Beta Chi Chapter
Membership Handbook

Spring 2020
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Reasons to Join

As you embark on your search for employment, you will find that most reputable organizations are seeking candidates who not only maintain outstanding academic records in school, but also possess excellent professional and interpersonal skills, teamwork spirit, decision-making skills, and leadership abilities. Joining Beta Alpha Psi will provide you with opportunities to develop and refine these skills, which will significantly improve your marketability and professionalism.

Along with developing the necessary professional skills, Beta Alpha Psi provides you opportunities to network with accounting professionals, Beta Chi alumni, and fellow students who share common career goals. Many of these connections can be nurtured and developed into highly valuable, long-term professional and social relationships.

To reap all of the benefits that Beta Alpha Psi provides, you must actively participate in the organization. The benefits you receive will depend on the work you put in. The more time and effort you put into networking and developing your professional skills, the more confident and well-rounded you will become.
History of Beta Alpha Psi

With the 1896 passage of New York’s Certified Public Accounting Law, accountancy began to assume the earmarks of a profession. This development gave rise to the need for educational facilities, and as a result, the Wharton School and New York University were the first to establish courses in accounting.

Rapid strides took place in the profession as accounting became a separate curriculum in the business schools and as accounting students began to consider themselves distinct from other business students. In response to this, Professor Hiram T. Scovill formed the first accounting club in 1917. By 1919, the club had its own constitution and bylaws and had adopted as its name the Greek letters “Beta Alpha Psi.”

Growth was rapid and by 1942, Beta Alpha Psi had established 24 chapters. Except for a slowdown during World War II, the organization has grown steadily. Today, Beta Alpha Psi has over 300 chapters.

The organization has always set high standards for its membership. Beta Alpha Psi seeks to promote and enhance the accounting profession through high academic standards and sound principles of professional conduct. It focuses itself on several core values, which are written into its letters. The letters Beta, Alpha, and Psi denote scholarship, social responsibility, and practicality, respectively. Chapters are accepted into the national organization only if they are part of a strong business program and possess a full--time accounting faculty. Since 1947, the business school of a chapter has been required to be a member of the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business.
Beta Alpha Psi Values

Mission Statement

Beta Alpha Psi is a nonprofit international honorary and service organization for accounting, finance, and information systems students at AACSB-- or EQUIS-accredited universities. Beta Alpha Psi provides opportunities for development of technical and professional skills to complement university education; participation in community service; and interaction among students, faculty, and professionals.

Objective

The primary objective of Beta Alpha Psi is to encourage and give recognition to scholastic and professional excellence in the business information field.

This includes:

- promoting the study and practice of accounting, finance and information systems,
- providing opportunities for self--development, service and association among members and practicing professionals,
- and encouraging a sense of ethical, social, and public responsibility.

Beta Chi Chapter Objectives

In addition, our chapter objectives include:

- promoting a consistent culture of excellence and professionalism in all that we do,
- facilitating a strong sense of community among student and alumni members,
- maintaining procedures to prevent the loss of knowledge and experience each semester,
- providing opportunities for contribution and leadership to all members,
- and ensuring a high level of quality and relevance in our events.
Eligibility to Join

Since Beta Alpha Psi is an honor society, there are certain minimum academic requirements that must be met each semester by all levels of membership while attending SFSU.

Meeting these eligibility requirements does not, however, guarantee membership. Current and prospective members must also display the willingness and ability to meet the chapter's hour requirements and to be involved with our various chapter committees. Furthermore, all members are expected to behave ethically and responsibly. These criteria will be continually reassessed to determine ongoing eligibility.

Academic Eligibility Criteria

Mandatory Criteria
Must have a minimum overall GPA: 3.2
Must have at least two semesters remaining at SFSU

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

AFFILIATES MUST:
Be declared or intend to declare a concentration in accounting, finance, or information systems.

CANDIDATES MUST:
Be declared concentration in accounting, finance, or information systems.
Enrolled in at least one upper division course within declared concentration, beyond the business core courses, with a grade of B or better.

Gateway courses for majors are:
Accounting Majors - ACCT 301 Intermediate Financial Accounting I
Finance Majors - FIN-350 Business Finance
Information Systems Majors - ISYS 363 Information Systems for Management

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Be declared concentration in accounting, finance, or information systems.
Completed at least one advanced requirement course in the field of accounting, finance, or information systems with a grade of B or better (for example, ACCT-800 Financial Accounting I).
Chapter Requirements

Why should you fulfill the requirements?

In order to maintain our status as a nationally-recognized superior chapter, our chapter must maintain a high level of activity and involvement. This is measured, largely, as a percentage of attendance at events and activities. Thus, your participation in our events is very important. Candidates' and members' attendance will be reported to the Beta Alpha Psi national office to determine if our chapter meets the eligibility requirements for superior chapter status. Through participation, not only will you allow yourself to be involved socially and professionally, but you will also be part of a team effort to accomplish our chapter’s goal. Your participation is crucial in allowing us to maintain our status as a superior chapter, which distinguishes us at the highest level of excellence.

How do the requirements work?

We track candidates' and members' participation according to an hours system. The more hours, the better! Our chapter recognizes and offers awards to our highest achievers each semester. To remain in good standing, you must achieve the minimum number of points each semester. There are three tiers of membership within our chapter. Our three tiers are 1st Semester Candidates, those who have newly joined our chapter; 2nd Semester Candidates, those who have successfully met the minimum requirements as a 1st Semester Candidate and are now in their second semester in our chapter; and Members, those who have successfully met the minimum requirements as a 2nd Semester Candidate and have been formally initiated as a Member of Beta Alpha Psi.

Track Your Own Progress

While our Director of Reporting will track your involvement using sign-in sheets from each of our events, you will benefit by keeping a record of those events you attend. Should you have any questions or need clarification as to your standing during the semester, please consult with the President, Executive Vice President, or the Director of Reporting.
Beta Chi Hour Requirements

All Affiliates must:

Complete at least 9 hours of Professional Activities.
  Of the 9 hours, 3 hours are to be completed in the last five weeks of term
Complete at least 9 hours of Service Activities.
  Of the 9 hours, 3 hours are to be completed in the last five weeks of term
Complete at least 4 hours of Beta Chi Chapter Activities.
  Of the 4 hours, 1.5 hours are to be completed in the last five weeks of term

Total Semester Hours Requirement: **22 hours**

All 1st Semester Candidates, 2nd Semester Candidates, and Active Members must:

Complete at least 12 hours of Professional Activities.
  Of the 12 hours, 4 hours are to be completed in the last five weeks of term
Complete at least 12 hours of Service Activities.
  Of the 12 hours, 4 hours are to be completed in the last five weeks of term
Complete at least 6 hours of Beta Chi Chapter Activities.
  Of the 6 hours, 2 hours are to be completed in the last five weeks of term

Total Semester Hours Requirement: **30 hours**

For Initiated members:

Note: initiated members are not mandated to complete any hours but as previously noted, active participation will benefit you and the chapter’s affiliate and candidate members.
Beta Chi Hour Requirements Activities Explanation

**Professional Activities** include:

Meet the Firms  
Technical Presentations  
Seminars/Workshops  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) training sessions*

*Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) training sessions will count towards 2 hours of Professional Activities.

**Service Activities** include:

Community Service Events  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)*

* During the spring semester, those who participate and complete the required VITA hours will be awarded 4 hours that would count towards the Community Service Events requirement.

Beta Chi Chapter Activities include:  
Welcome Night  
Candidates Orientation  
Joint Picnic  
Joint Banquet  
Initiation Ceremony  
Alumni Dinner  
Chapter Elections  
Fundraising events  
Chapter social events

**Additional Notes:**

BAP National defines one actual hour as 50 chapter minutes. For example, an event that happens from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM (one actual hour) will be reported as 1.2 chapter hours.

Each semester, a maximum of 5.0 professional or service hours may be completed at outside events. These must be pre-approved by the President, Executive Vice President, and the Director of Reporting. Proof of attendance must also be submitted.
Chapter Directory

President
Chad Kelsey
president.sfsubap@gmail.com
Term: 2019-2020 Academic Year

Executive Vice President
Sina Sanaiepour
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Term: Spring 2020

Treasurer
Amy Wu
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Term: 2019-2020 Academic Year

Director of Reporting
Chad Kelsey
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Term: 2019-2020 Academic Year

Director of Administration
Xiaoqing ("Michelle") Fu
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Term: Spring 2020

Director of Professional Development
Fengying ("Vanessa") Guo
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Term: Spring 2020

Director of Student Outreach
Jose Ramirez
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Term: Spring 2020

Director of Social Affairs
Lan Hu
socialaffairs.sfsubap@gmail.com
Term: Spring 2020

Director of Alumni Relations
John “Jack” Selvig
alumnirelations.sfsubap@gmail.com
Term: Spring 2020

Director of Community Relations
Young Shin Yoon
communityservice.sfsubap@gmail.com
Term: Spring 2020

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Site Coordinator
Mitesh Kalathiya
vitacoord.sfsubap@gmail.com
Term: 2019-2020 Academic Year
2019 Filing Season

Faculty Advisors
Dr. Joanne Sopt, Ph.D
Dr. Shuoyuan He, Ph.D
Kristine ("Tina") Caratan, MNA, CPA, CGMA (Emerita Faculty Advisor)

Contact Information
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