

THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OF TAU BETA SIGMA



2017 Convention Minutes

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Joint Session 1

International Exhibition Hall-WWC

Friday, March 24th, 2017, 4:00PM

1. Joint Ceremony
2. Southwest District Joint Ceremony
 - a. Introductions by Toni, Clinton, Donnelle' and Kathy
 - b. Basic Guidelines (Introductions by Toni, Clinton, Donnelle' and Kathy)
3. Call to Order @4:18pm
4. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Councils
 - b. National Headquarters
 - i. Steve Nelson - National Executive Director
 - ii. Di Spiva - National Headquarters Office Manager and Accountant
 - iii. Debbie Morris - National Membership Services Coordinator
 - iv. T.J. Tooley - National Chapter and Colony Education Coordinator
 - v. Aaron Moore - National Alumni Historical and Development Coordinator
 - vi. Robert Bratcher - National Publications Manager and Multimedia Designer
 - vii. Justin Chesak - National Chapter Field Representative, KKY
 - viii. Alaina Peters - National Chapter Field Representative, KKY
 - c. Kappa Kappa Psi National Council
 - i. Christine Beason - Immediate Past National President
 - ii. Evan Thompson - National Vice President for Colonization and Membership
 - iii. Marco Krcatovich- National Vice President for Programs
 - iv. Jack Lee - National President
 - d. Tau Beta Sigma National Council
 - i. Dr. Kathryn Kelly - Tau Beta Sigma National President
 - ii. Jonathan Markowski - Tau Beta Sigma National Vice President for Colonization and Membership
 - iii. Adrienne Rall - Tau Beta Sigma National Vice President for Special Projects
 - iv. Erika Pope - Tau Beta Sigma National Vice President for Communication and Recognition
 - v. Beth Bronk - Tau Beta Sigma National Vice President for Professional Relations
 - e. Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Trustees
 - i. Eric Morson - Member of the Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Trustees
 - ii. Daniel George - Member of the Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Trustees
 - iii. Jack Lee - Member of the Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Trustees
 - f. Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Board of Directors
 - i. Brent Cannon - Outreach and Recognition Director for the Kappa

- Kappa Psi Alumni Association
 - ii. Nick Bratcher - Musicianship Director for the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association
 - iii. Daniel Miller - Administrative Director for the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association
 - iv. Alison Beidler - Chair and Membership Director for the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association
 - g. Tau Beta Sigma Board of Trustees
 - i. Lisa Croston
 - ii. Dr. Nicole Sanchez
 - iii. Dollie McDonald O'Neill
 - h. Distinguished Guests
 - i. Andy Melvin - Member of the Ritual Performance and Education Committee
 - ii. Graham Delafield - Member of the Ritual Performance and Education Committee
 - iii. Ken Corbett - Member of the Curriculum Committee
 - iv. Jessica Lee - Member of the Curriculum Committee
 - v. Kirk Randazzo
 - i. Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Board of Directors
 - i. Chris Foster - Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Vice Chair
 - ii. Amanda Dickson - Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Affiliate Relations Committee Chair
 - iii. Katie Rixon - Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Programs Chair
 - j. Southwest District Alumni Association
 - i. Kat Howell - Chair
 - ii. Sarah Bogue
 - iii. Jennie Brooks
- 5. Recognition of Graduating Seniors
- 6. Recognition of Life Members in attendance
- 7. Final Call for Convention Host Bids
 - a. Howard Payne University
- 8. Opening Announcement / Southwest District Convention Summary
 - a. Tonight at 7 will be the first committee block for convention. All committees will be required to meet during this time to set a plan for when you will meet tomorrow. Please check the program for room assignments for each of those committees.
 - b. The Sec/Treas' have put together an Online Catalog for everyone to use in order to see some of the merchandise that will be sold, and it can be found on the District Website. Please make sure that we respect business taking place during convention and only sell merchandise during the designated marketplace hours tomorrow during lunch.
 - c. If you are a membership candidate, there is a meet and greet happening in the Legacy Rm- WWC. This will be hosted by Dr. Nicole Sanchez and Justin

- Chesak and is your alternative since you cannot attend the rituals and ritual workshops at this time.
- d. Please attend the Talent Show tonight at 10:30 PM in the International Hall - WWC
 - e. Please do not drag the chairs when putting them away. - Kathy Webster
 - f. Last minute changes to the Convention Schedule
 - i. There is no longer a profit share for SWDAA
 - ii. The joint workshop about history and traditions of the organizations will now be tonight during Beth Bronk's time slot; she will be presenting on Saturday.
9. We will now recess until Saturday, March 25 at 5:00 PM.

Separate Session 1

Auditorium-WWC

Friday, March 24th, 2017, 4:45PM

1. Call to Order @ 4:45pm
 - a. This Tau Beta Sigma Separate Session is now called to order
2. Seating of the delegates
3. Reading of the minutes
 - a. I entertain a motion to accept the minutes from 2016 District Convention without reading them.
 - i. I so move: Psi
 - ii. Second: Alpha Upsilon
 - iii. Motion Passes
4. Announce dignitaries
 - a. Chapter Visitation Assistants
 - i. Rosalyn McDonald
 - ii. Siobhan Wilkes
5. Call for/hand out District Officer packets to Nominations Committee
 - a. Have them give packets to Jonathan to distribute
6. Meet the Candidates: District Officer Candidates
 - a. Natalia Lambert-President
 - b. Travis Howell-VPM
 - c. Meeka Smith-VPSP
 - d. Katelyn Zimmer-Secretary/Treasurer
 - e. Shannon Lotti (not present)- VPM
 - f. Amy Crone (not present)- Secretary/Treasurer
7. Assigning of committees
8. Announcements
 - a. SWDAA Social Dinner for graduating seniors
 - b. Committee meetings
9. Recess until Saturday March 25, 2017 at 8:00 AM
 - a. This session is now recessed until Saturday March 25, 2017 at 8 a.m.

Separate Session 2
Auditorium-WWC
Saturday, March 25th, 2017, 8:00AM

1. Call to Order @ 8:26
 - a. This Tau Beta Sigma Separate Session is now called to order *gavel*
2. Seating of late delegates
 - a. Delegates worksheet
3. Officer Installation for Parliamentarian
4. Robert's Rule Breakout
 - a. Shannon and Sami explain the parliamentary procedure
5. National Council Update
 - a. National council talk/fill out proxy forms
 - b. Focus on Five Presentation
6. Short Break
7. Announcements from Counselors
8. Report of the SWD Secretary/Treasurer: Natalia Lambert
9. Report of the SWD VPSP: Hannah Wells
10. Report of the SWD President: Meri Terpstra
11. Report of the SWD Counselor: Kathy Webster
12. Report of the SWD Counselor: Donnelle Mitchell
13. Presentation of the SWD TBS Scrapbook
14. Announcements
 - a. SWDAA Ice Cream Social
 - b. Music Hour Locations
 - c. People who registered late or at convention, you can pick up shirts after music hour.
15. Recess until Saturday March 25, 2017 @ 4:00 PM

Separate Session 3
Auditorium-WWC
Saturday, March 25th, 4:00PM

1. Call to Order @ 4:25pm
2. Roll Call
3. Report of the History and Traditions Committee
 - a. Entertain a motion to accept the report of the Traditions committee- Meri Terpstra
 - i. So moved: Gamma Phi
 - ii. Second: Gamma Xi
 - iii. Motion passes
4. Report of the Colonization and Membership Committee
 - a. Entertain a motion to accept the report of the Colonization and Membership committee- Meri Terpstra
 - i. So moved: Delta Alpha
 - ii. Second: Delta Pi
 - iii. Motion passes
5. Report of the Nominations Committee
 - a. Slated
 - i. President: Natalia Lambert
 - ii. Vice President of Membership: Travis Howell
 - iii. Vice President of Special Projects: Shannon Lotti
 - iv. Secretary/Treasurer: Katelyn Zimmer
 - b. Entertain a motion to accept the report of the Nominations committee- Meri Terpstra
 - i. So moved: Gamma Nu
 - ii. Second: Psi
 - iii. Motion passes
6. Announcements
7. Recess until Sunday March 26, 2017 @ 8:00 AM

Joint Session 2
Colvin Annex
Saturday, March 25th, 5:00PM

1. Call to Order @ 5:00 PM
2. Seating of late Delegates
3. Announcements
 - a. We are going to leave here and head to the Outdoor Practice Field to take a picture before dismissing to get ready for banquet.
 - b. Preferential seating at banquet will take place from 7:30-7:45 tonight. If

you are staying in the convention hotel and would like to take advantage of the preferential seating, please be there at 7:30. Open seating will begin at 7:45. Banquet will begin at 8:00 tonight.

- c. Wristband double check - You must have your name tag in order to get food and get a seat at banquet. If you don't have it, you won't be given food. If you are one of the late registration people, we will see you tomorrow.
4. We will now recess until Sunday, March 26 @ 12:00 PM. (rap gavel twice)

Separate Session 4

Auditorium-WWC

Sunday, March 26th, 8:00AM

1. Call to Order @ 8:15am
2. Seating of late delegates
3. Review what each position is in charge of before elections
4. Elections Pt. 1
 - a. Entertain the Motion to accept the slate
 - i. I so move: Psi
 - ii. Second: Delta Phi
 - iii. Motion Per Office
 - iv. Motion fails
 - b. President
 - i. Nominations
 1. Natalia Lambert (Slate)
 - ii. Entertain a motion to accept the slated position for President
 1. I so move: Iota
 2. Second: Gamma Nu
 3. Motion Passes
 - c. Vice President for Membership
 - i. Nominations
 1. Shannon Lotti
 2. Travis Howell (Slate)
 - ii. Entertain motion to accept the slated position for VPM
 1. I so move: Delta Eta
 2. Second: Beta Delta
 3. Motion Fails
 - iii. Speeches and Questions
 - iv. Move to caucus: Delta Eta
 1. Seconded: Gamma Xi
 2. Motion Passes
 - v. Vote by secret ballot
 1. Travis Howell

5. Report of the Programs Committee
 - a. Entertain a motion to accept the report of the programs committee
 - i. I so move: Iota Beta
 - ii. Second: Epsilon Psi
 - iii. Motion passes
6. Elections Pt. 2
 - a. Vice President of Special Projects
 - i. Nominations
 1. Meeka Smith
 2. Shannon Lotti (Slate)
 - ii. Entertain the motion to accept the slated position for VPSP
 1. I so move: Beta Omicron
 2. Second: Zeta Phi
 3. Motion fails
 - iii. Speeches and Questions
 1. Meeka Smith
 2. Shannon Lotti
 - a. Motion to extend questions by 1 minute: Psi
 - b. Second: Gamma Nu
 - c. Motion fails
 - iv. Move to have 3 minute caucus: Beta Zeta
 1. Second: Delta Upsilon
 2. Motion Passes
 - v. Vote by Secret Ballot
 1. Meeka Smith
7. Report of the Credentials Committee
 - a. Entertain the motion to accept the Report of the Credentials Committee:
Meri
 - i. I so move: Xi
 - ii. Second: Gamma Tau
 - iii. Motion Passes
8. Photo contest awards
9. Women in Music Speaker - Dr. Lee
10. Elections Pt. 3
 - a. Secretary/Treasurer
 - i. Entertain a motion to accept the Sec/Treas. Slate
 1. I so move: Gamma Phi
 2. Second: Delta Tau
 3. Motion fails
 - ii. Nominations
 1. Amy Crone
 2. Katelyn Zimmer- Slated
 - iii. Motion to have a 3 minute caucus: Beta Nu
 1. Second: Alpha Omicron
 2. Motion Passes

- iv. Vote by Secret Ballot:
 - 1. No majority met between Katelyn Zimmer/Amy Crone/No Slate
- v. Run Off Vote Between Katelyn Zimmer/No Slate By Secret Ballot
 - 1. No Slate

11. Year in Review/Announcements from SWDAA

12. Report of the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee

- a. Entertain a motion to accept the report of the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee-Meri
 - i. Move to accept- Beta
 - ii. Second - Tau
 - iii. Motion passes

13. Constitutional Revisions

- a. Motion to Remove the Preamble from the Constitution
 - i. MT: Passes
- b. Motion to accept the change to 1.05
 - i. MT:Passes
- c. Motion to accept the change to 2.04
 - i. MT: Passes
- d. Motion to accept the change to 2.11
 - i. MT: Passes
- e. Motion to accept the change to 3.01
 - i. MT: Passes
- f. Motion to accept the change to 3.14
 - i. MT: Passes
- g. Motion to accept the change to 6.01
 - i. MT: Passes
- h. Motion to combine the report section into other sections
 - i. MT: Passes
- i. Motion to accept the amendment to 1.06
 - i. Motion Passes
- j. Change 3.05 to standard outline layout.
 - i. MT: Passes
- k. Motion to accept the amendment to 7.01
 - i. MT: Passes
- l. Motion to dissolve the Chapter Distance Award
 - i. MT: Fails
- m. Motion to Dissolve the Chapter Percentage Award
 - i. MT: Passes
- n. Motion to Dissolve Tau's Book of Spirit
 - i. MT: Fails
- o. Motion to combine Patsy D. Hejl Award and Dorothy Allen Nichols Award into Outstanding Chapter Award
 - i. MT: Fails
- p. Motion to add the Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest award to the list

- of awards
 - i. MT: Passes
- q. Report of the Spirit and Sisterhood Committee
 - i. Move to accept - Alpha
 - ii. Second - Alpha Omicron
 - iii. Motion passes
- 14. Announcements about the final day of Convention: Donnelle
- 15. Installation of the 2017-2018 Southwest District Council (15 minutes)
- 16. Singing of Affirmation Song (5 minutes)
- 17. Adjourn
 - a. Entertain motion to Adjourn until next year (Meri)
 - b. I so move: Beta Delta
 - c. Second: Zeta Mu

Joint Session 3

International Exhibition Hall-WWC

Sunday, March 26th, 12:00PM

1. Call to order @ 1:11pm
2. TBS Founder's Day Ceremony
3. Presentation of Joint Awards
 - a. Talent Show Awards - Hannah
 - b. Step Show Awards
 - c. Displays/Scrapbooks – SWDAA
 - i. Best Free standing KKPsi- Epsilon Beta
 - ii. Best TBS- Alpha Omicron
 - iii. Best Overall Joint- UT Arlington (TBS Gamma Nu, KKPsi Delta Sigma)
4. Introductions of the 2017-2018 Joint District Council
5. Report of the Joint Action Committee (Joint Chairs)
 - a. Entertain a motion to accept the report of the JAC
 - i. Kappa Kappa Psi –Epsilon Delta
 - ii. Tau Beta Sigma – Gamma Xi
 - iii. Motion Passes
6. Report of the Joint Committee on Convention Site (Joint Chairs)
 - a. Slate: Delta Upsilon of TBS and Beta Zeta of KKPsi (Howard Payne University) with the following conditions:
 - i. Submit a joint budget
 - ii. Submit updated individual chapter budgets
 - b. Motion to accept the report of the JAC
 - i. Tau Beta Sigma - Delta Eta
 - ii. Kappa Kappa Psi – Gamma Iota
 - iii. Motion Passes

7. Election of the 2018 Southwest District Convention Host Chapters
 - a. Slated: Delta Upsilon (TBS) and Zeta Beta (KKPsi)
 - b. Motion to accept the slate by acclamation
 - i. Tau Beta Sigma- Eta Epsilon
 - ii. Kappa Kappa Psi- Lambda Kappa
 - iii. Motion fails
 - c. Presentation of Bid Packet from Delta Upsilon of TBS and Beta Zeta of KKPsi
 - d. Motion to have a 5 minute caucus
 - i. Kappa Kappa Psi-Gamma Iota
 - ii. Tau Beta Sigma- Psi
 - iii. Motion Fails
 - e. Elected: Delta Upsilon and Zeta Beta
8. Announcement of Area Workshop Hosts for 2018
 - a. Arkansas – Arkansas Tech
 - b. Oklahoma – East Central
 - c. Louisiana – McNeese State
 - d. North Texas – UT Tyler
 - e. East Texas – Prairie View A&M
 - f. South Texas – Texas A&M Kingsville
 - g. West Texas/ New Mexico – Eastern New Mexico
9. Final Announcements of Penny Wars
 - a. Total \$1069
 - b. TBS- \$685.10
 - c. KKPsi- 384.53
10. Entertain a motion to adjourn The 2017 Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Convention- Meri and Rob
 - a. Tau Beta Sigma –Alpha Omicron
 - b. Kappa Kappa Psi- Alpha
 - c. Motion Passes
11. Pie in the Face

Report of the SWD President

To the Southwest District,

First of all, I wanted to say hi, and thank you all once again for letting me serve as your president this year. If I have managed to show a fraction of the amount of love, grace, and support that you have extended to me this year, then I count this year as a success.

This year has been full of excitement for me. Starting with last April, when George and I met in order to figure out how we were going to tackle the 2016-2017 year, I traveled about 5 blocks down the road to get some tea and get down to business. As George and I learned, living only 20 minutes away doesn't necessarily mean we would see each other face-to-face all that often. We still managed to plan a convention together that you are now seeing the product of. We wouldn't have been able to do it without the tireless efforts of the Alpha KKPsi chapter and Alpha Omicron TBSigma chapter.

I spent a ton of time over the two semesters building templates for me to be organized, for future District Officers, (especially Presidents) to have as a starting point, and for our chapters to utilize. All but 3 of our chapters got the Chapter Summary Reports in on time, and they have since been sent in! I also figured out how to work the Southwest District Website. I created a spreadsheet with all the chapters, their officers, and their emails and phone numbers so we could best contact everyone. I talked countless times to the presidents through Emails, GroupMe, and Facebook. Halfway through the year, I stepped in as a pseudo VPM answering questions where I could and panicky texting the Counselors for 75% of the information before I passed it on! Thank you Presidents and VPMs for all the fantastic questions and discussions we have had this year. I can tell that you all care so much about our organization and the future of it! Keep up the great work!

Now for all the fun stuff I had the opportunity to do!

Starting in July, I traveled here to Stillwater for District Leadership Conference where the SWD Council learned tools to help you as the District. I met all the officers from other districts and through it have made new best friends. We even have a GroupMe and some video calls to talk through questions and be a support group for each other. Thank you District Presidents. You have made this wild ride more

enjoyable and filled me with laughter and perspective.

Next I traveled to one of the two Chapter Leadership Conferences. I worked in New Mexico this summer, so it only made sense that I hit that CLC up on my way back to school. All who went, Thank you for playing the random games with us and helping kick off the year with tons of fun!

In the Fall Semester, I traveled to Alpha Omicron at Sam Houston State for one of their degrees and also to Gamma Nu at UT Arlington for an Honorary Initiation. This semester I had the opportunity to go to 2nd degree also at Gamma Nu and I have plans to go hang out with the Beta chapter at Texas Tech in just a couple weekends!

I also had the wonderful privilege of Video Calling in to a couple of chapter meetings. Thank you Delta Upsilon, Alpha Omicron, Zeta Phi, Beta, Gamma Tau –I never managed to make it into your meeting, but I had so many fantastic emails with your lovely president that I am sure you are also doing great.

This year, due to ice storms, we had winter council meeting at Kathy's house in Rockwall and Skyped with the host chapters. Thanks everyone for being so flexible. That weekend will forever be some of my favorite memories on council!

Because I don't believe in sleeping or having weekends to myself in the spring, I road tripped to 4 consecutive workshops, at 3 of which I presented.

Thank you for the Psi and Lambda chapters for taking me in for an entire weekend for the Arkansas area workshop. You made sure to start the workshop season on a fantastic note. At the South Texas area workshop I met amazing brothers who handled the workshop like old pros even though they were only sophomores. I also ran into a friend from camp, oh the places you will go southwest, you never know who you will run into on these travels.

At the third workshop in Lawton, OK, I spent time learning about dinosaurs from Hannah Wells and convention planning with Clinton. Thank you for all your help that day Clinton, that is the most I have ever heard you talk.

And my final workshop included a road trip with Kathy and Toni to Baton Rouge Louisiana. Thank you for the Tau Beta Sigma chapters who came and to Emily Shain for presenting and becoming an even closer friend of mine. We had a fantastic game of kickball. Everyone needs to road trip to Louisiana next year. It is always a blast.

Finally, I traveled here for convention. It has been crazy. I have received more hugs this weekend and smiles and support than I thought. I am so sorry everyone who I have forgotten your name. I promise its not on purpose, I'm just have so much in my brain that sometimes it decides to take a break at inconvenient times.

Southwest, you are amazing. Keep being great. Participate with your brother and sister chapters. GO! To workshops and log the adventures you have on social media so I can see the fun.

National Council, thank you for your support and help this weekend and for equipping me, my council, and this district to be the best we can be.

Alpha Omicron and Alpha, Thank you so much for all you have done for the district. Your tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed. You rock and this convention would not have happened without you and your wonderful positivity and willingness to do anything and everything.

Kalem – Thank you for smiling and hugging me. I see you and know everything will be okay.

Toni – Thank you for having all the answers that no one else seems to know. You are a fantastic resource to this council and District.

Clinton – I already thanked you earlier, but also you are a rock star in disguise. I am so glad I got to get to know you better this year.

George – Thank you for answering my calls when I really needed you and for bringing a new program to the district

Rob – Thank you for being my counterpart last year, and part of this year too. Your demanding presence calms me when I panic, and you challenged me to be the best President I could be for this District. I can't wait to see where life takes you.

Jayden – I am so glad I got to know you this year. Thank you for bringing new ideas to the district and for always having a smile.

Arjun - Thank you for the wonderful car ride adventures to workshops. You have tons of great ideas.

David – Thank you. I had no idea I would grow so close to you this year. Your passion is inspiring and you are one of the kindest, most intelligent people I know. I am blessed to call you my Brother and friend.

Donnelle' – Thank you for taking care of me when I was sick and tired and overwhelmed. You made sure that everything that needed to be done was covered and let me talk through everything from school and life to how to convention. I appreciate your phone calls and checkups. You are wonderful.

Kathy- Thank you for driving me to Louisiana, for hugging me whenever possible, for answering the phone when I was in tears in December and telling me I could be done for the night. Thank you for calling me at 7 am the next morning and telling me to get to work. Thank you for being a friend, mentor, and caretaker. I am so glad you are a part of my life.

Maggie – Thank you for being my best friend. Your sass has made my life better and I cannot wait to hear you sing at my wedding whenever that is. I made a new best friend in you. Thank you for all you did for this district during your time on council. You made such a huge impact on so many chapters and I wish you could have had the chance to do even more.

Hannah – Oh my gosh Hannah. Where do I even begin? I love you so much. You make me laugh when I am crying and cry when I laugh. You are one of the best things in my life this year and I cannot wait to see how our friendship continues to grow. Thank you for your dedication to this district and to this council. For tirelessly picking up the slack and offering to help anyone and everyone. And for driving a crazy amount for workshops. I couldn't ask for a better partner in crime. I love you.

Natalia – You too my love. I have had a friend in you since last year. You are wonder woman in disguise! I don't know how you manage to do all that you do with your school and work and chapter and the district, but I know everything you touch is better because you were a part of it. My life is better because of you as is this district and organization. I cannot wait to see where life takes you and am excited to be your sister and friend every step of the way. I love you so much and thank you for your hard work, dedication, convention help, and idea bouncing. You are wonderful.

Finally, Thank you once again Southwest District. It has been a pleasure serving you this last year and a half. I have seen amazing things during my time on council and

met amazing people. I cannot wait to see how this district grows and where each and every one of you goes in life. Thank you for this experience and for helping me grow. I love you all so much and am proud of you. Go Be Great Southwest. MLITB & MOTS

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Terpstra
Southwest District President 2016-2017

Report of the Vice President of Special Projects

My Sisters and Brothers of the Southwest,

It is a bittersweet feeling to be coming to the end of my term as Vice President of Special Projects. I have completed a fair amount of projects, traveled places for the first time, met an immense amount of wonderful individuals, and found new things about myself along this journey.

I find it easier to move through the past year by topic than by month so that is how I am going to proceed here. So, in alphabetical order, I did some correspondence with my chapters, Alpha, Delta, Beta Delta, Beta Zeta, Beta Nu, Gamma Xi, Gamma Omicron, Delta Eta, Delta Pi, Delta Sigma, Epsilon Eta, and Theta Theta through monthly emails where I updated them on things going on in the District and answered questions they had. Due to a busy schedule, I was not able to visit as many as I would have liked. In July, I had dinner with Delta at a local Mexican restaurant and was able to Skype with Gamma Xi. I wish I had been able to visit or skype more chapters but sometimes time does not work in your favor.

I had a correspondence with my counterparts via google hangout meetings. Arjun, Jayden, and I were able to work through a lot of the joint projects. We had a GroupMe, SWD Swag, which was utilized as a means of communication daily as well.

The District Scrapbook is the next alphabetical item on the list; however, it is one of the last projects I started. I crept through Facebook on your chapter Facebook pages, some of your personal pages, but mostly the Focus on Five campaign page to find pictures for the scrapbook. I enjoyed trying to find pictures and seeing many of the wonderful things you all do that go unnoticed. To those chapters that do not have a public Facebook page to post pictures to so your school, community, District, and Nation cannot easily find pictures I highly suggest making one (wink,wink).

The next project was a big one. Focus on Five. This year's Focus on Five brought about new challenges to you as chapters, like hosting NIB session and emailing your budget, constitution, and MEP, but also brought back familiar content, like Crescendo and Women in Music. It was my job to track your progress and update your liaisons of your progress along the way. I also was in correspondence with Adrienne Rall to make sure your progress was recorded on a National level as well. If you are looking at your placard and thinking, I wish I had more stickers, then push your chapters to complete the pieces so you have all of them at NatCon! It is not just up to the Liaison or VP of Service or President, it is up to each of you to make sure your chapters are fulfilling the pieces.

I oversaw the Tau Beta Sigma parts, mostly, of the New Alto. When school came back to session we sent out applications for editors and within a few weeks chose our New Alto team for 2016 – 2017. The team consisted of the TBS copy editor, Meghan Baetz, from Sam Houston State University, the KKPsi copy editor, Katelyn Kenney from the University of Houston, and the design editor, Zachary Wilson from the University of New Mexico. In the fall, we worked really hard to get it out on time but alas it did not occur, but the edition was still amazing. This Spring

we implemented a new system for editing and processing; things went a little bit better. We have worked very hard to get this out on time and I am pleased to announce that the Spring 2017 issue of the New Alto is finished and will be up on the website later this afternoon!

Next alphabetical project is the Photo contest. I created the monthly themes, this year I decided to base each month of a verse from the Affirmation song. A big Thank You to the chapters that participated in the contest!

The next project, was the service and sisterhood databases. They are almost complete. I am almost done with getting the database out to you but throughout the year you all have been submitting wonderful sisterhood and service events to the Google form and I request you continue sending your ideas and events to the form so the database will always be up to date with the newest and freshest ideas; remember the database is meant to be a resource tool for you to use if you need ideas of events or activities.

The next project was one of the biggest I worked on. The Southwest District Service Project this year is a money drive to collect money to give to a school or schools in need of equipment. We are completing this Service Project through our Penny Wars challenge with Kappa Kappa Psi. The District council of the organization that has the most money in their jar, which will be us, will pie the other council in the face. If we reach our goal of \$1200 then the counselors or governors of the respective organization will be pied as well. As Natalia will demonstrate, if each of you put at least a dollar in, we will be much better off! Put more and we will win and have bragging rights for the next year. This year we decided that since we have two host chapters to have two schools to split the money between. One near Alpha and one near Alpha Omicron. The schools that will be receiving new equipment with the funds we collect are Chandler High School in Chandler, OK and Madisonville High School in Madisonville, TX. Please put money in the jar to help these schools and help us not be pied.

The last thing in my alphabetical list of things I accomplished this semester is travel. Back in July, I traveled here to Oklahoma State University to attend the District Leadership Conference. I was able to meet the other VPSP's of the other districts as well as the other members of their councils, I bonded with our council, we decided plans for all of you and decided our district lyre piece requirements for Focus on Five. I was also given the opportunity to meet, talk, and bond with our National Leadership. The next travel did not occur until Winter Council when I met up with the joint Southwest District Council at Kathy's house in Rockwall, TX over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. There was a lot of bonding, laughing, and learning that occurred. Next I traveled up the hill, literally from my house, to the University of Arkansas campus for Arkansas Area workshop on February 11th. It was so good to have all of you at my home chapter and we started off the workshop season really well! The next weekend I attended South Texas Area workshop at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in Belton, TX and while the workshop was really fun and we learned a lot, shout out to my made-up chapter of Epsilon Psi Delta Nu at the University of Texarkworthington, it was the car ride home with my Psi sisters, Julianne, Alex, and Kerry that I will never forget as we rewrote the lyrics to Let's Get

Down to Business so we could defeat the drive. The next weekend, February 25th, I traveled with a group of Psi sisters to Oklahoma Area workshop at Cameron University in Lawton. Here I gave my first ever workshop presentation and although I was a little nervous it was a learning experience I needed. I was able to refine my presentation and make it a bit better for when I presented it again at East Texas Area Workshop in Brenham, TX at Blinn Jr. College on March 11th. This was a very fun workshop and I was able to bond with brothers and sisters from Southwestern Oklahoma State University as well as Psi and Lambda. The last travel I did was to Southwest District Convention 2017 at Oklahoma State University, a.k.a. here! It has been a fun and interesting road getting here but I made it, you made it, and it is going to be a great weekend.

I have a few people I would like to say thank you to very quickly.

To my counterparts, Arjun and Jayden – Thank you for being for interesting fellows and working with me on our projects. I wish the best to both of you to your life endeavors and journeys.

To Rob and David – Thank you both for your continuous jokes and pranks. You kept me laughing and on my toes and I have enjoyed bonding more with you both!

To Adrienne Rall– Thank you for your continuous support and help this year! I do not know how I would have survived Focus on Five without you!

To Donnelle – Thank you for being a great mentor and friend! I have learned a lot from you this past year that I will definitely put to grand use, especially since I now know what the Dallas skyline looks like in real life and on a painting.

To Kathy – Thank you for your never ending love and care and giving me the affirmation I needed when things got tough. I know I can call upon you whenever I need to lift me up or give me the down and dirty truth.

To Natalia – Oh Natalia, what can I say to you. You have provided so much adorable joy and laughter this year. I am going to miss your giggles and smile and amazing leadership. You are an amazing person and I am so excited to see where you go in life. Love you boo!

To Meri – I do not have the words to begin to explain how blessed I am to know you and will never be able to repay you for all you have done. I am so grateful and thankful for you! I know when needed, I can always google hangout you in my onesie and you won't judge, you'll just go put your onesie on as well.

To Psi – Thank you for your continuous support and affirmation through this journey that I went on and took you with me a bit on. I owe so much to all of you and cannot fathom where I would be without you. Julianne, my rock; Alyssa, my rants; Madison, my laughter; Chloe, my new breath of life; and each of you provide so much

more as well. You will hear more from me later, so for now I will leave you with this: I'll be there for you cause you're there for me to.

To Southwest District – Thank you for entrusting me to be the guardian of sisterhood and attendant to service. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving you this year and am so blessed to have been given the opportunity. I cannot imagine my last year in Tau Beta Sigma being any different than it was.

I don't know where I'll be this fall, quite literally...but I know wherever I go, I will have sisters I can call upon to support and lift me, because when I wander far from home I'll have courage I am not alone.

So Much Love in the Bond,

Hannah Wells

Vice President of Special Projects 2016 – 2017

Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District

“Potter Potato Princess”, “Miss Piggy”, “Pharmapsi”, “Southwest Hot Mess”, “Aunt Fanny”

Report of the SWD Secretary/Treasurer

Dear Sisters of the Southwest,

I want to start by saying that this year and this experience is one that I will always remember as being full of fun, hard work, long nights, and lots of laughs. I feel extremely blessed to have served as the 2016-2017 Secretary/Treasurer. After elections, and taking a few days to let it all sink in, I began organizing all the different reports and other documents I needed to put the 2016 Convention Minutes together. At the same time, I compiled the list of changes that were voted on at convention for the District Constitution and updated the document. Both of those documents were completed and sent out in late June.

In mid-July I was so blessed to travel to Stillwater and participate in the District Leadership Conference. That weekend was full of great times and lots of bonding between the SWD Council. It was at DLC where I was able to meet the Secretary/Treasurers from the other districts as well as the National Council of Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi. While at DLC, I created a GroupMe for the District Secretary/Treasurers for us to discuss our different ideas and to work on the National Pen Pal Program together.

In late July and August, I traveled to the two Chapter Leadership Conference at Henderson State University and Eastern New Mexico State University. At the conferences, I presented a workshop to the treasurers that on making a budget for their chapter and how to effectively fundraise.

Throughout the school year, I was responsible for keeping in contact with Psi, Alpha Upsilon, Delta Phi, Beta Gamma, Epsilon Beta, Epsilon Psi, Zeta Mu, Eta

Epsilon, and Gamma Phi. I sent monthly emails with the different district updates, deadlines, and just to check in to see how their chapter was doing. I had such a great time getting to know the lovely sisters from these different chapters. I was able to have a video call with Psi, Alpha Upsilon, Delta Phi, Beta Gamma, Epsilon Beta, and Eta Epsilon during one of each of their chapter meetings to introduce myself and talk with them about some of the district announcements.

During my time in office, I continued the sales of our District T-shirt and brainstormed with my amazing counterpart, David Cox, on how to change up the District Marketplace on the website to fit it's main purpose. We decided to rebrand the old Market place to the new District Convention Catalog. Now Brothers and Sisters are able to plan how much to bring to District Convention by looking at the Catalog ahead of time.

Winter Council took place at Kathy's house in Rockwall, TX since an unexpected snow storm prevented the Joint Council to travel to Stillwater. During winter council I took minutes during each of the Joint and separate sessions. Outside of our different business meetings, I had an amazing time filled with animal onesies, quelf, and singing Moana at the top of our lungs.

The charge I was given was to go through the District Constitution thoroughly and make suggested changes for the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee prior to District Convention. With the assistance of our District Parliament, Shannon Lotti, I was able to complete this charge by coming up with multiple ways to revamp and condense our current Constitution. Shannon was a tremendous help in evaluating the constitution and making recommendations for the committee to look over.

One of my personal goals for office was to connect the secretaries with one another from all around the district with a GroupMe. The GroupMe was able to give helpful suggestions on how to get sister's to read meeting minutes along with numerous other projects. Soon after starting that chat, I thought it would be beneficial to create one for the treasurers across the District. The treasurers were able to share idea of possible fundraisers and give advice for other areas of the position such as making a budget for their chapters. I was also able to work on the District Fundraiser Database and double the amount of submission from last year.

I was blessed to be able to travel during the Spring semester to visit Tau at the University of Houston for their first degree. Thank you Tau for being so welcoming! Also during this semester, I was able to travel to four of the Area Workshops: South Texas, West Texas/New Mexico, Louisiana, and East Texas. I presented at 3 of the 4 workshops on Stress vs. Burnout and how to better align your chapter goals. Thank you to Brianna Mitchell for letting me stay with you and being an amazing traveling buddy all the way to Abilene and back!

This year was more amazing than I could ever have imagined. It has been a blessing to serve with this outstanding TBS council. I have some thank yous I want to say really quick to some outstanding people.

To the counselors:

Thank you for teaching me how to be a better leader and helping me realize that it's okay to take a time for myself and it's not my job to do everything. I appreciate you

both more than I can say!

To Meri:

Thank you for being the person who was always there to listen to any issues I was having throughout the year. Thank you for always encouraging me and showing me so much love. I love and appreciate you so much!

To Maggie:

Thank you for teaching me so much on how to an outstanding example of what it means to be a sister and leader.

To Hannah:

Thank you so much for for always making me smile and laugh. You will forever be my Moana singing partner and I love you!

To Shannon:

Thank you for constantly correcting my spelling while reviewing the constitution. I am so grateful to have had your help and friendship this semester!

To the Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Council:

Thank you for all your help throughout this year. Thank you so much for the endless laughs and great memories.

To David:

Thank you for being such an amazing counterpart this year. I am so grateful that I had you to be there to help me with anything that I might need. Our sorority girl picture is something that I will cherish forever!

Last but certainly not least,

Thank you to my favorite chapter in the southwest, Alpha Omicron. Without the support of these wonderful women and men, I have no idea how I would've been able to survive this year. Your encouragement means so much to me and I'm blessed to call you my sisters. I love you all more than I will ever be able to express. Katie, Jamie, and my four amazing littles, thank you for always listening and supporting me, you all mean the world to me.

Sisters, I want to thank all of you for blessing me with this wonderful opportunity to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalia Lambert

Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer

Tau Beta Sigma- Alpha Omicron chapter

Reports of the SWD Counselors

Greetings Southwest District!

It continues to be a great honor to serve as your Southwest District Counselor. Through the hundreds of texts, calls, emails, Facebook messages, and Google Hangouts I have come to solidify that YOU will remain to be my favorite reason to continue to serve. I have watched as chapters and individual sisters flourish and change with their band programs and universities. I've watched as you've tackled huge projects and operational changes, then mastered them like they are nothing. Thank you for your dedication and willingness to grow. Thank you for being you. I could spend the next five minutes thanking the LOADS of people that have impacted my time as counselor, but it is my hope that I have showered you with affirmation along the way that you know how much you mean to me.

This year I have had the privilege of conducting chapter visits at the **Delta Sigma** chapter at University of Louisiana at Monroe, the **Zeta Mu** chapter at Grambling State University, the **Zeta Phi** chapter at Louisiana Tech University, the **Beta Delta** chapter at Texas Christian University, and the **Xi** chapter at West Texas A&M University. And in two weeks I will conduct visits at the **Iota Tau** chapter at the University of Texas at San Antonio and the **Delta Eta** chapter at Texas A&M University at Kingsville. Through these visits, I have had the opportunity to learn how your universities, bands, and chapters operate. We have worked together to take areas of opportunity into areas of distinct growth. I have watched the same wheels that have turned in your heads become the same ones that power your chapter forward. Thank you for latching on to the Chapter Visitation Program like champs.

Living in Dallas has definitely had its perks. Many of our Southwest District chapters have traveled through the DFW area and I have LOVED the opportunity to celebrate your musicianship. I had the distinct privilege of meeting with sisters of the **Delta Alpha** chapter at Langston University as they performed halftime at a high school game in the fall. While at two of my marching competitions as the color guard choreographer for Sunset High School, I was able to witness the half time performances of the **Epsilon Psi** chapter at Prairie View A&M University. In October I traveled to Arkadelphia for the homecoming performance of the **Theta Theta** chapter at Henderson State University. Finally, this spring I was able to attend second degree for the **Gamma Nu** chapter at University of Texas at Arlington.

As your counselor, there have been immense opportunities to connect and personally grow with other district and national leaders as well as mixed chapter developments. This summer I was able to hang out with sisters and brothers all over the district at District Day, where I ate entirely too much pizza and played games. Later in the summer I met with national leadership at the District Leadership Conference here in Stillwater. Here I learned a whole lot about how to better serve you as your counselor, and how to better guide our district council as they tackle immense projects with grace. We mirrored that training by preparing your chapter at Chapter Leadership Conferences. I had the privilege of working with the presidents at the Arkansas Chapter Leadership Conference at Henderson State University as they prepared to lead your chapters with confidence and a stronger

knowledge base. Over the long MLK weekend the joint councils got snowed out of Stillwater, so we met at Kathy's house in Rockwall do make major lead way on district convention planning and officer projects such as workshops and Focus on Five. Recently the rubber has hit the road for workshop season. I presented at the West Texas/New Mexico Area Workshop at McMurry University, the East Texas Area Workshop at Blinn College, and the North Texas Area Workshop at Midwestern State University. Our host chapters did outstanding jobs to provide opportunities for those that chose to attend, but more on that later.

This year one of the largest projects we as counselors across the nation have tackled has been guiding every chapter through the alignment and approval of their Membership Education Programs with the outline. Your hard work, questions, and willingness to assess your practices has been a relief. We appreciate your trust and buy-in, as we secure intentionality in our membership education processes. We are immensely proud of you, and your chapter's future is stronger because of your detailed analysis.

Well Southwest, that's what I've been up to this year. So now, I'd like to leave you with some soapbox thoughts. So...let's talk numbers. As a math teacher I. Love. Numbers. I love that numbers can take opinions into facts. This is one of the key pieces that I have learned as my fifth-grade students approach their STAAR assessments on Tuesday and Wednesday. So, let's look at the numbers for Focus on Five and District Workshop attendance.

First up, Focus on Five!

Stripe	Description	Chapter Numbers	Chapter Percentage
Red Stripe	Documents	35/37	96%
White Stripe	3-Photos	19/37	51%
Blue Stripe	WIMS- JUNE 1	4/37	11%
Green Stripe	Crescendo- JUNE 1	14/37	38%
Black Stripe	Liaison	37/37	100%
Left Lyre Piece	5 Databases- JUNE 1	7/37	19%
Center Lyre Piece	NIB- APRIL 15	2/37	5%
Right Lyre Piece	Delegate- JULY 18	0/37	0%
Completed Program		0/37	0%
1 Stripe/Piece		2/37	
2 Stripes/Pieces		15/37	

So...numbers mean nothing without actually looking at what they mean. Your district council has worked your district council has worked tirelessly to get your connected to the national program by having a liaison...which explains the 100% participation. All but two chapters submitted their constitution, budget, and Membership Education Program on-time to myself and Kathy. Half of our chapters submitted the three photos, a dressy picture, a service picture, and a national program picture, by December first for the white stripe. Now, these stripes are in the past and I must say KUDOS! I'm proud of those chapters who have taken the initiative to participate in a national ongoing program. The next pieces have deadlines of June first. HINT: THERE'S STILL TIME!

One third of our chapters have sent in proof for their green stripe of their

involvement with the Crescendo program. Crescendo is simply a program that connects your chapter with youth in order to make an impact on their music education. About one tenth of our chapters have sent in proof of their blue stripe for hosting of a Women in Music Speaker open to their campus. Seven chapters have sent in submissions for ALL five the Southwest District databases that can be found online right now (HINT!) in order to complete the left lyre piece. For my birthday on April 15th, we have two chapters that have sent in proof for their center lyre piece of their hosting of an NIB audition session. That's a REALLY quiet birthday song! And finally, our last piece will be the right lyre piece which is having a delegate from your school at National Convention in Orlando this summer!

All in all, I am VERY proud of what you have accomplished. You work hard, serve your bands, and grow as chapters. I charge you to take the time to be highlighted for all of the great things that you do. Far too often, we as sisters celebrate others, but do not allow ourselves to be highlighted for the great things that you do. We cannot see into your chapter unless you let us in, and this is the perfect way.

Next up on "Donnelle' loves numbers," I bring you statistics on area workshop attendance.

Area Workshop	# Sisters	# Chapters	% Chapters	# New Sisters
Oklahoma	13	3	8%	10
Arkansas	64	5	14%	55
Louisiana	6	3	8%	6
South Texas				
WestTexas/NewMexico	22	5	14%	22
East Texas	28	6	16%	19
North Texas	10	4	11%	9
			(17/37) 46%	121 (14%)

These workshops take hours of time to prepare from teams of leaders as well as universities. Area workshops are designed for networking and individual/chapter growth. These workshops are geographically spread throughout the district into seven distinct areas so that you will be likely to travel to a workshop that is no more than four hours from you at least one time during the spring. So my questions to you are:

What would you like to see different?

What ways can we make workshops more worth your time?

What has stopped you in the past from attending?

Please take a moment to complete the Google Form below.

<https://tinyurl.com/AreaWorkshops>

As always, I will continue to appreciate your thorough assessment, intention, and service to building 'Greater Bands.' As I firmly believe, life is too short to do good...so GO BE GREAT, SOUTHWEST!

Donnelle' M. Mitchell
Southwest District Counselor

Sisters and Brothers of the Southwest District,

It is hard to believe another year has gone by since our last meeting. Donnelle' and I have learned so much in the two years we have served as District Counselors. This past year, we had a better understanding of what we could do to better serve our District and support our District Council. It has been a thrilling ride, that I have had the privilege to experience. The Southwest District has such a strong spirit to each other and to their band programs, that exudes to those around them. I am honored to be able to be a part of the experience.

While the fall is typically a busy time for the students, as the Marching Band season is in full swing and keeps the students busy most every weekend, it is also a time when most of our chapters are beginning their recruiting process. Exposing to new prospective members what our organization is all about. Donnelle' and I worked diligently with the Vice-Presidents of Membership at the chapters on updating their MEP's to meet the National requirements. This was a new experience for many VP, as some MEP's had to be revamped to meet the new outlines and incorporate information that had not been included previously. There were many notes sent back and forth, but the VP and their committees worked extremely hard to get their MEP to where they needed to be for approval. This was a new experience for all involved. The goal with this change is to provide a living document, that provides all the information to the membership candidates to help them become successful active members.

The National Council implemented a new program to reestablish chapter visits. The first year was a planning year, and during this past year we rolled out the program. Several chapters in the district received visits from either the District Counselor, the Chapter Visit Assistants, or in a few cases a National Officer. The visits were well received, as it provided an opportunity for the sisters to meet with National Leadership, and ask questions, get feedback on documents and chapter operations. The chapters also were presented with new learning experiences/workshops during the visit as well. As this is a new program, the chapters have provided positive feedback on the program.

This past year was another year full of travel. It started with another wonderful District Day in June. All who attended were able to visit, play games and enjoy a meal together. It was a great way to end another school year, and get ready for summer break.

In July, it was time for DLC in Stillwater OK. There was a lot of information presented in a short amount of time to National Leadership, as well as to the District

Leadership. It was the first time the National Leadership was all together face to face. It was so nice to meet all the other District Counselors and CVA's and District Officers, and be able to discuss various topics, share ideas with each other, and make new friends while learning more about our organization.

After DLC, the District Officers and the Counselors took the information we learned and shared at not one but two CLC's prior to the Fall semester starting. The District Council decided to have two CLC's to offer the information to as many members as possible. We had one CLC in Henderson AR and a second CLC in New Mexico. It was a wonderful way to help those in attendance get ready for the upcoming year. The counselors were able to meet with the chapters in attendance and provide information about the changes in the MEP's, discuss important dates (CPR, FAR, etc.) and answer/address any questions/concerns the student had.

During the Fall Semester, I made a trip to North Texas to see the Razorback Marching Band perform an exhibition performance after a high school game. After the performance, I visited with active members of both Psi and Lambda.

In October, I attended an Apache Marching Band Game and visited with the Director of Bands and the sisters of Epsilon Eta. We discussed what the sisters could expect from their upcoming Chapter Visit. While it was a short visit, it was enjoyable.

In October, I also did a social visit to Sam Houston State University to see their half time Homecoming performance. It was exciting to see how Alpha Omicron assisted with various activities throughout the day. I was able to meet with the Sponsor, who expressed his pride in the Alpha Omicron Chapter. He commented on their service to the band program, and how the band department appreciates the work done by the chapter.

October saw my first chapter visit at East Texas Baptist University with Iota Beta. While the chapter is a small chapter, they are a motivated chapter. The sisters were all wanting to be the best they could be and were receptive to learning new information. The sponsor was supportive of the Sisters, and wants to see them become more active in the District activities. We went over chapter operations, and what each Chapter Officers responsibilities are that they need to be working on. We reviewed their Constitution and MEP. We discussed the goals for the Chapter and how important it is for them to establish an officer transition plan, so incoming officers are not starting from scratch each year.

I finished up October with going to see Langston University at an away game in Tyler, TX. I was able to visit with Kalem Graham. I meet the sponsor of the Delta Alpha Chapter and meet the Sponsor and some of the members.

November was my second chapter visit at Epsilon Eta. The sisters were so excited to have a visit, and were full of questions. This chapter is located at a Two Year College,

which presents a set of challenges that many of our chapters do not have to face. We spent a large amount of time discussing chapter operations. The sisters had quite a few questions regarding how to run a meeting, and several officers had questions regarding their offices. The sisters enjoyed learning more about the organization, and how to be a successful chapter.

In November, the Council and Counselors worked diligently with the chapters to get their Fall Activity Reports completed by December 1. We were able to have 95% of the chapter submit their reports on time. December 1 was also a due date for several stripes for the Focus on Five Program.

In January, all the Counselors, Governors, and District Councils were preparing to head to Stillwater, OK for our winter meeting when winter caused us to redirect the meeting to Rockwall, TX. The councils spent the weekend prepping, planning and preparing for the upcoming semester. Covering all aspects of the Area Workshops, and District Convention. The Counselors and Governors spent time discussing a realignment of the Areas within the District, in an effort to increase attendance from the District at the area workshops. While we were not at the Convention Site, we were able to have the host chapters skype in for parts of the meeting so we could ensure they knew what responsibilities needed to be addressed, and so we could ask questions of the items that had been completed.

We then were in full swing with workshop season. I was able to attend the AR Area, East Texas Area, OK Area, LA Area, and the South Texas Area Workshops. We have determined that there is need to review our goals regarding workshops, as we noticed a decline in the attendance at the workshops. We are working with the Governors to set new goals of what we would like for the purpose of the Area Workshops.

We are extremely proud to have a colony that has started this year. I was able to attend the first degree for the Jarvis Colony at Texas A&M University – Commerce. The colony members were excited and nervous as they took this first step. I was able to meet the Director/Sponsor of the Colony, who is extremely excited to be adding the organization to the band program at Jarvis.

I have had the privilege to watch Meri, Maggie, Hanna, and Natalia grow into amazing young women. They all were nervous yet excited to begin their journey of this last year. Their love of the organization was always apparent, in all the activities they participated in. Their drive and determination to be successful in their Offices was refreshing.

Donnelle, it has been a pleasure to serve as a counselor with you again this year. You inspire me daily.

To the National Council, I thank you all for your continued service to our District.

Your dedication to our organization is amazing. All the meetings, addressing all the issues we are not able to address, the amount of time you donate to Tau Beta Sigma is unbelievable. Your counsel and friendship is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Webster
SWD Counselor

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE 2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Emily Shain, Beta Nu

Committee Members:

Amber Plattner, Gamma Omicron

Christen Jarshaw, Delta (proxy for Beta Zeta)

Naomi Harlow, Xi

TaShana Hooker, Delta Upsilon (proxy for Delta Tau)

Committee Advisors:

Ashlyn Kubacak, Life Member of Psi

The 2017 Membership Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 Membership Committee reports
- Review the 2016-2017 charges for the VPM and discuss the effectiveness of their implementation
- Assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the previous charges for VPM and Membership Committee
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the outgoing/incoming officer Google Form submissions

Discussion:

The committee reviewed and discussed the report of the 2016 Membership Committee to become comfortable with the information.

We discussed the charges for the 2016-2017 Vice President of Membership regarding offering participation in online chats and virtual interactive workshops for membership educators within chapters and general membership in the Southwest District. We determined that the 2016-2017 Vice President of Membership decided *not* to pursue or complete these charges to our knowledge.

The 2016-2017 Vice President of Membership successfully completed her charge to **increase chapter participation in area workshops by creating an application for submission of workshop presentations** open to members of Tau Beta Sigma. Six SWD members applied to present at area workshops during the 2017 workshop season. We determined this charge was an *effective* route to promoting district involvement and utilizing our diverse membership, but it can be promoted further by utilizing more communication outlets in future years.

After extensive research, we determined the 2016-2017 **President** completed the charge of creating a platform for outgoing presidents to update the SWD of newly elected officers by June 1st - not the Vice President of Membership, and decided it was effective but has plenty of room for improvement.

We discussed the exact role and responsibilities which fall on the Southwest District Vice President of Membership, and discussed ways to reduce confusion regarding the specific duties of each district officer.

We discussed the concept of utilizing the district lyre piece or district awards

for chapters who continue to submit to the SWD databases.

We discussed the idea of the Vice President of Membership creating a document to aid in transitions with future officers.

Charges for the 2017-2018 Vice President of Membership:

- Continue promoting submissions to the district databases through the use of social media platforms and incentives which may include the district lyre piece for Focus on Five or the requirements for district awards.
- Create a transition packet containing responsibilities and update the packet throughout term of office to be given to the succeeding Vice President of Membership.
- When first making contact with new chapter officers for the 2017-2018 academic year, emphasize your role and responsibilities and ways you can serve as a support for those officers.
- Continue to promote the area workshop student speaker application through the use of multiple communication platforms which may include, but is not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, the district website, and email.

Charges for the 2017-2018 SWD Council:

- Challenge all district council members to share their specific roles and responsibilities during Tau Beta Sigma announcements at area workshop.
- Continue updating chapter rosters and contact information as chapter leadership and officers change throughout the academic year.

Charges for the 2018 Membership Committee:

- Review the 2017 Membership Committee Report.
- Review the charges for the 2017-2018 Vice President of Membership and evaluate the effectiveness of their implementation.
- Evaluate the usage of different communication platforms for the dispersal of district information which may include, but not limited to, information about databases, speaker applications, events, and district officer roles.

Special Thanks:

Thank you to my committee of introverts for breaking the ice and opening up to healthy discussion. Ashlyn, our wonderful advisor - thank you for not only sparking ideas, but for being an exceptional example of how to be an active and helpful alumni member of our beloved sisterhood. And thank you to the Southwest District, for staying spicy.

Respectfully submitted,

**Emily Shain, Beta Nu
Chair of the 2017 Membership Committee**

REPORT OF THE HISTORY AND TRADITIONS COMMITTEE

2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Madison Spyles, Psi

Committee Members:

Chelsea Zuniga, Alpha (proxy for Iota)

Emily Gavaghan, Beta (proxy for Beta Gamma)

Ashley Munoz, Xi

Advisor:

Rosalyn McDonald, Chapter Visitation Assistant

The 2017 History and Traditions Committee was charged with the following:

1. Discuss the possibility of including district convention fees within chapter dues or within chapter budget or fundraising goals to increase attendance.
2. Gather records from district council to see the average of chapter attendance and discuss how we could increase this.
3. Discuss encouraging chapters to participate in national and district campaigns via social media or on skype/conference calls while on school breaks, including conventions in their chapter traditions.

Discussion:

Chapter budget (Getting people to district)

As a committee, we determined the best way to get chapters to district would be to allot a certain amount of their chapter budget toward a travel fund to send people to district and national convention. We encourage fundraising specifically for this goal, as well as approaching student life and student organization on campuses. Also, associate alumni chapters are encouraged to donate to travel funds to their respective active chapters.

Improving attendance at Workshops and District Convention

We discussed several ideas on how to improve chapter and individual member attendance. We suggest pairing up sister chapters to hold each other accountable with Focus on Five and sharing ideas and goals. This could possibly be part of a Focus on Five Stripe.

We also highly suggest that the district officers ask chapters with low participation rates to host area workshops in order to get higher chapter involvement from the district. Going along with encouraging participation from chapters, we would like to see a campaign facilitated by the district officers on why chapters should come to District Convention. The campaign could get started by getting input from chapters in the district on their reasons for coming to district. Then a suggestion from the committee was to make a promo video or posts on the district Facebook page on reasons to come to district, what happens at district, etc.

Increasing participation in District and National Programs

We encourage chapters to designate a person/people to post about the national programs, keep the chapter updated on district and national events, and facilitate the participation in the programs. We also suggested expanding the "Focus on Five" liaison position to include all national programs including scholarships and awards. Form a scholarships and awards committee or chair within the chapter to help fill out forms and write letters during the application process. We ask for a link to be provided on the SWD website on each level of Focus on Five to explain what is acceptable and how to complete each stripe.

Charges for the 2017-2018 District Council:

1. District Council: Campaign for District
2. VPM: Contact low participation chapters on hosting workshops and getting more involved
3. VPSP: Look at expanding the Focus on Five liaison position to include all national programs including scholarships and awards
4. Sec/Treas: Encourage chapters to allocate travel funds for District and National Conventions in their chapter budget

Charges for the 2018 History and Traditions Committee:

1. Review the report from the 2017 History and Traditions Committee
2. Gather records of chapter attendance and involvement from district council for all chapters in the SWD from 2017 and 2018 workshop and convention seasons. Records for 2017 can be found in Donnelle' Mitchell's Counselor report. Compare these numbers and discuss whether certain programs that were implemented are effective and propose possible alternatives.

Respectfully Submitted,

Madison Spyres, Psi

Chair of the 2017 History and Traditions Committee

REPORT OF THE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE 2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Katelyn Zimmer, Delta Upsilon

Committee Members:

TJ Partin, Gamma Phi

Camrey Asberry, Delta Alpha

Greta Carlson, Delta Phi

Stormy Semich, Alpha Upsilon

Advisors:

Lisa Croston, Life Member

Hannah Wells, Psi

The 2017 Programs Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the charges/report from the 2016 committee.
2. Review/Create the official application process for receiving funds from March for Music and Bands for Change.
3. Coordinate with SWDAA for the planning and execution of March for Music.
4. Add two more programs to the guide in addition to March for Music and Adopt-a-Band.

Discussion:

Charge 1: We reviewed the charges of the 2016 committee.

Charge 2: We discussed how we could implement March for Music throughout the district. The main concerns we had were finances and travel. One suggestion was that chapters could host the event on their campus rather than at District Day. We like the idea of March for Music, but we do not feel that the program could be implemented at this time due to the short amount of time for chapters to plan for the event. The current application process to receive funds from Bands for Change is that the director has to apply for the funds. The joint council did not like this idea therefore they decided to have the convention host chapters choose a school from their district to receive the funds.

Charge 3: We have decided to not coordinate March for Music.

Charge 4: The program guide will be the Service Database on the SWD webpage. The database currently contains 53 different service programs that will continue to grow as other chapters submit their service projects. We have decided to not add two more programs to the database because it already contains many service projects.

Charges for the 2017-2018 VPSP:

1. Promote Focus on Five. The VPSP should start pushing chapters to plan for

- Focus on Five during the summer.
2. Promote the monthly photo contests in the fall and the spring (research a new outlet for announcing the contests). The VPSP should also announce the theme for the photo contest twice per month.
 3. Promote the New Alto with KKY (encourage article submissions and encourage members to apply to be an editor).
 4. Create and promote the Joint Chapter Challenges with the KKY VPP.
 5. Continue using the sisterhood database and the service database.
 6. Posting on the Instagram and Twitter accounts more often.
 7. Promote the district service project as Bands for Change.

Charges for the 2018 Programs Committee:

1. Report the charges/report of the 2017 Programs Committee.
2. Help the VPSP select the winners of the Joint Chapter challenges.
3. Create/find a video that explains what service is and why it is important. Present the video during the reading of the committee report.

Special Thanks:

I would like to thank my committee for being well-prepared for our meetings and working efficiently. I would also like to thank our advisors, Lisa and Hannah, for helping me through my first experience as a committee chair. They were very helpful during the meetings and they provided a lot of insight for the committee. I would also like to thank the Delta Upsilon chapter for being very supportive of me through this journey. You guys are the best sisters that anyone could ever have.

Respectfully submitted,

**Katelyn Zimmer, Delta Upsilon
Chair of the 2017 Programs Committee**

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE 2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Victoria Renfroe, Beta

Committee Members:

Brandi Munoz, Zeta Phi

Gracie Pasley, Gamma Xi

Hannah Wilson, Gamma Tau

Committee Advisors:

Jonathan Markowski, National Vice-President for Colonization and Membership

The 2017 Nominations Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the 2016 Nominations Committee Report
2. Collect all materials from all candidates running for District Council
3. Schedule interviews with each District Council Candidate
4. Review the standard questions asked of each district council candidate, and add or remove questions as seen fit
5. Review the materials of each candidate, and verify that each candidate packet contains required items, in accordance with the District Constitution
6. Interview each qualified candidate by asking the pertinent questions about the office of which they are running
7. Discuss who the committee feels is best qualified for each office. Submit a slate for each office in addition to the Nominations Committee report.

Discussion:

The committee reviewed the charges and discussed the most efficient way to schedule interviews with each of the candidates. In review of the questions we decided to ask all of the candidates the following general questions:

- What is your vision for this office and the district council during your term? How will your role benefit Sisters across the district?
- What is your understanding of the time commitment necessary for this office? How do you see this time commitment fitting in with your current obligations?
- Would you accept a nomination to any other positions? If so, which one(s)?

In addition to the standard questions, the committee asked each candidate questions specific to the information included in his or her platform.

Slate:

President: Natalia Lambert

Vice President of Membership: Travis Howell

Vice President of Special Projects: Shannon Lotti

Secretary/Treasurer: Katelyn Zimmer

Charges for the 2018 Nominations Committee:

1. Review the 2017 Nominations Committee Report
2. Collect all materials from all candidates running for District Council
3. Schedule interviews with each District Council Candidate
4. Review the materials of each candidates, and verify that each candidate packet contains required items, in accordance with the District Constitution
5. Review the standard questions asked of each district council candidate, and add or remove questions as seen fit
6. Interview each qualified candidate by asking the pertinent questions about the office of which they are running
7. Discuss who the committee feels is best qualified for each office. Submit a slate for each office in addition to the Nominations Committee Report

Special Thanks:

My committee would like to thank the candidates for all the amazing time and effort they put into their packets. Jonathan Markowski of Delta Delta for answering all the questions we had (and there were a lot) and for being patient as this was a learning experience for all of us.

Respectfully submitted,

**Victoria Renfroe, Beta
Chair of the 2018 Nominations Committee**

REPORT OF THE SPIRIT AND SISTERHOOD COMMITTEE

2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Jayna Proffitt, Epsilon Psi

Committee Members:

Paul Hill, Alpha Omicron (proxy for Delta Sigma)

Kendall Blalock, Tau (proxy for Beta Omicron)

Samantha Risi, Gamma Xi (proxy for Zeta Mu)

Dr. Kathryn Kelly, Eta Delta

Advisor:

Siobhan Wilkes, Beta Zeta

The 2017 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee was charged with the following:

1. Committee chair and advisor should contact chapters to ensure that the spirit and sisterhood items will be at convention.
2. Teach yourselves the National and District chants to demonstrate at separate sessions.
3. Coordinate with the District President to teach the delegation at separate session throughout the convention.
4. Discuss the chapters in attendance at the 2017 Southwest District Convention on the qualities of spirit and sisterhood.
5. Award the Spirit and Sisterhood Awards in accordance with the District constitution.

Discussion:

- Effectiveness of Blackout Bingo: We discussed the effectiveness of the blackout bingo and came to the consensus that although we loved the idea of it, we could come up with a different activity that is more effective in allowing us to truly build a bond with our fellow brothers and sisters instead of just collecting social media usernames and going on with our day.
- Criteria for selecting spirit winners: We discussed not being able to find criteria for selecting spirit winners so specific guidelines should be created for eligibility to win a spirit award.
- Award Recipients
 - Beta – Beta Nu
 - Sigma – Zeta Phi
- Teaching chants: We had some difficulty learning some of the chants so we discussed that making a video that teaches each chant individually would be beneficial for those trying to learn chants on their own.

Charges for the 2018 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee:

1. Committee chair and advisor should contact chapters to ensure that the spirit and sisterhood items will be at convention.
2. Teach yourselves the National and District chants to demonstrate at separate

sessions.

3. Coordinate with the District President to teach the delegation at separate session throughout the convention.
4. Discuss the chapters in attendance at the 2018 Southwest District Convention on the qualities of spirit and sisterhood. Award the Spirit and Sisterhood Awards in accordance with the District constitution.
5. Create guidelines and criteria for the committee to select winners at future conventions. Some examples include active participation in activities, enthusiasm in all they do, and a sisterly approach to other chapters.
6. Add a sisterhood event that can be done with other chapters to the Southwest District Spirit and Sisterhood database.
7. Create a video for the Southwest District webpage that teaches all chants.

Charges for the 2018 VPSP:

1. Create a Spirit and Sisterhood themed days list for National Convention.
2. Include chapter specific songs/chants in a photo challenge or Focus on 5.
3. Create an activity that promotes sisterhood. (EX: Take a picture with a sister from another chapter and use a hashtag such as #SWDconvention2018)

Special Thanks:

Thank you to my amazing committee members, as I couldn't have done it without you all! Shout out to Paul for writing down rhythms to help us learn the more rhythmic chants! Also, shout out to Siobhan for being an AMAZING advisor! Also shout out to Dr. Kathryn Kelly for picking me up from my hotel so I could make it in time for a committee meeting. I genuinely enjoyed working with you all and I wish you all well in future endeavors.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jayna Proffitt, Epsilon Psi
Spirit and Sisterhood Committee Chair**

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Meri Terpstra, Beta Delta

Committee Advisor:

Sami Kinnison, Psi

The 2017 Credentials committee was charged with the following:

- Get the information of personnel from the host chapters after registration is over and calculate the Chapter Percentage Award (based on chapter percentage of people in attendance) and Chapter Distance Award (number of members in attendance times the miles travelled) and have as many of the calculations done before convention begins.
- Have numbers of people in each chapter before convention begins to ensure quick calculations.
- Complete report as early as possible during/before convention.

Discussion:

- National Officers
 - Dr. Kathryn Kelly - National President
 - Jonathan Markowski - National Vice President for Colonization and Membership
 - Adrienne Rall - National Vice President for Special Projects
 - Erika Pope - National Vice President for Communication and Recognition
 - Beth Bronk - National Vice President for Professional Relations
- Board of Trustees
 - Dollie McDonald O'Neill - Chair
 - Lisa Croston - Trustee
 - Dr. Nicole Sanchez - Immediate Past National President
- Past National Officers
 - Dr. Nicole Sanchez - Immediate Past National President
 - Dollie McDonald O'Neill - Past National President
 - Lisa Croston - Past National Vice President of Special Projects/Secretary
- Chapter Visitation Assistants
 - Siobhan Wilkes
 - Rosalyn McDonald
- National Headquarters Staff
 - Steve Nelson - National Executive Director
 - Di Spiva- National Headquarters Office Manager and Accountant
 - Debbie Morris - National Membership Services Coordinator
 - T.J. Tooley - National Chapter and Colony Education Coordinator
 - Aaron Moore-National Alumni Historical and Development

- Coordinator
 - Robert Bratcher- National Publications Manager and Multimedia Designer
 - Justin Chesak - National Chapter Field Representative, KKPsi
 - Alaina Peters - National Chapter Field Representative, KKPsi
- National Alumni Association
 - Chris Foster - Vice Chair
 - Amanda Dickson - Affiliate Chair
 - Katie Rixon - Programs Chair
- Southwest District Alumni Association
 - Kat Howell - Chair
 - Jennie Brooks - Tau Beta Sigma Membership Director
 - Sarah Bogue - Finance Director
- Southwest District Council
 - Meri Terpstra - President
 - Hannah Wells - Vice President for Special Projects
 - Natalia Lambert - Secretary/Treasurer
 - Kathy Webster - Counselor
 - Donnelle' Mitchell - Counselor
- Convention Officers
 - Shannon Lotti - Parliamentarian
 - Sami Belford-Kinnison - Parliamentarian
- Past Southwest District Officers
 - Lisa Croston - Past SWD President/Treasurer
 - Chris Foster - Past SWD President/Treasurer
 - Dr. Nicole Sanchez - Past SWD President/VPCM
 - Amanda Dickson- Past SWD President/Secretary/Treasurer
 - Kathryn Howell - Past SWD President
 - Erika Pope - Past SWD VPCM/Counselor
 - Kathy Webster - Past SWD President/Treasurer
 - Sami Belford-Kinnison - Past SWD President/VPSP
 - Ashlyn Kubacak - Past SWD VPM
- Chapter Percentage Award
 - Unable to calculate
- Chapter Distance Award
 - Alpha Omicron
 - From Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX to Stillwater, OK
 - 36 Chapter members in attendance
 - 13,700+ Miles traveled

Charges for the 2017-2018 District President/Credentials Committee:

- Re-evaluate the Chapter Percentage award (based on percentage of chapter in attendance) and consider getting rid of it due to complications of calculating. With MCs that are not in the OMRS yet, there is no accurate way

- to have a count of how many people are actually in each chapter.
- Calculate the Chapter Distance Award (number of members in attendance times the miles travelled) and have as many of the calculations done before convention begins.
 - Have numbers of people in each chapter before convention begins to ensure quick calculations.
 - Complete report as early as possible during/before convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Meri Terpstra, Beta Delta
SWD President 2016-2017
Chair for the 2017 Credentials Committee**

REPORT OF THE JURISDICTION & FINANCE COMMITTEE

2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Sydney Cohen, Gamma Nu

Committee Members:

Kailey Swaim, Eta Nu

Russell Wander, Iota Tau

Jodie Rodriguez, Eta Epsilon

Kaila Bowen, Beta Nu (sat for Epsilon Eta)

Committee Advisors:

Natalia Lambert, Alpha Omicron

Shannon Lotti, Gamma Nu

Alan Harriet, Gamma Epsilon

The 2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee was charged with the following:

1. Redistribute funds to reflect a national convention year.
2. Evaluate the constitution's efficiency of organization – Is everything laid out in a way that makes the most sense? Are there any contradictions between sections?
3. Compare the Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Constitution and the Kappa Psi Southwest District Constitution to check for continuity.
4. Assess the need to implement the Webmaster position and follow up with Kappa Psi if the position is deemed worthwhile.

Finances:

The Jurisdiction and Finance committee looked at budgets from last year (a non-national convention year) and the year before (a national convention year) in order to compose our proposed budget for the upcoming year.

District Officer Travel Expenses remained the same with each allocated \$500.00, as did the budget for district awards at \$200. The budgets for the New ALTO, Chapter Leadership Conference and Workshops were dissolved, as they are rarely used. If one of these items needs money in the future, it will be pulled from the Miscellaneous category.

The Miscellaneous budget was reduced from \$500 to \$300, as this money is rarely used, and the extra money could be better used in assisting chapters with National Convention expenses. The District Convention assistance budget was reduced from \$1000 to \$500 so that the difference could go to National Convention assistance. The budget for National Convention assistance was set to \$750, which is higher than previous years to help more chapters send delegates to Nat Con.

The committee suggested creating a Workshop Travel Assistance budget of \$250. This was added to help our chapters fund the costs of travelling to workshops, with the goal of helping to increase workshop attendance. This money came from part of the dissolved CLC and Workshops budgets.

The proposed budget for the 2017-2018 term is as follows:

Proposed Budget (2017 – 2018)

District Officer Travel Expenses	
President	\$500.00
Vice President of Membership	\$500.00
Vice President of Special Projects	\$500.00
Secretary-Treasurer	\$500.00
District Convention Expenses	
Convention Assistance and Delegate Registration	\$500.00
Honorary Membership Fee	\$250.00
District Awards	\$200.00
Scholarship of Excellence	\$250.00
National Convention Assistance	\$750.00
Workshop Travel Assistance	\$250.00
Miscellaneous	\$300.00
TOTAL	\$4,500.00

Proposed Changes to the Southwest District Constitution:

1. Removal of the Preamble from the Constitution

CURRENT: The Purposes of the Sorority are listed in the Preamble section of the Constitution.

PROPOSED: The committee recommends removing this section from the constitution.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: This section is left out of other district constitutions, and the purposes are already in the National Constitution. It is therefore unnecessary and can be removed.

2. Sections Being Removed/Added/Moved

CURRENT: 1.05 The District Council will submit a list of standing rules to govern each convention to the first business session.

PROPOSED: This subsection will be removed from Part I. A new Part will be added to the constitution (called Standing Rules), which will contain the former subsection 1.05 as well as the actual list of standing rules.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: The standing rules do not change from year to year, so they should be included in the constitution.

CURRENT: 2.04 Candidates for District Office will be required to provide proper documentation of her/his current cumulative GPA for review to the Nominations Committee. Documentation will be submitted as a separate document.

PROPOSED: This section will be moved to be subsection 2.03-6.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Because this is discussing a requirement to run for

office, it should be listed with the other requirements.

CURRENT: 2.11 Each District Officer will submit documentation of her/his current cumulative GPA to the District Counselor(s) for review each semester during her/his term of office.

PROPOSED: This section will be moved to be a subsection of .06 (2.06-A)

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Because this is a requirement of all officers, it should be moved to the section regarding officer duties.

CURRENT: 3.01 The standing committees of the Southwest District will be: Committee on Membership, Committee on Convention Site, Committee on Credentials, Committee on Jurisdiction & Finance, Committee on Nominations, Committee on Programs, Committee on Spirit & Sisterhood, Committee on History & Traditions, Joint Action Committee

PROPOSED: The descriptions of each of these committees, as given to us by the district counselors, will be added to each committee.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: The description of each committee should be in the constitution.

CURRENT: 3.14 The amount of the grant will not exceed the amount of available JAC funds provided by the previous convention unless given permission by the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and the Tau Beta Sigma Counselor. If budgeted funds are not used, the JAC may redistribute funds as they see fit.

PROPOSED: Change from separate section (3.14) to subsection of 3.13 (3.13a)

CHANGES/RATIONALE: This section further explains the usage of JAC funds, so it should be a part of 3.13.

CURRENT: 6.01 District revenue shall be derived from a per capita allotment provided by the National Organization. The National Active Membership Dues will include an additional fee which will be returned to the District. Each Alumni Association shall pay a fee to the National Headquarters to be returned to the District.

PROPOSED: Reduce this section to just the first sentence.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: The rest of this section is information directly from the National Constitution, and is not necessary in the District Constitution.

CURRENT: Part VIII: Reports:

8.01 Each District Officer at each regularly called District Convention shall submit a typewritten report in triplicate. The report shall concern the activities of her/his term of office.

8.02 All reports of District Officers and committee chairpersons will be submitted typewritten, in triplicate to the District Counselor(s) and the District Secretary/Treasurer at the District Convention.

8.03 A copy of all reports and the handwritten minutes for the District Convention will be given to each District Officer by the close of the final

separate session

PROPOSED: Remove Part VIII altogether. 8.01 will be moved to follow section 2.10 (thus becoming the new 2.11). 8.02 will be moved to become 3.17. 8.03 will be deleted.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: This puts the section on Officer responsibilities (8.01) with the other officer responsibilities and the section on Committee Responsibilities (8.02) with other committee responsibilities. The committee believes that requiring all reports to be turned in by the close of separate session to be an unreasonable request, and one that is rarely met, and therefore suggests removing 8.03 entirely.

3. Updated verbiage for length or clarity

CURRENT: 1.01 This document establishes and prescribes the authorized regulations pertaining to the function and the operations of the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma. 1.02 The name of this organization will be the South-west District of Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Band Sorority for College and University Band Members.

PROPOSED: 1.01 This document establishes and prescribes the authorized regulations pertaining to the function and operations of the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma, formally known as the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Band Sorority for College and University Band Members.

- a. The Southwest District will consist of all active chapters and colonies of Tau Beta Sigma in the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Sections 1.01 and 1.02 were combined to reduce redundancy. 1.03 was moved to be a subsection of 1.01 because the list of member states adds clarification to 1.01.

CURRENT: 1.06 Proposed amendments to this constitution will be presented in writing at regularly called conventions of the District, and will be referred at once to the Committee on Jurisdiction & Finance, which will report thereon at the same convention. If three-fourths of the votes cast by the convention are favorable, the proposed amendment will be declared adopted. 1.07 If the favorable vote on a proposed amendment is less than three-fourths, yet there is a majority vote, the proposed amendment will be tabled until the next regularly called convention of the District. During the interim between conventions it will be published in the minutes of the District Convention at which it was proposed under the caption: "Proposed Amendment to the Constitution". If at the next regularly called convention it receives three-fourths of the votes cast, it will become operative and effective at the close of convention unless otherwise stated in the amendment. If a favorable three-fourths vote is not obtained, the amendment will be declared defeated and will not be again proposed for consideration at that convention. 1.08 Under extreme circumstances between regularly called conventions and upon the recommendation of the District President and District

Counselor(s), a proposed amendment of the constitution may be submitted in writing to the chapters of the District for ratification. If three-fourths favorable vote of all chapters in good standing is received, the proposed amendment will be declared adopted, and after such adoption, it will become operative and effective immediately, unless otherwise stated in the amendment. 1.09 The District Council, upon unanimous agreement, shall be authorized to correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes to the governing documents of Tau Beta Sigma as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Sorority. A record of all changes made during the year shall be presented to the Jurisdiction and Finance committee at the subsequent District Convention.

PROPOSED: Proposed amendments to the constitution will be presented in writing at regularly called Southwest District conventions, and will be referred to the Committee on Jurisdiction and Finance, who will review and report upon said amendment.

a. If three-fourths of the votes cast by the convention are favorable, the proposed amendment will be declared adopted.

b. If the favorable vote on a proposed amendment is less than three-fourths, yet there is a majority vote, the proposed amendment will be tabled until the next regularly called convention, where it will undergo the voting process again. If a favorable three-fourths vote is not obtained then, the amendment will be declared defeated and will not be considered again at that convention.

c. The District Council, upon unanimous agreement, shall be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to the governing documents of Tau Beta Sigma as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Sorority. A record of all changes made during the year shall be presented to the Jurisdiction and Finance committee at the subsequent District Convention.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Rather than having a separate section for each of these points, we have structured it to a section dealing with how to submit an amendment with subsections that focus on various possible outcomes.

CURRENT: 3.05.1 All bid packets must be submitted no later than 6 weeks prior to the District Convention at which those chapters will be presenting. The Convention Site bid packets must include:

a. Letters of Recommendation from Sponsor(s), Director of Bands, and University;

b. Chapter general records – size, retention, net income and expenses;

c. Convention budget with maximum cost for registration;

d. Banquet information, including location and catering;

e. Detailed map(s) showing buildings used and parking;

f. Travel information – airport, hotel information, mileage from all chapters

in the Southwest District
g. Dates and back-up dates.

PROPOSED: Change from 3.05.1 to 3.05 A. Change lowercase letters to numbered list.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Change to standard outline layout.

CURRENT: 7.01 The District newsletter shall be called the New ALTO. The New ALTO shall be published primarily as an online presence. A print publication of the New ALTO should also be created and made available online in a PDF format (able to be downloaded). A digital copy will be sent to National Headquarters, National Officers, and the Boards of Trustees for both Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

PROPOSED: 7.01 The District newsletter shall be called the New ALTO. It shall be published online through the Southwest District website. A print publication should also be created and made available online in a downloadable PDF. A digital copy will be sent to National Headquarters, National Officers, and the Board of Trustees for both Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Reworded slightly to reduce redundancy.

4. Chapter Awards

CURRENT: Chapter Distance Award

PROPOSED: Dissolve

CHANGES/RATIONALE: This is very difficult to calculate, and favors chapters that are further away from the convention site, which is arbitrary.

CURRENT: Chapter Percentage Award

PROPOSED: Dissolve

CHANGES/RATIONALE: This is difficult to calculate, and favors chapters that are smaller.

CURRENT: Tau's Book of Spirit

PROPOSED: Dissolve

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Tau's Book of Spirit has been lost for at least 4 years. Despite the council's efforts, they have not been able to track the book down.

CURRENT: Patsy D. Hejl Award (Outstanding Larger Chapter) and Dorothy Allen Nichols Award (Outstanding Smaller Chapter)

PROPOSED: Combine into one award called the Outstanding Chapter Award

CHANGES/RATIONALE: Any chapter can prove to be truly outstanding, regardless of the number of members it contains. Some chapters ride the line between the size requirements, changing categories yearly. There is no reason to isolate the smaller chapters, as they can prove themselves just as outstanding as their larger counterparts.

CURRENT: N/A

PROPOSED: Add the Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest Award to the list of awards

CHANGES/RATIONALE: The Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest Award, which has already been established, has not yet been added to the constitution.

Proposed Appointed Webmaster:

The 2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee was charged with assessing the need of implementing a Webmaster position to the constitution. The committee determined that because there is already someone at Nationals who is in charge of updating the website, the position would be an unnecessary addition.

Charges for the 2017 – 2018 Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer:

1. Advertise convention and workshop travel assistance funds.
2. Start create an operations manual for the committee to work on.
3. Make a plan for a district fundraiser to get delegates to NatCon 2019.

Charges for the 2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee:

1. Review the JAC Constitution Change Am
2. Redistribute funds to reflect a non-national convention year.
3. Evaluate the constitution's efficiency of organization – Is everything laid out in a way that makes the most sense? Are there any contradictions between sections?
4. Compare the Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Constitution and the Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Constitution to check for continuity.
5. Create a new scholarship or increase the amount of the one we already have.
6. Create an operations manual to further streamline the constitution.

Special Thanks:

I would like to thank the members of the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee for their incredible hard work, patience, and feedback (and especially for laughing at my terrible jokes!). These thanks extend not only to those listed on this report, but to the wonderful Sisters who sat as delegate until they got here. My committee had a lot of different faces in it over the last two days, and you all contributed so much to what we achieved.

Thank you so, so, so, SO much to Shannon and Natalia for all of your hard work in revamping the constitution. The changes you proposed will make this document so much more efficient, and I am so proud to have been a part of bringing your hard work to fruition. Y'all are rockstars.

Thank you to Siobhan, my QUEEN, who went over this committee report at THREE IN THE MORNING with me in the hotel lobby. You calmed my caffeine high-induced panic and are truly my hero.

Lastly, thank you to (Gamma Who?!) Gamma Nu. It has been the utmost honor to represent you as Delegate, and serving the District as a committee chair

was an absolutely incredible experience. Your unrelenting trust in me keeps me going in so many ways, and your support of me this weekend was so reassuring. Special shoutout to my perfect Big, Shea, and my wonderful partner-in-crime, Caitlin, for coming to my meeting and sharing their input and support. I love you guys so much.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Sydney Cohen, Gamma Nu
Chair of the 2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee**

REPORT OF THE JOINT ACTION COMMITTEE 2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chairs:

Amy Crone, TBS- Epsilon Beta
Jayden Goeringer-Evans, KKY- Epsilon Epsilon

Committee Members:

Katrina Pearson, KKY- Nu Delta
Alex Atkinson, KKY- Zeta Beta (proxy for Epsilon Kappa)
Deavon Smith-Collins, KKY- Zeta Zeta (proxy for Alpha Tau)
Phillip Bernal, TBS- Gamma Nu (proxy for Beta Delta)
Amber Johnson, TBS- Alpha
Rachel Woods, TBS- Iota Beta
Juliana Mitchell, TBS- Delta
Ryan Maxey, KKY- Delta (proxy for Epsilon Delta)
Jajudeon Ohivi, KKY- Delta Psi (proxy for Theta Nu)
Shaqkeen Williams, KKY- Delta Psi
Maddy Collins, TBS- Beta Delta
Lucy Ramirez, KKY- Epsilon Kappa

Committee Advisors:

Erika Pope, TBS National Vice President of Communication and Recognition
Kalem Graham, SWD KKY Governor

The 2017 Joint Action Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the 2016 Joint Action Committee Report
2. Consider ways to better promote and constitutionally define the General Service Grant
3. Discuss the successes and failures of the 2016-2017 New ALTO team, as specified by the 2016 JAC
4. Explore the reasons why the SWD Webmaster application process was denied in 2016, and recommend necessary alterations to the proposed position.
5. Reevaluate the amount of money in the budget delineated for workshop expenses
6. Reconsider the name/constitutional obligations for the JAC

Discussion:

- After reviewing the 2016 Joint Action Committee Report, our committee was able to propose a change to verify the wording of the constitutions. The constitutions used two different names for the same grant. We sent the suggestion to the Jurisdiction committees to change the instances of "Service to Music Education Grant" to "General Service Grant." We believe that the problem with the General Service Grant is from lack of knowledge, rather than chapters not wanting to apply.
- We also feel the New Alto was not suitably advertised as well as it could have been. There are still an alarming amount of member who have little to no

knowledge of the New Alto. We found there was no public relations officer as required by the Southwest District, and believe appointing said officer would help better promote the publication.

- We upheld the previous decision to not have a SWD Webmaster. We believe that due to fact that all district council members can edit the district website, there was no need for a Webmaster.
- We evaluated how much money was currently being allocated for workshop expenses and suggested to the jurisdiction committee to put the specific maximum amount (\$150 per organization) into the constitutions.
- We reorganized the constitutions to be more consistent between the two organizations. Anyone can suggest edits to the district website at any time. Therefore, we proposed the removal of Joint Action Committee's obligation to review the district website. In the Tau Beta Sigma constitution, we suggested the removal of any reference to a New Alto "host chapter", because all New Alto components are now handled online and is no longer printed.
- We reviewed two proposals. We sent the area workshop realignment to the Jurisdiction Committee. We believe the proposed changes will increase attendance at workshops by making them more accessible to all chapters. We did not accept the second proposal to move the display and scrapbook awards to the Southwest District Alumni Association. However, with input from SWDAA, we decided to officially define the process for giving out the awards in both constitutions.

Charges for the 2018 Joint Action Committee:

1. Review the 2017 Joint Action Committee Report
2. Examine sections of both the Kappa Kappa Psi and the Tau Beta Sigma constitutions that define joint activities and ensure they correspond with one another
3. Reconsider the name/constitutional obligations for the JAC

Charges the 2017-2018 Southwest District Councils:

1. Better promote the existence of the General Service Grant

Charges for the 2017-2018 New Alto Team:

1. Release more information on what the New Alto is and what type of submissions or topics are wanted.
2. Better promote the publication to help remind chapters of when submissions are due

Respectfully submitted,

**Amy Crone, TBS- Epsilon Beta
Jayden Goeringer-Evans, KKY- Epsilon Epsilon
Chairs of the 2017 Joint Action Committee**

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION SITE COMMITTEE 2017 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Committee Chair:

Alissandra Celia, Alpha Omicron

Carina Melero, Gamma Iota

Committee Members:

Dominique McCray, TBS, Alpha Omicron

Nicole Benedict, TBS, Delta Pi

Heather Vo, TBS, Tau

Rebecca Houck, TBS, Theta Theta

Lauren Gipson, KKY, Alpha

Kasey Blackwood, KKY, Alpha Psi

Katie Barry, KKY, Delta

Adi Hernandez, KKY, Delta Sigma

Advisors:

Toni Castle, KKY, Governor

Kathy Webster, TBS, Counselor

The 2017 Convention Site Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the report of the 2016 Convention Site Committee.
2. Collect information packets from all schools bidding to host the next district convention by the deadline.
3. Ensure that bidding chapters present the same information to the Convention Site Committee and the Joint Delegation, with the same presenters.
4. Review all bid packets from bidding chapters and schedule interviews/presentations with each one. Each bidding university that meets the stated requirements will have a presentation and question/answer period during the second joint session.
5. Discuss bids and slate a host chapter for the 2017 SWD Convention. If the committee feels that no chapter is prepared to host, a "no slate" can be suggested.
6. Review the Prezi and make any necessary changes.
7. We charge district council to encourage more chapters to bid to host throughout district events and workshops.

Discussion:

To begin, the 2017 Convention Site Committee met during each scheduled committee block to discuss and complete the charges outlined for us. First, we met as a committee and reviewed the charges from the past District Convention. The report from the 2016 Convention Site Committee was reviewed

The committee then reviewed the Prezi and made necessary changes by changing the wording and clarifying confusion in phrasing throughout the slides. Before discussing District bids, our committee discussed any changes to the charges for the 2018 Convention Site Committee.

All bids were collected at the designated time; One bid was received to host the 2018 Southwest District Convention. This bid was thoroughly reviewed and an interview with the potential host chapters was scheduled. Before meeting with the two potential host chapters, the committee, after reviewing the bid packet, came up with a series of questions to ask the presenters.

This committee met with the representatives of Zeta Beta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Delta Upsilon Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma at 3pm on Saturday March 26th to view their presentation and discuss their bid to host the 2018 Southwest District Convention. Questions were asked of the presenters and a discussion between the presenters and committee took place discussing the details of the bid. Questions that were included during the interview are:

- More details about the multiple facilities
- Back up plans for banquet and other venue options
- Details on budget expenses and other such inquiries

To wrap up the meetings of the 2017 Southwest District Convention Site Committee, the bid for district convention was discussed and agreed upon for the 2018 Southwest District Convention.

Slate for the 2018 Southwest District Convention:

The Convention Site Committee would like to slate, with conditions, the Delta Upsilon (TBS) and Zeta Beta (KKY) chapters of Howard Payne University to host the 2018 Southwest District Convention provided that they include their joint budget and update individual chapter budgets. The deadline to provide this information to the advisors will be three weeks from today, April 16th. If these provisions are not met by that deadline, the floor will be open again for bids.

Charges for the 2018 Convention Site Committee:

1. Review the report of the 2017 Convention Site Committee.
2. Collect information packets from all schools bidding to host the next district convention by the deadline.
3. Ensure that bidding chapters present the same information to the Convention Site Committee and the Joint Delegation, with the same presenters.
4. Review all bid packets from bidding chapters and schedule interviews/presentations with each one. Each bidding university that meets the stated requirements will have a presentation and question/answer period during the second joint session.
5. Discuss bids and slate a host chapter for the 2017 SWD Convention. If the committee feels that no chapter is prepared to host, a "no slate" can be

- suggested.
6. Review the Prezi and make any necessary changes.

Special Thanks:

We were honored to co-chair this committee and would like to thank all members of this committee for being so involved in our meetings and for being so willing to help determine the future of this convention. Your knowledgeable contribution and willingness to help was invaluable. Thank you to our wonderful advisors, Kathy and Toni, for guiding the committee. We learned so much from you two!

(Ali) Quick thank you to Alpha Omicron! Shoutout to Dom and Lauren (Alpha- KKY), you two did an amazing job leading the planning of the convention. Thank you Little! Thank you to the Southwest District Council- I respect so much of what you all do!

(Carina) Thank you to my co-chair Ali. I'm glad that we were both on the same page. Thank you Gamma Iota! Gracias por esta oportunidad! Thank you to Dominique and Lauren for providing insight on how to plan a convention. Your incredible work was paramount! You both are amazing! Thank you to Justin, Cade and Drew for putting up with me and my million questions and constant grammar checks.

Respectfully submitted,

**Alissandra Celia- Alpha Omicron Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma
Carina Melero- Gamma Iota Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi
Chairs for the 2017 Convention Site Committee**