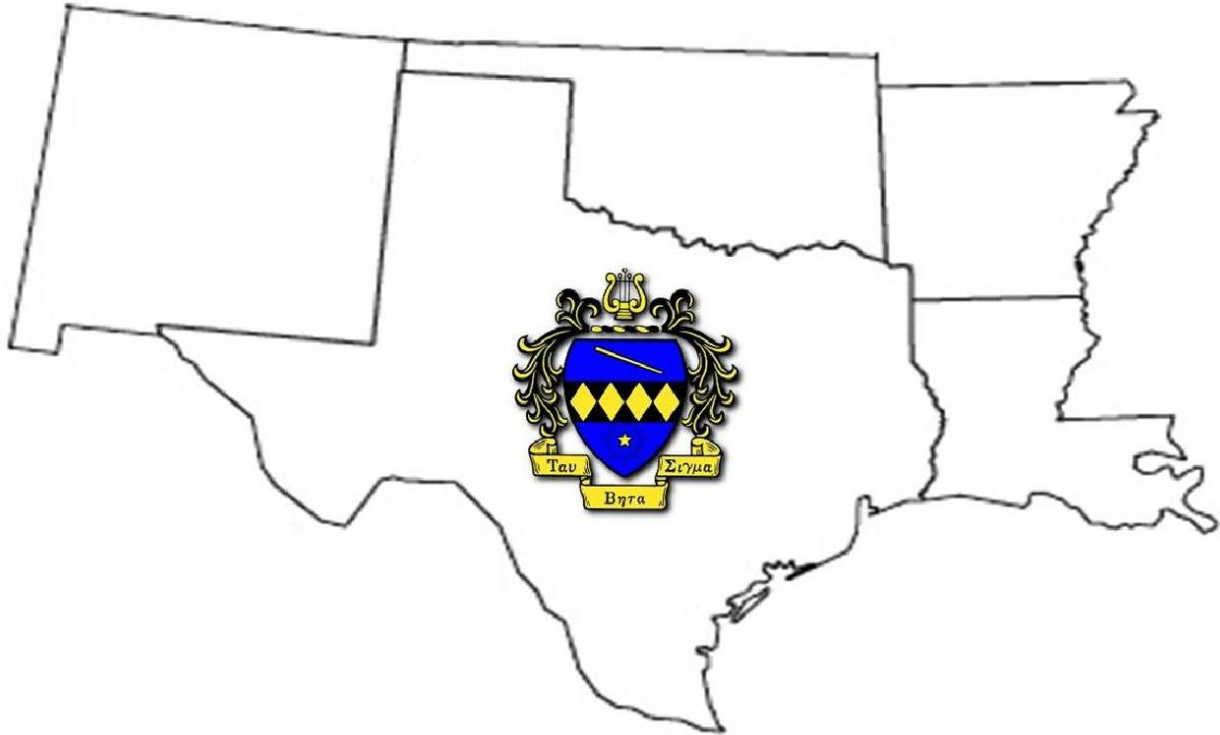


# THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OF TAU BETA SIGMA 2016 Convention Minutes



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**Joint Session 1**  
**Friday, April 15th, 4:00pm**  
**Exhibit Hall A**

- I. Southwest District Joint Ceremony
- II. Call to Order – 4:25 P.M.
- III. Introduction of District Council
- IV. Introduction of Visiting Dignitaries
- V. National Headquarters Staff
  - Steve Nelson – National Executive Director
  - Robert Bratcher – National Publications Manager and Director
  - Yvonne Daye - National Chapter and Colony Education Coordinator
- VI. Kappa Kappa Psi National Council
  - Mike Napolitano – Chair of the Alumni Association
  - Zac Humphrey – National Vice President of Student Affairs
  - Evan Thompson – National Vice President for Colonization and Membership
  - Jack Lee – National Executive President
  - Christine Beason – Immediate Past National President
- VII. Tau Beta Sigma National Council
  - Erika Pope – National Vice President for Communication and Recognition
  - Adrienne Rall – National Vice President of Special Projects
- VIII. Kappa Kappa Psi Board of Trustees
  - Eric Morson
  - Danny George
- IX. Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Board of Directors
  - Jennifer Pitts-Taylor – Vice Chair and Programming Director
- X. Distinguished Guests
  - Karon Miller Hammand- Tau Beta Sigma Past National President
  - Lance Koochyouma – Western District Governor
- XI. Tau Beta Sigma Board of Trustees
  - Lisa Croston
  - Dr. Nicole Sanchez
  - Janet West Miller (Life Member)
- XII. Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Board of Directors

Katie Rixon – Programs Committee Chair  
Amanda Dickson – Affiliate Relations Committee Chair  
Chris Foster – Vice Chair of the Executive Council  
Tyra Yiare –Finance Committee Chair

- XIII. Recognition of Graduating Seniors
- XIV. Recognition of Life Members
- XV. Final Call for Convention Host Bids
- XVI. Opening Announcements/Convention Summary
- XVII. First committee block is at 7:00 PM tonight
- XVIII. The Secretary/Treasurers have put up an Online Marketplace for everyone to use.  
Please only sell merchandise during appropriate vendor times. Not during workshops or business sessions.
- XIX. Talent Show tonight at 10:30 PM in Exhibit Hall B
- XX. Performing Jazz Band meeting tomorrow at 7 AM in Salon A
- XXI. Penny Wars Service Project
- XXII. Cat Convention – be respectful of our separate spaces, be respectful of the hotel part of the hotel/convention center.
- XXIII. Recess until Saturday, April 16th at 5:30 PM

**Separate Session 1**  
**Friday, April 15, 2016, 4:30 pm**  
**Salon B**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Seating of the delegates
- III. Appointment of District Secretary, Parliamentarian, and counselors
- IV. Reading of the Standing Rules by the parliamentarian (Brielle Johnson)
- V. Motion to accept minutes without reading from District Convention 2015
  - A. Epsilon Beta
  - B. Second: Eta Epsilon
  - C. Passes
- VI. Announcement of Dignitaries – Donelle’s Birthday
- VII. Past District Officers
- VIII. Call for District officer candidates
  - a. Natalie Irvin
  - b. Hannah Wells
  - c. Meri Terpstra
  - d. Maggie Denton
  - e. Natalia Lambert
- IX. Assigning of Committees
- X. Announcements
  - a. \$10 card packets – Amanda Dickson
- XI. Recess until Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 8:00 am

**Separate Session #2**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2016, 8:00 am**  
**Salon B**

- I. Call to Order @ 8:15 am
- II. Seating of late delegates
- III. National Council Update – Adrienne Rall and Erika Pope
  - a. National Council
  - b. CVA’s
  - c. Policy Insights
    - i. New Colonies: Coastal Carolina University, Virginia Union University
  - d. Focus on Five
  - e. National Awards
  - f. Top Chapter Eligibility
  - g. National Scholarships
  - h. Board of Trustees –
    - i. Life membership
    - ii. Fundraising
    - iii. 1946 Club
    - iv. Wava Memorial Garden
  - i. TBS Alumni Association
    - i. Projects
- IV. Keynote Speaker Address – Sara Remoy
- V. Recess for five minutes, resume @ 9:12 am
- VI. Women in Music Speaker – Dr. Debbie Rohwer - “Becoming a You-er You”
- VII. Report of the SWD VPSP (Meri Terpstra)
- VIII. Announcements
  - a. If you’re interested in listening to the “Music of the Spheres” piece – talk to Ashlyn Kubacak
  - b. One member from each chapter must attend Erika’s Continuing Membership Ed workshop
- IX. Recess until April 16, 2016 @ 4:15 pm

**Separate Session #3**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2015, 4:15 pm**  
**Salon B**

- I. Call to Order @ 4:20 pm
- II. Seating of late delegates
- III. Report of the Colonization and Membership Committee:  
Motion to accept the report
  - a. Delta Upsilon
  - b. Second: Gamma Phi
  - c. passes
- IV. Report of the SWD Vice President of Membership: Ashlyn Kubacak
- V. Report of the History and Traditions Committee  
Motion to accept the report
  - a. Delta
  - b. Second: Theta Theta
  - c. passes
- VI. Report of the Programs Committee  
Motion to accept the report
  - a. Delta Tau
  - b. Second: Eta Nu
  - c. passes
- VII. Report of the SWD President: Sami Belford
- VIII. Report of the Nominations Committee and announcing of the slate  
Motion to accept the report
  - a. Beta Nu
  - b. Second: Beta
  - c. passes
- IX. Announcements
- X. Recess until Sunday April 17, 2016 @ 8:30 am

**Joint Session 2**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2016 @ 5:30 pm**  
**Salon A/B**

- I. Call to Order @ 5:26 pm
- II. Penny Jar School
  - a. Wishlist: Mallets/sticks for percussion
- III. Workshop Awards
- IV. Announcements
  - a. Group picture around the pool
  - b. Banquet
- V. Report of the Convention Site Committee  
Motion to accept the report
  - a. Iota Upsilon (Kappa Kappa Psi)
  - b. Second: Gamma Omicron (Tau Beta Sigma)
  - c. Passes
- VI. SWD Joint AA Announcement
- VII. Recess until Sunday April 17, 2016 @ 12:00 pm



**Separate Session #4**  
**Sunday, April 17, 2016 @ 8:30 am**  
**Salon B**

- I. Call to Order @ 8:49 am
- II. Seating of late delegates
- III. Report of the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee  
Motion to accept the report
  - a. Psi
  - b. Second: Alpha Omicron
  - c. FailsIndividual Proposals of Constitution Changes:
  - d. Motion to accept by-law #1 3.15, page 47
    - i. Beta
    - ii. Second: Delta tau
    - iii. passes
  - e. Motion to accept by-law # 2 1.10, page 48
    - i. Zeta Phi
    - ii. Second: Gamma xi
    - iii. passes
  - f. Motion to accept by-law #3 7.01, page 48
    - i. Unknown
    - ii. Second: Epsilon Beta
    - iii. passes
  - g. Motion to accept by-law #4 7.02, page 48
    - i. Eta epsilon
    - ii. Second: Epsilon eta
    - iii. passes
  - h. Motion to accept by-law #5 7.03, page 49
    - i. Psi
    - ii. Second: Alpha
    - iii. passes
  - i. Motion to accept by-law #6 7.04, page 49
    - i. Unknown
    - ii. Second: Iota Tau
    - iii. passes
  - j. Motion to accept by-law #7 7.05, page 49-50

- i. Delta Upsilon
  - ii. Second: Tau
  - iii. passes
- k. Motion to accept by-law #8 7.06, page 50
  - i. Iota beta
  - ii. Second: Xi
  - iii. passes
- l. Motion to accept by-law #9 7.07 & 7.08, page 50
  - i. Eta pi
  - ii. Second: Zeta phi
  - iii. passes
- m. Motion to accept by-law #10 7.09, page 50
  - i. Gamma tau
  - ii. Second: Zeta mu
  - iii. Passes
- n. Motion to accept the budget, page 47
  - i. Beta zeta
  - ii. Second: Omicron
  - iii. passes
- IV. Report of the SWD Counselor: Kathy Webster
- V. Report of the Spirit and Sisterhood Committee
  - Motion to accept the report
    - a. Beta Gamma
    - b. Second: Iota
    - c. Passes
- VI. Spirit Awards
  - a. Tau goes to Alpha Omicron
  - b. Beta goes to Theta Theta
  - c. Sigma goes to Epsilon Psi
  - d. Tau's Book of Spirit goes to Psi
- VII. Report of the SWD Counselor: Donelle' Mitchell
- VIII. National Council Update
- IX. Elections pt. 1
  - a. President
    - i. Nominations
      - 1. Natalie Irvin(slate)
      - 2. Meri Terpstra
    - ii. Speeches, and questions

1. Meri Terpstra
2. Natalie Irvin
- iii. Alpha Omicron moves to caucus
  1. Second: Epsilon Beta
- iv. Voting and counting of the vote
- v. President 2016-2017: Meri Terpstra
- X. Announcements SWDAA
- XI. Scrapbook
- XII. Elections pt.2
  - a. Vice President of Membership
    - i. Nominations
      1. Maggie Denton (slate)
      2. Natalie Irvin
    - ii. Speeches, and Questions
      1. Natalie Irvin
      2. Maggie Denton
      3. Alpha Omicron moves to 2 minute caucus
        - a. Second: Beta Theta
      4. Voting and Counting
        - a. VP of Membership 2016-2017: Maggie Denton
  - b. Vice President of Special Projects
    - i. Nominations:
      1. Hannah Wells
      2. Natalia Lambert
    - ii. Speeches, and questions
      1. Natalia Lambert
      2. Hannah Wells
    - iii. Delta Upsilon moves to caucus
      1. Second: Epsilon beta
    - iv. Voting and Counting
      1. VP of Special Projects 2016-2017: Hannah Wells
  - c. Secretary/Treasurer
    - i. Nominations:
      1. Natalia Lambert (slate)
    - ii. Speeches, and questions
    - iii. Voting and Counting
      - Motion to vote by acclamation
        1. Beta

2. Second: Alpha Omicron
3. Fails
4. Secretary/Treasurer 2016-2017: Natalia Lambert

XIII. Installation of the 2016-2017 Southwest District Council

XIV. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn

- a. Delta Sigma
- b. Second: Gamma Tau
- c. passes

**Joint Session 3**  
**Sunday April 17, 2016 @12:00 pm**  
**Exhibit Hall B**

- I. Call to Order @ 12: 42 pm
- II. Presentation of Joint Awards
  - a. Talent Show
    - i. Most Artistic Display – Kurt Hall
    - ii. Best Rap about Wava – Sarah Remoy
    - iii. Best Performance of a human mic stand– Two Decades Down
    - iv. Best Original Performance
  - b. Displays
    - i. KKPsi – Iota Sigma
    - ii. TBSigma – Gamma Phi
    - iii. Overall – TBS Beta Nu
    - iv. Best Joint Display - (KKPsi) Beta Sigma & (TBS) Tau
- III. Recognition of the 2016-2017 Council
  - a. Tau Beta Sigma
  - b. Kappa Kappa Psi
- IV. Joint Action Committee Report
 

Motion to accept the report

  - a. Zeta Kappa (KKPsi)
  - b. Second: Delta Upsilon (TBS)
  - c. passes
- V. Convention Site
  - a. Slate: KKPsi – Alpha, TBS – Alpha Omicron
  - b. Motion to extend question and answer to 5 minutes (originally 3 minutes)
    - i. Zeta Beta (KKPsi)
    - ii. Second – Delta Upsilon (TBS)
    - iii. Motion fails
  - c. Presentations
    - i. Alpha Omicron (Tau Beta Sigma) and Alpha (Kappa Kappa Psi)
      1. Motion to suspend the by-law of the constitution regarding time limits of presentations
        - a. Gamma Phi (KKPsi)
        - b. Second: Theta Theta (TBS)
        - c. Motion passes

2. Motion for two-minute unmoderated caucus
    - a. Zeta Beta (KKPsi)
    - b. Second: Epsilon beta (TBS)
    - c. Passes
  3. Motion to vote for convention site slate with placard
    - a. Epsilon Beta (KKPsi)
    - b. Alpha Omicron (TBS)
    - c. Fails
  - d. 2017 Convention Hosts: Alpha (KKPsi) and Alpha Omicron (TBS), motion made and passed with stipulations by committee.
- VI. Race to the Top – Psi (TBS), Alpha (KKpsi)
- a. District Day – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ Euless, Texas
- VII. Announcement of Workshop Hosts
- VIII. Announcements
- a. Jack Lee – Cat Convention impressed with SWD’s behavior
  - b. Penny Jar War – Total: \$1,200
- IX. Adjourn:
- Motion to adjourn
- a. Delta (KKPsi)
  - b. Psi (TBS)
  - c. passes

## Report of the SWD President

Southwest District,

Oh, Southwest District, where do I begin. This year has been a year of change from the beginning. 386 days ago I was elected into office as your president. Two weeks after, I got engaged to the love of my life, starting the whirlwind of a journey that is “wedding planning.” As summer came, Erika and I prepped for District Leadership Conference and National Convention. I still remember having that dream where DLC was actually the Hunger Games, and Erika and I totally dominated and killed other district counselor/president duos. The rest of the week was a rush, representing the Southwest.

The next week was Chapter Leadership Conference at TAMUC. We had a great time bonding with the district council, buying \$40 worth of bananas, snapping each other while with each other, very productive and professional bonding.

In the fall, as President, I encouraged/berated/guilted chapters into turning in their Chapter Personal Reports and Fall Activity Reports in on time. #NoShame  
#OkayMaybeALittleShame

In September, we wished Erika the best as she took on National Council and welcomed two new amazing counselors to our team! Donnelle and Kathy have been amazing since day one and I am so honored to get to work with them.

Then, later in the fall, Ashlyn and I took a trip Texas to visit some chapters. We had breakfast with Gamma Nu, went to Tau’s football game (and we were nearly crushed as the students tried to rush the field), and had lunch with Epsilon Eta. I still have one of Houston’s pep songs stuck in my head from the trip.

And then we hit the start of really digging into convention planning. I don’t know how I would’ve survived those beginning months without the support of the other district presidents. We had regular support chats for each other and it was nice to know we weren’t the only ones having to deal with convention planning stress. One of the other district presidents even came to SWD Convention to support me! (And to see how cool we were, but mostly for me.)

During the winter break, we had to say goodbye to another council member who needed to take care of herself and step back from council. After looking through many applications, we welcomed Meri Terpstra from Beta Delta to our council, days before our Winter Council meeting!

So, then, we all met at Kathy's mansion for Winter Council. Colin and Meri videoed in for most of the weekend, as we toured facilities and began putting the pieces of convention together. It was a great time, much fun and shenanigans had by all.

Then we dove head first into workshop season. I prepped my schedule, bought a 40 pack of granola bars and other snack foods, and attended five workshops in a row and presented at four of them. Oklahoma Area, North Texas Area, West Texas/New Mexico Area, Louisiana Area and finally Arkansas Area. It was amazing, exhilarating, exhausting and enriching at the same time to get to see so many sisters across the Southwest.

I ended my season of travelling, finally took a break for myself in Fayetteville after not being home on a Saturday for two full months, and then convention was right before us. With the interesting challenge of not being at a university and not having a host chapter, we did the best that we could with all of the tools that we had and put on a District Convention for everyone with just a team of 13, nine of whom were not in the office they currently hold at the end of last year's convention. But, we made it!!

But I most certainly didn't do all of this alone. There are so many people I need to thank, but I'll keep it brief for you all here and more gushy in notes for them later.

To Psi, thank you for allowing me to explore myself and achieve my dreams. Thank you for believing in me and giving me my start in TBS.

To Brielle, thank you for being my best friend through it all and loving me in my ups and downs.

To Natalie, Blake, and all of my honorary littles, thank you for looking up to me and trusting me with your friendships.

To Lambda, thank you for always reminding me joint relations are so amazing.

To Christy McKinney, thank you setting an excellent example of what "Great!" looks like.

To Erika Pope, thank you for always supporting me and reminding me when things got dark, that I am deeply cared for.

To Graham, thank you for always having my back and being the president the Southwest needs, but didn't deserve.

To Kathy, thank you for always keeping us on track and making sure that nothing fell through the cracks. We really wouldn't have made it here if it wasn't for you.

To Donnelle, thank you for emotionally supporting me throughout this year, letting me say what I need to say and be who I need to be.



To Colin, thank you for being like an older brother to me and always making me feel so loved and enjoyed.

To Meri, thank you for jumping in and hitting the ground running like an old pro. You remind me a lot of myself.

To Ashlyn, thank you for being the peanut butter to my jelly, my road trip buddy, my bridesmaid, my sounding board, the person who keeps me kind and sane, the best friend I could've ever asked for on district council!

To my fiancée, thank you for supporting me thoroughly, staying up late with me while I work on TBS things, and taking care of me when I didn't take care of myself.

To the sisters of the Southwest, thank you for allowing me to serve you all these past two years. Thank you for giving me your trust and for giving me the courage to do what I came here to do.

So, as I leave office, and step out of a leadership position in TBS for the first time since Fall 2012, remember: no matter what you do, whether it be wandering far from home, going through darkness, or stepping out with fortitude and courage, you will never be alone. With your sisters, you are at your best.

Sincerely submitted,

Sami Belford

Southwest District President 2015 - 2016

## Report of SWD VPM

The saying goes that time flies when you're having fun, and that's never been more evident than this past year. I am so blessed to have been able to serve as your Vice President of Membership for 2015-2016. My first event after elections was National Convention, and it was actually my first National Convention ever! I was asked to be the chair of the Ritual and Regalia committee, and I was completely honored and appreciative for that opportunity. In my committee report, we were able to vote in the official Tau Beta Sigma Founder's Day Ceremony. Thank you again to my committee and to the National Council for letting me represent the Southwest District in this capacity.

The weekend after National Convention was Chapter Leadership Conference, and we were able to new information acquired from Nat Con to this event to help grow our Southwest leadership. Thank you to Epsilon Beta and Zeta Kappa for hosting us in Commerce, TX. This event would not have been a success without your support throughout the weekend. Also, huge shout out to the Membership Educators in my session! I loved our in-depth discussions, and you guys did some great things throughout the district this year! It was after CLC that I created the Southwest District Membership Educators Group Me, and I have been so impressed by the great conversations and discussions that have transpired in the ongoing chat.

As school began, I realized my academic responsibilities were much more than anticipated, and I was unable to physically visit many chapters. Thankfully, there were some great chapters that gave me the opportunity to Skype into their chapter meeting. Thank you to Alpha, Gamma Phi, and Delta Tau for letting me video-in to your meetings. Despite being super busy academically, I was able to drive to Houston, Texas, with Sami to attend a Houston football game! Along the way, we met with Gamma Nu at Cracker Barrel for breakfast. We then finished the drive to Houston and met up with Tau before the game. It was my first Cougar game, and let me say, I still get your chant stuck in my head! "C-O-U-G-A-R-S... Talking 'bout the cougars!" The next morning we drove back to Fayetteville and had the chance to meet up with a few members from Epsilon Eta in Tyler, Texas, for lunch. I loved getting the opportunity to listen to all of the great things you have accomplished so far this year.

As fall semester came to a close, it was time to prepare for Winter Council! While at winter council, the joint district officers planned out area workshops, Southwest District Convention, and various other projects for all of you! It was a blast bonding with everyone and setting things in motion for the spring semester. I especially enjoyed meeting my counterpart, Justin, who has been a huge support throughout the workshop planning process.

Speaking of workshops, we kicked off area workshop season in Oklahoma this year at Southeastern Oklahoma State University with the Eta Nu chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi. Two weekends later was North Texas Area at East Texas Baptist University with the Kappa Phi

chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Iota Beta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma. Afterwards was the West Texas/New Mexico Area Workshop at Texas Tech University with Alpha Omicron of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Beta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma. One of my favorite moments was getting to take photos next to the Tau Beta Sigma shrine on the Tech campus!

In March, I traveled to Natchitoches, Louisiana, for the Louisiana area workshop! Thank you to Theta Nu of Kappa Kappa Psi and Eta Pi of Tau Beta Sigma for cooking out and making us all feel at home. After Louisiana was Arkansas Area at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith with the Lambda Kappa chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi. I will admit, I got a little emotional at this workshop because it was my last one as an active member and this workshop season has been one to remember.

After Arkansas was South Texas Area at Texas State University in San Marcos with the Theta Alpha chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Eta Epsilon chapter of Tau Beta Sigma. To wrap up workshops, the Gamma Omicron chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Beta Omicron chapter of Tau Beta Sigma hosted our East Texas Area Workshop at Texas Southern University. While I was unable to attend these last two workshops, I heard great things from attendees and the other council members.

Thank you to ALL of our workshop hosts. You all were so accommodating and flexible, and I cannot thank you enough for letting us invade your campus for a day. I would also like to recognize all of our workshops speakers and presenters. Workshops season would not have been possible without your support and preparation. Thank you for providing insight into our organizations and offering advice concerning how to better each member and chapter. Additionally, thank you to all of the workshop attendees who gave up their Saturdays to attend our events! I hope you all enjoyed yourselves as much as I did 😊

To evaluate workshop effectiveness and outreach, I sent out satisfaction surveys after each workshop to the attendees. This survey gave attendees the opportunity to indicate whether or not they thought the workshop was worth their time and how it could be improved. Through these survey results, I was able to better understand what parts of workshops were considered successful, and which sessions could be better improved for next year. I hope this data will help future council members as they plan for workshop season.

Throughout the past year, we've been hard at work planning for our not-so-conventional district convention. Without a host chapter, this convention brought forth some unique challenges, but I am so blessed to have been able to work alongside a fantastic council to overcome these obstacles together. This brings us to today, and I'd like to take this time to recognize some individuals who made this year possible.

To the Kappa Kappa Psi council, y'all are the most sarcastic and witty group of individuals I've ever had the chance to work alongside. You made each moment in office interesting, and I thank you for the crazy memories! To Justin, my counterpart, thank for you putting up with my scattered thoughts throughout the year. You jumped into the fray of

workshops and district jazz band planning, and this year wouldn't have been the same without you.

To the Psi chapter of Tau Beta Sigma... You all are my rock. I couldn't have done anything without you. Each of you encouraged me to "see an ideal, seize upon it, and follow it wherever it may lead me..." This past year has been extremely stressful on many different levels, but I sincerely believe the reason I made it through was because of your support. I've never heard the words, "Are you okay? What do you need? How can I help?" so many times in my life. To Julianne Clements, you have been an incredibly understanding leader and you're always looking out for others, including me, so thank you!

To my fiancé, Curtis, and my roommate, Ashely, thank you for listening to me and helping me coordinate my responsibilities.

To Emily Morris, thank you for all the laughs throughout the summer, and for hosting us during CLC. It has been a pleasure getting to know you, and congrats on your engagement! I'm so excited for the life you and Adam will share.

To Meri, you "Answered the Call" and stepped up to district office! I still remember you at Nat Con, the sole representative of your chapter, and how excited you were about Tau Beta Sigma. You always take every opportunity to better yourself and learn more about this great organization. Also, you're hilarious!!! You have always have a funny comment or witty comeback which made this past semester enjoyable. In the midst of workshop season and convention planning, you were dropped in the deep-end of the pool... But not only did you survive, you thrived. Thank you for everything you've done this year, and I wish you well on all of your endeavors.

To Colin... "Hello, this is the Southwest District!" Rooming with you at National Convention was hilarious, and I loved our many Beyoncé jam sessions. I really wish you were here, and I know you would be here in an instant if you could. I'll keep this section of my report brief and send you an email so you can read about how appreciative I am of all the sacrifices you've made this past year. You have one of the busiest schedules I've ever seen, yet you complete all of your responsibilities with such poise. For your love and support, I will always be thankful!

To Kathy and Donnelle', you are both always looking out for us, and I appreciate your continued love and support. Your dedication to this organization is evident through your hard work and long hours of service. I consider myself blessed to have had two crazy and passionate counselors to help guide me through this past year. The Southwest District is in two sets of VERY capable hands. Thank you for EVERYTHING!

To the amazing Erika Pope... Words cannot fully express how much you've not only impacted me but the entire Southwest District. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so I created a scrapbook for you to better show how much you've truly changed our lives. It

documents your years as counselor, 2009-2015, complete with photos and letters from all of your district council members that you have supported and encouraged over the years. I hope this will serve as a reminder of how much we love you and are immensely grateful for everything.

Sami Belford... I struggled so much trying to figure out how to fully express how much you mean to me. You're my best friend. My partner in crime... My go-to girl. How do you sum up two unforgettable years of inseparable friendship? We have thousands of memories, and I hope to create so many more with you as we continue through life. I've always heard that in Tau Beta Sigma you will find true friendships, and if anyone has doubts about this, they can just look at us ;) I am so excited to be your bridesmaid this summer! You and Chris are about to embark on a crazy journey, and I'm honored that you chose me to be there for you on your special day.

As many of you know, I too recently got engaged. Sami even helped him plan the engagement! Because you've always been there for me, I would like to ask you if you would please be one of my bridesmaids for my wedding. I love you so much, and I would love to have you by my side next summer.

Thank you lastly to the Southwest for electing me to this position. I have loved every minute, and I cannot thank you enough for having faith in me as your VPM. Stay spicy!

Respectfully submitted,

Ashlyn Kubacak

Southwest District Vice President of Membership 2015-2016

Tau Beta Sigma – Psi chapter

## Report of SWD VPSP

Brothers and Sisters of the Southwest,

Thank you all for being the awesome, supportive, and involved people you all are. Without you, my position would be completely pointless.

For those of you who don't know, I stepped into this position in December, and it has been one wild ride. I want to apologize for some of the miscommunications and projects that disappeared during the transition, but I also want to thank you all for your patience and willingness to try my new ideas. This year, you have all participated in district events, both new and old, and endured my endless Facebook posts.

Some highlights of project that have occurred this year.

### Focus on Five

We have participated in Focus on Five, and had some of the highest participation with 22 complete Red, 15 complete white, 9 complete blue, 7 complete green, and 32 complete black. For the lyre pieces, we had 2 chapters complete the left lyre piece, 7 complete the center lyre piece, and 3 chapters complete the right lyre piece. We have had 3 chapters complete the flag portion and I want to give a shout out to the Psi and Eta Pi chapters for completing all the tasks set forth with Focus of Five already!

If your placard is missing a stripe or lyre piece, come find me immediately after this session so I can fix it.

### Scrapbook

As you guys will see in a little bit, we had participation in the District Scrapbook. I had 15 chapters submit pictures, if you submitted pictures for your chapter, and I somehow missed them, please come find me so I can add them to the Scrapbook. The scrapbook will be added to the Southwest District Website for viewing, and in addition to the featured chapters, there are pictures from District Convention 2015, National Convention 2015, the 2016 Workshops, and the photo-contest submissions.

### Photo contest

Speaking of Photo contests, I have really enjoyed seeing the submission to the monthly photo themes, and encourage all of the chapters who haven't participated yet to join in on the fun!

### New Alto

We also had a huge number of people submit to, and work on the New Alto this year, which can also be found on the Southwest District Website. Without your lovely articles, and the hard work of the editors and designers for the New Alto, we wouldn't have such an awesome publication to show off what has been going on around the Southwest District. If you haven't already read the New Alto, I would strongly recommend it!

### Penny War

The New Alto is a joint project with Kappa Kappa Psi, as is the District Service event. Since the previous music drives have done so well, and no one has old instruments to donate anymore, we had to come up with a new project. The Penny War Idea was born, and I thank you all for participating. If you have some more spare change, please put it in our jar, because I have 2 counterparts and don't want to be pied in the face twice! I also want to see the councilors get pied in the face so that should be some more incentive.

The proceeds of the Penny War will be used to buy band and percussion equipment for William Monnig Middle School in Fort Worth. The Director of Bands there is a Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi, and his school is in dire need of things like sticks/mallets, drum equipment, and mouthpieces, which we will be donating to them.

### Letter Writing

In addition to the Penny War, we also have stations set up outside for writing letters. You can write a letter to a middle school director, encouraging them, and letting them know they are doing a great job. It may not always seem like it to them, but without their patience, none of us would be here today. You could also write a letter to a high school-er encouraging them to continue band on to college, or to a middle school-er encouraging them to go on to high school band.

This will be set up all weekend, so when you have free time, please write a short letter or two! The materials for that are located in the lobby outside these rooms, by a pillar.

Other than these projects, I have posted to Facebook a crazy amount of times, answered questions that come my way, responded to emails, lead and presented at workshops, and helped plan convention and secure percussion instruments, guard equipment, and music stands.

It has been a stressful semester for me, but I absolutely love the workshops, the friends I have made, seeing all the wonderful pictures and reading the articles. You guys, my family, make it all worthwhile to me.

I really couldn't have done any of this without Erika, who always believed I could go the distance, Donnelle', my Faerie-God-Mother who just appears at the right time to talk to me, Kathy, the level headed advise giver, Sami, the person who has fielded all my silly questions and enabled me to grow in this position, Ashlyn, my lovely sister and friend who challenged me to

speak and lead at workshops, Colin, my 'life is too stressful right now buddy'. My counterparts Connor, the KKY council member who has helped me more than I ever thought someone could and Rob, the person who took my ideas, ironed out the details, and made a random thought I believed would get shut down into a district joint project. Then there is the rest of the KKY council, Justin, the person who has comforted me through nervous break downs and stress, Graham who played along with pranks and throws endless shade, and finally Jared, a the person that has an unbelievable amount of sass. Finally, thank you to my chapter and my friends for supporting me and helping me in any way you have been able to.

I truly have loved every minute of being on council, and wouldn't trade it for the world. Thank you all so much.

MLITB and MOTS,

Meredith Terpstra

SWD VPSP 2015-2016



## Report of SWD Secretary/Treasurer

I didn't really know how to start out this letter or closing report. But I guess I should start out saying I am sorry I am unable to attend my final convention as a student and as your Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer. It saddens me to not be there with all of you. I have been struggling with with a virus over the last few weeks that has made it difficult for me to do much of anything.

Thinking back to the beginning of my term, it all happened very quickly. I felt I had just gotten a grip on all of the information from the officer transition and then it was on to National Convention. Aside from being on a committee I was also charged with creating a fundraiser for the SWD. I decided, with the help of the council, to create a nationwide fundraising event for all of the districts. The district treasurers chose to participate in the event. All of districts were able to collect money from members at the convention. The district with the most money at the end of convention got the opportunity to pie their counselor(s) in the face. We sadly did not win, but came in second to the Midwestern District. All together the nation raised well over \$1,000 dollars that went towards all of the Tau Beta Sigma Districts.

After NatCon ended the fall semester quickly began approaching. I was pursuing my last year as a music education student at the University of Houston and final season as Drum Major for the "Spirit of Houston" Marching Band. I had the pleasure of hosting Erika Pope, THE Amanda Dickson, Sami Belford, and Ashlyn Kubacak for a few UH football games. I had a great time showing them my university, my band, and letting them see my home Tau Chapter and all of the things happening at Houston.

In the middle of planning for upcoming workshop season and everything related to TBS, I was planning my senior recital in November. I had a great time performing for my friends and family as well as a few TBS royalty members who were able to attend (Erkia Pope, Amanda Dickson, and Kathy Webster). I had a blast working with my amazing KKPsi counterpart, Jared, planning ideas for joint fundraisers and different sec/treas ideas for the district.

During my time in office, I also wanted to include the secretaries as much as I could. I created a new minutes taking template that is a resource on the district website for chapters to use in case they wanted any new idea with taking and organizing minutes for their chapter meetings. I also created a fundraiser database to help treasurers come up with different fundraiser ideas for their home chapters. A HUGE thank you to all of the chapters that participated in the creation of that document.

During workshop season, I had the pleasure of presenting at the North Texas Area Workshop, as well as attending the East Texas and Arkansas Area Workshops. Thank you to all of the host chapters. I had an amazing time at all of these workshops. I also had the opportunity to attend the Psi Chapters Third Degree Ceremony. It was such an honor to see your amazing candidates become sisters that day. Thank you to Ashlyn for being such a great host to me and my roommate!!

Now for the thank-yous... Chris Foster, you were my first major influence as a "TBS Big Shot." I cannot thank you enough for everything you have taught about TBS and just being a good person and Cougar. I aspire to be as passionate as you are in everything that you do. Thank you for being such a great role model for me, the Tau Chapter, and Sisters and Brothers

everywhere. Amanda Dickson, there are not enough words I can even put together to say anything that would do justice. You have been there for me in so many ways. I love so much all of our phone calls almost every day. I know you are an open ear that I can go to and you will be honest with me. BRUTALY honest with me. Really all I can say to you is thank you. You are the greatest. Erika Pope, I used to be so afraid of you. But I have learned so many things from you and have enjoyed every second of being in your presence. I am so lucky I got to be on “your council” for even a short time. Thank you for being such an inspiration and making me want to better myself in everything that I do.

To the current council: Donnelle, Kathy, Sami, Ashlyn, and Mari. I love every second all of the groupme conversations, google hangouts, times we have spent in person together. You all hold a very special place in my heart and I will never forget any of you. Thank you for being some of the most loving, caring, and patient people I have ever met. I know I can be a lot to handle sometimes but I have made some amazing friends and memories that will never be forgotten. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my last active moments in TBS with you all.

To the SWD, thank you for allowing me to be your secretary/treasurer. You are all amazing sisters and brothers and I love you all so much. Thank you to any and all of you that have shared kind words with me. And Thank you to any of you who have given me the opportunity to share anything with you. This district is something special and I am so lucky to say I come from here and to have been a part of it.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Colin Jameson Peters  
2015-2016 SWD Secretary/Treasurer  
Tau Chapter-University of Houston

## Report of SWD Counselors

Greetings Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma,  
 Hopefully you've learned by now, my name is Donnelle' Mitchell and I am one of your District Counselors. If not...where in the world have you been? Regardless, thank you for having me. Thank you for listening. Thank you for not throwing food that isn't Nutella.

When Erika was voted by our nation as the Vice President of Communication and Recognition, I was ecstatic! I knew without a doubt that her legacy would continue to bold and that our sorority would continue to flourish under her and the rest of the council's leadership. As the Epsilon Psi sisters and I drove back in my Prius from Lexington, I had lots of time to think. My thoughts turned to you. I wondered how you would react once it sank in that you'd have a new counselor stepping in I the upcoming months. I wondered if you could continue to flourish without her as your counselor. I wondered if I could do the job. Fortunately, I was appointed and have had the privilege of figuring it out over the year. I look forward to growing with you, acting under the phrase, *Think Differently, Act Courageously!*

### ATTENDED EVENTS

Southwest District Day

National Convention as Spirit and Sisterhood advisor

Chapter leadership conference as a presenter and president/vice president of membership advisor

Counselor Transition Weekend at my apartment with Erika and Kathy

Cracker Barrel Breakfast with Gamma Nu

Oklahoma Area Workshop: Presented on District and National Resources

Hosted CVA & Counselor Dinner

Beta Delta's 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree

Theta Theta 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree

Arkansas Area Workshop

Gamma Nu 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree

South Texas Area Workshop: Presented on District and National Resources

### THANK YOU

\*National Council, thank you for your continual support, tons of email answers, and checking-in on Kathy and I during our first year.

\*Counselors across the Nation, from answering strange questions to all of your encouraging notes. You brighten my day and I am excited to learn and grow along with all of you.

\*KKPsi Governors and Council, Y'all are an interesting group. I may not always understand your jokes, but I can say without a doubt that you are amazing at what you do and are exactly what the district needed this year.

\*Siobhan and Rosalyn, the district will figure this out, but MAN...y'all seriously rock! From road trips, phone calls, texts, and hangouts we have grown closer this year and I am excited to see what new things we can do in the Southwest! Our district is extremely lucky to have you!

\*Colin, I have known you for years and have watched you grow into an astounding leader and bandsman. Your quick witt, vulnerability, and diligent care are astounding qualities that will set you apart from those in your field. You will do wonderfully next year and I hope to see your student's band performances soon.

\*Meri, Your short time with us has been nothing less than extraordinary! Your problem solving and innovation have been able to create solutions to task that seemed unreachable. Your passion has ignited your chapter, our district, and myself. Thank you for being a rock star.

\*Ashlyn, Your fervor and zeal for our organization is contagious and admired. I look forward to facebook and insta-stalking your journey through grad school next year. You've worked hard and I know you will excel in your graduate degree.

\*Sami, I have loved watching you lead this year. You are exceptionally gifted and our district is lucky to have operated under your guidance. I look forward to following along as you and Chris build your family. I'm going to stop now.

\*Kathy, Remember all those times that I told you the year I was born and chuckled? It really isn't going to get old. I have enjoyed working with you this year immensely. Your wisdom has guided many of our decisions, and I am eternally grateful for you to be my sister. I look forward to more dinner party nights planning out what our vision for the district is. Now, let's get that dinosaur phone fixed for you so I can teach you about the Snappy-Chat.

\*Erika, thank you for letting me bounce things off of you, assuring me that I already knew what to do. You know that it helps, and I know that you NEED me to do it because it gives you a break on your run. Thank you for teaching me how to counsel. Your affirmation and support are the 'sparks' of your legacy that resound most within me.

\*Kat, even though you left me to move to Rhode Island, I know that I can always call you...as soon as my voice command works when I'm driving home from school. Since our time on the mountain, your support has been my life-blood. I appreciate you more than what should be expressed in an officer report, so I'll just say..."*We're the two best friends that anyone could have*". Thank you for thinking differently, because if we thought the same...one of us would be obsolete. I appreciate you.

\*Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma, Since being appointed in September, I can tell you wholeheartedly that serving you is my favorite thing. I have always believed that Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi initiates the best and brightest leaders, teachers, innovators, problem solvers, and servants of man. To say that I am lucky to work with you is an understatement. You change my life in some way every single day.

Let's go be great, Southwest!

Respectively Submitted,

Donnelle' Mitchell, Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Counselor

Greetings Sisters and Brothers of the SWDistrict,

What an amazing year this has been. There have been major changes in my personal life this past year. It started in September when I was selected as one of the two new District Counselors. I can't express fully the appreciation I have for the National Council for selecting me to be able to continue to serve Tau Beta Sigma in this capacity.

Donnelle and I started with a transition weekend with Erika Pope in September, trying to absorb as much of her wisdom as possible. And since then, we hit the ground running, and haven't stopped. We started with reminding the chapters to turn in their Chapter Personnel Reports by the end of September, just after we were selected. Shortly after that, as we had no host chapters for the 2016 SWD Convention, with the Governors, we had to put together a budget for the convention and present it to the National Headquarters. By the time the preliminary budget was done, it was time for the Fall Activity Reports to be completed. I was able to make a trip to the University of Houston, attend a game and see some old friends and make many new ones.

As the Fall semester was winding down, I did the "adult thing" of buying a house. So it was time to move from a small town in East Texas to the suburb of Rockwall just East of DFW. I had what I thought was the bright idea of moving myself, which became the "what was I thinking??" idea. So every weekend from November to the end of the year, I loaded my stuff into a 5X10 trailer and went back and forth between Mt. Pleasant, TX and Rockwall, TX. Finally completing the move on December 31, 2015.

What better way to start a new year than in a house full of boxes! I set up enough in my new home to be able to host the joint council's for our winter meeting in January. The councils began working diligently to prepare for this awesome convention this weekend. There was lots of business packed into the weekend. The councils toured the convention facility, continued expanding, finalizing and confirming the activities for convention, and began preparing for Workshop Season.

I did not see a full weekend at home during February and March. I managed to attend six of the seven workshops. As I was asked to present at the Ritual Workshop hosted by Tau, I was unable to attend the West Texas/New Mexico workshop. I had forgotten how much fun it was to go road tripping! While attending the Houston Ritual workshop, the sisters of Tau surprised me with Honorary Membership into their chapter. I couldn't have been more proud, as there is such a strong history I have had with Tau that goes back to my days of being active. It has been a privilege to watch you all continue to become the best that you can through each workshop. It was great to see old friends and even better making so many new ones.

With the end of workshop season it was time to kick into over drive for finalizing SWD Convention activities and details...And there were so many to be details to be handled. Donnelle and I divided and conquered...while we helped each other and kept each other

apprised of what was going on, on an almost daily basis, Donnelle handled more of the business side, while I had the pleasure of learning ALL about the convention center side. (National Headquarter Staff I have a whole new appreciation for what you do for us for our National Convention! a 10 day event vs our 2 1/2 day event)

I had the honor to serve this year with an astounding group of individuals, Sami, Ashlyn, Meri, Colin, Rosalyn, Sibhon, and Donnelle.

Rosalyn and Sibhon – Our beloved CVA's...I am so glad that you are with us on this journey You both are undertaking a new role within our organization and you will both do well with molding the role for future CVA's! Rosalyn you have a unique advantage having been active in another district and we are fortunate to be able to learn other perspectives. It's always interesting to see how things differ from one district to the next. Sibhon...always smiling and happy go lucky. Ready, willing, and able to do whatever is asked. Ladies, I look forward to many, many more road trips with you both. It is quite clear how much you both care about our organization, and how much you want to help our chapters be the best they can be!

Colin – What can I say about Colin....I still remember the first time I met Colin, back in 2013. You were lugging your suitcase following behind Katie "Dukes" Rixon who was following Chris Foster...oh the memories of NatCon2013. You have come so far from those days. You have taken a hold of the challenges before you and faced them head on. You are constantly striving to improve your life on a daily basis, and this will lead you to great things in life.

Meri – You stepped up and took a hold of your new role with gusto. Always wearing a smile, and happy to contribute in any way possible. When presented with new roles, you give a slight shrug and say "I haven't done that before, but I can handle it!" ending with the smile. You would graciously volunteer for things even without know what you were volunteering to do. You handle life with a positive outlook and all who are around you are infected by this positivity.

Ashlyn – Your love for our organization is never hidden far away. You are a woman on a mission, and will go far in any endeavor you choose. You made workshop season seem so easier, but that was due to your persistence and organization in making sure all the details were covered. You handled any bumps along the way with grace and poise. You always make everyone feel included and make sure all the activities go off without hitches!

Sami – You lead with grace and diligence. You ensure that everyone around you knows they are welcome. You kept in contact with your council, offering assistance to all to ensure the overall goal of the activity at hand is attained. In the middle of all activities, and everyone was beginning to stress, you would always remind us that we need to take a moment to stop, breath, and remember the overall goal, and keep everyone moving forward. I know you will be successful in all your future endeavors.

Now to the one person I could not have done without...Donnelle. Girl I have NEVER talk on my phone so much to anyone...but if we didn't talk/text at least every other day and it wasn't Christmas break, there was a problem. You are a spitball always ready to take things head on. You have taught me so much just by being you! I can not imagine having done the last eight months with anyone else. I could go on, however I am sure that at this point I can hardly read this at the moment as is...All can be summed up with "Our district is very lucky to have you as a counselor!" I look so forward to what the next year has in store for us.

All of you have moved our district forward, and I couldn't be more proud of the service you each have given to us. You have set the bar high for those that follow after you have moved forward with your individual lives.

To you the delegation, you have welcomed me with open arms. I am blessed to have the opportunity to meet so many new sisters and brothers and getting to see and hear about the wonderful things your chapters are doing through out the year. To see how everyone is making strides in our shared love of music through their continued service projects, continuing education, leadership developments. I thank you all for sharing with me, and look forward to hearing and learning more from each of you.

To Kappa Psi, it has been such a sight to see how smoothly you have stepped up to the plate to work with the Sisters of Tau Beta sigma over the last year. Graham, Justin, Jared, Rob, Conner, Toni, Clint, and Kalem...you have made our joint relations that much stronger! You all have stepped up to the plate and helped in anyway needed, and am grateful for all you have done for Tau Beta Sigma.

It has been my pleasure to see how far our organization has come since I was active. And now I can hardly wait to see where I am taken to next on this amazing journey with this wonderful bunch of sisters! I constantly try to, for lack of a better phrase, give back to our organization, but every time I do, I always come away feeling I have gained more knowledge, experience, and fellowship than I will ever be able to repay.

Thank you again for this amazing opportunity to serve this year as your SWD Counselor.

Respectfully Submitted with Much Love,

Kathy Webster  
SWD TBS Counselor



## Report of the Membership Committee

Committee Chair Name and Chapter:

- Taylor Hennig, Epsilon Beta

Committee Member(s) Name(s) and Chapter(s):

- Taylor Hollowell, (Beta Nu) sitting for Delta Alpha
- Tristian Harris, Beta Zeta
- Rachel Woods, Iota Beta

Advisor(s) Name(s):

- Ashlyn Kubacak, Psi
- Rosalyn McDonald, Theta Phi

The 2015-2016 VPM was charged with the following:

- Design a hands-on workshop to explain the SWD resources followed by an interactive summarization workshop later on at the same event.
- Create incentives for utilizing SWD resources and further promote them on social media
- Host more online chats between SWD Membership Educators
- Create options for modes of communication between SWD Membership Educators via remind 101, Group Me, Facebook, and email to allow reliable communication possibilities for Membership Educators
- Plan 2 Chapter Leadership Conference days for the summer of 2015, provide online attendance options, provide video recordings of presentations for the SWD, and share the power points and other information with the SWD via some form of digital communication
- Promote and expand the CME database and the rush event database

The 2015-2016 Membership Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 Membership Committee reports
- Review the 2015-2016 charges for the VPM and discuss the effectiveness of their implementation
- Evaluate the promotion of the various databases and make changes if necessary
- Discuss the effectiveness of the resources workshop and make changes if necessary
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the CME database and the rush event database
- Consider the development of an action plan for the gathering of chapter officer information if necessary
- Consider creating a contest, open to brothers and sisters in the SWD, where members can submit presentations that they can present at area workshops which will hopefully increase student involvement at area workshops.

Discussions during meetings/Relevant information:

We discussed the charges for 2015-2016 VPM and **determined that she completed most of them to an exceptional extent.**

We discussed the possibility of creating an application for brothers and sisters to submit workshop presentations to **increase attendance at the SWD area workshops.**

We discussed the possibility of the SWD Lyre piece to be used as an **incentive for chapters to submit ideas to the various databases.**

We discussed ways to **obtain chapter officer information** in a timely manner.

We discussed the possibility that the 2016-2017 **district lyre piece could be earned by submitting ideas to the district databases: fundraising, CME, and rush event.**

We discussed the **promotion of the SWD databases** and determined that they were promoted well through GroupMe and Facebook, but **could have been improved through Twitter and email** and we predict that the 2016-2017 SWD lyre piece could aid in the promotion of databases as well.

We discussed the **resources workshop** and determined that it **was very effective.**

We discussed the effectiveness of the **rush event database and CME database** and determined that they **were very effective.**

**Charges for the 2016-2017 SWD Vice President of Membership** are as follows:

- Communicate with SWD Membership Educators via Google Hangout or Skype to **host a virtual interactive workshop.**
- **Host at least 4 online chats** to give members who are not in GroupMe chats or are not active on Facebook groups a chance to have their questions answered and voices heard.
- **Increase chapter participation in area workshops** by creating an application for submission of workshop presentations open to members of Tau Beta Sigma.
- **Create a platform for outgoing presidents to update the SWD about new officers before June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** via Google form or Facebook.
- When planning workshops, have **the resources workshop offered as the only TBS presentation during that workshop block to increase attendance.**

**Charges for the SWD** are as follows:

- **Submit area workshop presentation ideas** to the SWD VPM via the workshop presentation application.

**Charges for outgoing chapter presidents** are as follows:

- **Update the District on new chapter officers by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016** via the Google Form or Facebook post posted by the VPM.

**Charges for the 2017 Membership Committee** are as follows:

- Review the 2015-2016 and 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**.

Thank yous:

**Thank you to the membership committee advisors for their help in all committee meetings, to the delegates and proxies who attended our meetings and assisted in making decisions and provided their opinions on issues, to the SWD Council for their hard work and leadership in our District, and to all of the members of the Southwest District for their dedication to having effective and informative membership education programs throughout the District.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Taylor Hennig, Epsilon Beta  
Membership Committee Chair 2016**

## **Report of the History and Traditions Committee**

### **Committee Chair Name and Chapter:**

- **Jeaiza M. Quinones, Epsilon Psi**

### **Committee Member(s) Name(s) and Chapter(s):**

- **Courtney Jameson, Beta Delta**
- **Krystal Munoz, Xi**

### **Advisor(s) Name(s):**

- **Heather McGowan, Iota**

The 2016 History and Traditions Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2014 and 2015 Committee Reports
- Review past year's charges to district officers to discuss effectiveness
- Review relevant sections of the constitution
- Propose any constitutional amendments the committee deems necessary to the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee

### **Dates:**

District Day : June 13, 2016 Burger's Lake, Dallas

Chapter Leadership Conference: August 8, 2016, Texas A&M Commerce

### **Area Workshops:**

Arkansas: March 12, 2016 (University of Arkansas Fort Smith)

North Texas: February 20, 2016 (East Texas Baptist University)

South Texas: March 19, 2016 (Texas State University)

East Texas: March 26, 2016 Beta Omicron, Tau Beta Sigma Texas Southern University

Oklahoma: February 6, 2016 (Southeastern Oklahoma State)

West Texas/New Mexico: February 27, 2016 (Texas Tech University)

Louisiana: March 5, 2016 (Northwestern State University)

SWD Convention: April 15-17, 2016 (Mesquite Convention Center, Mesquite, TX)

### **District Officers:**

President: Sami Belford, Psi

Vice President of Membership: Ashlyn Kubacak, Psi

Vice President of Special Projects: Meri Terpstra, Beta Delta

Secretary/Treasurer: Colin Peters, Tau

Counselor: Donnelle' Mitchell, Theta Theta

Counselor: Kathy Webster, Epsilon Beta

Discussions during meetings/Relevant information:

**Founder's Day or Founding Day Celebration Ideas:** We discussed designating a tree on campus to design as a chapter plot and sing hymns around the tree. Great ideas also include going out to dinner as a chapter or have a potluck to celebrate the day. Chapters could also wear their Sunday best and take chapter photos (annually on that day).

**Bonding Time:** We discussed trying try to encourage chapters to find different ways to spend time together even in the midst of hectic schedules. Chapters should try to get out there and get involved in service projects together, and also attend area workshops together on a regular basis. They could create chapter awards to acknowledge members who attend the most workshops each year.

**Convention Awards:** We creating a social media campaign goal for chapters who attend area workshops in order to increase enthusiasm and attendance for area workshops. Creating a concept/initiative much like "focus on five" where chapters collect pins or badges (or an award) for chapters who attend many area workshops or other district events.

**Charges for the 2016-2017 SWD President** are as follows:

- Find a way to create a campaign(s) similar to "Focus on Five" for district convention attendance and district event participation.

**Charges for the 2017 History and Traditions Committees** are as follows:

- **Discuss the possibility of including district convention fees within chapter dues or within chapter budget or fundraising goals to increase attendance.**
- **Gather records from district council to see the average of chapter attendance and discuss how we could increase this.**
- **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.**

**Thank you to the History and Traditions committee for your wonderful input and teamwork, to Heather for your guidance and for bearing with me. This was my first convention experience and committee experience!**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Jealiza M. Quinones**

**History and Traditions Committee Chair**

## Report of the Programs Committee

Committee Chair Name and Chapter:

- Carissa Cromer, Delta Upsilon

Committee Member(s) Name(s) and Chapter(s):

- TJ Partin, Gamma Phi
- Brittany Dolezal, Eta Epsilon
- Joseph Erwin, Gamma Zi

Advisor(s) Name(s):

- Shiobhan Wilkes
- Meri Terpstra

The 2016 Programs Committee was charged with the following:

- Reviewing the report of the 2015 Programs Committee
- Updating the SWD Programs guide online with the 2015-2016 VPSP
- Reviewing the required music drive service project for the Southwest district and determining if we need to make it more open
- Meeting with the 2015-2016 VPSP to work out the final details of March for Music and deciding whether to implement it the following year or the later one

Discussions during meetings/Relevant information:

Discussion on Charge 1: We reviewed the report of the 2015 programs committee.

Discussion on Charge 2: We reviewed that there was no current programs guide. However, we received information on two programs, March for Music and Adopt-a-Band, and have elected to charge the next committee to grow our list of programs.

Discussion on Charge 3: The Music Drive is being edited to be Bands for Change (coined by TJ). Every four years there will be a district wide drive for musical items for a school that is chosen via application process, and on the other years the drive will be a monetary collection/competition throughout the SWD. Checks are not to be written to schools, instead the district will buy the items desired based off a wish list from the chosen school.

Discussion on Charge 4: March for Music will be implemented on District Day of 2017, and will be a daylong event. It will be an outdoor concert/walkathon, with free admission to the concert for those who participated in the walkathon. The monetary amount required to be raised to participate in the walkathon will be determined by the 2017 Programs committee. The money will go to a different school than the money that Bands for Change goes to, that will be chosen via application. Workshops will be used to promote the March for Music. We need to partner with the alumni association to make this happen. Games can be included during the walkathon, such as drill down events.

Charges for the 2016-2017 VPSP are as follows:

- Promote Focus on Five
- Promote scrapbook in fall and spring (at least a month before convention for photo deadlines). Also research a new outlet for creating the scrapbook.
- Promote New Alto with KKY help
- Continue monthly photo contest (post submissions to SWD Instagram account with captions, and announce winners for each month)
- Communicate with KKY counterpart on a Joint Chapter Challenge with KKY
- Create a sisterhood/bonding events database and a service database
- Continue educational videos

Charges for the 2017 Programs Committee are as follows:

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

Thank you: I would like to thank my awesome committee for being so efficient in working with myself and our advisors, Siobhan Wilkes for being so supportive and walking me through this, Meri Terpstra for being pumped about programs committee, and the chapter of Delta Upsilon for being the best sisters I could possibly ask for.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carissa Cromer, Delta Upsilon, Programs Committee Chair (#BandsAMakeHerDance #BandsForChange #CoinedByTJ #SpecialProjects #VPSP #WayTooHot #TheElevatorIsBroken #SWDCon2k16 #SpicySouthwest #Rodeo #GoJesus)

## Report of the Nominations Committee

Committee Chair:

Emily Shain, Beta Nu

Committee Members:

Riley Mashburn, Delta Tau

Alison Castillo, Beta Zeta (Proxy for Gamma Omicron)

Katy Shepherd, Beta

Lauren Cordani, Delta Eta

Michaela Blackshear, Eta Pi

Advisor:

Nicole Sanchez, Delta Eta

The 2015-2016 Nominations Committee is charged with responsibility of investigating each candidate for the District Council. **By reviewing the materials provided and conducting interviews, the committee submits to the floor a list of who they feel best meets the needs for each office or the slate.** By being slated by the committee, each slated candidate is automatically placed into nomination by the committee at the time of election.

**The Nominations Committee met April 15-16<sup>th</sup> to discuss and nominate the slate of officers for the 2016-2017 term. The committee was charged with the following:**

- **Review the 2014-2015 Nominations Committee Report**
- **Collect all materials from all candidates running for District Council**
- **Schedule interviews with each District Council Candidate**
- **Review the standard questions asked of each district council candidate, and add or remove questions as seen fit.**
- **Review the materials of each candidate, and verify that each candidate packet contains required items, in accordance with the District Constitution**
- **Interview each qualified candidate by asking the pertinent questions about the office of which they are running**
- **Discuss who the committee feels is best qualified for each office. Submit a slate for each office in addition to the Nominations Committee report.**

The committee reviewed the charges and discussed qualifications for being eligible for running for a district officer. The committee then reviewed the questions from the previous year and asked the following questions to each of the five candidates:

1. How can you help the district and the council with the required duties of your office? How would you benefit the council by being in this office?
2. How would you improve the office if elected?
3. What is your academic course load for the entire term of office?



4. Explain how you would balance your other responsibilities with being on District Council
5. What will your chapter responsibilities be for this next year?
6. What band involvement will you have in the coming semesters?
7. Being a district officer requires funding several commitments up front, with opportunity for reimbursement within thirty days. What is your plan for financing your term in office?
8. If the Nominations Committee felt you were more suitable for another officer position, would you be willing to accept an alternate office? If so, what are your preferences?

In addition to the standard questions, the committee asked each candidate questions specific to the information included in their platforms.

Slate:

**President: Natalie Irvin**

**VP of Membership: Maggie Denton**

**VP of Special Projects: Meri Terpstra**

**Secretary/Treasurer: Natalia Lambert**

**The committee charges the 2016-2017 Nominations Committee with the following:**

- **Review the 2015-2016 Nominations Committee Report**
- **Collect all materials from all candidates running for District Council**
- **Schedule Interviews with each District Council Candidate**
- **Review the standard questions asked of each district council candidate, and add or remove questions as seen fit.**
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- **Interview each qualified candidate by asking the pertinent questions about the office of which they are running**
- **Discuss who the committee feels is best qualified for each office. Submit a slate for each office in addition to the Nominations Committee report.**

My committee would like to thank the candidates for their time and efforts required in the process of running for office. We would also like to thank Nicole Sanchez of Delta Eta for keeping us focused and on time as well as bringing us extra cookies. Without you, we wouldn't be the nom-nom-nominations committee. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the members of my committee, it was a joy getting to know you and working with you. I hope to see you all at future events!

Respectfully yours,

Emily Shain

Beta Nu Delegate, Arkansas Tech University

## Report of the Spirit and Sisterhood Committee

### Committee Chair Name and Chapter:

- Skye Austin, Theta Theta

### Committee Member(s) Name(s) and Chapter(s):

- Morgan Darling, Gamma Tau
- Lorellye Graham, Beta Delta, proxy for Beta Omicron
- Matayzsha Dorsey, Eta Pi, proxy from Delta Sigma

### Advisor(s) Name(s):

- Kat Howell, Theta Theta

The 2016 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2014-15 Spirit and Sisterhood committee report. Update and maintain the Spirit Award Chart.
- Contact the current host of the spirit awards prior to convention to ensure their display at District Convention.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the chant/song competition that challenges chapters to create and post a video of their chapter's spirit chant.
- Evaluate the importance of each of the awards, and find a way to place more emphasis on the awards and more of a drive to achieve them.
- Discuss the chapters in attendance at the 2015-2016 Southwest District Convention on the qualities of spirit and sisterhood. Award the Spirit and Sisterhood Awards in accordance with the District constitution.

Discussions during meetings/Relevant information:

**Contacting last year's winners:** We discussed giving the 2016-17 SWD President the charge of providing the previous year's winners with the committee's information.

**Evaluate the effectiveness of the chant/song competition:** We discussed that this was not very effective at all. However, we did believe that it should continue. We discussed different options of how to get this out to the district. The problem that was noted several times was that no one was aware that this competition existed. We discussed a charge for the VPSP on how to get this better implemented.

**Evaluate importance of awards and provide a better drive to achieve them:** We discussed and agreed that all of the awards are an essential part to district convention. In order to provide sisters with more drive to go for these awards, we discussed that they should have some incentives. The incentives include but are not limited to:

- Providing the winning chapter with a 'district stripe' similar to the national focus on five campaign
- Provide the winning chapter with a plaque

- Provide the winning chapter with a certificate w/the turtle and include the ward, year, and what warrants that award
- Provide the winning chapter with a reserved banquet table for previous year's Beta and Sigma turtles
- Tau the Turtle
  - The chapter passing off Tau should provide a certificate and a short note of why they chose the next chapter

**Charges for the 2017 Spirit and Sisterhood committee are as follows:**

- Committee chair and advisor should contact chapters to ensure that the spirit and sisterhood items will be at convention.
- Teach yourselves the National and District chants to demonstrate at separate sessions.
- Coordinate with the District President to teach the delegation at separate session throughout the convention.
- Discuss the chapters in attendance at the 2016-17 Southwest District Convention on the qualities of spirit and sisterhood. Award the Spirit and Sisterhood Awards in accordance with the District constitution.

**Charges for the winners of Tau, Beta, and Sigma:**

- Collaborate with the spirit and sisterhood committee and join them in teaching the spirit activities to the delegation

**Charges for the 2017 VPSP:**

- Post a document on the website with the convention award information explaining the spirit and sisterhood awards and how they will be determined during Convention. Include pictures.

Thank you:

**Thank you to Kat Howell for being the rock star that you are and stepping in when my chapter had to be late to convention. Thank you to the lovely members of this committee. We came in and got things done with time to spare. You guys are amazing.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Skye Austin, Theta Theta**

**Spirit and Sisterhood Committee Chair**

## Report of the Credentials Committee

Committee Chair Name and Chapter:

- Sami Belford, Psi Chapter

The 2016 Credentials Committee was charged with the following:

- Get the information on 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).
- Have numbers of people in each chapter before convention begins to ensure quick calculations.

Discussions during meetings/Relevant information:

- National Officers
  - Adrienne Rall – Vice President of Special Projects
  - Erika Pope – Vice President of Communication and Recognition
- Board of Trustees
  - Lisa Croston – Trustee
  - Janet West Miller – Trustee (Life Member)
  - Dr. Nicole Sanchez – Immediate Past National President
- Past National Officers
  - Dr. Nicole Sanchez – Past National President
  - Karin Miller Hammond – Past National President
  - Janet West Miller – 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
  - Yvonne Daye – National Chapter and Colony Education Coordinator
  - Robert Bratcher – National Publications Manager and Designer
- National Alumni Association
  - Katie Rixon – Executive Council
  - Amanda Dickson – Executive Council
  - Chris Foster – Vice Chair
  - Tyra Yiare – Finance Chair
- Southwest District Alumni Association

- Kat Howell- Communications Director (TBS)
- Helen Moore- Membership Director (KKY)
- Allen Andrus Programs Director- (KKY)
- Jennie Malone Brooks- Membership Director (TBS)
- Christy McKinney – Finance Director (TBS)
- Southwest District Council
  - Sami Belford – District President
  - Ashlyn Kubacak – District Vice President of Membership
  - Meri Terpstra – District Vice President of Special Projects
  - Donnelle’ Mitchell – District Counselor
  - Kathy Webster – District Counselor
- Convention Officers
  - Olivia Belsher – Secretary – Delta Upsilon
  - Brielle Johnson – Parliamentarian – Psi
- Past Southwest District Officers
  - Lisa Croston – Past SWD President/Treasurer
  - Chris Foster – Past SWD President/Treasurer
  - Nicole Sanchez – Past SWD President/VPCM
  - Amanda Dickson – Past SWD President/Secretary/Treasurer
  - Kathryn Howell – Past SWD President
  - Erika Pope – Past SWD VPCM
  - Heather McGowan – Past SWD President
  - Emily Murphree – Past SWD Secretary/Treasurer
  - Meredith Brill – Past SWD VPSP
  - Kathy Webster - Past SWD President/ Treasurer
- Chapter Percentage Award
- Chapter Distance Award

Charges for the 2016-2017 District President/Credentials Committee are as follows:

- Get the information on personnel 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sami Belford

SWD President 2015-2016

Psi Chapter

## **REPORT OF THE JURISDICTION & FINANCE COMMITTEE 2016 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

**Committee Chair:**

Alana Sewell, Gamma Nu

**Committee Members:**

Nikki Branstetter, Alpha

Kathy Cao, Tau

Aneatria Watson, Zeta Phi

Christen Jarshaw, Delta (sat for Alpha)

**Committee Advisor:**

Christy McKinney, Delta

**The 2016 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee was charged with the following:**

- Redistribute funds to reflect a non-national convention year.

**Finances:**

The Jurisdiction and Finance committee looked at budgets from last year (a national convention year) and the year before (a non-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. The District Officer National Convention Expenses were combined (a total of \$550.00) to add to the Convention Assistance and Delegate Registration (previous budget was \$300.00) along with half of the National Convention fee (a total of \$300.00, half of which is \$150.00) for a combined total of \$1,000.00. This decision was made so as to give Chapters more money for their convention needs.

The District Awards budget was previously marked as \$150.00 which was determined to be too low so the New Alto funds of \$50.00 was dissolved in order to increase the amount available for the District Awards to a total of \$200.00. The money set aside for the New Alto is unused since the publication is now made online rather in print.

The Workshop Expenses budget of \$150.00 was added to help the district fund the necessary fees required for hosting workshops. This money came from the other half of the National Convention fee (a total of \$300.00, half of which is \$150.00).

The proposed budget for the 2016 – 2017 term is as follows:

Proposed Budget (2016 – 2017)

<b>District Officer Travel Expenses</b>	
President	\$500.00
Vice President of Membership	\$500.00
Vice President of Special Projects	\$500.00
Secretary-Treasurer	\$500.00
<b>Convention Expenses</b>	
Convention Assistance and Delegate Registration	\$1,000.00
Honorary Membership Fee	\$250.00
District Awards	\$200.00
Chapter Leadership Conference	\$150.00
Scholarship of Excellence	\$250.00
<b>Workshop Expenses</b>	\$150.00
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>

**Proposed Changes to the Southwest District Constitution:**

1. Continuity between Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma’s description of the Joint Action Service Grant

**CURRENT:** 3.15 JAC funds may be used to fund programs including, but not limited to, a guest conductor, artist, or music education speaker, who will be selected by the chapter receiving the award or at the discretion of the district council.

**PROPOSED:** 3.15 The Joint Action Committee General Service Grant can be used to cover service projects that could include, but could not be for the sole purpose of, travel in direct relation to the completion of the project. The allocation of JAC grant funds is at the discretion of the district Tau Beta Sigma Counselors and Kappa Kappa Psi Governors.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This new wording gives new specifications of the grant and has been approved by the counselors/governors. The change is proposed in order to create continuity between the Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma descriptions of the project.

2. Continuity of updated policies and grammar

**CURRENT:** 1.10 The Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma recognizes the use of joint meetings with the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi to adopt new programs 4 and procedures, and select convention host chapters and New ALTO publishers. In such joint meetings, the definition of “majority” to consider a motion to have passed shall be defined as having both a majority of the Tau Beta

Sigma delegates and a majority of the Kappa Kappa Psi delegates voting in the affirmative

**PROPOSED:** 1.10 The Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma recognizes the use of joint meetings with the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi to adopt new programs 4 and procedures and select convention host chapters. In such joint meetings, the definition of “majority” to consider a motion to have passed shall be defined as having both a majority of the Tau Beta Sigma delegates and a majority of the Kappa Kappa Psi delegates voting in the affirmative.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** Strike “New ALTO” since this is no longer decided in joint meetings and erase the comma after procedures.

### 3. Changes to the New ALTO.

**CURRENT:** 7.01 The District newsletter shall be called the New ALTO. The New ALTO shall be published primarily as on online presence in the form of a website. 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. 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.

**CHANGES/RATIONAL:**

- Change “on” to “an” for grammatical reasons.
- Strike “in the form of a website” due to the redundancy that the New ALTO does not have its own website any longer.

### 4.

**CURRENT:** 7.02 The New ALTO will be published by the Southwest District Council. The Council may appoint members to manage the following positions: one formatting editor, two copy editors, and a webmaster to manage the design and maintenance of the Southwest District and/or New ALTO websites. These members may be appointed as needed and shall be active or associate members in good standing. The Council will create any necessary application processes and may require application materials that it deems necessary, such as cover letters, portfolios, letters of recommendation, and any other materials.

**PROPOSED:** 7.02 The Vice President of Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi and the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma will select qualified members to serve as the following positions: formatting and design editor, two copy editors, and a public relations officer. These members may be appointed as needed and shall be active or associate members in good standing. The District Councils will create any application processes and may require application



materials that they deem necessary, such as cover letters, portfolios, letters of recommendation, or any other materials.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:**

- The phrase “The New ALTO will be published by the Southwest District Council” was removed because of new wording proposed later on (See 7.05).
- The responsibility for overseeing the New ALTO on the Southwest District Council has always been with the Vice President of Special Projects or Co-MAL (now Vice President of Programs) of both organizations. This just clarifies that in this portion of the Constitution.
- It was decided to specify four specific offices on the New ALTO team in order to be consistent with Kappa Kappa Psi and also to ensure that certain duties are constitutionally obligated for the completion of the New ALTO.
- “The Council will create any necessary application processes” was changed to District Councils to reflect that this is a joint process, rather than just one of the councils.
- Took out first necessary in “necessary application processes” due to redundancy with the word “necessary” later on in the same sentence.

**5. CURRENT:** N/A

**PROPOSED:** 7.03 The two copy editors for the New ALTO will be comprised of one individual from Kappa Kappa Psi and one individual from Tau Beta Sigma. They will be responsible for receiving and editing article submissions, as well as other miscellaneous items pertinent to the content of the New ALTO.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** It was decided that it would be beneficial to constitutionally obligate that there should be one copy editor from each organization to ensure joint relations in the publication of the New ALTO. And although it seems obvious, we did want to clarify the exact roles of the copy editors so that they have constitutional obligations.

**6. CURRENT:** N/A

**PROPOSED:** 7.04 The formatting and design editor for the New ALTO will be responsible for the overall design and format of the New ALTO publications.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This is proposed to add further clarification on the roles of the formatting and design editor for constitutional obligations.

**7. CURRENT:** N/A

**PROPOSED:** 7.05 The public relations officer for the New ALTO will be responsible for the following:

1. Advertising of the New ALTO on social media platforms and ensuring that knowledge and details about the New ALTO are well known and readily available to all members of each chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma across the Southwest District.
2. Working with the Southwest District Councils to ensure maintenance and timely publication of the New ALTO on the Southwest District Website.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** It was discussed that the current webmaster position is outdated and that since the New ALTO is a tab on the Southwest District Website, the Councils have easy access to making edits so there is no need for a webmaster to do so. A public relations position would be responsible for tackling the issue of communicating with Chapters regarding the New ALTO and focus on cultivating a social media presence. They would not only ensure that the publication of the New ALTO is timely and successful, but would also advertise for articles, deadlines, and any other content associated with the New ALTO.

8.

**CURRENT:** 7.03 The New ALTO shall be published twice a year. Publication dates will be November 15th and April 1st. The Southwest District Council (or any appointed publications managers) shall set deadline dates for submission of articles, and inform all chapters of the district at least six weeks in advance of the submission deadlines.

**PROPOSED:** 7.06 The New ALTO shall be published twice a year. Publication dates will be November 15th and April 1st. The Vice President of Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi and the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma shall set deadline dates for submission of articles, and shall also, with the assistance from the public relations officer, inform all chapters of the district at least six weeks in advance of the submission deadlines.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This change adds specifications that the Vice Presidents (Special Projects and Programs) are primarily responsible for setting deadline dates rather than the entire Southwest District Council. This change also includes the addition of the public relation office.

9.

**CURRENT:** 7.04 Financing of the New ALTO shall be the responsibility of the District. Any reimbursements shall follow standard reimbursement policies of the national organization.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** Renumbered to 7.07

**CURRENT:** 7.05 The Southwest District shall maintain a common domain name and e-mail address for publishing the New ALTO.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** Renumbered to 7.08

10.

**CURRENT:** N/A

**PROPOSED:** 7.09 All materials pertaining to the New ALTO shall be turned over to the new Vice President of Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi, the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma, and the New ALTO team, once selected.  
**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This is a proposed addition because it is the only piece of legislation that was included in Kappa Kappa Psi's District Constitution, but not in Tau Beta Sigma's District Constitution. This ensures that there is communication and distribution of materials from year to year when transitioning between New ALTO teams.

**Proposed appointed Webmaster:**

The Joint Action Committee approached the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee with the addition of adding an appointed Webmaster position to the Constitution. The amendment would read as:

“One Webmaster will be appointed by the Southwest District Councils through an application process at their discretion.”

The rationale given was that it was believed that the Webmaster position was essential and extremely beneficial to the Council and should be maintained.

The Jurisdiction and Finance Committee proposes that if the amendment were accepted, then the circumstances involving no applicants and the term length to be added as well.

The amendment did not pass through Kappa Kappa Psi. The recommended action is listed in the Charges.

**Charges for the 2016 – 2017 Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer:**

1. Evaluate the constitution extensively throughout the year and give your recommendations to the 2016 -2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee prior to convention.

**Charges for the 2016 – 2017 Southwest District President:**

1. Help the members of the 2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee get in touch prior to convention so that they are able to make plans regarding supplies (such as laptops) and pre-reading the constitution.

**Charges for the 2017 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee:**

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 Kappa Psi Southwest District Constitution to check for continuity.
4. Assess the need to implement the Webmaster position and follow up with Kappa Kappa Psi if the position is deemed worthwhile.

**Special Thanks To:**

I would like to thank the members of the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee for spending their time and patience with me. This committee definitely posed several challenges

that none of us were expecting, but I am hopeful that we will see improvement in the near future!

Thank you to our wonderful advisor, Christy McKinney, for your insightful knowledge from the District perspective and your ability and willingness to find answers. You were so helpful in this committee and I look forward to working with you again in the future!

Thank you to the Joint Action Committee for sending us all of your changes in such a timely and organized manner. There is a lot of dialogue that goes on between these committees and having this open and reliable communication makes all the difference!

A huge shout out to District President Sami Belford for helping us with any extra supplies we needed and even more! I know this is a crazy weekend for you but the committee really appreciated how much you went out of your way to check on us as much as you did – thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,

Alana Sewell, Gamma Nu  
2016 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee Chair

## Proposed Changes to the Southwest District Constitution:

1. Continuity between Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma's description of the Joint Action Service Grant
 

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**PROPOSED:** 3.15 The Joint Action Committee General Service Grant can be used to cover service projects that could include, but could not be for the sole purpose of, travel in direct relation to the completion of the project. The allocation of JAC grant funds is at the discretion of the district Tau Beta Sigma Counselors and Kappa Kappa Psi Governors.

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**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This is proposed to add further clarification on the roles of the formatting and design editor for constitutional obligations.

**7. CURRENT:** N/A

**PROPOSED:** 7.05 The public relations officer for the New ALTO will be responsible for the following:

3. Advertising of the New ALTO on social media platforms and ensuring that knowledge and details about the New ALTO are well known and readily available to all members of each chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma across the Southwest District.
4. Working with the Southwest District Councils to ensure maintenance and timely publication of the New ALTO on the Southwest District Website.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** It was discussed that the current webmaster position is outdated and that since the New ALTO is a tab on the Southwest District Website, the Councils have easy access to making edits so there is no need for a webmaster to do so. A public relations position would be responsible for tackling the issue of communicating with Chapters regarding the New ALTO and focus on cultivating a social media presence. They would not only ensure that the publication of the New ALTO is timely and successful, but would also advertise for articles, deadlines, and any other content associated with the New ALTO.

**8.**

**CURRENT:** 7.03 The New ALTO shall be published twice a year. Publication dates will be November 15th and April 1st. The Southwest District Council (or any

appointed publications managers) shall set deadline dates for submission of articles, and inform all chapters of the district at least six weeks in advance of the submission deadlines.

**PROPOSED:** 7.06 The New ALTO shall be published twice a year. Publication dates will be November 15th and April 1st. The Vice President of Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi and the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma shall set deadline dates for submission of articles, and shall also, with the assistance from the public relations officer, inform all chapters of the district at least six weeks in advance of the submission deadlines.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This change adds specifications that the Vice Presidents (Special Projects and Programs) are primarily responsible for setting deadline dates rather than the entire Southwest District Council. This change also includes the addition of the public relation office.

9.

**CURRENT:** 7.04 Financing of the New ALTO shall be the responsibility of the District. Any reimbursements shall follow standard reimbursement policies of the national organization.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** Renumbered to 7.07

**CURRENT:** 7.05 The Southwest District shall maintain a common domain name and e-mail address for publishing the New ALTO.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** Renumbered to 7.08

10.

**CURRENT:** N/A

**PROPOSED:** 7.09 All materials pertaining to the New ALTO shall be turned over to the new Vice President of Programs from Kappa Kappa Psi, the Vice President of Special Projects from Tau Beta Sigma, and the New ALTO team, once selected.

**CHANGES/RATIONALE:** This is a proposed addition because it is the only piece of legislation that was included in Kappa Kappa Psi's District Constitution, but not in Tau Beta Sigma's District Constitution. This ensures that there is communication and distribution of materials from year to year when transitioning between New ALTO teams.



**Proposed Budget (2016 – 2017)**

<b>District Officer Travel Expenses</b>	
President	\$500.00
Vice President of Membership	\$500.00
Vice President of Special Projects	\$500.00
Secretary-Treasurer	\$500.00
<b>Convention Expenses</b>	
Convention Assistance and Delegate Registration	\$1,000.00
Honorary Membership Fee	\$250.00
District Awards	\$200.00
Chapter Leadership Conference	\$150.00
Scholarship of Excellence	\$250.00
<b>Workshop Expenses</b>	\$150.00
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>

## Report of the Joint Action Committee

### Committee Chair Names and Chapters:

- David Rudolph - Delta, Kappa Kappa Psi
- Maddie Hoefke - Delta, Tau Beta Sigma

### Committee Member(s) Name(s) and Chapter(s):

- Juancarlos Zavala – Epsilon Delta, Kappa Kappa Psi
- Zachary Eby – Delta Sigma, Kappa Kappa Psi (proxy for Nu Delta, Kappa Kappa Psi)
- Alex Evans – Delta Delta, Kappa Kappa Psi
- Molly Todd – Alpha Upsilon, Tau Beta Sigma (proxy for Beta Gamma, Tau Beta Sigma)
- Dakota Crespo – Gamma Zeta, Kappa Kappa Psi
- LaShanna Martin – Alpha Upsilon, Tau Beta Sigma
- Kelton Ashcraft – Lambda Pi, Kappa Kappa Psi
- Stephen Lusk – Alpha Omicron, Tau Beta Sigma
- Ricky Rodriguez – Zeta Kappa, Kappa Kappa Psi (proxy for Epsilon Zeta)

### Advisor(s) Name(s):

- Danny George - Delta Sigma, Kappa Kappa Psi
- Katie Rixon - Theta Theta, Tau Beta Sigma

### The 2016 Joint Action Committee was charged with the following:

- Read the 2015 Joint Action Committee Report
- Reevaluate the number of participants on the New ALTO Committee and the application/selection process
- Reevaluate the need for a Webmaster position and if deemed necessary, establish the application and selection process for the position and define term limits
- Revisit the following motion regarding the wording of the amendment for Joint Action Committee:  
*“The Joint Action Committee General Service Grant can be used to cover the travel costs at the discretion of the district Tau Beta Sigma Counselor and the Kappa Kappa Psi Governors.”*  
 The amendment will not be approved by the governors and counselor until the language is specific. In other words, travel costs must be properly specified (who is it going to).
- Consider establishing a budget line to cover area workshop costs such as sports equipment for game time and breakfast for workshop attendees.

### Discussions during meetings/Relevant information:

Prior to the start of the convention, we received the charges from the 2015 JAC, and immediately went to work on developing a game plan for District Convention. Approximately a week and a half ago, the two of us met for the first time, reviewed the charges together, and sent a detailed email to the district presidents, advisors, counselors, and governors. After

valuable dialogue, we had a better understanding of what we were up against, and were determined to tackle each charge in order to make a significant impact on the Southwest District. The following information is the discussions had regarding each charge with the Joint Action Committee at District Convention.

Reevaluate the number of participants on the New ALTO Committee and the application/selection process.

The first thing we noticed with the New ALTO selection process was that the current method was inconsistent with both district constitutions of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. From there, we knew it would be necessary to redefine much of the legislation, as well as develop a new and efficient process for selecting the New ALTO team.

After discussing with governors, counselors, district officers, and a current, two year member of the New ALTO team, we thought it best to redefine the position of the New ALTO Webmaster. In the past, the New ALTO Webmaster was in charge of a separate New ALTO website that has since been replaced by a designated tab on the current SWD website. Because of the lack of website, it became evident that the Webmaster position responsibilities were obsolete. This caused us to create a new position entitled New ALTO Public Relations Officer. Not only would the Public Relations Officer fill the void of the previous New ALTO Webmaster position, it would allow someone to be in charge of the advertising of the New ALTO, something that our committee discussed and thought needed the most improvement.

A proposal was made to both the Kappa Kappa Psi and the Tau Beta Sigma Jurisdiction and Jurisdiction/Finance Committees, respectively, to accept an addendum to both constitutions that would delineate this change. Changes were also proposed to edit the constitutions to better reflect current roles and affiliations of other members of the New ALTO team.

Reevaluate the need for a Webmaster position and if deemed necessary, establish the application and selection process for the position and define term limits.

The SWD Webmaster position was created two years ago, and was appointed to a two year term that ended this spring. Therefore, we were tasked with the evaluation of the necessity of the position. If deemed necessary, further conditions were to be specified.

The committee decided there was a need for a SWD Webmaster position, as it is helpful to the members of the council to designate one person with the task of overseeing the cohesive qualities of the SWD website, as well as take some of the intense workload from the SWD Council members. Therefore, our committee voted to have an application process sent out after District Convention to select the Webmaster for the 2016-2017 year. In order to prevent restrictions on the application process, we worded the potential amendment in a way that gives flexibility to the SWD Councils. Unfortunately, this amendment did not pass through the Kappa Kappa Psi Jurisdiction Committee.

Because this change was not adopted by the Jurisdiction committees, we feel it is imperative that next year's JAC make this a priority of their discussions, involving the need and qualifications of a SWD Webmaster.

Revisit the following motion regarding the wording of the amendment for Joint Action Committee:

*"The Joint Action Committee General Service Grant can be used to cover the travel costs at the discretion of the district Tau Beta Sigma Counselor and the Kappa Kappa Psi Governors."*

The amendment will not be approved by the governors and counselor until the language is specific. In other words, travel costs must be properly specified (who is it going to).

The above wording was presented at the 2015 SWD Convention, and was denied for lack of specificity regarding travel costs. After discussion with the governors and counselors, we found out the intention behind this amendment was to open the possibility of incorporating travel costs into an overall proposal for the GSG. However, travel was not to be the sole factor or element in the proposals submitted by chapters desiring the grant. We therefore edited the wording to better delineate the original intention.

Consider establishing a budget line to cover area workshop costs such as sports equipment for game time and breakfast for workshop attendees.

This year, the SWD Councils thought it helpful to the success of workshops to provide equipment for workshops and icebreaker activities, as well as breakfast for all attendees. This was not in last year's budget. As a result, we attempted to include this in the budget for the following year. In order to accomplish this, we contacted the WAM and Jurisdiction/Finance committees of both Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, respectively, and proposed that we include \$150 from each organization (\$300 total) for these expenses. This will allow for \$50 to be spent on each workshop in the spring, to be used at the discretion of the SWD Councils.

#### JAC Fund Proposals

While not specifically charged with this task, it was requested by the governors and counselors that we review all submitted applications for the 2015-2016 JAC General Service Grant. The only submission was made by the Beta Sigma and Tau chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, respectively, from the University of Houston. We invited members of Beta Sigma to one of our sessions to interview them and gain a better understanding of their application. After, we submitted a recommendation for the governors and counselors to review.

Ultimately, we determined this fund is largely underutilized and inefficient in its current state. For the past several years, very few applications have been submitted for this grant, leaving much of the money untouched. After discussing possible reasons, it became evident that there is much confusion regarding eligibility for these funds amongst the chapters of the Southwest District. Some members were told the grant must be a form of reimbursement on a completed

project, yet the constitutions explain a process by which chapters may apply for this money prior to the start of a project. We feel it is absolutely necessary that the governors and counselors specifically define the use of this grant, and to consider rewording the legislative terms surrounding the implications of the word “grant,” as the term “grant” implies the use of these funds for future projects.

Charges for the 2016-2017 SWD Councils are as follows:

- Consider placing one or more governor(s) and/or counselor(s) in charge of overseeing the New ALTO, in order to ensure deadlines and responsibilities are consistently met.
- Review our recommendation for the dispersal of the General Service Grant.
- Solidify, clarify, and define the purposes and process by which the General Service Grant is applied.

Charges for the 2017 Joint Action Committee are as follows:

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

Thank you’s:

Thank you to the governors, counselors, and district officers, particularly Graham Delafield and Sami Belford for their continuous input throughout the committee process. Thank you to Brielle Johnson for sharing your knowledge and experience regarding the current New ALTO structure. Thank you to our wonderful advisors who supported us and helped guide our discussions this weekend. Lastly, thank you to our committee members who led outstanding discussions, and have the utmost passion for Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, and the success of the Southwest District.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Rudolph  
Delta, Kappa Kappa Psi  
2016 JAC Co-Chair

Maddie Hoefke  
Delta, Tau Beta Sigma  
2016 JAC Co-Chair

## Report of the 2016 Convention Site Committee

Committee Chair Name and Chapter:

- Julianne Clements, Psi
- Sam Kaiser, Zeta Kappa

Committee Member(s) Name(s) and Chapter(s):

TBS Members

- Betty Withers, Gamma Phi
- Jesus Villanueva, Epsilon Eta
- Felix Valdez, Gamma Nu
- Erin Shier, Tau
- Emilie Blezinger, Delta Phi

KKY Members

- Blake Loy, Gamma Theta
- Courtney Gilder, Gamma Alpha
- Adrian Villalobos, Delta Sigma
- Spencer Hill, Delta
- Cory Obi, Theta Phi
- Gavin Stewart, Zeta Beta

Advisor(s) Name(s):

- Toni Castle, Governor
- Kathy Webster, Counselor

The 2016 Convention Site Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the report of the 2015 Convention Site Committee
- Collect information packets from all schools bidding to host the next district convention by the deadline.
- Ensure that bidding chapters present the same information to the Convention Site Committee and the Joint Delegation, with the same presenters
- 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
- 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.
- Review the Prezi and make any necessary changes

Committee Report:

The Convention Site Committee met during each scheduled committee block to discuss and complete the charges outlined for us. Below We met as a committee and reviewed the Charges from the past District Convention.

The report of the 2015 District Convention was reviewed as a committee.

The committee also reviewed the Prezi on hosting a District Convention. Suggestions for this presentation included:

- Explaining what backup plan meant
- Including this years district convention on previous conventions
- Putting in links so that people know what should be in a packet

All bids were collected at the designated time; One bid was received to host the 2017 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 Alpha Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Alpha Omicron Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma at 2pm on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> to view their presentation and discuss their bid to host the 2017 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 on more details about the facilities, back up locations, budget expenses, and other such details were asked in this question and answer session.

After the committee met with the potential host chapters, we discussed as a committee and voted on a slate to present to the District during the closing Joint Sunday at noon on Sunday April 17.

Slate for 2017 Southwest District Convention:

The Convention site committee would like to slate, with conditions, the Alpha Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Alpha Omicron Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma to host the 2017 Southwest District Convention provided that they receive a letter of support from Oklahoma State University and solidify and secure room locations and costs for convention, especially banquet and music hour. The deadline to provide this information to the advisors will be three weeks from today, by May 8<sup>th</sup>. If these provisions are not met by that deadline, the floor will be open again for bids.

To wrap up the meetings of the 2016 Southwest District Convention Site Committee, charges were discussed and agreed upon for the 2017 Southwest District Convention Site Committee.

The 2017 Southwest District Convention Site Committee is charged with the following:

- Review the report of the 2016 Convention Site Committee
- Collect information packets from all schools bidding to host the next district convention by the deadline.
- Ensure that bidding chapters present the same information to the Convention Site Committee and the Joint Delegation, with the same presenters
- 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
- 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.
- Review the Prezi and make any necessary changes
- We Charge district council to encourage more chapters to bid to host throughout district events and workshops

Thank you’s,

We were beyond honored and excited to co-chair this committee and would like to formally thank all members of this committee for being so engaged and focused during our committee meetings and for being so willing to give up so much of their time at District Convention to help determine the future of this convention. Thank you to our wonderful advisors, Kathy and Toni, for guiding our efforts in this committee. And thank you to the Southwest District Council for all of their hard work and efforts in putting on this years’ convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julianne Clements – Psi Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma

Sam Kaiser – Zeta Kappa of Kappa Kappa Psi