

The Cornell University Colony of Theta Tau



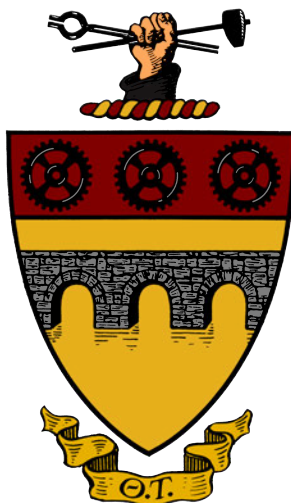
December 1, 2011

Petition for Chapter Status to
Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

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The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

December 1, 2011

401 College Avenue
Apartment 4
Ithaca, New York 14853

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 Cornell University Colony of Theta Tau Engineering Fraternity! The members of the colony have worked hard over the past two years in preparing this petition for Theta Tau Chapter status.

On December 8, 2009, you were present for the formation of the Theta Tau Engineering Fraternity interest group at Cornell University. Then, in March of 2010, we petitioned for Colony status. Since then, we have maintained organizational status at Cornell University and have the support of many professors on campus, including our advisor Professor Sidney Resnick.

The members of the Cornell University Colony of Theta Tau Engineering Fraternity have all expressed immense interest in Theta Tau and in becoming a part of the National Fraternity. We feel that by being admitted as a chapter within Theta Tau we will be able to further our endeavors as a fraternity, by recruiting for potential brothers, hosting campus-wide events and promoting engineering throughout our university.

Roy Daniel's visit to our colony in early October 2011 was crucial to our growth and development as a chapter. Additionally, the national brotherhood support we received while visiting Tau Gamma chapter for the Northeast Regional Conference that same month was invaluable. Both visits provided a great deal of collaboration with the national fraternity. I am grateful for all help in completing this petition, and I appreciate everyone's support.

On behalf of all of our members, I now present you with the Cornell University petition for Theta Tau Chapter status.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Gore, Regent
Cornell University Colony of Theta Tau

History of Cornell University

Advancing Cornell as New York State's Land Grant University



Statue of A.D. White set against autumn foliage

The forward-thinking educational approach, breadth of study, diverse student population, and emphasis on public service that have always characterized Cornell University can be traced to a unique set of circumstances at the time of its founding in 1865. American higher education of that time was dominated by sectarian colleges whose primary purpose was to train the professional class. Yet agriculture was America's prime economic endeavor in the 1850s, and the Industrial Revolution was well underway, bringing with it new technology - railroads, telegraphs, steamboats, indoor plumbing - and innovations in existing tools, such as plows and firearms, that transformed agriculture and manufacturing and forever changed domestic life. Education reformers pressed for curricula aimed at preparing agricultural and industrial workers to take advantage of modernized approaches, and for government support to extend higher education to all citizens, regardless of social or economic status.

In 1862, Congress passed a bill to provide for "at least one college in each state where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific or classical studies, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts...in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes." The bill provided for a grant of federal land to each state, which could sell the land and use the proceeds to build and operate its new college. President Lincoln signed the Morrill Land Grant Act into law that same year.

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

In 1863, Ezra Cornell and Andrew D. White were elected to the New York State Senate. Both men took an interest in the land grant issue, working at first on plans involving existing colleges. Then, in January 1865, Cornell mentioned to White that his personal fortune exceeded his family's needs, and he wanted to do something beneficial for the state. White shared his vision of an institution where scientific and technical education would be married with studies in history and literature. A month later, White introduced a bill "to establish the Cornell University, and to appropriate to it the income of the sale of public lands granted to this State." With White as its president, Cornell University opened its doors to its first students in 1867.

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Cornell University College of Engineering

This is an exciting time to be in the College of Engineering at Cornell. Engineers have always been problem solvers, but today's emphasis on collaborative work that transcends traditional departmental boundaries brings together the best minds from across the disciplines with profound results: Robotic devices that can think, swim, play soccer; wireless sensor networks to monitor and control our environment; living machines small enough to navigate and repair human tissue or dispense drugs; strategies for curing Alzheimer's and heart disease; chip-sized systems for rapid detection of deadly pathogens.

In Cornell's College of Engineering, research takes learning beyond the limits of conventional thought as students and faculty push the boundaries of human understanding. Discovery stretches across disciplines to find answers to complex and challenging problems in such fields as nanoscience, biomedical engineering, molecular and cellular biology, advanced materials, and information science. The impact of first-rate research on the educational enterprise is immeasurable. Our engineering students, immersed in this atmosphere of discovery, learn from and work with faculty members who are pioneering new knowledge at the forefront of engineering sciences. Participation in this research-enhanced environment opens a world of possibilities for students and produces inspired individuals: critical thinkers and creative leaders to address the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow.

Adding to the capabilities of specialized laboratory and research facilities across the Engineering Quad, the College of Engineering has recently opened Duffield Hall, one of the country's most sophisticated research and teaching facilities for nanoscience and nano-engineering — continuing our preeminent leadership in the field since its inception more than 30 years ago.

Faculty and students also work and study in national research centers on campus including the Center for Nanoscale Systems, the Cornell Center for Materials Research, the Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source, the Cornell Nanoscale Facility, the Cornell Theory Center, and the Nanobiotechnology Center—many of which were established and are led by engineering faculty members. Cornell is home to more than 100 interdisciplinary centers, institutes, laboratories and programs that support research and enhance education.

Our college stands on a tradition of innovation. With our roots in the college of mechanic arts—one of the original units of Ezra Cornell's university—we have a proud history of creativity, integrity, and success. Grounded in more than a century of invention and excellence, Cornell Engineering is committed to making a real difference in human health, quality of life, and a better understanding of our physical world. This is the calling and responsibility of a Cornell engineer.

We invite you to explore Cornell Engineering, both online and in person. We welcome the opportunity to share with you our community of talented individuals and their commitment to excellence in research, education, and service.

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Cornell University College of Engineering Spring 2011 Statistics

Undergraduate enrollment: 2,740

Male: 66.35%

Female: 33.65%

Under-represented Minority: 6.4%

International: 12.6%

Graduate enrollment: 1,426

Male: 74.6%

Female: 25.4%

Under-represented Minority: 4.6%

International: 45.2%

Engineering programs

Undergraduate Majors: 13

Undergraduate Minors: 18

MS/PhD Fields: 16

Master of Engineering Fields: 15

Number of undergraduate engineering courses taught annually: ~ 450

Faculty: 236

Research funding (annual external funding): \$116.4M

Includes Engineering Affiliated Research Centers:

- Cornell Center for Advanced Computing
- Cornell Center for Applied Mathematics
- Cornell Center for Materials Research
- Cornell Center for Nanoscale Systems
- Cornell Center for the Environment
- Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source
- Cornell Nanoscale Science and Technology Facility
- Cornell Theory Center
- Kavli Institute at Cornell for Nanoscale Science
- Nanobiotechnology Center
- National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center

Number of living alumni: ~36,000

Year College of Engineering was founded: 1870

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

History of Colony

During the spring semester of 2009, Zachary Glasser and Michael DeLucia pursued an idea that was long in the mind of the student body, founding an engineering fraternity at Cornell University. After diligent research they discovered that Theta Tau was the organization that would best fit their expectations, an organization that would promote and help build a community within the College of Engineering.

As active brothers and leaders of Delta Phi, Zach and Michael were already quite familiar with the social greek system at Cornell. However, now they were forming something more than a social frat, something that required them to reach out to the engineering community as a whole and seek out the best engineers possible. Utilizing their connections with the greek system and their academic connections, this was achieved quite rapidly and the original group of 17 founding members was formed. The group represented individuals of virtually every ethnicity, major, and background.

For the rest of the semester the new group worked diligently to build a foundation for the new fraternity, working closely with nationals to adhere to the highest standards. The initiation ceremony for the founding class was then scheduled for December 8th.

On December 8, Mr. Michael Abraham, Executive Director of Theta Tau, was present for the formation of the Cornell University Theta Tau Interest group, where information and guidelines were given on the process of becoming an official chapter of Theta Tau.

The Cornell University Theta Tau Interest group has since achieved organizational status at Cornell University. Associate professor Mark Lewis, from the School of Operations Research and Information Engineering at Cornell, agreed to support our initiative by becoming our faculty advisor.

In spring semester 2010, the first general meetings were held and the first round of officers was elected. Recruitment events have and are being held in the hopes of further increasing the number of members in our organization.

The first elections were held on February 2nd, 2010 at the Delta Phi fraternity house, the historic house of Ezra Cornell. Elections took place for the first ever Executive Board, and the following brothers were chosen to be the first group of leaders of the new fraternity:

Regent: Zachary Glasser
Vice Regent: Michael DeLucia

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Treasurer: Justin Quartiere
Recording Secretary: Jill Cardamone
Petition Chair: Diego Accame L.
Recruitment Chair: Samantha Jayawickrama
New Member Educator: Brian Manzi
Social Chair: Natalie Goldman
Philanthropy Chair: Danny Fredeman

The group started to recruit a new pledge class, and received 43 applications for membership. Based on the amount of interest in the fraternity received, the group became confident of the numerous enthusiastic and dedicated students excited to join. 16 members were chosen to form the first pledge class, and the fraternity developed a pledge process that highlighted the principles of Theta Tau.

The next semester, in Fall of 2010, rush was formalized even more and a pledge class of 17 members was chosen from over 80 applications. In the fall of the following year, our latest pledge class was selected. 18 members were chosen from another large pool of applicants.

Theta Tau's Cornell colony now has 62 active members with 6 alumni, and is a flourishing part of the Cornell Engineering Community. As a colony, we engage in several professional, philanthropic, and social events each semester.

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

2011-2012 Executive Board

Regent	Alexandra Gore
Vice Regent	Sabina Sobhani
Treasurer	Kaditya Naidu
Scribe	Hannah Kiem
Professional Development Chair	Karina Sobhani
Philanthropy Chair	Melanie Herman
Recruitment Chair	Alexandra Bothner
New Member Education Chair	Adam Harris
Social Events Chair	Ranjay Krishna
Historian	Justin Quartiere
Apparel Chairs	Christine Bakewell Michael Mastakas

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Brotherhood by Pledge Class

Founding Class; Fall 2009

Diego Accame	Samantha Jayawickrama
Tucker Burns	Eric Jurgens
Jill Cardamone	Aparajith Kannan
Michael De Lucia*	Brian Manzi
Daniel Fredeman	Justin Quartiere
Matthew Giambrone	Andrew Smith
Zachary Glasser**	Rebecca Varnhagen
Natalie Goldman	Sabrina Wang
Chris Hidelberger	

**Founding Regent

*Founding Vice Regent

Alpha Class; Spring 2010

Travis Duran	Joshua Schwartz
Adam Fisher	Karina Sobhani
Alexandra Gore	Sabina Sobhani
Melanie Herman	Jessica Stark
Hannah Kiem	Philip Tischler
Daniel Lu	Alisha Vimawala
Juan Pablo Sarmiento	Ray Wang
Matthew Scheff	Jason Zhao

Beta Class; Fall 2010

Christine Bakewell	Alina Liu
Alexandra Bothner	Michael Mastakas
Caroline Chang	Kaditya Naidu
Graham Chapman	Dara Pearl
Julie Goodman	Paras Sanghavi
Jewel Guan	Alexandra Spies
Adam Harris	Justin Steimle
Ranjay Krishna	Xin Wan
Emma Lejeune	

Gamma Class; Fall 2011

Steven Bowker	Nicholas Parisi
Jeffrey Buswell	Alexander Pavincic
Lemil Cordero	Emily Polk
Melissa Felizardo	Rudolph Powser IV
Karen Feuerstein	Shraya Ramani
Wendy Gu	Beth Weed
Cheuk-Hang Hui	Kaitlin Wiener
Kejing Jiang	Adam Wolford
Albert Liao	Jonathan Wu

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Brotherhood by Graduating Class

Student Members



Name Diego Accame
Major/Class CS '12

No Picture Available

Name Ishaan Berry
Major/Class ORIE '12



Name Tucker Burns
Major/Class CS '12



Name Jill Cardamone
Major/Class MatSci '12

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Michael De Lucia
Major/Class Civil '12



Name Adam Fisher
Major/Class MechE '12



Name Daniel Fredeman
Major/Class CS '12



Name Natalie Goldman
Major/Class ORIE '12



Name Alexandra Gore
Major/Class Civil '12



Name Chris Hidelberger
Major/Class MatSci '12

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

No Picture Available

Name Melanie Herman
Major/Class ORIE '12

No Picture Available

Name Eric Jurgens
Major/Class BioE '12



No Picture Available

Name Aparijith Kannan
Major/Class ORIE '12

Name Dan Lu
Major/Class Civil '12



No Picture Available

Name Brian Manzi
Major/Class ChemE '12

Name Michael Mastakas
Major/Class MechE '12

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Justin Quartiere
Major/Class ORIE '12



Name Andrew Smith
Major/Class Civil '12

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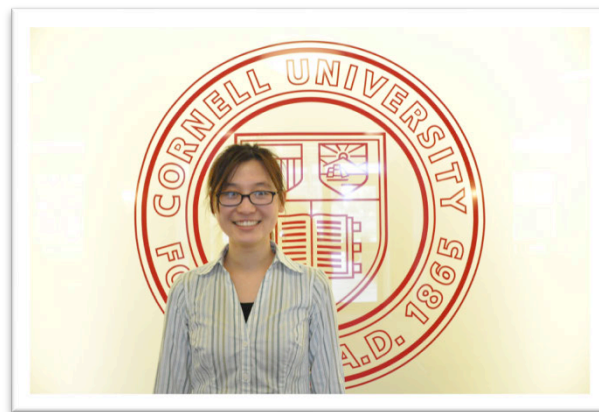
Name Jessica Stark
Major/Class ChemE '12

No Picture Available

Name Justin Steimle
Major/Class MatSci '12

No Picture Available

Name Rebecca Varnhagen
Major/Class ORIE '12



Name Xin Wan
Major/Class MatSci '12

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

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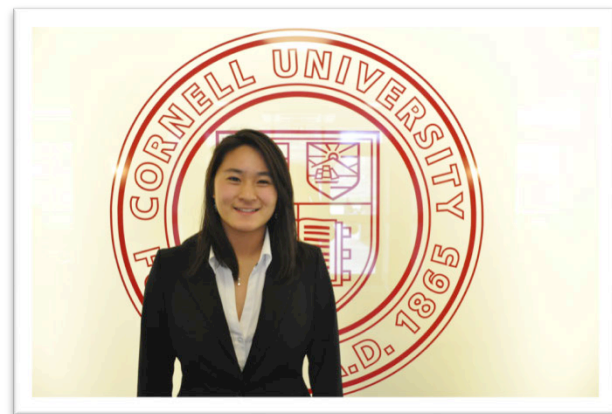
Name Sarbina Wang
Major/Class ORIE '12



Name Christine Bakewell
Major/Class ChemE '13



Name Alexandra Bothner
Major/Class BioE '13



Name Caroline Chang
Major/Class MatSci '12



Name Graham Chapman
Major/Class ORIE '13

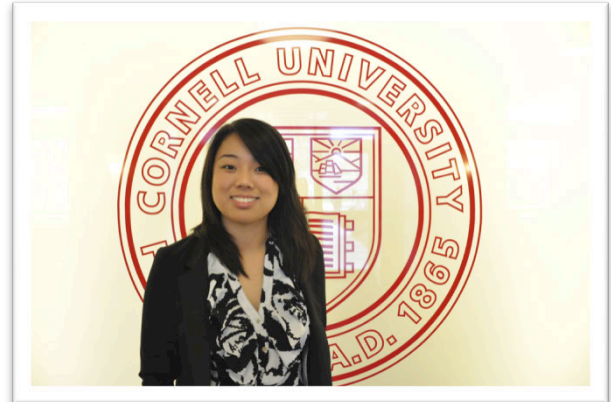


Name Deborah Chu
Major/Class ORIE '13

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Travis Duran
Major/Class AEP '13



Name Jewel Guan
Major/Class ORIE '13



Name Adam Harris
Major/Class ECE '13



Name Hannah Kiem
Major/Class Civil '13

No Picture Available

Name Ranjay Krishna
Major/Class ECE '13

No Picture Available

Name Emma Lejeune
Major/Class EnvE '13

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Alina Liu
Major/Class ORIE '13



Name Kaditya Naidu
Major/Class Civil '13



Name Paras Sanghavi
Major/Class ECE '13



Name Juan Pablo Sarmiento
Major/Class CS '13

No Picture Available

Name Matthew Scheff
Major/Class MechE '13

No Picture Available

Name Joshua Schwartz
Major/Class MechE '13

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Karina Sobhani
Major/Class CS '13



Name Sabina Sobhani
Major/Class ORIE '13

No Picture Available

Name Philip Tischler
Major/Class MechE '13



Name Alisha Vimawala
Major/Class Independent '13

No Picture Available

Name Ray Wang
Major/Class ORIE '13

No Picture Available

Name Jason Zhao
Major/Class CS '13

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Alumni

No Picture Available

Name Matthew Giambrone
Major/Class BioE '11



Name Zachary Glasser
Major/Class ORIE '11

No Picture Available

Name Julie Goodman
Major/Class ORIE '11

No Picture Available

Name Samantha Jayawickrama
Major/Class ISST '11



Name Dara Pearl
Major/Class Civil '11

No Picture Available

Name Alexandra Spies
Major/Class ORIE '11

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

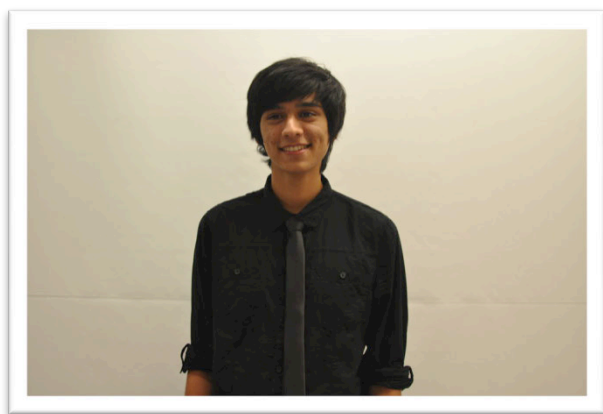
New Pledge Class



Name Steven Bowker
Major/Class ORIE '14



Name Jeff Buswell
Major/Class ECE '14



Name Lemil Cordero
Major/Class MechE '14



Name Melissa Felizardo
Major/Class MatSci '14



Name Karen Feurstein
Major/Class ORIE '13



Name Wendy Gu
Major/Class ChemE '14

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Cheuk-Hang Hui
Major/Class EnvE '14



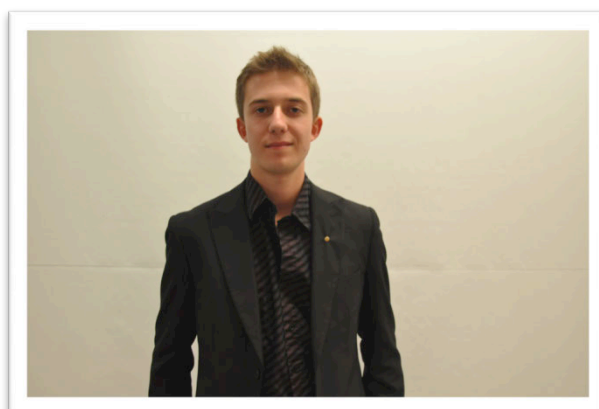
Name Kejing Jiang
Major/Class Civil '14



Name Albert Liao
Major/Class ECE '14



Name Nicholas Parisi
Major/Class EnvE '14

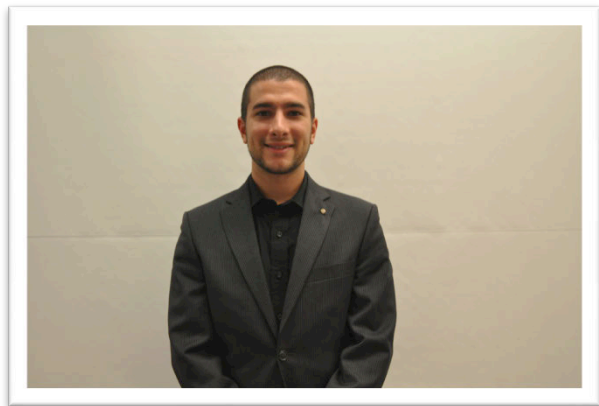


Name Alexander Pavincic
Major/Class MechE '14



Name Emily Polk
Major/Class ChemE '14

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Name Rudolph Powser IV
Major/Class Civil '13



Name Shraya Ramani
Major/Class CS '14



Name Beth Weed
Major/Class BioE '14



Name Kaitlin Wiener
Major/Class ORIE '14



Name Adam Wolford
Major/Class ChemE '14



Name Jonathan Wu
Major/Class ORIE '14

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

Brotherhood Events and Pictures



Theta Tau Regional Conference at Tau Gamma, October 2011



Spring Formal, May 2011

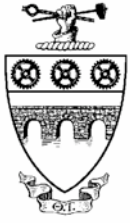
The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Brotherhood Paintball Tournament, April 2011



Truss Days with Habitat for Humanity, March 2011



THETA TAU

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY

October 11, 2011

Brothers,

I am writing on behalf of the Cornell University colony's petition to become a chapter of our fraternity. I met with the colony when conducting their official visit in October of this year.

The colony has shown the ability to thrive even while dealing with the tough academic stresses at Cornell. They have good leaders who are eager to learn, able to motivate, and strong enough to lead its members. As brothers they are a vibrant group whose members showed a strong fraternal bond with each other and have a great dynamic with their pledges.

The Cornell colony has worked to find ways to contribute to both the college and community. They have participated in campus wide service events and held several professional events as a colony. Furthermore, they are actively working on more such events that will both increase their visibility on campus and give back to the college.

They have also shown the ability to recruit well and handle growth and incorporation of new actives. These skills combined with their strong brotherhood will serve them well as they move forward. 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 highly recommend approval of this petition, and look forward to the installation of a chapter at the Cornell University.

In H & T,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Daniels".

Roy Daniels
Colony Director

October 30, 2011

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity

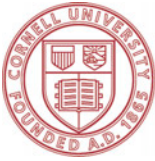
Dear Brothers,

To those reading this whom I have not met, my name is Mike Siegel and I am the regent of Tau Gamma chapter. I had the pleasure of meeting nearly 10 members of the Cornell colony this past week at our regional conference. Before even meeting them, I was already impressed that as only a colony many of their members were willing to make the long drive to meet us. Now, having met a number of their colonizing members and talked extensively with Alexandra, their regent, I am happy to support their petition to become a chapter of Theta Tau.

The colony at Cornell is certainly on the right path toward being a great chapter. As students at a fellow Ivy League college, we were able to compare notes on many of the same issues and realized what great assets our groups could be for each other. They have a structured schedule of events for their pledges and their rush process reaches a large portion of their engineering students. Their community involvement in the school is evident from the events they have thrown this semester. While demonstrating their devotion to becoming a chapter, they have treated me with the utmost professionalism. With the founding members graduating this semester, I made sure I heard from the younger members of the colony as well. They too share the enthusiasm that their regent expressed and seem to have a genuine understanding of what a Theta Tau chapter could mean. Not only do I think that they will become a thriving chapter, I believe that they will evolve into a great partner for our chapter as well as the entire region.

Having talked with a number of the members of this colony, I truly hope you will approve their petition to become a chapter.

In H&T,
Mike Siegel X! TG51



Cornell University

School of Operations
Research and
Information Engineering

Sidney Resnick
Lee Teng Hui Professor in
Engineering

284 Rhodes Hall
Ithaca, New York 14853-4203
t. 607.255.1210
f. 607.255.9129
sirl@cornell.edu
<http://legacy.orie.cornell.edu/~sid>

November 13, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Recommendation for Cornell University's Colony of Theta Tau

I serve as faculty advisor to the Cornell University Colony of Theta Tau. In my interaction with members of the group, I have observed their dedication, drive and overall commitment to perform well and enhance the engineering community at Cornell. I fully support their petition to become a chapter of the umbrella national fraternity.

The group has progressed steadily and noticeably since becoming a colony. The organization is more structured and impact and visibility on campus has increased. They have hosted multiple employer information sessions for the engineering student body. These information sessions acquaint students with internship and full-time job opportunities that are available. Members of the colony have developed a professional relationship with recruiters through hosting information sessions.

The colony's reach also extends outside of campus. They have participated in Relay for Life and have been involved with Habitat for Humanity and Into the Streets, a campus-wide volunteer effort. The members of the Cornell colony of Theta Tau are balanced in their motives to develop themselves professionally and also serve the community through philanthropy work. Becoming a chapter would further enhance this organization's goals, visibility and positive influence.

The members of Theta Tau are bright, energetic, highly motivated and thoroughly professional students. They are enthusiastic about creating more events to better themselves and benefit the engineering community, and this drive makes them well deserving to become chapter members. Theta Tau has become a distinguished and positive presence on campus. Chapter status for Cornell would enhance the national organization as well as the local engineering scene. We hope you will consider the request for Chapter status favorably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sidney Resnick".

Sidney Resnick, Lee Teng Hui Professor in Engineering

The Cornell Colony of Theta Tau, Professional Engineering Fraternity



Θ T H E T A T A U

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY

CENTRAL OFFICE

1011 San Jacinto, Suite 205
Austin, TX 78701

512/472-1904 Fax: 512/472-4820
Internet: Central.office@ThetaTau.org
Web: www.ThetaTau.org

November 15, 2011

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

Dear Brothers:

I am pleased to write in support of the petition for chapter status from the colony at the Cornell University.

In the winter of 2009, I met with about twenty Cornell engineering students interested in Theta Tau. The students knew each other well and wanted to bring a professional fraternity to the Ithaca, New York campus to unite engineering students at the school. They chose our engineering fraternity as the best way to achieve that admirable goal. The group has come a long way since that first meeting and is fully prepared to take the next step toward full Theta Tau membership.

Since then, the local and then colony has worked diligently and consistently to achieve this goal. I am impressed with the enthusiasm, effort, and achievements of this group as evidenced by the content of this petition. I believe that they have demonstrated that they are ready for the step to chapter status and will continue to be a strong and positive example for Theta Tau on the campus of the Cornell University.

I believe this group has the potential to be a valuable asset to Theta Tau, and I recommend your approval of their petition for chapter status.

In H and T,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael T. Abraham".

Michael T. Abraham
Executive Director