
Alumni Notes

Spreading the Word about Mi-Gamma

by Yvan A. Boucher

As you all know, the Michigan Gamma chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the Engineering Honors Society is one of the most active chapters. Our chapter co-hosts the SWE/TBP Career Fair which is bringing companies to campus again this fall for the 27th consecutive year. We are involved in many community service projects throughout the year, headlined by our new MindSet program for local K-12 students. And we don't let all of this hard work get in the way of a little fun by having many social events throughout the semester.

The one thing that our chapter of TBP has lacked over the years is a strong connection to our alumni. We hope to solve this in the coming years by creating more networking opportunities between the active members of Mi-Gamma and the many alumni we have spread across the nation and world. As a start, we will be bringing monthly updates to our alumni via this newsletter which will give updates on recent events and announcements for future events. We hope that this will help keep our valuable alumni more connected to their roots at the University of Michigan and allow for better networking in the future.

UPCOMING EVENTS

27th Annual SWE/TBP Career Fair

This joint Society of Women Engineers and Tau Beta Pi event will be bringing 299 companies to campus on September 26th and September 27th (with companies attending one of the two days). There will be two corporate receptions held in the evening before each day of the career fair that give students and recruiters a laid-back, resumé free setting to network with students.

The event has grown in size the last few years, finally reaching its record breaking number of 299 companies. Just two years ago there were fewer than 200 companies in attendance. Of the 299 companies, 23 have signed on as corporate sponsors, another record for the SWE/TBP Career Fair.



TBP National Convention

We are excited about the upcoming national convention in Indianapolis, IN! Convention will be held from October 27-29 and is where many of the organization's high-level decisions are made and much socialization across chapters occurs. Mi-Gamma will have 8 members in attendance at this meeting, including one alumnus who decided to register on his own initiative.

MindSet

The second year of our MindSet program kicks off this October with a significant increase in the number of participants. MindSet supports math and science programs in K-12 schools by bringing students to the campus of the University of Michigan to enhance their preparation in the areas of math, science, engineering and technology. Look for more updates about Mindset in the future.

Introducing...

THE Fall 2011 OFFICER CORPS

Officers

President - Dan Kiefer (dkiefer)
Vice President - Dan Becker (debecker)
Secretary - Michele Mastria (mastria)
Website Chair - Kevin Joseph (kevijose)
Service Chair - Maria Schneider (schneima)
Treasurer - Kevin Shallcross (kevinhs)
Corporate Relations Chair - Devina Sanjaya (dsanjaya)
External VP - Mike Hand (mikehand) and Patty McCormick (pmmccorm)
Activities Chair - Josh Larson (jilarson)
Diversity & Leadership Chair - Eeshan Kanpara (keeshan)
Graduate Student Coordinator - Oliver Chen (olchen)
New Initiatives Chair - Carlos A. Pons Siepermann (carlpons)
K-12 Outreach Chair - Nathan Rowley (nrowley)
Campus Outreach Chair - Ben Rothacker (benroth)
Intersociety Chair - Nathan McKay (ngmckay)
Publicity Chairs - Jesse Tzeng (jctzeng), Ryan Chen (ryanchen)



Top: The Fall 2011 Officer Corps gathering after being elected. Bottom: President Dan Kiefer.

Advisors

Elson Liu (eyliu)	Pritpaul Mahal (pritpaul)
Anne Campbell (anneall)	Andy Boucher (yanders)
Sarang Supekar (supekar)	Seth Johnson (sethrj)
Paul Kominsky (Chief Advisor)	

Officers Abroad



Hi everyone, my name is Kevin Shallcross and I am MI Gamma's treasurer for 2011. I am entering my senior year in chemical engineering and will be pursuing a masters in industrial and operations engineering through the Tauber Institute for Global Operations.

This summer I interned with BP as a process engineer at their refinery in Whiting, IN. The technical experience I gained was invaluable, with projects including the optimization of a fractionator tower using HYSYS modeling software and the implementation of an oxygen-monitoring program to mitigate heat exchanger fouling on one of the units. I was also able to spend a week working on a unit startup, joining the operations crew for 5 pm- 5 am night shifts. Overall, the internship was an incredible experience, and I feel that my newfound knowledge of refining equipment, processes, and corporate culture will serve me well in the future.

Officers Abroad

Patty McCormick, a senior in the department of Materials Science and Engineering and one of the External Vice-Presidents for this semester, spent the summer doing research at Peking University in Beijing, China. She was a participant in the REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) China program sponsored by the Chemistry Department at the University of Michigan. While in Beijing, she worked for Haifeng Chen, an alumnus of the University of Michigan and current Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Peking University. She, along with another student from the program, researched electrospun, composite scaffolds for use in bone tissue engineering. The main idea behind her research was to create a three-dimensional, porous scaffold that could be seeded with cells and then cultured to produce a viable bone substitute for implantation. The paper from her summer research has been submitted to *Nature Materials* for publication.



By Mike Hand

August found me scrambling to unpack from my internship and get packed up for a four week whirlwind trip through Europe. I landed in the early morning and began my travels: sightseeing in ancient landmarks like the Colosseum and Forum and in Renaissance marvels like St. Peter's Basilica. From Rome we moved to Venice and a chance to take a slower pace relaxing by the lagoon and canals, while still soaking up the culture.

Leaving Italy I arrived in Spain for World Youth Day, a worldwide gathering of Catholic youth. The week in Spain was a great opportunity to meet young adults from around the world, and to practice my Spanish. The highlight of the week was the World Youth Day Vigil, which lasted for about 24 hours in a shutdown airfield. During this we experienced 117 degree heat, pouring rain, and extreme dry and dusty conditions. And we enjoyed every minute of it. Capped off with mass with the Pope, the vigil was a great experience for the roughly 2 million people gathered.

Leaving Madrid I visited Paris, Ireland, and London. We were able to see architecture like the Eiffel tower, Notre Dame, Dublin Castle, Big Ben, The London Tower Bridge, and many others. More importantly we were able to soak up the culture of a French breakfast, an Irish shepherd, and the neighborhoods in the London suburbs.

Europe was a great experience and I am very thankful for the opportunity.