

# The Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma



2023 District Convention Minutes



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# **TBS Business Sessions**

## **Opening Separate Session**

*April 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 A.M.*

1. Call to Order
  - a. The Opening Separate Session is called to order at 8:10 A.M.
2. Introductions
  - a. Southwest District Council Officers
    - i. President – Madison Calvert (Alpha)
    - i. Vice President for Special Projects – Jacob Stover (Beta Nu)
    - ii. Secretary/Treasurer – Johnn McCray (Alpha)
  - b. Counselors:
    - i. Katie Dukes (Theta Theta)
    - ii. Chelsea Rasing (Theta Mu)
    - iii. Linnetta Ratliff (Charter Member, Theta Upsilon)
  - c. National Council
    - i. National Vice President for Membership and Expansion – Siobhan Wilkes Bratcher (Beta Zeta)
    - ii. National Vice President for Communication and Recognition – Allison Leemann (Eta Gamma)
  - d. Board of Trustees
    - i. Rosalyn McDonald (Theta Phi)
  - e. TBSAA Executive Council
    - i. Executive Council Vice Chairperson – Dr. Thea Murphy (Theta Kappa)
  - f. Chapter Visitation Assistants
    - i. Natalia Harrison (Alpha Omicron)
  - g. Past Southwest District Council Members
    - i. Lisa Croston (Alpha)
    - ii. Kathy Webster (Epsilon Beta)
    - iii. Natalia Harrison (Alpha Omicron)
    - iv. Ciara Gibbs (Eta Pi)
    - v. Tyler Hern (Beta Nu)
3. Overview of Convention Schedule
4. Seating of Delegates
  - a. See chart on next page.



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Chapter	Roll Call (First Round)	Proxy Request (Second Round)	Rotation Seating (Third Round)
Alpha	Present		
Beta	Present		
Delta	Present		
Iota	Present		
Xi	Present		
Tau			Iota
Psi		Gamma Xi	
Alpha Omicron	Present		
Alpha Upsilon	Present		
Beta Gamma		Delta	
Beta Delta			Xi
Beta Zeta	Present		
Beta Nu	Present		
Beta Omicron			Alpha Omicron
Gamma Nu	Present		
Gamma Xi	Present		
Gamma Omicron	Present		
Gamma Tau	Present		
Gamma Phi	Present		
Delta Alpha	Present		
Delta Eta			Alpha Upsilon
Delta Pi	Present		
Delta Sigma	Present		
Delta Tau	Present		
Delta Upsilon			Gamma Xi
Delta Phi		Alpha Omicron	
Epsilon Beta	Present		
Epsilon Psi	Present		
Zeta Mu	Present		
Zeta Phi	Present		
Eta Epsilon		Iota	
Eta Pi	Present		
Theta Theta			Gamma Omicron
Iota Tau			Gamma Phi

**For SWDCON23, the rotation proxy delegate seating will start with Iota.**

**For SWDCON24, the rotation proxy delegate seating will start with Delta Alpha.**



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5. Explanation of Voting
6. Practice Vote
7. Convention Standing Rules
  - a. Alpha Chapter so moves to accept the standing rules for the 2023 Southwest District Convention.
  - b. Gamma Omicron Chapter seconds.
  - c. Motion Passes
8. Reading of Last Convention’s Minutes
  - a. Delta Alpha Chapter so moves to approve of and dispense with the reading of the 2022 Southwest District Convention
  - b. Beta Nu Chapter Seconds
  - c. Motion Passes
9. Announcement of District Council Candidates
  - a. Johnn McCray – Alpha Chapter at Oklahoma State University
  - b. Faith Bloomfield – Alpha Omicron Chapter at Sam Houston State University
  - c. Mackenize Murphy – Beta Nu Chapter at Arkansas Tech University
10. Assigning of Committees

Nominations	Membership	Programs	Jurisdiction and Finance	Spirit and Sisterhood
Chair: Beta	Chair: Delta	Chair: Zeta Mu	Chair: Xi	Chair: Beta Nu
Delta Tau	Delta Phi	Alpha Omicron	Gamma Phi	Gamma Tau
Theta Theta	Alpha	Epsilon Beta	Gamma Omicron	Eta Pi
Alpha Upsilon	Gamma Nu	Zeta Phi	Beta Zeta	Gamma Xi
Epsilon Psi	Delta Alpha	Iota	Delta Sigma	Beta Delta
	Tau	Psi	Beta Gamma	Beta Omicron
	Delta Eta	Delta Pi	Delta Upsilon	Eta Epsilon
				Iota Tau

11. National Presentation
12. Questions from Delegates
13. Recess
  - a. We will now recess at 9:23 A.M. until our evening session.



## **Second Separate Session**

*April 15th at 5:15 P.M.*

1. Call to Order
  - a. The Second Separate Session is called to order at 5:24 P.M.
2. Roll Call
  - a. The Delta Alpha Delegate is not present.
  - b. The Eta Nu Delegate is not present.
  - c. All other seated delegates are present.
3. Communications Committee Report
  - a. Thank You Certificate presented to committee members by SWD Secretary/Treasurer
4. Final Report of the Southwest Secretary/Treasurer – Johnn McCray
5. Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest Award Presentation
  - a. Awarded to Mackenzie Murphy, Beta Nu Chapter – Arkansas Tech University
6. Final Report of the Southwest Vice President for Special Programs – Jacob Stover
7. Nominations Committee Report
  - a. Beta Omicron Chapter so moves to accept the Nominations Committee Report and Slate as submitted
  - b. Beta Gamma Chapter seconds
  - c. Motion Passes
8. Recess
  - a. We will now recess at 5:59 P.M. until the final separate session.



## **Final Separate Session**

### *April 16<sup>th</sup> at 8 A.M.*

1. Call to Order
  - a. The Final Separate Session is called to order at 8:04 A.M.
2. Roll Call
  - a. The Delta Alpha Delegate was tardy
  - b. The Delta Pi Delegate was Tardy
  - c. The Zeta Mu is not present
  - d. All seated delegates are present
3. Spirit and Sisterhood Committee Report
  - a. Gamma Tau presents the Golden Tau Award to Gamma Xi
  - b. Beta presents the Beta award to Delta Pi
  - c. XXX presents the Sigma award to Xi
4. Jurisdiction and Finance Committee Report
  - a. Delta Alpha so moves to accept the proposed constitutional changes as a block.
    - i. Beta Zeta seconds
    - ii. Motion Passes
  - b. Theta Theta so moves to accept the Jurisdiction and Finance Committee Report as submitted
    - i. Gamma Omicron Seconds
    - ii. Motion Passes
  - c. Beta Delta so moves to accept the 2023-2024 Budget as proposed and submitted
    - i. Alpha Upsilon Seconds
    - ii. Motion Passes
5. Janet West Miller Service to Music Education Award Presentation
  - a. Awarded to the Delta Chapter – University of Oklahoma
6. Programs Committee Report
  - a. Photo Challenge Award Presented to Zeta Mu
7. Credentials Committee Report
  - a. Chapter Distance Award Present to the Beta Chapter – Texas Tech University
    - i. 4361 miles traveled
    - ii. 7 Active Members in Attendance
8. Membership Committee Report
9. Southwest District Service to Music Education Scholarship Presentation
  - a. Awarded to Rebecca Kostroun, Iota Chapter – Baylor University
10. Final Report of the Southwest District President – Madison Calvert
11. Dollie McDonald O’Neill Chapter Perseverance Award Presentation
  - a. Presented to the Delta Tau Chapter – Angelo State University
12. Short Recess
  - a. We will now recess at 9:13 A.M. until 9:20 A.M.
13. Elections
  - a. President
    - i. Nominations
      1. Slated: Johnn McCray – Alpha



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- ii. Gamma Nu moves to accept Johnn McCray as SWD President by vote of acclimation
        - 1. Motion Passes
      - iii. Congratulations to Johnn McCray for being elected SWD President
    - b. Vice President for Membership
      - i. Nominations
        - 1. Slated: Faith Bloomfield
      - ii. Theta Theta moves to accept Faith Bloomfield as SWD Vice President for Membership by vote of acclimation
        - 1. Motion Passes
      - iii. Congratulations to Faith Bloomfield for being elected SWD Vice President for Membership
    - c. Vice President for Special Projects
      - i. Nominations
        - 1. No Slated Candidate
      - ii. This office was left vacant during elections and will be filled as stated in the Southwest District Constitution
    - d. Secretary/Treasurer
      - i. Nominations
        - 1. Slated: Mackenzie Murphy
      - ii. Delta Alpha moves to accept Mackenzie Murphy as SWD Secretary/Treasurer by vote of acclimation
        - 1. Motion Passes
      - iii. Congratulations to Mackenzie Murphy for being elected SWD Secretary/Treasurer
- 14. Presentation of the 2022-2023 Southwest District Scrapbook
- 15. Installation of the 2023-2024 Southwest District Council Officers
- 16. Adjournment:
  - a. Alpha so moves to adjourn
    - i. Seconded by Beta Nu
    - ii. Motion Passes
  - b. Adjourned at 9:46am





# Joint Business Sessions

## Opening Joint Session

*April 14th at 4:00 P.M.*

1. Call to Order
  - a. The 2023 Southwest District Convention called to order at 4:05 P.M.
2. Introductions
  - a. 2022 – 2023 Joint Southwest District Council
    - i. Kappa Kappa Psi
      1. President – Patrick Caraveo
      2. Vice President for Membership – Davis Vaughn
      3. Vice President for Programs – Edgar Canales
      4. Secretary/Treasurer – Mason Thomas
      5. Governors
        - a. Andy Melvin
        - b. Clinton Wieden
        - c. Lizzi Pineiro
    - ii. Tau Beta Sigma
      1. President – Madison Calvert
      2. Vice President for Special Projects – Jacob Stover
      3. Secretary/Treasurer – John McCray
      4. Counselors
        - a. Katie Dukes
        - b. Chelsea Rasing
        - c. Linnetta Ratliff
  - b. National Headquarters Staff
    - i. Lisa Croston - NHQ Event Coordinator
    - ii. Nicole Brooks - NHQ KKPsi Chapter Support Coordinator
    - iii. Kennedy Struck - KKPsi Chapter Field Representative
  - c. Kappa Kappa Psi National Council
    - i. Bang Co - National Vice President for Membership and Expansion
    - ii. Ed Savoy - National Vice President for Programs
  - d. Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Board
    - i. Greg Boike - Chair of the AABOD
    - ii. Donald Lee - AABOD Communications Director
  - e. Other National Leadership (KKY)
    - i. Derek Stoughton - Chair of the DOB / Sponsor Task Force
  - f. Tau Beta Sigma National Council
    - i. National VPSP: Leslie Gartin
    - ii. National VPCR: Allison Leemann
  - g. Tau Beta Sigma National Leadership
    - i. Board of Trustees: Rosalyn McDonald
  - h. Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Board of Directors
    - i. Executive Council Vice Chairperson - Dr. Thea Murphy



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- i. Southwest District Alumni Association
  - i. SWDAA Chair - Brianna Mitchell
  - ii. SWDAA Membership Director - Jennifer Villarreal
  - iii. SWDAA Programs Director - Natalia Harrison
  - iv. SWDAA Communications Director - Dionicio Cardenas
  - v. SWDAA Finance Director - Ciara Gibbs
  - vi. SWDAA KKPsi MAL - Kelton Ashcraft
  - vii. SWDAA TBSigma MAL - Chelsea Zuniga
- j. Past National Officers and Other Dignitaries
  - i. KKY – Brent Cannon
2. Message from the Counselors and Governors
  - a. Make smart choices
  - b. Wear your name tags
  - c. Come as you are for ritual; we want you there!
  - d. Be mindful of other site patrons
3. Recognition of Graduating Seniors
4. TBS Button Fundraiser Announcement
5. Joint Service Project
  - a. Our district service project for convention this year is to support the Acadiana High School Band. You can participate by purchasing one of our convention T-Shirts or by donating supplies.
6. Opening Announcements / Southwest District Convention Summary
  - a. Immediately following this Joint session will be our Dinner break from 6:00pm-7:30pm. After this we will move into our separate rituals and ritual workshops. Following this evening's events, we will start bright and early tomorrow with Separate Sessions at 8:00am. Please be sure to get here early so we may start promptly on time!
7. Recess/Announcements
  - a. For newly installed Brothers and Sisters, the Initiate Registration **MUST** be marked "Transaction Completed" on the OMRS or else you will not be able to attend the Ritual of your organization.
  - b. The Convention Name Tags have a QR Code that leads you to the schedule for the entire weekend, including room locations.
  - c. Keep in mind that we are guests in this town and are staying in an active hotel with other residents. Please try to avoid congesting walkways, blocking doors, and making excessive noise.
  - d. We wanted to give you guys an opportunity to meet some new Brothers and Sisters at this session. If you scan the QR code here you will find a set of Bingo questions. Your goal is to achieve a Bingo by meeting Brothers and Sisters that meet the prompts in each box. The only rules are that you cannot use anyone from your own chapter and you can't use the same person twice. Have fun!
8. Bingo Game
9. Short Recess from 4:33-4:37 P.M.
10. Keynote Speaker – Bang Co
11. Recess until next joint session at 5:53 P.M.



## **Closing Joint Session**

*April 14th at 12 P.M.*

1. Call to Order
  - a. Meeting called to order at 10:59 A.M.
2. Service Project Fundraiser Update
  - a. Goal is \$200, we are currently at \$194 at time of meeting.
3. SWDAA Officers Announcement
  - a. Chairperson – Natalia Harrison
  - b. Membership Director – Chelsea Zuniga
  - c. Programs Director – Ame Dunmore
  - d. Communications Director – Lea Sanchez
  - e. Finance Director – Ryan Smith
  - f. KKY Member at Large – Kiara Penn
  - g. TBS Member at Large – Ciara Gibbs
4. SWDAA Awards
  - a. Ritual Scholarship Awards
    - i. Tau Beta Sigma
      1. Delta Sigma Chapter – Univeristy of Louisina at Monroe
    - ii. Kappa Kappa Psi
      1. Lambda Chapter – University of Arkansas
  - b. Delegate Grants
    - i. TBS
      1. Shelby Dye, Iota – Baylor University
      2. Christina Hawkins, Delta Tau– Angelo State University
      3. Kamryn Knafelz, Alpha Upsilon – Lamar University
    - ii. KKY
      1. Christopher Ron, Zeta Phi
      2. Abigail Reager, Xi Beta
      3. Evalyn, Alpha Chi
5. KKY Council Announcement
  - a. President – Davis Vaughn
  - b. Vice President for Membership – Gabe Sanders
  - c. Vice President for Programs – Cyrus Jackson
  - d. Secretary/Treasurer – Araci Garcia
  - e. Member at Large – Edgar Canales
6. TBS Council Announcement
  - a. President – Johnn McCray
  - b. Vice President for Membership – Faith Bloomfield
  - c. Vice President for Special Projects – Vacant
  - d. Secretary/Treasurer – Mackenzie Murphy
7. Adjournment
  - a. The 2023 Southwest District Convention was adjourned at 11:12 A.M.



# District Council Reports

## President – Madison Calvert

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Southwest District,

I am honored to stand before you today, and I do not think I will ever be able to truly express how grateful I am for this opportunity to serve as your District President. Throughout this year I was truly able to grow as a leader, learn so much, and meet so many new sisters. This journey has given me many lessons and opportunities, and I am excited to share my adventure with you.

Since the beginning, this has truly been a year of change. Since the time of my election last April, I have gotten married and changed my last name as well as started my graduate school program. Our District also had the pleasure to welcome Linnetta to the team as one of our new Counselors.

Immediately following District Convention last year I began planning our summer council meeting and communicating with chapters. During this time the District switched our communication platform from Groupme chats to the SWD Slack channel. I tried to focus on finding which communication platforms were best to work with Presidents. I hosted several virtual Tau Talks, created a Check-in Google Form, and began copying the Presidents into the email threads directly as I began to establish new bonds and promote the end-of-the-year paperwork.

Later in July, I attended the National Leadership Conference that was hosted by the National Council to provide resources and planning guidance for the District Presidents. This was held near my home chapter in Stillwater, OK, where I got to meet and connect with Jennifer from the SED and Kaitlyn from the NCD. Following this event I was super excited to get to work and set the plans in motion for the upcoming school year.

Our next event for the district was the virtual chapter leadership conference to kick off the school year. Our joint councils hosted this event in August to ensure that our chapters had resources and information to start the year off strong. During the fall, I communicated resources for the Chapter Personnel Report and Fall Activity Report, focused on targeting effective communication to chapters, and started planning District Convention with my amazing counterpart, Patrick.

At the start of the spring semester, our joint councils made the journey from our homes to Lafayette for our Winter Council meetings. I got to spend some very productive time with the joint council. We were able to get so much done on top of getting to know each other a little better. During these meetings, we began to picture and finalize our plans for our convention this year.

Finishing up this convention planning included making and sending out information for all presenters, advisors, chairs, and district council members representing TBS. I created folders for all committees to utilize. There were many more behind-the-scenes parts to planning, so I will



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spare you some of the details. I hope that each and every one of you got something out of this convention and I strongly encourage you to keep participating and bring others along with you. Connections and opportunities await you, so explore the events of our district as well as the Sorority as a whole through all of the offerings such as workshops, district conventions, and national conventions.

I could not have accomplished any of these tasks without the help and support of some incredible people. I will list a few of the many individuals that have helped to support me on my journey:

To everyone who participated in this convention: chairs, advisors, and presenters, I hope that you all realize the value that you have added to our organizations and this district. This convention would simply be a social event if not for your willingness to share your knowledge and expertise with us. Thank you for taking the time to travel all the way to this corner of our District and for choosing to help. I hope that you all have had a great experience visiting Louisiana and celebrating Band by the Bayou with us.

To Tyler Hern, I wanted to thank you for your consistent help and support throughout our endeavors. I still remember when we first became friends long ago and being amazed by both your skills and your love for our organization. Thank you so much for everything you have done for me and I look forward to seeing your success in the future.

To my chapter sponsor Lisa, I am grateful that we were able to become friends through our mutual love of this organization. I am thankful for all of the guidance you have given me over the years and for supporting me no matter what.

To the Sisters of the Tau Beta Sigma National Council, thank you all for each of your efforts in supporting the District Councils and ensuring our success as leaders. I have loved getting to know and work with each of you and I greatly appreciate the support and encouragement that you have given to help us along this path.

To Jacob, thank you for the love that you have for service and your district. I greatly enjoyed sharing this experience with you and I am so happy that we got this chance to serve on the SWD Council together. I know you will continue to grow and I am excited to see your success!

To Johnn, I have seen your capacity to accomplish great things ever since you were a Membership Candidate. You always approach your tasks with a great attitude and a smile. You put your best foot forward in every situation and always looked for new ways to help our Chapter and District. I know that you are going to do amazing things in the future and I cannot wait to support you throughout them.

To our wonderful Counselors: Thank you all so much for always being there when we had questions and helping us to learn and grow in our roles. I appreciate you all helping and encouraging each of us. I look up to each of you, and I am so glad that we got to work with you all this year.



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To my counterpart, Patrick, thank you for being an excellent partner to work with. I could not have asked for a better Brother and friend to work alongside.

To Alpha, thank you all for each of the things that you have taught me. I would not be the person that I am today without the connections and experiences that I have gained in my home chapter.

To the district, thank you for trusting me with this position this year. It has truly been an honor to serve and I am grateful for everything I have been able to contribute to our beloved sorority throughout my time as an active member. Remember to connect with and support your fellow brothers and sisters. I look forward to the future of the Southwest District and I am sure that the best will continue to come from the Southwest. I can't wait to see everyone at Nationals this July!

Much Love in the Bond.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Madison Calvert  
Southwest District President 2022-2023



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## **Vice President of Membership – Vacant**

The office of SWD VPM was vacated at the start of the Spring 2023 semester.



## Vice President of Special Projects – Jacob Stover

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Spicy Southwest District,

I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for allowing me to serve you this year as your Vice President for Special Projects. Serving the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma has been the greatest honor of my undergraduate career. Four years ago, as a MC of the Beta Nu chapter I would have never thought that I would be standing in front of you all today. I am very fortunate to have been elected to this office and I will always cherish the memories of this year.

This year started off strong after the 2022 SWD Convention. I began with the transition of my predecessor, John Mark Junkins. John quickly helped me navigate the roles and responsibilities that come along with being VPSP for the Southwest District. As the 2022-2023 academic year ended I helped in finishing the Focus on Five Campaign for the year. The Southwest District had a total of 12 chapters complete the Focus on Five Campaign for the 2022-2023 academic year.

During the summer, I worked with our National VPSP, Leslie Gartin, to create the Southwest District Center Lyre Piece. In creating the lyre piece, I wanted to represent different district initiatives that were lost during the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's center lyre piece consisted of chapters submitting an article to the district publication (The New ALTO), participating in at least three months of the photo challenge, or participating in the SWD pen pal program. The goal of these activities were to encourage sisterhood and communication throughout the entire Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma. During this academic year five chapters have completed the center lyre piece with several others working to finish the requirements.

In addition to creating the center lyre piece, I worked with our National VPSP, Leslie Gartin to announce the 2022-2023 Focus on Five campaign. I worked alongside each of the district VPSPs from all across the country to launch this year's theme which was "Back to Basics". This year also marks a National Convention year which means we have a left and right piece to the lyre. The left piece (hosting/promoting the National Intercollegiate Band Auditions), and the right being (seating a delegate from home chapters at National Convention).

During the start of the fall semester, I quickly began working to push out different announcements regarding the submission to the Red Stripe. This involved adding our new Fo5 Liaisons to the slack channel, helping the submit both constitution and budget to the district counselors, as well as completing the Tau Beta Sigma Risk Management video/kahoot workshop. I created a document of links to help chapter liaisons complete the red stripes which included links to the risk management video, links to the submission form for their chapter documents, and the new "Take a Stand" cards created by our NVPCR, Allison Leemann.. I am proud to say that 27 chapters in the Southwest District completed the Red Stripe.

Throughout the fall semester I began to work with my counterpart in forming the application process for the SWD New ALTO staff. We worked together to help promote submissions to the publication through various social media platforms within the district. During the winter council, we worked to establish the foundation for the SWD service project. This year funds have been





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raised through a t-shirt campaign to support the Acadiana High School Band Program. These funds will assist students in getting reeds, swabs, music, and other items needed in the program.

Throughout the spring semester of my term, I continued to encourage the chapters within the Southwest District to participate in the Focus on Five campaign. I am very proud to announce that 18 chapters have completed at least 2 or more stripes so far this year. There is great progress that is being made and will continue through the remainder of the 2022-2023 Campaign. I am very proud of this district and the work that is being done at your respective universities. You should take great pride in the work that your chapters are doing.

I would now like to say thank you to the Southwest District, last year you entrusted me to serve as your Vice President for Special Projects. As I said previously, this has been the greatest honor of my collegiate career. I have had the time of my life getting to know some of you, work with you, and collaborate with you. Thank you for allowing me to serve you this year. This year is something that I will always cherish.

To the Southwest District Counselors, what can I say? Each of you have inspired me to be the best version of myself. You have given me so much of your time and resources and I will always be grateful for each of you. Linetta, you have shown me so much compassion throughout the entire year. Chelesa, you have taught me to be practical and look at the bigger picture in my decision making. Katie, you have been an endless support of me. Not only at the district level but for my home chapter. I consider you a role model in so many ways. I cannot say enough about how much you have helped me. It has been an honor to be on this council and serve under all three of you.

To my fellow council members, thank you for taking me under your wing. From the moment I was elected last year to this very moment, you have supported me in all of my endeavors. John and Madison, I look up to both of you. You are great role models and amazing human beings. I am proud to call you my friends, my fellow officers, and most importantly my sisters in the bond. This year has been a rollercoaster of emotions but I would not change it for the world. Madison, it's been a privilege to serve on your council.

Leslie, you are quite literally the most amazing person I have ever met. The passion you have for Tau Beta Sigma is unmatched. You have pushed me to think outside the box, create new ideas, and cultivate a space of creativity that I didn't realize I had. You have constantly pushed me to be better. You have continued to support me and assist me in all of my endeavors as an undergraduate student in Tau Beta Sigma and I cannot thank you enough. I am so lucky to know you and to have served alongside you during this term. Thank you for believing in me and thank you for your contributions to Tau Beta Sigma. You make the world a better place.

Finally, to the Beta Nu Chapter. Words can not express what it means to have served you both as a chapter VPSP, President, and District VPSP. You have instilled your faith in me the last three years and I will be forever grateful for my time in our chapter. It is bittersweet to say goodbye but I know that this journey is far from over. To my former chapter President Tyler Hern, you have watched me grow not only in chapter but at the district level. You have been a role model for me since I joined Tau Beta Sigma. You are one of my best friends and I will always be



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grateful for you. To my little Mackenzie, thank you for always being a constant support in my life. You are a hard worker, a kind soul, and a perfect example of what a Tau Beta Sigma member should be. Never lose your passion and willingness to help others. You have and will continue to do great things both in Tau Beta Sigma and in life itself. To my big Sami, you took a chance on me. I was a scared freshman. Without you I am not sure I would be standing here today addressing the Southwest District. I love you and I owe my passion and love for this organization to you. You taught me right.

Like I said at the beginning, I will always hold this year close to my heart. I have so much love and admiration for my fellow sisters, Beta Nu, the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma, and our national organization as a whole. I will leave you with the best parting words imaginable, my favorite essential factor of Tau Beta Sigma. I hope this will guide you in your journey within our organization. “Fortitude and courage to see an ideal, to seize upon it, and follow it wherever it may lead you in Tau Beta Sigma.”

Thank you Southwest District, MLITB!

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Jacob Stover

2022-2023 Southwest District Vice President for Special Projects

2022-2023 Beta Nu President

Beta Nu Member #542

Life Member #3998



## **Secretary/Treasurer – Johnn McCray**

### **Spicy Southwest,**

It was a great pleasure to have been given the opportunity to serve as your Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer for the 2022-2023 term. Through this opportunity, I was able to meet people from across the district, learn valuable skills that will benefit my career as a music educator, develop my love for the organization, and develop not only as a sister, but also as a person. I learned many things about myself through this experience and I am forever grateful for the opportunity.

### **Slack**

During my current term, all major communication was centralized via slack. The old group mes are now officially out of service and we are fully on slack. All presidents of the southwest are on the slack, but the rest of their executive teams have not yet fully made the switch. Roughly two thirds of all officers are currently on slack. The next sec/treas should re-examine this communication and update different channels as necessary.

### **Website**

The joint southwest district website and I have a love-hate relationship. I love that we have a website, but I hate everything about our website. It is difficult to manage and update, and after two years I am still trying to figure out how to best use the software. I have made several cosmetic updates over the year as well as organization and updating different resources. The next sec/treas should take time to learn to use the website to be as efficient as possible.

### **Social Media**

The two social media channels currently utilized include our Facebook and Instagram pages. I have tried to make our marketing and posting more thematic and consistent. As a music major, this was difficult to upkeep as I am not the best with my own social media pages. I created a social media plan that I tried my best to keep up with. While at times this worked, there still ended up being times where I would miss an upload or multiple things would need to be posted on the same day. The next sec/treas should look at making a swd theme as well as a marketing plan.

### **Budget/Constitution/Minutes**

After the last convention, I made all necessary updates to the budget, minutes, and constitution. In preparation for this convention, I have tried to keep all formatting on these documents similar. This should prove to be beneficial when transitioning officers every year.

### **Marketplace**

Marketplace was a joint effort by me and my KKY counterpart. After January winter council, we made a plan and did our best to stick with it. We were able to support chapters in their efforts to fundraise and support their local band programs.

Communications Committee



## Tau Beta Sigma – 2023 Southwest District Convention Minutes

This brand-new committee is something I could see being very beneficial. After this first year, I hope the counselors and next sec/treas learn how to better utilize this committee to improve the communications and online presence of our district.

### **Button Trade Off**

I hope this is the biggest mark I make on the southwest. This initiative I started last year because I selfishly wanted some TBS merch and I love buttons. Now with NATCON23 implementing the initiative, I hope the southwest continues the practice long after I am gone.

As I conclude my term and reflect on everything I have learned and achieved, I can only be thankful for the opportunity. While I wish some things would have been a little different, I know that I am not only a district officer, but also a chapter member, student, musician, friend, family member, and sister to others in the bond. I gave the position my all, and I hope the district found my service in its favor.

With this in mind, I will charge the 2022-2023 Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer with the following:

- Complete the District Constitution edits before leaving school for the summer, do not put it off until the deadline.
- Develop a Social Media plan and formula for posting before the start of the fall semester
- Continue updating the website and focus on materials/content of the website.
- Evaluate effectiveness of district communication and (potentially) use the slack framework to transition the district communications to that platform.
- Enjoy your time in office, help as many people as you can, ask questions and for help, and do not be hard on yourself.

My time in office was not without the help and support of many amazing people. While I may name a few, this list is not exclusive.

- To the 2022-2023 SWD Council, thank you for always being kind and loving, while answering my questions and supporting me in all of my endeavors and projects I took on.
- To the SWD Counselors, thank you for having my back and keeping me on track, while also teaching me the ropes of in-person chapter life.
- To the 2022-23 SWD Communications Committee for their efforts in advancing our organization
- To Mason Thomas, my KKY Counterpart, thank you for your efforts and collaboration. You have been a wonderful partner this term.
- To my Chapter Sponsor, Lisa Croston, for always pushing me be it at the chapter or district level and pushing me the officer I could be.
- To my fellow council member and chapter member, Madison Aquino, for always being there for me after our chapter meetings as we waited for the district calls to start. You always supported me and challenged me to be the best sister I could be for our chapter and the district.
- To my chapter, Alpha, I would not be where I am without you. Thank you for taking a chance on me, trusting me to serve locally, and supporting me in my role as district officer.



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- Finally to the Spicy Southwest, thank you for trusting me to serve you. I hope you are proud of the results of my efforts this school year.

Thank you for the amazing opportunity. My two terms as Secretary/Treasurer is something I will remember as a highlight of my Tau Beta Sigma career. I will use the skills I have learned in my future career and endeavors. Much Love in the Bond, MOTS, and Go Pokes!

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Johnn McCray

Tau Beta Sigma

2021-2023 SWD Secretary Treasurer

Alpha Chapter Member #1059

Life Member #3996



## **Counselors – Katie Dukes, Chelsea Rasing, Linnetta Ratliff**

### **Sisters and Brothers of the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma,**

What an exciting and busy year it has been for your Southwest District Counselors! We hit the ground running after the 2022 SWD Convention in Springdale, Arkansas with Linnetta as our new Counselor and a new group of Council kids who were full of fresh ideas. We got to work helping our chapters finish the year strong with the Chapter Summary Report and any pending New Initiate Paperwork. We had 89% of the SWD Chapters submit the Chapter Summary Report on-time last year, so we know we can reach our goal of 100% this year! Netta had the pleasure of making her first road trip just down the road from her at Gamma Nu shortly after the Convention.

The Summer months brought the Mixtape and National Leadership Conference. The Mixtape was a wonderful opportunity for our students and new leaders to connect with each other while thinking of ways to reimagine the 2022-2023 school year. In July, the SWD Counselors traveled to Stillwater, Oklahoma for the National Leadership Conference. We had a fantastic time recharging, setting goals, and collaborating with the other District Counselors and National Leadership Team members.

One of the biggest takeaways from NLC was the refinement of our Awards practices. Starting back in July, we looked at our SWD Awards, and what the Counselors could do to break the barriers in allowing all of our chapters to apply for awards and be recognized for the work that they are already doing. We decided to create Standard Operating Procedures for our awards, which included the selection of finalists for our two Top Chapter Awards. While this is still a work in progress, we are excited to see the reception of these changes. Congratulations to our finalists for the Patsy Drury Hejl Top Large Chapter Award: Gamma Nu, Gamma Xi, and Eta Pi and our finalists for the Dorothy Allen Nichols Top Small Chapter Award: Iota, Beta Nu, and Zeta Mu.

The fall semester seemed to be back to normal or should we say, BC (before Covid). During chapter visits either in person or virtually it was evident that our chapters were hard at work serving their marching bands and preparing to welcome new sisters and brothers into our sorority. The Counselors tried a new strategy to best serve all of our SWD Chapters in revising and editing the chapter Membership Education Plans, budgets, and constitutions. While there are definitely opportunities for growth, we were so impressed with the creative ways our chapters are returning to a fully in-person Active member experience. Many chapters are focusing on Post Initiate Membership Education and it is amazing to see the sisterhood bonds growing stronger across chapters and within the Southwest District. The final big push of the fall semester was assisting chapters in completing their Fall Activity Reports. We had 83% of the SWD Chapters submit the Fall Activity Report on-time. While this is not the 100% we aim for, we see areas where we can better support the SWD Chapters in completing their paperwork on time.

The Spring semester started off with a trip to Lafayette, Louisiana for our Winter Council Meeting and SWD Convention site visit. We had a fun time exploring the city of Lafayette and prayed to the Cajun gods that they would have mercy on Chelsea's Honda Civic. We quickly



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decided that Katie's Ford Explorer would be a better fit for driving around during Convention weekend! During our Winter Council Meetings we worked through logistics for SWD Convention and walked through the Cajundome Convention Center. We met the fabulous Sandy D. who became something of a legend during our convention planning season. Linnetta was a true MVP during this Convention season and we are forever grateful that she has joined the Counselor team! The rest of the spring semester has consisted of finalizing SWD Convention plans and supporting our SWD Chapters as they bring in new classes of sisters and transition through officer elections.

This year the SWD Counselors have made strides in refining processes and creating new ones. We meet with the SWD Governors monthly (and more often as we approach convention) to ensure joint efforts are smooth and both organizations are represented fairly. We have begun creating Standard Operating Procedure documents to outline how we conquer all of the tasks that come with running the Southwest District. We have redefined how our District Officers best support the chapters in the Southwest District by having targeted contact between the District Officers and the corresponding Chapter Officers. Most importantly, we have collaborated and developed a strong team dynamic that covers all areas of the Counselor role.

Our report wouldn't be complete without our thank yous:

**Katie** - Wow! What a year it has been. Thank you to the National Council for allowing me to serve as an SWD Counselor and for the continued support you provide. Thank you to Chelsea and Linnetta for putting up with my antics and indulging me when I have crazy ideas. You push me to be a better sister and Counselor, and it is a privilege to serve alongside you both. To Allison and Shalyn, thank you for your friendship and cat pictures. I'm so glad we got to know each other better in Grand Rapids! Finally, thank you to my daughters, Charlie and Claire for sharing me with my SWD family. I hope that one day you both get to experience the joy of Tau Beta Sigma firsthand. 💙

**Chelsea** - What a fantastic year it has been! Thank you to the National Council for giving me this most wonderful opportunity to serve as a SWD Counselor. Thanks to Katie and Linnetta for your constant support as I took on more responsibilities outside of the Sorority to pursue my dreams of furthering my education, and for being my Sisters that I can share everything with, whether it is a gif to make us laugh, support through the struggles, and always making sure we keep our focus on the most important aspect, our SWD Students. To Christina and Marissa, my best friends and sisters, while I don't get to see you as often, thank you for allowing me to always call when I need advice or just to listen while I rant about everything and nothing at the same time. I'm so grateful you're in my life. Last, to the Sisters and Brothers of the Southwest District, thank you for giving your time and energies to making our Sorority what it is. I'm so glad that you have chosen this organization as something that you hold valuable to your life. Without your work on your campuses, and in the organization itself, we wouldn't have been able to have accomplished the things we did at District Convention, or even throughout the year. I hope to see many Sisters and Brothers at NatCon in Orlando!

**Linnetta** - That's a wrap!! Thank you to Katie and Chelsea for welcoming me into the Counselor fold. I am most appreciative of the National Council for allowing me to serve the organization at



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this level. To my family we have had a lot in this last year, thank you to my husband for the airport runs, allowing me to add mileage to the truck on our many ventures, dealing with my spending or as you say “another package”, and overall support. To my children, thank you for riding with me to NLC and the many other things you do for me behind the scenes. To my first set of council students, thanks for the ride, I have seen you all grow and come into your own. Looking forward to your next ventures in the organization. Looking forward to Orlando, Fl this summer.

**MUCH Love in the Bond,  
Your Southwest District Counselors,**

Katie Dukes  
Theta Theta, Henderson State University  
Life Member #3205

Chelsea Rasing  
Theta Mu, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Life Member #3355

Linnetta Ratliff  
Theta Upsilon, Winston-Salem State University  
Life Member #2394





# Committee Reports

## Communications Committee Report

### Committee Members:

- Kaitlynn Wetchensky, Delta Chapter, Archive and History Officer
- Zoe Stovall, Xi Chapter, Social Media Analyst
- Precious Roundtree, Gamma Phi Chapter, Co-Chair & Outreach Officer
- Marley Clevenger, Delta Sigma Chapter, Website Improvement Analyst
- Rylee Creed, Gamma Omicron Chapter, Resource Development Officer

### Advisor:

- Johnn McCray, Alpha Chapter, SWD Secretary/Treasurer

### The Committee was charged with the following:

1. Use social media to reach the most people they can, getting more interaction.
2. Set a place where chapter historians can submit photos for the district for archives.
3. Clean up the district website and update the website homepage.
4. Make FO5 more accessible
5. Being intentional with publishing and communicating by gaining more participation from chapter members, not just officers.
6. Make slack more accessible.
7. Gather chapter officer information.

### Discussion:

1. Website Improvement Analyst
  - a. The officer began a design of a potential website redraw. They also looked at different pricing options if we were to make the website non-joint.
2. Social Media Analyst
  - a. In this position, we were able to put forward plans to engage our audience's throughout our social media specifically for our Southwest District chapters. Our monthly photo challenges gave all chapters the opportunity to be featured on social media, meanwhile involving themselves in our Facebook. By participating a chapter could also earn the center portion of the district lyre piece.
3. Archive and History Officer
  - a. The Southwest District Archive was created with a place for chapters to add pictures with them and another chapter in the Southwest District and to add chapter gifts that they have received from other chapter in the district. This is just a starting place and adding more folders in the future is encouraged. This folder can be used for social media purposes or for archival purposes.
4. Resource Development Officer
  - a. The officer analyzed resources and made a to-do list of what needed to be updated.
5. Outreach Officer
  - a. We were able to gather contact information from district chapters along with getting chapters preferred communication methods. We were also able to gather



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information and opinions on the overall communication and Southwest District. This information is planned to be used in order to get into contact with other chapters along with using the information from the feedback form to continuously improve the communication and content of the Southwest District.

### **Charges for the 2024 Committee and/or Committee Chair/Advisor and/or SWD Council**

1. Encourage chapters to add to the Southwest District Archive
2. Build better engagement within our social platforms through social media challenges.
3. Create a chapter contact database of all chapter level officers for the 2023-24 term. Update at regular intervals.
4. Continue to use feedback forms to get district feedback on communications.
5. Maintain social media photo challenges.
6. Check in and maintain district photo archive at regular intervals.
7. Update resource links and materials on district website.
8. Continue improving and modernizing the district website.
9. Prepare information and send it to chapter members in a timely manner.
10. Reexamine the effectiveness of slack and continue to update and improve the district slack server.
11. Find and use the district's "communication language." Examine what works and what needs improvement.
12. Utilize the use of a regular newsletter, such as the Southwest Scoop.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Johnn McCray, Alpha Chapter  
Precious Roundtree, Gamma Phi Chapter  
Chair and Co-Chair of the Communications Committee



## Credentials Committee Report

### Committee Chair:

- Madison Calvert, Alpha

### Advisor:

- Tyler Hern, Life Member - Beta Nu

### The 2022-2023 Credentials Committee was charged with the following:

- Calculate the Chapter Distance Award (number of members in attendance times the miles traveled)
- Have as many of the calculations done before convention begins and put them in a spreadsheet.
- Have the numbers of people in each chapter before the convention begins to ensure quick calculations.
- Find out which dignitaries will be attending convention and all positions they have held
- Complete report as early as possible during/before convention.
- Bring materials for the Distance Award to convention.

### Discussion:

- Creating a list of all Dignitaries who attended the convention for Tau Beta Sigma.
  - Tau Beta Sigma National Council
    - Siobhan Wilkes-Bratcher - TauBeta Sigma National Vice President for Membership and Expansion
    - Allison Leemann - Tau Beta Sigma National Vice President for Communication and Recognition
  - National Headquarters Staff
    - Lisa Croston - National Events Coordinator
    - Nicole Brooks - Kappa Kappa Psi Chapter Support Coordinator
    - Kennedy Struck - Kappa Kappa Psi Chapter Field Representative
  - Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association Executive Council
    - Dr. Thea Murphy - TBSAA EC Vice Chairperson
  - Tau Beta Sigma National Leadership
    - Natalia Harrison - Chapter Visitation Assistant
  - Southwest District Alumni Association Board of Directors
    - Brianna Tegler - Chair
    - Jennifer Villarreal - Membership Director
    - Natalia Harrison - Programs Director
    - Dino Cardenas - Communications Director
    - Ciara Gibbs - Finance Director
    - Kelton Ashcraft - KKPsi Member at Large
  - Past Southwest District Officers
    - Tyler Hern - President, Sec/Treas
    - Natalia Harrison - President, Sec/Treas
    - Ciara Gibbs - President, Sec/Treas
    - Kathy Webster - President, Treasurer



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- Lisa Croston - President, Treasurer
- Sami Kinnison - President, VPSP
- Ashlyn Simmons - VPM, Counselor
- Southwest District Council
  - Madison Calvert - SWD President
  - N/A - SWD VPM
  - Jacob Stover - SWD VPSP
  - Johnn McCray - SWD Secretary/Treasurer
  - Chelsea Rasing - SWD Counselor
  - Katie Rixon - SWD Counselor
  - Linetta Ratliff - SWD Counselor
- Chapter Distance Award:
  - This award is calculated based on how many members the chapter has come to District multiplied by the miles from their location to the District Convention.
  - Presentation of the Chapter Distance Award:
    - This year the Chapter that is receiving the Chapter Distance Award is one that is 4361 miles away. They may not be the farthest away chapter, but this chapter brought 7 active members. The winner of the Chapter Distance Award this year is the Beta Chapter.

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 District President/Credentials Committee:**

- Calculate the Chapter Distance Award (number of members in attendance times the miles traveled).
- Have as many of the calculations done before convention begins and put them in a spreadsheet.
- Have the numbers of people in each chapter before the convention begins to ensure quick calculations.
- Find out which dignitaries will be attending convention and all positions they have held
- Complete report as early as possible during/before convention.
- Bring materials for the Distance Award to convention.

### **Special Thanks**

Thank you to Tyler, the District Counselors and National Leadership for helping me as well as attending this event.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Madison Calvert  
Chair of the 2023 Credentials Committee



## Jurisdiction and Finance Committee Report

### Committee Chair:

- Carmella Love, Xi Chapter

### Committee Members:

- Gamma Phi
- Gamma Omicron
- Beta Zeta
- Delta Sigma
- Beta Gamma Proxy
- Delta Upsilon Proxy

### Advisors:

- Johnn McCray, Alpha, 2022-2023 SWD Secretary/Treasurer
- Rosalyn McDonald

### The 2023 Jurisdiction & Finance Committee was charged with the following:

1. Organize a fundraising effort for the TBS SWD to ensure a steady income.
2. Reevaluate the format of the budget in its entirety to balance income versus traditional expenses of the SWD.
3. Reallocate funds to reflect a NatCon year.
4. Evaluate the TBS/KKPsi SWD Constitution prior to District Convention.
5. Acknowledge service project funds within the TBS SWD Budget.
6. Determine feasibility of maintaining current scholarship amounts within the TBS SWD Budget.
7. Evaluate participation in the Scrapbook and Tabletop Display Awards to determine the necessity of retaining these Awards.

### Finances:

We suggested that the Secretary/Treasurer immediately start fundraising so that it can be as efficient as possible. Here are the fundraiser ideas we discussed:

- Buttons
  - SWDCON24
  - NATCON23
- Merch

We worked to balance the fundraisers in this way to provide a way to earn money.

We decided to keep District Officer Traveling Funds to \$500, however we changed the value as to which events get the most money. What we came up with is \$100 for NATCON and \$400 for all SWD events. This would allow for the officers to be able to afford traveling to SWD events without spending too much out of their own pockets.



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We lowered the cost of allowing 5 honoraires to the right amount for only 2 honoraires; this makes it more meaningful and memorable.

As a suggested fundraiser we charge the Southwest District Council with catering for finding a way to plan/organize a catered lunch. This would depend on location and policies in place and would be a paid lunch that helps out with people traveling to get food.

### **Proposed budget can be found below:**

- The budget can be found in Appendix A

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

- The amendments we propose can be found at this link: [Proposed Constitution Changes](#)
- The constitutional amendments also be found in Appendix B

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 Jurisdiction & Finance Committee:**

1. Review the report of the 2022-2023 Jurisdiction and Finance Committee
2. Reallocate funds to reflect a non NatCon year
3. Organize a fundraising effort for the TBS SWD to ensure a steady income.
4. Evaluate the format of the budget in its entirety to balance income versus traditional expenses of the SWD.
5. Evaluate the TBS/KKPsi SWD Constitution prior to District Convention.
6. Acknowledge service project funds within the TBS SWD Budget.
7. Determine feasibility of maintaining current scholarship amounts within the TBS SWD Budget.
8. Propose a plan for fundraising

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 District Council and Secretary/Treasurer:**

- Figure out how to create online merch sales as a fundraising idea
- Figure out how to sell physical merch and earn funding
- Find a way to sustain/remove/update the area workshops in terms of the constitution

### **Special Thanks**

Members of the committee for helping make understanding money and reading bylaws interesting and fun.

The Xi chapter for coming with me district

Johnn McCray for helping me through this process.

Rosalyn McDonald for her insightful input.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Carmella Love Xi Chapter  
Chair of the 2023 Jurisdiction & Finance Committee



**Jurisdiction and Finance Committee Report: Appendix A  
(Budget)**

<b>Income</b>	
<b>Estimated Starting Balance</b>	<b>\$3,298.72</b>
<b>Allocations from National Dues</b>	<b>\$1,650.00</b>
Fall 2023	\$1,350.00
Spring 2024	\$300.00
<b>Miscellaneous/Other</b>	<b>\$2,930.00</b>
SWD Fall Merch Fundraiser	\$735.00
SWD Spring Merch Fundraiser	\$735.00
SWDCON24 Button T.A. Fundraiser	\$605.00
NATCON23 Button T.A. Fundraiser	\$605.00
Service Project Fundraiser	\$250.00
Other Income	\$0.00
Donations	\$0.00
Other Donations	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,878.72</b>
<b>Budget Balance</b>	
Total Income	\$7,878.72
Total Expenses	\$4,580.00
<b>Final Balance</b>	<b>\$3,298.72</b>



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<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>District Officer Travel Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
President	\$500.00
Vice President of Membership	\$500.00
Vice President of Special Projects	\$500.00
Secretary/Treasurer	\$500.00
<b>District Convention Expenses</b>	<b>\$270.00</b>
Honorary Membership Fee	\$270.00
District Awards	\$0.00
<b>Scholarships</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
2024 Scholarship of Excellence	\$100.00
2024 Southwest District Service to Music Scholarship	\$0.00
<b>Assistanceships</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
2024 District Convention Assistance and Delegate Registration	\$500.00
2024 Workshop/District Travel Assistance	\$0.00
2023 National Convention Travel Assistance	\$500.00
<b>Miscellaneous/Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,210.00</b>
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Button Trade (SWD Council Buttons)	\$750.00
Fundraiser Supplies	\$210.00
Service Project Donation	\$250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,580.00</b>





## Jurisdiction and Finance Committee Report: Appendix B (Constitutional Amendments)

### Part 1-12 Titles

**Current:** Part 1-12

**Proposed:** Section 1-12

**Rationale:** Better reflects how the bylaws are referred

### 1.02

**Current Bylaw:** The name of this organization will be the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Band Sorority for College and University Band Members.

**Proposed:** The name of this organization will be the Southwest District of Tau Beta Sigma - National Honorary Band Sorority. **for College and University Band Members.**

**Rationale:** Better reflects the name of the organization

### 2.02/2.10/2.11/2.12

**Current Bylaw:** 2.02 Each District Officer shall be at least a sophomore student with a current minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and an active member of the Sorority in good standing at the time of election. Officers elected during their final year of college may serve out their current term of office, provided they are a Life Member. Each District Officer shall have more than ordinary business and professional ability and shall be capable of representing the Sorority and the District when called upon to do so. They should have the best interests of the Sorority at heart and should be willing and able to devote the necessary time to the execution of the duties imposed by their office and shall be actively participating in or serving bands during their term of office.

2.10 Each District Officer will submit documentation of their current cumulative GPA to the District Counselor(s) for review each semester during their term of office.

2.11 Each District Officer will submit an article or letter for publication in each issue of the New Alto.

2.12 District Officers will serve without compensation.

**Proposed:** Each District officer shall have the following qualities:

- Be at least a sophomore student
- Have a current minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
  - Documentation and/or proof of GPA will be sent semesterly to the counselors
- Be an active member of the Sorority in good standing at the time of election
  - Officers elected during their final year of college may serve out their current term of office, provided they are a Life Member.
- Be actively participating in or serving bands during their term of office
- Submit an article or letter for publication in each issue of the New Alto
- Serve without compensation
- Any other delegated task/responsibility by the district council and counselors
- Assist chapters and chapter officers in duties and other related tasks/responsibilities related to their district office

**Rationale:** More concise and combines current 2.10, 2.11, 2.12

### 2.03



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**Current Bylaw:** 2.03 Candidates for district office will be required to present the following:  
(See Section 3.08.)

1. A professional resume
2. A Tau Beta Sigma resume stating their history in the organization
3. A letter of intent
4. Letters of recommendation from:
  - a. The candidate's chapter
  - b. The chapter sponsor(s)
  - c. A professor of the candidate's major
6. A platform stating ideas and objectives for the intended office
7. Candidates for District Office will be required to provide proper documentation of their current cumulative GPA for review to the Nominations Committee. Documentation will be submitted as a separate document.

**Proposed:** Candidates for district office will be required to submit the following items for a candidate packet.

1. Professional resume
2. Tau Beta Sigma resume (stating their history in the organization)
3. Letter of Intent
4. Letters of recommendation from:
  - a. The candidate's chapter
  - b. The chapter sponsor(s)
  - c. A professor of the candidate's major
8. Candidate Platform (stating ideas and objectives for the intended office)
9. Current Cumulative GPA
  - a. Documentation will be submitted as a separate document to the counselors as designated by counselors and/or nominations committee

**Rationale:** more concise and clear

### 2.06

**Current Bylaw:** 2.06 The District President will preside at all meetings of the District. They will appoint and are an ex officio member of all committees, and will render all possible assistance to the District Counselor(s). In the absence of the District Counselor(s), they may be designated as the official representative of the District whenever such representation is required. They will be the Official Delegate of the District at the National Convention. They will oversee and act as an advisor for all District activities and carry on communication within the District. They will serve as committee advisor on Credentials during District Convention.

**Proposed:** The District President will fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Preside at all meetings of the District
- Appoint and are an ex officio member of all committees
- Will render all possible assistance to the District Counselor(s)
- In the absence of the District Counselor(s), they may be designated as the official representative of the District whenever such representation is required
- Be the Official Delegate of the District at the National Convention
- Oversee and act as an advisor for all District activities and carry on communication within the District
- Serve as committee chair on the Credentials Committee during District Convention



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- Assist chapters and chapter officers in duties and other related tasks/responsibilities related to their district office
- Any other delegated task/responsibility by the district council and counselors

**Rationale:** more concise and accurate

### 2.07

**Current Bylaw:** The District Vice President for Membership will, in the absence of the President, preside at all meetings of the District. They should assist the District President and District Counselor(s) in any way possible. They will have jurisdiction over all Area Workshops. They will advise on the committee on Membership during District Convention.

**Proposed:** The District Vice President for Membership will fulfill the following responsibilities:

- In the absence of the President, preside at all meetings of the District
- Assist the District President and District Counselor(s) in any way possible
- Have jurisdiction over all Area Workshops
- Advice on the committee on Membership during District Convention
- Assist Chapter Vice Presidents of Membership of the District with using Overture and completing their chapter Membership Education Plans
- Any other delegated task/responsibility by the district council and counselors

**Rationale:** more concise and accurate

### 2.08

**Current Bylaw:** 2.08 The District Vice President for Special Projects shall be responsible for designing and implementing special projects as determined by the District Council. They will maintain a scrapbook of documented activities of the District to be presented at the District Convention. They will be responsible for the publicity of all Area Workshops. They shall organize and execute at least one District service project by the close of convention weekend. They should assist the District President and the District Counselor(s) in any way possible. They will advise on the committee on Programs during District Convention.

**Proposed:** The District Vice President for Special Projects will fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Be responsible for designing and implementing special projects as determined by the District Council
- Maintain a scrapbook of documented activities of the District to be presented at the District Convention.
- Be responsible for the publicity of all Area Workshops
- Organize and execute at least one District service project by the close of convention weekend
- Assist chapters of the District in completing the components of Focus on Five
- Advise on the committee on Programs during District Convention
- Any other delegated task/responsibility by the district council and counselors

**Rationale:** more concise and accurate

### 2.09

**Current Bylaw:** 2.09 The District Secretary/Treasurer will record, publish, and distribute the minutes of the meetings of the District Convention. They will make revisions to the District Constitution to reflect amendments made at District Convention within sixty (60) days after the



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close of the convention. A copy of the minutes and revised District Constitution shall be sent electronically to the District Counselor(s), the newly elected District Officers, the National Headquarters, and the National Council by July 1st. A link shall be posted on the Southwest District website by September 1st. They will, with the approval of the District Counselor(s), control the disbursement of all monies of the District. They should assist the District President and District Counselor(s) in any way possible. They will advise the Committee on Jurisdiction and Finance during District Convention.

**Proposed:** The Secretary/Treasurer will fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Record, publish, and distribute the minutes of the meetings of the District Convention
- Make revisions to the District Constitution to reflect amendments made at District Convention within sixty (60) days after the close of the convention
- Revise and the District Constitution and send it electronically to the District Counselor(s), the newly elected District Officers, the National Headquarters, and the National Council by July 1st
- Post a link of the District Constitution on the Southwest District website by September 1st.
- Control the disbursement of all monies of the District, with the approval of the District Counselor(s)
- Assist the District President and District Counselor(s) in any way possible
- Advise the Committee on Jurisdiction and Finance during District Convention
- Assist the Secretaries and Treasurers of the District
- Any other delegated task/responsibility by the district council and counselors

**Rationale:** more concise and accurate to current practice

### 2.13

**Current Bylaw:** District Officers will not have a vote, except the President, who will vote only in the case of a tie. If the District Vice President for Membership, Vice President for Special Projects, or the Secretary/Treasurer is the only representative of their chapter, they may serve as their chapter's Official Delegate, and will have the rights and privileges thereof.

**Proposed:** District Officers will not have a vote **at district convention**, except the President, who will vote only in the case of a tie. If the District Vice President for Membership, Vice President for Special Projects, or the Secretary/Treasurer is the only representative of their chapter, they may serve as their chapter's Official Delegate, and will have the rights and privileges thereof.

**Rationale:** More specific to practice, council officers have a vote in council meetings

### 2.04

**Current Bylaw:** 2.04 The District President, Vice President for Membership, Vice President for Special Projects, and the Secretary/Treasurer will serve for one year.

**Proposed:** The District President, Vice President for Membership, Vice President for Special Projects, and the Secretary/Treasurer will serve for one term (convention to convention).

**Rationale:** matches national constitution

### 2.17

**Current Bylaw:** 2.17 The following procedure is required when filling a vacancy, other than District President



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1. Active chapters in the District will be notified of the vacancy, and whether or not the vacancy will need to be filled, within one week
2. Actives interested in applying for the vacant position will notify the District Counselor(s) within one week of the chapter notification. The applicant will submit a packet as specified in Section 2.03.
3. The District Council and the District Counselor(s) will review the qualifications and interview the candidates.
5. District Officers will independently notify the District Counselor(s) of their decision as to the best candidate for the vacant office.
6. A candidate will be selected to complete the term of the vacant office after receiving a 2/3 vote of the remaining District Council and approval of the District Counselor(s).
7. Once a candidate is selected the active chapters within the District will be notified of the replacement. The entire process should take approximately three weeks to replace a vacant position on the Council.

**Proposed:** 2.17 The following procedure is required when filling a vacancy, other than District President

1. Active chapters in the District will be notified of the vacancy, and whether or not the vacancy will need to be filled, within one week
2. Actives interested in applying for the vacant position will notify the District Counselor(s) by set deadline. The applicant will submit a packet as specified in Section 2.03.
3. The District Council and the District Counselor(s) will review the qualifications and interview the candidates.
4. District Officers will independently notify the District Counselor(s) of their decision as to the best candidate for the vacant office.
5. A candidate will be selected to complete the term of the vacant office after receiving a 2/3 vote of the remaining District Council and approval of the District Counselor(s).
6. Once a candidate is selected the active chapters within the District will be notified of the replacement. The entire process should take approximately thirty (30) days to replace a vacant position on the Council.

**Rationale:** to reflect national practices

### 5.03

**Current Bylaw:** A ninety (90) day written notice prior to the date of all District Conventions will be given to all National Officers, District Officers, and Chapters in the District by the National Executive Director and the District Secretary.

**Proposed:** A ninety (90) day written notice prior to the date of all District Conventions will be given to all National Officers, District Officers, and Chapters in the District by the National Executive Director and the District Secretary/Treasurer.

**Rationale:** Clarifying language

### 5.02

**Current Bylaw:** Special conventions of the District may be called on a favorable vote of seventy-five (75) percent of the chapters of the District in good standing or upon recommendation of all the District Officers.



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**Proposed:** Special conventions of the District may be called on a favorable vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the chapters of the District in good standing or upon recommendation of all the District Officers.

**Rationale:** Clarity and Continuity (from counselors)

### 7.01

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

**Proposed:** The District newsletter shall be called the New ALTO. It shall be published on the southwest district website by the Joint Southwest District Councils. A digital copy will be sent to National Headquarters, National Officers, and the Board of Trustees for both Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

**Rationale:** Current Practice is that we only operate through PDF versions being posted on our website.

### 7.07

**Current:** Each New ALTO should consist of at least ten (10) pages of written submissions and five (5) pages of miscellaneous submissions. Should the total number of pages not reach these totals, publication of a New ALTO may be deferred to be combined with the next scheduled issue with the approval of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s).

~~**Suggested:** Each New ALTO should consist of at least ten (10) pages of written submissions and five (5) pages of miscellaneous submissions. Should the total number of pages not reach these totals, publication of a New ALTO may be deferred to be combined with the next scheduled issue with the approval of the Kappa Kappa Psi Governor(s) and Tau Beta Sigma Counselor(s).~~

**Rationale:** This is more of a good practice measure, not something we need to be constitutionally bound to.

### 10.01

Current:

- 10.01 The following awards are presented at District Convention:
  - Chapter Distance Award
  - Christina M. Gordon Scholarship of Excellence
  - Southwest District Service to Music Scholarship
  - Daniel A. George Award for Fostering Joint Relations
  - Best Scrapbook
  - Best Freestanding Display (Joint w/Kappa Kappa Psi)
  - Best Tabletop Display (Joint w/Kappa Kappa Psi)
  - Best Overall Display (Joint w/Kappa Kappa Psi)
  - Janet West Miller Award for Outstanding Service to Music Education (Chapter)
  - Dollie McDonald O'Neil Chapter Perseverance Award
  - Dorothy Allen Nichols Award (Outstanding Smaller Chapter)
  - Patsy D. Hejl Award (Outstanding Larger Chapter)



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- Spirit of Sisterhood Award-Sigma Turtle (Smaller Chapter)
- Spirit of Sisterhood Award-Beta Turtle (Larger Chapter)
- Tau Turtle (Most spirited chapter)
- Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest Award

Suggested:

- 10.01 The following awards are may be presented at District Convention:
  - Chapter
    - Patsy D. Hejl Award (Outstanding Larger Chapter)
    - Dorothy Allen Nichols Award (Outstanding Smaller Chapter)
    - Dollie McDonald O'Neil Chapter Perseverance Award
    - Janet West Miller Award for Outstanding Service to Music Education
    - Spirit of Sisterhood Award-Beta Turtle (Larger Chapter)
    - Spirit of Sisterhood Award-Sigma Turtle (Smaller Chapter)
    - Tau Turtle (Most spirited chapter)
    - Chapter Distance Award
    - Outstanding Chapter Display
    - Outstanding Scrapbook
  - Individual
    - Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest Award
    - Christina M. Gordon Scholarship of Excellence
    - Southwest District Service to Music Scholarship
    - Daniel A. George Award for Fostering Joint Relations
  - ~~Joint with Kappa Kappa Psi~~
    - ~~Best Scrapbook~~
    - ~~Best Freestanding Display~~
    - ~~Best Tabletop Display~~
    - ~~Best Overall Display~~

**Rationale:** better organization and matching current practices, currently we are constitutionally obligated to present all of the awards. Kappa Kappa Psi has also removed joint awards, so they are no longer awarded.

### Part 11

Current: Part 11

Proposed: Removal

Rationale: Redundant

### 12.02.2

**Current:** All reports shall be typed, double spaced, on standard size paper(8-½” X 11”).

**Suggested:** All reports shall be typed and electronically submitted to the District Secretary/Treasurer. double spaced, on standard size paper (8 ½” X 11”).

**Rationale:** Matches current practices

### 12.02.06

**Current:** “No member shall speak more than twice during the same session to the same question and no longer than 3 minutes at one time without the permission of the delegation. The question of granting permission shall be decided by a two-thirds vote without debate.”



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**Suggested:** “No member shall speak more than twice on any given question or issue. A maximum of 3 minutes shall be granted to the speaker without further permission of delegation. The question of granting permission shall be decided by a two-thirds vote without debate.

**Rationale:** Run on sentence. Remove unnecessary wording. Added clarification.





## Membership Committee Report

### Committee Chair:

- Kaitlynn Wetchensky | Delta

### Committee Members:

- Mykaela Johnson | Alpha
- Alisha Hodge | Delta Alpha
- Garrett Sorem, Proxy from Alpha Omicron for | Delta Phi
- Ivan Suaste | Gamma Nu
- Ayvlis Flores, Proxy from Iota for | Tau
- Briana Ortiz, Proxy from Alpha Upsilon for | Delta Eta

### Advisors:

- Amelia Dunmore | Alumni | Alpha Omicron
- Chelsea Rasing | SWD Counselor | Theta Mu

### The 2022-2023 Membership Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the charges of the 2021-2022 Membership Committee
2. Review the charges of the 2022-2023 District Vice President of Membership
3. Review the charges of the 2022-2023 District Council
4. Review the charges of the National Vice President of Membership and Expansion
5. Review the progress of Overture and its implementation
6. Review the Overture Membership Candidate Workbook and consider alternative activities
7. Review the progression and knowledge of Songs and need for workshops at a Area and District level

### Discussion:

**The Committee reviewed and discussed the 2022-2023 Membership Committee report. Through discussion we evaluated the necessity and effectiveness of virtual workshops in comparison to in-person workshops. As a committee, we also reviewed the Progress of Overture and its implementation of the Candidate workbook and a majority of the activities.** As a committee we discussed the possibility of a blended format for area workshops, where an in-person workshop would be held at one location in each area with a virtual presenter. This would also allow Sisters who cannot travel to join via Zoom. We encourage the new District VPM to follow up with all chapter VPMs to ensure that they have access to all of the Overture resources provided by the National Curriculum Committee.

### Charges for the 2023-2024 Membership Committee

- Review the charges of the 2022-2023 Membership Committee
- Review the charges of the 2023-2024 District Vice President of Membership
- Review the charges of the 2023-2024 District Council
- Review the charges of the National Vice President of Membership and Expansion
- Review the progress of Overture and its implementation



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- Review the need for and effectiveness of Area Workshops

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 Vice President of Membership**

- Have one area workshop per semester in a blended format, with an in person option offered in each area
- Have one virtual area workshop per semester
- Have one virtual area workshop in each academic break (summer and winter break) dedicated to the Membership Education Plan
- Create a list of which chapters are in each area in the Southwest District
- Follow up with all chapter VPMs to ensure that they have all Overture resources provided by the National Curriculum Committee

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 District Council**

- Encourage chapters to have at least one member that consistently checks the chapter email provided from the National Organization (@tbsigma.org)
- Have the Secretary/Treasurer remove all Overture content from the Southwest District Website and have a link to the Overture website instead
- Continue the implementation of having Song Workshops during Area Workshops and District Convention

### **Charges for the National Vice President of Membership and Expansion**

- Ensure that all QR codes and links in the Overture Membership Candidate Workbook work
- Ensure that all necessary websites are listed in Overture VPM Manual

### **Special Thanks to our committee members:**

- Mykaela Johnson | Alpha
- Alisha Hodge | Delta Alpha
- Garrett Sorem, Proxy from Alpha Omicron for | Delta Phi
- Ivan Suaste | Gamma Nu
- Ayvli Flores, Proxy from Iota for | Tau
- Briana Ortiz, Proxy from Alpha Upsilon for | Delta Eta

### **Special Thanks to our advisors:**

- Amelia Dunmore | Alumni | Alpha Omicron
- Chelsea Rasing | SWD Counselor | Theta Mu

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Chair of the 2023 Membership Committee  
Kaitlynn Wetchensky | Delta Chapter



## Nominations Committee Report

### Committee Chair:

- Natalie Wilson, Beta

### Committee Members:

- Christina Hawkins - Delta Tau
- Myles McDuffie - Gamma Omicron, Proxy for Theta Theta
- Kamryn Knafelz - Alpha Upsilon
- Jewylz Daronco - Epsilon Psi

### Advisors:

- Siobhan Wilkes Bratcher, TBSigma NVPME
- Katie Dukes, SWD Counselor

### The 2023 Nominations Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the 2022 Nominations Committee Report.
2. Collect all materials from all candidates running for District Council.
3. Schedule interviews with each District Council Candidate.
4. Review the materials of each candidate.
5. Charge the District Counselors to formulate a plan to have pre-recorded candidate interviews, for posting on the Facebook page so they can be reviewed by all members of the district and chapters prior to District Convention.
6. Create individual questions personalized to each candidate's platform and use them to interview each qualified candidate.
7. Discuss who the committee feels is best qualified for each office. Submit a slate in your preliminary report.
8. We also charge the District Council with advertising the candidate packets prior to convention, to ensure that SWD chapters are able to review each candidate's qualifications.

### Charges for the 2024 Nominations Committee and/or Nominations Committee Chair and Advisor:

1. Review the 2023 Nominations Committee Report.
2. Collect all materials from all candidates running for District Council.
3. Schedule interviews with each District Council Candidate, and ensure that they are recorded and uploaded to the Facebook, SWD Website, and the Nominations Committee Folder.
4. Review the materials of each candidate.
5. Use or Create individual questions personalized to each candidate's platform and use them to interview each qualified candidate.
6. We also charge the District Council with advertising the candidate packets all across social media prior to convention, to ensure that SWD chapters are able to review each candidate's qualifications to interview each qualified candidate.



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7. Charge the Council with requiring a pre-recorded video for Floor Candidates, along with their other required materials, entailing an Introduction, two general questions, and two position specific questions.
8. Discuss who the committee feels is best qualified for each office. Submit a slate in your preliminary report.
9. We also charge the Council with ensuring that Candidate Interviews are conducted at least 7 days prior to the start of Convention.

### **Discussion:**

The Chairperson and Advisor met before convention to identify a day and time to interview the candidates who turned their packets in at the deadline. The Nominations Chairperson and Advisors were able to interview the candidates who submitted their reports prior to convention, and the full committee reviewed the packets for individuals who sought to run from the floor. Following our review, the committee found the below individuals eligible to run for offices for the Southwest District Council:

- Johnn McCray, Candidate for SWD President
- Faith Bloomfield, Candidate for SWD VP for Membership
- Mackenzie Murphy, Candidate for SWD Secretary/Treasurer

### **Special Thanks to...**

I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to the Nominations Committee for their organization, collaboration, and enthusiasm in participating in our discussions. It was exciting and refreshing to hear your viewpoints and I know you are all doing incredible things back at your home chapters; I hope to work with everyone again in the future! I would also like to thank Siobhan Wilkes and Katie Dukes for their support and guidance in navigating this position and preparing for the interviews and meetings. I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity!

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Natalie Wilson, Beta  
Chair of the 2023 Nominations Committee

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### **Slate for 2023-2024 Southwest District Officers:**

For SWD President:

- Johnn McCray

For SWD Vice President for Membership:

- Faith Bloomfield

For SWD Vice President for Special Projects

- No Slate

For SWD Secretary/Treasurer:

- Mackenzie Murphy

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## Programs Committee Report

### Committee Chair:

- Kelly Garrity, Alpha Omicron

### Committee Members:

- Chloe Caradonna , Epsilon Beta
- Frances Sevcik , Zeta Phi  
Shelby Dye, Iota
- Sydney Rush , Gamma Xi proxy for Psi
- Syriah Bohanna, Delta Pi

### Advisors:

- Allison Leemann, National VP for Communication & Recognition
- Jacob Stover, Beta Nu, Southwest District Vice President for Special Project

### The 2022-2023 Programs Committee was charged with the following:

1. Review the charges from 2022 SWD Programs Committee
2. Review the participation from the 2022 - 2023 photo challenge and determine a winner for the SWD photo challenge.
3. Review the Participation of the Pen Pal Program and determined the effectiveness of the program
4. Review and discuss Chapter Participation in the Tau Beta Sigma National Programs and the Focus on Five Campaign.

### Discussion:

- Charge 1: Review the charges from 2022 SWD Programs Committee: The 2023 Programs Committee reviewed the charges and report of the 2022 SWD Programs Committee.
- Charge 2: Review of the 2022-2023 Photo Challenge: As a committee we discussed the photo challenge within the SWD to determine the SWD Photo Challenge winner to be Zeta Mu for 2022-2023.
- Charge 3: Review the Pen Pal Program: The committee analyzed the effectiveness of the Pen Pal Program and how well the participation for the 2022-2023 year was. We felt that the Pen Pal Program should be terminated next year due to the lack of participation.
- Charge 4: Review Focus on Five Participation and National Programs for District: We reviewed the participation in the Tau Beta Sigma National Program and the Focus on Five Campaign.
- Charge 5: Evaluate the potential changes to the District Awards and Scholarships: We evaluated the awards and scholarships records and their effectiveness as well as potential changes to the awards and scholarships.

### Charges for the 2024 Programs Committee:

- Review the charges from the 2023 SWD Programs Committee.
- Review the participation from the 2023- 2024 photo challenge and determine a winner for the SWD photo challenge.



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- Review and discuss Chapter Participation in the Tau Beta Sigma National Programs and the Focus on Five Campaign.

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 Vice President of Special Project:**

- Have consistent communication with chapters to give recognition on the progress that they completed in the Focus on Five Campaign.
- Terminate the Southwest District Pen Pal Program due to no participation.
- Create monthly challenges for the 2023-2024 SWD Photo Challenge.
- Send monthly, or more regular, communication to chapters about status updates on participation in the Photo Challenge.

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 District Council:**

- During winter council, the council should analyze and discuss ongoing progress within district chapters and complete email outreach to each of the chapters, suggesting specific awards and scholarships pertaining to them.
- The council is to review the scholarships and awards for the 2023-2024 year.

### **Special Thanks**

I would like to thank the district council for letting me step into this opportunity to serve as the chair of the Programs Committee when the time arose. This is my first time at a district convention, as well as being the chair of a committee at the district level. I am appreciative of the incredible guidance from Jacob and Allison throughout this wonderful experience. They helped to make this process less stressful and offered valuable words of wisdom within our discussions. I would also like to thank my home chapter, Alpha Omicron, for giving me this opportunity to represent us at the district level. MLITB

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Kelly Garrity, Alpha Omicron  
Chair of the 2023 Programs Committee



## Spirit and Sisterhood Committee Report

### Committee Chair:

- Mackenzie Murphy, Beta Nu Chapter

### Committee Members:

- Jolene Colvin, Gamma Tau
- Joshua Parks, Eta Pi
- Kariann Sexton, Gamma Xi
- Sydney Fishburn, Xi \*\*proxy for Beta Delta
- T'eRicka Davenport, Alpha Omicron \*\*proxy for Beta Omicron
- Hope Aziaka, Iota \*\*proxy for Eta Epsilon
- Precious Roundtree, Gamma Phi \*\*proxy for Iota Tau

### Advisors:

- Evelyn Jones
- Arial Taylor

### The 2022-2023 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee was charged with the following:

- Update the record of which chapters have received the awards in the past five years.
- Review video submissions for the chants. (AV equipment required in committee room)
- Discuss the chapters in attendance at the 2023 Southwest District Convention on the qualities of spirit and sisterhood. Award the Spirit and Sisterhood Awards in accordance with the District constitution.
- Coordinate with the District President to review chants at separate sessions throughout the convention.
- Evaluate effectiveness of the sisterhood database based on changes suggested in 2022

### Discussion:

- During the first committee session we reviewed the stipulations for each Spirit Award given out during the Southwest District Convention and designated the period between each committee session to keep an eye out for Chapters who we felt were deserving.
- There were no video submissions to review, so this will be charged to next year's committee.
- Outside of committee discussions I went to Madison on behalf of the Spirit and Sisterhood committee to ask about when we should do chants and it was determined that we would present them upon request by District leadership throughout the duration of the Convention.
- Upon discussion it was found that no one in our committee knew there was a sisterhood database. This sentiment was reflected by the minutes of last year's Spirit and Sisterhood Committee report so we found the changes ineffective. Looking on the District Website we also found that the form for making additions to the database is not accessible.
- The end of our first committee session was designated to reviewing the chants. During this time it was discovered that the Chant Video, while out of date, also has rhythmic differences to what is reflected in the sheet music.



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- Upon opening the second committee session we discussed and decided on Spirit Award recipients who will be announced soon. The list of past recipients was updated to include these.
- The committee discussed possible solutions for the sisterhood database and determined that it would be most effective to focus on improving our promotion of resources and simplifying the District Website layout. The name ‘Sisterhood Database’ was also found to be unclear and not representative of its content.
- Upon further review of the chants, the committee found the need to update both the video and sheet music to line up with one another and demonstrate the SWD variation adopted during the 2022 District Convention. The sheet music should also be included in the video to provide rhythmic and lyrical clarity.

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee:**

- Update the record of which chapters have received the awards in the past five years.
- Review video submissions for the chants. (AV equipment required in committee room)
- Discuss the chapters in attendance at the 2023 Southwest District Convention on the qualities of spirit and sisterhood. Award the Spirit and Sisterhood Awards in accordance with the District constitution.
- Coordinate with the District President to review chants at separate sessions throughout the convention.
- Evaluate effectiveness of the sisterhood database based on changes suggested in 2023

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 Vice President of Special Projects and/or Council:**

- Call for submissions to update the Chant Demonstration Video in accordance with needs determined by the 2023 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee
- Re-open submissions for additions to the sisterhood database

### **Charges for the 2023-2024 District Secretary/Treasurer**

- Reorganize/Simplify the SWD Website to make it more user friendly
- Create a video demonstrating how Chapters can access and navigate our Southwest District website
- Rename the ‘Sisterhood Database’ to a title more representative of the content it provides (Ex: Sisterhood Bonding Activities)
- Promote the existence and value of Chapter resources through social media and Slack channels

### **Special Thanks:**

First, I’d like to thank all of my brilliant committee members for making this such a fun, easy process. While this is my second Convention it is my first time sitting as delegate and chairing a committee seemed terrifying, but all of you were so incredibly nice and patient and I’m so glad I got to know and work with you all.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to both of our brilliant committee advisors, Eve and Arial, for all their help across both sections. Without them I would have been hopelessly lost attempting to keep up with all the tabs and websites and I could not be more grateful for their guidance.

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Thank you to the Southwest District for allowing me this phenomenal opportunity. It has truly been an honor to serve as your Spirit and Sisterhood Committee Chair this year and I cannot wait to see what future years have in store for our District.

Finally to my Big, Jacob Stover, thank you for everything. If it weren't for you I would not have joined Tau Beta Sigma and never would have known what it felt like to be part of such a loving, accepting organization. You have been my rock this past year and are always the person I look to for guidance. Your love of service and of those around you inspires me every day to better myself in hopes that one day I might reflect a fraction of your brilliance in my own conduct and be a beacon to future generations as you have been for me. Love ya shpud.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Mackenzie Murphy, Beta Nu Chapter  
2023 Spirit and Sisterhood Committee Chair

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The recipients for this year's awards are as follows:

- Golden Tau - Gamma Xi
- Beta - Delta Pi
- Sigma - Xi



## Awards

### Erika L. Pope Legacy of the Southwest

- Mackenzie Murphy, Beta Nu Chapter – Arkansas Tech University

### Southwest District Service to Music Education Scholarship Presentation

- Rebecca Kostroun, Iota Chapter – Baylor University

### Southwest District Service to Music Education Scholarship

- Rebecca Kostroun, Iota Chapter – Baylor University

### The Baton

- Sydney Rush, Gamma Xi – Arkansas State University
- Jacob Stover, Beta Nu – Arkansas Tech University
- Johnn McCray, Alpha – Oklahoma State University

### Patsy Drury Hejl – Outstanding Large Chapter

- Gamma Nu – University of Texas at Arlington

### Dorothy Allen Nichols Outstanding Smaller Chapter Awards

- Iota – Baylor University

### Janet West Miller Outstanding Service to Music Education

- Delta Chapter – University of Oklahoma

### Dollie McDonald O’Neill Chapter Perseverance Award

- Delta Tau – Angelo State University

### Southwest District Photo Challenge Award

- Zeta Mu – Grambling State University
- (Presented by 2023 Programs Committee)

### Chapter Distance Award

- Beta Chapter – Texas Tech University
  - 4361 miles traveled
  - 7 Active Members in Attendance
- (Presented by 2023 Credentials Committee)

### Spirit Awards

- Golden Tau Award
  - Gamma Xi – Arkansas State University
  - (Presented by Gamma Tau – University of Central Arkansas)
- Beta Award
  - Delta Pi – University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
  - (Presented by Beta – Texas Tech University)



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- Sigma Award
  - Xi – West Texas A&M University
  - (Presented by Delta Alpha – Langston University)

### Danny A. George Award for Fostering Joint Relations

- Alpha Chi Chapter (Kappa Kappa Psi) – University of Texas at El Paso

### Southwest District Alumni Association Delegate Grant

- TBS
  - Shelby Dye, Iota – Baylor University
  - Christina Hawkins, Delta Tau– Angelo State University
  - Kamryn Knafelz, Alpha Upsilon – Lamar University
- KKY
  - Christopher Ron, Zeta Phi
  - Abigail Reager, Xi Beta
  - Evalyn, Alpha Chi

### Southwest District Alumni Association Ritual Scholarship

- KKY Lambda Chapter – University of Arkansas
- TBS Delta Sigma Chapter – University of Louisiana at Monroe