

Alumni Notes

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Letter from the Editor

Hello TBP MI-G Alumni!

Our active members and electees were very busy in the month of February. This alumni newsletter highlights some of the many professional development, social, and service events that our members participated in.

Additionally, it takes a look at one of the major changes that has been implemented in our electee process: the mentorship program. We started the program in February 2018, pairing each electee with an active mentor.

The Officer Corps would also like to acknowledge this year's TBP award winners. The recipients of the First Year Award are Benjamin Puzycki, Aditya Ravi, and Cesar Mu. The recipients of the Tom S. Rice Tau Beta Pi Award are Kumar Aanjaneya and Joshua Polzin. The recipient of the Tau Beta Pi Michigan Gamma Scholarship is Almira Dogruyol.

**Alexandria Bopp,
Historian**

MLK Luncheon

The following is an excerpt from a Michigan Daily article written by Angelina Little. Check out the full article to learn more about the event: <http://bit.ly/TBP-MLKLuncheon>

On Wednesday, about 50 people gathered for the first in a series of luncheons in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Lurie Biomedical



Photo Credit: Ruchita Iyer/Daily

Engineering Building. The event was hosted by the Center for Engineering Diversity and Outreach and Tau Beta Pi, an engineering honors society.

The event began with a presentation by two executive board members of WeListen, a club that strives to bridge the political divide through respectful discussion of controversial issues. Engineering junior Arushi Agarwal, the campus outreach officer for Tau Beta Pi and organizer of the luncheon, introduced the speakers with a brief explanation of the purpose of the luncheon.

MLK Luncheon Continued

“One of Tau Beta Pi’s missions is to expand the knowledge and understanding of engineers beyond technical fields, so that is one of the missions of this luncheon series,” Agrawal said.

While presenting, WeListen Deputy Finance chair Kate Nachazel addressed the hesitance engineering students might have about a politically-focused club, and ensured them all students are encouraged to participate regardless of prior knowledge.

“We bring students from all across campus, all majors, all backgrounds, any person who’s interested,” Nachazel said.

Agrawal told The Daily after the event that having WeListen representatives speak at the luncheon served to help broaden student involvement outside of engineering.

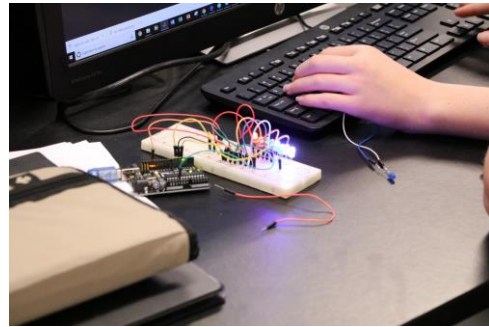
“I think the goal (of the luncheon series) is really to give engineers exposure to something beyond just technical fields,” Agrawal said.

“Usually it’s focused towards something that MLK exemplified — diversity, inclusion, something like that.”

Read the full article at <http://bit.ly/TBP-MLKLuncheon>

Merit Badge Day

On Sunday February 24, Tau Beta Pi MI-Γ hosted 14 Boy Scouts in the Lurie Biomedical Sciences building. The scouts spent the day learning about engineering, electronics, programming, and digital technology, earning four merit badges along the way.



The scouts were boys and girls between 4th and 8th grade, coming from as far as Toledo, Ohio.

Highlights of the event included teaching scouts to solder, helping them program an Arduino to display flashing lights, and the scouts creating a PowerPoint presentation to summarize the day's events.



**Reed Yalisove,
Chapter Development Officer**

Yost Ice Skating

TBP members went to Yost Ice Arena for an ice-skating social event.



Kiwanis Thrift Store

TBP sent volunteers to help out at Kiwanis Thrift Store. The thrift store is run by over 160 volunteers, 5 full time and 4 part time staff. Volunteers and staff work to take in donations from the community, clean, and fix those items before selling them at a discounted price or sending them to families in need and local non-profit organizations. Last year, \$83,800 worth of household goods were distributed to families in need and \$74,000 worth of furniture and supplies were given to non-profit organizations. All proceeds from the sale go back to local community. This includes \$69,000 in college scholarships for high school graduates in 2018. Other organizations supported by the Kiwanis are Meals on Wheels and C.S. Mott Children's Hospital Child and Family Life Services Program.

Brittany Rupp,
Campus Outreach Chair

Career Guidance Workshop with Dinkar

TBP hosted an informal career guidance workshop with U of M alum Dinkar Jain. Dinkar is a 2006 Michigan alumnus, and has worked with BCG, Google, Twitter and Amazon -- and currently is the Head of Artificial Intelligence at Facebook Ads. He's spoken at various global conferences like South by South West. On campus, Dinkar studied at Ross, LS&A and the College of Engineering (EECS).



Blood Drive

TBP and Blood Drives United (BDU) jointly hosted a blood drive at Pierpont Commons to supply much-needed blood to the Red Cross. It was part of the "We Challenge You!" series of blood drives at the University of Michigan, Michigan State, Penn State, Oakland University and Notre Dame where the goal is to collect more pints of blood than our rival schools.

TBP Mentorship Program



In Winter 2018, the chapter first piloted a Chapter Mentorship Program, aimed at creating links between active members and electees in order to foster community within the chapter. That semester, 14 mentor-mentee pairs were made and the pairs were required to meet one-on-one at least once during the semester.

After this successful pilot period, the Chapter Mentorship Program was rolled out in full force during Fall 2018, requiring electee participation and strongly encouraging actives to participate by making it a requirement for the ever-present carrot, Distinguished & Prestigious Active status. In Fall 2018 there were 84 electees paired with active member mentors and the pairs were again required to meet one-on-one.

TBP Mentorship Program Continued

This semester, Winter 2019, the program is again required but with fewer electees. This term there are 38 pairs, and a new element of the program has been added: a Kick-Off Event! At the Mentorship Kick-Off pairs were revealed with a “what am I?” game where images of characters/things were taped to each person’s back and they had to discover what/who they were by asking other people Yes or No questions.

Once a person had an idea of what/who they were, they could find their “match” (or sometimes competitor, i.e. Coke & Pepsi) and the mentor/mentee pair was



revealed. Some highlights included: Harry, Ron, and Hermione from Harry Potter for a group of 3, AirPods and a Canada Goose jacket, and a couple of other meme-themed pairs. Once pairs were revealed, there was a period for mingling and then a few games of charades before most people headed down to central campus for a TG at Cantina. All in all, the group had fun and the Mentorship Kick-Off will definitely be something that continues in the future along with the Mentorship Program!

Joanna Ciatti,
Advisor