

FALL 2008

Tau Sigma Harvest

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Note from Dr. Lee Colquitt	1
Note from Melanie Saunders	1
Welcome Aboard New Chapters	2
Tau Sigma in North Carolina	2
Get the Message Out!	2
University of Nebraska Social	3
It's Scholarship Time Again	3
UC-Irvine Clothes Drive	3
Tau Sigma Items	4

From the Executive Director...

"Recognizing and promoting the academic excellence and involvement of transfer students"

Well, 2007-2008 was another great year for Tau Sigma! As you will read about in other parts of the newsletter, we've added several chapters and I have had some great discussions with others who are looking to start a chapter at their institution. Clearly, the word continues to spread!

One of the newer initiatives I'm excited about this year is our move into the world of Facebook! On several occasions, I have made attempts at providing an opportunity for our members and advisors to communicate with one another. Until now, I had not found an effective means

of communication. I'm hopeful that this will be an easy way for members and advisors to get good ideas from one another about how to improve their chapters.

I have set up a group exclusively for advisors and a group open for



ANYONE who would like to join. The open group would be a place for students in various chapters to network with other

members across the country. In addition, it would serve as a way for students at universities without a Tau Sigma chapter to find out about Tau Sigma and look into the possibility of starting a chapter of their own.

If you have an interest in either one of these groups, do a search on Facebook for Tau Sigma National Honor Society. Other members and advisors would enjoy knowing of the good ideas that are out there! Share your thoughts with the group or just get on and make a new friend!

In addition to the groups that I have formed, there are individual chapters that have already established groups for themselves. Make sure you get into the right one!
- Lee Colquitt

From the Director of Chapter Relations...

Greetings all! It is hard for me to believe that it has been almost a year since writing to you! This has been a whirlwind of a year and I am excited to report on the growth and great reputation Tau Sigma continues to have. I am most thrilled to receive emails from schools who have heard such good things about Tau Sigma and want to know

how to get a chapter started on their campus. I know this would not be possible if not for you, our members and advisors, spreading the good word. Thank you for giving this organization such a great reputation. We are looking forward to growing stronger and larger as each year passes!

I also want to welcome the new schools that have joined! Also, keep in mind that we would be very happy to help any chapter with its membership mailing. We have all of the materials ready to go and can make your life as a chapter advisor a lot easier.

Please let me know if you need any assistance!

~Melanie Saunders

Tau Sigma National Honor Society in EVERY state!



"I am very proud of our transfer student population and the contributions they make to the Carolina community..."



Welcome Aboard New Chapters 2007-2008

SUNY - Albany - Advisor - Kelly Lamb
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill - Advisor - Josh Hewitt
SUNY - Fredonia - Advisor - Helen Leysath

Washington State University - Advisor-Jason Cottrell
University of North Carolina - Charlotte - Advisor - Shannon Cagle
University of Maryland - Advisor - Evelyn E. Cooper, Ph.D.
University of Texas - Advisor - Yolande Porter
University of Alabama - Advisor - Lowell K. Davis, Ph.D.
University of North Carolina - Wilmington - Advisor - Daniel Marks

We are excited and pleased to add you all to our growing list of Tau Sigma chapters. Thank you advisors for your time and work to get Tau Sigma started and thriving on your campus.

We look forward to one day having a chapter in EVERY state!

Tau Sigma First Chapter in North Carolina

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill became the first university in the state to establish a chapter of Tau Sigma, a national honor society for transfer students. From the past two entering transfer classes, 346 transfer students were invited to join UNC's chapter. "I am very proud of our transfer student population and the

contributions they make to the Carolina community. I am pleased that we are able bestow this special recognition to them for their outstanding academic achievements" said Dr. Melissa Exum, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Dean of Students. Membership into Tau Sigma is conferred by invitation only and is granted to those

students who have transferred to UNC having completed at least two semesters at a prior institution and earned at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average. UNC-Chapel Hill admits approximately 800 transfer students annually. A formal induction ceremony of the new inductees will take place during Family Weekend this fall.

Getting the Message Out!

We have redesigned our web site in an effort to more effectively reach those who are curious about Tau Sigma. As a part of the new site, we've added a FAQ link that will hopefully help those in the early stages of starting a chapter. If you know of anyone curious about establishing a

chapter, direct them to www.tausigmanhs.org. Also, I plan to attend a few meetings this year in an attempt to reach other schools that have a need to serve transfers. I plan to attend the Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (Jan 21-23 in Dallas) and the First-Year

Experience annual meeting (Feb 6-10 in Orlando). It's also possible that I will attend the American College Personnel Association annual meeting (March 27-April 1 in Washington, D.C.). Perhaps I'll see some of you at one of these! Look me up!
Lee Colquitt, Exec Dir

University of Nebraska Social with the Deans, Advisors, and Staff

One of our goals as a chapter is to ease the transition of new transfer students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We decided to bring new transfer students together with deans and other college representatives in a social setting early in the semester. In September 2007, Tau Sigma of Nebraska invited new transfer students and nontradi-

tional students to an Ice Cream Social—with a twist. Our creative officers baked cupcakes in ice cream cones and frosted them with vanilla icing. Guests were then invited to add sprinkles to their ice cream cup cakes and enjoy.

New transfer students were invited by email, as well as

printed invitations distributed at Big Red Welcome, our annual street fair held the Sunday evening before classes start. The Social was scheduled for the second week of the semester to give new students time to settle in. Each Dean was sent an email invitation, along with a list of new transfer students in his/her respective college. Deans and students

Deans, advisors and other staff were introduced at a specified time. The social was held in an instruction room in the library, so that students felt comfortable in what can be a rather imposing library, and met library staff, including liaison librarians in various academic disciplines.

The event was so successful that it will become an annual event.



This year we plan to award more than the \$10,000.00 we awarded last year.

It's Scholarship Time Again!

As you probably know by now, the deadline for accepting scholarship applications from each of our chapters is approaching. One of the most rewarding things we've done as an organization is to award scholarships to our most deserving members. We hope and expect to increase the scholarships offered each year. This year we plan to award more than the \$10,000 we awarded last year.

It is very encouraging to review the applications as they come in and see the wonderful accomplishments of many of our members.

Members... if you haven't heard about the scholarships available or the process, make sure you get the information from your advisor!

Advisors... make sure you keep up with the deadline! We will need your chapter's application(s) sent

to me electronically by November 14. Remember, you are allowed one chapter representative if you had under 100 new members this past year and two chapter representatives if you had 100+ new members this past year.

Scholarships will be announced December 19. We know there are deserving members out there. We just need to identify them!

University of California-Irvine Clothes Drive

Clothes Drive

Tau Sigma invites you to support our first ever Spring-Cleaning Clothes Drive & Raffle!

From now until the end of the quarter, we will be collecting items of clothing for:

- Men
- Women
- Children...

to be donated to the Salvation Army. For every item you bring in you will get a raffle ticket, so the more clothes you bring in the better chances you have of winning! Please, no clothes with stains, holes, or tears.

Raffle Rules:

- Send me an email with: your name, email, and how many clothes you've put in the box.

- The donation box will be in the Student Center Lounge (SSII 2200).
- The raffle will be drawn during the last meeting of the quarter before finals week, so there's plenty of time to bring something in. Remember: 1 item = 1 ticket, so keep 'em coming!

Together we can all make a difference.





TAU SIGMA
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

"RECOGNIZING AND PROMOTING THE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
AND INVOLVEMENT OF TRANSFER STUDENTS"

Advisors, we are now on FACEBOOK! It is a great way to communicate with each other and to trade ideas! Check it out today!

Fall 2008

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The purpose of Tau Sigma shall be to recognize the academic achievement of students transferring to a four-year academic institution and to encourage and promote the students' involvement in the institution to which they have transferred.

Have questions or need help? Contact Melanie Saunders or Lee Colquitt by email at tausigma@bellsouth.net



Tau Sigma Items for Chapters and Members

Banners and Table Covers

Several years ago, a few chapters asked us about the possibility of getting a table cover to use at chapter functions. We looked into it and decided to make these available for our chapters to purchase. We're excited to say that we have now decided to provide both a banner and table cover to all existing chapters (and any new chapters going forward) **free of charge**. We think that this will result in a more formal and professional presentation at functions like induction ceremonies, etc. We are working on these and should have them available to send to you hopefully sometime early next year. For those chapters

that purchased a table cover earlier, hold onto them. The new ones are different!

Honor Cords with Key

As you know, over the years we have provided new members the opportunity to purchase high quality Tau Sigma National Honor Society t-shirts and

honor cords. In addition, we have held the price of these to \$10 (including tax, shipping, and handling) for many years.

We are now offering our members the opportunity to buy an honor cord with a Tau Sigma key. The honor cords with a key will be \$15. The honor cords without the key will still be available for \$10 for students who would prefer those.

National now has:

- Tau Sigma shirts \$10.00
- Tau Sigma honor cords \$10.00
- Tau Sigma honor cords with key \$15.00

Other Ideas?

If there are other items that you think might have wide appeal, please pass along your thoughts. We would appreciate hearing about them!