



Alumni Notes



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MI-Gamma

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From the Desk of the President

The month of January has brought more snow than usual, and as always, students at Michigan have to brave the below freezing temperatures. For MI-Gamma, the semester is looking very promising with an enthusiastic bunch of new electees. We had a very successful Book Swap and have implemented a new approach to tutoring. The chapter is also working with Michigan Hackers to get the Foo Bar space in the CSE building up and running. The Operations Chair is in charge of planning and getting the Foo Bar open for business.

Nearly half of this semester's officers are new to TBP leadership, and everyone is off to a great start. I hope your new year isn't quite as frigid as ours, but is starting out just as well.

As always, [Go Blue!](#)

Kristin Graf
President, MI-Gamma

Winter' 13 Officers Introduction



Please join us in congratulating our newly elected Winter 2013 officer corps. We have an exciting semester to come!

President: *Kristin Graf*
Vice President: *Ryan Chen*
Secretary: *Chris McMullen*
Treasurer: *Joe Menzia*
External Vice Presidents: *Mike Boyd* and *Natalie Eyke*
Website Chair: *Arthur Shih*
Service Chair: *Maria Schneider*
Corporate Relations Chair: *Eamonn Shirey*
Activities Chair: *Shannon Liu*
Graduate Coordinator: *Kyle Lady*
New Initiatives Chair: *Jacob Texel*
K-12 Outreach Co-Chairs: *Jeff Lowe* and *Marissa Lafata*

Diversity and Leadership Chair: *Susie Chung*
Campus Outreach Chair: *Laura Kruger*
Intersociety Chair: *Jason Cassell*
Membership Chair: *Matthew Khoo*
District 7 Coordinator: *Ariel Rose*
Operations Chair: *Vicki Choe*
Publicity Co-Chairs: *Gina Calco* and *Josh Kempfer*

Chief advisor: *Paul Kominsky* (reelected for 3 years)
Alumnus advisor: *Pritpaul Mahal* (reelected for 3 years)
Graduate student advisors: *Mike Hand*, *Sarang Supekar*, *Andy Boucher*, *Elson Liu*, *Dan Kiefer*, *Dan Becker*

Tutoring 2.0: The new tutoring system from MI-Gamma

This semester, we are completely restructuring our tutoring system.

In the past, the MI-Gamma chapter has set up biweekly tutoring at university libraries on a walk-ins only basis. This system, while easy to advertise, was impractical to some students and volunteers for several reasons: the times or locations were potentially inconvenient; tutors were unavailable for the subject a student wished to be tutored in; or simply no students showed up to be tutored.

Tutoring 2.0: The new tutoring system from MI-Gamma (Cont.)

In order to fix these problems, we have decided to convert to tutoring by request only. Interested students simply email the campus outreach chair with the subject they wish to be tutored in. The campus outreach chair then matches the student up with a tutor that has offered to tutor in that subject. The student and volunteer then set up a time and location for tutoring that is mutually convenient for both parties. We hope that this new tutoring system will allow our members to volunteer more efficiently and ensure that students receive tutoring from a skilled and enthusiastic volunteer.

Laura Kruger
Campus Outreach Chair

TBP Book Swap Winter' 13

Once again, we wrapped up another successful Book Swap for this semester. We served 275 sellers and collected a total of 680 books. The last few semesters have seen drastic changes in the website and operation of Book Swap. We have a new website, we use barcode scanners and MCards, and have re-vamped our advertising.

Last summer, it was determined that our previous online Book Swap system was outdated and we were in need of a new one. Two of our members, Kyle Lady and Mike Hand, undertook the task of creating two new websites: one for the volunteers with an inventory database and the other as the public face of Book Swap. The volunteer website incorporates the use of barcode readers to speed up the process. We can scan the barcode on students' MCards to quickly bring up their "account", which persists from semester to semester. As our inventory grows as we collect books and shrinks during selling, the public website stays up to date so students can search for the books they need.

Advertising has become the biggest challenge for Book Swap. In the fall, we succeeded in getting fliers in the freshman orientation packets, and this semester we created a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TBPBookSwap>). With this move to Facebook, we changed the name from "CoE Book Swap" to "TBP Book Swap" and created a logo!

Book Swap has undergone many changes recently and is becoming a more robust and streamlined service we provide to the college.

Maria Schneider
Service Chair

