2865 - Tau Sigma: Partnering with Higher Ed to Recognize, Encourage, and Empower Transfer Students

Leadership and Strategic Planning, Partnerships and Collaboration

This session will introduce Tau Sigma, a national honor society designed specifically to recognize and promote the academic excellence and involvement of transfer students. Tau Sigma was established in 1999 and at present we have over 120,000 members, have established 220 chapters nationwide, and have awarded over $1,000,000 in scholarships to hundreds of deserving members. We will host our 12th Annual Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. this fall.

Lee Colquitt, Executive Director
Tau Sigma National Honor Society
TAU SIGMA

Partnering with Higher Ed to Recognize, Encourage, and Empower Transfer Students

Lee Colquitt - Executive Director
Lori Carter - Director of Chapter Relations
Erin Colquitt - Director of Operations
What is Tau Sigma?

“A (non-profit) national honor society designed specifically to recognize and promote the academic excellence and involvement of transfer students"
Why Tau Sigma?

Formal recognition for academic achievement to an underrecognized and underserved population

Leadership opportunities for a population at a disadvantage in many student groups on campus

Opportunities for growth and achievement through scholarships and a leadership conference

A group that helps your college or university better serve and welcome its incoming transfer students

Opportunities for transfer students to gain a sense of community at your college or university
Who we are and what we do!
Who we are and what we do!
Who we are and what we do!
Who we are and what we do!

- **Movie Night**
  - **TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH, 7PM**
  - **A Star is Born** - **Bohemian Rhapsody**
  - **More Information**
    - You're invited to Tau Sigma's spring screening and movie voting event. Cast your vote and come for a relaxing night with friends. The movie to be voted on is a choice between A Star is Born and Bohemian Rhapsody. Voting will be via email, Facebook, or Twitter. 
  - **Where**: Towson University, Exact Room/Building

- **Halloween Party & Movie Night**
  - **Costumes encouraged!**
  - **All transfer students welcome!**
  - **Oct. 29th, 6-9 pm, Damen Student Cinema**
  - **RSVP by Oct. 19th**
  - **HTTPS://BIT.LY/30RAXFP**

- **Karaoke Night**
  - **THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH, 4PM-8PM**
  - **Wolfgang Ruck Express Ackerman Union**
  - **Show your skills and win Tau Sigma swag!**
Who we are and what we do!

St. Jude Children's Hospital 'Craft Kit' Social
Help put coloring kits together for patients at St. Jude • All supplies provided!
WEDNESDAY, MAR 5
5:00 PM
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Art Break Literacy Fundraiser
Relax with TaU Sigma in support of early childhood literacy at
In honor of World Book Day
April 23rd 5-8PM
At the Brain Resource Center
Free snacks, drinks, TaU Sigma SWAG, stress busting coloring and a relaxing space to decompress
*Small donation suggested upon entry*
All proceeds benefit the Jumpstart literacy fair for underserved youth
Who we are and what we do!
Who we are and what we do!
Tau Sigma History

- Beginnings at Auburn University
  - From 1984 to the first chapter in 1999
- Students in Transition meeting in Pittsburgh
  - Univ at Buffalo, Kent State Univ, Univ of Florida, SUNY Oswego, Univ of Central Florida
- 50\textsuperscript{th} chapter (SUNY - Albany) in 2008
- 100\textsuperscript{th} chapter (Governors State) in 2012
- 200\textsuperscript{th} chapter (TAMU - San Antonio) in 2019
- 100,000\textsuperscript{th} member in 2019
- $1,000,000+ in total scholarships awarded - 2022
Tau Sigma Growth
Tau Sigma Growth

- We need chapters in...
Tau Sigma Scholarships

- 2022 – 2023
  - $100,000 in scholarships awarded - 57 scholarships ranging from $500 to $5,000
  - Each advisor nominates applicants to represent their chapter
  - Scholarship applicants are evaluated by a committee of six advisors
  - 751 scholarships awarded for a total of $1,030,500
Tau Sigma Scholarships
Tau Sigma
Leadership Conferences

- Objectives of the Leadership Conference

- Allow members/advisors to meet and get to know one another and share ideas

- Provide members an opportunity to formally present their chapter ideas to other members/advisors

- Thank and reward members/advisors for faithfully serving their chapters
Tau Sigma
Leadership Conferences

- Highly subsidized by National

- $50/member and $100/advisor (includes hotel room for two nights, three nice meals at the hotel, t-shirt, activity)

- Member and advisor must pay for transportation, incidentals, and other meals

- Nice hotels (Marriott, Hilton, Hard Rock, etc.)

- 900+ attendees (250+ advisors, 650+ members)
 Tau Sigma
Leadership Conference Locations

Chicago

Washington, D.C.

Orlando

San Antonio
Tau Sigma
Leadership Conference Agenda

- Friday night
  - Plated dinner, program and speaker

- Saturday morning
  - Breakfast
  - Chapter presentations from 8:30-11:30
  - Lunch
Tau Sigma
Leadership Conferences
Tau Sigma
Leadership Conference Agenda

- Friday night
  - Plated dinner, program and speaker

- Saturday morning
  - Breakfast
  - Chapter presentations from 8:30-11:30
  - Lunch

- Saturday afternoon/evening
  - Sightseeing and activity

- Sunday
  - Sightseeing and travel
Tau Sigma
Leadership Conferences
Tau Sigma Membership

- Membership criteria

- Student must transfer in with at least one year’s worth of academic credits

- Student must be a full-time student

- Student must achieve either a 3.5 GPA or be in the top 20% of all incoming transfers during the term in which they complete one full term
Tau Sigma Membership

- Dues are ordinarily between $50 - $65, depending on the amount of local dues

- Dues waivers exist for students with financial need

- Lifetime membership - students cannot lose their membership, even if their GPA drops below a 3.5
Tau Sigma Membership Process

- Representative of the university completes a Preliminary Charter Information (PCI) form
Tau Sigma Membership Process

Tau Sigma National Honor Society
Preliminary Charter Information Form

Name of College or University:
City, State:
Web Address:
Accredited By:
Total Undergraduate Enrollment:
Estimated Total Transfer Enrollment:
Estimated New Transfer Enrollment for the Current Year:
Perspective Administrative/Faculty Advisory of Tau Sigma:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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Signature
Date

Address

Phone     Email

Charter Approval by the Vice President of Student Affairs or the Dean of Students:
(or the ranking student personnel administrator)

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Signature
Date

Mail or fax to:
Lee Colquitt:
Executive Director, Tau Sigma
650 N. College Street, Suite A
Auburn, AL 36830
phone: (334) 844-5000
fax: (334) 826-1119

or email to:
Lee Colquitt:
colquill@auburn.edu
Tau Sigma Membership Process

- Universities typically need approximately 300 incoming transfers each year

- Once the PCI form has been approved, the advisor obtains the contact information of those students who meet the eligibility criteria

- Email invitations are sent (went green in 2020)
Accept Invitation

Please enter the information below to verify your invitation. The invitation code is located in the invitation email or letter you received.

Email address or Invitee Key

Invitation Code

Accept invitation

Having trouble accepting your invitation? Try these helpful tips.
Tau Sigma Membership Process

Congratulations on being invited to membership in Tau Sigma at Indiana University Bloomington! To accept this invitation, please complete the following registration and dues payment information.

I accept my membership in the Tau Sigma National Honor Society ($50.00)

☐ Yes!

I would like to order Tau Sigma Merchandise (This is the only opportunity you will have to purchase Tau Sigma Merchandise.)

Choose which items you would like to have shipped with your membership materials.

☐ Tau Sigma Honor Cord ($15)

High quality, gold and burgundy interwoven cords for wearing at graduation ceremony.

☐ Classic T-Shirt ($10 - Short Sleeve/ $15 - Long Sleeve)

T-Shirts are white, Hanes 100% cotton with a burgundy Tau Sigma crest and ‘Tau Sigma National Honor Society’ text. 
## Tau Sigma Membership Process

### National Office Portal

This area will serve as dashboard to assist in the management of the organization.

### Tau Sigma Chapters: INCOMPLETE

Induction Groups that have expired and are awaiting processing. Groups will disappear from this list when the certificates have been marked as printed. This table ignores the Beginning and Ending dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Induction Date</th>
<th>Expired Date</th>
<th># Accepted</th>
<th># Invited</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of California, Riverside (Spring 2020)</td>
<td>1/31/2020</td>
<td>1/31/2020</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>16.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Central Florida (Spring 2020)</td>
<td>2/10/2020</td>
<td>1/30/2020</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>1416</td>
<td>28.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida International University (Spring 2020)</td>
<td>2/10/2020</td>
<td>1/30/2020</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>1253</td>
<td>22.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Xavier University (Spring 2020)</td>
<td>1/25/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>46.58%</td>
</tr>
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Tau Sigma Membership Process

- Once the deadline passes, the membership is processed, and a chapter is formed!
Tau Sigma SWAG
Tau Sigma Merchandise
Tau Sigma Membership Process

- Universities can conduct invitations once a year (normally after the fall term) or after every term

- Most universities conduct an induction ceremony once a year (normally in the spring)

- Students only have one opportunity to join
Thank you for your time!
Questions?