# New Jersey Institute of Technology Colony of Theta Tau



# Petition for Chapter Status

New Jersey Institute of Technology Newark, NJ

## **Table of Contents**

Member Signatures	3
Letter from Colony President	5
Member Profiles	6
History of Newark College of Engineering	21
History of NJIT	23
History of NJIT Colony of Theta Tau	25
Service	27
Profession	30
Brotherhood	33
Letters of Recommendation	36
Letter of Thanks	40

We, the members of Tau Theta Professional Engineering Fraternity at New Jersey Institute of Technology do hereby petition the Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity for chapter status.

We, the undersigned, are all currently enrolled in the School of Engineering or Computing Science at New Jersey Institute of Technology or are alumnus members and have no affiliation with any organization considered to be competitive with Theta Tau.

Mij Sh	SC	Hefster	
Niyam Shah	Elijah Mathew	Tej Patel	
Jordaldy Harshit Ratanpara	Holling Just one Hollins Jose	Rahul Shah	
Glima Kosty	Sahiti Seetamraju	Tracey Mraw	
Min Mar	all Jose	Kayona Seelam	
Nicholas Maranca	Albert Fasano	Kavyasree Seelam	
Keyra Pulliam	Lucas Janusik	Marie Dizon	
Nichel Valuet	Kyla	Notal quan	
Nicholas Salernitano	Raphael Cobarrubias	Vatsal Shah	
Dhiday Lampter Ghiday Lamptey	Hamza Shaikh	James Ligot	
Joseph Vitale	Chorwy Wys Omowumi Mebude	Rajvi Rana	
Arjav Shah	Seorge Varghese	Mustafa Aslamy	
Varinder Matharu	Ashka Patel	Ashley Koluda	

Jinhub Jinwoo Lim	Joseph Massaro	Max Cohen
Mur Nicholas Wong	Philip Varghese	Rashmi Vankafarana Rashmi Venkatarama
Stephanie Tuguero	Late foldown Swathi Pavuluri	Vanshika Shah
	yuluu Yashwee Kothari	

## NJIT Colony of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity

Elijah Mathew 26 Forest Drive North Haledon, NJ 07508 September 12, 2019

Mr. James Gaffney, Executive Director Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity 175 SW 7th Street, Suite 1615 Miami, FL 33130

Dear Mr. Gaffney,

Greetings from the Tau Theta Engineering Fraternity at New Jersey Institute of Technology. It is with great honor that I am presenting our colony's petition to you. Since our beginning as Tau Theta in October 2017, our members have dedicated themselves to upholding the pillars of service, profession, and brotherhood, and bringing them to the NJIT and Newark community.

It has been a year and a half since our initiation as a Colony and since then we have been able to accomplish a lot as you will see throughout this petition. All of our hard work has brought us together as an organization, allowing for us to collaborate together and with other organizations to support each other and accomplish great things. Our work and commitment has been recognized as we have gained great respect and support on campus and in the community. This has allowed us to build lasting relationships both within the fraternity and with organizations on and off campus. In addition, our connections with faculty and administration will set us up for even greater success in the future. Looking back at all of our accomplishments we feel we are ready for the next step in our journey together, becoming a Chapter.

Together we have successfully created a strong foundation built upon brotherhood that will allow for our organization to thrive and to continue to bring a positive impact to Theta Tau as well as to NJIT and Newark community for generations to come. It is with great confidence that I present to our petition to be granted the privilege of becoming a Chapter of Theta Tau.

Sincerely,

Elijah Mathew, Regent NJIT Colony of Theta Tau

## Members of NJIT Colony of Theta Tau

#### **Niyam Shah**

<u>Hometown</u>: Woodbridge, NJ <u>Major</u>: Civil Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 4.00

<u>Campus Activities</u>: American Society of Civil Engineers, AISC Student Steel Bridge

Email: nas82@njit.edu



## **Elijah Mathew**

Office: President

Hometown: North Haledon, NJ Major: Mechanical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2020 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.541

<u>Campus Activities</u>: Student Senate, Honors Student Council, NJIT Colony of Theta Tau Treasurer, NJIT Colony of Theta Tau

Regent, ASME

Email: em282@njit.edu



### Tej Patel

Hometown: Clifton, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Chemical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.85

Campus Activities: Undergraduate

Biotechnology Research Assistant, AIChe,

AIS

Email: tkp6@njit.edu



#### **Harshit Ratanpara**

Hometown: Brick, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Chemical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2019 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.76

Campus Activities: Student Senate, AIChe

Email: hhr6@njit.edu



## **Hollins Jose**

Office: Treasurer

Hometown: Edison, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Mechanical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.641

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Undergraduate

Research Assistant Email: hj84@njit.edu



#### **Rahul Shah**

Office: Recording Secretary
Hometown: North Caldwell, NJ
Major: Biomedical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2020
Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.913

<u>Campus Activities</u>: BMES, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Peer Mentor for the

Biomedical Engineering Learning

Community

Email: rs789@njit.edu



## Julianna Kosty

<u>Hometown</u>: Somerset, NJ
<u>Major</u>: Biomedical Engineering
<u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020
Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.701

<u>Campus Activities</u>: Student Ambassador, NJIT HighlanderThon Dance Marathon Executive Director, Undergraduate BME

Research Assistant Email: jck28@njit.edu



### Sahiti Seetamraju

<u>Hometown</u>: South Brunswick, NJ <u>Major</u>: Biomedical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.886

<u>Campus Activities</u>: BMES, Student Ambassador, Undergraduate Research

Assistant

Email: ss3252@njit.edu



#### **Tracey Mraw**

<u>Office</u>: Vice President <u>Hometown</u>: Hamilton, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Biomedical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.960

Campus Activities: Honors College

Ambassador, Freshmen Seminar Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Research, BMES

Email: tm325@njit.edu



#### **Nicholas Maranca**

Hometown: North Brunswick, NJ Major: Industrial Engineering Graduation Date: May 2019 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.958

<u>Campus Activities</u>: Institute of Industrial

and Systems Engineers Email: njm33@njit.edu



## Albert Fasano

<u>Hometown</u>: Brick, NJ <u>Major</u>: Civil Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2019 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.5

<u>Campus Activities:</u> ASCE <u>Email</u>: acf6@njit.edu



## Kavyasree Seelam

Hometown: North Brunswick, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Computer Science <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.387

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Women in Computing Science (Vice President), YWCC Mentoring

Program (Mentor), Circle K Email: ks668@njit.edu



## Keyra Pulliam

Hometown: Tom's River, NJ
Major: Chemical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2019
Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.0

Campus Activities: Undergraduate

Research, Emerging Leaders, Social Chair,

Treasurer for Oak Hall Council

Email: kp448@njit.edu



## Lucas Janusik

Hometown: Denville, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Mechanical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.84

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Research Assistant

Email: lkj2@njit.edu



#### **Marie Dizon**

Hometown: Hackensack, NJ Major: Chemical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2019 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.33

Campus Activities: Peer Mentoring, AIChe

Email: md434@njit.edu



#### Nicholas Salernitano

Hometown: Nutley, NJ

Major: Chemical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2019 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.26

Campus Activities: AIChe, ACS

Email: nds36@njit.edu



## Raphael Cobarrubias

<u>Hometown</u>: Jersey City, NJ <u>Major</u>: Civil Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2019 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.699

Campus Activities: Peer Mentoring

Email: rc378@njit.edu



#### **Vatsal Shah**

Hometown: East Windsor, NJ

Major: Mechanical Engineering and

**Computer Science** 

<u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.850

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Undergraduate Research Assistant, Nucleus Yearbook Member, Chess Club Member, Honors Social Committee Chair, Alpha Phi Omega

Brother

Email: vs474@njit.edu



#### **Ghiday Lamptey**

<u>Hometown</u>: Somerset, NJ <u>Major</u>: Chemical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: December 2019

<u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 2.9

Campus Activities: NSBE, SWE

Email: gal27@njit.edu



#### Hamza Shaikh

<u>Hometown</u>: Sayreville, NJ <u>Major</u>: Chemical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2018 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.91

<u>Campus Activities:</u> AIChe, Toastmasters

Email: hs388@njit.edu



## **James Ligot**

Hometown: Springfield, NJ Major: Chemical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2018 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.91

Campus Activities: AIChe, Engineers

Without Borders <u>Email</u>: jl627@njit.edu



#### Joseph Vitale

<u>Hometown</u>: Marlboro, NJ

Major: Civil Engineering and Pre-Law

<u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.02

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Student Life Manager ( Manager of The Pub), member of ASCE

Email: jav46@njit.edu



#### Omowumi Mebude

Hometown: Maplewood, NJ Major: Chemical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2020 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 2.6

Campus Activities: NSBE, AIChe

Email: ofm4@njit.edu



### Rajvi Rana

<u>Hometown</u>: Morris Plains, NJ <u>Major</u>: Civil Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.0

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Undergraduate

Research Assistant, SWE webmaster, ASCE,

**AWWA** 

Email: rr483@njit.edu



#### **Arjav Shah**

Hometown: North Bergen, NJ Major: Mechanical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2019 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.59

Campus Activities: ASME, Peter Mentoring,

Undergraduate Research Email: ads45@njit.edu



## **George Varghese**

<u>Hometown</u>: Denville, NJ <u>Major</u>: Computer Science <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

<u>Current GPA</u>: 2.91 <u>Campus Activities:</u> ACM <u>Email</u>: gsv5@njit.edu



#### **Mustafa Aslamy**

Hometown: Lake Hiawatha, NJ Major: Mechanical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2019 Degree: Bachelor of Science

<u>Current GPA</u>: 3.012 <u>Email</u>: ma682@njit.edu



#### Varinder Matharu

Hometown: Garfield, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Mechanical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2021 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.731

<u>Campus Activities:</u> ASME, Mechanical Engineering Tutor, SAE AERO, AIS, NJIT

Splash

Email: vsm26@njit.edu



#### **Aashka Patel**

<u>Hometown</u>: Parsippany, NJ <u>Major</u>: Computer Science <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2022 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.887

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Undergraduate

Research Assistant, Honors Ambassador, Society of Women Engineers, Women in Computing Science, Global Brigades

Email: asp263@njit.edu



## **Ashley Koluda**

Hometown: Monroe Twp, NJ Major: Biomedical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2022 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.84

<u>Campus Activities</u>: BMES, NADI, Student Ambassador, Global Brigades, Wind

Ensemble

Email: ask97@njit.edu



## Jinwoo Lim

<u>Hometown</u>: Ridgefield, NJ <u>Major</u>: Computer Science <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2024 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

<u>Current GPA</u>: 3.2 <u>Email</u>: jl966@njit.edu



## Joseph Massaro

**Hometown**: Howel, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Mechanical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2021 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.4

Email: jjm76@njit.edu



#### Max Cohen

Hometown: Santa Rosa, CA Major: Computer Science Graduation Date: May 2022 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.45

Email: mc794@njit.edu



## **Nicholas Wong**

<u>Hometown</u>: East Brunswick, NJ <u>Major</u>: Mechanical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2022 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 2.5

<u>Campus Activities:</u> ASME <u>Email</u>: nw73@njit.edu



## Philip Varghese

Hometown: Parsippany, NJ Major: Electrical Engineering Graduation Date: May 2022 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 4.0

Campus Activities: IEEE, Coptic Society,

Learning Center, Gigabeats Email: psv4@njit.edu



#### Rashmi Venkatarama

<u>Hometown</u>: Kendall Park, NJ <u>Major</u>: Biomedical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2022 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

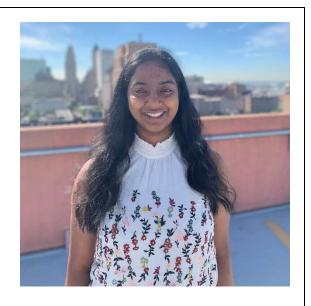
Current GPA: 3.864

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Undergraduate

Research Assistant, TA for Honors Seminar,

Global Brigades, Pre-Health Society

Email: rsv24@njit.edu



### **Stephanie Tuquero**

Hometown: Sayreville, NJ
Major: Electrical Engineering
Graduation Date: May 2021
Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.356

Campus Activities: Delta Phi Epsilon

Sorority, EE Student Senate Representative

Email: st596@njit.edu



#### Swathi Pavuluri

Hometown: Holmdel, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Biomedical Engineering <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2020 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.93

<u>Campus Activities:</u> HOSA Senate Representative, Habitat for Humanity Events Coordinator, BME 3D Print Lab Student Assistant, Makerspace Student

Assistant, Research Assistant Email: sp2272@njit.edu



#### Vanshika Shah

Hometown: Ocean Township, NJ

<u>Major</u>: Computer Science <u>Graduation Date</u>: May 2022 <u>Degree</u>: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.871

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Women in Computing Science (Event Chair), AIS, ACM, AIAS

Supply Shop Volunteer <u>Email</u>: vns25@njit.edu



#### Yashwee Kothari

Hometown: Parsippany, NJ Major: Computer Science Graduation Date: May 2022 Degree: Bachelor of Science

Current GPA: 3.877

<u>Campus Activities:</u> Undergraduate Researcher, WiCS Event Planning Chair

Email: yk258@njit.edu



## **Newark College of Engineering**

On March 24, 1880, the Essex County Assemblyman in the state legislature introduced "An Act to Provide for the Establishment of Schools of Industrial Education." The Newark Board of Trade sponsored the bill. The Act established three schools of industrial education: one in Newark, one in Trenton, and one in Hoboken. The first Board of Trustees met on July 1, 1884. The Newark Technical School opened on Monday, February 9, 1885 with 88 students who attended despite a terrible snowstorm.

For more than eight decades, Newark College of Engineering (NCE) has been preparing engineering students to use science, mathematics, technology and problem-solving skills to design, construct, test and maintain products, services and information systems. Although the school would not adopt the name of Newark College of Engineering until 1930, NCE began offering undergraduate degree programs in chemical, mechanical and electrical engineering in 1919. Civil engineering was added in 1927. The early degree programs incorporated real-world experience through cooperative education at area companies. From its earliest days, NCE established itself as a "school of opportunity," with students who were often the first in their families to attend college. The co-op format allowed many students to "work their way through" and continue their studies even throughout the Great Depression.

The first class, mostly evening students, attended classes in a rented building at 21 West Park Street. Soon the facility became inadequate to house an expanding student body. To meet the needs of the growing school, a second fundraiser—the institution's first capital campaign—was launched to support the construction of a dedicated building for Newark Technical School. In 1886, under the leadership of the school's dynamic first director, Dr. Charles A. Colton, the cornerstone was laid at the intersection of High Street and Summit Place for the three-story building later to be named Weston Hall in honor of the institution's early benefactor. A laboratory building, later to be called Colton Hall, was added to the campus in 1913. Daniel Hodgdon served as the director of Newark Technical School from 1918 to 1920.

For more than eight decades, Newark College of Engineering (NCE) has been preparing engineering students to use science, mathematics, technology and problem-solving skills to design, construct, test and maintain products, services and information systems. Although the school would not adopt the name of Newark College of Engineering until 1930, NCE began offering undergraduate degree programs in chemical, mechanical and electrical engineering in 1919. Civil engineering was added in 1927. The early degree programs incorporated real-world experience through cooperative education at area companies. From its earliest days, NCE established itself as a "school of opportunity," with students who were often the first in their families to attend college. The co-op format allowed many students to "work their way through" and continue their studies even throughout the Great Depression.

#### **World War II and NCE:**

Throughout World War II, NCE helped educate students for the war effort. Degree programs were accelerated to fill the military's need for more engineers. Some students switched to night school and went to work in defense plants and military research programs. NCE also served as a technology training site for soldiers. Although class sizes waned in the latter years of the war, returning veterans swelled the enrollment again, with veterans comprising 75 percent of the freshman class in 1946.

Under Dr. Allan R. Cullimore, who led the institution from 1920 to 1949, the modest Newark Technical School was transformed into the robust Newark College of Engineering. Campbell Hall was erected in 1925. During the lean years of the Depression and World War II, only the former Newark Orphan Asylum, now Eberhardt Hall, was purchased and renovated by the college.

#### After the war:

NCE began to expand in both size and scope. The first master's degrees were awarded in 1949, the first doctoral degree in 1964. Eberhardt Hall was purchased in 1948, and Cullimore Hall opened in 1958. A major campus building program in 1962 added Faculty Hall, University Hall, the Specht Building, Tiernan Hall, and the Hazell Student Center.

The post-war period was one of enormous activity during which President Cullimore—like today's post-Cold War university presidents— challenged the college to turn "war-time thinking into peace-time thinking." In 1946, about 75 percent of the freshman class had served in the armed forces. Robert W. Van Houten was acting president of NJIT from 1947 until 1950 when the board of trustees named him president. Cullimore Hall was built in 1958 and two years later the old Weston Hall was razed and replaced with the current seven-story structure. Doctoral-level programs were introduced and six years later, in 1966, an 18-acre, four-building expansion was completed. William Hazell succeeded Dr. Van Houten as president of NJIT in 1970.

It is only at this stage, in the 70s, that the evolution of the institution widens to encompass other degree fields, and NJIT's history begins apart from that of the college of engineering.

#### NCE, then and today:

NCE's 85 years of growth and development parallel an unprecedented period of scientific discovery and technological innovation. From its earliest days, NCE has adapted its curriculum to emerging technologies to prepare its students for an ever-changing marketplace. In recent decades, a strong focus on research and the construction of state-of-the-art research facilities have made NCE an active participant in technological advancement and the development of technology based enterprise.

Research concentrations include wireless technology, transportation, nanotechnology and microelectronics, engineered particulates, microflow control, membrane technologies, environmental engineering and polymer technology.

http://engineering.njit.edu/aboutthecollege/history

## **History of New Jersey Institute of Technology**

The New Jersey Institute of Technology we know today has a rich history with its beginnings developing from the industrial age. Like many of the port cities around the world, the Newark of the late 19th century was a thriving industrial center. Its factories churned out thread, metals, paints and leather goods. In Newark, Thomas Edison set the stage at his Ward Street factory for his later astounding achievements, and Edison rival Edward Weston established the first factory in the United States for commercial production of dynamo electric machines.

From the formation of the Newark Technical School in 1885, to that of the Newark College of Engineering in 1930, up until the 1970s, the history of NJIT and its engineering college are one in the same. In 1973, with the addition of the New Jersey School of Architecture, the institution had evolved into a technological university, emphasizing a broad range of graduate and undergraduate degrees and dedication to significant research and public service. A stronger-than-ever Newark College of Engineering remained intact, but a new university name—New Jersey Institute of Technology—signified the institution's expanded mission.

A broadened mission called for the creation of a residential campus. The opening of NJIT's first dormitory, Redwood Hall, in 1979 began a period of steady growth that continues today. Under the leadership of Saul K. Fenster, who served as president of NJIT from 1978 to 2002, four new schools were established at the university: The College of Science and Liberal Arts in 1982; the School of Management in 1988; Albert Dorman Honors College in 1994; and the Ying Wu College of Computing Sciences in 2001. During the administration of Robert A. Altenkirch, New Jersey School of Architecture was reconstituted as the College of Architecture and Design in 2008.

NJIT completed the first phase of the Gateway Project in 2013, including the creation of Warren Street Village, a three-acre, mixed-use residential housing complex that added 600 beds to NJIT's existing inventory of residential housing. The complex includes the Honors College Residence Hall and five duplex homes for NJIT's Greek organizations, as well as dining services, a convenience store and fitness center for the university community.

NJIT has been recognized nationally for providing graduates with a high rate of return on their investment. The Bloomberg Businessweek survey of U.S. colleges ranked NJIT in the top 10 percent nationally for return on investment and classified the university as one of four best buys in New Jersey higher education. BuzzFeed.com has ranked NJIT as the number one value among colleges and universities nationally. NJIT was third on Affordable Online Colleges' Highest Return on Investment Colleges in New Jersey ranking.

NJIT has earned national prominence by developing relevant academic programs taught by leading practitioners in their fields. Six specialized schools offer 46 bachelor's, 56 master's, and 19 doctoral degree programs. With 489 full-time and adjunct faculty, 89 percent of

whom hold doctoral degrees, the university maintains a student-faculty ratio of 16:1. NJIT serves an ethnically diverse student body, ranking number one in New Jersey in awarding engineering degrees to African-American and Hispanic students.

NJIT offers extensive Continuing and Professional Education programs and online courses that provide professional training for working students. Industry internships provide students with an entrée into the workforce. In addition, NJIT's Division of Continuing Professional Education has provided training to over 74,000 employees in private corporations. A strong, applied research program is the core of the technological research university, generating advances that fuel today's knowledge-based economy. Over the past decade, funding for NJIT's research programs has grown to almost \$110 million annually. NJIT conducts cutting-edge applied research through multidisciplinary centers of excellence and specialized high-tech labs. NSF has ranked NJIT in the top 50 among colleges without a medical school for research expenditures and in the top 10 among universities whose main research is in engineering.

In early 2014, NJIT formalized an agreement with Chinese partners to advance the university's research on thin-film solar cells, an alternative energy technology with the potential to make buildings and other infrastructure substantially more energy-efficient.

In spring 2014, NJIT announced its new economic development venture—New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII). This unique enterprise is comprised of Innovation Labs (iLabs) that follow industry-led agendas designed to spur product creation and enhancement, develop solutions for sector-wide and/or company-focused challenges, and serve as a catalyst for regional economic growth.

NJIT is committed to economic development for Newark, New Jersey, and the region. One of the first institutions in the nation to adopt economic development as a major objective, the university operates several outreach centers that provide technical assistance to help small and medium-sized companies in the state become more globally competitive. The Enterprise Development Center, New Jersey's largest high-technology business incubator, is home to 90 high-tech and life-science companies that have access to NJIT facilities and can partner with researchers to develop innovative new products.

http://www.njit.edu/about/history-mission

## A History of the NJIT Colony of Theta Tau

#### **A General History**

In hopes of enhancing their experience at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, a group of engineering students began to look for engineering organizations that would provide them with opportunities beyond what the school offers. Though there were many clubs geared to engineers, none of them provided students with the chance to not only further their careers, but also create a strong sense of community within the club. This led to the students researching professional fraternities and Theta Tau became the organization of choice. This fraternity would attract a diverse set of students since it is both co-ed and accepts all engineering majors as well computer science majors. Furthermore, Theta Tau's core values represented what these students longed for in other organizations—service, profession, and brotherhood.

To get started, they presented the idea of Theta Tau to other students and were encouraged to continue when they learned that many students would be interested in joining a Theta Tau colony at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. With such a strong response, the students reached out to the Theta Tau central office to become an official colony. They got in touch with Mr. Abraham and learned the next steps.

On October 6th, 2017, Michael Abraham flew out to Newark to hold an interest meeting for potential colony members at NJIT. During this meeting, the interested students adopted the bylaws and became a local fraternity. They then elected temporary officers.

After meeting with Michael Abraham, the organization strived to reach colony status and continued their efforts to make the organization grow. They reached out to NJIT faculty and administration to become a recognized organization on campus and Dr. Moshe Kam, the Dean of the Newark College of Engineering, agreed to be the advisor. Additionally, as a local fraternity, the students recruited new members and conducted interviews to establish Tau Theta.

On November 20th, 2017, the members of Tau Theta held their first general body meetings, though the temporary officers that were elected during the first informational session met regularly prior to that. During this meeting, the members discussed the petition and how the organization can achieve colony status. Members planned various events to grow closer and establish the brotherhood aspects of the organization. These events include brother hang out sessions and playing sports together. The first chair elections were held on November 27th, 2017.

On November 29th, 2017, the members of Tau Theta submitted their colony petition and December 19th, 2018 the petition was approved. The members of Tau Theta still held multiple events before being initiated as a colony. These events included a Valentine's Day Roses fundraiser called "Broses" and brotherhood hangouts where brothers met each other one on one to get to know one another.

On February 10th, 2019, the NJIT Colony of Theta Tau was finally installed.

Quickly thereafter, the NJIT colony held its first executive board election and that spring began its first rush process. Though it was the first rush and pledge process, it was nonetheless successful, with 7 Pledges. With this new pledge class, also known as the Alpha class, came an increased excitement for the future of this organization. The brothers continued to maintain their brotherhood over the summer by meeting up for fundraising events and general hangouts.

The Fall of 2018 brought another set of rushes and pledges to be the Beta class of the NJIT colony. Since the Alpha class, the NJIT colony improved both its rush and pledge process, adding more events and figuring out how to make the pledge process more efficient and effective.

The 2019 Spring season was an even bigger success. With a more robust rush season that included better events and more refined pledge process, the colony increased in size to almost 40 members and created a strong brotherhood. That spring the colony also said farewell to its first graduating class that included some of the founding members. Though it was a bittersweet moment, it showed how far the colony had come.

#### **Service**

#### March 6th, 2018

#### HighlanderTHON Charity Dinner

One of the largest service organizations on NJIT's campus, HighlanderTHON's mission is to raise funds and awareness for the healthcare of children faced with adversities such as cancer, diabetes, and trauma. In order to join them in this goal, our members attended a charity dinner where we raised money while networking with other organizations on campus.

# March 24th, 2018 NJIT Splash

With the goal of educating the high school youth of Newark, NJIT welcomed local students to an event that offered an eclectic selection of classes taught by college students. At NJIT Splash, a number of our members taught classes such as "Why Biomedical Engineering?" and "The Principles of Chess." Our naturally gifted teachers ensured that the classes we taught were both engaging and educational.

#### April 7th, 2018

#### HighlanderTHON Dance Marathon

Our members partook in a 12 hour dance marathon where we made cards and T-shirts for kids at the hospital, greeted the families who have used the hospital's services, played with kids who were treated, and raised a total of \$1200 through both individual and collective efforts. All the funds went to Children's Miracle Network.

#### April 14th, 2018

#### Weequahic Park Cleanup

This unique opportunity allowed our members to contribute not only to the Newark community, but also to the environment. Our members joined forces with Weequahic Park and cleaned up all the litter polluting the beautiful greenery. After the park was restored, we ended the day with a friendly basketball match which proved to be a great bonding experience.

## October 14th, 2018

#### **Breast Cancer Walk**

In an effort to raise money to help the American Cancer Society fight breast cancer, our members joined the brothers at NYU Theta Tau on a walk through central park. The opportunity to share such an uplifting experience with NYU Theta Tau strengthened our bonds of brotherhood while participating in a noble cause. At the end of the event, we all convened at a restaurant for lunch where we shared some memorable experiences.

# October 15th, 2018 PHS Blood Drive

The Public Health Society at NJIT hosts a blood drive each semester. Recognizing this good cause, we assisted with the overall functioning of the drive. We ensured that the donors were given proper instruction to maintain an organized and smooth flow of donations. The event turned out to be a huge success thanks to all the organizations involved.

#### **October 20th, 2018**

#### Habitat for Humanity Build

Working with Habitat for Humanity on builds was one of the most educational service experiences we have been part of. Involved tasks such as wiring, painting, and repairing engaged our analytical side while exercising our team building skills. In addition, collaborating with the construction managers gave us new insight into the impact of our work on the Newark community.

#### April 5th, 2019

#### Rooftop Garden

Prior to Earth Day celebration, we assisted NJIT Green with the upkeep of the rooftop garden. This garden is home to numerous crops such as tomatoes, carrots, potatoes etc... all of which help promote organic eating on campus. Partnering with organizations such as NJIT Green inspires in our members a new perspective about the environment and climate change.

#### April 6th, 2019

#### HighlanderTHON Dance Marathon

The second time around, we were able to raise an even larger amount of money (\$1,781) at the dance marathon. In addition, we met some of the children who would benefit from our efforts. Hearing their stories opened a new understanding for our members and we hope to raise even more money for this great cause.

# April 22nd, 2019 NJIT Green Earth Day

Assisting the environment is always a priority in our service experiences, and this particular one was focused on celebrating the impact of our planet. On Earth Day, we collaborated with NJIT Green and other organizations to host a campus wide festival with activities such as gardening, composting, and earth trivia.

#### March 6th, 2019

#### HighlanderTHON Dodgeball Tournament

Our members displayed their competitive spirit and chemistry in an epic showdown against 8 different teams. Using our teamwork, we were able to secure first place and raise the most money for HighlanderTHON at this tournament.

# March 14th, 2019 STEM Day at NJIT

Over 100 middle school students inspired by science attended Steam Day at NJIT. During the event, we performed experiments to educate these students and fill them with the awe of everyday science. The students thoroughly enjoyed our company that day and we hope that some of them will pursue STEM related careers.

### March 30th, 2019 Weequahic Park Cleanup

Continuing our good work at the park, our members returned to pick up litter and enjoy each other's company.



## **Profession**

## September 26th, 2018 Reverse Career Fair

Prior to the career fair, NJIT hosted a reverse career fair where the employers network with student organizations. We discussed our goals and the quality of our members with employers. The goal was to gain connections with companies that would like to either want to plan an event with us or would offer job opportunities to our members.

#### November 2nd, 2018

#### **UPS Resume Reviews**

We collaborated with the Women in Computing Science, the Society of Women Engineers, and UPS to conduct a resume workshop and resume reviews with UPS recruiters.

#### **February 23rd, 2019**

#### Engineering Week at Liberty Science Center

Our members volunteered at Liberty Science Center for National Engineering Week. At this event, we led activities related to the engineering profession to engage with students from grades K-12.

#### March 7th, 2019

#### Women in STEM Day Event

We collaborated with the Women in Computing Science organization to host an event for Women in STEM Day. This event included activities to celebrate women in STEM as well as female speakers who work in STEM fields.

#### March 11th, 2019

#### **Elevator Pitch Workshop**

Our professional development chair conducted an elevator pitch workshop. They led a presentation to educate members on how to develop a strong elevator pitch, provided tips for approaching recruiters, and organized an activity to practice these skills.

#### April 4th, 2019

#### CDS Alumni Networking Event

We helped sponsor the NJIT's Annual CDS Alumni Networking event. At this event, our members volunteered to assist in directing alumni and students in addition to participating in the networking event. This event included 60+ alumni and over 75 NJIT students.

#### April 17th, 2019

#### NJIT Honors Passing the Torch Event

Our colony sponsored the NJIT Honors Passing the Torch Event. This networking event is hosted by the NJIT Albert Dorman Honors College. Our members volunteered and participated in the event.

#### **Continuous**

#### Resume & LinkedIn Profile Updates

The professional development committee continuously works to assist our members in updating their resumes and LinkedIn profiles. Each semester, the committee holds sessions to review and improve resumes prior to the career fair. They also offer help throughout the semester to any members that need guidance with these updates. We have worked with several student organizations for resume reviews, including the National Society of Black Engineers, the Women in Computing Science, and the Society of Women Engineers.



#### **Brotherhood**

#### March 12th, 2018

#### **Visited Rutgers**

A few of our members went to go visit the brothers at the Omicron Delta Chapter of Theta Tau at Rutgers-New Brunswick. We sat in during a meeting and met with their executive board to understand the organization more and how we can improve to reach chapter status.

#### April 29th, 2018

#### **NYU Crossing**

The brothers the New York University Chapter of Theta Tau invited our members to support their newly initiated class of pledges by attending their initiation ceremony.

#### May 27th, 2018

#### Top Golf

After we got rained out of a Six Flags Fundraising event, our members decided to use this as an opportunity to hang out. We went to Top Golf in Edison to play a couple rounds of golf and eat some good food.

#### September 26th, 2018 & March 5th, 2019

#### Game Night

Conducted twice, during this event members gathered for night filled with games like Twister, What do you Meme, Exploding Kittens, and more. This event was once held with the sorority Delta Phi Epsilon.

#### October 15th, 2018

#### Founder's Day Celebration

In lieu of regular meeting, our members gathered to celebrate Theta Tau's Founders Day. We ate food and cake and spent quality time with one another.

#### November 7th, 2018

#### Movie Night

A relaxed night in, our members met up in one of the TV lounges to watch Scary Movie together and eat some pizza.

#### November 19th, 2018

#### **Brosgiving**

We held our own version of Thanksgiving in the place of a regular meeting. Our members each signed up to bring in one food item and we sat and ate together at a large table. We also played games, told stories, and really bonded as a brotherhood.

#### December, 10th, 2018

#### **Holiday Party**

In celebration of the holiday season, we held a holiday party during our regular meeting time. We brought snacks, played games, and exchanged gifts as a part of Secret Santa. The night concluded by each of us writing thoughtful notes to each other.

#### March 6th, 2019

#### Karaoke Night

Our members went to the Highlander Club and had a karaoke night. We all got on stage and sang songs together.

#### March 16th, 2019

#### Temple Chapter Installation Banquet

The newly initiated brothers of Temple University invited our members to attend their banquet following their chapter initiation ceremony. We got to meet their brothers, talk to more officials from nationals, and enjoyed some good food.

#### **April 2019 - May 2019**

#### Game of Assassin

During the last few weeks of the semester, our members all participated in a game of Assassin. Similar to a giant game of tag, we were all assigned a target that we had to tag using a spoon. The last one standing got a prize--a fully paid for formal ticket.

#### April 27th, 2019

#### **Formal**

Our first ever, our formal committee planned a formal for all our members to attend. Members dressed up in their best clothes for night of dancing, awards, and fun.

#### Continuous Get Togethers

Our members are constantly meeting up. We play sports together like basketball and volleyball or go out together to get food.





#### PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING FRATERNITY

175 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1615 Miami, FL 33130 Ph: 512/472-1904 Fx: 512/472-4820 central.office@ThetaTau.org www.ThetaTau.org

August 1, 2019

ΘT Executive Council Theta Tau Central Office 175 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Suite 1615 Miami, FL 33130 Dear

Brothers:

I am pleased to write in support of the petition for installation received from the New Jersey Institute of Technology Colony of Theta Tau.

In the Fall of 2017, I met with about a dozen NJIT engineering students interested in Theta Tau. The students knew one another, were from various communities in New Jersey and also surprisingly across the country, some had heard of Theta Tau from other friends, and they wanted to bring a professional fraternity to the NJIT campus. They chose Theta Tau to assist in that effort. This colony has worked and progressed diligently and seriously from its inception and has shown the ability to recruit and retain good members as well as conducting successful officer transitions.

Colony members have attended numerous Regional and National events and already make a fine addition to the Northeast Region. The NJIT campus adjoins Rutgers' Newark campus, but retains a uniqueness of its own for which they should take pride. Perhaps when I am enjoying a restful retirement, I can find time to track down that housing contract for them.

This colony is impressive, and I believe that they are already doing what it takes to continue to function effectively as a full-fledged chapter in our Fraternity. I recommend your approval of their petition for chapter status.

In H and T,

Michael T. Abraham Executive Director

Kristen Bobuk Cell: 724-234-9744 Kristen.Bobuk@thetatau.org

August 25, 2019

#### Dear Brothers:

I am pleased to support this petition for chapter status from the New Jersey Institute of Technology colony of Theta Tau in Newark, New Jersey! I initially met several of the members when they traveled to Philadelphia to attend the banquet of the Temple University chapter installation and again at a regional conference. I then met the rest of the colony during their official visit and I knew they showed tremendous potential. They have persevered through much adversary and difficult times and came out ahead and determined to be a successful colony and soon to be chapter. I have no doubt that they will be a great addition as the newest chapter of Theta Tau!

When talking to these students, I was given a sense of dedication and commitment by their strength in numbers, activities and pride that these students show. As a colony, there are many things that are unknown and the members of this colony took each new idea presented to them and ran with it! It takes a special student to take on the tasks of growing a colony into a chapter and those included in this petition have exemplified and far exceed those expectations.

I believe this colony has what it takes to be a great chapter of Theta Tau, and therefore, I enthusiastically show my support. This is a great opportunity for the students at NJIT and it is my pleasure to recommend that you approve this petition for the NJIT colony to be the next chapter of Theta Tau!

In H&T,

Kristen Bobuk Colony

Director



#### **NEWARK COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

New Jersey Institute of Technology University Heights Newark, NJ 07102-1982 973.596.2477 973.596.8436 fax axe@njit.edu

Otto H. York Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering

July 19, 2019

Regarding: Letter of Recommendation

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide a letter of support of this petition for the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) Colony to full Chapter status. Since becoming a Theta Tau Colony, the Newark College of Engineering (NCE) students have taken on service activities, dedication to preparing students for their profession, and a collaborative and socially engaged Colony.

The breadth of their service activities demonstrates their commitment to community, NJIT, and STEM outreach. In addition, they have worked with a number of organizations in contributing to the profession and helping to prepare students for cooperative education experiences (coop), internships, and job placement. As a Chapter, they have the potential to be leaders in supporting NCE's coop initiative, which is a high priority for the college and university. Based on their activities as a Colony, they has created a strong community that has potential to grow in the membership as they establish the Chapter.

Given their character, excellence in academics, leadership and professional activities, and dedication to service, our students are more than prepared to work towards becoming engineering leaders in service, their profession, and community. I am confident that with their dedication and commitment establishing a Theta Tau Chapter will be instrumental in our students' growth into future leaders.

It is my pleasure to recommend establishing a Theta Tau Chapter at NJIT. Please let me know if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Lisa Axe, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair

#### Brothers,

It is with great pleasure that as the current Regent of the Theta Epsilon Chapter of Theta Tau, I recommend Chapter status for the Theta Tau Colony at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The focus of Theta Tau is to encourage people to develop professionally and to engage with each other in acts of brotherly care and volunteering. The NJIT Colony cares deeply about its members, for from communicating with them, we have learned that they have held and continue to hold a vast variety of events emphasizing professional development, service, and brotherly bonding.

From my experience as a Brother of Theta Tau, I have learned that the strongest Theta Tau Chapters are often those that engage with a variety of communities. In addition to engaging within themselves to grow their concept of a brotherly bond, the NJIT Colony has made substantial effort to engage with and learn from nearby chapters of Theta Tau, such as ourselves at New York University in New York City, and members at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. In the Spring of 2018, NJIT Colony members came to the Crossing of our Eta Class Brothers to support them and engage with more members of our chapter. During the Fall of 2018, members of the NJIT Colony traveled in the early morning to join our Chapter in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk hosted by the American Cancer Society in Central Park, New York City. It is apparent that the members of the NJIT Colony have a strong desire to be involved within the Theta Tau community.

Additional communities that would benefit from NJIT's Theta Tau presence are the neighborhoods and companies surrounding their campus. The NJIT Colony has collaborated with organizations outside of their school in several events, such as with UPS recruiters for a resume workshop and volunteering at the Liberty Science Center to promote engineering to K-12 students. They are also located in Newark, New Jersey, a Metropolitan area that could benefit from a relationship with Theta Tau through events like their Weequahic Park cleanup service event and more. Chapters of Theta Tau do more than promote profession, service, and brotherhood; they form lasting, mutually-beneficial relationships with communities outside of themselves. The NJIT Colony's involvement with local communities is a sign that they will give back just as much as they receive from the greater Theta Tau community after gaining Chapter status.

To conclude, I believe that the Theta Tau Colony at NJIT has the values and determination to uphold the purpose and goals of Theta Tau. I highly recommend this Colony to be granted Chapter status.

In H&T, Meggie Ye Theta Epsilon Chapter of Theta Tau at NYU Fall 2019 - Spring 2020 Regent

#### **Letter of Thanks**

To all our members,

Thank you to everyone who has supported and guided us on this journey, we would not have made it to where we are now without you.

Thank you to the national officers of Theta Tau. Michael Abraham, thank you for introducing us to the purpose and goals of Theta Tau and supporting us throughout our entire journey from working to achieve colony status, to now petitioning for chapter status, and everything in between. Kristen Bobuk, thank you for giving us the guidance we needed to succeed as a colony. Jamey Vann, Sagid Elhillali, Brianna Juhrend and Adi Perry, thank you for leading our colony initiation and workshop and showing us what it would take to be successful. Thank you to all of the national officers and members who participated in our colony installation and supported us along the way.

Thank you to our advisors and NJIT administration. To our advisors, Dean Kam, Dr. Axe, and Dr. Alexo, thank you for taking the time to advise and guide our members. Dean Boger and Angela Vega, thank you for your endless support and assistance on campus. We would not have been able to succeed at NJIT and make ourselves into a strong organization without your support.

Thank you to our local brothers. Theta Epsilon chapter, thank you for opening your doors to us and showing us what brotherhood means. Omicron Delta chapter, thank you for giving us guidance and welcoming us throughout the early stages of our colony. To all the brothers of Theta Tau across the nation, thank you for showing us that our brotherhood stretches much further than our campus and for helping to build this organization that we are now proud to be a part of.

To our own members and alumni. Thank you for all the time, dedication, and hard work along the way. Each one of you has played a vital part in establishing our colony as a successful organization. You have helped us build a foundation that will support the growth and future of this organization. Most of all, you helped us turn our idea of brotherhood into a family we can be proud of.

It is our honor to submit this petition, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elijah Mathew, Regent