

# Chapter Petition

THE UNIVERSITY of  
**TENNESSEE**   
KNOXVILLE



**THETA TAU  
PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERING  
FRATERNITY**



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

PHYSICS 354

FRATERNITY



**thetatau**

The University of Tennessee

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September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008

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

Dear Mr. Abraham:

Greetings from the University of Tennessee colony of Theta Tau. The members of this colony have worked hard over the past three years to build an organization that upholds the standards of the national fraternity. We have been engaged in several Professional Development, Social, and Service events since our initiation as a colony on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007. We have worked with several offices at UT as well as other student organizations to build an outstanding reputation around campus. Furthermore, I feel that we represented ourselves very well at the regional conference at Mississippi State, surprising many members with our achievements over the past year. Meanwhile, we have not forgotten to have fun with social events such as movie trilogy night, hiking and camping trips at the Smoky Mountains, and visits to other chapters in the Southeast region.

Our group has worked very hard, dedicating a great amount of our time to develop this organization into something we are all proud to be a part of. We hope that you will recognize our success, and reward our fraternity with a favorable view of this petition.

Sincerely,

Tyrone Phillips,  
Tennessee Colony, '08





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## STATEMENT OF PETITION

We, the members of the University of Tennessee colony of Theta Tau, do hereby petition the Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity for chapter status.

We, the undersigned, are all currently enrolled in the Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee and have no affiliation with any organization considered to be competitive with Theta Tau. We also certify that we meet all of the eligibility requirements for such membership and that the University of Tennessee colony of Theta Tau meets all of the requirements to become a chapter. As active members of the University of Tennessee, we pledge our commitment, dedication and desire to Theta Tau.

*Tyrone Phillips*

Signature

Tyrone Steve Phillips

*Benjamin Lee Davis*

Signature

Benjamin Lee Davis

*William Brandon Goodwin*


Signature


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
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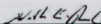
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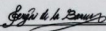
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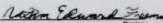
  
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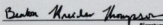
  
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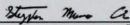
  
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
  
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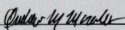
  
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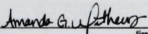
  
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Nathan Edward Freeman

  
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Benton Kreider Thompson


  
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Stephen Morio Oi

  
Signature  
Aaron Royce Wolford

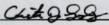
  
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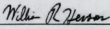
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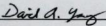
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
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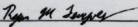
William Raymond Henson

  
Signature


David Allen Young

  
Signature

Britton Allen Elmore

  
Signature

Ryan Michael Fenyes

  
Signature

Benjamin James Ealey

## *MEMBER RECORDS*





**Tyrone Steve  
Phillips**

**Roll number:** 1

**Office:** Regent (2007-2008)

**Graduation Date:** May 2008

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Aerospace Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Sigma Gamma Tau (President)

Tau Beta Pi

American Institute of Aeronautics  
and Astronautics

Chancellor's Honors Program

Tyrone Phillips was born in Knoxville, although he never lived there. He spent his early years in Crossville and attended Homestead Elementary School in Cumberland County. He moved to Monterey in 1997. Throughout high school, he played baseball, golf, and basketball. In 2004, Tyrone graduated from Monterey High School as the Valedictorian and started his undergraduate education the following fall at the University of Tennessee. He moved to Cookeville in the fall of 2006 where his brother Jacob, 18 months his junior, began his engineering education at Tennessee Tech.

At the end of his freshman year, Tyrone began the process of founding a chapter of Theta Tau at the University of Tennessee. After recruiting a few members, the colony of Theta Tau was established on April 14, 2007. He served as regent from the initial startup in

2005 to his graduation in 2008. During his undergraduate career, he worked in Dortmund, Germany at the Fraunhofer Institute for Material Flow and Logistics during the summer of 2006. While he was there, he enjoyed traveling around Germany and neighboring countries and enjoyed the games of the world cup. Since the completion of his undergraduate degree, he has moved to Blacksburg, VA, where he is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Aerodynamics at Virginia Polytechnic University.

Along with Theta Tau, Tyrone also is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, served as the president of Sigma Gamma Tau, Aerospace Honors Society, is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Engineering Honors Society, and is a member of the Chancellor's Honors program.

**Benjamin Lee  
Davis**

**Roll number:** 2

**Office:** Vice-Regent (2007-2008),  
Regent (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2010

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Chemical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

American Institute of Chemical  
Engineers



Ben Davis graduated from Lebanon High School in 2004 and enrolled at the University of Tennessee in order to study Chemistry and Philosophy. Following his first semester he decided to change his major to Chemical Engineering. His expected date of graduation is December 2009.

During his time at UT Ben has participated in several different research projects including research into a Geocolumn Heatpump project and a project concerning Bulk Metallic Glasses. He is also currently involved in a project investigating fluidized packed bed reactors for ORNL.

Ben is also involved in the Cooperative education program and has worked for two different companies in his time at UT. During his first COOP rotation he worked for Shaw flooring in Dalton Georgia as a process engineer. On his second rotation he worked for CleanAir engineering in Powell Tennessee as a performance engineer. During both terms he received exemplary performance reviews.

While at UT he played rugby for the university team and was a member of the Martial Arts club. He also participated in several other on campus service events.



**William Brandon  
Goodwin**

**Roll number:** 3

**Office:** Corresponding Secretary (2007-2008), Transportation Chair (2007-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2010

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Material Science

**Campus Activities:**

Materials Advantage  
Chancellor's Honors Program  
First Cohorts  
Bible Study

William Goodwin, known to his peers as Brandon, was born in Kijabe, Kenya, later moving to the United States in 1998. He graduated from Ravenwood High School in 2006. While in high school, he was on the rugby team, yearbook staff, Art & photography club, Skills USA, and Spanish club.

Brandon also has great interest in foreign languages, especially Spanish. He was a member of the Spanish Club during high school. He did volunteer missions work in Mexico during the summer in high school. He flew his first solo international flight when he was 16. His most recent foreign excursion was going to the UK for spring break and St Patrick's

Brandon is a Materials Science Engineer who plans to graduate with his bachelor degree. He also is currently working in two research labs, one involving ceramic scintillating materials and the other high entropy alloys. He has completed an internship at Oak Ridge National Lab and is currently Cooping for Day International. He holds the third role number in the fraternity, Was the first corresponding secretary along with being the transportation coordinator for the fraternity.

Besides Theta Tau, Brandon is involved in First Cohorts, a Roman Reenactment club, Tennessee Scuba Club and a Bible study group. He is also a Member of Tau Beta Pi. Some of his favorite bands include System of a Down, Velvet Revolver, and the White Stripes. He also has fine tastes in Movies, liking any James Bond movie and Fight Club, as well as Boondock Saints, and any other, equally manly, movie.



**John Bradford  
Scott**

**Roll number:** 4

**Office:** Scribe (2007-2008)

**Graduation Date:** May 2008

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Biomedical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Chancellor's Honors Program  
Wyrd Sci-Fi Club



John Scott was born in Kingsport, TN on June 3, 1986. He completed his undergraduate degree in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Tennessee in May 2008 while maintaining his status in the Chancellor's Honors Program. His Ph.D. in the biomedical field is being sought at the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine where he is researching peripheral nerve regeneration.

In addition to being a founding member of the Tennessee Colony of Theta Tau and serving as its Scribe for the 2007-2008 school year, John was also an active member of the Wyrd Sci-Fi Club at UTK.



**William Calain  
Schuman**

**Roll number:** 6

**Office:** Treasurer (2007-2008), Vice-Regent (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2009

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Aerospace Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

American Institute of Aeronautics  
and Astronautics

Chancellor's Honors Program

William Schuman, known to his peers as Calain, was born on April 13, 1987 in Nashville, Tennessee. He graduated from McEwen High School in 2005, where he was an active member in BPA and Science Club.

Calain is currently an Aerospace engineer who plans on graduating spring of 2010. He is an active member of the professional society AIAA and holds the position of Vice Regent in the fraternity, and runs the pledge process. Previously, he has held both the position of treasurer and social committee member.

He is an easygoing guy; he's open to all types of music and most Sci-Fi and action movies. Currently he's a big fan of the NBC hit show Heroes. He enjoys reading, playing video games, and just hanging out in general.

**Norman Vincent Paul  
Rivera**

**Roll number:** 7

**Office:** Professional Development  
Chair (2007-2008)  
Petition Chair (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2009

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Aerospace Engineering  
Minor in Mechanical  
Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

American Institute of Aeronautics  
and Astronautics (President)  
Engineering Council  
Career Services



Norman Rivera was born on July 4, 1986 in the Philippines, the youngest of three siblings. During his early years, his family resided in San Francisco, CA. He later moved to Hendersonville, TN where he graduated from Hendersonville High School in 2004. He is currently a senior in Aerospace Engineering with a minor in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Tennessee with plans to graduate in May of 2009.

From 2007-2008, he filled the role of Professional Development Chair in the Tennessee Colony of Theta Tau. He is also involved in several different organizations on campus, most notably the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) in which he has been the President of the organization. He currently works at Career Services on campus where he does IT related tasks. His involvement with Career Services has helped greatly with his roles in his respective organizations. He also is interning at StandardAero, an international company that overhauls and repairs gas turbine engines, where he does the majority of his work designing engine tooling on Autodesk Inventor.

Norman's hobbies include operating radio control models and playing music. He loves flying airplanes and helicopters, and driving cars and boats--both full scale and radio control models. The knowledge he has in radio control led to his involvement in a student competition hosted by AIAA called Design/Build/Fly, where his team designed, built, and flew radio controlled Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. He plays several musical instruments including the piano, guitar, and drums. His Christian faith plays a strong role in his life and actively participates in the Wesley Foundation campus ministry.



**Daniel Stephen  
Smith**

**Roll number:** 8

**Office:** Recruitment Chair (2007-2008)

**Graduation Date:** May 2009

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Aerospace Engineering  
Minor in Geology

**Campus Activities:**

Air Force ROTC

Arnold Air Society

The Issue Committee

SGA Senate

Chancellor's Honors Program

Daniel Smith, known to his peers as Danny, graduated from Maryville High School in 2004, where he was active in many programs and organizations. He was a member of the Maryville High Rugby Football Club and also very active within his community. From a wide pool of choices he decided to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville to study Aerospace Engineering as well as a minor in Geology. His accomplishments in high school also earned him the opportunity to participate in the Chancellor's Honor Program at the university.

On campus Daniel was very active from the first day he arrived there. He is a member of the Issues Committee, the Student Government Association, Students Promoting Environmental Action in Knoxville, Air Force ROTC, Arnold Air Society, AIAA, as well as many others. Danny has made a point of his group involvement to always be active in all of his organizations and to give back to the University and the community through his involvement.

In Summer 2008 Danny traveled to China to complete a study abroad program for the purpose of learning mandarin. He is currently on inactive status and is sending regular reports of his exploits in China. He hopes to return to the states at the end of Spring 2009 and finish up his undergraduate work.

**Nathan Edward  
Robinson**

**Roll number:** 9

**Office:** Petition Chair (2007-2008),  
Professional Development  
Chair (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** December 2009

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Aerospace Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

American Institute of Aeronautics  
and Astronautics



Nathan Robinson graduated from Karns High School in Knoxville, TN in 1995. From there he joined the Navy, spending over three years as an aviation electronics technician (AT). He describes his Navy job as "playing and working with airplanes," working with F/A-18 fighter/attack jets, having the opportunity to work aboard U.S.S. Carl Vinson and U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln (During his time, Nathan was catapulted off the flight deck aboard a C-130). Onboard the aircraft carriers, Nathan worked on the flight deck performing pre-flight and post-flight inspections, as well as general maintenance. He had one deployment on each of those ships and was permanently stationed in Lemoore, California. Nathan ended his Navy career as a Petty Officer 3rd Class. He left the military in December of 1998.

In January 1999, Nathan started studying mechanical engineering at Tennessee Technological University. After one year there, he went to the University of Memphis, studying the same major. Shortly thereafter, he switched to pre-pharmacy and was accepted to the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in Memphis Tennessee which he later turned down.

During his schooling, Nathan got married on June 26, 1999 to, then, Melanie Walker. Nathan then decided to postpone his education because of the upcoming birth of his son, Riley. This allowed his wife to finish her degree in pharmacy. Riley was born on September 11, 2003. Amelia is Nathan's daughter, born June 27, 2005.

In the fall semester of 2006, Nathan began schooling again at the University of Tennessee under the Aerospace banner. He expects to graduate in December of 2009. At UT, Nathan participates in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). During what little spare time he has, Nathan enjoys woodworking and playing racquetball.



**Sergio  
Cristian de la Barrera**

**Roll number:** 11

**Office:** Social Chair/Webmaster (2007-2008)

**Graduation Date:** May 2008

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in Nuclear  
Engineering  
Minor in Physics

**Campus Activities:**

American Nuclear Society  
University of Tennessee Rugby

Sergio Cristian de la Barrera was born in Mexico, raised in Connecticut, and educated in Tennessee. His journey led him to a major in Nuclear Engineering and a minor in Physics at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville at the age of seventeen. In his four years at the university he played as a wing on the UTRFC rugby team, hiked the many miles of intricate trails in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and maintained a student position in the Scintillation Materials Research Center. Sergio specialized in radiation detection systems, though he was known equally for his fascination with physics and mathematics.

He believes that one of the greatest facets of an engineer is his ability to work cooperatively with other people. This aspect of Sergio drew him towards many group project opportunities throughout his stay at the university. It initially motivated him to join the ranks of the Founding Members of the Tennessee Theta Tau Colony, and it further encouraged his participation in the many Theta Tau team projects that followed. Through his constant interactions with other students and faculty he developed strong communication skills, and later received many awards for his speeches and technical presentations. As Social Chair of the fraternity he strived to elicit the extrovert in each and every brother so as to develop confidence in the members and establish the professional image of the Colony.

Sergio is an avid musician and possesses a passion for foreign languages. He also enjoys the study of history, philosophy, and economics. He plans to spend a great portion of his life travelling the world and learning, with the ultimate goal of one day becoming a professor.

**Nathan Edward  
Freeman**

**Roll number:** 12

**Office:** Service Chair (2007-2008),  
Scribe and Webmaster (2008-  
2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2011

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Computer Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Institute of Electrical and  
Electronics Engineers  
Information Technology Engineering  
Services



Nathan Freeman was born on June 8, 1989 in Knoxville, Tennessee. He grew up in the Powell area before moving to Fountain City to go to Central High School. During his years at Central he ran cross country, participated in the local Scholar's Bowl, and served as the president of Central's chapter of the National Honor Society.

Nathan is currently a sophomore in Computer Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. His interest for computers began in elementary school and has continued to grow throughout his academic career. Though his current plan is to enter the workforce after obtaining his undergraduate degree, he has not completely ruled out graduate studies.

Nathan rushed and completed the pledge process for UTK's Theta Tau colony in the fall of 2007; he was the first initiate of the colony's first pledge class. He served as the colony's Service Chair in the fall of 2008 and is the Scribe for the 2008-2009 school year.



**Benton Kreider  
Thompson**

**Roll number:** 13

**Office:** Treasurer (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2009

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Electrical Engineering

Benton Thompson was born in Knoxville and raised in Alcoa, Tennessee. He graduated as valedictorian of Alcoa High School in 2005 where he captained both the soccer and wrestling teams. In addition, he led the technology team at Alcoa, the group responsible for the full installation and support of computers and networks within the school system.

Benton began his college education in Maryland, completing his freshman and sophomore years away from the University of Tennessee. He chose to major in electrical engineering during that time. At the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year, Benton transferred to The University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He continues his pursuance of an electrical engineering degree while working as a student research assistant in the area of reinforcement learning, a subset of artificial intelligence.

Theta Tau recruited Benton as soon as he began his junior year in Knoxville. As a senior, Benton is serving as treasurer for the fraternity. During the 2008 summer, Benton worked for National Instruments as an intern in their Engineering Leadership Program in Austin, Texas. He will graduate in May, 2009, and will pursue a master's degree in electrical engineering with a concentration in communication systems.



**Stephen Morio  
Oi**

**Roll number:** 14

**Office:** Corresponding Secretary and  
Rush Co-Chair (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2012

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Electrical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Institute of Electrical and  
Electronics Engineers

Amateur Radio Club



Stephen Oi graduated from Brentwood High School in 2007, to come to the University of Tennessee. He is currently majoring in Electrical Engineering and pursuing a minor in Japanese.

In the fraternity is the Corresponding Secretary for the 2008-2009 school year. He was also Co-Rush Chair for Fall 2008 rush. Besides holding that position he is also a member of the Professional Development Committee.

Along with Theta Tau, he is also involved with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Amateur Radio Club station AA4UT, in which he is the Treasurer. Stephen has been an Amateur Radio operator for several years and his current call sign is NV6A. Stephen also works at Career Services as a student IT specialist.



**Aaron Royce  
Wolford**

**Roll number:** 15

**Graduation Date:** May 2011

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in Chemical  
Engineering

Aaron Wolford was born on May 8th, 1987 in Corpus Christi, Texas. He lived there until his parents divorced when he was nine years old. He then moved to Knoxville, Tennessee with his mother (Anna) and his little brother (Adam). A few months later his father (Roy) moved to Knoxville as well. After moving a few times he ended up on the west side of Knoxville, where, in 2005 he graduated from Farragut High School. In the fall of 2005 he began attending The University of Tennessee pursuing a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Aaron loves anything to do with the outdoors. When he is not studying or in class, he enjoys hiking, backpacking, camping, mountain biking, and rafting. Starting in 2007 he began working as a raft guide during summer break.

**Andrew Marvin  
Morales**

**Roll number:** 16

**Graduation Date:** May 2012

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Mechanical Engineering



Andrew Morales, known to his peers as Drew, was born on September 4, 1989 in East Los Angeles, California. Later he moved to Memphis where he graduated number 4 in his class from Kingsbury High School. There he participated in varsity football, where he was captain, the National Honor Society, Technology Student Association, Business Professionals of America, Skills USA, Army ROTC, Junior Achievement, as well as volunteering around his neighborhood.

He is a first generation college student currently attending the University of Tennessee in Knoxville on a full scholarship, majoring in mechanical Engineering. He works part-time at FedEx Ground as a package handler. Drew joined Theta Tau because he realizes that being involved in a professional engineering fraternity will not only benefit him in college, but once he graduates as well. After graduation Drew plans to help design hybrid cars for a car company. Outside of school and Theta Tau, Drew enjoys sports, movies, music, fixing up cars, and having a good time.



**Amanda Gayle  
Mathews**

**Roll number:** 17

**Graduation Date:** May 2010

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Chemical Engineering  
Minor in Business  
Administration and  
Chemistry

**Campus Activities:**

American Institute of Chemical  
Engineers (President)  
Society of Women Engineers  
Office of Professional Practice,  
Ambassador

Amanda Mathews was born on December 30, 1986, and raised in a small community north of Knoxville, Tennessee called Halls Crossroads. She accredited her hard-working attitude to her living on a farm for the majority of her life. She is a junior majoring in Chemical Engineering with minors in Chemistry and Business Administration. She decided to join Theta Tau because she was looking for a way to meet new people and participate actively in community service projects. After hearing of the opportunities presented by the new Chapter of Theta Tau at the University of Tennessee, she decided to pledge, promising to help the newly formed Chapter in any area necessary. Her goal was to help the local Chapter gain credibility and respect not only among other organizations at the University of Tennessee, but also on a national level.

Amanda enjoys participating in several sports—specifically basketball, football, and tennis. In her spare time she likes to listen to music, play her guitar, spend time with friends, and participate in church activities at her home church. She's active in many groups on the campus aside from Theta Tau, such as the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)—of which she is chapter president—and others. Amanda completed three co-op semesters with Shaw Industries in Dalton, GA, and is an Ambassador for the Office of Professional Practice. Once she graduates, she hopes to become a Chemical Process Engineer, and one day open her own engineering firm.

**Robert James  
Carver**

**Roll number:** 18

**Office:** Rules Committee Chair (2008-  
2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2011

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Chemical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

American Institute of Chemical  
Engineers  
Melrose Grillers



Robert Carver was born in the state of New Hampshire on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1988. Robert is mostly Portuguese, his grandmother being full blooded. His hobbies and interests include European board games, college sports, and the stock market. He grew up in Hudson Ohio for most of his life, and then moved to Johnson City, Tennessee in 2003. He moved once again during his senior year in 2006 to Wake Forest North Carolina. He graduated from Wakefield High School in 2007.

In the fall of 2007, Robert first started attending the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He is majoring in Chemical Engineering, possibly taking up a minor in Mechanical Engineering. Robert is quite active at the university and has joined many organizations. He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He started his own group as well. Because he enjoys cooking, Robert founded the Melrose Grillers, an organization that grills food for fun. He also trained for his first half-marathon, which he completed in two hours and twenty-three minutes. During the second semester, he showed interest in the professional engineering fraternity Theta Tau. Robert can greatly contribute to the fraternity Theta Tau. His skills in mold making and art can help to create many of the projects and designs that the fraternity decide to take on. He also has plans to work as an intern or co-op student at every opportunity that he can. Robert has shown an interest in the area of alternative fuels and hopes to focus on that specific area through his professional development. Robert Carver plans to graduate in the spring of 2011.



**Christian Joel  
Gonzalez**

**Roll number:** 19

**Graduation Date:** May 2012

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Biomedical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Biomedical Engineering Society  
Latin American Student Organization

Christian was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico but moved when he was only six months old to Bremerhaven, Germany. Having his father serve in the Army, he has moved to a few places including Virginia, Florida, and Germany. It was in Germany that he first played an instrument playing the congas at church and then he moved to the drum set. After his seventh grade he moved to Clarksville, Tennessee where he graduated from high school. There he was joined band his sophomore year quickly moving up to drum captain his junior year. He also played the drum set at his local church, took the role of Vice President of National Honor Society, participated in Math Team events, and was editor of the sports pages in his high school's yearbook.

Arriving at the University of Tennessee, he decided to pursue a degree in Biomedical Engineering. His main future goal is to one day help build a more efficient artificial heart. With a history of heart problems in his family and even having a brother die from a heart disease, he decided to pursue to help others in similar situations. Other activities Christian is involved in include Biomedical Engineering Society, Latin American Student Organization, and participated in the Pride of the Southland Marching Band Drumline.

**William Raymond  
Henson**

**Roll number:** 20

**Office:** Service Chair (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2012

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Biomedical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Biomedical Engineering Society (Vice  
President)

Chancellor's Honors Program



Ray Henson was born on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1989, and grew up in and around Nashville, Tennessee. He graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy in 2007, and he was involved in many activities, such as the Ellington Jazz Band, the bowling team, and Science Olympiad team. He was first chair in the Second AllMidstate Jazz Band, went to the state tournament for bowling, went to the National Science Olympiad Competition, and was designated an AP Scholar. He also was involved in two theatrical productions: *Beauty and the Beast* and *Pride and Prejudice*, in which the latter he played the important role of Mr. Bennett.

Ray decided on the major of Biomedical Engineering and plans to graduate in May 2011. He plans on a minor in either Chemistry, Biology, Materials Science, or all three. He is a member of the Chancellor's Honors Program and is the Vice President of the Biomedical Engineering Society. Within the fraternity, he was elected to be the Service Chair for 2008-2009. He also works in the Center for Musculoskeletal Research as an undergraduate lab assistant, and he is currently working with a professor on an independent study about nanoparticles in biological systems. In his spare time, Ray enjoys playing the guitar, reading, running, and playing fantasy football. He currently plans on going to graduate school, but is considering going to medical school in a M.D./Ph.D. program. His life goal is to do research for the purpose of satisfying his never-ending curiosity. He wants to specialize in tissue engineering and push forward the research of growing new organs for transplant. Ray was initiated into Theta Tau in the Spring of 2008.



**David Allen  
Young**

**Roll number:** 21

**Office:** Rush Co-Chair and Webmaster  
(2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2012

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Computer Engineering

David Young is a sophomore at UT studying Computer Engineering. He graduated from Kingsbury High in 2007, in Memphis, where he was born and raised. He plans to graduate UT in 2012.

David is attending UT with an almost-full scholarship, and he intends to make full use of it. David is not only involved with Theta Tau, but he is fully trained to be an RA and is also planning to start a campus-centered chess club. Over the summer he intends to get an internship, and in the future he plans to study abroad.

Besides his commitment to Theta Tau, David devotes much of his time to chess activities. He teaches at a local elementary school, and plays the game casually on a weekly basis. During his chess career, he's won over 30 trophies and participated in over 150 tournaments. When he's not playing chess, he's either playing the piano or taking pictures.



**Britton Allen  
Elmore**

**Roll number:** 22

**Office:** Social Co-Chair (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2012

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Civil Engineering



Britt Elmore graduated Forrest high school in 2007. In Chapel Hill, his hometown, he has spent numerous hours volunteering for his community back home and plans to do the same here at UT. Volunteering his time is one of the reasons I joined the Fraternity. Coming into college he knew he wanted to study engineering partly because of his father. His father was a carpenter and Britt spent many days working with him so naturally he took an interest in how things worked and were put together. Being around carpentry all of his life made him want to be a civil engineer. Now that he is in college he wants to put his time to good use and do many things to help people along with making new friends and learning how to be an engineer. In the fraternity he is the formal social chair, which puts him in charge of the social gatherings. Britt plans on graduating in 2011 and hopes to start an engineering firm.



**Ryan Michael  
Fenyves**

**Roll number:** 23

**Graduation Date:** May 2011

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Civil Engineering

Ryan was born December 03, 1988 in Morgantown, West Virginia. When he was five years old, he moved to Kingsport, Tennessee where he spent the most of his early life. Ryan has many interests including water sports, computers, hunting, and movies. He lived by a lake for the most of his life. There he learned how to swim and water ski. At age nine, he joined a competitive swim team and continued to swim in high school. Living around a lake has given him a great interest for water sports like wakeboarding and tubing.

Ryan formed many meaningful relationships at the Presbyterian Church in Kingsport. He helped lead the youth group and served one year as youth elder. He continues to stay in contact with many people from his home church. His career interests developed throughout high school. During his freshman and sophomore year, Ryan wanted to be an architect, but later found he was not as artistic as required for architecture. He then discovered civil engineering. This interest led him to the University of Tennessee. He would like to continue his education to get his masters in structural engineering. Ryan hopes that he has been a good example for his two younger brothers.

**Benjamin James  
Ealey**

**Roll number:** 24

**Office:** Social Co-Chair (2008-2009)

**Graduation Date:** May 2009

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science in  
Electrical Engineering

**Campus Activities:**

Institute of Electrical and Electronics  
Engineers



Ben Ealey was born on October 26th, 1986 in Montreal, Canada. He lived there until he was four years old and then moved to the United States with his family. He has spent most of his life in Nashville, TN. He went to Hillsboro HS and in his senior year made the University of Tennessee his primary choice for college.

Ben has always a tinkerer, taking things apart and seeing what make things tick. This led into an interest and strength in math and the sciences but electrical theory really intrigued him. In his junior year of electrical engineering he discovered Theta Tau and after meeting the members he knew he wanted to be a part of the fraternity. His regular interests include ultimate frisbee, swimming, mountain biking, and bowling but whenever the opportunity arises he enjoys skiing and paintball.

## ***GAMMA PLEDGE CLASS***



**Stanley Atherton**

*Mechanical*

**Andy Barton**

*Mechanical*

**Chase Beydler**

*Mechanical*

**Joe Black**

*Aerospace*

**Steven Dernovshek**

*Aerospace*

**DeAndria Hardy**

*Biomedical*

**Zachary Hayden**

*Mechanical*

**Kristen Holdway**

*Biomedical*

**Will Houston**

*Computer*

**Samantha Johnson**

*Aerospace*

**Michael Merriweather**

*Aerospace*

**Chris Nichols**

*Mechanical*

**Chris Stinnett**

*Computer*

**Will Thatcher**

*Electrical*

## ADVISOR



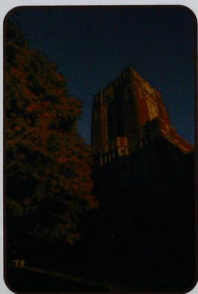
**James Evans Lyne, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. James Evans Lyne started his college education at Vanderbilt University in 1981 working toward his B.E. in Mechanical Engineering. He then earned his M.S. in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University in 1982. Returning to Vanderbilt University, Dr. Lyne earned a medical doctorate degree in 1987, then finally a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University in 1991.

Dr. Lyne began his professional career in 1984 as a project engineer for Calspan Corporation at USAF Arnold Engineering Development Center in Tullahoma Tennessee. In 1992 he worked as a research scientist at the Elore Institute at the NASA Ames Research Center in California. Shortly after that, Dr. Lyne moved back to Tennessee in 1992 working in two different professions, as a staff physician in the emergency department at the University of Tennessee Medical Center, and as a professor in mechanical and aerospace engineering and engineering science department at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. In 1999, Dr. Lyne made a move as a physician to the Lakeshore Mental Health Institute as a consulting physician where he works, along with his professor position at University of Tennessee to the present day.

Research interests in the engineering field that Dr. Lyne contributes to include planning of advanced space missions, atmospheric entry of both natural and man-made bodies, hypersonic aerodynamics, and meteor entry physics. Medical research includes three-dimensional protein structure, protein crystal growth and protein crystallography, and physiology of human space flight.

*HISTORY  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE*



The University of Tennessee was chartered on September 10, 1794, as Blount College by the legislature of the Southwest Territory meeting in Knoxville, the territorial capitol. What motivated the founders is unknown, but they surely must have been inspired by the wave of college founding that followed the American Revolution and the concurrent effort to educate citizens for the new republic. Nineteen new colleges were established during the period 1782 to 1802, including the University of Georgia and the University of North Carolina.

Tennessee's future state university was not in quite the same category. Its trustees consisted of some of the most prominent public and private citizens in the territory, including Governor William Blount after whom the college was named; its goal was the education of young people in "moral and virtuous conduct" and in the useful sciences and ancient and modern languages; its doors were open to students of all denominations without discrimination; but it was still a classical academy for the sons of the well-to-do. It received no state support, and seven of the ten men who headed Blount College and its successors for the next seventy-five years were clergymen.

Blount College survived on tuition and fees. During its thirteen-year existence, it occupied a single building in what is now downtown Knoxville; it had few students and conferred only one degree. In 1807, the college received a new lease on life and a new name. A grant of public lands from the state in 1806 resulted in the renaming of the institution as East Tennessee College and the appointment of a new board of trustees. But when the first president, Samuel Carrick, died in 1809, the college closed for a decade; it then prospered somewhat better for the next twenty years

after it reopened in 1820. In 1826, construction was begun on a new college building on "the Hill" and around 1840, two other major structures were added. However, finances were always precarious; subscriptions and proceeds from the sale of some state lands that had been given to the college helped to make up what tuition could not provide. A redesignation as East Tennessee University in 1840 by action of the state legislature did not improve the institution's economic fortunes. The faculty was small, five or six, and so was the student body, around one hundred, half of them in the Preparatory Department. It was difficult to find competent teachers at salaries ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 a year. The president received not much more; sometimes his salary was supplemented by a percentage of the tuition receipts. It was equally difficult to keep any president for very long.

Student life was organized along quasi-military lines. Discipline was strict. Students were expected to begin studying at 5 or 6 a.m. Rooms were subject to faculty inspection. Chapel attendance morning and evening was compulsory. But there were literary societies and a literary magazine, and young ladies from Knoxville were welcomed at social functions on the campus to alleviate the rigors of the spartan regimen.

The Civil War virtually destroyed the college, as students and faculty left to join both the Union and Confederate forces, their divided loyalties reflecting those of East Tennessee itself. The college buildings were occupied by troops from both sides and were used as hospitals. Shelling





damaged the grounds. Fortunately, the president who took the college's reins in 1865 had been a Union sympathizer, and he managed to secure some \$18,500 in restitution funds from the federal government.

The most significant event in the college's history, however, was not military but political: the passage of the Morrill Act by Congress in 1862 providing for the granting of federally owned lands to states that would establish public agricultural and mechanical colleges. East Tennessee University was designated in 1869 by the state legislature as the land-grant institution of the state and thereby the recipient of the proceeds of the properties allocated by law to Tennessee. The value of the real estate involved was almost \$400,000, providing a boon to the college's fortunes. An unusual by-product of the law was the admission of the first African-American students. The 1869 legislature required that no citizen of the state be disqualified from the benefits of the law by virtue of race. When African-American students were nominated for scholarships under the law, the University accepted them and farmed them out first to Fisk, the black college in Nashville, and then to a local institution, Knoxville College, designating this branch of instruction as the Industrial Department. The arrangement, unsatisfactory to the state's black citizens, lasted until 1912 when Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial College was established in Nashville as an African-American institution with land-grant privileges.

In 1879, the state legislature redesignated East Tennessee University as The University of Tennessee, the title under which it still operates. In requesting the change, the trustees hoped that the name change would inspire the legislature to provide some regular state financial support, but this generosity had to wait another twenty-five years. In the meantime, the institution sought to become a university in more than name by its own efforts. In 1887, it acquired a new president, Charles Dabney, the first with a Ph.D. degree, and a trained chemist. During his seventeen years of administration the University changed drastically, introducing graduate programs in a variety of subjects and adding a law department. Dabney also ended the military system on the campus and persuaded the trustees to open the institution's doors to women in 1893. By the end of Dabney's

administration in 1904, there were sixteen buildings on the Knoxville campus, a faculty and staff of over fifty, and a student body of nearly five hundred. In addition there were medical and dental departments in Nashville.

Dabney's successor, Brown Ayres, continued to strengthen the University's academic programs and also persuaded the state legislature to institute a system of regular annual appropriations for the University's operations.

The twentieth century witnessed the emergence of the modern University with professional schools of medicine, dentistry, nursing, social work, and architecture; the development of doctoral programs in a variety of fields; the physical expansion of the campus; and the growth of the student body. State appropriations on a regular basis came early in the century, and thereafter the University was always the beneficiary of state support. Such funding was never adequate for the University's needs--in the decade of the 1980s amounting to only 35 percent of the institution's budget. The rest of the University's revenues were made up from student fees, auxiliary enterprises, grants, and gifts produced by an active alumni and friends development program. By the end of 1995 these gifts had produced an endowment of more than \$350 million, an increase of some 500 percent during the previous decade.

In 1968, the University underwent an administrative reorganization which left the University in Knoxville as the "flagship" and headquarters of its new "System," now comprising the medical units at Memphis, a four-year college at Martin, the former private University of Chattanooga (added a year later), the Space Institute at Tullahoma, the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Agriculture Institute, and the Public Service Institute. An additional primary campus in Nashville had a brief existence from 1971 to 1979 before it was ordered closed and merged with Tennessee State University by an order of the Federal District Court in Nashville.

The student body has changed during the past fifty years, mirroring the social reconfiguration of the nation's collegiate populations. The first African Americans were admitted to the graduate and law schools by order of a Federal District Court in 1952. The first master's degree was awarded to an African American in 1954, and the first doctoral degree (Ed.D.) in 1959. Black undergraduates were not admitted until 1961; the first black faculty member was appointed in 1964. Integration went fairly smoothly. African-American students had more difficulty gaining entry to eating establishments and places of entertainment off the campus. Overall, Knoxville and the University had fewer racial troubles in the 1950s and 1960s than did other southern universities.



Today, the student body on the Knoxville campus of almost 25,000 represents a moderately diverse constituency, still heavily white (89 percent), with about 5 percent African-American students, approximately 2 percent Asians, and a small number of Hispanics and Native Americans. Some 900 foreign students and visiting scholars add another leaven to an otherwise largely Anglo-American student body, half of which is female. The faculty of 1,304 is also only moderately diverse: heavily male (76 percent)

and equally heavily Caucasian (91 percent). While the University has acquired a national reputation in both men's and women's athletics, with several Southeastern Conference football championships and three national women's basketball championships, the UT Knoxville campus during its history has also produced some distinguished academics and statesmen, including one Nobel laureate, six Rhodes Scholars, five Pulitzer Prize winners, two National Book Award winners, nine U. S. Senators, and one U.S. Supreme Court justice. These alumni and an infinite number of others of less prominence bear witness to the University's success in fulfilling its mission of preparing citizens of Tennessee and the nation for their role in a democracy, helping individuals to realize their own potential, and training them to perform service for the state and the nation.

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**  
**AT**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE**



**I**n 1834, Joseph Estabrook, a man of strong scientific interest and background, became the president of what was then East Tennessee College. Estabrook hired a group of distinguished professors to provide instruction in chemistry, geology, mineralogy, trigonometry and civil engineering. In 1877, the university was organized into three colleges: Agriculture and the Organic Arts; Mechanic Arts, Mining and Engineering; and Languages and Fine Arts. The state of Tennessee legislature officially named the institution The University of Tennessee in 1879, and authorized the granting of advanced degrees in both civil and mining engineering.



The Cooperative Engineering Program, which offers students an opportunity to combine both academic study and professional work experience, was established in the College of Engineering in 1926. UT alumnus and football hero Dr. Nathan Dougherty became dean of The University of Tennessee College of Engineering in 1940. Dougherty initiated

an exciting new era at the college. In 1951, the college began a doctoral program that offered a specialization in chemical engineering and metallurgy was added in 1957 to support the growing involvement with the university in cooperative projects with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the U.S. Air Force's Arnold Engineering Development Center in Tullahoma, Tenn. The college established the Minority Engineering Scholarship Program (MESP) in 1973 in order to increase the number of African-American students enrolled in engineering studies. This highly successful program was re-named the Diversity Engineering Scholarship Program (DESP) in 2000, and continues to provide financial and scholastic support to hundreds of minority students each year.

Successive deans in the college included University of Tennessee alumnus Dr. William T. Snyder (BS/ME '54). Snyder became COE dean in 1983 after thirteen years as department head in Engineering Science and Mechanics. Under Snyder's guidance, the COE began construction of the Science and Engineering Research Facility (SERF), a 25 million, 120,000 square-foot building which houses laboratories and classrooms. Snyder also established two research centers, the Center for Measurement and Control Engineering and the Center for Materials Processing, a state-designated Center of Excellence. Snyder became Chancellor of The University of Tennessee-Knoxville in 1993, and served in that role until his retirement in 2000. Snyder was succeeded as COE dean by Dr. Jerry Stoneking. Stoneking's tenure as dean was marked by the establishment of Engage, a unique freshman engineering program which provides hands-on learning in addition to academic engineering courses. The program was renamed The Jerry E. Stoneking Engage Freshman Engineering Program in 2002 to honor Dr. Stoneking's memory after his sudden death in November, 2001. Dr. Fred Tompkins, associate dean for the college, served as Interim Dean from 2001 until 2003. Dr. Way Kuo, former associate vice chancellor and executive associate dean of engineering at Texas A & M University, was named COE dean in July 2003.

## THE TENNESSEE COLONY OF THETA TAU





Alpha Theta Tau began its organization during the spring of 2005. There were several efforts to recruit new members; however, none were found until the following fall. The group grew to the size of 10 engineering students. The paperwork to become a local engineering fraternity soon began and was approved in the late fall of 2005. The group activities at that time were simply social activities to establish a group dynamic among the founding members. During the spring of 2006, a new engineering design competition began on the UT campus. The competition was to develop a simple product that can solve a problem that many people face every day. Alpha Theta Tau created two groups to compete. One of the group's final designs was a device that monitored the power level of a car battery and, if needed, cut power to the system leaving enough to restart the car. The other was a tracking system for the campus busses. This would allow students to check the location of the busses to help decide whether to wait or to walk to class.

The fall 2006 semester was dedicated to the continuation of the petition for colony status, while increasing activity on campus. During this time, the group became an organization by holding weekly meetings, electing officers and beginning our search for a faculty advisor. The first officers included: Regent: Tyrone Phillips; Vice Regent: Ben Davis; Treasurer: William Schuman; Scribe: John Scott; and Secretary: Brandon Goodwin. After several weeks of searching for the faculty advisor, we were finally successful and Dr. James Evans Lyne accepted our invitation as faculty advisor.

The spring 2007 semester was devoted to finalizing the petition and making plans for and implementing activities. In January, Alpha Theta Tau

hosted the Grand Inner Guard, Katie Meinecke, to who was given a tour of the campus and shown what the organization had accomplished to that point. In February, the petitions for colony status was finalized and submitted to the national office. In the middle to later parts of the spring semester, professional development events were held including; a tour of Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC), a tour of Eastman Chemical Company, and four of our members attended the South East Regional Conference in February. On April 14, 2007, the Colony of Theta Tau at the University of Tennessee was initiated.

The summer of 2007, after the colony initiation, was used to plan for the upcoming fall semester, the first semester to start working toward chapter status. The beginning of the fall 2007 semester was used to concentrate efforts on building the colony. The members participated in the university's rush recruitment process. From the rush period, 9 students pledged and 4 were extended an invitation to become members. An issue the colony members faced was in numbers. While they knew the colony had to build in numbers, however, they did not want to reject the values required of quality members for higher numbers. In the end, they made the right decision to go with quality over quantity.

The spring 2008 semester was more of a successful recruiting period. The new initiates provided a fresh insight on what might work well for advertising the fraternity. Coupled with the member's drive for building a quality fraternity, the new insight provided for a promising pledge class. Not only did the pledge numbers grow, but so did the events. The colony realized the responsibility to involve themselves more in community service. Some of the community service events the members and pledges participated in are Habitat for Humanity, dodge ball event for East Tennessee Children's Hospital, volunteering at a youth swim meet, as well as others. The professional development events proved to be successful in the previous semesters, so the events for spring 2008 were planned around the same goals as those as in the past semesters, but were able to add a few more. The additional events include a dining etiquette workshop for

engineers that introduce students to interviewing with a company or client in a dining setting.

Another aspect that was realized by the colony was the importance of building relationships with other organizations. The colony participated in several fund raisers for other organizations as well as helped centers and organizations on campus, such as Career Services and Office of Professional Practice to name a few.

As of the middle of the spring 2008 semester, the colony has been working to continue building on the foundation they have developed for themselves. The petition for chapter status has been the concentration of the semester with the expectation to submit it for vote early in the fall. Assuming favorable consideration of this petition, we look forward eventually to obtaining a permanent headquarters and a great future here at the University of Tennessee.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Chairperson*

Norman Rivera (2007-2008)

Nathan Robinson (2008-2009)



"The Fraternity has the responsibility of inspiring and challenging the member to his full professional development"

"Theta Tau Chapters provide a program of activities to meet the social and professional needs of their members."

"The Fraternity helps the member make the transition from student days to years of professional practice."

– From Theta Tau Pledge Manual

We have hosted several events in the past year ranging from events planned months in advance with an attendance of 60 people to smaller events co-hosted by other organizations and office on campus to joining Lambda Beta on their tour of the Stonepeak Ceramics facility in Crossville. Our events have had a great success rate due to our close relationship with the Career Services office on campus. We plan to continue and adapt these events in the future; however, we also have bigger plans for our members and the college of engineering.

A professional development program has been adopted to insure that our members are taking the right steps to securing the professional future they want. This program begins as a freshman and last till graduation. Some of the steps involve resume workshops, steps to acquiring an internship or co-op, and steps to acquiring a job after graduation or getting into the right grad school.

Our plan for the college of engineering involves quite a bit of work. After noticing the lack of cooperation between the many engineering organizations on campus, a few of our members were inspired to fix this. The idea is to organize an engineering council. After talking to several college of engineering faculty, we discovered that the idea has been floating around campus for a while, but no one has taken the initiative to start it. We also found out that several other Universities have something similar and we have been taking advice from them to develop our methods and organizations. The idea is to have a bi-annual meeting with representatives from every organization on campus to organize a calendar at the beginning of each semester. This will allow better communication and more efficient events hosted by various organizations.

This is only a few things that our Professional development committee has in the works. They strive to host events to help members get the most out of their undergraduate education and help them prepare for their future as engineers and members of Theta Tau.

### **COLONY EVENTS**

#### **Summer 2007**

**Leadership Academy Workshop (closed workshop)** – Lessons from the National Leadership Academy were presented.

Member attendees: 6

#### **Member Checkpoints**

A series of checkpoints that are established in which each member must pass to ensure that upon graduation, they will be ready to go into the career world.

#### **Study Night**

Members get together one night a week for up to 4 hours to study, work on homework, or help others out in their studies. This encourages members to focus on their studies and become successful in their academics.

#### **Fall 2007**

**Engineering Career Workshop (open workshop)** – *Thursday, September 13, 2008, 2:30pm, UC Shiloh Room.* Mr. Russ Coughenour from Career Services gave a workshop on perfecting that resume for the upcoming job fairs. Mr. Walter Odom from the Office of Professional Practice also spoke about Co-op and Internship opportunities for engineering students. Several engineering student organizations also came and spoke about their organization to raise awareness and recruit students.

Total attendees: 20

Member attendees: 3

**Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) (open tour)** – November 6, 2007. Toured the facility with the University of Tennessee Chapter of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA).

Total attendees: 16

Member attendees: 5

**Stonepeak Ceramics (closed tour)** – November 30, 2007. Toured the plant in Crossville, TN with the Lambda Beta Chapter.

Member attendees: 5

Spring 2008

**Dining Etiquette for Engineers (open workshop)** – January 31, 2008, 5:30-8:00pm, University Center Hermitage Room. Dining Etiquette workshop open to all Junior and Senior engineering students at no charge. Co-hosted by Theta Tau and the University of Tennessee Career Services. The following engineering companies sponsored the event: CH2M Hill, Denso, Eastman Chemical, Eaton Electrical, and Trane.

Total attendees: 60

Theta Tau member attendees: 8

Pledges who helped setup for the event: 2

**Air Force Guest Speaker (open meeting)** – March 12, 2008, 6pm. UT Law Building Rm. 241. Co-hosted by University of Tennessee Chapter of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and Theta Tau.

**Tennessee State Senator Parliamentary Procedure Presentation (open meeting)** – March 27, 2008, 7pm. UT Law Building Rm. 135. Hosted by Theta Tau with invitations extended to faculty and other organizations on the U.T. Campus.

**PRE-COLONY EVENTS**

**Spring 2007**

**Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) (open tour)** – Toured the facility with the University of Tennessee Detachment of U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Member attendees: 3

**Eastman Chemical Company (closed tour)** – Toured the facility.

Member attendees: 5



## THE SOCIAL SCENE

*Chairperson*

Sergio de la Barrera (2007-2008)

Benjamin Ealey/Britt Elmore (2008-2009)



**T**hough grades were of upmost concern to us, everyone needed time to unwind from time to time. This is where the social scene came into effect. So far events have fallen into a few categories consisting of sorority mixers, common interest events, group sports seating, and just hanging out with other brothers. As we expanded in size, new ideas were brought into the fraternity for these events. This allowed for a wide range of activities allowing for every brother's interests to be included in at least one of the activities. These socials provided the brothers with a way to keep in touch with fellow engineers and expand their social networks while still having fun.

In the past year the social scene was packed full of fun times and many more are expected to follow. The highlight of our events was the cabin retreat in late January. This was three days with 13 members and 11 new pledges sleeping in a five bedroom cabin. This allowed everyone to get to know each other through international board games, X-box, Pool, Air hockey, Hiking, and wandering the streets of Pigeon Forge. This retreat weekend worked out so well it may very well become a tradition. While social events are the most difficult to plan, we try to offer a wide variety of events so all members can find something they enjoy.

Fall 2007

- 9/22/07 – **Blacklight Graffiti Night** – A black light and highlighter social with dancing and snacks; allowed members to get to know the new pledges
- 10/3/07 – **Trivia Night at the Mel'** – A team competition at the Mellow Mushroom pizzeria in answering trivia questions (we had a Theta Tau team)
- 10/6/07 – **AIAA/Theta Tau Tailgate Party** (for the Georgia game) – A cookout with the AIAA (aerospace) technical society before the Georgia-Tennessee football game
- 10/6/07 – **Georgia Game** (group seating)
- 10/10/07 – **Cookout on the Hill** - A fraternity cookout on the Ferris lawn
- 10/13/07 – **Brewer's Jam** – A beer tasting festival with representatives from microbreweries all over the region
- 10/15/07 – **Founders' Day Dinner** – A celebratory dinner for the founders of Theta Tau
- 10/27/07 – **Flag Football Tailgate** – Cookout/tailgate party before the South Carolina Game that also involved a flag football game
- 10/27/07 – **South Carolina Game** (group seating)
- 11/3/07 – **Homecoming Game: Louisiana-Lafayette** (group seating)
- 11/3/07 – **Halloween-Bayou Bash** (going with the theme of our homecoming football game) – Halloween costume party
- 11/10/07 – **Arkansas Game** (group seating)
- 11/17/07 – **Vanderbilt Game** (group seating)
- 12/8/07 – **Togapalooza! Date Party** – Final event for the semester/year; a date party for members and pledges

Spring 2008

- 1/6/08 – **Brothers' Dinner** – A dinner celebrating the new members (pledges from fall semester)
- 1/9/08 to 1/17/08 – **Rush**
- 1/21/08 – **Pledge Hiking Trip** – A hiking adventure to the summit of the Chimney Tops in the Great Smokey Mountains; served as a venue to celebrate the new pledges
- 1/25/08 to 1/27/08 – **Spring Cabin Retreat** – A trip to the mountains for all members and new pledges; involved a weekend in a large, fully

equipped cabin for socialization, pledge announcements, and a Big Brother-Little Brother ceremony

- 2/15/08 – **Red Bull Dance Party** – The brothers of the Lambda Beta (Tennessee Tech) chapter came to visit for this social event
- 2/16/08 – **Poker Smoker** – A poker tournament for members, pledges, and the visiting Lambda Betas
- 2/22/08 – **Chapter Visit: Lambda Beta** - Visited the Lambda Beta chapter to help with a pledge activity that involved two building competitions and a social
- 2/23/08 – **Ultimate Cookout** – A game of Ultimate Frisbee for members and pledges, followed by an outing to the local burger establishment, the Copper Cellar
- 2/23/08 – **Basketball: Tennessee vs. Memphis** – A gathering to watch this historic game on a projector screen in HD; snacks provided
- 3/1/08 – **Trilogy Night** – A movie marathon to watch a famous movie trilogy (*Indiana Jones*) on a massive projector screen on campus; snacks provided
- 3/8/08 – **"Trading Majors" Sigma Alpha/Theta Tau Mixer** – A mixer between Theta Tau and the Sigma Alpha agricultural sorority; involves dancing and several competitions in which Theta Taus are paired up with Sigma Alphas; food and snacks provided
- 3/8/08 – **The After-Social** – A venue to mingle with the Sigma Alphas after the mixer activities are over.

Fall 2008

- 9/20/08 – **Tennessee vs. Florida Game (group seating)** – A group of the brothers/pledges decided to get football tickets together. The group was so large it had to be split in two.
- 9/20/08 – **Gator-Bash Pre-Game Cookout** – A cookout was hosted before the big game.
- 9/20/08 – **Florida Game After-Social** – A venue to hang out after the Florida game.
- 9/27/08 – **River-rat Tubing Trip** – The brothers and pledges took a tubing trip down a river in the Smokies. This trip served as the first off-campus trip with the pledges.

## HELPING THE COMMUNITY

*Chairperson*

Nate Freeman (2007-2008)

Ray Henson (2008-2009)



**A**lthough it took some time to get into full swing, the service committee was able to organize several events exclusively for Theta Tau and cooperatively with other fraternities and clubs. The committee itself was formed of both members and pledges (now members) with both a Service Chair for the members and a service leader for the pledges. Much was learned by setting up, advertising, and running these events. Some events were organized by other groups on campus and Theta Tau's role was to field a team of participants – the Society of Women Engineer's "Mr. Engineer" faux-pageant and the recent Beta Theta Pi four-square tournament fund-raising events are some examples. The more challenging events were those organized by Theta Tau; we worked with Habitat for Humanity for the build weekend, though most of the planning was done by Theta Tau.

The service committee became a streamlined part of our colony's structure this semester, and its ability to schedule and plan events grows as the colony itself grows.

For the next year, the Service Committee has more plans and higher expectations. We now require 10 service hours for every member and pledge per semester. We will also be involved with more philanthropy. We will be working with Knoxville Habitat for Humanity again to help build some houses. There will also be opportunities to work with Second Harvest Food Bank. We will also be repeating our involvement in Relay for Life. Also in the plans this year are to work with Student Government Association and the university to help clean up the areas around the engineering buildings.

### **Swim Meet Assistance**

Four members and three pledges each volunteered for four-hour shifts at a youth swim meet. The majority of the work done was setting up, running, and packing up a concession stand that raised money for the swim meet organization.

### **Dodge ball**

Five members and three pledges participated in a dodge ball competition; the \$30 entry fee went to East Tennessee Children's Hospital. Our dodge ball performance was slightly less than stellar, but the members had a good time and also enjoyed the movie *Dodgeball* beforehand.

### **Mr. Engineer**

Our colony worked with the UTK Society of Women Engineers for their first annual Mr. Engineer competition, a pageant open to only males in engineering majors. Nine members participated, with Mr. Danny Smith taking runner-up, and two pledges formed the cheering section. Registration was \$15 for each participant and there was an attendance fee of \$3; all proceeds went to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

### **Relay for Life**

Plans have been set to create a team and begin fund-raising for the University-wide Relay for Life that raises money for the American Cancer Society. The actual event is a 24-hour "marathon" that is normally taken in shifts by the different members. Team registration is a minimum \$150 and other funds are raised for the cause.

### **Job and Co-op Fairs**

Members and pledges transported and help set up presentation items for participating companies in annual job and co-op fairs hosted by Career Services and the Office of Professional Practice. Nearly all pledges and members also volunteered for the fair; they worked two-hour shifts assisting company representatives; this involved running paperwork,

handing out bottles of water to the employers on the floor, and breaking down the displays at the end of the fair.

#### **Habitat for Humanity**

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, members and pledges will be helping with a Habitat for Humanity build project. It is a six-hour project and will be done along with the University of Tennessee Habitat for Humanity club. The build project will involve continuing construction on a Habitat-sponsored house, though the current level of construction is unknown at this time.

#### **Dougherty Hall Redesign**

Several senior members have volunteered to redesign a section of Dougherty Hall, one of the many engineering buildings on campus. The much-needed redesign will be drawn in CAD and presented to the appropriate person(s) upon completion for a potential remodeling. The next page shows the hard work that was put into this project.





↑ Dougherty Hall ↑

↓ Dougherty Hall SolidWorks Model ↓



## RECRUITMENT/RUSH

*Chairperson*

Danny Smith/Sergio de la Barrera (2007-2008)

Stephen Oi/David Young (2008-2009)



Our Rush events have been a constant evolution since the start of our colony, getting bigger and better each semester. This fall's rush turned out to be our best rush yet, both in terms of people attending and quality of activity. Our alpha rush had nine pledges, our beta class had 11 and now our latest gamma class has 14. Our advertising got better after every Rush; armed with paint, a few buckets of chalk, and several hundred fliers, we covered the campus a few days before classes started. This year it was impossible to go to class without seeing one of our many posters, or walking around our huge chalk advertisements. Our rush program is one of the most successful programs we have and it will continue to improve making spring rush in 2009 even better.

#### Fall 2007

8/29/07 – **Student Organization Fair** – Involved a booth with a poster board, flyers for the info sessions, and three member representatives at all times

8/30/07 – **Pre-Rush Cookout** – Involved burgers right off the grill with chips and drinks sold to engineering majors for discount rates; offered an opportunity to advertise the interest meetings (since we don't know the date for this event or the organization fair we can just group the two into "Pre-Rush Activities" or something)

**September 4th, 2007: First day of fall rush**

9/4/07 – **First interest meeting/informal information session** - Involved free food for attendees, time for members to mingle with the interested students, and a presentation by all the members of the fraternity

9/5/07 – **Second interest meeting (same format)**

9/7/07 – **Rush Poker Night** - Involved multiple poker games and allowed for the members to get to know the rushees

9/17/07 – **Bowling Down Under** – A night of bowling, ping-pong, and billiards at the University Center recreational facility

9/19/07 - **Formal Rush Dinner** - Involved a nice dinner (and mandatory formal attire) provided in an elegant room along with handouts describing the pledge process; after the dinner, votes were cast on which rushees would be bid for pledge

9/20/07 – **Bid Day** – Involved personal delivery of bids

9/21/07 – **Pledge Pinning Ceremony** – Dinner at the Copper Cellar and a short ceremony during which the pledge bids were pinned and given pledge manuals

### **Spring 2008**

**Pre-Rush Activities** – Involved meeting the weekend before classes began to discuss the planning and execution of spring rush activities (proved very useful); also involved repeated “Recruitment

Activities” that involved multiple advertising campaigns and outreach events, including:

**Flyer squads** (posted flyers for interest meetings)

**Chalking teams** (drew chalk advertisements on the sidewalks near engineering dorms)

**Information table in Morrill Hall** (the engineering dorm)

*Door-to-door outreach* (talking personally to freshman engineers in Morrill Hall)

*Paint-the-Rock* (team that painted rush info on the campus icon, "The Rock" – a UT tradition)

**January 9th, 2008:** The first day of Spring Rush, and also the first day of classes (an intentional coincidence that proved a *much* better plan than waiting, as in the fall semester)

1/9/08 – **Rush Interest Meeting** – Involved mingling time for members and rushees, a revised presentation (much better than in the Fall), a team building activity (helped members get to know rushees), and an opportunity to officially "register" for rush using a laptop in the room on which the website was loaded to use the registration form (the rush registration page on our website proved vitally important)

1/10/08 - **Rush Interest Meeting** – Second day of classes; same format as the first meeting, but with a new building activity

1/11/08 – **Rush Poker Social** – Similar to the Poker Night of the Fall semester, but with a much more organized system of transportation and better rushee/member mingling opportunities

1/12/08 – **Rush Flag Football** – Two full teams of mixed members and rushees; allowed for the members to really get an idea of which rushees would make fine pledges

1/13/08 – **Day Off** – The back-to-back nature of the Spring Rush activities proved to be much more effective than as in the Fall semester; this day off simply allowed everyone to relax for a day and ruminate on the events that had just passed

1/14/08 – **Formal Rush Dinner** – The final rush activity (formal business attire); with organized transportation and final tid-bits of information for the rushees, this activity proved extremely successful; at this point, the

members had all gotten a chance to talk to each and every rushee, making for a more effective voting process for pledge bids; bids were voted on that night immediately after dinner.

1/15/08 – **Bid Day** – Bids were printed and hand-delivered to each of the prospective pledges

1/17/08 – **Pledge Pinning Ceremony/Bid Dinner** – An extremely formal event with a nice, three-course dinner provided to the new pledges free of charge; involved a pinning ceremony and pledge manual distribution, followed by announcements of upcoming pledge activities.

### Fall 2008

**Pre-Rush Activities** – Pre rush activities started during the summer, planning out what we were going to do with the rushees and where. We decided to put much more emphasis on the flyer squads, and made sure we had a much more attention grabbing poster.

**Flyer squads** (posted flyers letting people know rush was starting, we had over 200 posters printed)

**Chalking teams** (drew chalk advertisements on the sidewalks near engineering dorms and campus)

**Information table in Morrill Hall** (the engineering dorm)

**Information table on the Hill** (engineering campus)

**Student InVOLvement Fair** – This was the club fair, we had a table a set of signs and a wonderful opportunity to talk to students about the upcoming rush week.

**Free Food for Engineers Day** – We had a cook out giving free hamburgers and drinks to all that wanted in front of one of the engineering buildings, giving us a chance to talk and mingle with possible rushees.

8/24/08 – **Rush Flag Football** – Rushees and members were mixed and formed two teams to play an engaging game football. This provided a great chance for everyone to get to know each other and start to build bonds.

8/25/08 – **Info Session** – An info session was held to give the rushees a better chance to learn about us and what all was expected from them in the coming week. The event was accompanied by a bar-b-que dinner, allowing rushees to talk informally with members.

8/26/08 – **Poker Night Social** – Similar to the poker nights of previous semester, except this event was on campus which was much easier for the rushees to attend. Light refreshments were served, and the evening turned into a large bonding experience.

8/27/08 – **Building Competition** – An egg drop building completion was held, members and rushees were mixed and then formed teams. The project was to build a device that would allow an egg to survive a few meter freefall. The small groups allowed the members to spend even more time getting to personally getting to know rushees. The event truly allowed the rushees and members to show off some of their engineering skill.

8/28/08 – **Professional Development Night** – We had some of the members who had a coop or internship tell about their experiences and how our PD events were vital to the fraternity. We had presentations covering everything from jet engines to maintenance and reliability testing of pipes.

8/4/08 – **Bid Day** – Bids were printed and hand-delivered to each of the prospective pledges.

9/8/08 – **Pledge Pinning Ceremony/Bid Dinner** – A formal event with a three-course dinner provided to the new pledges free of charge. Pledges were pinned and given their pledge manuals.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION







## THETA TAU

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY

Amar Amin  
Southeast Regional Director  
amar.amin@theta-tau.org  
<http://amar.a.amin.googlepages.com/home>

June 12, 2008

To all my Brothers in Theta Tau:


It is my pleasure as Southeast Regional Director to recommend that the University of Tennessee Knoxville Colony of Theta Tau petition for chapter status be approved. The colony has grown in many aspects over the past year and this growth shows that they are ready for chapter status. After visiting with many of the members of the colony over the previous year, I feel confident that they will make a great chapter.

This group started out on a long journey more than one year ago as individuals and in that time, they have come together to form a Fraternity on their campus. My first contact with the group occurred at the 2007 Southeast Regional Conference. Four of their group members attended to gain more information on Theta Tau and they showed a willingness to learn from the other chapters in the Southeast Region. In April of 2007, I had the pleasure to meet each member as they were certified as a Theta Tau colony. Their enthusiasm for the Fraternity was clearly apparent. In May of 2007, I had the pleasure to visit Knoxville, TN to help the colony with their rush and pledge program planning for the following fall semester. The colony members were eager to provide a balanced program of activities to its members and pledges. At the 2008 Southeast Regional Conference, the colony had the opportunity to share its experiences and lessons learned and provided valuable input for the other chapters.

The Tennessee Colony is a diverse group of students with all the necessary tools required to build a great chapter of Theta Tau not only for themselves, but for the University and the community of Knoxville, TN. In the short time as a colony, they have recruited well and managed to teach themselves and their pledges what it means to be a part of this Fraternity. They should have no problem in making the transition from colony to chapter and I personally feel that they would make an excellent addition to our Fraternity.

I again recommend that this petition be approved, and I look forward to the installation of a chapter at the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

In H & T,

  
Amar Amin, Kappa Beta '06  
Southeast Regional Director

---

*Theta Tau, the nation's oldest, and foremost, Fraternity for Engineers*



THETA TAU  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY

Lambda Beta Chapter

TTU Box 5263  
Cookeville, TN 38505

February 25, 2008

ΘT Executive Council  
Theta Tau Central Office  
1011 San Jacinto, Suite 205  
Austin, TX 78701

Brothers,

I am pleased to express our chapter's support of the University of Tennessee colony of Theta Tau. Due to our close proximity, we have had numerous opportunities to fellowship and interact with this colony. It is strongly evident that this group is highly motivated and possesses the dedication to fulfill the purpose of Theta Tau. I am particularly impressed by their quantity and quality of events, their high level of member participation, their relationship with the University of Tennessee, the quality of their pledge program, and their enthusiasm for everything they do. It is with strong confidence that I recommend that this colony be installed as a chapter of Theta Tau.

In H&T,

Tim Derrig  
AB 321 X!



**Senate Chamber  
State of Tennessee**

**NASHVILLE**

**RANDY McNALLY**

**SENATOR**

**9TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

**ANDERSON, BIRD,**

**LOUDON AND MONROE COUNTIES**

**307 WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING  
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**(615) 741-6806**

**1-800-649-6286 ext. 16806**

**FAX (615) 263-0286**

**CHAIRMAN  
FINANCE, WAYS AND MEANS  
COMMITTEE**

**MEMBER OF COMMITTEES  
GENERAL WELFARE, HEALTH & HUMAN  
RESOURCES  
RULES**

**March 5, 2008**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

I would like to take this opportunity to recommend that Theta Tau Fraternity obtain chapter status. The chapter would be a great asset to the University of Tennessee both for the university and the national fraternity.

They have built a strong foundation to grow on in order to build in numbers and reputation not only within the University of Tennessee but on a national level also. Theta Tau was awarded colony status in April of 2007 and used the summer to plan for the fall semester, their first semester to start building toward chapter status. Some ideas were planned during the summer in order to concentrate efforts on building the organization. During the fall semester, the colony worked on developing regular meetings, professional development events, social events, as well as planning for the following semester's rush period. Some of the events included a visit to Arnold Engineering Development Center for a tour, Eastman Chemical Company for a private tour as well as some other engineering companies.

The spring semester was a success as far as rush was concerned. They were fortunate enough to get 14 pledges. Not only did their pledge numbers grow, but so did their events. They became involved in community service events such as Habitat for Humanity, dodge ball event for East Tennessee Children's Hospital, volunteering at a youth swim meet as well as others. For their professional development, they had some events along the same lines as what they did in the fall semester.

I feel they have built a strong foundation for the chapter to grow on and would recommend they be given chapter status as they requested.

Sincerely,

*Randy McNally*

**Randy McNally  
State Senator**



William R. Hamel  
Professor & Head

## THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE

Mechanical, Aerospace, & Biomedical Engineering Department  
414 Dougherty Engineering Building  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-2230  
Office: (865) 974-6588  
Fax: (865) 974-5274  
whamel@utk.edu

March 20, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to offer my full support for the progression of the Theta Tau Colony at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville to chapter status.

I have had the opportunity to work directly with several Theta Tau members this past year and I must say that I have been very impressed with their dedication, maturity, and reliability. This was my first experience with Theta Tau and I must confess that when they first contacted me I was very skeptical about the organization simply because they referred to themselves as a fraternity. Like most, I assumed that they were something analogous to the multitude of Greek fraternities that exist on most large campuses such as Tennessee. I believe this group personifies what Theta Tau wants for itself - a true professional organization that is balanced across service to both the engineering profession and the community. They have been very careful to recruit the right students who share Theta Tau values. I am aware that they worked into their busy academic schedules several meaningful community projects including support to Habitat for Humanity, support to local hospital programs, and others. They have also invested in events of professional value to their ranks by arranging technical tours at several regional companies and facilities.

They assisted the MABE directly in a recent project. For some time, I have wanted to renovate the hallway area around the entrance to the departmental offices in the Dougherty Engineering Building. When Tyrone Phillips and other members of the colony approached me as to how they might serve the department, I immediately thought of this project. I asked them to create a detailed and scaled model of the hallway that I could use in planning the actual changes. They, in a relatively short period of time, went well beyond my expectations by developing a CAD-based 3D model of the entire area. I was very impressed by the quality of their work, and the results allowed me to move the project forward much faster than I would have been able to do otherwise. Frankly, I am not aware of any other student group that would have produced such useful results so quickly with minimal supervision and input.

I believe that the UTK Colony's size, membership quality, and service and activity records support elevating it to chapter status. As full chapter, I am confident that they will be successful and will expand their value to our university and your organization.

Sincerely,

William R. Hamel, PhD



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Career Services  
Division of Student Affairs

100 Dunford Hall  
Knoxville, TN 37996-6010  
Phone: 865-974-5435  
Fax: 865-974-6497  
<http://careers.utk.edu>

March 18, 2008

National Executive Council  
Theta Tau Professional Engineering Council  
815 Brazos, Suite 710  
Austin, TX 78701

To the Members of the Theta Tau Council:

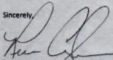
We are writing this letter of recommendation in support of the petition by the University of Tennessee (UT) Colony of Theta Tau to be awarded Chapter status in the nation's oldest and largest professional fraternity in the field of engineering.

Career Services has had the honor of working with Theta Tau on several occasions and we have found the members of the UT colony to be a strong asset to the College and to the University of Tennessee as a whole. Our department has been highly impressed with the levels of commitment the colony has shown to assisting engineering students with career and leadership development. Most importantly, the members of the UT Colony have led by example, often donating their time to community service events and assisting other student-led engineering associations in their efforts on behalf of professional development.

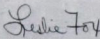
We consider the UT Theta Tau Colony to be a partner with Career Services in career success for engineering students. They recently co-presented the first "Dining Etiquette for Engineers Dinner and Workshop" with our department. Through their marketing efforts, the event sold-out immediately and was rated very highly by all attendees. We hope to make this an annual spring event and have asked Theta Tau to continue co-presenting the event to all engineering students. Additionally, we hope to continue expanding this partnership with Theta Tau as an advisor on the career resources and programming events needed for engineering students.

In closing, we strongly recommend that the UT Colony of Theta Tau be awarded Chapter status so that they can continue to build upon the quality foundation that the members have begun. The Chapter would be a great asset for the students, faculty and administration of the University of Tennessee as well as the National Fraternity of Theta Tau. They have served as excellent examples of professionalism and leadership and have represented Theta Tau admirably among students, faculty, administration and the corporate world.

Sincerely,



Russ Coughenour  
Director of Career Services



Leslie Fox  
Career Services Consultant - Engineering



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Office of Professional Practice  
College of Engineering

310 Perkins Hall  
Knoxville, TN 37996-2030  
Phone: (865) 974-5323  
Fax: (865) 974-3707  
[www.coop.utk.edu](http://www.coop.utk.edu)

March 4, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Our program has just completed our Spring 2008 Engineering Fair; this involved approximately 50 employers and over 400 students. It was one of our most successful events due to the assistance of Theta Tau. Ben Davis approached us as a representative for the University of Tennessee organization, and offered volunteers for two days of events. We were extremely impressed with the true volunteer spirit, the manner in which they handled themselves with corporate representatives, and the enthusiasm they presented to students. They have already offered assistance with our fall events, which will be a tremendous help to our program, the College of Engineering, and the University.

Regards,

  
Walter Odom  
Director

