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# Alumni Notes

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## Tau Beta Pi Celebrates Semester Achievements

*by Kristin Graf, Tau Beta Pi Vice-President*

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This semester we had eleven electee groups and a special team composed of actives to make the competition a little more interesting (Team Active). Although Team Active had the most amount of points at the end of the semester, they never intended on winning the competition, only hoping to increase the level of competition among the other groups.

The electee groups fought hard for the coveted trophy by painting the rock, polishing the Bent, bringing food to officer meetings, and competing in the electee games after meetings. At the end of the semester, three groups were tied, but there could only be one winner. The three groups were put on the spot at banquet and asked to name the chapter officers starting from President. The first team failed at External Vice Presidents and the winner was decided when the second team could not name the Diversity and Leadership Chair.

The winner this semester was Team Zoos consisting of Nick Ruff, Saloni Chokhani, and Chris Fair with group leaders Marissa Lafata, Jason Lee, and Eric Hung.



*Above:* The winter 2012 electee class along with several of the winter 2012 Officers.



*Above:* Outstanding electee group "Team Zoos" painting the rock.

*Right:* Outstanding officer Michael Hand

### **Tau Beta Pi Semester Awards:**

Outstanding active: Mark Sprague

Outstanding officer: Michael Hand

Outstanding electee: Kevin Wang

Outstanding sports: Andy Boucher

Outstanding electee group: Team Zoos



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# Prestigious Actives

*by Yvan A. Boucher, Graduate Student Coordinator*

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A new resolution was passed early in the semester to create a new tier of active status titled 'Prestigious Active'. The designation would allow members to aspire for a higher level than 'Distinguished Active' and encourage our membership to become more involved in our chapter. To achieve prestigious active, a member must complete a total of 30 hours of service, socials, or interviews. The hours must be completed through a combination of at least three different activities, with a maximum of 15 hours from a single service event and a limit of only 8 total social hours. This semester, 16 Tau Bates achieved this status and celebrated their contribution to the society through a sponsored dinner at the Melting Pot. The first term prestigious actives are listed below.

## PRESTIGIOUS ACTIVES, Winter 2012

### First Term

Daniel Becker, Yvan Boucher, Michael Boyd, Vicki Choe, Kristin Graf, Michael Hand, Marissa Lafata, Jason Lee, Pritpaul Mahal, Michele Mastria, Nathan McKay, Christopher McMullen, Justin Paupore, Carlos Pons Siepermann, Mark Sprague, Ethan Wampler

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## Congratulations Initiates and Distinguished Actives

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### Congratulations Winter 2012 Undergrad Initiates!

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Bora Agabigum        | Umakanthan Kavin |
| Saam Aghevli         | Michael Kines    |
| Tyler Alexander      | Matthew Kolevar  |
| Brandon Amat         | Lawrence Lai     |
| Gina Calco           | Saurav Lohani    |
| Christina Capricioso | Luis Molina      |
| Justin Carr          | Evan Noon        |
| Jason Cassell        | Frances Phillips |
| Eduardo Cerame       | William Pozehl   |
| Saloni Chokhani      | Ariel Rose       |
| Ryan Coleman         | Chris Ruehs      |
| Megan Egbert         | Nick Ruff        |
| Brian Fagan          | Ashley Shipley   |
| Chris Fair           | Michael Shook    |
| Duane Gardner        | Ethan Stark      |
| David Goodman        | Chris Stuart     |
| Grace Gu             | Ashwin Varghese  |
| Tim Huang            | Kevin Wang       |

### Congratulations Winter 2012 Graduate Initiates!

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Anna-Maria Rivas McGowan |                |
| Robert Goeddel           | Ankit Dingra   |
| Geoff Hancock            | Ed Gamero      |
| Kyle Lady                | Anurag Gulati  |
| John Bashel              | Qianru Guo     |
| Boxhao Chen              | Erwin Hendarto |
| Min-Hua Chen             | Alisyn Malek   |
| Qian Zhang               |                |

### DISTINGUISHED ACTIVES, Fall 2011

#### Fourteenth Term

Pritpaul Mahal

#### Twelfth Term

Elson Liu

#### Eleventh Term

Yvan Boucher

#### Sixth Term

Daniel Becker

#### Fifth Term

Don Li, Michele Mastria, Mike Hand

#### Fourth Term

Dan Kiefer, Nathan McKay, Nathan Rowley, Sarang Supekar

#### Third Term

Ben Rothacker, Devina Sanjaya, Ethan Wampler, Jon Gold, Kristin Graf, Kevin Joseph, Kevin Lin, Nick Cobane, Ryan Chen, Mark Sprague, Vicki Choe, Mario Admon,

#### Second Term

Ari Chivukula, Jason Lee, Carlos Pons Siepermann, Christopher McMullen, David Martel, Hannah Denomme, Emily Zumbrunnen, Jenn Jocz, Marissa Lafata, Nicholas Clift, Rachael Harrington, Jon Nicholas, Maria Schneider, Evan Olexa

#### First Term

William Beyer, Yangdi Zhou, Susie Chung, Samuel Dettling, Justin Paupore, Justine Kunz, Devki Desai, Barton Kiley, Jesiska Tandy, Shannon Liu, Michael Boyd, Shannon Pawloski, Isabel Cosnahan, Arthur Shih, Joshua Wong, Marc Biondo, Eric Hung, Matthew Khoo, Sarah Clark, Michael Sypniewski



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# Relay for Life

*by Shannon Pawloski*

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This year, Tau Beta Pi joined up with six other engineering student organizations (the University of Michigan chapters of the Society of Women Engineers, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Eta Kappa Nu, Epeians, <CSE.Scholars>, and the Engineering Global Leadership Student Society) to form the Relay for Life group “Team TECHIES.” Relay for Life is a twenty-four hour fundraising event for the American Cancer Society. Team members take turns walking a track throughout this time, symbolizing the constant fight back against cancer. During the event there are also plenty of activities, performances, and onsite fundraisers to educate participants in cancer prevention, raise money, honor survivors, and entertain participants and visitors.



*Above: Mike Hand being dunked during the fundraiser by Dan Kiefer.*

Throughout the year, Team TECHIES hosted several fundraising events, including a bake sale, a benefit dinner, and a dunk tank where students could request their professors to be dunked. Overall, the team raised about \$1,500, contributing to MRelay’s record year of over \$365,000.

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## Building Networks Through Service

*by Mike Hand, Tau Beta Pi Corporate Relations Chair*

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Late fall semester we were contacted by General Electric about expanding their campus presence and involvement with TBP. After some discussion, we decided to try something that was a little different than the usual forms of corporate involvement: a joint service event working with Habitat for Humanity.

The planned project went through many iterations, date changes, and site changes; but we eventually converged on a service project through the Habitat ReStore in Ann Arbor. Through the project we were able to engage in very meaningful work that we hope to continue in the coming years. We were also able to have great dialogue about what companies, GE in particular, are looking to get out of working with our chapter of TBP. We were able to brainstorm future collaboration and hope to put the lessons learned to use in the coming semesters of TBP Corporate Relations endeavors.

Overall the event was very successful, and we hope to continue this type of event in the future.



*Above: Mike and Andy with two GE Representatives.*

*Below: The group of Tau Bates with GE at H4H Restore.*



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# Electee Yell Competition

*by Kristin Graf, TBP Vice-President*

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The yell and dessert competition at Electees/Actives III is the final in-house electee competition and gets very competitive. This semester, we had several groups that put on intricate shows, including a rewritten “Make a Man Out of You” from Mulan; a rewritten “Call me, maybe?”; and a medley of top hits by our resident music student, Ryan Chen.

Team Active choreographed Lonely Island’s “Jack Sparrow” (featuring Michael Bolton), which ultimately led to the judges being covered in flour as shown by the following picture. Despite such a fabulous presentation, Team Active did not win the competition.



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## Convention 2017: Laying the Groundwork

*by Elson Liu, Tau Beta Pi Graduate Student Advisor*

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The last time that the Michigan Gamma Chapter hosted a Tau Beta Pi National Convention was in 1967, which happened to coincide with the sesquicentennial (150th anniversary) of the founding of the University of Michigan. The chapter is already laying the groundwork to submit a bid to host the 2017 convention to coincide with the bicentennial of the University of Michigan.

Article III, Section 2(i) of the Constitution of the Tau Beta Pi Association states that the site of any particular convention can be determined no more than 3 years in advance. Thus the earliest (and best) time for the chapter to submit a bid to host the 2017 convention is by June 1, 2014, so that the bid can be considered at the 2014 convention. An exploratory committee has tentatively established the following set of milestones for hosting the 2017 national convention.

1. Successfully bid for and host the 2013 TBP District 7 conference. This will facilitate the development of the organizational structure and experience crucial to submitting a successful convention bid and hosting a successful convention.
2. Establish an *ad hoc* committee to prepare and submit a national convention bid by June 1, 2014.
3. If and when the bid is accepted, establish an *ad hoc* committee for the arrangements for the 2017 convention.

The pieces are already falling into place for the chapter to successfully complete the first milestone. The exploratory committee prepared a 14-page written bid for the 2013 District 7 conference. Highlights of the written bid included determination of the ideal dates for the district conference (April 5-6, 2013, so as to avoid major religious holidays and the FE exam), and the novel concept of running the district conference concurrently with a MindSET session (to assist other chapters in starting a MindSET program). The bid was accepted by the 2012 District conference over completing oral bids by the Michigan Theta (Oakland University) and Michigan Iota (University of Michigan-Dearborn) chapters.

Upon the acceptance of the bid, the MI-G officer corps created a new appointed officer position--District 7 Conference Chair--to be selected by application. Applications were collected and evaluated, and Ariella Rose (MI-G 2014) was selected for the position. She has hit the ground running--within a week of being transitioned into the position by a few members of the exploratory committee, she was working on selecting and reserving rooms for the district conference.

Expect additional updates on the district conference and national convention in future alumni newsletters.