



Susanna Geiger



University of Kansas

Zeta Delta Chapter



Bid Packet for

Tau Beta Sigma

Midwest District Vice President for

Membership

Tau Beta Sigma Midwest District
Headquarters: Marshalltown, Iowa
mwdcouncil@tbsigma.org

March 31, 2017

To the 2017 Tau Beta Sigma Midwest District Convention,

I would like to express my great interest in serving another term on the Midwest District Council, this time in the position of Vice President of Membership. It has been a great honor and joy to be the Secretary/Treasurer for the Midwest District this past year, and I believe I have done a fair amount of justice for that often-unsung position. However, to test and strengthen my leadership capabilities, I have full desire to challenge myself in a brand new way by serving as VPM.

I believe my experience within Tau Beta Sigma, both at the chapter and now district level, puts me in an advantageous position to fulfill and expand the obligations of the VPM. For two years, I have served as Zeta Delta's Sergeant-at-Arms, having the responsibilities of maintaining, revising, and interpreting the constitution, educating and reeducating members about the constitutional code at all levels of our organization, and doing the difficult yet necessary job of implementing member discipline, especially when it comes to attendance, which Zeta Delta has had its fair share of issues with. In addition, I have been a member of our chapter's ritual and regalia committee, now the membership committee, for the past two years. As part of both my office and committee membership, I have given several presentations and lead workshops dedicating to membership education and reeducation.

Though I have had less specifically membership-related experience at the district level, it has been just as beneficial for me in a wholly unique way. Through regular correspondence with chapters, especially with their secretaries and treasurers, I have become familiar with the unique situations of our 11 Midwest TBS chapters. Though I have not read through all their MEPs (though I have read their constitutions and budgets), I have, through Jessica McAdam and the discussions of our Midwest District Advisory Council meetings, been exposed to a multitude of membership-related troubles and triumphs. I feel very secure in my familiarity with the district and am eager to use and expand that knowledge to take a more active role in individual chapter membership policies, practices, and patterns. My more specifically secretary/treasurer related duties, including handling/advising chapter financial issues, coordinating district level fundraising, and running District social media, have only supplemented that preparedness.

Though Tau Beta Sigma is the primary extracurricular in my life, my other involvement as a KU student have also contributed to my leadership and

communication skills, both vital for this position. This past year, I have revitalized the KU student organization Student Advocates for Financial Education, a previously dormant entity dedicated to improving financial literacy and responsibility in our community – an issue I am incredibly passionate about. As the de facto president, I have faced the great and new to me challenge of building a membership base basically from scratch. Even now, it is an ongoing process, but we have already seen great success and myself personal enrichment from the challenge. In addition, our work in SAFE often involves helping individual students address and overcome their financial issues, which has greatly improved my communication skills. This is especially true when it concerns awkward or taboo subjects, which the area of membership is far from free of.

My on-campus job as a peer mentor for KU freshmen has also played a great role in developing my ability to communicate and provide individualized council in problem solving. As a naturally introverted person who had a pretty rough first few years of college, it has been a great joy to use my past experiences to help freshman avoid the pitfalls I fell into. I believe one of the most beneficial things you can do in life is use your mistakes to help both yourself and others improve. That is something I want to apply to my own chapter's experiences with membership should I be selected to this position. Being a peer mentor, I have had to consider each student's unique background and situation (some of which I have little to no personal experience with) when helping them through difficulties, and I am certain the difficulty of that task will show in my handling of the very similar demands of District VPM.

For the sake of length, I will not go into the fine details of my other experience with other organizations, service, and employment, but through their combined effect on me I am certain that I have the necessary skills and quality of character to do justice to this position.

Tau Beta Sigma has had such a profound and positive impact on my life, especially during the uncertain but critical period when I was first adjusting to college. The sisterhood not only gave me a way to develop myself musically, academically, and professionally, it gave me a home and people to turn to. Now, I can say that those people extend far beyond the KU campus. I would welcome the opportunity to give back to them by doing even greater justice to this position than my current one.

Thank you for your consideration,
Susanna Geiger, Zeta Delta

Platform Statement

To the members of the Midwest District of Tau Beta Sigma,

I am proposing the following initiatives as part of my platform for Vice President of Membership for the Midwest District of Tau Beta Sigma

- Continuation of the diligence and thoroughness brought to the position by incumbent Jessica McAdam
- By the end of June 2017, the creation of a thorough and detailed example/sample of a chapter MEP so that chapter membership officers can fully utilize it
- Send out a monthly mini-newsletter that will 1.) highlight a membership/recruitment success story from our district 2.) highlight another from a different district and 3.) Give tips/personal experience with a common membership issue (not limited to recruitment)
- During recruitment seasons, schedule monthly Google hangout sessions with chapter membership officers to discuss their trials, tribulations, and, most importantly, triumphs.
- Keep a Google Document database of recruitment event ideas and tips that membership officers can use as a resource
- By the end of fall semester and at Convention in the Spring, announce total membership growth to District and explain how it compares to other Districts (adjusting for total population, of course)
- Create a “new sister survey” for newly inducted sisters, encouraging membership officers to include it in their education program, that will give both the District and individual chapters information on why sisters have joined and what excitement/fears they have about the future
- Create a similar survey for older active members on their comfort level with Tau Beta Sigma historical/ritualistic knowledge and use their uncertainties to form District Day agendas/presentations as well as newsletters – also follow up with chapters individually about their members’ concerns
- Institute a reeducation program for chapters the month before Convention where each week focus is on a different aspect of TBS knowledge (i.e. the focus for the week is songs, so encourage chapters to practice their songs at their meeting that week and post a helpful video on District social media)
- During spring semester, have a biweekly highlight of a new sister (probably from Fall recruitment) who is already demonstrating leadership
- At District Days and possibly over membership officer Google Hangouts, delve into the taboo subject of sisters dropping TBS or dropping to a less

status – why it's sometimes okay, sometimes not and how it could be anyone's, or no one's, fault

- Open a discussion at a District Day of quantity vs. quality in recruitment (how both are viable goals and can be non-mutually exclusive) and tape it so members who are not physically present can still engage
- Create an overview of the hazing policies of TBS (and expand on how hazing doesn't always look like what we think it will) and send it out to membership officers before they get into recruitment
- Similarly, hold a discussion on how open/accepting a membership process should be (when to withhold a bid) and how that can vary strongly by chapter and chapter sponsor
- Encourage chapters to have honest and open conversation with their sisters that either drop TBS or move to conditional status and possibly use that information to improve how their chapter
- Make all District Day/District Event presentations viewable to sisters who cannot attend (preferably by video), while ensuring that presentations containing sensitive information are only accessible by TBS sisters
- Open the discussion of developing colonies in the Midwest District and investigate possibilities along with the Councilors and other District Officers

While I have put much thought into this list, it is by no means complete or definite. Even by convention time, I expect to have several items to add, as well as revisions to make to existing items.

As a disclaimer, it's very possible that, as was the case with my platform of initiatives for Secretary/Treasurer, I will not be able to fully complete every single one of these in my term. As a very involved and committed student, it would probably not be healthy for me to try to do so. However, if elected, I will put great effort into achieving as much as possible and determining what initiatives should receive the most attention and priority. I had a tendency, especially early on, to try to do too much at once as Secretary/Treasurer, to the point where I was not proud of the quality much of it. To avoid that in this upcoming year, my first focus will be assigning degrees of priority, cutting initiatives with the advising of other district and chapter leadership, and developing a rough time table for what I want to accomplish and when.

Of course, if elected one thing I am most looking forward to is the contributions and revisions to this platform that will surely occur once I become acquainted with the new council and develop relationships with chapter membership officers. The best kind of District Officer does not go into a position completely prepared for and comfortable with the challenges and tasks they face; they leave the position a better officer and a better person because of the support and enrichment provided by good relationships with great people. I fully intend to uphold that principle, as, though I have already served as a District Officer, this will be a

whole new set of challenges for me with entirely new kinds of stress and rewards attached. I am ready to jump into that uncertainty and serve, should the District want me to.

Respectfully and Enthusiastically,

Susanna Geiger, Zeta Delta

Susanna Geiger

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Education

University of Kansas

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Bachelor of Arts in Economics
Member of KU Honors Program
Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2018
Current Cumulative GPA: 3.9

Involvement

Tau Beta Sigma Service Sorority

October 2014 - Present

Current Office at District Level: Secretary/Treasurer

- Coordinate district level fundraising in conjunction with the Secretary/Treasurer of the Kappa Kappa Psi fraternity
- Responsible for maintaining social media presence and updating website
- Keep database of district and chapter fundraising activities and oversee district finances and the development of a new budget

Current Office at Chapter Level: Sergeant-At-Arms

- Maintain, revise, interpret the constitution at the Chapter level
- Provide constitutional (chapter, district, and national) education and reeducation and assist with implementation of the chapter MEP
- Address chapter discipline issues, especially relating to attendance

Student Advocates for Financial Education

August 2015 - Present

Current Office: President

- Mission: promote the improvement of financial literacy and responsibility at KU and in the surrounding community

As president:

- Handle important communications with other University organizations, faculty, or private businesses
- Delegate tasks to other executive board members and approve important actions or communications before use

Douthart Scholarship Hall Executive Board

September 2015 - Present

Current Office: Community Service Chair

- Organize hall-wide service projects, including a weekly volunteer program at local nursing homes
- Alert and direct residents to surrounding campus service opportunities

Skills

Proficiency in Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook, Publisher, and Adobe InDesign and Photoshop

Familiarity with using Google Drive and Docs for organization

Proficiency in research and academic writing

Leadership experience in a variety of settings

Honesty • Initiative • Leadership • Integrity • Loyalty

Internship Experience

Intern in Salina, KS City Manager's Office

June 2016 - August 2016

- Attended staff meetings, public hearings, and private discussions with third-party institutions
- Completed small projects for several departments within the city including:

- Wrote news articles for Community Engagement
- Prepared committee packets for Public Works
- Reorganized and designed city budget for Finance
- Conducted research on municipal internship and volunteering programs for Continuous Process Improvement

Work Experience

Peer Mentor with the Office of First Year Experience

August 2016 - Present

Lawrence, KS

- Attend UNIV 101 Course and attached Learning Community Course URPL: Sustainability and Society and follow class material
- Regularly meet with freshman students to discuss issues with coursework and adjusting to university life
- Serve as a resource for campus information and directory for campus resources for students
- Prepare and present weekly presentations to students on college-related topics

Desk Assistant for GSP/Corbin Residence Halls

May 2015-Present

Lawrence, KS

- Directed student residents to on-campus resources and answered questions about bus schedules, building locations, on-campus living, and similar topics
- Enforced KU housing policy and took disciplinary action when necessary
- Handled confidential student information during housing processes such as receiving mail, room changes, and checkouts.

Community Service

Currently volunteering with the following organizations:

—KU Alternative Breaks

—Worked with Project Homecoming in New Orleans from May 17th-27th 2016

—Served as a site leader for the break to City of Light in Atlanta from January 7-14th

—Brandon Woods and Neuvent House nursing homes

—Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence

Note: I apologize for the bold patches of text on my resume. It seemed to be an issue with converting the InDesign document to a PDF (the only way to effectively include the resume in this document). I tinkered with it for a few hours and just could not find a solution for this issue. I hope it is not too distracting. The document should look completely normal when printed out, however.

Whom It May Concern:

March 14, 2017

I am writing to you in regards to Susanna Geiger's application for the position of Vice President of Membership. Susanna is a wonderful young lady and has done quite well at her current district level position of Secretary/Treasurer.

Susanna is an extremely dedicated member of the Zeta Delta chapter of Tau Beta Sigma and is currently the District Level Secretary/Treasurer and has done a wonderful job. Her current district level responsibilities include coordinating district level fundraising in conjunction with the Secretary/Treasurer of Kappa Kappa Psi. She is also responsible for maintaining a social media presence and updating the website with necessary dates and resources. She keeps a database of district and chapter fundraising actives and oversees district finances and the development of a new budget. She has been a member of Tau Beta Sigma since her first semester here at KU (2014) and is always trying to find ways to serve the band both personally and through her involvement in Tau Beta Sigma.

Susanna is involved in other organizations on campus where she demonstrates her natural leadership and service qualities. She is a Peer Mentor with the Office of First Year Experience where she meets regularly with freshman students to discuss issues with coursework and adjusting to university life, as well as serve as a resource for information about campus information and resources for students. In this position, she also gives weekly presentations to students on varying college-related topics. She is also a Peer Educator with Student Money Management Services where she works one-on-one with students to create their budget, identify specific financial issues and find solutions. She also presents sessions on personal finance for various groups, organizations and offices throughout KU. She is currently president of the organization Student Advocates for Financial Education where she communicates with other university organizations, faculty and private businesses. She also manages an executive board and approves actions or communications before use. In her Scholarship Hall, she is a member of the executive board where she is the Community Service Chair. She organizes hall-wide service projects and other participation in large campus service events and is a resource to the residents in her hall for service opportunities on and off campus. These are all perfect examples of experiences she can bring to the position of Vice President of Membership. She loves to serve and would serve the members of Tau Beta Sigma selflessly and efficiently in this capacity. When Susanna is passionate about a topic or organization, it is so very apparent she works tirelessly to promote, support and enhance whatever she can to the best of her abilities.

It is with utmost enthusiasm I as the Zeta Delta Chapter Sponsor recommend Susanna Geiger for the position of Vice President of Membership.

Sincerely,



Sharon L. Toulouse
Assistant Director of Bands
University of Kansas
stoulouse@ku.edu

To Whom It May Concern:

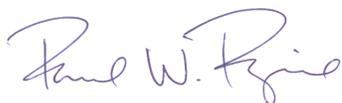
March 15, 2017

I am writing this letter in support of Susanna Geiger, a student involved in our band programs here at KU for the last three years. Susanna has been a wonderful member of our group and very dedicated to the organization. She has a strong desire to give back to the band and offer her leadership when necessary.

Susanna has been involved not only in our program here on campus but other organizations as well that make her well qualified for this position as Vice President of Membership for the Midwest District. She is currently serving in a leadership role within our chapter here at KU as well as already at the district level and has done an admirable job in both.

As Director of Bands at the University of Kansas, I am proud to say she is a part of our bands and service groups and give her my highest recommendation for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Paul W. Popiel
Director of Bands
University of Kansas

To Whom It May Concern:

Susie Geiger is more than qualified for any position on the Midwest Council. Her leadership skills and willingness to work make her a great addition to any team, and she always strives for above and beyond in anything she does. Susie would be a great Vice President for Membership for the District specifically because she is a great educator. In her time in the Zeta Delta chapter as the Sergeant-at-Arms, Susie has done an excellent job educating the chapter about the constitutions from our chapter and the District. She has also looked through other constitutions in the District to see how our chapter could make a stronger constitution. Susie has done more with the position in terms of education and working to better the chapter than any Sergeant-at-Arms during my time as an Active sister.

Susie is also the current Secretary/Treasurer for the Midwest District council. She always is described as having a level head and a strong work ethic. Susie has worked very hard to help chapters with their constitutions and fundraising efforts, and many have benefited from her wisdom and creativity. Her presentations are always very helpful and entertaining, so there would be no issue with helping VPM's in chapters with their MEPs. Her current experience with the Midwest District council is pushing her to strive for more, and she is more than capable of doing the work in order to help chapters like she has done for ours.

Overall, Susie Geiger would be a great candidate for any position on the Midwest District Council, but she would fit best with the position of Vice President for Membership. She has been such a strong leader and great friend to all of her sisters in the Zeta Delta chapter, and I fully support her decision to run for Vice President for Membership. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you any questions regarding Susie Geiger's candidacy.

Sincerely,

Mariah Black
Tau Beta Sigma- Zeta Delta Chapter President

