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# Alumni Notes

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## SWE/TBP Career Fair 2011

*by Mike Hand, Tau Beta Pi External Vice-President*

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This fall brought with it the largest ever SWE/TBP Career Fair. Started in 1985 as a collaborative effort between the Society of Women Engineers and Tau Beta Pi, the Career Fair has grown considerably in its many years of serving the College of Engineering and its students. This year a record number of over 290 companies registered to attend. This sudden increase in registration required new locations to be used, and previous locations to be modified. The CSE building (shown below) was given a new floor plan to allow for more companies.

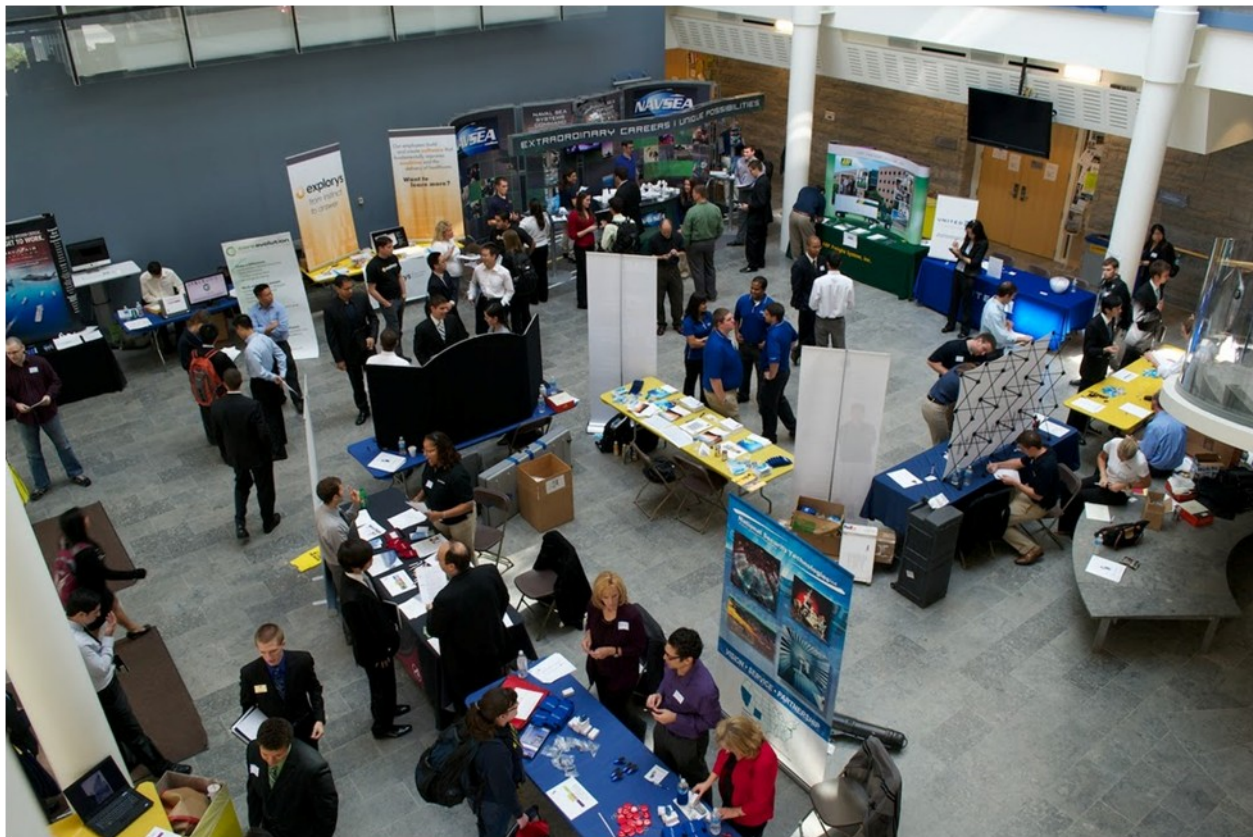


Figure 1: A record number of companies required reworking table locations

Bringing in companies big and small has been central to the mission of the Career Fair ever since its inception. Students can find employment opportunities with companies as large as Walmart or as small as LectureTools (an Ann Arbor company with a full-time staff of seven). With over 290 companies and an estimated 3000 students in attendance, this year's Career Fair proved to be very successful.

Career Fair planning and preparation begins with feedback and focus sessions around October or November of the previous year, and begins in earnest in January. The Directors are selected and transitioned by the end of each Fall Semester. Chairs are selected in February. This year's full team consisted of 4 Directors and 23 Chairs. Chairs comprise committees that focus on tasks such as Directory creation, website upkeep, package sorting, parking, publicity, hospitality, receptions, and volunteers.

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The success of the Career Fair is dependent on the volunteers that help out as part of SWE, TBP, or just to be of assistance. Having such a large personnel presence allows small issues to be dealt with quickly and larger issues to be dealt with flexibly and personally. That personal touch is very appreciated by companies and helps to differentiate us from other fairs.

From our perspective, this has been the most successful career fair to date. The helpfulness and friendliness of all of the fair staff was terrific - well above the call of duty. We had a problem early on and your team really helped us solve it quickly and effectively. This is our first SWE/TBP career fair, but it will certainly not be our last.

-John, CareEvolution



Figure 2: Recruiters stayed busy screening potential candidates

Making every company feel welcome and appreciated requires dedicated chairs that are committed to running a successful Career Fair. Because the students that run the fair are some of its principle beneficiaries in terms of job opportunities, going above and beyond is just part of the routine.

The Career Fair is one of TBP's proudest traditions and one of our most successful events of the year. It allows us to give back to the College and student body and to make the University of Michigan, College of Engineering a better place.

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## Convention Updates

*by Pritpaul Mahal*

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Fall Meeting:

Earlier this month, Michigan Gamma hosted the pre-convention fall meeting for local chapters. This event went off wonderfully and everyone left better informed about convention thanks to our local District Director, Andrew Flowerday.

Convention Update:



National Convention is in Indianapolis, IN starting next Thursday (October 27). Michigan Gamma is excited to be sending the biggest delegation for our chapter in recent memory (around 16 people!). We also plan to have special convention shirts for delegates to wear at the convention.



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# MindSet

*by Sarang Supekar, Tau Beta Pi Graduate Student Advisor*

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The K-12 engineering-mathematics education program, MindSET, had its first module of the fall semester on October 15. About twenty Tau Beta Pi electees and actives worked with forty Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area elementary school students on building Water-bottle rockets out of soda bottles, party hats, and pieces of cardboard. The students learnt the concept of force, types of forces, and Newton's laws of motion along with their implications in rocket design. The team with the most well-designed rocket was able to attain a stable trajectory and a range of 73 feet on a windy Saturday morning! The teams discussed their designs and explained their reasoning behind going with a certain nose cone and/or fin geometry. Some of the other modules planned for the fall are Bridges (properties of triangles) and Circuits (Boolean logic).





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# TAU-BETA-PAINTBALL!

*by Nathan McKay, Tau Beta Pi Intersociety Chair*

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Last week members from Tau Beta Pi joined other Michigan Engineering students to fight on the battle fields of Hell Survivors Paintball Wonderland. For many of us this was a new experience, and we weren't all too good at it compared to some of the seasoned veterans who showed up. It's like playing a video game for the first time: you aren't quite sure how to accurately fire your gun, and you don't know the map! But welts aside, everyone had a really great time. We will certainly be planning this event again in the future.



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## New Electees

*by Daniel Becker, Tau Beta Pi Vice-President*

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This fall's class of electees is one of the largest that we've dealt with before, totaling about 60 undergraduates and about 10 graduate students. They have been split into 9 teams: "Uno Dos Penguin", "Teenage Mutant Ninja Taus", "The Womping Walri", "The Group 4merly Known as Prince", "Pup 'n' Suds", "Team Inferior", "Wookies in Space", "P-Dubs", and "The Angry Dolphins". They are currently in the process of performing their service hours, social events, and filling out their electee exams, and will be attending their character interviews from 10/19-10/21.

