



THETA

TAU

# G R E E K   L E T T E R   O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

A N   A M E R I C A N   I N S T I T U T I O N   S I N C E   1 7 7 6

AS OLD AS OUR NATION ITSELF, the Greek-letter movement continues to serve the student and his Alma Mater. *Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities* classifies the various types of these organizations as shown below, with a long-established example of each:

## FRATERNITIES

General (Social)

Sigma Chi

Professional

Theta Tau

## SOCIETIES

Honor

Tau Beta Pi

Recognition

Alpha Phi Omega

A general characteristic of these organizations is that membership is by invitation only, and is for life. FRATERNITIES traditionally elect to membership by unanimous vote of their student members, exercising care to select those of high personal quality who are capable students, but not requiring the high scholastic average necessary for honor society membership. Within his professional field, a student may belong to only one professional fraternity, but he may also belong to a general fraternity and to honor societies.

## THE TA U

FOUNDED, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, 1904

"The purpose of Theta Tau shall be to develop and maintain a high standard of professional interest among its members, and to unite them in a strong bond of fraternal fellowship."

Within each closely knit chapter, the fraternity stimulates professional activity and social compatibility; provides the framework for group participation in campus, community, engineering, and fraternity affairs; and promotes the formation of lasting friendships – a lifetime of brotherhood in an engineering atmosphere.

Theta Tau draws its student initiates from among those pursuing a degree in an engineering curriculum which meets criteria established by the fraternity, and not within six months of graduation.

The fraternity takes pride in the fact that many who were initiated as students occupy positions of prominence in their profession – in fields as old as civil engineering and as new as space exploration.

Theta Tau believes that quality, not quantity, is the hallmark of a fine fraternity; and that its real strength lies in the close fraternal bond which unites its members. No chapter may have more than fifty student members at one time. Even with its policies of careful extension and limited chapter size, Theta Tau is the largest (as well as the oldest) professional fraternity in engineering.



**STUDIES HAVE SHOWN** that fraternity members not only achieve consistently higher grades, but they are more likely to continue to graduation because of the close friendships, inspiration, and contact with students and alumni in the fraternity. In addition, fraternity members receive valuable social experience, practice in human relations, and unexcelled leadership training as a part of usual fraternity activities.

The professional fraternity provides all the advantages of fraternal affiliation, and in addition, it offers a common bond among members: an interest in and pursuance of their profession. It provides the medium through which students with a common professional interest develop close fraternal ties among themselves and with alumni of the fraternity who are practicing the profession. Chapters regularly have strong faculty support because they offer this association with members of the profession from the time the student is initiated, thus bridging the gap between the student, faculty, and profession.

**AS A PROFESSIONAL FRATERNITY**, Theta Tau offers its members a well-balanced program. Each chapter's professional development program includes regularly scheduled presentations on subjects of interest to engineering students. Social activities include both closed events and parties with dates and spouses. Each member is encouraged to participate fully in the technical society in his field, and as fully as his abilities and academic load will permit in athletics and other worthwhile campus activities. Annual service projects are undertaken by most chapters. These activities are carried out in all chapters. An increasing number of chapters are occupying houses. In these cases, the members have an added opportunity to develop closer fraternal ties by living together.

Because of the fraternity's professional orientation, graduate and married students as well as single undergraduates find student membership valuable. Alumni organizations are established in major centers of activity to provide opportunities for continuing participation in fraternal affairs.



THETA TAU shares a common interest with qualified students in accredited engineering schools in establishing new chapters of the fraternity. Accordingly, guidance is available from the Central Office, national officers, nearby chapters, and local alumni; through publications, correspondence, and personal visits to the campus. Included is information on organizing a group, suggested bylaws, appropriate activities, petition content, etc.

Once organized, and having obtained the approval of the school's administration, a new local group of at least eight eligible engineering students may petition the Theta Tau Executive Council for certification as a Theta Tau colony, an optional intermediate step toward the desired result of being chartered as a Theta Tau chapter. Those who belong to a Theta Tau colony will enjoy the closest possible nonmember contact with the national fraternity.

A local fraternity already existing, or a Theta Tau colony, must demonstrate its strength through an adequate period of successful operation in line with Theta Tau policies, and express a desire to become affiliated with the national fraternity. It will then be officially visited, and may be invited to submit a petition for consideration by the entire fraternity. Such a petition for a charter as a chapter of Theta Tau will be granted upon a four-fifths favorable vote of the fraternity. The local organization will then be formally installed as a Theta Tau chapter, and its members initiated into the national fraternity.

If you have a personal interest in belonging to an existing Theta Tau chapter, or in establishing a chapter at your school to benefit selected present and future engineering students, let the fraternity know of your interest.

**THETA TAU is pleased to be associated, through its 25 student chapters, with the following schools:**



University of Alabama  
University of Arizona  
University of Arkansas  
Case Institute of Technology  
Colorado School of Mines  
University of Detroit  
General Motors Institute  
George Washington University  
University of Houston  
University of Iowa  
University of Kansas  
University of Louisville  
Michigan Technological  
University  
University of Minnesota

Mississippi State University  
Montana College of Mineral  
Science and Technology  
North Carolina State  
University at Raleigh  
Ohio State University  
Purdue University  
South Dakota School of  
Mines and Technology  
Syracuse University  
Tennessee Technological University  
Wayne State University  
University of Wisconsin—Madison  
University of Wisconsin —  
Platteville



The jeweled badge of Theta Tau,  
worn by each initiate of the Fraternity,  
denotes student engineers throughout America  
and professional engineers throughout the world  
who are among the more than 23,000 members of the Fraternity.

Theta Tau Central Office, 13 Sona Lane, St. Louis, Missouri 63141