

Southwestern University C458 Tau Beta Chapter

Submitted by Emily Mack, Historian



History and Heritage

Why was your chapter started at your college/university?

The Tau Beta Chapter was started in the early 1990s by Dr. Jim Hunt, a past Education professor and current provost at Southwestern University. He wanted a way to recognize the outstanding quality of the Southwestern Education students. While seeking an honor society with national stature, Dr. Hunt was lead to KDPI. However, due to the small size of our school, we would never have a large enough class of education majors in order to start a chapter.

However, Dr. Hunt petitioned KDPI making a case for the high quality of students and was granted an exemption, beginning our chapter in 1992.

Since your chapter was started, how has it made an impact on the education department at your college/university?

The Chapter has impacted our education department by having a society that recognizes the ability and desire of the students to become active and engaging teachers in the future. It has also allowed both the students and the faculty to have a closer relationship working hand-in-hand to promote the ideals of KDPI to all education students at Southwestern. In addition, our chapter of KDPI seeks to make the campus more aware of the process and prestige involved in certifying to teach at Southwestern by hosting various programs.

Leadership and Membership

Which core values mean the most to your chapter? How does your chapter demonstrate this value?

One of the core values that means the most to our chapter is the ideal of service. The members in this organization would do anything to help the community. We all want to help humanity become the best and brightest in all walks of life. We have book drives to help young students that don't have enough books to read. Also many of the members of this Chapter take a trip to Jamaica to help young children there.

Who has been integral in the success of your chapter?

The students that make up this Chapter are the reason for our success. We have such wonderful students that are bright and motivating members to the Tau Beta Chapter. They care about this chapter and many want to see it succeed and live on at Southwestern University. They all are actively engaging in the educational process and their preparation to become teachers.

Programming

Does your chapter facilitate any unique or signature events?

We always participate in Reading is Fun week. It has continuously been a successful fundraiser with great support from our members. During the week we encourage students and professors at Southwestern to donate any slightly used or new books that they do not want. The past two years, we have combined this event with a bake sale where students can donate money for a treat if they do not have any books to donate. This year all the books and proceeds will be donated to the Jamaican school where some education students serve during the summer.

What is a tradition your chapter carries on?

This chapter is probably one of the smallest because of the size of Southwestern. So we carry on the tradition of being a strong, yet small, united chapter. We work together to represent all the values that Kappa Delta Pi. We continue the tradition of promoting the excellence of future teachers.