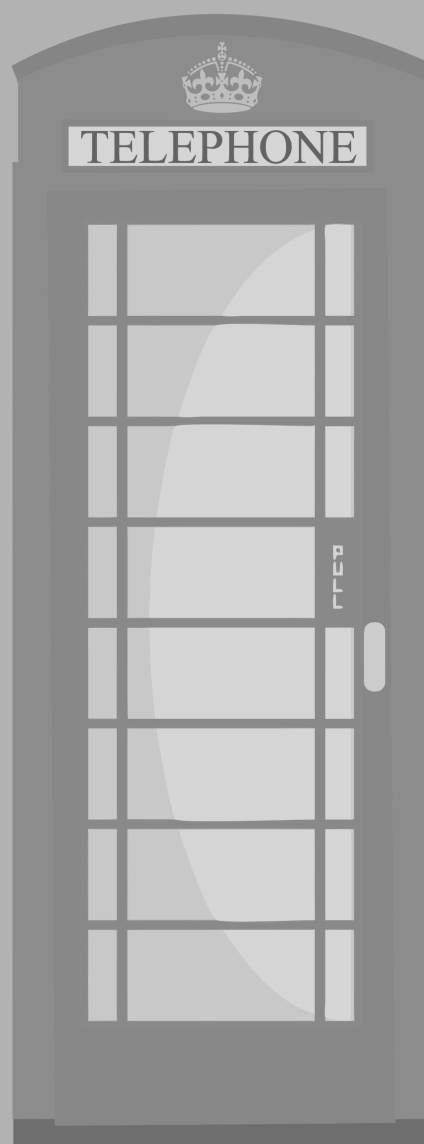


**ANSWER**

**THE**

**CALL**



The NEW Alto- Fall 2015

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# Lindsay Barnhill

Psi- Tau Beta Sigma  
Garden of Sisterhood



Everyone has experienced trials in life. Stresses such as school and preparing for the next season of life are constantly on our minds. What does this mean for an organization such as Tau Beta Sigma? It means that it is up to each member to support one another in their endeavors.

I like to think of our organization as a garden. For example, Fall is full of service opportunities for the band in which many of our seeds grow in service and sisterhood at the same time. However, we must remember that not every seed grows at the same pace, and an outlet full of passion for service is not always easy to maintain. In order to ensure our growth, an open line of communication and understanding is essential.

Service organizations such as Tau Beta Sigma have the ability to make a huge impact on

bands and the community. While this is important, each member must also prioritize their

lives to do what is best for them. With each new semester comes new trials. Ideally, there should be one constant in the life of Tau Beta Sigma members: the sisterhood.

Sisterhood, similar to a garden, requires care and physically displayed intentions. Each flower needs slightly different care. Knowing the people and personalities of your sisters is imperative. When someone is having a hard time, they may need to vent and talk about their struggles, while someone else may need to internalize it before acting. Knowing how each sister feels and acts is important so that you can help them. Most importantly, though, is the act of being present. It can be difficult for one person to care for a garden the size of a whole chapter. Each of us must take the initiative to cultivate our members

and help them grow.

I believe that sisterhood directly relates to how effective we can be in terms of service. Sisterhood promotes healthy communication and understanding of one another. When you know how to work together, even through the stressful times, we are able to achieve and exceed our service goals. However, things are not always ideal in terms of sisterhood. Passion that surrounds our organization can often put an overcast on our relationships. When this happens, all members should make an effort to remember that we are all here for one purpose, which is service. Sometimes this takes time, but your labor is never in vain. After all, true sisterhood does not go down without a fight, and the garden will always flourish in time. Every flower has a growing season, and even roses have thorns. That does not take away from how beautiful we or Tau Beta Sigma truly is.

# Sami Belford

Psi- Tau Beta Sigma, SWD President  
Just Senior Things



Becoming a senior has been one of the hardest things I have ever had to do in this organization. I have invested so many years, months, days, and hours into Tau Beta Sigma, and I never thought this time would come – the time when my time as an active member comes to an end.

When I was a freshman and a sophomore, I remember having a conversation with a friend, talking about a senior in

the chapter and saying “When will she realize this just isn’t her chapter anymore?” Well, karma is a funny beast, and came back to pay three years later. I have felt so out of place – as if I have one foot in the “real” world, one foot still in college. I often struggle with feeling like people don’t

care what my opinion is anymore, I struggle with feeling unneeded, and I especially struggle with the fear that I will be forgotten. I face these fears each time I attend chapter, each time I talk with a younger member. It is terrifying.

One day, these pains began to become too much. I reached out to Donnelle’, ranting that my chapter was pushing me out; that they didn’t ask for my opinion anymore, and they didn’t want to hear what I had to say. With one simple question,

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Sami Belford cont...

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she changed everything.

"How is this impacting your ability to serve?"

I stopped. Immediately, I wanted to argue. "But...you don't understand!" "This *is* impacting my ability to serve, I'm unwanted!"

"That doesn't make me feel better!" But I waited to respond. I let her words sink in. The truth that kept ringing through was that, my interpretation of how others felt about me did not interfere with me doing the things that I came here to do. I am still able to come to band and be positive, if I choose to. I am still about to go to service projects, if I choose to. I am still able to invest in young-

er members and help train them to be great sisters, if I choose to. What I have had to learn is that while I am looking forward in my life, looking to what my next step is, it is okay to trust those who have come after you to look after the chapter. Younger members are fully capable. I have to remember that I was once in their shoes, feeling like I was more than capable and feeling like the seniors didn't trust me to complete the job at hand. Now that I am a senior, I see that it was so much more. As a senior, it's your last chance. Your last chance to get things right, to get that thing done that you always wanted to happen, your last chance to make a lasting impact. That pressure can drive anyone

mad.

Surely I am not the only senior who has ever gone through the problems I have faced thus far, and I most certainly will not be the last. I also remember how it feels to be that young member who is tired of seniors butting in and criticizing. So older members – have patience. Try to release some of the pressure, and focus on what is important: serving as you are. Younger members – have patience. Try to put yourself in older members' shoes and focus on what is important: serving as you are. By keeping our priorities straight and holding on to what is important, we can still stay bonded together and fulfill our purposes.

## Samantha Brandeberry



Psi– Tau Beta Sigma  
The Art of Recognition

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Recognition is a powerful thing. Recently, I nominated an individual who had made a positive impact in my work experience as a Resident Assistant for RA of the Month. When he read it for the first time in front of me, I could tell that the six hundred words I had written not only expressed my gratitude towards him, but also gave him positive feedback and encouragement to continue to exceed the expectations of his peers. He had an emotional response and gave me a hug. In that moment, I realized that this: this moment of appre-

ciation exchanged between two parties is why we should recognize others.

Too often, recognition is confused with motivation. The difference is that recognition serves as positive feedback for members who are passionate and make a difference in the lives of others. Being motivated just to be recognized implies that the meaning behind our actions is overshadowed by a need to be in the spotlight. In Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, the meaning behind our actions is to serve others: the serve the band programs we are a part of and to serve each other as brothers and sisters.

The act of recognizing others has obvious positive effects. While giving positive

feedback can encourage others to improve their performance or become more involved, building sisterhood and brotherhood is also an important end goal. By building an environment of recognition within your chapter, sisters and brothers will continue to pass the good feelings around and everyone will experience higher morale.

Here are some tips for using recognition as a chapter:

Give it to the person, not the work – It's easy to appreciate the things that people do well, but remember that there's a person behind the work that they've done.

Give it for what you want more of – If a sister or brother does something exceptional or has great

Samantha Brandeberry cont...

attitude regardless of circumstances, highlight those contributions.

Tailor recognition to others –

Recognize who your introverts and extroverts are. Some people really respond well to being recognized in front of the entire chapter. However, sometimes all that is required is a pat on the back or a hug of appreciation. Not everyone wants to be in the spotlight. Get to know each other and find what works best for the individual.

Get creative! – Channel the five Love Languages: Words of Affirmation, Acts of Service, Receiving Gifts, Quality Time and Physical Touch. Not all forms of recognition have to come with a plaque or a stuffed animal. Spending quality time with a sister or brother is a great

way to not only tell them how much you appreciate them, but also allows you to get to know them better.

Extend recognition beyond your chapter – Recognize and express appreciation for band directors, staff, graduate assistants and non-Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi members of your band program.

The Psi Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma has made recognition a permanent fixture within our sisterhood. We do a lot of chapter-wide recognition every week. These “awards” include more serious recognition pieces such as Tau the Turtle, a large stuffed turtle that is awarded to a sister by a sister for impacting them positively over the course of two weeks and the Book of Sisterhood: a journal in which sisters write letters of gratitude and affection to one another that are centered around the personification of Eight Essential Factors.

These, as well as, awards for musical attainment, sass, sisterly love and acts of service are ingrained in our chapter meetings.

One of my favorite recognition pieces is a joint award that we do with the Lambda Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi. The award is called the Sonny and Cher award. Two backscratchers are passed on every month: one from a brother to a sister and one from a sister to a brother. This is a simple way of fostering joint relationships, but is by no means small.

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” -Maya Angelou

The feeling that is remembered is not one-sided. Once you experience heartfelt recognition, you’ll wonder why you hadn’t been giving it and receiving it all along.

## Kelsey Cassidy

Eta Pi– Tau Beta Sigma  
Sisterhood Through Service



and being a sister of Tau Beta Sigma makes our halftime shows even more special, because of all

Going to school in a southern small town means attending college football games on Saturdays is basically a community event. Usually, there aren’t many other things to do in our small town on the weekends so the stadium is always packed and filled with school spirit. The Spirit of Northwestern’s halftime show is a big part of the night –

the hard work each of us put in to making everything perfect. We make sure that everything runs smoothly on game days and that everyone looks their best for halftime. Our band is over three hundred strong, so it can take days to organize all of the uniforms and get everything ready for the day. We have a strong sense of pride in knowing



that we contributed to making this halftime show better than it was before. All of the hard work we put into it pays off when we hear all the cheering and clapping at the end of our performance. Service through Sisterhood is important for all of us

Kelsey Cassidy Cont...

and helping make the band better for each performance is our goal.

One of Tau Beta Sigma's purposes is to provide a meaningful and worthwhile social experience for all engaged in band work. This semester, the Eta Pi chapter has been focusing on not only making our experience as sister better, but the experience of all band members better. We want to hold more events that get everyone involved and helps spread a positive image of what Tau Beta Sigma is and does. We are doing this by holding more events and fundraisers this year than we have in past years.

Some of these events include: square dancing, movie nights, March-a-spot (this is where instructors, drum majors, and assistants trade spots with a band member for a run through of the show during practice), a progressive dinner for our perspective members (active sisters cook a 3 course meal and talk about what Tau Beta Sigma means to them), a Halloween Party, and Bra Pong (which is a fundraiser that we are holding in October for Breast Cancer Awareness. Seventy-five percent of the proceeds from Bra Pong will be donated to a breast cancer foundation in the Spirit of

Northwestern's name). All of these events and fundraisers will take place in the Creative and Performing Arts building where many band students have classes. This means that students are not the only ones getting involved, but many of the music professors have the opportunity to participate in the activities we have held so far this year. Each activity or fundraiser's purpose is to make band more enjoyable or to help raise money for our chapter so that we can serve our band better.

Another important aspect of Tau Beta Sigma is working with other musical organizations on our campus. Northwestern State University is lucky to have many diverse music programs which means there are quite a few different music sororities and fraternities. Besides our sorority, we also have active chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi, Sigma Alpha Iota, and Phi Mu Alpha. Our goal this year is to create stronger bonds between these organizations and make friendships that will last a lifetime. We value our mutual purposes with Kappa Kappa Psi, and our bond with brother chapter is very strong. We hold joint chapter events together including: cook outs, pizza nights, and game nights. Our perspective

classes also get to experience their processes together which definitely helps to strengthen our bond



even more between our chapters once they cross and join our wonderful organizations. We are hoping to reach out to the other two organizations this year and make our bond with them stronger as well. Overall, we try to support them in any event they hold and participate in fundraisers that they have as well. All of us share a mutual interest in music and work to better serve our music programs.

Northwestern State University is very lucky to have amazing music programs and great music professors. Due to our small campus, all of the organizations have a close knit feel and strong family bonds between them. Eta Pi is lucky to have such an amazing support system, and we really hope to make our bonds stronger within our organization and with everyone who loves music and wishes to serve the band in the same way we do. MLITB!



# Justin Chesak

Gamma Iota– Kappa Kappa Psi,  
SWD Vice President of  
Membership

MEP: Molding Candidates  
into Brothers



ship? From how meetings operate, to how the OMRS works, to using parliamentary procedure. If they don't, it's

definitely food for thought as you look at your Chapters MEP.

This past weekend I had the opportunity to sit in on the Alpha Psi chapters PM meeting. Compared to many meetings I've been a part of and witnessed I can say it was very well run (by their PM President) and they handled their business in a quick and efficient manner. I was thoroughly impressed, these candidates will go into the brotherhood that much more prepared for active membership and with a better understanding of their chapters operations.

A more common way that chapters often prepare their members is by requiring their candidates to find and carry out service projects. This is one of my favorite types of events because it gets the candidates to one of the very important pur-

poses and pillars of our organizations, and gives them a positive outlook on service and the impact it can have on the community, the band program, and even individuals.

This same principle can be applied to all of our pillars and will ultimately ensure that our candidates jump into the active brotherhood prepared with all the knowledge they'll need to succeed, and not having to wait and learn during their active membership. It may seem like a no brainer, but these are just a few simple ways to improve your candidates and help mold them into the future of your chapters and our organization.

As a former VP and current Southwest District VP I can openly say I'm a nerd about teaching Candidates. I love the MEP process, and seeing what other chapters have done with it. Amongst all the experiences I've had I came to realize that our MEP is about preparing brothers for active membership and it should reflect that.

When we teach our candidates what are we teaching them for? Will the information they cram amidst physics, music theory, calculus, english, and other courses be retained? Ideally, we hope it will. We push them to memorize names of our founding fathers, dates, purposes, which are at the core of our values and history of our fraternity. But do our MEP classes prepare them for active member-



# Julianne Clements

Psi– Tau Beta Sigma

The Seasons of Sisterhood



Imagine the warm air and cool breeze of a fall day, as the fallen leaves crunch under your feet. Picture the grey skies and brisk air as you walk along the frosted ground on a cold winter day. Imagine the first days of spring as the flowers start

blooming and the vibrant new greens scream out for attention. Feel the warmth of the sun on your face as you wander through the days of summer. Think about how in each season, for a small time, you truly appreciate it for what it is and what is going on. But, as summer comes to an end, no one can wait for all the Pumpkin Spiced Lattes and flannel wearing weather. For a while, carving pumpkins and drinking apple cider is exactly what you need. But eventually one grows tired of the

fall and craves for the first snowfall of the season and for ugly Christmas sweater parties, for a new year with fresh beginnings. As the cold winter rages on, we dream of the sun and rain coming out and making everything in sight bloom brilliantly. As the rains fall on the earth we are ready once again for the sun to shine bright and warm us through and through. With every season that comes and goes, we love each one while we experience it. Yet at the same time, we crave what is to come next, we

crave all of the exciting things that the next season has in store for us.

Just like the way the seasons go each year, there are also different seasons of sisterhood. Seasons of sisterhood where it is all fun and games, seasons of a lot of change, seasons of old wisdom, and seasons of new growth. Just like the seasons, there is something incredible to enjoy about each of these different seasons.

Think of the days spent jumping into pools, or tubing on the lake while the warm summer sun beats down on your face. These are the days of no school, no work and no responsibility, spent relaxing and doing the things that one loves. Much like summer, there are periods of time in a sisterhood that are full of all of the fun and excitement that comes with the heat of the season. There is always something happening that people really enjoy and everyone's spirits are high and lifted. Everything happens naturally and there is no worry about what is to come, just trust that what needs to happen will happen. This is the summer of sisterhood.

Listen to that crackle of a fire on a fall evening and the sound of kids trick or treating. These are the days of football games, marching band rehearsals, and fall break adventures, spent watching the world change color all around you and begin to change. Much like autumn, sisterhood experiences

times of change; where the old begins to change and fall away to the new. These are exciting times because you get to watch it happen and it is such a beautiful process. Everything works together to slowly shift into something new while the old gently drifts away. Change is a beautiful part of any organization and it makes the way for new and exciting things to come into being. This is the fall of sisterhood.

Feel the first snowflake hit your cheek and know that winter has arrived. These are the days of hot chocolate in the morning, fuzzy winter socks, and layers upon layers of clothes while the world lie still. Much like winter, a sisterhood experiences time of calm and peace where everything works together and is still for once. Nothing much changes within the organization, but there is an air of anticipation for what is to come and excitement for the chance to take a breath. So much of the year is spent changing and becoming something new, that sometimes taking the time to focus on all the good that has been and still is reminds everyone of the good of the chapter. Appreciating what the organization is for a time is a stunning process. This is the winter of sisterhood.

Lastly, imagine the smell of fresh cut grass and all the flowers blooming everywhere. These are the days of hammocking in the shade, making wishes on dandelions, repping the TBS tank tops, and watching the world burst into color

with all things new. Much like the spring, a sisterhood experiences a time of fresh beginnings and all sorts of growth. Whether it is through the initiation of new sisters, or the creation of a new service project, new things are constantly occurring in the context of a sisterhood. That time of growth is crucial to the survival of the chapter, for with it comes the excitement and thrill of new things and new opportunities. Experiencing growth individually, as a chapter, and across the organization as a whole is an incredible process. This is the spring of sisterhood.

The coolest thing about all of these different seasons is that not everyone shares the same favorite. Some like fall more than others, and some would always pick summer. Some love the cold of winter, and others like the freshness of spring. But the important part is that we can see and appreciate what is good in each of them and enjoy each season as it comes and goes. At the end of the day, each season is unique and perfect as is and is so important to the function of the sisterhood; and even though it may be gone for a little while, that favorite season is bound to come back again and waiting in anticipation for it to arrive is half the fun!





# Amy Crone

Gamma Nu– Tau Beta Sigma  
Corresponding is Key



The word “correspondence” has two definitions:

1. A close similarity, connection, or equivalence

AND

2. Communication by exchanging letters with someone

While the second definition quite literally explains one of the most common duties of the corresponding secretary, the first definition articulates the meaning of the position. As corresponding secretary for the Epsilon Beta chapter of Tau Beta Sig-

ma, I enjoy mailing birthday cards and updates from our chapter throughout the district. *I love* checking our mailbox and finding mail to share with our chapter. Connecting with sisters near and far by any means is always special. We use stationery to communicate, so our chapters do not become stationary. Communication is a key aspect of growth among chapters.

Recently, our chapter at Texas A&M University- Commerce has grown especially close to the sisters of Gamma Nu at the University of Texas in Arlington. We met up at district convention, national convention, and workshops at our respective schools. Some of our sisters have

even visited each other outside of TBS related events. Now, we have been assigned as



buddy chapters, and cannot wait to see where correspondence takes us in the future! I highly encourage every chapter of Tau Beta Sigma to get to know the buddy chapter our lovely Vice President of Special Projects - Emily Morris assigned. With today’s technology, we have endless opportunities to build great bonds for greater bands.



# Graham Delafield

Delta– Kappa Kappa Psi  
SWD President  
What’s the Deal with  
“Answer the Call?”



If you have been around the district scene for any given amount of time, you have probably seen a social media post, read an email, or heard something about “answering the call.” At first, you may be wondering what exactly is the call you’re

supposed to be answering, but since that is pretty easy to determine, you may ask where this whole idea got started. Through my brief retelling of events, I hope many of you will come to understand what our mission is and how it will benefit us as members of the fraternity.

Over the course of the summer, the Southwest District Council of Kappa Kappa Psi went through some very interesting times. The three elected officers were challenged to find members of the district to fill the two

vacant offices, almost immediately following the selection of our two new members, two of the original elected officers felt called to leave office, and then it was time for National Convention. To say that the summer was hectic would be an understatement. I was personally challenged, not only by the goals I had for my office of Vice President, but also by the obstacles of battling through council changes and attempting to tackle new responsibilities as well as those already existing. Going into National Convention was a whirl-

Graham Delafield Cont...

wind of confusion, stress, and anxiety, but it was these few days in Lexington, Kentucky that truly set the tone for the coming year.

During District Leadership Convention – an event for all of the District Presidents that takes place directly before National Convention – Sami Belford and I came up with the idea that we truly wanted to spur on growth and engagement in the fraternity. We were looking for ways to not only challenge our members, but to do it in such a way that allows us to observe measurable growth at the end of year. Sami and I decided that this is something we both wanted for our members, but that we couldn't be the ones to make the final call on how we were going to go about this adventure. So every member of both district councils crowded into a hotel room – with Emily Morris joining

us on the phone – and we talked it out. Every member agreed that challenging our members was something we wanted to do because we all firmly believe that the Southwest District has the best, brightest, most driven members in the entire country, and we believe that we are capable of so much more than we typically give. After all, what group of people can ever claim to be great if it never grows? So on that day in Lexington, the District Councils created the theme "Answer the Call."

So now you know a little bit of the history behind "Answer the Call," but what are we hoping to gain? The answer is simple: participation. If I were to be honest, I would say that maybe 10 percent of members of the Southwest District participate in district activities, with the exception of District Convention being obviously high in attendance. That's an extremely low number. Yes, we have over one thousand

members in this district, which means 10 percent is anywhere from 100 to 120 members, but if we only see or hear from the same 120 people form the same chapters, how can we expect to see any type of growth in our district? "Answer the Call" is meant to challenge every chapter around the district to dive in and put our purposes into practice. We want the entire district to be engaged in district activities and throughout the year we will provide opportunities to do so in manners large and small. It is our hope that members will truly feel challenged to go above and beyond their usual efforts and take control of their experience in our organizations. Every member of the Southwest District is valuable, wanted, and needed. And it is our hope that urging you to "Answer the Call" will prompt you to give your best efforts towards the growth of our district.

## Brittany Eppes

Epsilon Beta– Kappa Kappa Psi  
Striving to Answer the Call

The Epsilon Beta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi has had a blast this semester "Answering



the Call". We have traveled to two different places and visited with their chapters. We went to Fort Smith and ate dinner and hung out with the Lambda Kappa Chapter. We also went to Oklahoma State University where we stayed the night with a Brother from the Alpha Chapter. While we were in Stillwater, members of the Alpha Chapter showed us the history of the fraternity, considering that is where Kappa Kappa Psi was founded. We were able to stand in the lot where Bohumil once lived, view one of the few busts of Boh that

are left, see the Kappa Kappa Psi/Tau Beta Sigma Shrine, and more. We had a lot of fun spending time with the Lambda Kappa and Alpha Chapters, and we will continue to "Answer the Call" as much as we can. AEA!



## Kurt Hall

Gamma Phi– Tau  
Beta Sigma  
The History  
Initiative



This year has been a busy year! As I am sure with every chapter, the Gamma Phi chapter has been going and going since the moment we stepped foot back on the campus for the new school year. As sisters, we are always there to answer the call whenever it is needed, regardless of how naturally busy students are every semester. Whether it be serving as a chapter officer, your two hours of practice per day, homework,

work, or everything else one has going on in day to day life – we know busy. This is the cultural normality for our chapter this semester. I am very passionate about Tau Beta Sigma’s history, so I offered to help Vice President of Membership with continuing membership education. I have done this by taking one simple step: Every week, I read aloud to the chapter a section from our Tau Beta Sigma history book, “From a Local Group to a National Sorority: 1939-1947”. We only have the first chapter, but within the first month it was obvious that it was a success. I love seeing the awe and fascination in their eyes as they are learning something new

about the history of our sorority. We have learned how our organization went from one small group - starting with Wava as she gathered Emily SoRelle and Rose La Nell Williams, to where we are now. In taking this initiative to answer the call and offer my help, our chapter has become stronger. Not only do I get to help with our Continued Membership Education process, I also get to tell the amazing story of how we began our journey in forming this sisterhood! You can make the impact. You can change the face of our sorority. The only thing you have to do is answer the call.

## Aurora Harris

Psi– Tau Beta Sigma  
What I Learned From  
Quitting



I have been in marching and concert band since my freshman year of high school. I have always adored music, so I knew this was something I wanted to do during my education. I would play my clarinet during concert season and spin my flags during marching season, and everything was great until my junior year. During the audition process and training clinics, I was strongly questioning if I really wanted to keep doing marching band. Several poor interactions with my instructor and other guard members had pecked away at my enthusiasm until nothing was left. It was with a conflicted heart that I decided marching band

just wasn’t for me. And because I couldn’t do concert band without participating in marching band, I would be unable to continue with my clarinet as well.

For a while, I was alright with my decision. But then the first football game of the year was played. The entire time, I was transfixed on the band and saw how much fun they were having. I saw all of my friends and began to wonder why I had quit in the first place. When halftime rolled around and the marching band took the field, I didn’t even make it through the whole show. I was so distraught that I left early. The thought hit me like a train wreck. I had made the worst decision of my life. The next week, I plucked up the courage to ask the band director if I could rejoin concert band. The

answer was no. Once again, I was devastated. He told me that I could reaudition for color guard the next fall, but that my high school clarinet career was over. He implied that by questioning my place in band, I wasn’t good enough to be completely part of his program. If I wasn’t 100% sure all the time about being in band, then we had a problem. I obviously lacked conviction and dedication, so I couldn’t be a successful band member anymore.

For a long time, I believed him. I considered selling my clarinet and not even bothering to try out for guard the next year. My mom bought me a book about marching band and I cried myself to sleep for a week. Luckily, my friend and family were there to slap me in the face. If I laid down and accepted defeat, that would be proving my director right! So what if I couldn’t

Aurora Harris Cont...

play in a concert setting in high school? Once I was in college, all I had to do was audition and I could be in once again. Nobody there would care that I didn't always know band was right for me. So I rolled up my sleeves and went to work. I continued practicing my clarinet and I prepared for color guard auditions. I may not be able to go into concert band, but marching band was still available. And that's what I did. I went to the auditions and was accepted back in again. I ignored all the snide comments and subtle slurs about quitters

and laziness. Who cared what other people thought? I was in marching band because it made me happy. So I survived my senior year of high school and then went to college, where I'm in both marching band *and* concert band. And my old director has no say in the subject!

So what exactly was the point of this story? It was to teach you to never give up on your dreams or to let your past control your future. Even if you feel like everyone is doubting you and that you're all alone, don't back down. Everyone is going to have setbacks in their

life, everyone is going to have trials. What makes certain people stand out is what they do with that stumbling block. Are you going to sit back and let it beat you? Or are you going to rise up and strengthen your convictions? Usually the hardest things in life to accomplish turn out to be the things most worth it in the end. And if you never try to move past your previous mistakes, how are you going to know how much you can accomplish in your life? Everyone has unlimited potential. You just have to figure out what you want to do with it.

## Jared Holt

Epsilon Beta- Kappa  
Kappa Psi, SWD  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Remembering Music



There are two main components to being a good musician: your ability as a player and your performance as a member of your ensemble. The side upon which more focus is usually placed

As Brothers and Sisters, we are all dedicated to a set of high personal standards. Along with our standard of excellence as men and women of character and our standard of excellence as intelligent, hard-working members of our Fraternity and Sorority, we also must hold ourselves to a high standard as musicians, and this part of who we are is unfortunately often overlooked. But why is that? As those who serve our college and university bands, shouldn't our most basic level of service be to the music whose creation is the entire reason bands exist? If we truly believe that music is "the greatest of the arts," shouldn't we show it the respect it deserves?

is one's musical playing ability, as the first part of judging a musician or a musical ensemble is "Do they sound good?" Members of the band who are not a part of our Fraternity or Sorority are dedicated to doing their part to perform well, so should we, as Brothers and Sisters, not be just as committed to improving the musical quality of our bands, if not more? For those of us who are not in college to study music, it is often unrealistic to try to maintain the same playing ability as those who are, but the very least we can do for our bands is practice our parts on our own and know the music as well as we can. The other part of our roles as musicians is the way we carry ourselves as participants in

our bands, and it is this side of musicianship where we, as Brothers and Sisters, absolutely can and should set the standard. Even if you aren't the best player in your section, you can be its best member simply by doing everything you're supposed to, and what you've been learning about musicianship since we all started band way back in junior high and middle school. Come to rehearsal on time and be warmed up before practice starts. Make sure you have everything with you that you need for an effective rehearsal, and yes, that includes a pencil. Pay attention and be actively engaged in what your ensemble is doing, whether it's marching band, concert band, or even just a sectional. And above all, make sure you keep a good attitude, even when you're marching on asphalt on a hot afternoon or repeating Pomp and Circumstance for the tenth time in May.

There are also ways to



# Natalia Lambert

Alpha Omicron– Tau Beta Sigma  
The Villains are Coming

As a new sister of Tau Beta Sigma, I have the memories of my process fresh on my mind. From those memories, I recall how well my Educator and Co-Educator answered the call. The 2015 Spring Membership Candidate class was the first spring class that Alpha Omicron in a while. Our Educator and Co-Educator revamped the chapter's membership process, and we reaped the benefits. We call ourselves the Disney Villains, but for me, my MC class is a group of individuals with heroic hearts and minds. There are eight of us, Captain Hook, Scar, Yzma, Gaston, Doctor Facilier, Cruella DeVil, Frollo, and I am Maleficent. Over the course of our process we became closer than I thought possible, and with the tremendous support of our chapter, we felt that we belonged. For me, it was like I had finally found the missing pieces of the puzzle of college life; I had found my people. We came together to serve our School of Music by cleaning out and organizing the storage room that holds all of our marching band supplies and all the other miscellaneous objects that get



put in there. From the beginning, our Educator and Co-Educator encour-



aged us to bond as much as possible and make all of our activities fun, even the tedious ones. In the most recent semester, my class has seen each other through some very difficult times- including moments where we all considered dropping out and just playing our instruments on street corners. With the support of each other, we have been able to get through it all. We were taught to always come to a sister for support and love because with my sisters I AM best.

To me, answering the call means to go above and beyond, even when it's not convenient. Answering the call corresponds directly to one of our Eight Essential Factors, "Generosity of mind, heart, and hand." Our Educator and Co-Educator taught us how to share our knowledge and combine it so that we can work together, allowing us to cooperate and be better sisters. They showed us love and compassion by giving us their time - even though they both had a tremendous school load on their hands last semester. They helped us in every way possible during our process and I will always be grateful for what they shared with us. Showing love for each other is not always as easy as we want it to be, but since we met once a week to study for our tests, we almost always had a good time. We aren't perfect, we get frustrated and annoy each other, but that's what sisters do. (Trust me - I have three biological sisters.) But after we cool down, we always come running

back to each other eager to help each other, vent about our hectic days, or to just lay around putting gooey face masks on. (Yes, even the guys!)

Our Educator and Co-Educator not only answered the call - they taught us how to answer it ourselves. The Disney Villains are now using our evil powers for good! Out of the eight officer positions in our chapter, five of them are held by Disney Villains. Yes, we are young - but we are very eager to help our chapter grow and reach new levels. We want our chapter to be striving in the long run. Fifteen years from now, we want the sisters in Alpha Omicron to look back at our class and know we always had the chapter best interests at heart. Every story has two sides, just look at the Disney Villains. They are not all one hundred percent evil. I chose to be Maleficent because her heart was in the right place, even when every part of her being was telling her to be evil. That's the way it is with sisters sometimes. Not evil, but even in those moments of, "oh my gosh I just need alone time!" we still love our sisters



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Natalia Lambert Cont...

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with all of our hearts and want to serve our band to the best of our abilities together as a family.

## Kimberly Lopez

Tau– Tau Beta Sigma  
Service– A Lifelong Task

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When thinking back to the decision I had to make on whether or not I wanted to be in band, I think about how different my life would be, in terms of giving back to the organizations I've shared my life with. In middle school, I started to realize not only my love for music, but for the organization as well. Whether it was staying after school to help set up the room for the holidays or help a fellow classmate with their music, I was always ready to give back and pay it forward.

In high school, it was essentially the same thing. Despite hurdles that would be in my way, trying to pull me out of band, I managed to stay in for all 4 years and did my part of service. During my freshman year, I didn't know much when it came to how things were done within the band, but I helped paint the props themselves for the marching show with other students and band parents. That was my first step at service in high school and I would like to think it made an impact to my high school band program, regardless of the size of the task. As the year progressed, I continued to do service for my band program with activities such as being part of

The Disney Villains come together to laugh, cry, smile, and grow. (And of course be super sassy toward one another.) We demonstrate loyalty and de-

the Guard crew – where we would help winter guard load and set up for their competitions and sometimes even be part of it last minute, doing volunteer work – like helping out on other campuses or helping run other events that benefited the band, or simply just educating others. I was not the best player at my high school band program, but you can definitely bet that I was determined to get stuff done. I even enjoyed helping others on their musical parts if they did not understand a rhythm after school. Why? Because these things helped my group, my program, and my school move forward. During my senior year in high school, I became the band librarian. As a band librarian, not only did I assist the students, but I assisted the band directors as well. I put in multiple hours of service every week – just to benefit the program that helped mold who I am today. My hard work and dedication for music and service was acknowledged at the band banquet, and I was honored with the Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence. That award reassured me that everything I've done has truly been appreciated and noticed. Whenever I serve, I do it without asking anything in return; so when I received that honor it really touched me.

After my time at Langham Creek, I attended a commu-

pendability to each other no matter what, because like I said earlier - with my sisters I AM best.

nity college for my first year as a freshman. I enrolled in all the classes that I needed, as well as taking part in the music ensembles. I received the opportunity to learn how to play the saxophone for the jazz ensemble, played in the year-round concert band and eventually, became employed by the school as an assistant for the music professor. All of this was possible because of my ability to give back.

Service really is a very important aspect of my life I enjoy serving others and having feel rewarded knowing that I helped someone move forward. It is then when one starts to realize that all of the little things really add up and make a huge impact. When I transferred to the University of Houston, I only knew a handful of the people that were in the Spirit of Houston program. As Spirit week (the equivalent of band camp) progressed, I began to make friends. I knew that my best friend was in Tau Beta Sigma, but I did not realize that I was surrounded by many sisters more often than not. Once I learned more about Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, everything added up. I loved the idea of serving the band alongside them. Rushing Tau Beta Sigma gave me so much joy knowing that I was embarking on a personal journey of discovering who I am and what service really means to me.

# Micaela Lumpkins

Beta Zeta– Tau Beta Sigma  
Saber Danger



Things were going well for Stephen F. Austin State University and the Lumberjack Marching Band during the beginning of Summer Band this year. The LMB has more members than ever before (370 students), a great group of staff, and the Beta Zeta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma to help out with whatever they need. Service for BZ went as usual, working with our brother chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi to feed the band. Managing having the third largest marching band in the state of Texas had proven a challenge but the chapters made it work beautifully. We even provided breakfast for our freshman and transfers two days of the week.

Unfortunately, when all our hard work on and off the field was done and we finally took a break before learning the

first show of the year, a crisis struck: the color guard sabers were nowhere to be found. Searches were made all over the music building. Old members were contacted and outlying high school guards asked if their coordinators had left them there. This was all to no avail. They were gone, and presumably stolen. The guard was told that to replace the sabers with six new ones they would have to use their entire budget for the year. The sabers cost \$120 each and those were the cheaper option. The guard was heartbroken.

The Beta Zeta chapter was immediately concerned with this loss, as they understand that the color guard is a part of the band. They are with us every step of the way: band camp, afternoon rehearsals, morning game day rehearsals, away games, and exhibitions. They add an element to the LMB that is vital to our shows. Now, they needed our help.

The situation was presented to the chapter and we were asked if we would be able

to donate to help pay for new sabers. Fortunately, we were in good a financial situation due to some very successful fundraisers during the summer and band camp – such as concessions, cinch sacks, water bottles, and duffle bags. The chapter discussed it and agreed to purchase three sabers for a total of \$360 for the guard. The chapter was unanimous in this decision.

The guard was extremely appreciative and the sabers arrived in time for our second show. I think it is safe to say we answered the call.

All is not done, however, because the Lumberjack Marching has been chosen to march this year in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. This is an amazing honor but also a great feat for the band. BZ will be working to make sure that band has everything it needs and that all goes according to plan. 303 students are going on this two flight trip and it is going to take a lot of work to make sure everything is taken care of, but we know we can answer the call.

# David Lutz

Alpha– Tau Beta Sigma  
Ever Changing Roles



Over the last few weeks, we have all been hearing a lot about "Answering the Call". Whether it is stepping up as a chapter to do some band service or reaching out to other chapters to bond with newly found friends, chapters across the district have been gearing up to an-

swer whatever calling they happen upon. This caused me to start thinking about how my sisters and I may go about finding calls and answering them.

With it being my fifth year and last semester of active membership, I have had to find a new role in my chapter. In getting used to my new role, I have realized that it is not bad to reflect upon one's role in the chapter, because we all have one. This role (or calling) begins in

many ways when we make our commitments our organizations; however, it rarely stays the same throughout our busy lives. I ask you to think back with me to a time not long ago, when you made that commitment and reflect on the ways it may have changed.

Thinking back to my freshman year, I had no idea what to expect from my experience in Tau Beta Sigma. It simply seemed like a good way for me



David Lutz Cont...

to get involved with service and make some friends in the process. There was no way I could fully grasp the impact that my sisters would have on my life, nor was there any way I could anticipate the roles into which I would be falling over the next few years. As the generations that have preceded us move on with their lives, we have all timidly taken up the mantles of our respective chapter's leadership, hoping to get the chapter through the year in one piece.

Slowly, we all become those old people in the chapter who actually remember (and wore) the "old" band uniforms. We see the underclassmen (who seem to perpetually be freshmen in our minds) suddenly becoming upperclassmen and filling roles in our bands and chapters we had never imagined for them. Such are the calls that we must answer.

If there is one thing that I hope that you get out of all of this, it is that we each have a call to answer. For some, that may

be something small, and for others it may be big. It may be something you are not prepared for, and it may be something you were born to do. You never know until you jump in and do it. Do not be afraid to fill the roles that no one wants.

Next time you are with your band or your chapter, think about the call you answered. Think about how it has changed. Think of how you have changed. Finally, think about and embrace how it will change.

## Cecelia Mandewo

Alpha-Kappa Kappa Psi  
Our Values and Traditions



The Alpha Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi has worked hard to strive and achieve the six keys of membership. These keys are values that help us have goals to strive for and to concentrate on as a chapter. In our chapter, these keys are taught in the candidacy process in order to help our candidates better understand how our chapter functions and what values are important to us. The keys that we focus on during our candidacy process and throughout our membership in Kappa Kappa Psi are servitude, leadership, responsibility, loyalty, musicianship and brotherhood. In recent years, our chapter has done a great job balancing all of the keys except for musicianship. For a music organization, although

music may not always be our number one focus, it is a very important one and still needs to be held in the highest of regards. Our members may all be involved with either marching band or concert band, but outside of the requirements we have not done much musically. We have done spirit tours which involve us going to schools around the area and encouraging them to continue band in college and showing them how fun college band is and telling them the benefits. Another thing we have done in the past was go have a show and tell for instruments at elementary schools around the Stillwater area. We've also done Coaches vs. Cancer which is a fundraising event for the awareness of cancer, at this event there are many booths and activities. During this event we are able to play our instruments and show them off to the kids there. All that we do is wonderful and is a great way to reach out to the surrounding

communities, we plan to continue doing these activities this year and in the future years of the Alpha chapter. We only want to do more. We want to share our love for music as brothers and be able to play in ensembles outside of band. In doing this, we can be more free in the types of music we do as well as with the venues we get to play at. Being more open with our options for playing music and sharing it with the community, more people will get to hear us play and not only learn about the Alpha Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, but learn more about the OSU band and its great players. Many of the members, including myself, joined Kappa Kappa Psi because of the love we have for the band and because we wanted to give back to the band. This of course is not the only reason many joined the organization; there are many factors that contributed to our decision in joining Kappa Kappa Psi but a consistent contributing factor I believe, is music. The members of Kappa Kappa Psi

Cecelia Mandewo Cont...

have such a strong love for music and joined because they wanted to be involved with music in as many ways as possible. Joining this organization is definitely a great way of getting more involved with music, but as I and many members of our chapter believe, especially our music coordinator Dylan, we can show this love for music that we all share by being more involved

with it, by having more recitals per semester. The love that we have for our fraternity does not stop at servitude. It continues with leadership, brotherhood, responsibility, loyalty, and MUSICIANSHIP. Kappa Kappa Psi is not only a service organization, but a musical one as well. Our music coordinator Dylan planned on showcasing that by having recitals for Christmas and caroling during this season as well. Dylan has also created multiple

ensembles for our chapter such as wind ensemble, a dixieland band, and choir. Dylan so far as also gone over the fraternity song and hymn and has recently taught us the Southwest District joint song of KKY and TBS. Dylan also plans on getting us to play at more activities around campus so that our chapter can once again be well known to those on and off campus.

## Ryan Maxey

Delta- Kappa Kappa Psi  
When it Comes to  
Service, Dream Big



lesson to all KKPsi chapters: when it comes to service, dream big.

The Delta chapter has embraced this idea in every aspect of

Early this August, every member of the Pride of Oklahoma Marching Band received an iPad for use on the marching field and in classes. This project was spearheaded by Delta chapter alumnus Kristopher Davis, and has made the process of learning marching drill faster than ever thought possible, while saving countless sheets of paper. More than that, the challenges of implementing the iPad initiative gave members of the Delta chapter the opportunity to serve the band in leadership and problem solving roles as we devised plans to help with everything from regulating the iPad's temperature in the summer and winter, to ensuring that each member's device would be instantly recognizable. The iPad initiative has helped the members of the Pride grow as musicians and as students, but I believe it also serves as a valuable

its operation. We constantly look to expand both the number and scope of our service projects. When a series of tornadoes ravaged the heartland of our state, we felt the need to go beyond our usual projects to help local schools' music programs affected by the tragedy. In this instance our big idea was to host a 5K run to fundraise for the schools in need. At the beginning of the planning for this project, we weren't sure if it would be a success, but we knew that in order to make a difference, we needed to try.



Last year, the Delta chapter sought to improve its connections to chapters across the nation. Our then-secretary, Graham Delafield, issued a challenge to the chapter: handwrite a letter to every chapter in the nation. Graham dreamed big, and it paid off; we succeeded in our goal, and in doing so helped foster relationships with chapters across the country.

As the academic year begins to take its toll, you may begin to feel like your chapter isn't capable of great things. When those feelings begin to take root, I challenge you to look beyond the grind and seek opportunities to do big things. Your chapters are capable of truly incredible things, and we are called to Strive For the Highest. I've seen with my own eyes the difference a chapter can make in a musical community when they challenge themselves with big ideas, and I truly believe that you and your chapter can change lives.

# Donnelle' Mitchell

SWD Counselor– Tau Beta Sigma  
The Call: Do What You Love



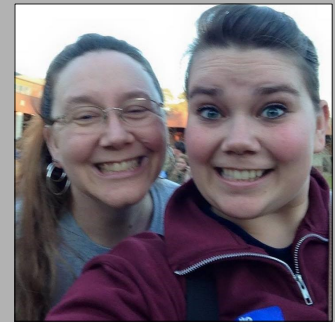
I work with fifth grade students in Dallas ISD. Sometimes they do not particularly *love* what they do. But when I give them the opportunity to do something that they love, it is a whole new scenario! Their eyes light up, and they are eager to explore. It is astounding all the things they can accomplish when they are doing what they love. I do not find that it is much different for adults.

This year, I have thought

a lot about the difference between loving what you do, and doing what you love. Loving what you do just happens. It creeps up without the purposeful decision to invite it. It is something that comes very naturally. You do not make conscious decisions to love and enjoy – it is something you fall into. On the other hand, doing what you love *does* involve a conscious decision to take risks to achieve your goals. I encourage you all to **answer the call** to make the decisions that ensure you are able to *do* what you love, not just end up falling in love with what you do.

As sisters and brothers working to earn degrees in a wide array of fields, it is my

greatest hope that you have made those decisions to lead you to doing what you love. We know immense joy in music, service, and leadership. We make continual decisions to do what we love in being in Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi. I charge you to take that intentionality into all aspects in your life. As you grow in your career, musicianship, and sister/brotherhood, make the choice to do what you love.



# Emily Morris

Epsilon Beta– Tau Beta Sigma,  
SWD VP of Projects  
Answer the Call to Run for  
SWD Council



Through active membership, I have had many wonderful experiences. One of my most treasured moments dates back to the 2015 SWD convention when I was elected to the 2015-2016 council as the Vice President of Special Projects. When I arrived at the convention, I truly had no idea that I would feel as if I wanted to run for council. As I went to each portion of the convention, my desire to serve our great organization grew stronger and stronger until it reached it's climax as I gave the report for

the membership committee. Through working on this committee and giving the report, I was able to see a different side of Tau Beta Sigma. During the separate session dedicated to officer elections, I was listening to speeches and mulling over the idea of running for office. My inner debate continued until the time came for nominations from the floor for VPSP. I was nominated and left the room to await my speech with the other nominees. As I gave my speech, I felt a huge amount of love and support from everyone in the room! Despite my nerves, I was incredibly proud to be a part of a sisterhood that was overflowing with positive vibes. After I was elect-

ed, I immediately received an enormous amount of congratulatory messages and so much love in the bond over Facebook and Instagram that my phone died!

Since SWD Convention, I have had many opportunities to plan and execute projects for the SWD and I have learned so much! Being on SWD Council has been an incredible experience, and it all started with answering the call to run for office! It isn't always an easy job, but it is always worth it! I am thankful for it everyday and I encourage sisters from across the district to consider whether or not they are being called to do the same and run for council!

# Robert Morris

Lambda-Kappa  
Kappa Psi, SWD Co-  
MAL

Jurisdiction; The  
Constitution,  
Roberts Rules of Order, and  
Over-Legalization



is foundation, there comes a time when policies and by-laws are no longer relevant, and need to be adjusted, removed, or replaced by more modern policies. Examples of out of date or harmful policies: Anything related to hazing, out of date wording that

is sex, gender identity, or race specific, and systems in place to fine members. The constitution should be reviewed on a yearly basis by the jurisdiction committee, with the goal of making sure the document is up to date at the head of discussions.

Robert's Rules of Order are incredibly complex, and most of the practices are unnecessary for the operation of a chapter meetings. I've found that the rules governing motions, and amendments, are all that the chapter really needs to operate. Other rules, such as 'point of order', or 'call the previous question' can be useful to larger meetings, such as district or national convention meetings, but will usually only serve to disrupt the efficiency of local chapter meetings.

Although the constitution

Other legal issues I've come across in my time as Sergeant-At-Arms include joint related documents, and unnecessary policies. The chapters here at Arkansas have a joint constitution, governing how we run joint chapter meetings, and the use of our joint account. This document does not need to be expansive, wordy and specific, as there are plenty of documents above this one that are specific, and can be used to resolve most issues. As far as unnecessary policies are concerned, examples include: pieces of Robert's Rules of Order, Unchanging Pieces of the Membership Education Program (MEP), and by-laws that are in the national constitution that do not pertain to an active member.

Overall the study and application of the legalistic side of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, is both enriching and useful, but it's also necessary to understand there is so much more to our organizations, and service and fellowship should always be sought out in addition to understanding.

# Ali Oldright

Gamma Phi-Tau Beta  
Sigma

Loyalty to those  
Deserving



ing a freshman's hectic first semester. His door was always open – even if one just wanted to talk or vent. He would constantly offer words of encouragement and ad-

vice, and he always seemed to be present to comfort someone if they happened to be having a breakdown. Everyone in the department experienced the joy of his presence at the beginning of their college career. That is why

his death was so heartbreaking to the department.

Dr. Dennis Widen got sick a year ago – almost to the day. It was so odd to not see him, for he never missed class. We were told that it was pneumonia, and he would be back the following week. The following week, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Within a few days, he was gone. Just like that. The whole department seemed to be in shambles. It was not abnormal

Ali Oldright Cont...

to see someone in the Music Building in tears – although it was abnormal for him to not be there to cheer everyone up, just as he used to do so well. The department held a memorial in his honor, where his friends, family, and students spoke and/or performed.

A year later, the Gamma Phi chapter of Tau Beta Sigma

presented a fundraiser to the chairman of the department; one that would be funding a memorial tree in Dr. Widen's honor to be planted on Southwestern Oklahoma State University's campus. The fundraising proposal was approved without hesitation – albeit, with teary eyes. We then announced it to our colleagues in the department, and the fundraiser has been welcomed with open arms. Every-

one has been so eager to assist in making this memorial happen, because he was such a wonderful mentor and friend. Of Tau Beta Sigma's Eight Essential Factors, number two reads:

"Demonstrated loyalty and dependability to those persons and institutions deserving of it"

If anyone is deserving of our loyalty, it is Dr. Widen.

*In loving memory of Dennis Charles Widen (1949 -2014)*

## Jeanese Outlaw

Delta Alpha– Tau Beta Sigma  
Turtletalks

The Delta Alpha chapter of Tau Beta Sigma at Langston University believes the success of band woman and men is measured by the level of support around them. This is why we strive to foster an environment

where young band women and men are mentored to create their own opportunities for band and life success. They are encouraged to become role models to the band and university peers while contributing to the betterment of the band community. Delta Alpha likes to host a day with the band in the band room or out on the town called

Turtletalk. At this event we open up to the band women and men. We share stories, silly band experiences, eat, and play games. This event is a great way for the band members to build a relationship with each other and continue to add to the band family tree.



## Colin Peters

Tau-Tau Beta  
Sigma, SWD  
Secretary/Treasurer

Answering the Call



copying, organizing, cleaning, practicing, etc. I was always there to do it. Music has been the biggest service to my life in so many ways and I have always felt I could never give back enough to something so great.

My time in Tau Beta Sigma began the spring semester of my sophomore year of college. As I have made my way through Tau Beta Sigma and my music education degree, I fell in love with this organization – not just

on the chapter level, but the district and national levels as well. I have always wanted to serve as a southwest district officer but the timing just never felt right.

Spring 2015 felt like the right time. I have always felt so much joy in being a part of something that is bigger than myself. The sense of community and belonging is so important to me in my development as a person and a future educator. With the skills and love for TBS I learned at the chapter level early on in my time

Colin Peters Cont...

being active, I felt running for a district officer position was something I was called to do. I am having such a great time meeting and corresponding with sisters and brothers from all across the district. As the Secretary/Treasurer, I am having a great time planning different

fundraiser ideas, budget presentations, as well as documents to keep your chapter files organized.

Throughout my life I have always noticed a difference between happiness and joy. Happiness has always been a temporary feeling that resulted from a task or duty. Joy has always been the result of the greatest things I

have experienced in life. Tau Beta Sigma has brought me indescribable joy over my collegiate years and I cannot wait to see what the future hold for me. I look forward to my remaining year as an active sister as well as your Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer.

## Courtney Peters

Delta Pi– Tau Beta Sigma  
Delta Pi Answers the Call

This fall semester of 2015 at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff for the Delta Pi chapter of Tau Beta Sigma has already been one full of service! We are definitely “ANSWERING THE CALL”! There are many successful service activities and projects we have diligently been working on to serve our band program, such as: welcoming freshman, our spats and gloves project, and the m<sub>4</sub> freshman ceremony.

During the beginning days of freshman camp, we updated our bulletin board. Our theme was “Welcome to the M<sub>4</sub>” We chose this theme to welcome the freshman members to our band program and the returning members back for another year. We inserted newly updated pictures as well as older pictures to express the history of our program. It was definitely a great adventure using our creativity to portray the significance, dedication, and hard work that is tradition within the Marching Musical Machine of the Mid-

South marching band program.

After that, in preparation for a great marching season, the sisters of Tau Beta Sigma completed their annual spats and gloves project on August 17th, 2015. Upon their arrival to camp, band members placed orders for their respective spat and glove sizes. At first, this project seemed like it would take a ridiculous amount of time to accommodate two hundred plus members. Yet, we found an efficient way to complete it; we formed an assembly line! It included some sisters writing the name of the band members and their orders on a plastic sack. (This was an effective way to assure the “customer” received exactly what they ordered) At the next station in our assembly line, members placed the spats and gloves into their proper bags. And lastly, the bags were tied (to secure the orders) and placed inside of a box that would be carried to band rehearsal that evening. The band members were surely relieved to receive their exact order! This project allowed us to serve our band program and bond as a chapter along with our chapter sponsor.

Lastly, one of the most

enjoyable projects Tau Beta Sigma has done for our band program was serving for our annual Freshman Ceremony. In the Marching Musical Machine of the Mid-South, it is tradition that at the end of band camp, the freshman bandsmen showcase what they have learned during the duration of band camp. This includes playing various spirit tunes for the directors and upperclassman marchers. This ceremony takes place at our campus Bell Tower which is located right in the center of campus. During this ceremony, the freshman are enlightened about the significant history of our program, the different parts of the marching uniform, and given words of encouragement about college and life from the directors and drum majors. It was a very heartwarming experience to see how the freshman came from so many faraway places and make it through long, strenuous weeks of practice. Each one had to adapt and adjust to a new environment, new people, and being on their own. For this they deserved our gratifying appreciation. The sisters of TBS has to complete several behind the scene tasks to make the cer-

Courtney Peters Cont...

emony such a huge success. The first project was filling canisters with rope and oil to light the torches around out bell tower (this was a source of light) Next, we purchased electric candles for the upperclassman and directors to hold during the ceremony. We numbered each candle (for in-

ventory purposes) and inserted batteries. At the end of the ceremony, the candles were taken back up. Lastly, we purchased and served hot dogs, chips, and bottled water to the band. This was another way to show our appreciation to the new freshman and upperclassman marchers for such hard work put in throughout a long exhausting

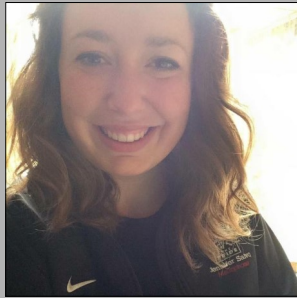
band camp. We are nothing put proud of our marching band program.

Through these projects, amongst many others, the Delta Pi Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma has definitely "Answered the Call" in the fall semester of 2015. It is truly honor to be selected to serve.

## Jennifer Salvo

Delta- Tau Beta Sigma

What I Learned at NatCon is...



would be the quiet girl in the corner with no friends. I couldn't have been more wrong, though. I do not believe I have ever met any group more friendly and approachable than the other chapter delegates for

Tau Beta Sigma. Immediately, I made some really wonderful and sweet friends. I am not sure if those boys and girls I met during that week of laughing, learning, bonding, and delegating will ever know how much I appreciated their sisterhood.

So I went to National Convention expecting to learn information about the sorority, relay that information to my home chapter, and represent my home chapter. I left having not

only doing the aforementioned, but expanding my definition of sisterhood and brotherhood.

A big shout out to Nikki from Alpha for going to workshops and the ritual with me. Another big shout out goes to Ashley from Beta for being a really funny, letting me eat lunch with her, going to the concerts with me, and for the fun times we had in general at the convention. Finally, the biggest shout out of all, thank you to the Delta chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi for letting me ride, room, and have a great time in Cincinnati and at the convention with you.

Sisterhood is going out of your way to make someone feel loved and worshipped.

Just a week before the Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi National Convention, 3 days after arriving to the United States from India, I decided to join Delta's brother Kappa Kappa Psi chapter on a trip to Lexington, Kentucky. It feels like only yesterday that I was eagerly awaiting to meet my sisters from across the country. Being the only representative from Delta, I was honestly quite nervous that I

## Emily Siegers

Beta Delta- Tau Beta Sigma

The Blessing that is Beta Delta



retary. I was not entirely sure what to expect when I returned, (nor was I entirely sure how to eat at a table and sleep in a real bed) let alone, what to expect with having responsibilities in an organization I did not have much experience in. The previous secretary (also my amazing Big) gave me everything I needed to get me started, but I still was unsure what being an active member would be like as my fall semester began. Fortunately, from

the day I got back, I was welcomed and our chapter hit the ground running in showing how dedicated we are to service.

Tau Beta Sigma is involved in every aspect of band life here, from the section events scheduled every night of band camp, to the dedicated uniform volunteers. I had even noticed the work done by Tau Beta Sigma members before I rushed, but it was not until I was an ac-

Emily Siegers Cont...

tive member that I had the pleasure of seeing my sisters in action, working diligently behind the scenes. I was ecstatic to be able to join them in service.

Now that the semester is well in swing, there are many ways I get to join my sisters in working for better bands. I am

blessed with opportunities to help fill the "Betarade" cooler, run receptions after symphonic concerts, bake tasty treats for the freshman members, and attend awesome rush events where I get to share my love of Tau Beta Sigma with other wonderful musicians! I'm so thrilled at the idea of sharing the rush process with another group of sisters in the spring and the ex-

citement of having my own little (who knows, maybe we can keep the secretarial position in the family!). Not one day this semester has gone by that I have not had the joy of serving and playing music alongside my amazing sisters. I see our factors and qualities come to life through the work and dedication they share and I am thankful every day for the love I find in this bond.

## Connor Terry

Alpha-Kappa  
Kappa Psi, SWD Co-  
MAL



### Why Joint Relations Matter

"Band members have a special bond. A great band is more than just some people working together. It's like a highly specialized army unit, or a winning sports team. A unique combination of elements that becomes stronger together than apart." – Steven Van Zandt

As a district officer, part of my job entails communicating with individual chapters in order to learn about the concerns and issues that each chapter is struggling with. To my surprise, many individuals have stated that the biggest struggle within their own chapter was been working hand in hand with their joint chapter on campus.

While I cannot suggest that chapters recede completely away from

engaging in joint relations nor emphasize strengthening your relations so much so that all of your events and projects become jointly run, I do encourage each of you to reflect on why we both exist as joint organizations. Both of our organizations were created with the central purpose of serving our university band programs in any capacity required of us. It should be this common bond that motivates both organizations to work hand in hand with each other, and to not create unnecessary discord amongst our respective members. When both organizations fail to work together jointly, they then forfeit their combined ingenuity and work ethic. This can lead to misunderstandings between respective chapters, feuds, and an overall lesser amount of service to your band program.

Our bonds in music and service are what set us apart as college students. Other individuals outside of our organizations lack the ability to call upon a body of brothers and sisters in a manner that creates worthwhile projects and endeavors. This is what makes us as individuals



unique. The ability to bring together a group of people with differing thoughts and ideas and create something that surpasses your individual group's potential should be something that each one of us is constantly working towards.

That being said, joint relations extend beyond the point of just working together on events. If two chapters had true joint relations, then there would be a constant sense of trust and validation ever flowing between the two organizations. Each chapter should always be willing and ready to offer up their sup-





Connor Terry Cont...

port to their fellow brothers and sisters, whether that require volunteering your time to assist with one of their service pro-

jects, or simply encouraging individual members when you know they've had a rough time. In the same way, joint relations should not simply stop at the two executive teams. Every member of

the organizations are a part of the joint relations process, and they should work diligently to ensure that nothing occurs to hinder it, but instead work to increase its success.

## Thomas Torres

Alpha Omicron– Tau Beta Sigma  
Coming Together



here) to raise food for St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. Since then, the musicale, now entitled "The Greeks Who Served Christmas" has become an annual tradition at the SHSU School of Music. The entrance fee is a can of non-perishable food for admission rather than a ticket. This coming together was only the genesis of what was yet to come.

After breaking the ice, the interactions with the three fraternities rapidly lead into many unexpected directions. What started out as just music directors of each organization working together, eventually lead to the counterparts of official offices to start working hand-in-hand to organize events such

as joint socials; including our inter-fraternal white elephant gift event, as well as the school of music wreath (for service); and the window decal sale (for fundraising).

"We come together one and all with music in our hearts..." Such is the first phrase to the National Hymn of our Sorority, and the underlying theme that calls us together as sisters. However, after experiencing the past few years as music director, that line in and of itself takes on a whole new meaning: Nowhere is it set in stone that "We" in this case, simply refers to only the sisters of Tau Beta Sigma, but rather, it is to all who branch out to one-another for the sake of music.

In the most recent years here at Sam Houston State University, the Alpha Omicron chapter of Tau Beta Sigma has been increasing the interactions and relationships with their chapters of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Sigma Alpha Iota. It all started in the fall of 2013 when a member of SAI came up with the idea to have a student-lead joint Christmas musicale that included all three music fraternities (there is no Kappa Kappa Psi chapter

## Aneatria Watson

Zeta Phi– Tau Beta Sigma  
No Day Like Parents Day



Game days at Louisiana Tech University are always full of fun and excitement. My favorite football game day that I feel tops all of the rest is Parent's Day. Parent's Day is an annual event at Louisiana Tech where the parents of Louisiana Tech's Band of

Pride get to see our game day preparations, have lunch with us, and watch us in action at our football game. Band organizations team up to provide sandwiches, chips, and drinks for the parents and their students. Along with the lunches - this year, the Zeta Phi chapter of Tau Beta Sigma decided to add a little extra to Parent's Day. Zeta Phi designed and ordered free Parent's Day t-shirts for the parents

attending the game. The parents were given shirts that said "Band of Pride Parent" on the front and "I'm with the band" on the back. The parents enjoyed this little surprise, some even putting the t-shirts on immediately. The shirts were Zeta Phi's way of showing our appreciation for the parents of our bandmates. Parents of band students give a lot for their children to be in band, and we were happy that something as simple as a t-shirt could show them that the Band of Pride really loves their parents.

# Kathy Webster

SWD Counselor- Tau Beta Sigma  
The Call to Join



Our family is there for each other, through thick and thin. Although we are initially connected by our interest in music and dedication to our band programs, it grows into so much more. We are a

then move on with life. Never would I have thought that I would gain the courage to serve as a District Officer, and now as a District Counselor. When I thought of running/applying for the positions I have held/now hold, it was my sisters and brothers who gave me the encouragement to apply for these positions. Now I am able to continue to give back to our organizations, by sharing what I can with those who are just beginning their journey in Tau Beta Sigma or Kappa Kappa Psi. I can honestly say I am the person I am today because of my experiences with Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi. Now that you have answered the call, you have endless opportunities that lay ahead of you. I wish you all the best in your journey.

Wow, what an awesome start to the fall semester! It all began so many years ago when I received the call! What call, you ask? This calling was something bigger than I could have ever imagined. I thought I was merely joining a small group of people who had a love for band; a group who selflessly provided service to their band programs, provided leadership skills with in the band programs, and camaraderie to one another. By answering the call to join Tau Beta Sigma or Kappa Kappa Psi, I joined a family that I never expected – but cannot imagine living without.

family that strives for the best for our band programs, and for each other. By answering the call to join our organizations, you now have a family that will encourage you to step outside your comfort zone to learn new skills, and travel around the country, and to try new things you might never thought of trying before. You now have a cheering section that will always be there for you. Had someone asked me all those years ago when I answered the call what I foresaw in my future in Tau Beta Sigma, I would have said that I was going to be a part of the group for a few years and

# Alina Zia

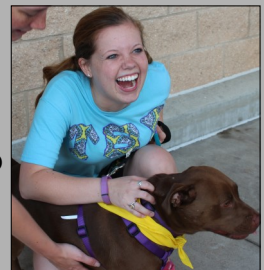
Iota– Tau Beta Sigma  
Serving College Bands and the Waco Community



event where we and the girls that were interested in Tau Beta Sigma volunteered with Fuzzy Friends. The lot of us helped different adoption agencies set up their tents, assisted with check in and other registration necessities, and moved their animals out of the vehicles they came from. After completing the initial tasks, some of us took turns holding dogs while others would float around and check to see if the adoption agencies needed anything.

madly in love with these the animals.)

Prior to becoming an active member of Tau Beta Sigma, I would not have



guessed that this would be one of their service projects. It was amazing to see my sisters branch out beyond our typical projects and help out a part of the Waco community. Plus, getting to play with the animals after completing our duties made our service event even more rewarding than it already was. I cannot wait to see where I will serve with my sisters next!

It is well known that the Iota chapter of Tau Beta Sigma serves the band on many occasions. However, when there is no rehearsal nor any other band services to be completed, the sisters of Iota seek out opportunities to service the Waco community. In lieu of this, the sisters of Iota held a rush



# New ALTO Staff Bios

**Ali Oldright**  
Copy Editor



Ali Oldright is a senior Clarinet Performance and Music Education double-major at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. There, she serves as the Treasurer and Webmaster of the Gamma Phi chapter of Tau Beta Sigma, and as Historian of the Gamma Gamma chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon, a professional music fraternity. In her free time she enjoys painting, running, and watching DCI videos.

Justin Packard is a senior at Oklahoma State University studying Sports Media and Statistics. From Colorado Springs, Colorado, He grew up with a love for all things sports. He plays trumpet in the Cowboy Marching Band, Spirit Band, Concert Band and a Dixieland band the Alpha chapter recently started. He has love for music and is passionate about it. He joined Kappa Kappa Psi in March of 2013 and is now president of the Alpha chapter.



**Justin Packard**  
Copy Editor

**Caroline Lee**  
Webmaster



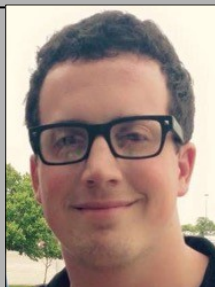
Caroline Lee is a Multimedia Journalism Major from Oklahoma State University, A member of the Alpha chapter of Tau Beta Sigma, and a trumpet player. She was an intern for KOTV News on 6 this past summer, and is a huge fan of traveling. She plans on graduating in December and hopes to become gainfully employed at a news station.

Brielle Johnson is the returning Design Editor for the New Alto Staff. She has been a member of the Psi chapter of Tau Beta Sigma at the University of Arkansas since Fall of 2012 and is the current Parliamentarian. She is a senior psychology major and is planning on going into marketing for graduate studies.



**Brielle Johnson**  
Design Editor

**Robert Morris**  
KKΨ Co-MAL



A native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Robert Morris is a Junior Music Education Major at the University of the Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas. He joined the Lambda Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi in the Fall of 2013, and served as the Sergeant-at-Arms the following year. He is currently the section leader for the tuba section of the Razorback Marching Band, and a member of the Wind Ensemble. In his free time, Robert enjoys doing many music related activities, including being the front man of a rock group with three other brothers. Robert was selected to step in as Co-Member-At-Large in September of 2015.

Emily Morris is the current TBS SWD VPSP. She is a vocalist in her senior year of a music education degree. She is also the chapter president for TBS- Epsilon Beta from Texas A&M University-Commerce. In her free time, she loves to play with makeup and watch Supernatural. She is honored to serve this amazing organization and cannot wait to see what all is accomplished this year.



**Emily Morris**  
TBS VP of Special Projects