Hey there Tau Beta Pi!

Congratulations! Not only did we survive the painful cold, we made UofM history! UofM hasn’t closed the Ann Arbor campus since 1978, which makes it the first school closing due to weather in 36 years. I hope you have all been enjoying your cold/snow day. If you don’t already know, my name is Sylvia Domanico and I am a sophomore studying Nuclear Engineering and Radiological Sciences. I am super excited to be you new Historian for this semester.

As Historian, part of my job is to compile this packet of paper we call “The Cornerstone.” So if you’re electing this semester, you’re probably wondering, “What is The Cornerstone?” Well, believe it or not, The Cornerstone is more than a packet of paper. It’s a beautiful compilation of information, articles, excitement, puzzles, and more. While The Cornerstone is served to entertain, it is also here for Tau Beta Pi members to express their creativity. I encourage all of you to write articles and send me articles or funny pictures/comics you find online (you post them on Facebook so why not send them to me?).

This week’s Cornerstone includes an assortment of comics and Sudoku puzzles, but I would also like to highlight the Electee Advice Column on the following page. For all you electees, check it out to see what actives are saying about TBP and the electee process! As always, all actives and officers are very eager and open to talking about TBP, giving advice and suggestions, etc. We all want to get to know everyone in TBP, so come talk to us!

I hope you have all been staying warm and healthy through this brutal Michigan winter and are getting suited up for Career Fair on Wednesday and Thursday! Good luck, I know you will all do great.

Sincerely,
Sylvia Domanico
Here at Tau Beta Pi, us actives are excited to have so many new and talented students joining us this semester. Below you will find a short and informative Q and A with current active members. They have graciously shared some of their experiences with TBP and some advice for electees as they embark on their journey towards initiation. Enjoy!

**Q: Why TBP?**

**A:** “Why not? Ok, that might not be a very compelling answer. In truth, there are a lot of *great people* in the organization. It is worth your time and effort to get to know them as they could very well be some of your *best friends* in a few years time. It’s also a collection of very smart people, so if you are ever stuck trying to solve a problem for class or research, this could very well be your best place to find help.”

— Andy Boucher, Advisor

“It's really easy to get silo-ed into your major, joining a group like TBP allows you to meet *passionate, driven people* from every major in the college. It's also a great avenue for getting some *experience taking on a leadership role*, however big or small. And if you want to participate in an activity that isn't yet happening, TBP has the resources and the people to help you make that a reality.”

— Mike Hand, Advisor

**Q: What’s your favorite memory from TBP?**

**A:** “*Career Fair* is pretty near the top, just being involved in something so big and so impactful is pretty awesome. It also gave me material for every interview I’ve ever had, so that's cool. The networking with TBP members from other chapters that can happen periodically is also great.”

— Mike Hand

“*Career Fair*. It's always a great accomplishment to finish putting together a large event with your classmates that benefits so many students.”

— Andy Boucher

“Making it to the semi-finals in *3 on 3 basketball*."

— Leo Devota, Corporate Relations Officer

**Q: How has TBP benefited you?**

**A:** “It helped me refine my *leadership* and *time management* skills. These will be invaluable to me in my future career.”

— Andy Boucher

“*Networking* with great people. Leadership experience to round out my education. Meeting a lot of my close friends. Learning practical skills from the projects I've participated in.”

— Mike Hand

“I made a lot of *good friends*."

— Leo Devota

*Fall Career Fair is run by TBP and SWE and should not be confused with the Winter Career Fair.*
Electee Advice Column (cont’d)

Q: What advice do you have regarding completing electee requirements?

A: “Spread your hours out or you'll kick yourself when you still have lots of things left to do and finals are looming.”
-Anonymous

“Treat it like a syllabus. Record all deadlines and make a plan to do X requirement by Y date. You don't want to be in a situation where you realize you only have one week to get 10 hours.”
-Anonymous

“TG’s are a great way to get answers to the electee exam and also to get member signatures.”
-Leo Devota

“Start Early. The more you get done before classes ramp up the better. Find big service projects to knock out large chunks of your hours at once. I got almost 2/3 of mine through Career Fair and I was much better for it.”
-Mike Hand

“Make a plan at the beginning of the process for how you are going to get all of your hours done. Then all you need to do is stick with that plan. The trap most people who fail to complete the requirements fall into is not having a plan and then having too many requirements left at the end of the semester and not a means for getting them all done.”
-Andy Boucher

“Do things when you’re not busy. Have an awkward 30 min between classes? Go to the Bullpen and interview actives or ask officers to help you complete your electee exam. Have an hour to spare for dinner? Go to a social with food and bring your electee exam. Also, work on your electee exam with other people, especially your electee group! Your group and group leaders are here to help.”
-Sylvia Domanico, Historian

Q: What advice do you have regarding service hours?

A: “Plan early. Sign-up quickly. Spots fill up quick. If you're already involved in other stuff, don't worry about it too much because it should be pretty easy. I only had to sign-up for one thing on the event calendar between required service events (e.g. MindSET, tutoring) and stuff I was already involved in when I was an electee.”
-Anonymous

“Find something that fits your passion and go all in on that. If you don't see something on the calendar that really makes you excited, talk to the Service Coordinator as there may be other activities being planned, or who knows maybe you could plan something yourself!”
-Mike Hand

“MindSET is the easiest way to get lots of hours quickly.”
-Anonymous

“Get hours done in big chunks (e.g. MindSET), or regularly like an hour a week (e.g. tutoring, Sequoia Place, New Initiatives).”
-Sylvia Domanico
**Electee Advice Column (cont’d)**

**Q: What advice do you have regarding service hours? (cont’d)**

“Figure out what types of service you enjoy the most and then find service projects that are similar to that. If you like hands on activities and being outside, pick activities like Habitat for Humanity. If you prefer being inside and less active, then something like Sequoia Place might be a better fit. Also talk with the service coordinator about what other possibilities might be available later in the semester. Not all service projects are up on the website at the beginning of the semester, but the service coordinator will have a good idea of what will be available later.”

-Andy Boucher

Long story short: “*Volunteer early. Volunteer often.*”

-Nathan Immerman

**Q: What are some things you encourage electees to take advantage of?**

**A:** “*Free food* at a number of the different socials. The TG's are the best for this as you can't go wrong with BW's wings. But the game nights are also a hidden gem as you can get some free food while hanging out and playing games.”

-Andy Boucher

“*Don’t wait* to get involved. There are a lot of ways for you to get involved beyond just the bare minimum even as electees. Want to get a leg up on networking or a little exposure to people at nationals? Join the professional development committee. Want to go to a particular type of social, but it's not on the calendar? Talk to the Activities Officer and you can probably get assistance to make it happen and get some leadership experience in the process.”

-Mike Hand

“TG's, IM Sports, Laser Tag, Rock 'N' Bowl.”

-Leo Devota

“Get to know other *people* in TBP!”

-Anonymous

“If you want a *leadership* role, TBP is the way to go. Run for an officer position (even right after you initiate), become a group leader, or lead a service project. There are so many ways to get and stay involved.”

-Sylvia Domanico

Being an electee is rewarding and fun. If there is anything you take away from this column I hope it is this:

- Meet electees, actives, officers, and grads through meetings, service hours, socials, IM sports, and office hours
- Don’t be overwhelmed, electing can be low-stress if you budget your time wisely and start early
- Take advantage of everything TBP has to offer
- Have fun!

In addition, if you have any questions, always remember to ask your group leaders or to attend office hours at the Bullpen (10:30-3:30 Mon-Thurs in 1226 EECS). For further inquiries, electees should contact the Vice President, Ki-Joo Sung (sungkj@umich.edu), and grad electees should contact the grad student coordinator, Michael Benson (mlbenson@umich.edu).
In light of Career fair coming up, here are some comics on networking and interviews!

And just because: Pi v. Tau!
**Sudoku Puzzles**

**Puzzle 1: Easy**

```
6 5 9 2
 4
1 7 2 8 5
 2 5 4 9
9 1 4 8
2 9 4
8 6 1 9 5 7
 2 6 3 4
```

**Puzzle 2: Medium**

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7 5 8 2
5 6 8 1
8 9 6 5
2
8 1 4 6
5
1 3 4 6
7
3 5 7 8
```

**Puzzle 3: Hard**

```
6 7 9
2 1 6 4
3 9 6
2 3 9
5 9 3 8
3 2 5
1 6 3
3 5 1 6
9 3 4
```
Sudoku Puzzle Solutions

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