Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter Formed

An alumni chapter of Tau Beta Pi was formed in the Ann Arbor area to support the alumni in the area who are interested in becoming more involved with TBP, but not directly by becoming an active member of the MI-G chapter. The main goals of the new alumni chapter are to support local Tau Beta Pi chapters, hold professional development events, host social or service activities, or simply network with fellow Tau Bates.

The Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter’s first event was a joint social event with the TBP District 7 Conference held this past April. Several alumni joined with students from the University of Michigan and other Tau Beta Pi chapters throughout Ohio and Michigan for dinner on the Friday night before the conference. The chapter’s next event will be an official meeting in the beginning of June to formally organize the chapter’s objectives and vote on a new officer corps.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Ann Arbor Alumni Chapter, please contact me at yandersb@gmail.com for more information.

Andy Boucher
Chapter Advisor
Elections were held in April and we have a lot of new faces to introduce to you. Without further ado, here are the new batch of officers for the MI-Gamma Chapter:

President: Ryan Chen
Vice President: Michael Angileri
Secretary: Ariel Rose
Treasurer: Joe Menzia
External Vice Presidents: Mike Boyd and Natalie Eyke
Website Chair: Jae Kim
Service Chair: Marc Biondo
Corporate Chair: Cam McBride
Activities Chair: Jacob Texel
Graduate Student Coordinator: Ethan Stark
New Initiatives Chair: Shannon Liu
K-12 Outreach Chair: Laura Kruger and Alex Waselewski
Campus Outreach Chair: Josh Kempfer
Intersociety Chair: Leo Devota
Membership Chair: Kelsey Hockstad
Operations Chair: Ruiqi Chen
Publicity Chair: Ki-Joo Sung
Historian: Gina Calco

Chief advisor: Paul Kominsky
Alumnus advisor:
Pritpal Mahal,
Andy Boucher
Graduate student advisors:
Elson Liu,
Kyle Lady (elected for 3 years)
Mike Hand
Nathan Rowley (elected for 0.5 years)
Sarang Supekar (reelected for 1.5 years)
At the beginning of April, Michigan Gamma hosted the annual District 7 District Conference. About 90 Tau Bates from all over the lower peninsula of Michigan and Ohio came together for the weekend to get to know each other and the Tau Beta Pi society. The activities began Friday evening with a gathering at The Original Cottage Inn in downtown Ann Arbor. Conference attendees and area alumni enjoyed a dinner of pizza and pasta, while socializing with each other.

The conference commenced Saturday morning at the Michigan League when the District Directors lead the attendees through a full day of events. The first order of business was the semester simulation activity, where the attendees are split into groups representing different chapters. The simulation begins and each group must go through the actions that every chapter needs to perform throughout the semester in the correct order and with the correct timing. The groups were mostly successful, but the activity provides a sense of all the responsibilities of a chapter and how much energy is required.

District ICE is one of the most insightful and beneficial activities of a Tau Beta Pi Conference. This activity forms groups of members from different chapters to talk about issues that their chapter is having and to share ideas for areas of improvement. Attendees brainstorm ideas or suggest how their chapter handles situations. The group discusses issues of how to get people more involved or how to make the Tau Beta Pi image more visible on campus and in the community. These new ideas allow chapters to grow in strength and numbers. The experience of learning how other chapters are run is often eye opening, as attendees realize the uniqueness of each chapter in the organization.

Several conference attendees spent the morning away from the conference to attend Michigan Gamma’s MindSET module. A lot of chapters have not even heard of the MindSET program and still others do not know the means of starting the program. Michigan Gamma wanted to provide those chapters with the opportunity to witness the event in action to see its power and offer advice about how to run the program. Awareness of the program was greatly increased. Dr. Jonathan Earle, the founder of the MindSET pro-
gram at the University of Florida, was the national councilman in attendance. He called Michigan Gamma’s work with MindSET “absolutely outstanding” and would like nothing more than for the chapter to continue to find ways to share its MindSET knowledge with other chapters.

The final activity of the afternoon was the Battle for Toledo. Battle for Toledo is a Tau Beta Pi trivia game hosted by District Director, Andrew Flowerday, where the states of Ohio and Michigan compete for their name engraved on the Battle for Toledo trophy and bragging rights for the rest of the year. Questions are categorized and asked in rounds where each group must answer as many as possible from the list in the allotted amount of time. Questions vary in topics from Tau Beta Pi bylaws to chapter mascots. The state of Michigan came away with a decisive victory.

The last piece of business was the choice of next year’s district conference. After Ohio State’s denial of Michigan Gamma’s challenge, the attendees voted to travel to Cincinnati. Overall, the conference was a great opportunity to show off the University of Michigan and learn from other Tau Bates. Michigan Gamma is very excited to use this experience to achieve even greater accomplishments in the future.

Ariel Rose
D7 Conference Chair