Welcome to First Comity!
You've been invited to join Tau Beta Pi and have quite bravely come forth to accept the challenge. By now you probably already know that TBP is a respected engineering honors society, open to all engineering majors. Great right? You may or may not have heard, but TBP is also an honors society that actually does things! Hopefully you are here at First Comity with a burning desire to elect.

Although you will certainly learn everything you need to know in order to become a proper TBP member from more official sources than I, this article will hopefully summarize what electing to TBP is all about.

You are eligible to elect to TBP based on your academics- that's why you were invited. But there are a “few” more things you need to do before you can become an official member of Tau Beta Pi. If you elect this semester and fulfill all requirements, you will be initiated as a TBP member by the end of this semester. Fulfilling all the requirements is called electing, and I’ll outline what that entails. You will also be in a small electee group, led by a TBP active who “knows the ropes” when it comes to the electing process.

You'll need to write essays about character for us, as well as be interviewed by TBP actives. Neither of these are anything to stress about, we are just trying to get to know you.

(see next page)
Poet's Place

MICHAEL LEE

It’s come to my attention,
That there’s been no retention,
Of all of our rants and raves.

But when it comes down to it,
Inside you’re all poets,
So please write, type up, and save.

I’m not made of rhymes,
And it’s about time,
To unleash Haiku from its cave.

Please submit poems to
TBPcornerstone@umich.edu

First Comity (cont.)

all individually, making sure you possess the essentials of being a Tau Bate: honesty and integrity. You will have to take an exam covering TBP history and information about this semester's officers. This is a chance for you to get to know TBP, so don't stress about it! Once all of these items have been completed, you'll need to fulfill your service hours and tutoring. TBP offers a variety of service opportunities and times; volunteering is an integral part of being in TBP.

Don't forget (as if you could possibly do so while reading this newsletter) that you can write an article for the Cornerstone for an hour of service! Sometimes you don't get many opportunities to be as creative as you'd like in engineering, but all math/science and no liberal arts makes TBP a dull... gender-neutral person. So write a poem, review your favorite band's new album or tell us about what you did last summer at an internship. We're not too specific, so get involved!

Word of the Day

Word
Perambulate

How to say it
puh-RAM-byuh-layt

Definition
To walk about, to roam or to stroll

Can I have that in a sentence?

She liked to perambulate the room with a duster in her hand, with which she stopped to polish the backs of already lustrous books, musing and romancing as she did so.

- Virginia Woolf, Night and Day
Electing, the saga

Star Wars A New Hope Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone
EPIC TBP Electing: synopsis

Our hero, Luke Skywalker, Harry Potter TBP electee is an orphaned college student living with his uncle and aunt roommate on the remote wilderness of Tatooine suburbia the University of Michigan campus.

He is rescued from aliens muggle a life without meaning by wise, bearded Ben Kenobi Hagrid Jill Schlechtweg, who turns out to be a Jedi Knight Wizard the President of Tau Beta Pi.

Luke Harry TBP electee is also instructed in how to use the Jedi light saber a magic wand and his character as he too trains to become a Jedi-Wizard TBP member.

Luke Harry TBP electee has many adventures in the galaxy at Hogwarts at the University of Michigan and makes new friends such as Han Solo Ron TBP’s small group and Princess Leia Hermione other TBP service event volunteers.

In the course of these adventures he distinguishes himself as a top X-wing pilot. Gryffindor seeker TBP electee in the battle of the Death Star Quidditch match best small group making the direct hit catch that secures the Rebels Gryffindor his small group victory.

Luke Harry TBP electee also sees off the threat of Darth Vader Lord Voldemort HKN, who we know murdered his uncle and aunt parents appreciation for anything good in this world.

In the finale, Luke Harry TBP electee and his new friends receive medals of valour win the House Cup are officially initiated into Tau Beta Pi.

All of this will be set to an orchestral score composed by John Williams.
Happy New Year

Write for the Cornerstone this semester!

- Busy with classes?
- Love to write?
- Are you just plain lazy?

Electing can be easier than you think!

Write an article or compose a poem for the Cornerstone and get a service hour!

Email submissions or questions to tbpCornerstone@umich.edu.

No Really, You Should Go See the:

By Kristina Roe

The University of Michigan Museum of Art reopened just last March after a long period (well, only 3 years…) of restoration and expansion. These changes have allowed UMMA to display “more than three times the amount of art from its collections, which span the Western tradition from mediaval times to the present as well as deep holdings in African and Asian art”. [1] All the excitement from its opening was contagious but many of us never found the time to go visit, especially with finals looming. I’ve visited twice and I encourage you to go visit. It is free (although donations are always welcomed) and very accessible to those who aren’t “art-inclined”. The front desk also offers brochures with specialized tours; these brochures show which exhibits to go to on the map of the buildings and have relevant themes, such as:

- “The (S)He’s Just Not That Into You” Tour for those who have just broken up with someone
- “I Overdid It This Weekend” Tour for those who partied hard and feel it now
- “The Winter in the Upper Midwest is Getting to Me” Tour for pretty much everyone
- “The My Nerves are a Wreck” Tour for all

So take a break TBP, go see the UMMA!

I doubt that any of you will have the time to watch this 55 minute video, but it really is quite interesting! It is a recording of a presentation given by Dr. Michael Wesch from Kansas State University at the Library of Congress.

Yes, it is a Youtube video about Youtube. It covers many anthropological topics of interest, such as the anonymity, sense of community and self-awareness that Youtube creates. Quite informative!