ’13; Evan M. Gates, PA G ’13.

You can find daily information on the Association’s blog and press releases on the Tau Beta Pi website.

Interact with Alumni

Networking events are catching on for students and alumni. (See page 11 for the recent Central Florida gathering.) Consider these items when planning your event:

1. Will you be mailing invitations or emailing and posting to social media only? What is your budget?
2. Will you have food?
3. Are you inviting alumni? If so, they need some advance notice (your members probably do too) to make arrangements for child care, schedule changes, etc. Mailed invitations sent bulk mail through HQ needs to go out 4-5 weeks before the event, while emailed invitations can be closer to the date (no less than 2 weeks out).
4. What type of event will you have? Mixer? BBQ? Speed networking? A speaker?
5. What type of room is needed for this event?
6. What is the final cost? Do you need to charge a fee to cover costs?

For help with invitations or alumni lists, or for any questions regarding alumni, email Tricia Gomulinski, Director of Alumni Affairs, at tricia@tbp.org.

Pi Day 2014

A heads-up to all Tau Beta Pi chapters. This year the Association will encourage all of its members, students, and alumni, to take part in activities on Pi Day, March 14. This new initiative will include members wearing their Bent-keys and/or apparel with the TBPI logo and the Bent.

We suggest that chapters place TBPI apparel orders in advance to ensure that you have these items in plenty of time to wear on Pi Day. Bulk item discounts available.

Chapters are also encouraged to host events on March 14 and to publicize these opportunities to participate around the college and the community.

We would also like to hear about your activities to publish in future issues of THE BENT and Bulletin. The hope is that all members will take advantage of the annual celebration to publicize Tau Beta Pi and help promote our Society.

Facebook for Presidents

For the fall 2013 academic year, Tau Beta Pi has created a Facebook group for TBPI Presidents.

The group will have many benefits to members and their respective chapters. This is a great opportunity for TBPI Presidents to collaborate together, share ideas and wisdom, and of course network with other leaders of the Association.

Current Indiana Beta Chapter President Katherine A. Moravec proposed the idea to Tau Beta Pi Headquarters as she has experience with a similar Facebook group created for her sorority, of which she is vice president.

This group will be for Tau Beta Pi members only. Administrators must approve membership into the group, but any current member can invite someone to join. If a chapter would like to have more than one member in the group, please contact dylan@tbp.org.

If the group is successful, it would be useful for incoming chapter presidents to join the group shortly before they undertake the new leadership position. This would offer them another resource to ask questions and get helpful insight.
Alumni Activity Recap

At the Spice Modern Steakhouse in downtown Orlando, FL, on July 19, the Central Florida Alumni Chapter hosted a speed networking event that gave students the opportunity to sit with TBPI alumni from various industries and ask career questions, interviewing tips, and work place details. The successful and fun night included a visit from the Association’s Advisors Recruitment Development Committee (ARDC), which was also in town.

Those in attendance included: (ARDC members visiting Orlando identified in bold). (Left to Right)

Front Row: Bob Ward, Caroline Burnett (FL H), Emily Hester (FL A), Jennifer Pazour (SD A), Vincent Tang (FL A).

Middle Row: Ben Clark (PA B), Kyle Taniguchi (FL G), Solange Dao-TBPI Vice President, Menna Youssef, LeVern Faidley, Clay Sherrod (TX A).


Two student guests from the University of Central Florida also participated.

Important Dates

• Sept. 30 Convention Travel Plans
• Oct. 15 Fall Officer Report
• Oct. 15 Officer Signatures Form
• Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 Convention Ames, IA

• Submit Report of Eligibility online as soon as list is available within first 5 weeks of term
• Submit IRS Form 990-N on 15th day of 5th month after close of fiscal year

Subscriptions to THE BENT of Tau Beta Pi

Annual subscriptions to this excellent publication are only $10 and are also available to non-members.

Tau Beta Pi members are encouraged to purchase life subscriptions to THE BENT which are $60. Fully paid subscribers will be sent a copy of our quarterly magazine for life. The unused portion of the four-year subscription you received as part of your initiation fee may be applied toward a life subscription, which may be paid over a five-year period. A service charge of $2.50 is added to the $60.

Fall Officer Reports Due Soon

The Fall Contact Information update is due 5 weeks from the start of the fall term (a change this year). Please verify the contact information for all officers and update the shipping address.

The officer signatures form must be postmarked by October 15. Every chapter must submit this report. Download the form here.

Got Engineering Futures?

Bring the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Futures Program to your campus. There is no cost to your chapter; you just need to get students to attend.

Contact Sherry King (sherry@tbp.org) today about hosting an EF session.

The program won the American Society of Engineering Education Corporate Member Council’s 2007 Excellence in Engineering Education Collaboration Award. This recognition validated two decades of effort by facilitators since 1988. Approximately 3,100 engineering students annually participate in 234 sessions to learn interpersonal skills.

[Read more about EF at www.tbp.org/EF.]