

Constitution of Tau Beta Pi

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Article I. Name of the Organization:

The organization shall be called Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego.

Article II. Statement of Purpose:

“Founded in 1885 to mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their alma mater by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character as undergraduates in the field of engineering, or by their attainments as alumni in the field of engineering, and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in the engineering colleges.”

Our organization honors distinguished students while preparing them to serve in the engineering community.

Article III. Nonprofit Statement:

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego is a non-profit student organization.

Article IV. Requirements for Membership (Including Fees if Applicable):

To be eligible for membership, a student must either be in the top 1/8 of the junior engineering class or the top 1/5 of the senior engineering class (class determined by the number of units the student has completed). Also, eligible students must have taken courses at UCSD for at least one academic year. Aside from being an excellent student academically, our members must demonstrate exemplary character. Eligible students must earn a certain number of points by the initiation day via activities organized by our chapter, such as community service or tutoring.

There are two initiations per year: one in winter and one in spring.

Students who are initiated become lifetime members of Tau Beta Pi, but they can only remain active members of the chapter by earning a certain number of points each year via activities organized by our chapter, such as community service and tutoring. The lifetime membership fee is \$125 (a portion of the money goes to the national Tau Beta Pi organization).

Article IV. Section 1. Hazing Prevention

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego is committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all its members and does not condone hazing. Hazing, in any form, is strictly prohibited within the organization in compliance with state and federal law, Regents’ policies and University regulations. Participation in hazing or any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, activity, or method committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons, including current, former, or prospective students, regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that is committed in the course of a preinitiation, an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, an official or unofficial student organization or other student group that i. causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the

institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury, including personal degradation or disgrace, and/or ii. the person knew or should have known was likely to cause serious bodily injury. As an organization, we understand that failure to abide by hazing policies and laws will result in referral to the Center for Student Accountability, Growth, and Education (SAGE) for an organizational violation and/or individual violation(s).

Article V. Frequency of the Organization's Meetings:

Officer meetings are held once every week, and general body meetings are held once or twice per quarter. Minutes for each official meeting will be recorded by the Secretary.

Article VI. Qualifications for Holding Office and Methods of Selecting and Replacing Officers:

Only registered UC San Diego students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UC San Diego students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization's officers.

An officer must be a member of Tau Beta Pi. At the end of each Spring Quarter, members who are interested in becoming officers the following school year must submit an Officer Application to the Tau Beta Pi Official Email address. Elections are then held the following week during a general body meeting and all members are invited to participate in the voting process to select the most qualified candidates for each position.

Article VI. Section 1. Removal Process

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego ("The organization") affirms its commitment to fair treatment and due process in all officer removal proceedings. Grounds for removal may include failure to fulfill officer responsibilities, conduct detrimental to the organization, or other reasons determined by the membership, provided such grounds comply with university non-discrimination policies. Allegations of student misconduct, such as harassment, discrimination, or other policy violations, shall not be investigated internally by the organization and must instead be referred to the appropriate university departments, including the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (OPHD) at ophd.ucsd.edu/report-bias and Student Accountability, Growth, and Education (SAGE).

Any officer subject to removal must receive written notice in advance of the hearing. This notice shall include the reason for the proposed removal as well as the date, time, and location of the hearing and/or vote. During the hearing, both the officer in question and the members advocating removal must be allowed to present their perspectives. The officer must have the opportunity to present a defense and to submit counter-evidence.

Following the hearing, the organization shall conduct a vote on the removal. Only the executive board, presidents, vice presidents, and secretary are eligible to vote. The required threshold for removal is two-thirds vote of those eligible. After the vote is concluded, the organization must provide the officer in question with written notice of the final decision.

To ensure proper procedures are consistently applied and due process is followed, organizations are encouraged to consult Student Legal Services for guidance.

Article VII. Risk Management:

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego is a registered student organization at University of California, San Diego, but not part of the University itself.

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego understands that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

Article VII. Section 1. In Case of Interaction with Minors and/or the Elderly:

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego is aware that all registered student organizations that serve minors or the elderly have access to training on child and elder abuse prevention for its members via UC Learning (<https://uclearning.ucsd.edu>). Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego will develop plan(s) for activities and events where members will be interacting with minors or the elderly such that members will receive education and/or training on Child Abuse Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA), common sense measures to both avoid child or elder abuse allegations (i.e. avoiding one-on-one situations; working with minors in plain view of others; limiting calls/texts/social media posts or other communications with minors), and how to properly report potential harm or neglect to minors or the elderly with whom they are working. Tau Beta Pi has a strict policy against beating up anyone, especially minors and the elderly.

Article VII. Section 3. In Case of International Travel

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego recognizes that the University generally recommends against all international travel by Student Organizations due to the myriad of risks travelers face in foreign countries. Student organizations are discouraged from traveling to foreign countries due to the wide variety of risks involved with foreign travel, and the extensive planning efforts required by the Student Organization's Members to manage those risks. Security risks and health care services vary widely from one country to another, so thorough research on those topics is especially important.

International travelers are advised to research US State Department Travel Advisories and the CDC Travel Health site and abide by all recommended alerts and warnings, and procure travel insurance with medical coverage that covers their chosen destination because most USA Health Plans are not valid in foreign countries.

Article VII. Section 4. In Case of Handling of Hazardous Chemicals, Material, Equipment, and/or Machinery

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego recognizes that all student organization activities must be conducted safely, in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. Additionally, Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego will abide by UC San Diego requirements for students in labs, including policies for minors in UC laboratories, and ensure members receive safety training regarding the use of chemicals and/or machinery before entering the lab. Members must follow

any best practices and lab safety protocols for the use of such chemicals, research equipment or machinery, including the appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment, and should work under close supervision of those trained in the handling of chemicals/use of research equipment or machinery.

Article VIII. Community Advisor

As a pre-professional organization, our primary community advisor is Dr. Geoffrey Voelker of the CSE department. We select our advisors by nominating potential candidates then voting on them. Our community advisors provide high-level organizational guidance (being past members of Tau Beta Pi themselves), and assist us with any activities in which we require their expertise.

Article IX. Financial Management

Our organization finances its activities through our members' \$125 lifetime membership fees. This sum is used both to pay the national organization's membership fee, and to provide funding for the events we hold.

We utilize the SLBO Fund Manager and a private bank account to manage our organization's funds.

Article X. Affiliation with Other Groups

Tau Beta Pi at UC San Diego is affiliated with the national Tau Beta Pi organization. We are obligated by the national organization to maintain minimal membership requirements. These include offering membership to only the top 1/8th of the Junior engineering class, and the top 1/5th of the Senior engineering class, among others.

The national Tau Beta Pi organization offers our members benefits beyond those provided by our chapter (scholarships, discounts, etc.), and opportunities to stay involved after graduation.