

Western District Convention Minutes 2023

PARK CITY, UTAH

MINUTES TAKEN BY: LUPE "AKEWSTYEK" RAMON

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Separate Session Minutes

Separate Session 1

Friday, April 21st, 6:30 – 7:50 P.M.

I. Call to order

A. Theo : I call the Opening session of the 2023 Western District Convention of Tau Beta Sigma to order at 6:30 P.M. MST (gavel)

B. Theo:

1. Welcome to convention! I would like to start off by introducing the district council.
 - a) District President - Theo Mitchell (Theta Delta)
 - b) VPM - Julia Robles (Eta Omega)
 - c) VPSP - Desiree Alvarado (Epsilon Kappa)
 - d) Sec-treas - Lupe Ramon (Eta Omega)
2. Counselors - Sarah Cervantes and Alexis Holladay
3. We will now introduce our National Leadership in attendance. To keep things moving, please hold on any clapping until all the names have been called. National Leadership, please give a little wave wherever you are:
 - a) National Council
 - (1) National President - Erika Pope
 - (2) National Vice President for Communication & Recognition - Allison Leeman
 - b) Board of Trustees
 - (1) Adrienne Rall, Immediate Past National President
 - c) TBSAA Executive Council
 - (1) Marissa Archuletta (EC Member)
 - d) Chapter Visitation Assistants
 - (1) Camille Dhennin

II. Overview of Convention

A. Be kind! Get some sleep! Eat food, drink water, and have fun!

- B. Please be courteous and kind, we are not the only ones in this hotel. It's not hard to tell which group you're with when you're all wearing the same greek letters and in the same place.
- C. I'm incredibly excited to start off this weekend moving Upward and Onward! I do have some things to note for convention
- D. Some notes on the schedule:
 - 1. Friday
 - a) I hope you enjoyed the lovely performance from the Park City High school jazz band!
 - b) Right after this we have our Women in Music Guest Speaker, Dr. Linda Margetts.
 - c) After that is the Fight Song competition!
 - 2. Saturday
 - a) We have an early 8am ritual, please get some food beforehand, or at least grab something to eat in the breaks.
 - b) We'll move into a ritual workshop presented by our lovely Counselors.
 - c) Then move into separate session 2 for some national announcements. We will have a very short break for changing out of ritual built in, so please have something ready so you can quickly hop out of those.
 - d) Once the separate session finishes we'll go to music hour for a performance from the Academy Winds Air Force band!
 - e) We'll then move into lunch. If you are on a committee, you will have lunch waiting for you. If you are not on a committee, there's some stuff nearby in Park City and there's a free shuttle to downtown that comes nearby the hotel.
 - f) Once we finish up with lunch, we'll shake off the sleepies with a body percussion workshop presented by Erika, followed by Tau Beta Spark JOY by Sarah and Alexis outside in the nice....cold...weather.
 - g) Committee heads if you are not done with your reports by lunch, please take the workshop time to finish that. Once

we wrap up with those workshops we will be in Separate Session 3 to hear the nomination's slate.

- h) Once separate session 3 finishes we will move to Dinner Time! Please caucus and coordinate with your chapters during this time on how you want to vote.
- i) We're going to move into elections after dinner, and then after elections we will have chapter report time.
- j) Once that is all done, I will close us out and we can go outside to have some campfire time! KKPsi comes out at 9, and they will have some post ritual reflection things scheduled, so you will need to be out of the courtyard around the time they start coming in. At this point, you're free from my evil clutches, just be safe.

3. Sunday

- a) This day is focusing on joint relationships, and we're starting off with none other than a Fireside Chat presented by both National Presidents! The Fireside Chat will cover joint relationships and how to maintain them.
- b) We'll go into a joint ceremony after this, which is a very lightly adapted version of the one written by Kris Wright who was a previous TBS VPSP in 1995-96.
- c) We're gonna have a banquet brunch with awards after, and then end with singing! If you're a newly elected officer, you'll stay for a little longer for transition meetings. If not, please travel safely!

III. Announcements of District Officer Candidates

- A. All candidates who have submitted their District Officer Packets have been checked for eligibility and have completed Nominations Committee Interviews with our Nominations Committee Chair and Advisor. These interviews can be viewed by Chapter Delegates and other members online, please see our linktree for that link. These interviews not only serve as the Nominations Committee Interview, but also as the Candidate Panel.

1. In addition to this, during session 2 tomorrow, we will have a Q&A session with the candidates. Each candidate will get 3 minutes to give a short rundown on why they're running and their plans for office before having 5 minutes of Q&A.

B. The candidates for next year's Western District Council are:

1. Kees Hoek, Theta Delta, VPM
2. Sydney Inselman, Alpha Chi, VPM
3. Matthew Councill, Alpha Chi, VPSP

IV. Running from the floor

A. If you are interested in running off the floor, please speak to a counselor.

B. This year we're going to have a little Q&A session with those that have formally applied to District Office.

1. This offer does not extend to those running off the floor.

C. We're going to pass around some index cards for you to put questions down for the 5 minutes of questioning they get. Please put your name, chapter, and who the question is for whether it's a specific delegate or specific position alongside your question. We will unfortunately be closing this opportunity by the end of Fight Song Competition, that way we can vet the questions.

V. Seating of Delegates

A. Before convention we confirmed with all Chapters who their Delegate will be for the Chapters in attendance.

B. If you are the Chapter Delegate, please have your nametag and belongings in hand. When I call your Chapter please come forward, show your nametag to Alexis/Sarah. You will then receive the placard for Convention and will be shown where to sit.

C. Roll Call ;

1. Omicron - James Hamilton
2. Omega - Chris Te
3. Alpha Chi - Season Nañez
4. Epsilon Kappa - Carol Mulumba
5. Zeta Xi - Caroline Voetberg
6. Eta Omega - No set delegate

7. Theta Delta - Kees Hoek

- D. On the Delegate/Proxy Form we asked that all Chapters indicate another Chapter that they would prefer to represent them, if they are not able to represent themselves at Convention.
- E. I will now state the name of each Chapter not in attendance and ask if there is an eligible Active Member from the preferred Proxy Chapter who can sit as Delegate.
1. If I ask for your Chapter, please indicate if there is an Active Member able to sit as Delegate by saying "yes". If yes, that individual will come to the front of the room with their nametag and belongings to receive the Chapter placard. As a note, no Chapter can have greater than 1 additional Delegate compared to the Chapter with the next highest Delegates.
 - a) For example, if Chapter Sigma Sigma has their Delegate seated as well as 1 Proxy Delegate seated (2 total) they cannot sit a third proxy delegate until another Chapter is seated as a Proxy Delegate (their 2nd).
 2. We are tracking this information and will be clear about how proxies impact the seating process.
- F. Roll Call for Proxy Chapter seating
1. Chapter List
 - a) For the Eta Omega Chapter, is Grace Brandalick from Theta Delta here to sit for them?
 - (1) Yes! Hooray!
- G. For the remaining open Chapter seats we will use the seating Rotation. At the last Convention we ended the rotation with [Epsilon Kappa] as the next eligible Chapter. If your Chapter name is called, please indicate if you have an available Active Member to sit as a Proxy.
- H. Roll Call for Seating Rotation seating
1. Chapter List
 - a) Omicron - James Hamilton, present
 - b) Omega - Chris Te, present
 - c) Alpha Chi - Season Nañez, present
 - d) Epsilon Kappa - Carol Mulumba, present
 - e) Zeta Xi - Caroline Voetberg, present

f) Eta Omega - Grace Brandalick, present

g) Theta Delta - Kees Hoek, present

I. President: The Seating Rotation for the 2024 Convention will begin with Zeta Xi.

VI. Practice Vote

A. I will now review the voting process

B. This year we are going to utilize the “unanimous consent” voting method for routine business such as approval of minutes and other minor procedures. The Chair/President can assume unanimous consent until someone objects by raising their placard and indicating their objection. This method does not necessarily mean every member is in favor of the motion, but, knowing it is useless to oppose it or to discuss it, the opposition simply agrees to it. If at any time an objection is made with reasonable promptness, it will require a regular vote. The “unanimous consent” vote goes as such:

1. The President will state “If there is no objection, we will (do the action of the motion).”
2. When no objection is heard, the President will state “Since there is no objection (the motion) is approved.”
3. If a delegate objects, the President will proceed with the regular steps of voting by entertaining a motion, receiving a second (if necessary), then asking for those in favor, those opposed, and those abstaining. The result of the vote will then be announced.

C. It is the responsibility of the Delegates to object if you wish to vote normally on a matter that is brought forward by the President.

D. This does not apply to elections which are a ballot vote. For votes required to be taken by ballot, the goal is for members to conceal their votes, and any motion that goes against this is out of order.

E. For standard voting, I will “entertain a motion to ____”, chapters will raise their placards and I will call on the first one to make said motion. Placards will come down, and I will ask for a second to which chapters may raise their placards back up. I will then ask for all in favor, opposition, and abstentions.

VII. Practice Vote

- A. Let's do a Practice Vote to suspend the reading of the Convention Minutes using unanimous consent
 - 1. President: "If there is no objection, we will suspend the reading of the 2022 Convention Minutes."
 - 2. President: "Since there is no objection, the reading of the 2022 Convention Minutes is suspended."
- B. We will now do a Practice Vote where we move to accept the 2022 Convention Minutes, but the unanimous consent fails.
 - 1. President: "If there is no objection, we will accept the 2022 Convention Minutes."
 - 2. Delegate: "I object to accepting the 2022 Convention Minutes."
 - 3. President: "Seeing opposition, I will now entertain a motion to accept the 2022 Convention Minutes."
 - 4. President: Calls on Delegate for Motion (I so move...) and Second. Asks Delegates to raise their placards in favor, in objection, and in abstention to the motion. The result of the vote is announced.

VIII. Standing Rules of Convention

- A. I will now read the Standing Rules of Convention. It is vital that everybody listens closely, as these rules will affect certain parts of how we conduct ourselves.
 - 1. All business sessions shall begin promptly at the place and hour specified in the Convention schedule.
 - 2. All reports shall be submitted electronically to the WD President and WD Sec/Tres, prior to presentation, unless otherwise specified by the WD President.
 - 3. Any member desiring the floor shall raise their placard to indicate interest in speaking, wait to be recognized by the WD President, then clearly state their business.
 - 4. Any Tau Beta Sigma member attending may speak to or discuss the question on the floor, but only Delegates are entitled to vote on the question.
 - 5. Due to guidance from National Leadership alongside constitution updates, we are not convening a Jurisdiction committee this year as it comes after a year without a National Convention. The next Jurisdiction committee will convene at WDC 2024.

6. No member, other than a member of the Western District Council, shall speak more than twice during the same session to the same question, and not longer than three minutes at one time without permission of the Convention. The question of granting permission shall be decided by a two-thirds vote without debate.
7. During elections, no candidate may run for election from the floor unless they have been vetted through the Nominations Committee interview process.
 - a) If there is no objection, we will accept the Standing Rules.
 - (1) Since there is no objection, the Standing Rules are accepted.

IX. Reading of the Minutes of Last Convention

- A. If there is no objection, we will suspend the reading of the minutes from the 2022 District Convention.
 1. Since there is no objection, the Reading of the Minutes of the 2022 District Convention are suspended.

X. Vote to Accept the Minutes from Last Convention

- A. If there is no objection, we will accept the minutes from the 2022 District Convention.
 1. Since there is no objection, the minutes of the 2022 District Convention are accepted.

XI. We will now move into a **songs workshop**, which will be presented by Erika Pope!

- A. Song Workshop! (30 mins)

XII. We will now hear the District Counselor report

- A. [Counselor Report](#)

XIII. Recess

- A. Theo : I motion to recess until Saturday at 10 A.M. MST
 1. Hearing no objection, we recess at 7:59 P.M. MST

Separate Session 2

Saturday, April 22nd, 10:15 A.M. – 11:50 A.M.

I. Call to Order

- A. Theo : I call this Session to order at 10:15 A.M.
- II. Roll Call
 - A. Theo: Please say “here” as I call your chapter/name out.
 1. Omicron – James Hamilton, present
 2. Omega – Chris Te, present
 3. Alpha Chi – Season Nañez, present
 4. Epsilon Kappa – Carol Mulumba, present
 5. Zeta Xi – Caroline Voetberg, present
 6. Eta Omega – Grace Brandalick, present
 7. Theta Delta – Kees Hoek, present
- III. **NATIONAL PRESENTATION:** I will now turn it over to National Leadership for some exciting announcements!
 - A. National Presentation (1 hour)
- IV. *Theo’s crying.* We will now hear the report of our Vice President of Membership report, presented by Julia.
 - A. [VPM Report](#)
- V. *Theo’s still crying.* We will now move on to our Vice President for Special Projects report presented by Desiree.
 - A. [VPSP Report](#)
- VI. We are now going to move into a Q&A session for District Officer Candidates. A candidate will come up, and I will set a timer for 3 minutes. We will have 5 minutes for questions previously collected by the delegation which Carolyn will go through.
- VII. Quick Follow up from Erika in regards to the Song Workshop
 - A. Alloted 10 mins :)
- VIII. Recess
 - A. Theo : I move to recess until Saturday at 3:45 P.M. MST
 1. Hearing no objection, we recess at 11:55 A.M. MST

Separate Session 3

Saturday, April 23rd, 3:45 P.M. – 4:45 P.M.

- I. Theo: I call this Business session to order at 3:58 P.M. MST
- II. Please say “here” when I call your chapter/name

- A. Roll Call
 - 1. Omicron - James Hamilton, present
 - 2. Omega - Chris Te, present
 - 3. Alpha Chi - Season Nañez, present
 - 4. Epsilon Kappa - Carol Mulumba, present
 - 5. Zeta Xi - Caroline Voetberg, present
 - 6. Eta Omega - Grace Brandalick, present
 - 7. Theta Delta - Kees Hoek, present
- III. *Are we surprised that Theo's still crying?* Next we will move onto our Secretary-Treasurer report, presented by Lupe.
 - A. [Sec/Tres Report](#)
 - 1. [Presentation of Budget!](#)
 - a) [Notes for Budget](#)
- IV. Theo entertains a motion to approve Budget
 - A. Zeta Xi, so moves.
 - 1. 2nd Theta Delta
 - B. Discussion: None
 - 1. Vote : Unanimous, It passes <3
- V. We will now hear the final report of the Nominations Committee and presentation of the slate. Following the presentation, we will vote to accept the Nominations Committee report. Once accepted the slated candidates are automatically nominated for their respectively slated positions. This vote does not elect any individual to a position, it simply nominates the candidates who are being supported by the Nominations Committee. If you are not on the slate, you will need to be nominated tomorrow if you would like to run. We'll proceed to Elections in a future business session. I now yield the floor to the Nominations Committee Chair Caroline Voetberg from Zeta Xi to give the final report of the Nominations Committee.
 - A. [Nominations Committee Report](#)
 - B. As mentioned, we will now vote to accept the slate. This will nominate all candidates who have been slated by the Nominations Committee. The election process will take place during one of our next business sessions. I will now entertain the motion to accept the slate.
 - C. Vote on Slate
 - 1. I entertain the motion to accept the Slate.

2. Motion : Omicron
 3. Second : Eta Omega
 4. Discussion : None
 5. In favor : Unanimous
 6. President: Motion Passes
- VI. We will now hear the Membership Committee report. I yield the floor to Grace Brandalick from the Theta Delta chapter to present this report.
- A. [Membership Report](#)
- VII. We will now hear the Programs Committee report. I yield the floor to Tori Carpenter from the Alpha Chi chapter to present this report
- A. [Programs Report](#)
- VIII. I'd like to move to Desiree to present a few awards now! I will now yield the floor to our VPSP, Desiree.
- A. [Awards Slideshow!](#)
- IX. RECESSSSSS
- A. Theo : I motion to recess until Saturday at 6:15 P.M. MST
 1. Hearing no objection, we recess at 4:45 P.M. MST

Separate Session 4

Saturday, April 23rd, 6:15 P.M. – 8 P.M.

- I. Theo: I call this Business session to order at 6:19 P.M.
- II. Theo: Please say “here” when I call your chapter/name
 - A. Roll Call
 1. Omicron – James Hamilton, present
 2. Omega – Chris Te, present
 3. Alpha Chi – Season Nañez, present
 4. Epsilon Kappa – Carol Mulumba, present
 5. Zeta Xi – Caroline Voetberg, present
 6. Eta Omega – Grace Brandalick, present
 7. Theta Delta – Kees Hoek, present
- III. Theo: We will now begin Elections for the 2023–2024 Western District Council.

- A. The procedure for this election will be an online ranked ballot that will be sent by email to each of the Delegates to cast their vote. From the time that the email is sent out, Delegates will have 5 minutes to cast their vote.
- IV. The slate was announced as part of the Nominations Committee Report during the last Business Session. A motion to accept was seconded and passed. Therefore, the slated candidates are automatically nominated for the position.
- V. There will be a call for Nominations for every office, since we elect top-down. In a moment, I will open the floor for Nominations for the office of President.
 - A. When the floor is open, I will call for nominations three times.
 - 1. If there are no other nominations, I will then declare the floor closed for Nominations.
 - B. As stated in our Standing Rules, we will not be recognizing time for discussion or caucusing during Elections, and the only Nominations from the floor will be those Candidates who have gone through the Nominations Committee Interview and Process.
- VI. In order to be elected, a candidate must have a majority of the votes cast.
 - A. If the floor for nominations is closed and there is only one candidate nominated for the position, there may be a motion to elect by acclamation. This would take place right after I open the floor for elections for that specific officer position.
 - 1. The delegate would say: "I move to elect X to the position of Y by acclamation."
 - a) It requires unanimity, which means that every Delegate present must vote in favor of this motion. This vote is administered as any other motion. I will ask for any opposition and then for any abstentions. Any opposition or abstention causes the motion to fail.
 - B. I open the floor for any questions from the delegation.
- VII. Let's Start Elections *Theo's crying again*
 - A. President
 - 1. President: I open the floor for Nominations for the Western District President.
 - a) Epsilon Kappa nominates Amanda Leyer
 - (1) She accepts
 - b) Eta Omega moves to vote by acclamation

(1) Second by Alpha Chi

c) Unanimous it passes

d) Congratulations to the 2023-2024 President Amanda Level

B. Vice President for Membership

1. I open the floor for Nominations for the Western District VPM

a) Kees Hoek is automatically nominated for VPM by the Slate.

b) Are there any more nominations for the office of VPM x3.

c) The floor is now closed for Nominations.

d) Eta Omega moves to vote by acclamation

(1) Omega second

e) Unanimous, it passes

f) Congratulations to the 2023-2024 VPM Kees Hoek

C. Vice President for Special Projects

1. I open the floor for Nominations for the Western District VPSP.

a) Matthew Councill is automatically nominated for VPSP by the Slate.

b) Are there any more nominations for the office of VPSP x3.

c) The floor is now closed for Nominations.

d) Zeta Xi moves to vote for acclimation

(1) Epsilon Kappa seconds

e) Unanimous, it passes.

f) Congratulations to the 2023-2024 VPSP Matthew Councill

D. Secretary-Treasurer

1. I open the floor for Nominations for the Western District Secretary-Treasurer.

a) Sydney Inselman is automatically nominated for Sec-Treas by the Slate.

b) Are there any more nominations for the office of Sec-Treas x3.

c) The floor is now closed for Nominations.

d) Omega moves to vote by acclamation

(1) Eta Omega seconds

e) Unanimous, it passes.

f) Congratulations to the 2023-2024 Secretary/Treasurer Sydney Inselman

- VIII. *Theo has finally calmed down* Finally, we will hear the President report, presented by the one and only Theo.
- A. [President Report](#)
- IX. RECESSSSSS
- A. Theo : I move to recess until 7:15 P.M. MST
 - B. Hearing no objection, we recess at 7:10 P.M. MST
- X. We will now move onto the presentation of chapter reports. Each chapter submits a report on the state of their chapter and their accomplishments throughout the year. We've created worksheets to allow you to bring back ideas and thoughts to your chapter. Marissa Archuletta will be assisting in this process.
- A. Omicron - [O Chapter Report](#)
 - B. Omega - [Ω Chapter Report](#)
 - C. Alpha Chi - [AX Chapter Report](#)
 - D. Epsilon Kappa - [EK Chapter Report](#)
 - E. Zeta Xi - [ZX Chapter Report](#)
 - F. Eta Omega - No Chapter Report Submitted
 - G. Theta Delta - [θΔ Chapter Report](#)
- XI. Theta Delta moves to adjourn the final business session of Western District Convention
- A. Epsilon Kappa seconds
 - B. Unanimous, it passes.

Joint Session Minutes

Joint Opening Session

Friday, April 21st

- I. Welcome
 - A. Welcome to Park City, Utah!
- II. Call to Order
 - A. We now call the 2023 Western District Convention to order at 5:32 P.M. MST. *gavel bang*

- III. We're so excited to welcome you all to Western District Convention and we hope you have a fantastic weekend. We'd like to take a moment real quick to point out some people just in case anyone has any questions over the weekend.
- IV. First we'd like to acknowledge and point out the District Councils! They've put in a lot of work to make this convention a success.
 - A. Now introducing your 2022-2023 Kappa Kappa Psi Western District Council
 - 1. Member-At-Large, Bree Latimer, (She/Her) from the Iota Kappa Chapter
 - 2. Secretary-Treasurer, Emily Rowe, (She/Her) from the Mu Pi Chapter.
 - 3. Vice President, Reese Valdez, (They/Them) from the Theta Chapter.
 - 4. President, Mary Elliott, (She/Her) from the Iota Kappa Chapter.
 - B. 2022-2023 Tau Beta Sigma Western District Council.
 - 1. President, Theo Mitchell, (He/They) from the Theta Delta Chapter.
 - 2. Vice President of Membership, Julia Robles, (She/Her) from the Eta Omega Chapter.
 - 3. Vice President of Special Projects, Desiree Alverado, (She/Her) from the Epsilon Kappa Chapter.
 - 4. Secretary-Treasurer, Lupe Ramon, (They/Them) from the Eta Omega Chapter.
 - C. We'd also like to take a moment to shout out our wonderful National dignitaries!
 - 1. If you are someone from either National Leadership team, the National Alumni Association, please stand up
 - D. Finally, we also want to note our host chapter for this convention, the Omicron Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma at the University of Utah!! They've helped with a lot of on the ground work including helping set up, bringing much needed supplies, and well helping out with registration.
- V. We've decided to kick our convention weekend off officially with some energy! We'd like to introduce the Park City High School Jazz band, who is recognized as one of the best high school jazz bands within the state of Utah and their director Chris Taylor was recognized as Jazz Educator of the Year by the Utah

Bandmasters Association twice. Chris Taylor is an Alumni Member of the Alpha Nu chapter at the University of Wyoming!

A. Man what a performance to kick off convention with! Let's give them a round of applause!

VI. Now turning to the Joint Advisors :

A. Hello! I'm Governor Brian Parker, from the Iota Pi chapter at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Welcome to Park City and congratulations on choosing to be here!

B. Hello! I am Counselor Alexis Holladay, from Eta Omega at California State University, Fresno. Conduct yourselves as if this was your own band! Be considerate!

C. Hi! I am Governor Karissa Longo, from the Zeta Epsilon chapter at Michigan State University. Put yourself out there! It is all about how you will make your experience

D. Hello everyone, I am Counselor Sarah Cervantes, from Epsilon Kappa at University of California, Los Angeles. You've seen the schedule, it can be overwhelming! Drink, eat, and TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF! Make sure self care is apart of your experience

E. Hi! I am Governor Lance Coochyouma, from the Gamma Kappa at Northern Arizona University and the Omega Chapter at The University of Arizona. It is a safe space! Be who you are and who you wanna be! We welcome you with open arms!

VII. Right after this session, we're going to move into separate sessions. KKPsi will stay here in Summit AB, and TBS will head to Hearst and Kearns upstairs.

VIII. Recess

A. Recess at 6:16 P.M. MST Until Sunday at 8 A.M. MST

Fight Song Competition:

Joint Closing Session

Sunday, April 23rd

I. **Joint Fireside Chat:**

- A. Good morning friends! This day focuses a lot on joint relationships, and who better to talk about joint relationships than our joint National Presidents?
- B. Joining us shortly will be Erika Pope and Bon to have a nice intimate fireside chat to kick off today. The chat will focus on navigating joint relationships and what it takes to maintain them. Please give a warm Western welcome to them!

II. Fireside Chat

- A. How do you lead an organization with a specific mission, while being mindful of the Sister/Brother organization?
 - 1. E: Understanding what's important to the other organizations.
 - 2. Sit down together to discuss and talk about your missions,
- B. When you were a student, how did you resolve conflict or disagreements with a Sister/Brother Chapter?
 - 1. E: Video games? Find time to have fun and blow off steam! Step away from the conflict and bond on things you can agree on, and step back in once you've blown off steam.
 - 2. ? : Remember that you guys are here to serve people! Remind yourself that you're here for a common cause.
- C. Any tips on practicing kindness when working in a Joint situation?
 - 1. ? : If you truly care and you're committed you'll realize there is a lot more to this person in a position of office. So take the challenge and try to understand people on a deeper level. Kindness is NOT a weakness.
 - 2. E : Meaningful touches, ex. take the time to write a note/card. Demonstrate your kindness! Reevaluate what's most important to you and the other organizations.
- D. What are your top 2 Joint Fraternity/Sorority memories?
 - 1. E : Any time that I've been able to participate in service projects.
 - 2. ? : 2021 NatCon when I became an Honorary of TBS, because it feels good to be recognized.
- E. As Honorary Members of the other organization, how does that affect the leadership you provide for your "first" organization you were a member of?
 - 1. E : It helps me understand more about the brotherhood and how it fits in with the sisterhood.

2. ? : It gives perspective and gives us a challenge to be better people!
Celebrate other people doing work for the bands.
 - F. We hope you found some inspiration and insight from this chat! Thank you so much Erika and Jessica for putting this together.
- III. We will now move on to the joint ceremony portion of this morning.

Joint Ceremony of the Western District

President TBS: Greetings siblings of the Western District. Once again we are joined together to complete our business and to renew the bonds that we share through music. It has been a long time since we last met.

President KKPsi: It is for us to remind each of you of the importance of the cooperation that exists between our organizations, and the spirit of accomplishment that leads us to the attainment of our mutual goals. We gather now to offer these words, that you may be instructed and remember what it is that brings us together once more.

Governor: We stand before you as representatives of those who have gone before you. We understand that the bonds that join us together were created in the past and fostered by those who wished to see us succeed in our common goals.

Counselor: We remind you therefore to remember that these bonds are based on a mutual respect for each other, and that working together we will always be stronger than we would apart.

TBS Sec/Treas: Communication is the beginning of all accomplishment. It is through the sharing of ideas and the interaction between us as friends that we further our knowledge of each other and our understanding of the goals we wish to accomplish.

KKPsi Sec/Treas: It becomes our duty to request that in all of our proceedings throughout the year, whether they be professional or personal, that you strive to reach this goal of communication, and remember to listen to each other with open minds and hearts.

TBS VPSP: Progress is a result of challenges that have been successfully overcome. As brothers and sisters, we have reason to be proud of the accomplishments that we have made. But the sweetest success of all lies in defeating the challenges that we have set for ourselves.

KKPsi MAL: We ask that you as active members continue to meet and exceed the standards that we have set for ourselves in the Western District. It is only when we all succeed in this together that we can be proud of ourselves as a whole.

TBS VPM: All of us here today know that being a member of these groups is a unique and unequalled experience. We have become stronger people through our organizations, and the people we associate with here will forever be part of our lives.

KKPsi VP: Our future lies in the hands of those we choose to share in this bond. Someday they will be the ones who guide the steps of our organizations. Take the time to teach those who wish to join us. Instruct them in the history and tradition that make us truly unique. But most of all teach them the strength and enduring love that comes from the sisters and brothers that surround us.

President KKPsi: This candle represents Kappa Kappa Psi. The darkness around it represents the brothers as strangers to each other. The light represents the discovery of brotherhood through the common goals of Kappa Kappa Psi.

President TBS: This is the light of Tau Beta Sigma. The darkness surrounding it symbolizes the sisters, unknown to each other. The light represents the discovery of sisterhood through our common bond of music.

President KKPsi: When the two candles are united a new light is created, forming a new bond. This bond is love for one another and respect for our mutual goals. It might be compared to that of a love between a brother and sister.

President TBS: Such love is unfaltering. It understands completely, tolerates unceasingly, and forges on incessantly; a love that shares hardships as well as joys, and grows stronger as years pass.

President KKPsi: To assure us of your intentions to continue this love, the district desires you to assume this obligation. Please repeat after us:

Presidents take turns reading the oath:

“I, (state your name), / promise to uphold the virtues of brotherhood and sisterhood / with the members of the joint chapters of Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi / to be tolerant in my expectations / and opinions of others / even if their opinions differ from my own / realizing that there is room for compromise. / I will strive to create harmonious feelings between the chapters / and will do my best / not to contribute to discord. / Most of all / I will work with my siblings / in a manner to best achieve / the goals of our organizations.

Both presidents: We accept your promise.

President KKPsi: With these principles in mind, I wish you a successful and joyful year.

President TBS: We thank you for your dedication and participation. We have two activities meant to further deepen the bond.

Kris Wright
Tau Beta Sigma Western District Vice President Special Projects
1995-96

Revised by Theo Mitchell
Tau Beta Sigma Western District President
2022-23

Tap Someone Who:

President: Please form two circles, one circle inside of a bigger circle (pause). The inner circle may opt to close their eyes for this. Outer circle, you will walk around and tap the person on the shoulder who the statement I read out loud applies to. Inner circle, you may opt to not be touched if you aren't comfortable simply by holding your shoulders like so (President demonstrates holding their shoulders, with each hand touching the opposite shoulder). We will switch and the inner circle will tap the outside circle on the shoulder once instructed. Do not switch which circle you are in. Please raise your hand if you have a question at this time.

We will begin.

Round 1: Tap someone who:

- You are glad you met
- Inspired you to work harder
- You learned something from
- You feel supported by
- Is passionate

Round 2: Touch someone who:

- You want to stay in contact with
- You can depend on
- Has a good sense of humor
- You would like to know better
- Is reliable
- Should give themselves more credit

IV. Brunchquet:

- A. I would love to introduce and point out some special guests. So as some of you may or may not know Tau Beta Sigma was founded by Wava Banes.

Wava Banes' daughter Sandra Turner and her daughter are joining us for this lovely brunch-quet.

V. Awards Time!

A. Hi everyone! We'd like to invite Desiree, the Tau Beta Sigma Vice President for Special Projects and Bree, the Kappa Kappa Psi Member at Large to come up to the podium and present our awards!

1. [Award Script](#)

VI. Installations

A. President: We now invite the newly elected Western District Council to the front of the room for participation in the Installation of Officers Ceremony to be conducted by a Member of the National Council (or if none are present, the District Counselors).

1. Counselors: Installation of Officers Ceremony.

2. Adjourn

VII. NEW President: I now entertain the motion to adjourn the 2023 Western District Convention of Tau Beta Sigma

A. Motion: Theta Delta: "So Moved."

B. Second: (new President Chapter): "Second."

C. Any Opposition?

D. NEW President: Motion Passes.

Officer Reports

2022-2023 President Report

To my siblings of the West:

It has been an absolute honor serving as your District President for the 2022-2023 year. The year has had its challenges for us all, both inside and outside of TBS, and it never honestly ceases to amaze me the amount of love and hard work you all put into your chapters.

As district president this year, I worked very frequently with the lovely chapter presidents within the district. I sent out a monthly newsletter each month listing out

important dates, events, and sorority information. I added a handful of fun things to each newsletter, from Fall Bingo to a cute blurb about Erika Pope. The “For Your Chapter” section directly highlighted what was important for chapter members and could be shared directly into chapter pages/chats.

In the Fall, Counselors hosted the TBS Roadtrip Workshop Series, and it was really awesome being able to see those who came! We continued the road trip with district officers in the Spring, targeting our chapter leadership we work with. My workshop focused on creating engaging meetings and chapter spaces. Many of those who attended mentioned they enjoyed the workshops, and I hope that next year’s council gets to build upon these workshops next year. I also hosted a game night as well, and it was a super fun time. For those that came I really hope you enjoyed my casual brainwash- ...I mean advertising being a district officer.

Me and Mary, my Kappa Kappa Psi counterpart, worked very closely with each other this year. A lot of our work focused on district convention, and creating an experience that was focused on re-uniting and coming back together, much like the quintessential summer camp experience where everyone re-unites and breaks out into song and choreography. It’s a very different layout and experience than conventions prior, most notably “brunchquette”, and while I don’t particularly think next year should be like this as well I think given the constraints we were working with this was quite frankly probably the best outcome

Creating a convention, unsurprisingly, was challenging, and I honestly couldn’t have done it without our district council and the KKY council. Our Counselors and Governors brought some really awesome ideas and thoughts to the table to make this convention unique as well as a lot of countless hours spent re-working the schedule when a new bump in the road came along or putting together emails. I was exhausted with the long hours spent working on district convention stuck in meetings, but boy Sarah and Alex certainly have me beat in terms of hours spent in meetings alone and I quite frankly don’t even want to think about how much they have me beat in general work time for sorority stuff.

I have a few personal thank you’s:

To Erika Pope:I'm coming for your spot. I don't know when that will be but you can bet on me being stupid enough to run. On a more serious note, I really appreciate your guidance throughout the year and for all of your help during the convention.

To Julia: It's been an absolute pleasure getting to see the growth in you. I loved having you at pre-convention, and I definitely felt a little more sure in myself having one of my siblings there with me.

To Desiree: You are an absolute ball of sunshine. I can't tell y'all how many times I've waltzed into meetings exhausted and not feeling bonita but Desiree here never fails to be incredibly positive and ready to go and get things done.

To Lupe: You're incredibly genuine in your reactions and thoughts, and it's just so easy to be able to relate to the things you say. I find myself constantly laughing with the things you say, and it's just been super easy to vibe with you.

To my counterpart Mary: It's been a pleasure working with you this year! From the very beginning I was super excited and I think even despite the challenges this year turned out pretty well.

To my chapter, Theta Delta: Thank you for giving me the family I needed. From the ghost bid I got to my now past District Presidency, you've given me so many opportunities and love and I cannot thank you all enough for the chances you've given me and the trust you've placed in me. I've had a few people tell me that I brought back their love and passion, which is wild because it is the SAME exact people that inspired me and gave me love and passion for the organization. There's nothing in this world that could ever stop going through ritual for the first time, the sleepless mamma mia nights, the long chapters after band practice with you all.

To Sarah and Alexis: It feels really weird to say that I've only known you two for two years. On one hand it feels like I've just known you forever, even right from the first time I met you two at NLC before the 2021 National convention. On the other hand, I could have sworn just a week ago we had a virtual district convention.

You two have had a really monumental impact in not only my growth as a leader but as an adult. I can't even begin to tell you how comforting it is seeing another adult live their life through both the good and the bad.

I charge you two with the task to (1) make sure to keep in touch with me because if you don't I WILL hunt and track you down and (2) to keep my kiddos safe, and while you're at it pass that charge on to the person who replaces you.

To the incoming District President: Good fucking luck kiddo. It's a wild ride and there's certainly a lot of hard moments but boy has it given me some of the best friends I'll ever make in my life. Things probably aren't gonna go the way you want them to, and some things you're just gonna have to drop and say "put it in the fuck it bucket". That's fine. You gotta keep moving on and working on the next thing because if you stop to pick it up you will be body slammed to the ground.

I charge you also to keep my kiddos safe, but alongside that to keep yourself safe and sane at the same time. Delegate where you need to, because you cannot do this alone. Don't forget why you started this in the first place, and remember that even when you're struggling there will always be someone there to help you whether it's with TBS or with life.

And finally to the West: I started this journey saying that I would never in my life join a sorority.....and I think we can all see where that ended up going. Idk if I'll be crying because of the physical and mental exhaustion or not crying because of the physical and mental exhaustion, but I do however know that ya'll have given me some of the best family and friends a person could have asked for. I know oftentimes, especially in college and with the world right now everything can feel too much at times, but if there's one thing you take from this organization and weekend it is that you are not alone. You're always gonna be my kiddos, regardless of whether I'm in Washington, in Japan, on the moon, or even in Antarctica snorkeling with penguins.

I charge you with that whenever you leave this weekend, wherever you may be going or headed back into, that you step (with your left foot first of course) that direction with the courage to move upward and onward. It takes a lot of courage to not only exist but to exist as yourself proudly, but I know you all have the ability to do so. Be proud and back up your siblings even if they're being little shits sometimes.

I cannot thank you all enough for all the times y'all have inspired me, made me laugh, made me stay up till 3am working on things. It's been a genuine pleasure to serve this District. I'm sitting here at 2am listening to music and finishing this report having

coffee with my fellow DO's after promising Sarah and Alexis we'd get a good night's sleep, and I quite frankly can't think of a better way to leave my district.

Respectfully submitted in the bond,

Theo "Nycheia" Mitchell

2022-2023 Western District President

Theta Delta, Washington State

Go Cougs!

2022-2023 Vice President of Membership Report

Hello sisters and brothers of Tau Beta Sigma.

My name is Julia Robles and I have had the privilege and pleasure of being the WD VPM for the 2022-2023 year. This is my final report. One of the focuses I had while going into this year was trying to make sure that we were understanding Overture and comfortable with teaching it. The other focus was getting all MEPs and paperwork turned in on time. Establishing good communication with all the chapter VPMs was fundamental to achieving my goals.

This year we had one less chapter in our district and of those seven chapters, I established communication with six from early on. I tried to do monthly check-ins but as the semester progressed getting full questionnaires became difficult and partially unnecessary. They gave a picture of how the chapters were using Overture. Even though the check-ins fell out of monthly frequency, the expectations of the year were established and the fall semester saw a pretty good fulfillment of those expectations. Only one chapter ended up paying late fees in the fall of the five initiating new members.

In addition to the year-long responsibilities, WDC has its own responsibilities. I have the honor of planning and leading rituals for WDC. We were able to extend speaking roles to chapter delegates. We have rehearsal time set so we can put on a solid performance. I also get to help keep the tradition of our annual fight song competition. It's always a treat to see our district show school pride.

There is a lot to be thankful for and I wanted to extend that gratitude as I finish my term in office. I want to thank all my VPMs for taking in all the information and accepting help. Thank you for helping us bring new sisters and brothers into our organizations and teaching

the future of our org. I want to thank the counselors, Alexis and Sarah, for being reliable and helpful. You helped encourage me to run and I am so grateful for that push and guidance. As for my fellow western district officers, for as short of a time we've had together as DOs compared to my years in TBS as a whole, I can honestly say you three have impacted me greatly. Thank you Theo for always having a joke to crack and being a solid leader that I have never shied from relying on. Thank you Desiree for having the love and passion that makes me so excited to hear you give your reports. Thank you Lupe for being real and honest with me about the good and the bad that makes it hard not to be equally sincere. I will stay in touch and that is a friendly threat.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia "CoyOLxAuHquI" Robles

WD VPM

Go 'Dogs

2022-2023 Vice President of Special Projects Report

Sisters of the Western District,

It brings me great joy to see everyone gathered together this weekend for another Western District Convention. It's mind-boggling that another year has come around and now it is time to reflect on the amazing year coming to a close with my position.

As I reflect on the past year, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the challenges that we have faced as a district, especially with the lingering effects of COVID-19 while serving our communities and respectfully following state guidelines, and encouraging more involvement in our organization and its projects. Despite these obstacles, I want to commend all of the chapters for their resilience and determination in working through individual challenges and making it through the year.

This year we successfully had 85% of our chapters complete the red stripe. The district held numerous virtual events, such as game nights, and a PowerPoint night where sisters had the opportunity to bond. District liaisons were once again appointed this year as a part of the red stripe challenge and they have done amazing with

connecting chapters to the district. The western district centerpiece lyre project “Strength Through Sisterhood” was created to connect our sisters and help chapters develop better bonds with each other.

Together with Bree, the talented Kappa Kappa Psi Member at Large, I had the pleasure of expanding Snarky’s Challenge to Instagram and the response was remarkable. There are still some details to be worked out for cross-posting on Facebook, but we believe that creating fun and engaging challenges is key to connecting brothers and sisters in the bond.

There is room for improvement, particularly with increasing participation, promoting and advertising the sign-ups for workshops, and ensuring that sisters can easily access information. Despite the challenges that we've faced, I want to encourage all of you to keep working together and remain steadfast in your efforts to overcome any obstacles that may come your way. I'm proud to say that our chapters have demonstrated resilience in their challenges. And just like the currents of the ocean work together to create an unstoppable force, we too, as sisters in the Western District, are stronger together. And your district officers strive to be the guiding current that leads you home to a place of unity, support, and continued growth.

And now for my charges:

- **To the Sisters of the West:** This organization is truly what you make of it. To fully enjoy your TBS experience, attend service and social events, and spend time with your family, Bigs, Littles, and counterparts. Building connections is great for the soul, but sisterhood bond is essential for the heart. Plan and attend sisterhood activities together, as your sisters are not just colleagues, but also friends. Help each other out, and cherish your time in TBS. Lastly, embrace the Western District's rowdy spirit, and if you're considering running for a DO role, take the plunge! You won't regret it.
- **To the next VPSP:** As you step into this position, it's important to know that you don't have to do everything alone. Don't hesitate to ask for help whenever you

feel overwhelmed with contacting officers or planning events. Stay confident in your role, and be proactive in making phone calls to officers who may not be responding.

While it's important to follow the Focus on Five requirements and fulfill your responsibilities, don't be afraid to expand your role and be creative. Consider hosting workshops or events that align with the values of the organization and that your sisters would enjoy. Hold social events more frequently, specifically in the fall as I wish I had done one then, as they're a great way for sisters to connect with each other. I challenge you to have fun in this position and tap into your creativity to make it your own.

As for Snarky's Challenge, simplify the point system and work closely with your counterpart to promote it effectively. Utilize your counterpart to share events and alternate turns cross-posting Snarky's Challenge between the Facebook and Instagram accounts. In addition, I challenge you to organize an awards ceremony in the fall and send award nomination forms early, because then it will encourage sisters to nominate each other for WDC awards. Additionally, please send out nominations for the For Service's Sake Award so chapters can nominate a project that exemplifies the mission of the chapter's service to music and its significant impact in college and university bands.

To achieve this, it is important to make a plan for when and how these tasks will be accomplished. This position can sometimes be overwhelming at times, and it's normal to face setbacks and even failures, but instead of beating yourself up, use them as an opportunity for growth and to learn. Try your best to brush it off and accept it as a part of the journey. Remember that this position is what you make of it, so be proactive, have fun, and leave your mark in the sisterhood.

As for my thank yous:

To our council: You each have inspired me, and I cannot thank you enough for the laughs we've shared. Our conversations, both during and after our meetings, have been

nothing short of incredible. I feel so fortunate to have been a part of this year's district officer group. And as a future Delta Eta Beta, and I hope we can continue to stay in touch with random updates about our crochet projects and new jobs. Even though we may be spread out across the district, I hope that we can continue to share updates about our lives and support each other in our personal and professional endeavors. Your friendships have been a source of strength and inspiration for me, and I am truly grateful to have met each and every one of you. And those Delta Eta Beta cardigans are gonna hit. Thank you for being a part of my journey this past year.

To Sarah: As I learned more about this position at WDC last year, I knew I was interested in running from the floor, but while I was also filled with doubts and questions, you were the encouraging smile that pushed me to run for this position. Thank you for validating my questions and concerns and being such an incredible counselor. Your encouragement and unwavering support have helped me grow in confidence and communication skills. You've been a constant source of guidance, and I'm forever grateful for your kindness. I am so grateful for your friendship and I hope to follow in your footsteps and be as supportive and encouraging to others as you have been to me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, my lovely sister from EK and Go Bruins.

To Alexis: Thank you for being a rock in this position, thank you for your advice of calling people and for pushing us as officers to do our best. Your support has meant the world to me and Your encouragement has pushed me to do my best, and I can't thank you enough for being such an amazing counselor.

To Leslie: Thank you for your positive attitude at every VPSP meeting. Thank you for answering my endless questions and having so much patience with me. Thank you for working with me and for being so great at communicating and connecting me with other VPSP officers in a way that I am so thankful to have met their impressive and beautiful selves.

To Bree: I truly am lucky to have had you as a parallel and complimenting KKPsi counterpart. Your infectious smile and encouragement have been such a blessing.. I

will never forget our long conversations and your help in feeling comfortable as a fellow student officer, embracing the waves of the Western District officers.

To my liaisons: Your motivation throughout this year has been truly inspiring to me. Every check-in, I found myself energized by your unwavering dedication to completing challenges. Your passion and drive are a testament to the amazing individuals you all are, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have gotten to know each and every one of you. Thank you for trusting me with your questions and for your patience with my constant pestering, lengthy messages, and occasional calls that exceeded the time limit I tried to set. Your initiative and drive are truly impressive, and I am constantly amazed by your commitment to personal growth and making a positive impact in our communities.

I have witnessed your chapter's journey through the Focus on Five Challenges and seen you all encounter setbacks and obstacles along the way. However, through it all, I have felt the spirit of sisterhood and unwavering commitment to growth and positive change. With this spirit, I have complete faith that our chapters are in good hands because of the hard work and drive that each and every one of you possesses.

To Epsilon Kappa- Thank you for your encouragement over the past three years in TBS. Our harmonious songs and fun environment have been the perfect place for me to learn and grow as a leader. You've inspired me in ways I cannot describe, and each of you reminds me of what a Bruin truly is and I will always hold the spirit of the Solid Gold Band of the UCLA Marching Sound close to my heart.<3 Go Bruins.

And finally to the West: Thank you for electing me for VPSP. It's been an honor to serve alongside each and every one of you. I'm forever inspired and grateful for your dedication to sisterhood, service, and musicianship. I hope you all continue to embrace the spirit of sisterhood and find success and satisfaction as your role in this wonderful org that is Tau Beta Sigma. As we move upward and onward in our journeys, I hope we can always embrace each other. Let's continue to strive towards our goals harmoniously, always remembering that we are here to serve our communities and make a positive impact on the world. One water droplet can make ripples and waves but many water droplets can make an ocean of impact.

Respectfully submitted in the bond,

Desiree Alvarado

2022-2023 Western District Vice President for Special Projects

Epsilon Kappa | University of California-Los Angeles

2022-2023 Secretary-Treasurer Report

Dear Lovely Sisters of the West,

I'll be honest, I had no idea where to begin this report. First time as a DO and first time ever attending WDC, I felt super worried and scared that I would do this wrong, but I am grateful for the opportunity to be in this position and to be in the Sorority itself. I want my sisters to know that I absolutely love them and the memories I've created with them, and to my co DO's that I've spent the year getting close to, I love all you crazy weirdos so much. I came into this office late, and had to learn how to be a semi-good secretary as I've only ever been a Treasurer before, but you guys made it so worth it.

For the fall semester, I spent a lot of time just connecting with my secretary and treasurers, and while I did attempt some fundraising, a series of unfortunate events caused it not to happen. Sad, but true! I didn't lose my ground or my hope as in the spring, I worked a lot more social media wise! I created a lot of the promotional ads you see on instagram and even used my editing skills to make a cute DO Interview video! I wanted to make good use of my time, especially with WDC coming up, so I spent a lot of time working with Emily to create designs for WDC and even played a little part in creating the design for the WDC shirt!

My charges are as follows to the next Tau Beta Sigma Western District

Secretary-Treasurer:

- Continue to create a good channel of communication with your officers, they will appreciate you and your effort!
- Do more fundraisers! BUT also know your limits! You're gonna have so many ideas, but make sure that you bite off a reasonable amount to chew! Especially with how fast the semester will fly by!
- Please work closely with your KKY Counterpart! They don't bite I promise! Building that bond will help you in the long run! Communicate, communicate, COMMUNICATE!
- Always look on the brightside! There will be times where you'll wonder if a fundraiser will work, or you'll see fewer responses than expected. BREATHE! I promise you it'll all work out and you're doing great!
- Ask more questions! No question is a dumb question! Your counselors are here to help you so let them! It makes them feel special! c:
- Speaking of counselors, rely on them! They are there to give you support so lean on them and go to them for advice !
- Do not let this position hurt you mentally or physically. You are not letting your team down if you need time to breathe. Always, always take care of you first!

To the Next District Officers, Chapter Officers, and Sisters:

- Believe in yourself! You are so much more capable than you think! You can do this and not only do I believe in you, but so does your team and your district. Know you can take on this challenge and use your experience to overcome any issue you may face.
- Lean on your team, counselors, and fellow sisters in the Bond. Know that if you need answers, there is someone who will be able to help you and guide you in the right direction.

Thank You's:

- To my fellow DO's and Counselors: God how can I even begin to say thank you. I'm so incredibly thankful that I got the opportunity to laugh and grow with all of you. You believed in me, supported me, and praised me when I felt down about my abilities. You put up with my snarky remarks, funny insta memes, and really weird allergies (Yes. I am in fact allergic to the cold). You are beautiful people that I love, so very much. No matter where life may lead us, know I am in your corner and will always support you in any way I can.
- To Julia. I genuinely would not be here if it weren't for you. You pushed me to be here and believed that I would be amazing at it, and without you I wouldn't have ever met Theo and Desiree or worked closely with Alexis and Sarah, so I am eternally grateful to you, my eta omega sistaaa <3
- To Theo. You are genuinely such a beautiful person and while this is the first time we've met in person, you constantly made me laugh and helped me feel less alone in this entire process. You truly were my pillar of strength when I felt like I was asking a dumb question and for that I am so happy I got to be a part of your team. #Theo4NationalPres #SorryErikaPope
- To Desiree. The time we've spent together was short (and also the first time we've met), but in meetings and in person you have been nothing but a complete ray of sunshine. You're funny, kind, and have a good taste in music, despite you having not listened to Hamilton before this trip. (BOMBASTIC SIDE EYE) Thank you for letting me experience your beautiful soul.
- To Eta Omega: Thank you for being my sisters. You've supported and loved me from the moment each of you joined. (Yes, I am the token oldest sister, even though I'm only 22 ;-;) You are my home, my people, and I can't wait to see the improvements that are to come to the chapter. I love you Eta Omega, Go 'Dogs!

As my journey continues forward, I will never forget you beautiful people or the amazing experiences that I have gotten through being your 2022-23 Secretary/Treasurer. I wish all of you the best in whatever comes next in your lives. With all the love in the Bond,

Lupe "AkewStYeK" Ramon

Tau Beta Sigma Western District Secretary-Treasurer 2022-2023

Eta Omega Chapter

California State University, Fresno

Go 'Dogs!

2022-2023 Counselors Report

Sisters and Brothers of Tau Beta Sigma here assembled, it is great to be reunited once again. This time last year the West was hosting its first in-person convention since 2019, and this year we are just back in the swing of things with a wonderfully and thoughtfully planned WDC in Park City, Utah! Over the past year, our district council has continued onward, intentionally and reflectively planning ways to increase student engagement, development student leadership skills, and support chapters as challenges arise.

In summer, we attended the National Leadership Conference in Stillwater, OK, and began planning for the year. The team analyzed and reflected on our national systems, including chapter operations, membership education plans, chapter constitutions, communication, paperwork and finances, and district convention practices. This allowed us to determine areas in which we as a district wanted to improve. We left this event hoping for increased student participation in and adherence to national programs and policies.

In order to encourage this, we began a monthly Road Trip Workshop series to teach members in our district about the rules and map of a year in TBS. Topics included deadlines, recruitment, national programs, building connections at your universities, strengthening membership and bands, and reflecting on fall semester. We had many chapters attend our four workshops—shoutout to Omega and Zeta Xi for having the highest participation!

After a fall filled with leadership development, we moved into a spring with a balance of virtual workshops and social events. We brainstormed ideas with our district officers and supervised their execution of workshops about engagement and officer transitions and two game nights. Thank you to our district officers for their work on these events, and also to those members (both from TBS and KKPsi) who attended.

Throughout the year, we provided steady and strategic support to our district officers and active members. We met with our DOs at bi-weekly meetings, provided feedback and guidance regarding projects, emailed, texted, and called students, and did our best to keep checking and responding to emails. We sent out Wednesday in the West email newsletters which we hope you all received and reviewed! In November, Sarah and myself met in person over a weekend to reflect on the year and plan out our long and short-term goals. Because of this we now have monthly checklists for our work as counselors as well as a vision of the next 3 years of continued progress and growth in the West.

When a challenge was brought to our attention, we did our best to help our students resolve the problem. We have collaboratively supported chapters with conflict resolution, addressing concerns around constitutional requirements and university policies, and filling vacant offices midyear. Our goal as counselors is to help each chapter overcome discord and actualize their potential. There were a few definitive changes in our district this past year. Unfortunately we saw the closing of one of our chapters, Theta Eta at Utah State University. Though we counseled the students, it did not change the bitter outcome of losing a chapter of student leaders in the West. Another change in our district was the removal of State Days. Due to inconsistent and low interest, paired with financial and insurance-based concerns associated with the events, we will no longer be hosting State Days as district events. We do still encourage you and your chapters to connect with members from other schools, and Arizona did a great job modeling what this chapter-led event could look like. The students from Omega hosted an "Arizona Day." We hope that each of your chapter continues to seek out opportunities to connect through rituals, socials, and service projects.

Preparing for this convention has been our main focus since late in fall semester. We have spent countless hours meeting with our national leaders, district president and council members, as well as our joint counterparts in Kappa Kappa Psi. By the end of December, a rough draft schedule had been designed by our students, and we stepped

in to provide more hands-on guidance at Pre-Con, our in-person planning meeting. Our joint councils visited Park City for a weekend in January, and we worked together to put the WDC puzzle pieces together. Since then, we have coordinated and supervised all WDC communication and advertising, the registration process, hotel logistics and audio-visual needs, and pivoted when last minute changes had to be made.

And now we are here, at this amazing event. We hope your experience throughout the weekend inspires you to return home to your chapter with a joyful mindset and love for our sisterhood, leadership, and service. May this convention be the spark that ignites a year of flourishing sisters and chapters across the West from National Convention in Orlando this summer, to WDC 2024!

Our Charges:

To the sisters of the West:

- Stay informed about what is going on in our district by reading your newsletters and monitoring our social media accounts. You can't engage with us if you're disconnected from us.
- Continue to do your best in school, in band, in Tau Beta Sigma, and in your personal lives. Your personal success makes our whole organization better.
- Contact your leaders (the District Officers and us) with your questions. We are here to help.
- Spend this next summer with your chapters reflecting on what works for your membership, and consider changes or adjustments to the things that do not work. Always remember the ideals that bring us all together. Treat each other with grace, always. Be each other's reason to stay strong and persevere through both good and challenging times.

To the 2022-2023 District Officers:

- Get ready for a year unlike any other. We are here for you and we believe in your ability to do great things for the Western District!

To the outgoing District Officers:

- Hold on to the best memories from this past year. Soak them in and let them lift your spirits as you continue along your own journey. We hope the work you put in this year and the lessons learned along the way will carry you into adulthood and beyond.

Our Thank Yous:

To the National Leadership of Tau Beta Sigma: Thank you for your help throughout this year, as always. To see such a great example of leadership, positivity, and encouragement lets us both know we made the right decision to serve in this capacity.

To the KKPsi Governors, Lance, Brian, and Karissa: Thank you for all of the love that you bring to your work, and for always having our back. Not only have we gained brothers in service to our work as Counselors, but we have gained life long friends.

To the 2022-2023 District Officers:

- **Lupe:** It has been such a pleasure working with you this year. The levity you bring, the “out of the box” ideas, and true dedication to serve wherever you are needed has made it clear to us that you were just what this council needed. Thank you for having the courage to submit your packet, for having the fortitude to push through this year, and for all of your hard work.
- **Desiree:** Thank you so much for stepping up last year to serve as our District VPSP. Your maturity, thoughtfulness, and unique ideas have allowed our Council to be as successful as it was this year. Also, your ability to work so well jointly with your counterpart is exactly what we hope to see out of our district officers. We truly enjoyed your wit and loving nature, and your whimsical attitude was infectious!
- **Julia:** A big shout out to you for having shown extreme courage and resilience in running for District Office last year. It means a lot to us that you felt so strongly about what you could offer, and we were so thankful to watch you live that out this past year. Your rational ideas and ability to roll with the changes was much needed this year. Also, our active membership is in a better position because of your efforts with chapter VPMs and Candidates.
- **And finally, Theo:** Thank you for agreeing to lead this District Council this year. The knowledge and experience you brought to your office allowed all of us to shine. It was special to see you grow as a leader and to witness that growth over the past two years is something we will never forget. You have left a “Theo Delta” sized imprint on our hearts, and we are so excited to watch as you continue to grow within Tau Beta Sigma, and in life.

To everyone in attendance: Thank you for showing up for Tau Beta Sigma, its ideals, and its mission. We are stronger and better when we unite, and our hope is that we can use WDC 2023 as a springboard for even more connections. Keep moving “Upward” and “Onward”!

Respectfully submitted in the bond,
Alexis Holladay and Sarah Cervantes

Western District Counselors
Eta Omega Chapter, Fresno State
Epsilon Kappa Chapter, UCLA
Go Dogs, Go Bruins!

Chapter Reports

2022-2023 Omicron Chapter Report

To our Siblings in the Western District,

The Omicron chapter has found itself having a difficult time getting back on its feet. We started the school year last year with only a few members, and began trying to build ourselves back up. We struggled with our university, and our own members, but slowly we began to rebuild. This last year has seen some steady improvements.

While talking to members of our band programs, particularly our marching band, we realized that our chapter was largely unknown among people in the band. People saw us helping, but had no idea that TBS, or our chapter, even existed. So during our fall semester, we tried to make ourselves more visible, and let the band know we existed. We hosted a series of fun events at the beginning of the semester. And with an outdoor movie, sports, s'mores, and a Bob Ross inspired paint night, we provided lots of opportunities for our fellow band members to see what TBS was all about, and also meet the other members of the band. This outreach helped us almost double our number of active sisters, as we welcomed a class of nine new members. While hosting these activities, we realized that there was another way that we could help our band members.

Many members of our band had their high school experience hindered by the pandemic, and many of our members missed out on certain activities. Thinking about this sparked the idea to host a dance for the marching band. With the help of other student leaders, we were able to host our own “Band Prom”. It was a lot of work, but we had many members of the band thank us for giving them this opportunity. It was very successful, and was one of the chapters highlights of the semester. Much of our other projects involved helping our band, from running the entire Student Uniform Service committee, to providing snack bags to our band, as well as visiting ones. We continued to work closely with our marching band into the winter, even getting to help with uniforms and travel logistics as we made our second trip to the Rose Bowl, and had the chance to march in the parade.

Returning from the Rose Bowl, and starting into the Spring Semester and Pep Band season, we started to struggle a bit with our chapter meetings, and general enthusiasm among our members. Despite our school trips, and Utah having a record breaking winter, with weather frequently hindering travel, we still managed to keep our focus on preparing for this conference, and helping our one membership candidate. We may not have had the easiest year as a chapter, but we haven’t let that get in our way as we have tried to help each other, and try to represent our chapter, our band, and the University of Utah. We are excited to be here with all of you, and look forward to what the future holds for the Omicron chapter.

Respectfully Submitted in the Bond,

James Hamilton

Omicron President

University of Utah

Go Utes!

2022-2023 Omega Chapter Report

Dear Sisters of the West!

This past year has been one of tremendous progress and success for the Omega Chapter at the University of Arizona. Now that we have had a full year to recover and adjust, this year felt more familiar and we were able to focus on many things in regard to service, sisterhood, music, and leadership! To kick off the year, we began with 39

amazing actives and were able to take on another class of 14 candidates who were all initiated in November and have since become an integral part of the chapter which currently stands at 47 actives!

In the fall of 2022, we immediately jumped in with our service events for the Pride of Arizona, which is the marching band at the U of A. We hosted the Pride Rookie Orientation Dinner and Registration events to kick off Band Camp in addition to providing snacks for them throughout the week. Later on, we helped the Pride put on a family weekend by designing and selling shirts and stickers, along with providing lunch for the whole band. Props goes to our amazing treasurer who, along with her committee, was able to fundraise quickly and efficiently to be able to sponsor those events! The last Pride related event was when we continued our annual tradition of hosting the U of A Band Day. This has always been our biggest project of the year in which all chapters(plus alumni) host around 40 bands throughout the day, in addition to two performing two shows since most of us are in the marching band! Although it is a huge project to take on, it is one of the most rewarding and memorable experiences that we do each year! Finally, we have participated in numerous other events organized by our VPS including two different food drives, an adopt-a-street each month, and small-acts-of-kindness which are smaller things that we do that together make a bigger impact! Trick-or-treat for cans was one particular music/service event that we really love to do each year!

Over the course of both semesters, our parliamentarian and their leadership committee have planned and executed several amazing events such as: leadership lectures, short leadership activities before meeting, and instituting Random Acts of Kindness which is where we write cards with inspirational or heart warming things and then hand them out to people we come across. Additionally, our publications committee has worked hard to maintain and publish several articles of the Leaky Bugle for every football game. Our Moderator of the Sisterhood has worked tirelessly to provide many sisterhood events(sometimes 2-3 a week) so that we have many opportunities to bond together! Some notable activities are the monthly sisterhood pairings, game nights, and sister prom!

In the Spring, things have slowed down with marching band being over which has given us time to focus on more of the events listed above as well as our second candidate class of 11 who will have gone through by reading this report. Notably, we

helped to provide food for the UA honor band and Pep Band in February. We recently hosted the new 'Arizona Days', between all of the TBS and KKY chapters within our state in which we did a service gig together and even did the second half of our chapter visit all together with the Epsilon Kappa chapter at UCLA!

We came very close to completing all of the national programs but came up short with the Black Stripe, although we are proud that we were able to do the chapter visit lyre piece and are potentially going to be able to send a delegate to the National Convention this year! I have no doubt that with the progress and experiences we have had this semester along with more growth, we will be able to keep doing some amazing things in the coming year. Some goals we hope to achieve moving forward is strengthening our relationships further with the bands here at the U of A, particularly with more focus towards the concert bands, as well as making more connections with other chapters and participating to a higher degree at the district and national level!

MLitB,

Caleb "Morpheus" Jackson

Tau Beta Sigma Omega Chapter President 2022-2023

2022-2023 Alpha Chi Chapter Report

Dear siblings of the Western District,

It is accurate to say that this year had its many ups and downs, but by being flexible, open-minded, and positive, the members of Alpha Chi were able to handle all of it very well. Most importantly, we sought help from our sponsor and fellow sisters in times of need, making our bond as a sisterhood even stronger. We were also lucky enough to create a bond with 10 new sisters in Fall 2022, 4 new sisters in Spring 2023, and reestablish one with an alumni who has a plethora of information that we lost over the years. As a chapter, our goals were to better our engagement, communication, and strengthen the joint bond with Gamma Kappa.

Our brilliant secretary increased sister engagement with her chapter minutes, making them more entertaining and something the sisters look forward to reading. Our secretary also kept accurate attendance records and notified people with attendance issues, which has been a struggle in the past. We also updated our chapter bylaws for clarity purposes and kept an up-to-date calendar of our events. This year,

we also hosted a few fundraisers to increase our engagement with the community, including a national Panda Express profit-share, a local IHOP profit-share, and shoveling cars for NAU students after a particularly snowy Flagstaff winter. Finally, our bond with Gamma Kappa has been getting stronger and we hope for that to continue into the next year.

Alpha Chi was able to keep a healthy dose of social activities with the hectic schedules of our members. A couple of these activities include a game night, letter-making event, and hosting a small carnival. Not to mention, we also regularly ate dinner with the MCs before or after our events at our on-campus cafeteria. Coming up near the end of this semester, we have our sister retreat to celebrate another good year of sisterhood. For our service events, we helped the auditorium staff by working events and starting this semester, the sisters wrote 'Nice Notations', or notes with positive messages, and decorated the School of Music with them. We also hosted our women in music speaker series, exploring the topic of music and mental health.

Working with Gamma Kappa, we held a number of events that benefitted the bands and community of NAU. At the beginning of Fall semester, we planned and hosted the 'Band Olympics' for the marching band where brothers and sisters hosted stations like 'NAU Trivia', 'Tug-a-war', 'Guess the Slogan', and 'Song Association' for rotating teams. We also planned, handled funds, and decorated for the marching band's 'band banquet' at the end of the marching season. For NAU Band Day, both chapters participated in creating roughly 30 banners for the high schools performing and staffed the event when there were gaps in the work schedule. Finally, we held Adopt-an-Ave throughout the year where we went to our adopted street and collected trash.

Again, Alpha Chi was able to accomplish much this year despite the struggles that we experienced. I truly feel like we did good work this academic year and in the end, Alpha Chi came out stronger.

MLitB,

Megan "Nephe(σ)le" Carpenter

President of Alpha Chi | 2022-2023

Northern Arizona University

2022-2023 Epsilon Kappa Chapter Report

End of the Year Report

~Intro~

This year we started strong by providing service and socials for the band during band camp. On the first day we helped new members find their dorms and move in, as well as provided a pizza dinner for the whole band. We organized ice cream socials and worked with our uniform crew to have our annual "Hail and Hemming Party".

For football games, we snack packed and sold Band Grams to the band. At the end of the season, we put on the annual Band Banquet.

Our service to the community this year has included writing cards for kids in hospitals, volunteering at a food bank, and giving tours to visiting high school bands. As for Focus on Five, we started our year off turning chapter paperwork and signatures and the Kahoot quiz for the Management Policy Video. Secondly, we obtained our green stripe through our DOMAL event where we invited high school students to come and attend music and leadership workshops. We taught them about Marching basics, performance and personal motivation, inclusivity, developing a leadership style, improvisation, music theory, self care, and Social justice in performing arts. We also held an instrument clinic as well as a campus tour! Lastly, we had two sisterhood meetings with Omega chapter to connect with sisters and earn our center lyre piece. Our chapter also holds joint events with our Kappa Kappa Psi-Psi brother chapter such as game nights, post-second dance after second degree, a PsiEK hiking event, PsiHiEK, and finally we are planning a beach trip, and First Fridays food truck event in May! Last week our candidate class Beta Omega officially became active at Third Degree. We are so proud of them for completing their candidacy and so happy to have them in the sisterhood.

2022-2023 Eta Omega Chapter Report

No report submitted. :(

R.I.P., Do 'Gogs -Lupe

2022-2023 Zeta Xi Chapter Report

To the Siblings of the West,

This year our chapter worked hard on relearning and maintaining the work of pre-covid normalcy, including having meetings in person instead of on Zoom for the whole year. Although there were ups and downs with how the overall chapter might excel, we have continued with confidence, making a strong path for our chapter in the future. I am proud of my siblings of Zeta Xi who have worked so hard this year to make it all possible, and I look forward to seeing their work in years to come.

In the fall of 2022, our chapter decided that we would take on class, and in doing so we set up four rush activities including an indoor karaoke party and a formal invite dinner for potential candidates to sit and meet our siblings. In December, we happily initiated the class of Gamma Beta into our chapter. Our service this semester involved a good portion of work for marching band. We organized a second purchase of gloves for the Marching Aztecs uniforms. Our siblings helped set up and tear down the field for each marching rehearsal. Both actives and candidates alike helped with our football game days, and went early to help set up at our new Snapdragon Stadium for our field and seating. Our final large service project for the Marching Aztecs was cleaning out the MA locker room's supply closet. Simultaneously, we were also able to accomplish receiving our Red and Black Stripes in the fall. Although we lost a few members at the beginning of the semester, we were nevertheless persistent to continue our efforts and work hard for Tau Beta Sigma and the bands.

In the spring of 2023, we had many siblings away due to the pep band for SDSU, and in recognizing this, we decided that a siblinghood semester would be the most beneficial. During this time we held bonding activities such as our compliment circle, which was truly a very intimate and heartwarming experience. We have continued our tradition of helping set-up and tear down for as many band events as possible throughout the year. In early January we were able to host our first Women in Music event in person since pre-pandemic 2020. Our guests were wonderful and I hope we are able to continue to do these events in person. We held tabling for our auditions for School of Music and Dance, along with our explore SDSU day with our Phi Mu Alpha "adopted" brothers to represent our school.

Though we weren't able to complete all the nationals programs, we have been able to meet many more of our Western District siblings throughout the school year,

including SJSU and Fresno State. We are currently working on our Coda and Crescendo projects to be completed by the end of the year. We will continue to work through to the end of the year for all siblings in our sorority, in hopes to continue strong connections with all. Zeta Xi and I thank you for an amazing year and look forward to another great year.

Much Love in the Bond,

Caroline “Glimmer” Voetberg

SDSU Zeta Xi Chapter President 2022-2023

2022-2023 Theta Delta Chapter Report

Dear Siblings of the West,

This year our chapter had a successful transition year. We had six (6) members who served in an elected position that was in our 2022 Spring Semester rush class. Due to our relatively young leadership class we went through some growing pains as we learned together how to run a successful chapter. Our chapter welcomed a fall class of twelve (12) this year, including a sister who participates in our school's choir. We also had two successful joint ceremonies with Iota Gamma in the fall and spring. Now every sister has a brother and vice versa.

For service our chapter worked with our brother chapter to assist the marching band in rehearsals and gameday. We helped set up rehearsals by setting up yard markers, speakers, filling water jugs, and podiums. For game days we helped uniform staff in handing out plumes and collecting them at halftime, in addition to helping our drumline return their stands to the music building. We packed snack bags for visiting bands in addition to packing snack bags for visiting HBCU women's basketball teams. Our treasurer, Lexi kept our tradition of selling stickers on game days and we had a Krispy Kreme fundraiser at our school's marching band competition.

For Focus on Five, Sarra, our Director of Service Affairs led our chapter in completing ¾ of stripes at the time of this chapter report and with our last stripe, the green stripe, being planned to be completed on April 21st. For our CODA event, we hosted a Jeopardy night at a retirement home where Sarra designed the questions with recordings from the chapter. It was a very successful event where sisters and the retirement home folks had great joy. For our Women in Music series we had Dr. Melissa Parkhurst, a professor for WSU's Women in Music course, and Anna Somerville, a theta delta alumni who is pursuing a Master's in Music speak to our sisters. We learned valuable lessons about what and how to pursue music after our undergrad is finished.

Our bond this year grew immensely as our Moderator of the Sisterhood, Avery, planned several fantastic social events that brought this chapter together. We hosted a formal for sisters and brothers, went to an escape room together and even hosted a murder mystery party. When our football team went to Los Angeles for the Jimmy Kimmel Bowl, we had the fantastic opportunity to mingle with our siblings at Fresno State and we made great memories together.

We also held our elections for the 2023-2024 school year which brought new enthusiasm and drive to continue our positive growth as individuals and musicians. We elected five (5) sisters from our most recent class who had fantastic ideas for next year and I am excited for how their input will help Theta Delta in the future.

Theta Delta is sending Kees H. and Grace B. to WDC with Kees serving as our delegate.

Overall, this past year was challenging in more ways than one but the bond that our chapter developed throughout the year kept us together and our future is bright because of that bond. We have a new marching band director for next year and Theta Delta and Iota Gamma are excited to help him evolve the Cougar Marching Band and keep being the Best in the West!

Dalton Cardoso

He/They

President of Theta Delta – 2022-2023 President

Washington State University – Pullman

Go Cougs!

Committee Reports

2023 Membership Committee Report

Committee: 2023 Membership Committee

Chair: Grace Brandalick, Theta Delta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma

Advisor: Adrienne Rall, Trustee and Immediate Past National President

Charges for the 2023 Western District Membership Committee:

- Review how the charges for the 2022-2023 WD VPM were implemented and how effective it was on a chapter level. Discuss whether the support was adequate or if there are things we need to change/improve upon.
- Review changes made by the 2023 NatCon Membership committee and how well they were implemented across the district.
- Evaluate the District's familiarity with and understanding of the Overture curriculum.
- Check back in on continuing education efforts and evaluate if anything else needs to be done to assist chapters.

Discussion:

Our committee was able to cover a range of topics, but focused on Overture and recruitment.

Each member talked about our own experiences as MCs and actives watching the process. One main point that was brought up regarding Overture was a need for engagement. Many sisters experience a lecture style education with little participation opportunities. Having zoom meetings was one experience brought up where the use of

breakout rooms was utilized for discussion. It was discussed that there is not enough focus on the teaching of our music. Many chapters only teach the Affirmation, if that at all. A few possible approaches to this could be music workshops at a chapter or district level and requesting help from the District Counselors and the District VPM. We also brought up the idea of the District VPM reaching out to chapters to educate members about WDC as many newly initiated Sisters do not know what it consists of and what will be expected of them. As we moved on to recruitment we started with recruitment events. Some examples that were brought up were joint recruitment events if a Brother chapter is available, “speed dating,” and offering food as an incentive. The possibilities of requiring active members to show up to recruitment activities and Rituals as a way for MCs to get to know the members of the chapter. Anxiety for MCs approaching Rituals was also a heavily discussed topic. It was brought up that active Sisters can help ease worries by providing simple information about what they will hear or see during the Rituals.

Charges for 2022-2023 District VPM:

- Work on consistent communication with Chapter VPMS throughout the year.
- Hold a standing meeting with Chapter VPMS at a set time every month or every other month.
- Assist Chapters with ideas for recruitment events and education, hosting zoom meetings and/or workshops with the Chapter VPMS or Membership Committees.
- Help Chapter VPMS establish recruitment and membership education calendars and expectations for chapter attendance at these events.
- Review changes made by the 2023 National Convention Membership Committee and help implement changes or additions across the Western District.

To the Committee Chairperson:

- Make sure that you have a full understanding of Overture and the way it functions at a chapter and district level.
- If you're not the VPM, then communicate with them to make sure that you are aware of how the membership processes went this year.
- Review changes made by the 2023 National Convention Membership Committee and discuss how well they were implemented across the Western District.

To the Chapter VPMS:

- Construct recruitment and membership education calendars (year, semester, quarter) to present to the chapter for ease of scheduling and communication.
- Start a continuing membership education program in your chapter.
- Work with the District Counselors and District VPM on continuing membership education lessons that focus on our songs and our membership statuses (especially the purpose and use of Conditional and Inactive Statuses).

To the Chapters:

- Implement attendance requirements and policies for chapters regarding Ritual and recruitment event attendance.
- Learn all of the Sorority songs and variations of the chants, as this is crucial for District and National events, for the inclusion of alumni, and for remembering our history as a sorority.

Acknowledgements:

Thank you to Adrienne Rall for assistance in brainstorming ideas and sharing her own experiences.

Thank you to the committee members Season and Amanda for helping come up solutions and ideas for improvement.

Thank you to the Western District leadership for allowing me this opportunity and providing the support needed for all chapters in the west.

Respectfully submitted in the bond,

MLitB

Grace Brandalick

Ritual Chair of Theta Delta, Tau Beta Sigma

Washington State University

Go Cougs!

Membership Committee Members

Grace Brandalick(Chair) Theta Delta

Season Nañez, Alpha Chi

Amanda Paige Level, Epsilon Kappa

2023 Programs Committee Report

Committee: Open Committee

Chair: Tori Carpenter, Alpha Chi of Tau Beta Sigma

Advisor(s): Camille Dhennin, Chapter Visitation Assistant

Committee Description and Goals:

The goals we set for this committee was to evaluate district knowledge and participation in our National Programs, review joint activities in our district and evaluate how those activities affected chapter relations, as well as generate ideas for activities that could further improve chapter relations.

Charges for WDC 2023 Programs Committee:

1. Review the report and charges of the programs committee 2022
2. Get familiar with national and district programs prior to the committee meeting
3. Evaluate district knowledge on officer participation in district and National Programs
4. Review joint activities within the district, evaluate how they have impacted chapter relations
5. Brainstorm ideas on how to improve chapter relations and activities for monthly challenged

Discussion:

Our committee began with a brief summarizing and overview of the VPSP report and national programs to ensure an equal level of knowledge for each member before moving onto addressing each charge as well as individual worries or questions. Our charge of evaluating district knowledge and participation in district and National programs was led with questioning each present chapter on how liaisons were chosen. Alpha Chi had volunteered and was appointed, Omega's was selected by interest, Theta Delta had assigned the job with their Director of Service Activities, and Zeta Xi had

filled the position by volunteer. Each chapter described these liaisons as having a good basis of knowledge of the national programs as well as having commonly good communication within their chapter. Despite this the chapters present as the committee do believe that a more standard form of liaison appointment would be helpful in fixing present issues. In relation we evaluated participation in the national programs, primarily Focus on Five and Snarky's Challenge.

Issues we found to be consistent across the present chapters in committee was that multiple chapters were having issues in completing the green stripe, white was also difficult including the Center Lyre project. Another issue seen was that none of the present chapters had completed the NIB auditions, common issues across was access to equipment and monetary or time constraints. We as a committee do believe that increasing awareness or focus on the NIB could help. Another topic we discussed was possibly a panel for Underrepresented People in Music as another way to empower voices that are often unheard in music. Besides that, we also spoke on Snarky's Challenge.

We discussed issues related to the monthly challenges as well as came up with more ideas that could be implemented. Such issues revolve around the accessibility of Snarky's Challenge to single chapter schools as one of our members pointed out that sometimes the challenges involve a close tie to a brother that some schools don't have due to distance. We also discussed the communication issues that are occurring as active members are not receiving Wednesday in the West and the minimal awareness of the instagram page that posts about these challenges. In regard to the ideas we had we listed out introducing our chapter mascot to a different chapter, sharing unique things about our chapters, art related challenges and as well as our list of activities we enjoyed such as bingo, making a road trip playlist, as well as a chapter self care day. Our advisor also noted that engaging in a more asynchronous Snarky's Challenge schedule may help siblings truly engage in the activities.

Following such discussion we shared to each other how our chapters complete joint activities and their impact on our relations. Our members at single chapter schools stated that they had done joint activities that truly helped bond the siblings together, even in cases in which they could not reach a KKPsi chapter. Such activities they listed were Arizona Days, joint ceremonies for fun, joint recruitments, and joint services. Our chapters that had both a TBS and KKPsi chapter also noted that they had participated in joint service and socials as well as our joint ceremonies. These joint events have also deepened the bond and have created a positive impact on our chapters.

Acknowledgements:

A great thank you to Chris Te from Omega, Kees Hoek from Theta Delta and Milo Jared from Zeta Xi. You each came to the committee ready and willing to learn and work towards creating a productive meeting that would better our district and national programs. You sped through our charges with me and were a massive help in evaluating our district's programs. Another massive thank you to our amazing advisor Camille Dhennin, you were a great help in answering our questions and offering your amazing advice. You were a great help and voice as we discussed Snarky's Challenge with your expertise. Thank you all for making this year's program committee a fun and productive time!

Respectfully submitted in the bond,

Tori "LoOwQuieP" Carpenter

Alpha Chi - NAU

Chris "Asclepius" Te

Omega - UofA

Kees "Hesperides" Hoek

Theta Delta - WSU

Milo "Orion" Jared

Zeta Xi - SDSU

2023 Nominations Committee Report

Chair: Caroline Voetberg, Zeta Xi, TBΣ

Advisor: Erika Pope, National President, TBΣ

Discussion: Prior to WDC, we conducted three interviews via zoom. Two interviews were for the position of Western District Vice President of Membership with Kees Hoek from the Theta Delta Chapter and Sydney Inselman from the Alpha Chi Chapter. One interview was conducted for the position of Vice President of Special Projects with Matthew Councill from the Alpha Chi Chapter. We asked the candidates the following

pre-selected interview questions, using the general questions, and their primary and secondary choices for office:

Introduction

In 3 minutes or less, tell us about yourself and your platform.

General

1. To serve as a District Officer, you are required to be an Active member of your chapter, or a life member. Are you an Active member, and if you are a graduating senior, will you become a Life member as required?
2. What does your workload for the next year look like? How confident do you feel in incorporating the potential office position into your schedule?
3. Describe a struggle that your chapter has faced and how you helped overcome it.
4. What is the one accomplishment you have made at your home chapter that you are most proud of and why?
5. What is your vision for this office and the district council during your term, and how will your leadership benefit Siblings across the district?
6. How will you go about communicating with your respective chapter officers and making sure they have the resources and support they need?
7. In a minute, tell us how you want to improve your position of preference.
8. Would you be willing to serve in a position that you didn't apply for?

Vice President for Membership

1. A chapter comes to you for advice on how to recruit new members. What would you suggest?
2. Imagine a VPM from a Chapter in the district approaches you. They are from a university with both Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, as well as other Greek musical organizations, and they are having trouble getting members to choose TBS. What do you suggest to the Chapter?
3. As VPM, you will be responsible for making sure chapters complete their MEPs over the summer. Are you prepared to take on that responsibility so soon after taking office, and what strategy will you implement to ensure each chapter completes theirs in time?
4. How will you go about communicating with all chapter VPMs and making sure they have the resources and support they need? *(This question was asked above in the general questions and could be skipped)*
5. What is your knowledge of Overture? How will you prepare yourself to assist chapter VPMs in navigating it?

Vice President for Special Projects

1. What steps come to mind when formulating a service project from scratch, and what advice do you have for those who are struggling to come up with ideas?
2. How do you plan to get the word out about district programs to get more chapter involvement?
3. A chapter approaches you about how to successfully implement one of our National Programs at the chapter level (Women in Music Speaker Series, Crescendo, etc.). How would you assist them?

President

1. During your presidency, you may find that you have more work than you can accomplish alone. How will you prioritize and plan to ensure that everything is addressed?
2. What do you currently see as the biggest areas for growth in the district, and what action plans would you put in place to help counteract these?
3. If, during your presidency, a district officer or chapter president was not meeting their obligations, how would you address the situation?

Members of the Nominations Committee were sent both the recording of this interview and the candidate's packet to review ahead of time. The Nominations Committee had short introductions before the meeting officially began. The meeting started with an overview of official committee duties as well as the slating process. Over the course of our meeting, we discussed the candidates and their qualifications before moving into discussion of the slate. We then discussed charges for the next year.

Acknowledgments:

Thank you to Erika Pope for her support, guidance and care both leading up to and during convention. Thank you to my committee for their kind and intuitive ideas and conversation.

Charges:

To the future Nominations Committee advisors and chairs: Create an easily accessible Nominations Committee google drive including the master list of interview questions and past reports.

To the 2024 Nominations Committee:

Conduct online pre-recorded interviews, and have the committee review them. The committee will then create questions to ask candidates during the Q and A in front of chapters in attendance for the Western District Convention.

To the 2023-2024 Western District Council:

Slow and steady wins the race. You were slated into this position for a reason, and we believe in you and what you can accomplish. Continue to move our district upward and onward.

Respectfully submitted in the bond,
Caroline Voetberg
2023 WDC Nominations Committee Chair
Tau Beta Sigma, Zeta Xi
San Diego State University

Nominations Committee Members:

Ava Naffah, Omega, University of Arizona
Carol Mulumba, Epsilon Kappa, University of California, Los Angeles

Slate:

President: No Slate

Vice President of Membership: Kees Hoek, Theta Delta

Vice President of Special Projects: Matthew Councill, Alpha Chi

Secretary-Treasurer: Sydney Inselman, Alpha Chi

2023 Jurisdiction Committee Report