Tulane University
Colony of Theta Tau

Tulane University
New Orleans, LA
We, the members of Tau Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity at Tulane University do hereby petition the Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity for chapter status.

We, the undersigned, are all currently enrolled in the School of Engineering at Tulane University and have no affiliation with any organization considered to be competitive with Theta Tau.

Carly Askins
Donald Aubin
Lauren Bartels
Amelia Bergeson
Daniel Christiansen
Bridget Daugherthy
Katelyn David
Hailey Day
Carson Discher
Megan Escott
Imri Frenkel
Sarah Holt
Lauren Hymel
Sierra Lear
Tulane University Colony of Theta Tau

Mr. Michael T. Abraham, Executive Director
Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity
1011 San Jacinto, Suite 205
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Abraham:

Greetings from the Tulane University Colony of Theta Tau. It is with the utmost pride that I am writing to you to present our colonies petition. Since its inception in 2015 as “Tau Theta Tau,” we have strived to exemplify the three pillars of Theta Tau. Through the work needed to become a colony and efforts to improve and become a chapter, we have grown into a brotherhood.

A little over a year ago now, you were present for our colony initiation ceremony, at which point many of us realized the significance of what we had done. Since then, we have continued to follow the guidance of the three pillars, Service, Professionalism, Brotherhood, in everything we do. This mindset has led us to fun-filled barbecues at local parks, NASA’s Stennis Space Center, many Habitat for Humanity builds, and much more. We have held joint events with other professional groups on our campus such as the Society of Women Engineers and Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity to encourage our members to spread and grow as individuals, while simultaneously bettering our colony. We have had two pledge classes full of impressive people that will take what Theta Tau can give and use it in their everyday lives to spread engineering and service to others.

Having been a founding member, I’ve had the great honor and pleasure of watching as we grew from twenty-six close friends trying to become something greater, to having nearly seventy members. This has been a time of many successes, holds, and failures. However, we’ve always pressed on and come out all the better for it.

I am confident, for the reasons presented in this petition, that this Colony of Theta Tau has rooted itself at Tulane University and will continue to grow and give back to the Fraternity at large as a chapter. It is with this confidence that I submit to you our petition to be recognized as a Chapter of Theta Tau.

In Hammer and Tongs,

Daniel Christiansen, Regent
Tulane University Colony of Theta Tau
Membership Profiles

Adrianna Aliquo
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Farmingville, NY
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Start up tulane

Carly Askinas
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: West Chester, PA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Sigma Delta Tau, Love Your Melon Crew

Donald Aubin
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Houston, TX
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Reily Lifeguard

Lauren Bartels
Position: Chemical Engineering Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: San Antonio, TX
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Cross country, Track

Millicent Beard
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Houston, TX
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Kappa Alpha Theta
Amelia Bergeson
Position: Treasurer, Service Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown:
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Society of Women Engineers

William Bralower
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Stamford, CT
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: none

Meghan Bush
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Sunset, LA
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Society of Women Engineers, TUCP, Astronomy Club, NAMI, Cookies and Code

Mason Caplin
Position: Athletics Chair
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Pipersville, PA
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Fencing Club, Google Community Leaders Project, Apiculture Club

Evan Carrie
Position: none
Major: Engineering Physics
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Karate Club
Erika Chelales
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Indianapolis, IN
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Cross Country, Track, Kappa Alpha Theta, Math Club, Newcomb Big-Little

Daniel Christiansen
Position: Regent, Conference Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Holtsville, NY
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Polymer Crystallization research

Charles Clayton
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Karate, Papadopoulos Lab

Kevin Conrad
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Swimming Club, Astronomy Club

Samuel Copper
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Littleton, CO
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Tulane Emergency Medical Services, Marching Band, Desk Services Coordinator
Kendal Crowther
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Senoia, GA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Phi Sigma Pi, Aceing Autism

Bridget Daugherty
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Clyde Hill, WA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Tulane Scholars Program, Science and Engineering Honor Society, Society of Women Engineers, Biomedical Engineering Society, The Bridge Ministry, IM Soccer

Kaitlyn David
Position: none
Major: Engineering Physics
Hometown: Bellevue, WA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Phi Sigma Pi, Society of Women Engineers, Lab Assistant, IM Soccer

Claire Davis
Position: none
Major: Engineering Physics
Hometown: Omaha, NE
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Cat Mafia Sketch Comedy, Society of Women Engineers

Hailey Day
Position: Scribe
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Roscoe, IL
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Phi Mu, American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Society of Women Engineers, Science and Engineering Mentor Program, German Club
Amey Deshpande
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Pune, India
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Classics Club, Premedical Society

Carson Discher
Position: Vice Regent
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Wheaton, IL
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Stem Cell Research, Technical Aide at Management Technology Center, Tulane Pre-Medical Society, Science and Engineering Honor Society, AIChE

Hannah Eherenfeldt
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: San Diego, CA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: none

Megan Escott
Position: Biomedical Engineering Chair
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Baton Rouge, LA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Piano, Tennis, College Writing Buddies

Adam Feinstein
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: West Bloomfield, MI
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: APO, WTUL, Food for Thought and Action, Ping Pong Club
Imri Frenkel
Position: Athletics Chair, Recruitment Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Long Grove, IL
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Rugby Club

Katarina Hall
Position: Fundraising Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Grand Junction, CO
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: WTUL, Phi Mu, TUCP Concerts and Lagniappe

Marissa Heffler
Position: PR Chair
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Austin, TX
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Phi Mu, Reily member services, research assistant, WIS, IM flag football and volleyball

Sarah Holt
Position: Corresponding Secretary
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Sunnyvale, CA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Society of Women Engineers, Tulane Department of Theatre and Dance, Tulane Performing Arts Society, Tulane Makerspace

Siyang Hu
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Ningbo, China
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Fencing, BMES secretary
Elizabeth Hwang
Position: Regent
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: La Crescenta, CA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Phi Sigma Pi, Science and Engineering Honors Society, DSC

Lauren Hymel
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Cypress, TX
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Shockwave Dance Team, Optogenetics Research lab

Clara Ives
Position: PR Chair
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Newton, MA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Ultimate Frisbee, piano, accordion

Charles Kelly
Position: Fundraising Chair
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Homewood, AL
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Monroe Resident Advisor, Science and Engineering Honor Society

Patrick Kimes
Position: Standards Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Hoover, AL
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Senior DSC Willow, GWA, AIChE
Alex Kubosiak
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Southampton, MA
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Intramural Soccer, Rock Climbing

Sierra Lear
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Fort Collins, CO
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Alpha Lambda Delta, College Writing Buddies, Lab Assistant

Rebecca Levy
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Pearland, TX
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Top Scholars, marching band, WGI winds

Melissa Liberson
Position: Brotherhood Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Phoenix, AZ
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Club Tennis, AIChE

Allison Margulies
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Narberth, PA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: club lacrosse, Sigma Delta Tau
Daniel Mena
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Guatemala City, Guatemala
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Tulane Makers and Robotics Society, Phi Sigma Pi

Mostafa Meselhe
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Lafayette, LA
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Rock Climbing, Engineers Without Borders, Pre-Med Society, Running Club

Monica Mixon
Position: Vice Regent
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: New Iberia, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Catholic Center, Ballroom Dancing

Avery Newsom
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: West Monroe, LA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Marching and Pep Band, Biomedical Engineering Society, Tulane United for Autism

Nathan Nguyen
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Slidell, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Science and Engineering Honor Society, Makers and Robotics Society
Alexander Nydell  
Position: Academics Chair  
Major: Chemical Engineering  
Hometown: Kingwood, TX  
Graduation Date: May 2018  
Campus Activities: Science and Engineering Honor Society, WTUL

Bretlyn Pancio  
Position: none  
Major: Chemical Engineering  
Hometown: St. Louis, MO  
Graduation Date: May 2019  
Campus Activities: APO

Ellen Pepperell  
Position: none  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Hometown: Austin, TX  
Graduation Date: May 2019  
Campus Activities: Engineers w/o borders, Sharp DC, Research Assistant, Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority

Lindsay Pristou  
Position: none  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Hometown: Lake Bluff, IL  
Graduation Date: May 2020  
Campus Activities: Equestrian Team, Soccer Team

Deepika Rajkumar  
Position: none  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Hometown: Pune, India  
Graduation Date: May 2020  
Campus Activities: Jazbaa Dance Team, International Scholars, Alpha Lambda Delta
Michael Rizzuto
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Darien, CT
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Club Soccer, Intramural ref

Elizabeth Roney
Position: Ceremonies Chair
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Fremont, CA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Alpha Delta Pi

Victoria Rose
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Booton Twp, NJ
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Chi omega, SWE, astrology club

Afsheen Sajjadi
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Youngsville, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: President of Tulane Makers and Robotics Society, Work at the MakerSpace, Theta Tau, SEHS, TUBE

Claire Sentilles
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Memphis, TN
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Sigma delta tau, pre-med society, women in science
Erin Shanley
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Westwood, NJ
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Outreach Tulane, Women in Science

Renee Short
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Sinking Spring, PA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: none

Jaclyn Sider
Position: Service Chair, Treasurer
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Fort Wayne, IN
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Phi Mu, LBC info desk employee, Reily member services employee, SWE, Tau Beta Pi

Alexander Simon
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Gladstone, NJ
Graduation Date: May 2020
Campus Activities: Sigma Chi

Theodore Steffens
Position: Engineering Physics Chair, Professional Development Chair
Major: Engineering Physics
Hometown: Far Hills, NJ
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Private pilot
Steven Stradley
Position: none
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Harahan, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Engineers without borders, climbing club, phi sigma pi national honor fraternity, AICHE, ACS

Annie Tir
Position: Brotherhood Chair
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Marching band

Jessie Troxler
Position: Pledge Director
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Gretna, LA
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: AIChE, climbing club

Alec Walker
Position: Pledge Director
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: North Salt Lake, UT
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Frisbee, Google CLP

Zach Walker
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Memphis, TN
Graduation Date: May 2019
Campus Activities: Ping Pong Club
Julia Weinstock
Position: none
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Hometown: Hewlett, NY
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Spoon University, Phyllis Wheatley, Society of Women Engineers

Xin Kai Yang
Position: Engineering Physics Chair
Major: Engineering Physics
Hometown: Marrero, LA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Tulane Effective Altruism, Science and Engineering Honor Society, Society of Physics Students, Chinese Students and Scholars, Tulane International Society, Biomedical Engineering Society

Brittany Young
Position: none
Major: Engineering Physics
Hometown: San Marino, CA
Graduation Date: May 2018
Campus Activities: Chi Omega
History of Tulane University

Tulane University, founded in 1834, is one of the most highly regarded and selective independent research universities in the United States. Tulane's schools and colleges offer degrees in the liberal arts, science and engineering, architecture, business, law, social work, medicine, and public health and tropical medicine.

The University is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities, a select group of the 63 leading research universities in the United States and Canada with “preeminent programs of graduate and professional education and scholarly research.” Tulane also is ranked by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a university with “very high research activity.” Of more than 4,300 higher educational institutions rated by the foundation, Tulane remains in a prestigious category that includes only 2 percent of universities nationwide.

Located in New Orleans, Tulane traces its origins to the Medical College of Louisiana, the Deep South’s second-oldest medical school, which was founded in 1834. By 1847, the Medical College was part of the newly established public institution, the University of Louisiana.

Tulane emerged as a private university in 1884 when the public University of Louisiana was reorganized and named in honor of benefactor Paul Tulane, a wealthy merchant who donated more than $1 million in land, cash and securities “for the promotion and encouragement of intellectual, moral and industrial education.” A native of Princeton, N.J., Paul Tulane had made his fortune in New Orleans and his gift expressed his appreciation to this Southern city on the Mississippi River. In 1886, the H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College was established for women as part of the university. Newcomb-Tulane College today enrolls all undergraduates at the university.

Tulane moved to its present campus on St. Charles Avenue in 1894. The Tulane University Health Sciences Center in downtown New Orleans includes the School of Medicine and School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, while the Tulane National Primate Research Center is in Covington, LA.

Research in many disciplines has flourished at Tulane through the establishment of centers such as the Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies, the Middle American Research Institute, the Tulane/Xavier Center for Bioenvironmental Research, the Murphy Institute, the Tulane Cancer Center, the Tulane Center for Gene Therapy and the Newcomb College Institute.

In fall 2005, Tulane weathered Hurricane Katrina, the nation's worst natural disaster. A renewed Tulane emerged from the storm as a stronger institution focused on an exceptional undergraduate program complemented by superb graduate, professional and research programs based on the university’s historical strengths and distinctive characteristics. Tulane’s programs have been shaped by the university’s experience with
Hurricane Katrina, providing faculty, staff, and students with unprecedented research, learning, and community-service opportunities.

The Katrina experience also informs the future direction of the institution. In 2010, President Cowen announced the launch of the “Tulane Empowers” campaign, an effort that will further the university’s efforts to encourage social innovation and to develop the next generation of community-minded citizens and leaders.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF TULANE’S HISTORY**
- 1834 The Medical College of Louisiana is founded in New Orleans by seven young doctors.
- 1847 The state legislature establishes the University of Louisiana.
- 1847 The Medical College of Louisiana becomes the Medical Department of the University of Louisiana.
- 1847 The University of Louisiana adds a law department, the 12th such department in the United States.
- 1851 An academic department for men opens. Its first students are enrolled — 12 freshmen and two sophomores.
- 1861 The university closes its doors because of the Civil War. Classes resume in 1865.
- 1882 Paul Tulane donates extensive real estate in New Orleans for the support of education. A Board of Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund is appointed and holds its first meeting. The board decides to support and incorporate with the University of Louisiana rather than create a separate institution.
- 1884 The Louisiana Legislature passes a bill transferring the University of Louisiana at New Orleans to the control of the Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund, thus creating the Tulane University of Louisiana, a private, nonsectarian university.
- 1885 The university establishes a graduate division, later to become the Graduate School.
- 1886 Newcomb College is established within Tulane University. Josephine Louise Newcomb gave the gifts to found the college in memory of her daughter, Harriott Sophie Newcomb.
- 1894 The university organizes the College of Technology, which later will become the School of Engineering.
- 1894 The university moves to its uptown campus on St. Charles Avenue, five miles by streetcar from downtown New Orleans.
- 1894 Newcomb Pottery is established.
- 1907 The College of Technology organizes an architecture department, which will evolve into the School of Architecture.
- 1912 The School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine is established. It later merges with the College of Medicine.
- 1914 The College of Commerce is established. It is the first business school in the South and the forerunner of the A. B. Freeman School of Business.
- 1925 The Graduate School is established.
- 1927 The School of Social Work is established — the first in the Deep South.
• 1942 University College is founded as Tulane’s division of continuing education.
• 1950 The Department of Architecture separates from the School of Engineering and becomes the School of Architecture.
• 1967 The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine is established.
• 1976 The Tulane Medical Center, a 300-bed teaching hospital and ambulatory clinic, opens.
• 1993 The name of the College of Arts and Sciences changes to Paul M. Tulane College and is referred to as Tulane College.
• 1998 Scott S. Cowen is named the 14th president of Tulane University.
• 2005 The university cancels the fall semester because of Hurricane Katrina. Tulane University announces a bold renewal plan in December.
  • Strategic initiatives:
    • Newcomb and Tulane colleges are combined to form Newcomb-Tulane College for all undergraduates.
    • The H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College Institute is established.
    • University College is renamed the School of Continuing Studies.
    • The Faculty of the Liberal Arts & Sciences and the School of Engineering are reorganized into two schools: the School of Liberal Arts and the School of Science & Engineering.
    • A public-service graduation requirement for all students is initiated.
    • The Partnership for the Transformation of Urban Communities is established.
• 2006 Classes resume in the spring with 93 percent of all students returning to Tulane University after Hurricane Katrina.
• 2007 The university's incoming freshman class of 1,400 students is almost 60 percent larger than in 2006, marking the largest one-year increase in first-year students in the history of the university.
• 2010 “Tulane Empowers” begins, a campaign to build resources that will help people build a better world.
Tulane Engineering

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the Tulane School of Engineering is to provide outstanding opportunities for learning and discovery in engineering and computer science and to foster an environment that is student focused, research intensive, entrepreneurial and responsive to the needs of the community.

INTRODUCTION
Engineering and Computer Science are professions where knowledge of Math and Science is applied to solve problems to address the needs of society in an economically efficient manner. Engineers and computer scientists are applied mathematicians, applied scientists, designers, and builders.

Engineering at Tulane has a long and distinguished history dating back to 1884 when the first classes in engineering were offered. Graduates of the School helped build the infrastructure of New Orleans and of the South. Its graduates have also been pioneers in developing communications satellites, in designing medical devices, and in mining the resources of the internet. The faculty members of the School of Engineering are working at the cutting edge of their disciplines and bringing that knowledge into the classroom. While the School is research intensive, it maintains the strong commitment to teaching that has characterized it through the decades.

The School of Engineering offers four-year undergraduate programs leading to the Bachelor of Science in Engineering. These include the programs in biomedical engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and environmental engineering, which are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. Programs also exist in computer engineering and an individually designed major. In addition, the School offers a program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. The program in computer science is accredited by the Computer Science Accreditation Commission (CSAC) of the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board (CSAB), a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA) and the U. S. Department of Education.

RESEARCH CENTERS AND INSTITUTES
Center for Aging
Center for Anatomical & Movement Sciences (CAMS)
Center for Bioinformatics and Genomics
Center for Computational Science (CCS)
Center for Polymer Reaction Monitoring and Characterization (PolyRMC)
Center for Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine
Tulane Cancer Center
Tulane Hypertension and Renal Center of Excellence
Tulane University Biodiversity Research Institute (TUBRI)
Tulane/Xavier Center for Bioenvironmental Research (CBR)
Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases Research Center
Tulane University Colony of Theta Tau

November 5, 2015 - Michael Abraham came to Tulane to introduce us to Theta Tau and begin the process to become a colony. At this meeting, the formation of Tau Theta Tau begun.

February 2016 - Tau Theta Tau was recognized by Tulane University as an official student organization.

April 23, 2016 - The 26 founding members were initiated into the newly created Tulane University Colony of Theta Tau.

September 2016 - The first formal recruitment week held a lot of interest with about 80 students expressing interest in the fraternity. From those interested, the members chose 30 students to offer a bid into the education program.

September 29, 2016 - Members learned the importance of a strong social media presence in the job search. How to create an effective LinkedIn Profile was the main focus.

October 8, 2016 - Members created a team and raised money for the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals through the Tulane Dance Marathon hosted by Phi Mu.

October 13, 2016 - Brotherhood bonding for a Fall Break movie night.

October 15, 2016 - For Founder’s Day, a brunch was hosted inviting any members, faculty, and alumni from other schools that were in New Orleans over our Fall Break.

November 5, 2016 - We had members go to our first Habitat for Humanity build in the New Orleans area where we worked with other students from Xavier University.
November 5, 2016 - Members gathered at The Fly, a popular park on the Mississippi River, for a barbecue to celebrate our brotherhood after a long day volunteering.

November 11, 2016 - Our first semi-formal was held where members got to come together with dates and celebrate the end of a great semester!

December 4, 2016 - Our first initiation ceremony as a colony brought in our first pledges into the brotherhood.

December 6, 2016 - End of the semester study/stress session. Academics hosted all our brothers to get together and study for the upcoming finals, but also to de-stress with some awesome cookie decorating.

January 21, 2017 - After returning from winter break, we initiated all pledges from the Fall 2016 who did not have a Tulane GPA during the previous semester, completely finishing our first successful pledge process.

Spring 2017 - A new semester brought another round of recruitment events. Again we held an info day with ice cream to allow people to better understand who we are and what we do as an organization. Recruitment also featured an interview night. 16 students were selected to be offered a bid.

February 11, 2017 - To welcome back all our brothers, the fraternity hosted a trip to Sector6, a local trampoline park where we could have fun before the classes started to get close to midterms.

February 18, 2017 - To build brotherhood, we held a movie night for members and pledges to eat popcorn and watch Superbad.

February 24-26, 2017 - We sent a team of three to represent our colony at the Southeast Region's Conference. At this conference, we were also elected to host the region's conference for Spring 2018 in New Orleans, LA.
February 24-26, 2017 - While some members were at the conference, the rest of the colony members were in New Orleans celebrating the biggest party in the nation, Mardi Gras! We had a tent and food along the parade route for the entire weekend where members could meet up and watch the parades together.

March 5, 2017 - To get ready for finals, our academics committee hosted a large study group for members to study together or get help from older brothers. Coffee, tea, and snacks were provided to keep everyone up and going. To help de-stress, brothers could make stress balls.

March 11, 2017 - Due to the great responses by brothers to the Habitat for Humanity build in the last semester, we decided to set up three build days for the spring semester. On the first day, the weather was a bit chilly, yet a team of 10 brother went to East New Orleans to help put insulation on a new house.

March 18, 2017 - The second Habitat for Humanity build day had a bit better weather as the members installed windows and doors and put up the exterior of the house.

March 19, 2017 - The first formal elections as a colony were held on the third Sunday of March. Through this process, we elected 21 new officers to move forward into the following year.

April 7, 2017 - Due to the popularity of this event the previous semester, another BBQ at the Fly was held where members could get back together after the spring break and relax before jumping back into their classes.

April 8, 2017 - The final Habitat for Humanity build was successful at bonding our brothers with one another and the community. Following the hurricane in New Orleans, helping out with HfH was a great way to reach out to those affected. As well, one of our members was injured on site, but the response of her brother’s only brought them closer.

April 15, 2017 – Keyannah (Kiki) Holloway, the Southeast regional director, met with some of our members to go over our progress. While giving us tips for moving forward with our fraternity, Kiki approved of how we have run thus far and
April 21, 2017 – Our members ended the semester with a Formal at a nearby restaurant.

April 27, 2017 – Some of our members went on a private tour of the John C. Stennis Space Center in Hancock County, Mississippi. It is NASA’s largest rocket engine test facility.
Theta Tau Central Office  
1011 San Jacinto, Suite 205  
Austin, TX 78701  

March 30, 2017

To the Grand Executive Council and Chapters,

It has been our tradition that we should invite into our Fraternity those peers in whom we find a shared spirit of engineering passion and communal responsibility. The men and women of the Colony at Tulane University of Louisiana have more than demonstrated those qualities, and it is their present intent to seek full membership as brothers in Theta Tau. I am writing to you all today in support of such petition.

For context, Tulane University opened its doors as a public medical school in 1834 and expanded by act of the state legislature to become the University of Louisiana in 1837. Following the War, the state educational fund suffered severely from economic recession and agricultural blight. Paul Tulane, a wealthy New Jersey businessman with interests in New Orleans, endowed the Tulane Educational Fund with several acres throughout the city to promote the region's scholastic institutions. In 1884, the state legislature relinquished control of the University to the Fund, effectively privatizing what became Tulane University of Louisiana. Two years later, gifts to the Fund from Josephine Newcomb led to the establishment of the nation's first coordinate college in her daughter's name, the H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College. In 1894, the University established the College of Technology, which would later become the School of Engineering. That same year, the entire institution relocated from its original structure on Tulane Avenue in the Central Business District to its current address across St. Charles Avenue from Audubon Park, where the primary campus has remained since. Following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Tulane became the first Carnegie high-activity research institution to adopt a service-learning requirement for all undergraduate curricula. Despite damages totaling well over half a billion dollars
and closure of the campus for the entirety of the Fall 2005 semester, Tulane currently ranks in the top forty universities in the country with an enrollment of twelve thousand students.

The School of Science and Engineering has witnessed several critical changes over the previous two decades. The pre-Katrina system featured an independent School of Engineering housing five traditional departments. Following the storm, the University cut several programs and reorganized the others into the new system, which now includes Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, and Engineering Physics. School advisors have been investigating the return of Mechanical, Electrical, and Civil Engineering departments, as these valuable degrees remain in high demand throughout the region. The University’s administration has also introduced heavy investments to the engineering sector of campus; recently, the school completed construction on Flower Hall, a multidisciplinary research facility, and announced the inception of the Tulane Brain Institute, a long-term collaborative project addressing cognitive understanding and pathology. The undergraduate programs encourage rising engineers to work with and in those rare opportunities, so that this small private college can afford the same exposure as any large public flagship.

The Tulane colony members have not allowed that experience nor any other resource to slip by unappreciated. From my observation, this group of nearly seventy men and women have consistently capitalized on their time here. Beyond performance in the classroom, they are leaders on campus and do well to balance school with education. I have noticed that their names are held with regard among faculty, as is the name of the Fraternity. Any early concern that the colony may not have access to an adequately large pool of applicable students was immediately erased by one impressive pledge class after another. They seem, in my opinion, to have a good quality of members as well as a reasonable ability to sustain a productive chapter at Tulane. For these reasons and many others, I happily offer my endorsement and hope that you will consider these men and women for full membership in the brotherhood of Theta Tau.

In H and T.

Zachary T. Gentle
M 1509
April 11, 2017

Dear Theta Tau National:

This letter is in support of Tulane Colony’s petition for full Chapter status. In short based on the reasons outlined below I am strongly in support of this.

I have had the good fortune of being involved with this group since its inception, and have served as their faculty advisor. I taught several of the founding students in Material and Energy Balances Fall of 2015. I was impressed with their academic ability as well as their organizational and leadership skills. I am now teaching many of the Chemical Engineers in Junior Reactor Design and have interacted with most of the members of the colony at various social events. They are an outstanding group of young people and will represent Theta Tau well; I also believe they will be able to sustain and continue to grow the organization. My rationale for the latter statement is outlined below.

**Legacy.** Having been involved with the establishment of a new fraternity chapter while an undergrad myself, there is never much concern about the ‘founders’. These students typically are intrinsic leaders who are dynamic, engaging, positive, and successful. The concern is always if that standard can remain as the founding group moves through the organization. As chapter advisor I have no concerns about this. I have been consistently impressed with the new members recruited to the organization, their diversity in all aspects, and their level of engagement. The leadership team of the Colony also has done several intelligent things to ensure there are smooth transitions within the leadership term. I was concerned that as the founding group moves forward organizational memory would be lost. That is clearly not going to be the case. The founding class, in conjunction with newer members, have laid a thoughtful, strong organizational foundation for future members to build upon.

**Scholarship.** Another concern I had was whether the students involved could maintain their high academic standing. That was a misplaced concern. Based on the information I have on the order of 1-2 students at any given time are on ‘trouble’ status, which is frankly impressive for an organization of 50+ students, and puts this group well above the campus average. In short they are succeeding academically. I also note that they have held themselves academically to higher standards than required by Theta Tau National. I am proud of them for that.

**Membership.** I have been consistently impressed with the growth of the colony vis-à-vis membership. I have been more so impressed with the level of
engagement of what appears to be nearly all of the members. This allays one of my other concerns, that there would be challenges in sustaining membership in the organization. Based on the rosters that is clearly not the case, as membership is now at 53 with 16 pledges. This coupled with my comments above around organizational planning bodes very well for the group.

**Finances.** It is clear the group is financially stable. I have not seen any issues with payments to nationals, or any other problems within the chapter. They are engineers – and hence conservative financially and good with math! The main challenge frankly we have is internal with the University for reimbursements. But it is clear that the group is on a sound financial footing.

I could go on further about this group, but in short it is clear to me they have what it takes to become a chapter. They have shown that they can not only get this started but appear to be doing an outstanding job sustaining the organization. They are outstanding young people who represent the Theta Tau fraternity very well. I give their application for full chapter status my highest endorsement.

Feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions or would like more information.

Sincerely,

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Daniel F. Shantz  
Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering  
Entergy Chair of Clean Energy Engineering  
Tulane University
April 24, 2017

Dear Brothers,

I am pleased to support the petition for chapter status of Tulane University Colony of Theta Tau.

My first interaction with the group was on via email shortly after becoming a colony. I remember thinking that they were excited to learn about Theta Tau and eager to become a successful colony and chapter. I officially met three members of the Colony during the Southeast Regional conference in February of 2017. They immediately fit right in with the other southeast chapters! During this regional conference, the colony decided that they were ready to host a conference of their own next fall. After presenting to a group of their peers, Tulane colony was chosen to host! The growth of this group has been beyond impressive. Their passion for Theta Tau is at an all-time high. They have hit the ground running and I am sure that they will continue to do so.

On April 14th, I was able to visit Tulane for an official visit. This visit afforded me the opportunity to see the members interact and I got a feel for the strengths of the members and colony. They have worked hard to foster a sense of brotherhood amongst their members and I’m proud to say that they strongly embody the three pillars of Theta Tau. They are eager to meet and learn from chapter inside and outside of our region. The members of this colony are tight knit and all seem to be focused on the same goal. I believe that they have built a strong foundation for a long and successful existence as a chapter in our fraternity. I would be proud to call each of them my brother. It is my pleasure to recommend that you approve Tulane University Colony’s petition for chapter status. I look forward to welcoming the Tulane Colony as the first chapter in Louisiana.

In H & T
Keyannah Holloway
M1483
Southeast Regional Director