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Creators: Forschner, Homer W.

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The Honorary Fraternities

Marks of Achievement for the Engineer

By HOMER W. FORSCHNER

HONORARY fraternities are organized for a purpose. That purpose is, usually—first, to bestow recognition upon a man for meritorious work and marked capabilities; second, to provide an incentive to incoming men for doing meritorious work and developing marked capabilities; third, to bring the members of the society into a closer bond of friendship.

The standards of these societies are high and it is really an honor to attain membership in them. In all they tend to make the students strive for higher scholarship and greater activity in university life.

These fraternities are self-supporting organizations. Like most other good things, membership in them costs money. The initiation fees vary from fifteen dollars to thirty dollars, depending upon the society. This amount includes the cost of the key or pin of the organization. Most societies have quarterly dues ranging from fifty cents to five dollars. Few if any students deprive themselves of membership in a society even though they may consider the fees a bit high.

Following is a list of the honorary societies at Ohio State to which an engineering student is eligible, with a short description of each. Acknowledgement is made to the fraternity publications and "Baird's Manual," from which much of the information was obtained.

TAU BETA PI

Tau Beta Pi is an honorary engineering society of 50 chapters and a total membership of over 14,000. Its purpose is "to confer distinction upon those students who have maintained a high grade of scholarship and to foster a spirit of liberal culture" in the engineering students of the institutions in which its chapters are located.

At the beginning of the junior year the three juniors of highest standing are eligible to election; at the end of the junior year those who are in the upper eighth of the class are eligible; at the beginning of the senior year the highest one-fourth of the class are eligible. Election to membership is limited by scholastic ability, but personality and aptitude for success are also determining factors.

The society is one of the most active on the campus in addition to being an "honorary." Each year the society presents the freshman of the preceding year who had the highest scholastic standing with a slide rule. The local chapter was successful host to the national convention of the fraternity last fall.

The chapter has a membership varying between thirty and forty. The officers are: Dean Hubbell, President; F. H. Brown, Vice President; M. J. Hegler, Recording Secretary; R. Q. Armington, Corresponding Secretary; C. C. Ackerman, Treasurer; and W. P. Tooley, Cataloger.



TEXNIKOI

Texnikoi is the senior honorary engineering fraternity at Ohio State. Members are chosen largely for their participation in extra curricula activities which is a measure of undergraduate service to their school. Election to most campus societies is based upon what the members think you will do in the future. Election to Texnikoi is based upon accomplishments already achieved. Texnikoi has been called the "Sphinx of the Engineering College," which quite aptly describes it if you are familiar with the society Sphinx.



The new members are chosen in the spring at the end of their junior year from the entire junior class in engineering. Twelve to fifteen men are picked each year for this coveted honor. Texnikoi is a purely honorary organization, its members being elected largely as a matter of recognition, and for that reason the society in the past has taken no very active part in campus affairs. The officers are: C. C. Ackerman, President; Robin Bell, Secretary; W. R. King, Treasurer.

ETA KAPPA NU

Eta Kappa Nu is a national honorary electrical engineering fraternity founded in 1904. The chapter at Ohio State is the third to be founded among a total of twenty.

The purpose of the fraternity is aptly stated in the preamble to the constitution. "That those men in the profession of Electrical Engineering who by their attainments in college or practice have manifested a deep interest and marked ability in their chosen life work, may be brought into closer union whereby mutual benefit may be derived."

A certain percentage of juniors and seniors of high scholastic standing are eligible. In determining the scholastic standing a weight of three is given to engineering subjects, two to semi-engineering subjects, and one to non-engineering subjects. In addition to the necessary scholastic requirements members are chosen for their personality, character and ability to work in an organization.

The local chapter holds several social meetings each quarter and is active in affairs of the department of electrical engineering. The membership of the fraternity varies from twenty-five to thirty. The officers are: J. E. Jones, President; C. P. Carey, Secretary; and P. J. Snider, Treasurer.

SIGMA XI

Sigma Xi is one of the oldest scientific fraternities active throughout the United States at the

present time. It has forty-five chapters and a total membership of over 20,000.

The society is not secret. Its object is to encourage original investigation, pure and applied. Sigma Xi was established with the intention that it would have the same significance of scholarly merit in scientific and technical schools as Phi Beta Kappa has among classical schools.

Those eligible to election as full members in a chapter are any professor, instructor, or other member of the staff of the institution who has shown noteworthy achievement as an original investigator in some branch of pure or applied science, or any graduated student who, as judged by his actual work of investigation, has exhibited an aptitude for scientific research. Students eligible to associate membership are those who have completed two and one-half years of undergraduate work and who have shown a marked excellence in two or more departments of pure or applied science.

The officers are: Prof. C. T. Morris, President; Prof. P. B. Stockdale, Secretary; and Prof. S. E. Rasor, Treasurer.

TAU SIGMA DELTA

Tau Sigma Delta is an honorary fraternity in architecture and allied arts. The Ohio State chapter was founded in 1922.



As quoted from the constitution, the purpose of the society is stated as follows: "It shall be the purpose of Tau Sigma Delta fraternity to unite in a firm bond of friendship such students of architecture and the allied arts whose marked scholastic ability, moral character, and pleasing personality has shown them worthy of distinction, and to foster and promote high standards of study in the schools and colleges of architecture and the allied arts." The society is a purely honorary organization and only a limited number of members are elected each year.

The officers are: E. G. Carney, President; Jeanne Phillips, Corresponding Secretary; R. Jottral, Secretary; and J. E. Lyle, Treasurer.

KERAMOS

Keramos is one of the newer honoraries on the campus. The Beta chapter of the fraternity was founded at Ohio State in March, 1925.

It is an organization for furthering the interest of the ceramic industry. By its work as a whole it can give more cooperation between the students and the department. Juniors and seniors with an average of C or better, having a good personality and showing the right attitude toward their ceramic work, are eligible. The sophomore in the ceramic department having the highest scholastic standing is eligible for election.

The officers are: W. N. Butterworth, President; Chas. McMullen, Vice President; Chester Austin, Secretary-Treasurer.

PI DELTA EPSILON

Pi Delta Epsilon is a national journalistic society composed of forty-one chapters. The purpose of the society is to "stimulate an interest in

college journalism and elevate the standard of the same."

Eligibility for election to active membership is confined to undergraduates who have served at least two years on a campus publication. The editors and business managers of publications are automatically considered for membership. Eligibility of engineers to this society is usually a result of service on the staff of "The Ohio State Engineer." At present there are four engineers members of this society. The officers are: Charles Reynolds, President; Donald E. Johnstone, Secretary; Matthew McConnell, Treasurer.

PHI LAMBDA UPSILON

Phi Lambda Upsilon is a national honorary chemical society of twenty-four chapters. The Eta chapter of the society was established at Ohio State in 1911.



It chooses its members on a basis of high scholarship in chemistry. Its active members are elected from the graduate students, the seniors and the juniors. The honor man of the sophomore class in the chemical curriculums is elected at the end of that year. The election is based on a sliding scale of requirements which is set at each election. In all cases an average of B or above is required. No fixed number of men are taken in at an election. Other things being equal preference is given to the man having the best personality.

The society brings chemistry lectures and speakers of note to the campus and attempts to increase interest in the chemical course.

The officers are: R. F. Conaway, President; F. H. Brown, Vice President; R. E. Davis, Secretary; C. Black, Treasurer.

PI MU EPSILON

Pi Mu Epsilon is a mathematics fraternity of eleven chapters. The first and primary aim is the scholarship for the individual members in all subjects and particularly in mathematics; second, the orderly advancement of the science of mathematics and third, the mutual and personal advancement of its members.



The standard for membership is an average of B or higher in mathematics. Mechanics is considered equally with mathematics and physics as correlated work.

The society does not hold meetings very often and is essentially an honorary organization only.

The officers are: Prof. H. M. Beatty, President; A. B. Crawford, Secretary-Treasurer.

SCABBARD AND BLADE

Scabbard and Blade is a national military society with its organization modeled upon that of the United States Army, the various chapters being designated as "companies." It has at present 67 companies and a total membership of over 7,000.

The purpose of Scabbard and Blade is to raise the standard of military training in American colleges and universities, to unite in closer relationship their military de-



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partments, to encourage and foster the development of the essential qualities of good and efficient officers, and to promote intimacy and good fellowship among the cadet officers. In addition, the society attempts to hold before the college man his responsibility as the natural leader in times of national crisis and promote preparedness for proper defense of the United States by disseminating accurate information among its members and others concerning the military needs of the nation.

The qualifications of membership are not based upon military scholarship alone, but also on those qualities of leadership, initiative, and character which cannot be expressed with a decimal point. Only men in the advanced course who hold a cadet commission of second lieutenant or higher are eligible for election to membership.

The local chapter is an active organization. In addition to its functions as a military organization it holds several social gatherings during the year, including an annual spring formal dinner dance. This year the Ohio State company is host to the national convention of the society.

The officers are: E. P. Reed, President; H. F. West, Secretary; R. B. Ware, Treasurer.

PI TAU PI SIGMA

Pi Tau Pi Sigma is an honorary Signal Corps society, composed at present of four chapters. It is a comparatively new organization.



The purpose of the society is to stimulate interest within the corp, to encourage good fellowship of its members, and to serve as an organized group in interesting desirable men in the basic courses to take the advanced course.

Members are chosen to the society upon a basis of military excellence, character, personality and leadership. Men in the advanced course are eligible whether they hold a commission or not.

The chapter here has a membership varying from twelve to fifteen members.

The officers are: I. T. Doty, President; E. A. Griffith, Secretary; P. J. Snider, Treasurer.