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PETITION TO

Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity

FROM

THE WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
LOCAL PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING  
FRATERNITY  
(formerly Theta Alpha Sigma)



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN  
NOVEMBER 1988

# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## *Founded*

1903

## *President*

Diether H. Haenicke, Ph.D.

## *Enrollment (Fall 1988)*

21,592 (Kalamazoo Campus)

## *State Assisted, Co-educational Colleges and Schools*

Arts and Sciences

Business

Education

Engineering and Applied Sciences

Fine Arts

School of Music

General Studies

The Graduate College

Health and Human Services

School of Social Work

## *Governing Body*

Under the Michigan Constitution of 1963, Western Michigan University has constitutional status, with its own Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor.

## *Educational Goals*

To develop in each student the ability to think objectively and critically; to assess the validity of the information that is presented, respond to our environment, and communicate clearly and effectively; to introduce the student to the world in which the educated and responsible citizen must live; to provide the student with a foundation for tenable values; to provide the student with sufficient knowledge in a discipline, or a group of related disciplines, so as to have an understanding of its methodology, some initial competence in the field, and an appreciation of the vastness of the knowledge still to be explored.

## THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

The Western Michigan University College of Engineering and Applied Sciences prides itself on allowing students to receive "hands on" experience. This knowledge makes them competitive candidates for positions in industry and able to receive salaries that compare favorably with earnings received by graduates of other engineering schools.

When Western State Normal School opened its doors in 1904, there were two departments in the School of Applied Arts & Sciences: Department of Economy (home economics) and Department of Manual Training (industrial technology and education). After the State Board of Education granted the college the right to award Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees, Western State Normal School was no longer just a teaching college.

Engineering was one of the first pre-professional programs that was designed to prepare the students for entrance into professional programs at other institutions. Then in 1948, executives from the Kalamazoo Valley paper companies approached W.M.U. President Sangren and, through their support, the Department of Paper Science and Engineering began. In 1970, the school of Applied Arts and Sciences was renamed the College of Applied Sciences. Later, in 1974, three new departments within the College were organized into the Electrical, Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering departments. Also, new degree programs were authorized in the areas of Electrical, Computer Systems, Industrial, Mechanical, Paper, and Environmental Engineering. In 1982, the college was renamed the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences with degrees available in Aircraft, Automotive, Computer Systems, Electrical, Environmental, Industrial, Mechanical, and Paper Engineering. There were also eight Engineering related degrees, which were Aviation Technology and Management, Automotive Management and Services, Engineering Graphics, Engineering Metallurgy, Flight Technology, Industrial Design, Paper Science, and Transportation Systems.

Presently, the engineering degrees available are the same, except for the Environmental Engineering degree which is no longer available. Also, a General Engineering Degree is offered to off-campus students. The Electrical, Computer Systems, Industrial, and Mechanical Engineering degrees are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The accreditation of these degree programs was renewed in 1988.

## THE BETA CHAPTER OF THETA ALPHA SIGMA NATIONAL SERVICE FRATERNITY

The Beta Chapter of Theta Alpha Sigma National Service Fraternity was established at Western Michigan University in 1983. The purpose of the Chapter was to "unite the students of the college, expand their knowledge of other fields in engineering and applied sciences, and to promote unity between the college and the community". Unlike many of the college's other engineering societies, the organization was open to students enrolled in any curriculum of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (from Electrical Engineering to Home Economics).

The activities of the chapter varied with community service projects, professional development functions, and social events. Some of the projects have become annual events such as the 'Theta Alpha Sigma Faculty Appreciation Day' where the faculty of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences is invited to meet the members of Theta Alpha Sigma and enjoy refreshments provided by the chapter. Other traditional activities include involvement in the 'W.M.U. Tech Expo', various homecoming events, and occasional plant tours.

Over the past five years, the chapter has seen changes in direction and membership. The membership consistently included only engineering majors, and many of the chapter activities seemed to be engineering oriented. The members were aware of these trends; consequently, in the fall of 1987, the members began to search for a national organization with similar goals and interests. On 24 March 1988, Theta Tau was brought to the attention of Mr. Andrew Wheeler by the Office of the Dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences. On the same day, Mr. Wheeler called upon Mr. Robert Pope for more information about Theta Tau. On 18 August 1988, Mr. Wheeler and chapter brother Mr. Jon T. Lea attended the Thirty-Eighth Biennial Convention of Theta Tau. The two students were impressed with the fraternity and immediately began to plan their organization's petition. It is the utmost goal of the former members of Theta Alpha Sigma Beta Chapter to become a successful chapter of Theta Tau.

# ACTIVE MEMBERS

We, the undersigned, all former members of Theta Alpha Sigma National Service Fraternity Beta Chapter, do hereby petition the Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity for a charter as an active chapter.

We hereby pledge that the undersigned are or have been enrolled in the Western Michigan University College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and have no affiliation with any organization competitive with Theta Tau.

David W. Savage	Michael W. Brill
Steven E. Freyinger	Andrew S. Kieckhefer
Michael E. Weiskopf	Kenneth J. Glodard
Joy T. Lea	Timothy E. Schlegel
Michael Enger	William J. Peters
Patricia T. Wanders	Christoph Wackernagel
Scott D. McArthur	Scott J. Peterson
Duane E. Anderson	Pamela A. Mielke
John Becker	Ronald J. Pasceggi
Kasley Clark	Michael D. Smith
Donald L. DeHog	Dan P. Linn
Harold J. Schier	Randy Thomas
Herold A. Zimmer, Jr.	Stacy B. Bickel
Michael D. Dyer	Jim Green
	Mark Farrell

## ACTIVE MEMBERS

Duane E. Anderson, Vice President  
Senior from Alpena, MI  
Mechanical Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.0, former Secretary, member NSPE

John Becker  
Sophomore from Rochester, MI  
Computer Systems Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.4

Michelle R. Brill  
Junior from Middleville, MI  
Electrical Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.3, member SWE

Stacy Budzik  
Senior from Washington, MI  
Mechanical Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.5

Kathy Crankshaw  
Junior from Ypsilanti, MI  
Aircraft Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.5, member SWE

Donald L. DeHaan, Jr.  
Junior from Jenison, MI  
Mathematics  
G.P.A. 3.4

Michael Dixon  
Sophomore from Sparta, MI  
Aircraft Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.2, member NSPE

Randy L. Ellsworth  
Senior from Alpena, MI  
Industrial Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.1

John D. Epple  
Junior from Watervliet, MI  
Industrial Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.7

Micheal R. Ernzen  
Senior from Dowagiac, MI  
Electrical Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.8, member IEEE

Mark A. Farrell  
Senior from Frankenmuth, MI  
Computer Systems Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.4

Kenneth J. Godard  
Senior from Saginaw, MI  
Electrical Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.2, member IEEE, NSPE

Timothy J. Green  
Junior from Cassopolis, MI  
Electrical Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.1

Steven E. Kuznicki  
Sophomore from Rogers City, MI  
Computer Systems Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.4

Jon Thomas Lea, President  
Junior from Cadillac, MI  
Mechanical Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.7, member Phi Eta Sigma,  
former Pledge Chairman

Darin P. LeFave  
Junior from Plymouth, MI  
Printing Marketing  
G.P.A. 3.0, member TAGA, GAS

Gary Mahieu  
Senior from Oshtemo, MI  
Electrical Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.9, member NSPE

Pamela A. Mielke  
Junior from South Bend, IN  
Engineering Graphics  
G.P.A. 3.2, member SME

Scott G. Peterson  
Senior from Warren, MI  
Aircraft Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.0, member SAE

Ronald J. Pascuzzi, Pledge Chairman  
Junior from Trenton, MI  
Mechanical Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.7, member Phi Eta Sigma

David W. Savage  
Senior from Frankenmuth, MI  
Electrical Engineering  
G.P.A. 3.6, member IEEE, Tau Beta Pi

Timothy E. Schultz, Treasurer  
Senior from Alpena, MI  
Industrial Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.7, member IIE

Michael D. Sveda  
Senior from Corunna, MI  
Engineering Graphics  
G.P.A. 2.9, member SME

William Tecos, Secretary  
Junior from Grosse Pointe, MI  
Electrical/Computer Systems Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.6

Christopher K. Wachowski  
Senior from Alpena, MI  
Mechanical Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.4

Michael E. Wachowski  
Senior from Alpena, MI  
Computer Systems Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.0

Andrew S. Wheeler, Founding Chairman  
Senior from Kentwood, MI  
Industrial Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.9, former President, member IIE

Patrick T. Wundrach  
Sophomore from Madison Heights, MI  
Industrial Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.5

Gerard A. Zimmer  
Senior from Frankenmuth, MI  
Computer Systems Engineering  
G.P.A. 2.0

**THETA TAU**  
**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY**

**CENTRAL OFFICE**  
ROBERT E. POPE, P. E., EX. DIR.  
9974 OLD OLIVE STREET ROAD  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63141-5984  
314 / 997-3234



**GRAND REGENT**  
RANDALL J. SCHEETZ, P.E.  
127 LOVEJOY  
WATERLOO, IOWA 50701  
319 / 238-2288

November 11, 1988

To all Chapters and Executive Council Members:

I am pleased to offer my support for approving this petition from Beta Chapter of Theta Alpha Sigma to become a Chapter of Theta Tau. They learned of Theta Tau through a letter sent to Engineering Deans last February, and immediately requested more information. I first met with a core group of members last April and found that their organization is one of high ideas commensurate with Theta Tau. Their ideals more closely match those of Theta Tau than the ideals of Theta Alpha Sigma Service Fraternity.

This group is eligible to become a Chapter without progressing through the Colony process first. It is also deserving of chapter status. Through existence since 1983 and by significant pledge classes the past three years, ranging from six to sixteen, this group has demonstrated that it can perpetuate itself. Even though there are presently non-engineering students as members, they have shifted significantly toward engineers as members -- even before they had learned of Theta Tau. They will abide by our curricula eligibility requirements in the future.

I believe that Theta Tau and this organization will mutually benefit from their affiliation with Theta Tau. They will gain positive direction, support and recognition that Theta Tau provides and Theta Tau will gain another strong chapter near other chapters in our fraternity. Andrew Wheeler and Jon Lea attended the 38th Biennial Convention last August and were favorably impressed with Theta Tau members and meeting proceedings. Likewise, I have been impressed by their abilities.

I offer my support now, and in the future, to make this group an excellent chapter and its members strong and loyal members of Theta Tau Fraternity.

In H & T,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Randall J. Scheetz".

Randall J. Scheetz  
Grand Regent

Diether H. Haenicke  
President



Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006-5134  
616 387-2351

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## WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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October 12, 1988

To the Executive Council  
Theta Tau Fraternity

Dear Colleagues:

Mr. Jon Lea, President of our engineering fraternity, asked me to write a letter in support of their application to become affiliated with Theta Tau; and I am most pleased to comply with his request.

I believe having a chapter of Theta Tau at Western Michigan University would be very beneficial to our students. It would provide a forum for enriched professional contacts for our students, would give them the opportunity to test their leadership skills, and would enable our students to broaden their contacts with other fraternity members nationwide.

Students will have a variety of experiences throughout their academic careers, but the fellowship that is available through a fraternity like Theta Tau can be very positive and lasting and can succeed in developing well-rounded individuals. For these reasons, I hope that you would positively consider their request.

Sincerely,

Diether H. Haenicke

DH:lp

**Kellogg's**

October 25, 1988

Mr. Robert Pope, P.E.  
Executive Director  
Theta Tau Fraternity  
9974 Old Olive Street Road  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5984

Dear Mr. Pope:

The local professional engineering fraternity of Western Michigan University has informed me of their intentions to petition to become a chapter of Theta Tau Fraternity. I have discussed the goals of the local organization with Mr. Andrew Wheeler and I am writing in strong support of their petition.

A chapter of Theta Tau at Western Michigan University would be beneficial to the professional development of its engineering students. Such an organization provides students with the academic support and fellowship necessary to accomplish their educational objectives. I feel these students deserve the opportunity to be associated with the high ideals of Theta Tau.

Sincerely,



L. John Hurdis  
Director  
Industrial Engineering  
U. S. Food Products Division

/c

cc Andrew Wheeler



Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-3899

September 26, 1988

Vice President for Student Services

Mr. Robert Pope  
Executive Director  
Theta Tau  
Central Office  
9974 Old Olive Street Road  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5924

Dear Mr. Pope:

It is my great pleasure to recommend the Western Michigan University Theta Alpha Sigma Professional Engineering Fraternity for consideration as a chapter of Theta Tau Fraternity.

Western Michigan University has a well-developed Engineering program and the professional organizations to which students belong are a matter of great concern and interest to us. We feel it would be of significant benefit for Engineering students at Western if a Theta Tau Chapter could be established on this campus. Knowing from personal experience the dedication, hard work and solid engineering skills of the students in our engineering program, I am confident that the students now applying to you will be a worthy addition to your national organization.

The University, on its behalf, would be very pleased to have a Theta Tau presence on our campus. The mutual benefits to be derived from the establishment of a chapter at Western Michigan University would soon be very apparent. I hope this petition can be given serious consideration and look forward to working with your national association in the further advancement of these fine young engineers-to-be.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas E. Coyne  
Vice President  
Student Services

TEC/jr

Kellogg's

October 25, 1988

UTW

October 25, 1988

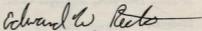
Executive Council  
Theta Tau Fraternity  
9974 Old Olive Street Road  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5984

Dear Council Members:

The Student Chapter of Theta Alpha Sigma at Western Michigan University has petitioned to establish a Theta Tau Chapter on the Western Michigan University campus. Mr. Andrew Wheeler, the past President of Theta Alpha Sigma and an Industrial Engineering major, has advised me of the interest and desire of the students for this action.

I wish to endorse the proposal to establish a Theta Tau Chapter at WMU. It is both a professional and fraternal organization that recognizes the importance of EAC/ABET accredited engineering programs. My knowledge of the petitioning group is limited, but my experience with Mr. Wheeler, and discussions we have had concerning the above, have convinced me that these students are worthy of their request.

Sincerely,



Edward W. Rector  
Director, Project  
Planning & Control

k

c Mr. Andrew Wheeler



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## WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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September 20, 1988

Mr. Robert Pope, P.E., Executive Director  
9974 Old Olive Street Road  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5904

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am pleased to recommend the Theta Alpha Sigma Chapter of Western Michigan University for consideration as a chapter of Theta Tau.

Theta Alpha Sigma has functioned as an active engineering organization on our campus since 1983. Currently there are 36 active members. Because Theta Alpha Sigma is not a national organization, the students involved in this fraternity do not have the exposure and support that they need as future engineers. I am impressed with the program of activities that are offered by your professional engineering fraternities and believe that the engineering students on our campus would benefit greatly if they were allowed to become members of your fraternity.

If I can provide any additional information regarding the Theta Alpha Sigma Chapter, please do not hesitate to call me. Best wishes as you continue to contribute to the professional career of engineers.

Sincerely,

Theresa A. Powell, Ph.D.  
Dean of Students

TAP/jr

c: Andrew Wheeler

*Kellogg's*



October 31, 1988

Mr. Robert Pope, P.E.  
Executive Director  
Theta Tau Fraternity  
9974 Old Olive Street Road  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5984

Dear Mr. Pope:

It is my understanding that the local professional engineering fraternity of Western Michigan University has petitioned to become a chapter of Theta Tau Fraternity. Mr. Andrew Wheeler has advised me of the student interest for this action and I am writing in strong support of their petition.

A Theta Tau chapter at Western Michigan University would be an asset to the professional development of its engineering students. The academic support and fraternal bonds provided by such an organization develops a balance of professional and social experiences necessary to accomplish educational objectives. I feel that these students are worthy of your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey M. Bonnes*

Jeffrey M. Bonnes  
Vice President Membership  
Institute of Industrial Engineers  
Southern Michigan Chapter

cc Andrew Wheeler



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## WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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September 9, 1988

Executive Council  
Theta Tau Fraternity  
9974 Old Olive St. Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5984

Dear Council Members:

It is my understanding that the Student Chapter of Theta Alpha Sigma at Western Michigan University has petitioned to establish a Theta Tau Chapter on our campus. Mr. Andrew Wheeler, the current President of Theta Alpha Sigma and an Industrial Engineering major, has advised me of the interest and desire of the students for this action.

I wish to endorse the proposal to establish a Theta Tau Chapter at WMU since it is both a professional and fraternal organization that recognizes the importance of EAC/ABET accredited engineering programs. Although I have limited knowledge of the petitioning group, my discussions with Mr. Wheeler have convinced me that these students are properly motivated and fully worthy of your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

*James B. Matthews*  
James B. Matthews, PhD., P.E.  
Dean

k

c Mr. Andrew Wheeler



## WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

November 9, 1988

Mr. Robert E. Pope  
Executive Director  
Theta Tau Central Office  
9974 Old Olive Street Road  
St. Louis, MO 63141-5984

Dear Brother Pope:

On behalf of the Western Michigan University fraternity of Theta Alpha Sigma, I would like to lend my support of their petition for a new chapter of Theta Tau at Western.

Having been only recently accredited in three engineering departments (electrical, industrial, and mechanical), the timing is ripe for affiliation with a national professional engineering fraternity. With absolutely no prejudices, I cannot think of a better one than Theta Tau.

The group approached me for support and have obviously been pursuing affiliation through you for some time. It seems most of a lifetime since my activities, but I can't think of anything more memorable during my collegiate years.

I believe you would be proud of the growth and development of our College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and I believe a local chapter would be in the best interest of Theta Tau.

In H & T

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger R. Ulrich".

Roger R. Ulrich, Beta '54  
Associate Professor, Engineering Technology

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