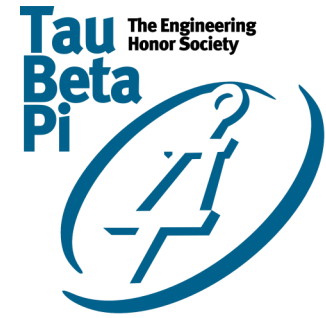


# Alumni Notes



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MI-Gamma

## A Letter From the Editor

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The Fall 2014 semester has been wonderful so far. As a chapter we have already accomplished so much, not to mention all of the exciting projects on the horizon. In a mere month and a half we have hosted book swap, cohosted career fair, attended convention, begun the process of electing almost 100 new members, and done so much more. You can read more about these accomplishments inside.

The future looks bright for Michigan Gamma. Stay tuned for the rest of the semester to see just how far we will go.

*Stephanie Miller, Historian*

## Michigan Gamma Won Convention: It's True

What is Tau Beta Pi Convention but tradition? Voting delegates shout at the top of their lungs, "MICHIGAN GAMMA [or other chapter name] SECONDS!" just to get their name in the minutes. People clap once, or give an 'applau' as some might say, for efficiency. Delegates from chapters around the country give each other advice during Inter-Chapter Exchange, or ICE, sessions.

One tradition within Michigan Gamma holds that the MI-G voting delegate serves as chair, vice-chair, or secretary of a committee. MI-G's voting delegate, Kelsey Hockstad, was elected Chair of the 2016 National Convention Site Committee. After Kelsey presented the committee's recommendation to the convention floor, there was very little debate, and San Diego, CA was selected as the convention site for the 2016 Tau Beta Pi Convention by an overwhelming majority.

On the second day of Convention, we were granted the following awards, each of which serve as a qualifier for the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award: the Secretary's Commendation, for prompt and perfect completion of all required reports; the Membership Award, for success in the mission to "initiate one more member"; and the Project Award, for conducting a wide breadth of impactful projects. This year marked the first time that the Michigan Gamma chapter received the Membership Award since the award was instituted in 2010. The chapter also received its 16th consecutive Project Award for performing 80 credited projects, including organizing and hosting the annual SWE/TBP Career Fair which is the largest collegiate career fair in Michigan and serves to bring over 300 companies to campus. The chapter also initiated a weekly study break called Tuesday Breakfast Parties (TBP) wherein members of the chapter distribute bagels, free of charge, to community members on Tuesday mornings. Further, in honor of March 14th, or Pi Day, the chapter hosted a new event on campus, which included providing free pie from the Achatz Handmade Pie Company as well as building a mural containing the first 49 digits of pi. Michigan Gamma's service events routinely extend beyond our campus including providing academic support to local college and high school students and hosting multiple MindSET educational modules for elementary school classes each year.

On the last night of Convention, the delegates from all chapters gathered at the Awards Banquet, where the major awards are presented. These awards include the R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award, the J.D. Froula Most Improved Membership Award, and the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award. For the first time since 1980, we had the honor of bringing home the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award. Now named in honor of former Executive Director of Tau Beta Pi, Robert Clayton "Red" Matthews, the award was established by the 1956 Convention. Awarded annually to a single chapter, the award recognizes a chapter's exemplification of the ideals of Tau Beta Pi.

In conferring the award, the 2014 Convention Awards Chair, Garrett Joyal from the New Jersey Alpha chapter, noted that:

*The awards committee was impressed by this chapter's unique and meaningful community service events, each of which was of exceptional quality. This chapter demonstrated a high value of integrity through several projects involving organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and the Boy Scouts of America. This chapter also excelled in social events, which have established bonds and friendships which will last their members a lifetime. This chapter's performance is the measure by which all other chapters should hold themselves to.*



The Michigan Gamma delegation at Tau Beta Pi National Convention in Spokane, WA poses with the R.C. Matthews Award. From left to right, the delegates are: Pritpaul Mahal, Michael Benson, Sylvia Domanico, Cameron McBride, Elson Liu, Kelsey Hockstad, Leo Devota, Scott Cooper, Mike Hand, and Stephanie Miller.

At the close of the Awards Banquet, the final tradition of Tau Beta Pi National Convention is to tie all the napkins in the banquet hall together, forming a giant napkin rope. The knotting process begins just after the convention goes finish dessert. Just before the end of the banquet, a delegate shouts to the convention chair "Point of personal privilege! Does anyone have a napkin?" At this point, the cheering Tau Bates lift the napkin rope high above their heads and celebrate the end of another successful convention. Our chapter may have cheered the loudest.

*Michael Benson, Mike Hand, and Kelsey Hockstad*

## Book Swap

The semester started off with the traditional TBP engineering Book Swap. The swap proved successful as we had over 300 students participate in buying and selling textbooks. The swap is a great way for students to put their used textbooks up for sale and also allows students to purchase books they may need for the coming semester at greatly reduced prices. The Book Swap is also an opportunity for members of Tau Beta Pi to provide a valuable service to the college and boost the public image of the organization at the same time. Overall, the swap went smoothly and was a success for Tau Beta Pi.

*Scott Cooper, Service Coordinator*

## 30th Career Fair

Each year, students prepare for the SWE/TBP Career Fair, one of the largest events within the College of Engineering, in hopes of landing the job or internship of their dreams. This year was no exception – the Society of Women Engineers and Tau Beta Pi collaborated again to host the 30<sup>th</sup> Career Fair and it was by all measures, a success! This was the largest Career Fair we have had yet at Michigan, with 341 companies and over 4,000 students attending the fair over two days. This surpassed last year's number of companies by more than 40.

Companies were placed in various buildings throughout north campus, including Pierpont, Duderstadt Center, EECS, Bob and Betty Beyster, DOW, and FXB. This year we added an exciting new space to the Career Fair, utilizing the first floor of the Chrysler Center.

We had outstanding support from SWE and TBP through both volunteers and chairs. There were 20 chairs and 175 volunteers, including members of other organizations, who helped make the event possible. In total, over 1,300 person hours were spent running the event!

Another new initiative that we launched this year was the distribution of Career Fair Resource Guides, put together by the Michigan Daily. These were short pamphlets which outlined some helpful tips for preparing for a successful fair for students attending, which ranged from interview and elevator pitch tips to a calendar of SWE/TBP corporate events. These guides were passed out to students in the Duderstadt Connector as they walked by to their classes. In addition, we built a new mobile-friendly website.

As in past years, we also hosted Career Fair Receptions, which are informal networking events where students have the opportunity to meet and talk with recruiters before they speak with them at the Career Fair the next day.

We had plenty of exciting memorabilia items to provide for the students as well, including Unilver water bottles, IBM travel mugs, Yelp mini-staplers, General Mills lunch bags and Intel flashlight-screwdrivers. The recruiters all got to enjoy delicious pie from Grand Traverse Pie Company at lunch. Overall, the Career Fair was a great experience from the perspectives of the students, the recruiters, the volunteers, the chairs, and of course, the directors. We can't wait to see what Career Fair 2015 will have in store!



SWE/TBP Career Fair Chairs

***Cameron McBride & Alyssa Woo, External Vice Presidents***

## Tuesday Breakfast Party

This semester, we are continuing Tuesday Breakfast Party, a weekly service event created last winter. The idea was inspired by Welcome Wednesdays, an event where the Alumni Center serves free bagels to students on Central Campus. With similar intentions, the Tuesday Breakfast Party aims to expand the sense of community among the students, faculty, and staff of University of Michigan's North Campus through people's mutual love of free bagels and hot coffee. In addition, Tuesday Breakfast Party has done a great job increasing Tau Beta Pi's exposure and presence to all of North Campus as well as multiple potential electees. Also, it provides a great atmosphere for our electees and actives to interact and get to know one another. Now two Tuesday Breakfast Parties into the semester, this event continues to be successful as we serve around 300 bagels every week.

*Adam Stewart, Operations Officer*

## Interest in Tau Beta Pi on the Rise

This semester, Tau Beta Pi has seen a significant increase in interest from both undergraduate and graduate candidates. At First General, we had a standing room crowd in 1013 DOW. In fact, we had so much interest, that we scheduled an alternate First General for the following day, which 20 more potential electees attended.



Electee Team Dog Eat Dave polishes the bent for points towards the Electee Team Competition

As a result, we have seen a recent record of electees. This semester, we have 63 undergraduate and 34 graduate electees, compared to the 48 undergraduate and 18 graduate electees initiated last fall. With a little under 100 electees, the future of the Michigan Gamma chapter is strong. Thus far electees have helped run one of the largest career fairs in our chapter's history, helped with Tech Day, are gearing up for MindSET, and attended a variety of social events. We are very excited to see what the new electee class will bring to Tau Beta Pi this semester, and in future years.

*Sylvia Domanico, Vice-President*

*Michael Benson, Graduate Student Vice-President*