The Cornerstone

Volume 36, Issue 5 **February 24th, 2026**

Tau Beta Pi
The Engineering Honor Society

Letter From the Historian

Hello Tau Beta Pi actives! I hope you are faring well so far this midterm season. Spring break is already beginning soon, so hang in there!

Now for the agenda of this meeting. This meeting is going to be an important one where we will be voting on our future initiates. Below, you will find attached the Tau Beta Pi Eligibility Code for your convenience. Please read over the Eligibility Code before voting on the eligibility of the electees who had been interviewed.

Again, thank you very much to those who have conducted the interviews. We truly appreciate your service and assistance. You will be on your way to achieving DA/PA status by the end of the semester.

Other than voting on initiates, we will also be voting on the constitution and bylaws changes approved by the 2025 convention. We thank you for your patience.

As always, feel free to reach out to any of us for any questions or concerns, and we hope you have a fun voting meeting today. Forever and always, Go Blue!

- Chayut (Peak) Shinawatra

In This Issue

Meeting Agenda

- Officer Updates
- Leadership Spotlights
- Electee Interviews - Best Practices
- Review of Voting Procedure
- Ratification of Amendments from Convention

Upcoming Events

- Coffee Social III: 2/25, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- Grad Game Night I: 2/25, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Game Night III: 2/26, 5:30 - 8:00 PM
- Unitea Social: 2/27, 11:30 - 12:30 PM

The Eligibility Code of The Tau Beta Pi Association
(Adopted by the 1926 Convention)

In order that there may be a more uniform basis for selection of members for Tau Beta Pi, these suggestions are offered. It is expected that a copy of this statement be given to each active member before every election, and it may at times serve as a general expression of our policy in the selection of members.

It is the purpose of the Society to mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their alma mater by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character as students, or by their attainments as alumni.

Distinguished scholarship, while the primary requisite for admission, must not be considered the sole criterion.

After the scholastic requirements have been fulfilled, the selection shall be based on integrity, breadth of interest both inside and outside of engineering, adaptability, and unselfish activity.

We consider that true integrity is the sine qua non for membership in Tau Beta Pi, that it transcends in importance scholarship, activity, and every other qualification. Without private and public integrity, we believe that no organization is worthy of existence. Under integrity, we include honor and high standards of truth and justice. Breadth of interest sufficient for eligibility in this Association will enable people to maintain their positions in their community by the exercise of qualities other than engineering ability.

True engineers must be able to adapt themselves ingeniously to all circumstances and conditions, making them conform to the desired purpose.

The rating of people on the degree of unselfish activity manifested, is intended to indicate that Tau Beta Pi believes that none can become worthy engineers without the welfare of associates, organizations, and the community at heart. It is furthermore expected that they display willingness to aid and assist in worthy causes by their actual campus record. However, the fact that people may not have shown unselfish activity to an appreciable degree throughout their courses of study is no infallible indication that they would not if the opportunity offered. The most conspicuous illustrations of this are those students who are self supporting, for which due allowance must be made and due credit given. In fine, it is in this capacity for the unstinted giving of their best, without thought of remuneration, that we believe lies one of the most sensitive tests for determining candidates' rights to bear the name and wear the Bent of Tau Beta Pi.

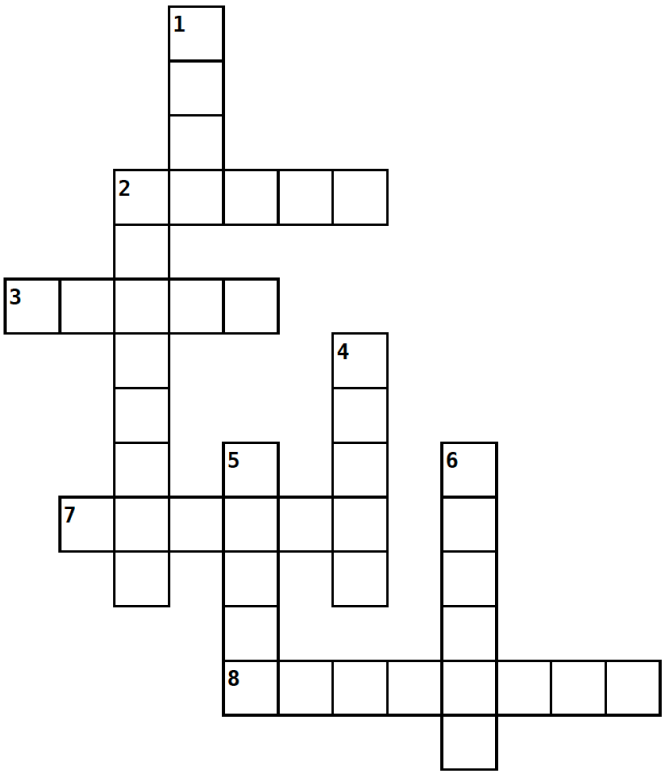
One Minute Reads

Ah, the Olympic Games, an age-old event known for sportsmanship, unity, and the flame lit in Olympia, Greece, said to burn throughout the entire Games. However, did you know that many of these supposedly unquenchable flames have actually gone out? At the 1976 Montreal Olympics, a storm extinguished it. During the 2008 Beijing Olympics relay, protests in Paris forced officials to repeatedly douse and relight the torch. And in the lead-up to the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, the flame reportedly went out dozens of times due to wind and technical issues. So really, while the Olympic flame symbolizes something eternal, in reality it survives, like the tradition itself, not by never going out, but by being relit again and again.

The Best Puzzles

						6	3	
				7				9
1	4	9		6			7	
2			3		7		5	
	7		8		1			2
	5			3		4	6	8
8				4				
	3	1						

4	1		7	2				
3		5	6		9			2
						9		
	9				2	1		
5		7				2		8
		2	9				7	
		1						
2			8		7	4		6
				3	4		2	9



Across

2. What we are playing for

3. It carries the flame.

7. Three stands here; one stands the tallest.

8. An interesting way to hit a wall headfirst, going downhill.

Down

1. Going down the pipe at speed, feet first.

2. Makes you regret signing up for this halfway through.

4. Lit at Olympia.

5. Five of them interlock for unity.

6. We just won a gold for the first time in a long time against the syrup-loving champion.

Please contribute to the Cornerstone, scan the QR code! Send us puzzles (or suggestions), topics you are interested to read about, events/organizations you want to promote, or even your own section.

The Back-Page issue:

ISSUE 3: What the Cabin Walls Retained

During the night after the incident, I returned alone to Mr. Finchley's cabin. It had been left undisturbed since the body was removed, as I had instructed. The room was frigid, the porthole window left ajar, the cold wind of the North Sea buffeting the curtains inward. In my investigations, I have often found that rooms retain something of the moment of the incident within them. This one retained silence amid wrecked furniture and a blood-stained carpet.

The chalk outline marked where Finchley had lain beside his writing desk. The blood beneath that position had pooled darkly into the carpet, thick and concentrated, though not entirely confined. A smear crossed the lower edge of the desk, as though a hand had slid against it. One sheet of correspondence lay half-crumpled beneath the blotter, marked by a partial print in dried red.

There were no signs of a prolonged struggle, no overturned tables, no shattered glass beyond the watch, and yet the room felt disordered in smaller ways. One drawer had been drawn sharply from its track, the wooden runner cracked near the joint. The ink bottle had tipped and dried in a crooked trail across several documents. The chair beside the desk lay broken, one leg snapped unevenly; splinters showered the floorboards.

The desk drawers contained what one might expect of a man accustomed to contracts and leverage. Among the scattered papers was a draft letter addressed to the Royal Star Line. The language was severe.

"…demonstrable laxity in cold-weather preparation…"

"…assurances given personally by Captain Rotherham…"

"…liability should crew negligence endanger passengers…"

The lines were underlined with sharp pressure. It was not difficult to imagine the conversation that might have preceded such a document.

On the bedside stand, the teacup delivered by the steward rested upright. It was empty, too empty. The porcelain bore no dried tea ring along its inner wall. The saucer beneath it, however, showed faint discoloration where liquid had once pooled. The teapot rested beside it, also empty. Its interior was damp but otherwise unremarkable. There was no scent of bitter almond, nor any visible film upon the porcelain.

Near the porthole, the wood of the sill was stiff to the touch. Brown streaking had dried along the grain beneath the latch. Several droplets of a similarly colored liquid clung to the brass rim of the open window, as though something had been knocked or cast in that direction.

The watch lay beside the body's former outline, the chain still attached, resting neatly nearby. Its crystal had fractured, though the casing itself bore surprisingly little distortion. The hands were stopped at 1:14 AM. Whether the fall had jarred the mechanism or whether some earlier blow had done so, I could not determine.

The violence itself had been close. There were no bruises upon the knuckles, no torn nails, no clear indication that Finchley had grappled long with his attacker. If he had resisted, it would have been an overwhelmingly one-sided affair.

The lamp bracket remained secured and properly trimmed. No sign of tampering presented itself there.

Nothing suggested forced entry. Nothing suggested robbery. And yet what lingered in the cabin was not the mark of intrusion, but the remnant of something personal.