

FALL 2009

# Tau Sigma Harvest

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## From the Executive Director...

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

We'll hit a milestone this year... Tau Sigma will be 10 years old in November! As most of you know, Tau Sigma was born at Auburn University in 1999 and we have grown considerably since. Our first attempt at being a national organization was through a presentation at a Students in Transition meeting in Cincinnati, OH in 2000. Since then, there have been thousands of members, advisors, and others at dozens of universities who have contributed to make our organization as strong as it is today. Interestingly, Lia Hallett, the advisor of the University at Buffalo chapter (the first chapter

after Auburn), is still an advisor today! Thanks, Lia, for almost ten years of great service!!! In addition to getting to know Lia, I've had the great privilege of getting to know countless other advisors (staff folks at many uni-



versities) who have selflessly served to make their universities a better place for transfer students. Many thanks to all of you for your commitment!

I would also like to thank Melanie Saunders for the great work she's been doing as the Director of Chapter Relations for Tau Sigma for over three years now. Most of you have gotten to know Melanie and will likely agree with me that she is definitely the personality of our organization! She has helped take our organization to a new level with her friendliness, creativity, and strong work ethic.

Finally, congratulations to the 18,754 Tau Sigma alumni and current members from 70 different universities who have been inducted over the last ten years. You have represented Tau Sigma very well with your outstanding work in and out of the classroom. Great job!

- Lee Colquitt

## From the Director of Chapter Relations...

On September 11, 2009, eight years after the terrorist attacks of 9/11, I was reminded of what wonderful job we Americans have done to come together as a nation. Although it was a horrific thing to have happen, I believe the event ultimately strengthened our country unlike any other event in our lifetime. Of course, as November, 2009 approaches, Lee reminded me that Tau Sigma is celebrating its tenth year! How exciting to watch the growth of this or-

ganization just over the last few years! We have added several chapters since I've joined Tau Sigma and we are now reaching out to transfer students all over the United States! One thing that I am most proud of is the service work that so many of our chapters are involved in. In addition to serving the transfer students at their universities, many chapters are also reaching out to the elderly, the poor, and those with disabilities. To me, seeing this work among our

chapters has been one of the highlights of working with Tau Sigma. The memory of serving others will likely stay with the members after graduation and will hopefully encourage them to continue to serve others throughout the rest of their lives. Advisors and chapter officers, please continue to motivate your members towards this kind of service. It will have a tremendous impact on both your members and those they serve!

~Melanie Saunders

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TAU SIGMA AND WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

What an exciting year! Not only have we added 12 new schools to our organization, but we are also celebrating our tenth year serving transfer students!

We extend a warm Tau Sigma welcome to (University and advisor):

Adelphi University-Jennifer McCabe

University of North Texas-Dallas-John Daniels

George Mason University-Frances Herrity

Liberty University-Dr. Brian Yates

Fayetteville State University-Vicki Millspaugh-McKenzie

East Tennessee State-Carla Warner

University of Texas at Dallas-Yolande Porter

Pace University-Shawn Livingston

University of South Florida-Keri Riegler

Northern Illinois University-Missy Gillis

And to our "FIRST IN THE STATE" chapters:

University of Michigan-Dearborn-Christopher Trembly

University of Southern Mississippi-Emily Holmes



**Tau Sigma  
Celebrates 10  
successful YEARS!**

### UNC-Wilmington Chapter

At the University of North Carolina Wilmington – Beta Kappa Chapter, we are happy to report that this past academic year we had 51 chapter members (Alpha AND Beta class combined) – and this was our first year!

We are also happy to report that our chapter participated in the Relay for Life cam-

paign, planned and attended many social activities, and are in the works for planning a mentoring program for new transfer students called "Teal Trax."

Also, within our Tau Sigma chapter we designated a special group that assisted the Office of Admissions this year. Tau Sigma students who were involved

with the recruitment of prospective students at our open house events (Transfer To Teal (T3) Saturday) and heavily involved with the chapter were named "Wheatees", after the "wheat" reference in the founding of the chapter.



**First in the State—  
University of Michigan-  
Dearborn**

### University of Michigan-Dearborn

We at UM-Dearborn say...  
"The First is Always the Best"

Congratulations are in order for the Beta Sigma Chapter of Tau Sigma National Honor Society at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. In June 2009, 30 transfer students at the University were inducted into this chapter -- the very first in Michigan. This chapter is led by advisor Christopher Tremblay and President Shannon Marrow. Being the first

chapter in Michigan, we have our job cut out as far as putting Tau Sigma's name out there and becoming an interest among transfer students. Student Organization Day, which is part of our beginning-of-the-semester Welcome Week festivities, is a way to inform students about the different organizations on campus. The Tau Sigma members had our very own table and provide flyers highlighting our organization. We wore our official Tau Sigma t-shirts and passed

out ink pens with our official colors, gold and burgundy. Also, this November the members have decided to participate in a service project helping to better the lives of the poor. Capuchin Soup Kitchen serves less fortunate individuals by helping to provide food and shelter to those who need it most and our members will be there to provide as much help as needed.

Written by Chapter Secretary  
Karmen Jones

# Auburn University - Senior Prom



The Atria Prom: A Night With the Stars

Once a year, Tau Sigma partners with IMPACT, a community service group on Auburn’s campus, to put together a night of dancing and fun for the residents of the Azalea Retirement Home in Auburn, AL. Also known as the Atria Prom, residents at the Azalea Retirement home look forward to this

event every year. For some of us, the term “prom” may conjure up memories of high school angst or years spent as the eternal wallflower. At the Atria Prom, wallflowers were absent entirely. The prom was themed “Hollywood Nights.” Appropriately, the faces of Audrey Hepburn and Gene Kelly served as wall décor, along with red, silver, and black balloons and other decorations resembling Hollywood glitz. Throughout the evening, many of the volunteers were able to spend time in conversation with the residents. The amount of enjoyment the prom was providing for the residents was obvious in the energetic chatter echoing between rooms. As the night was nearing an end, the crowning of the prom king and queen was a thrilling scene to watch. Earlier

in the evening, many of the volunteers were told by the residents about the infamous couple who always took the title of prom king and queen. So I suppose this prom is a little like high school after all. However, to everyone’s surprise, two other residents dethroned the reigning royalty and joined together for their first dance. The night was filled with Hollywood glamour indeed; though this time the stars were the ones on the dance floor. As residents began filing out, endless amounts of gratitude poured from the hearts of every resident, but I know the volunteers were just as grateful to have been a small part of their lives for one special evening.  
~Hallie Johnston

**Our scholarships have been increasing every year! We have many outstanding Tau Sigma members to recognize!**

## Let’s Award Some Scholarships!

As I mention every year, fall is scholarship time for Tau Sigma. This year marks the sixth year of awarding scholarships. We began by awarding \$2,500 in scholarships to four students in 2004 and our scholarships have grown to 21 students receiving over \$19,000 in scholarships last year. We hope and expect to have even more money awarded this year!

As has always been the case, each chapter is able to nominate one representative to the Scholarship Review Committee for consideration. Chapters that have inducted more than 100 members during the last calendar year are able to nominate two. I would encourage all chapters to participate. The ratio of awards to applicants has been pretty high in the past. Advisors, encourage your students to try!

Also, don’t let the deadline of Friday, November 13 sneak up on you. That’s the last day for us to receive the nominations from each of the chapters. Advisors, make sure you collect the applications from you members, review them, and pick a nominee before then. It’s always exciting to see the outstanding work that many of our members are doing!

## Tau Sigma This and That

Advisors:

If you need any Tau Sigma materials we can take orders from you and invoice you by email. Send all orders to [tausigma@bellsouth.net](mailto:tausigma@bellsouth.net). We encourage you to keep extra honor cords on hand.

We hope all of you have received your beautiful Tau Sigma table cover and banner for your chapter and are enjoying using them for your induction ceremony as well as other Tau Sigma events you may have on your campus. Display them with pride!



We are currently looking into the possibility of a Tau Sigma Leadership Conference. We’re not sure how many years away this might be (it may even be a little premature for us to mention this), but we’re hopeful that it is something not too far off!



**TAU SIGMA**  
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

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

**Fall 2009**

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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](mailto:tausigma@bellsouth.net)

## Find Your Tau Sigma Chapter's Greek Name

Many of you have asked and now, thanks to Daniel Marks of University of North Carolina-Wilmington, we have the Greek name for your chapter.

Auburn Univ-Alpha  
Univ at Buffalo-Beta  
Kent State Univ-Gamma  
Univ of Florida-Delta  
SUNY-Oswego-Epsilon  
Univ of Central Florida-Zeta  
James Madison Univ-Eta  
Univ of South Dakota-Theta  
Univ of Washington-Iota  
Univ of North Texas-Kappa  
Univ of Nebraska-Lambda  
Univ of South Carolina-Mu  
Hilbert College-Nu  
Univ of Nevada at Reno-Xi  
Univ of California at Irvine -  
Omicron  
SUNY Cortland-Pi  
Georgia State Univ-Rho  
Pittsburg State Univ-Sigma  
Univ of Hawaii at Manoa-Tau  
Univ of Akron-Upsilon  
Florida International Univ-Phi  
Univ of Illinois at Urbana  
Champaign-Chi  
Georgia Southern Univ-Psi  
Univ of Toledo-Omega

Oregon State Univ-Alpha Alpha  
Utah State Univ-Alpha Beta  
Univ of North Dakota-Alpha Gamma  
Univ of Missouri at St. Louis-Alpha  
Delta  
Old Dominion Univ-Alpha Epsilon  
Clemson Univ-Alpha Zeta  
Univ of Texas at El Paso-Alpha Eta  
Portland State Univ-Alpha Theta  
Oklahoma State Univ at Tulsa-Alpha  
Iota  
Oklahoma State Univ at Stillwater-  
Alpha Kappa  
Univ of Louisville-Alpha Lambda  
Univ of Houston-Downtown-  
Alpha Mu  
Middle Tennessee State Univ-Alpha Nu  
Slippery Rock Univ-Alpha Xi  
Univ of Illinois at Chicago-  
Alpha Omicron  
Virginia Commonwealth Univ-  
Alpha Pi  
College of Charleston-Alpha Rho  
Indiana Univ-Southeast-Alpha Sigma  
Univ of Missouri at Columbia-  
Alpha Tau  
DePaul Univ-Alpha Upsilon  
Univ of Connecticut-Alpha Phi  
California State Univ at Northridge-  
Alpha Chi  
Univ of Maryland-Baltimore County

SUNY Binghamton-Alpha Omega  
Univ of California at Riverside-  
Beta Alpha  
SUNY Albany-Beta Beta  
Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill-  
Beta Gamma  
SUNY Fredonia-Beta Delta  
Washington State Univ-Beta  
Epsilon  
Univ of North Carolina-Charlotte-  
Beta Zeta  
Univ of Maryland-Beta Eta  
Univ of Texas-Beta Theta  
Univ of Alabama-Beta Iota  
Univ of North Carolina  
Wilmington-Beta Kappa  
Adelphi Univ-Beta Lambda  
Univ of North Texas-Dallas-Beta  
Mu  
George Mason Univ-Beta Nu  
Liberty Univ-Beta Xi  
Fayetteville State Univ-Beta  
Omicron  
East Tennessee State Univ-Beta Pi  
Univ of Texas at Dallas-Beta Rho  
Univ of Mich-Dearborn-Beta Sigma  
The Univ of Southern Mississippi-  
Beta Tau  
Pace Univ-Beta Upsilon  
Univ of South Florida-Beta Phi  
Northern Illinois Univ-Beta Chi