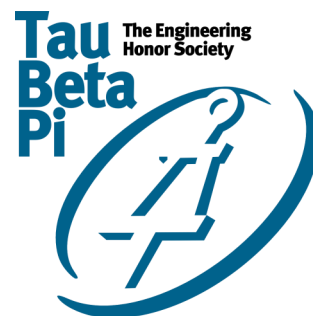


Alumni Notes



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MI-Gamma

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MI-G Celebrates Pi Day

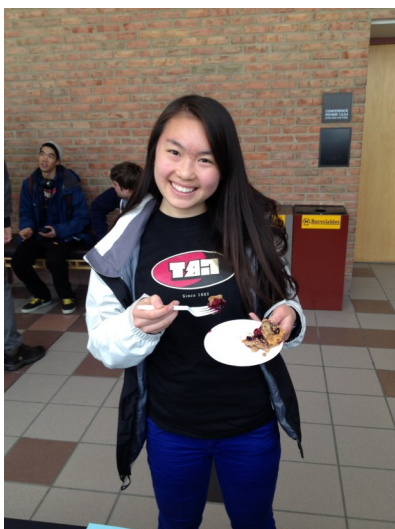
As part of the National Association's initiative to promote engineering on Pi Day, the MI-G chapter orchestrated two college-wide outreach projects to promote engineering and TBP on campus. In addition, electees and actives wore their TBP apparel throughout the day to expand awareness of the chapter for prospective members. Overall, the day was a great success and improved TBP's visibility on campus.



Above: TBP volunteers serve pie to students.

Tons of Pi(e)

Any Pi Day celebration would be incomplete without sweets, so it was only appropriate that the chapter give out pie to students, faculty, and staff as they passed through the Duderstadt Connector. We were fortunate to have Achatz Handmade Pie Co. graciously help supply us with 45 large pies — an assortment



Above: Alyssa Woo, EVP, enjoys her pie. College of Engineering community.

of Michigan 4-Berry, Apple, and Cherry — to serve the community at a tremendous discount in the spirit of Pi Day. When we started passing out slices at 11 am, we hoped that the desserts would last until 3:14 pm. Unsurprisingly, North Campus was buzzing with activity as several other organizations had also coordinated Pi Day events. Our servers could hardly keep up with demand, running out of the especially popular Michigan 4-Berry pies in what seemed like minutes and serving the rest of the pies by 1:30 pm. Altogether, TBP provided pie to over 500 hungry and appreciative members of our

MI-G Celebrates Pi Day (cont'd)



Above: The final collaborative art project displaying the 50 digits of pi.

Tapping Into Our Creative Side

Any TBP chapter or student organization can give out pie, though. Wanting to do something a bit more creative and show off the transcendental things about our chapter, the members of MI-G decided to facilitate a community-wide project to artistically construct as many digits of pi as possible. Encouraging students passing through the Dude with a little time on their hands to contribute, we cut, colored, and compiled roughly the first 50 digits into a creative tribute to pi and engineering. Some students really got into it, from using binary representations of the digits to a cutting out a high five. For now, the project is proudly displayed in the Bullpen, outside the TBP office. The chapter had a great time celebrating Pi Day by serving the community in creative ways!

Billy Pozehl, Active Member

Town Halls by Tau Beta Pi

With some of the recent struggles experienced by the Engineering Council, we realized that there was a need being left vacant within the College. In particular, the Town Halls that had, in years past, been offered by UMEC have not happened in a number of years and the officer corps committed to providing a solution to this problem. To that end, TBP has stepped up to host Town Halls going forward. As a start, we are hosting two this semester. The first was on March 20th and featured four of the five College of Engineering Deans. The Deans answered questions from the audience and spoke about the future of the college and North Campus. Overall the event was very informative and a valuable experience for those in attendance. While the attendance was lower than was desirable, we were still able to provide a valuable service to those who attended, and, since the event was recorded and is available to watch online, its reach can still be reasonably large. We also have identified some of the contributing factors and have a solid advertising plan for the second installment, which will feature the university's Chief Information Officer, Laura Patterson. We're excited to keep improving the program going forward to provide a valuable service to the college community, as well as increasing visibility for the chapter.

The video recording of the event can be viewed [here](#).

Mike Hand, Chapter Advisor

Honors Brunch

Tau Beta Pi, the Epeians Engineering Leadership Honor Society, and the College of Engineering collaborate annually to coordinate the Student Leaders & Honors Brunch in order to congratulate high achieving Michigan Engineering students for all that they do. Students are honored for their exceptional classroom accomplishments, published research advances, phenomenal demonstrated leadership ability, and meaningful community service work. The Student Leaders & Honors Brunch is held every March on the morning of the Honors Convocation in the Michigan Union ballroom. This provides the College of Engineering with an opportunity to recognize these outstanding students with several awards and prizes. This year, the Tau Beta Pi External Vice Presidents, Cameron McBride and Alyssa Woo, collaborated with the Epeians Alumni/Awards chairs, Josh Kempfer and Jakob Hoellerbauer, to assist the Student Activities Coordinator, Jen Wegner, in planning the Honors Brunch and the selection of most of the college-wide scholarships.

Tau Beta Pi also presents Special Recognition awards, including the Tom S. Rice Actives Scholarship and the Tau Beta Pi First Year Scholarship. The Tom S. Rice Scholarship is presented by the Michigan Gamma chapter to an outstanding student who best demonstrates a combination of exemplary character and distinguished scholarship. In 2006, Michigan Gamma celebrated its 100-year anniversary with the establishment of an endowment fund. The estate of Tom S. Rice donated a significant portion of the money to help reach this goal. This year, Michigan Gamma awarded three Tau Beta Pi First Year Student Awards to recognize exemplary character and academic achievement among new students.

In addition to honoring individual students, the Honors Brunch is an opportunity to recognize outstanding student organizations. This year, Tau Beta Pi was awarded one of the two Elaine Harden Award (the other was awarded to the Society of Women Engineers). It was fantastic for Tau Beta Pi to be recognized as an outstanding student organization within the College of Engineering. It was also a truly rewarding experience for Tau Beta Pi to be a part of coordinating the Honors Brunch to recognize individual students who do so many great things within the College of Engineering community.



Above: TBP members pose with the Elaine Harden Award.

Alyssa Woo, External Vice President

MLK Luncheon Series

This year marks 16 years since Tau Beta Pi first started its annual MLK, Jr. Luncheon series. I am happy to say that the attendance has been great and the discussions insightful. The first luncheon of the semester was February 25th, with the topic being *Examining Social Change on Campus*. We were fortunate to have amazing speakers including:

Dilip Das- Assistant Vice Provost, Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Angela Farrehi-Assistant Director, Office of Student Affairs

Jeanne Murabito-Executive Director for Student Affairs

Robert Scott – Managing Director, Center for Engineering Diversity & Outreach.

The luncheon was very well received, with audience members from faculty, staff, and students. Given just one discussion point to start the conversation, the entire remainder of the luncheon was back and forth discussion between the panelists and the audience! With the social climate on campus getting more complex every day, this type of discussion was welcomed by all members of our college community.

The second luncheon of the year, which was held in March, focused on *Social Entrepreneurship*. At this luncheon we were honored to have panelists including:

Jeff Sorensen- Co founder and President of [Optimize](#)

Grant Schroll- Co founder and President of [Beyond Bounds](#)

Sripriya Navalpakam- Co founder of [ReSource Fund](#)

Below: The panelists for Social Entrepreneurship speak during the luncheon.



The stories of these inspiring entrepreneurs really resonated with the audience. It was remarkable to hear how the panelists pursued social innovations that they were passionate about, and also how they made their innovations self-sustaining businesses. Similar to the first luncheon, audience participation was amazing and the back and forth dialogue between the audience and panelists was very informative.

The third and final luncheon of the semester is going to be on April 8th and will highlight student organizations that have improved the lives of people not just on North Campus, but in the surrounding communities and entire world. The student organization that have accepted an invitation to speak at the event include Better Living Using Engineering laboratory ([BLUElab](#)), [OwnIt](#), the Society of Women Engineers ([SWE](#)), and [Tau Beta Pi](#). We are looking forward to hearing about these great student organizations and the outstanding work they do to improve people's lives.

Leo Devota, Corporate Relations Officer