Eta Kappa Nu

Mu Chapter

2000-2001 Yearbook
Abstract

The Mu Chapter of Eta Kappa Nu, founded in 1915 at the University of California at Berkeley, is an active presence in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences department here at Berkeley, as well as in the College of Engineering and Berkeley campus. One of the most active student organizations on campus, the Mu Chapter provides many services to both the student body and community. Among those offered to the students are free tutoring, peer advising, administering course evaluations, infosessions, faculty mixers, job fairs, and tech talks. In addition, the Mu Chapter has a strong tradition of helping out in the community by participating in many projects, such as Berkeley Neighborhood Computing, the Eggster festival, trail building, and the Alameda Food Bank. Besides offering services, the Mu Chapter provides many social and fun activities for its members, candidates, and alumni. Outings range from traditional favorites, like broomball and picnics, to big events, like the U2 concert and a San Jose Sharks hockey game. The Mu chapter would like to invite you to take a look into our world and hopes you learn more about our deeply involved chapter.
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Officers, Fall 2000

President          Byron Yu
Vice-President     Shankar Rao
Treasurer          Jason Hu
Corresponding Secretary Francis Hsu
Recording Secretary Alice Gutman
Bridge Correspondent Nick Zamora
Bridge Correspondent Alex Lam
Bridge Correspondent Hugo Shi
Bridge Correspondent Melissa Stopponi
Department Relations Alex Fabrikant
Alumni Relations    Paul Huang
Alumni Relations    Danny Tom
Exam Files          Liane Beckman
Online Exam Files   Nick Chen
Online Exam Files   Gagan Prakash
Tutoring            Alex Ni
Publicity           David Alvarado
Publicity           Rishi Batra
EJC Representative  Josie Kung
Activities          Michael Green
Activities          Anthony Perez
Activities          Malay Shah
Industrial Relations Phoebus Chen
Industrial Relations Andrew Chang
Industrial Relations Roger Tan
Computing Services  Joe Jamp
Computing Services  Alan Shieh
Computing Services  Lorentz Shyu
Candidates, Fall 2000

Billy Puoshuo Chen
Morgan Jikang Chen
Eugene Wei Heng Chu
Siddharth Hasmukh Doshi
Neetin Nick Gulati
I-Chin Emily Hsueh
Jennifer Hsu
Bret Warren Hull
Nathan Andrew Klejwa
David Sun Lau
Jason Jaewook Lee

Jin-Yi Johnny Lee
Jessica Anna Lii
Yosen Lin
Summer Misherghii
Rajesh Nishtala
Ryan Khalil Said
Yuh Meei Seah
Oren Shiran
Neil Edward Turner
Jeff Yu
Officers, Spring 2001

President: Jeffery Heer
Vice-President: Nick Zamora
Treasurer: Jason Hu
Corresponding Secretary: Francis Hsu
Recording Secretary: Alice Gutman
Bridge Correspondent: Shakar Rao
Bridge Correspondent: Gagan Prakash
Bridge Correspondent: Alex Lam
Department Relations: Byron Yu
Alumni Relations: Josie Kung
Exam Files: Alex Ni
Online Exam Files: Melissa Stopponi
Online Exam Files: Jen Hsu
Tutoring: Neil Turner
Publicity: Laura Todd
Publicity: Lea Kissner
EJC Representative: Anthony Perez
EJC Representative: Liane Beckman
Activities: Mike Green
Activities: Malay Shah
Activities: Nathan Klejwa
Industrial Relations: Roger Tan
Industrial Relations: Nick Chen
Industrial Relations: Jessica Lii
Computing Services: Alex Fabrikant
Computing Services: Steve VanDeBogart
Computing Services: Billy Chen
Job Fair Chair: Phoebus Chen
Student Relations: Alan Shieh
Candidates, Spring 2001

Albert Cheng
Brian Nicholas Chin
Premal H. Doshi
Xiao Fu
Kishan Gupta
Daniel Reiter Horn
Daniel Joseph Hsu
Ngai Ieong
Sajay Jeyakumar
Aaron Willam Jow
Daniel Zern-Chon Kuo
Grace Ern-Ye Lau
Erik Kenneth Lee
Na Keyong Gina Lee
Jusuk Lee
Lawrence Wai Leung

Robert Yuan Lin
Eva Lo
Jian Wah Lock
Aqeel Asghar Mahesri
Brendan Tran Morris
Zachery Oberman
Devesh Parekh
Jenet Chenyaou Peng
Omar Amin Shafie
Jiong Shen
Yevgenty G Shvetz
Joe Ho Tam
David Alan Tse
Victoria Lulu Wang
Shong Yin
Initiation is a time of new beginnings and new opportunities. At initiation, the HKN candidate class becomes full members of HKN. These candidates become the future of Mu Chapter as both the members that attend events and the pool that new officers are drawn from. The HKN officers present HKN’s philosophy to the candidate class and watch as each one is sworn in. Following this solemn procedure, the current members congratulate the new initiates.

Banquet

After initiation, HKN goes out to eat in style; only $$$$$ (5-dollar-sign) food for our ***** (5-star) members. In the fall, Professor Papadimitriou treated the members to a sagacious account of his life experiences (including a run in with a young Bill Gates). In the spring, Professor Berlekamp regaled members, old and new, with the story of the rise of Berkeley EECS and puzzled them with a hat problem that is stumping mathematicians the world over (http://www.nytimes.com/2001/04/10/science/10MATH.html). Afterwards, outstanding members were acknowledged, and everybody was treated to a grand slideshow recapping the semester’s events and activities.
HKN Mu Chapter officers are a hardy bunch. After surviving the rigors of candidacy, they choose to lead members and new candidates into the following semester. Promising that the next semester will be even more exciting than the last, members of HKN give statements of purpose, deliver presentations, tell jokes, and in general try to convince the other members that they should be part of the next officer corps. These elections ensure that HKN has excellent leadership for future semesters.
HKN had some inspiring speakers at its general meetings in the past year. Members and candidates at the first general meeting were treated to Professor Kahan’s story about the use of EE technology to defeat German U-Boats in World War II. This was followed in the next meeting by an engaging description of the “alpha geek” by Xerox Parc’s Dr. Ed Chi. Another meeting featured Professor Landay’s exposition on the future of user interfaces of information devices. Current trends made their way into HKN’s meetings in the form of a wonderful presentation by Informatica about e-business and a panel discussion of the pros and cons of joining a technical startup company. However, the best corporate tale was an exclusive story about the early days of amihotornot.com from its creators (Mu Chapter alumni). Following these presentations, officers, members, and candidates enjoyed opportunities to socialize and learn about each another.
After learning of their eligibility to join HKN, candidates meet with one or more officers on an individual basis and get their first taste of HKN’s camaraderie. Officers ask candidates about their hobbies, skills, favorite trees (Oak trees or Binary trees?), families, and class schedules. Candidates get a chance to ask any questions they have about the benefits and requirements of joining HKN. The beginning of many long-lasting bonds between candidates and officers develop during these meetings.

Every week, the HKN officer corps meets to discuss events and issues important to HKN. These meetings are held in Cory Hall, the EE building on the Berkeley campus, and generally last a little over an hour. The president presides over these meetings, providing both an agenda and leading the discussion. Oftentimes, the officers also discuss new ideas and proposals. All officers are required to attend these meetings, since it is important for everyone to know what is going on. The recording secretary takes notes and makes the minutes available to all officers and members.

Candidate Conversations
HKN Mu chapter held its second annual job fair on February 7th, 2001. Over six hundred students in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and related fields gathered in the Pauley Ballroom at the Student Union to look at, talk to, and hand resumes to over sixty companies that attended this year. Among the companies in attendance were notable names such as 3Com, Compaq, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, nVidia, and Yahoo!.
HooKiN it Up

Through the hard work and early planning of all our volunteers, HKN hosted an extremely successful job fair. It was because of this job fair that HKN was able to put on such great events as the U2 concert, the musical, and the Sharks hockey game.
Infosessions

As one of the student services we provide, infosessions are a great way for students to interact with many high-tech companies, especially those in the San Francisco Bay Area. They are a win-win solution for both companies and students — companies can effectively spread their names out to students, and students are able to land lucrative jobs through them (and dine on arguably the best deep-dish stuffed pizza outside of Chicago). During the past school year, HKN hosted many infosessions for companies like Inktomi, IBM, Oracle, Raytheon, Cisco, and Microsoft; several such infosessions drew crowds in excess of a hundred students!

Peer Advising

As grizzled veterans of the EECS program, HKN members meet every semester to dispense advice to the younger and less knowledgeable of the department. Over department-provided sandwiches (there’s always food), HKN members describe their experiences with particular professors, classes, and the signup process. These advising sessions provide a chance for anybody to find the perfect selection of classes to fit their interests. When the sessions end, the younger students leave armed with the necessary knowledge to complete their degree in the best possible way.
EE 40 Social Hour

During the fall semester, one of HKN’s candidates, Nathan Klejwa, single-handedly ran the weekly EE40 social hour. EE40 is Berkeley’s introductory class in microelectronic circuits. Each week, a professor from the EECS department was invited to give an informal presentation about his/her current research topics. Though held on Friday afternoons, the social hours were popular, as both the professors and many students attended them. They were an excellent way to converse with professors on many different matters, academic or not. And of course, everyone got free food.

Faculty Mixer

In an effort to bring EECS professors and students closer together, HKN hosts a faculty mixer every semester. Held during lunch hour, the mixers are immensely popular (100+ people came) among both professors and students. Free food is the magnet that draws the participants, but students soon find that professors are actually people as well. You never know — your professor may have interests outside of solid-state devices or algorithms!
Course Surveys

Course surveys are one of the services HKN provides for the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department and students at Berkeley. At the end of every semester, HKN visits each class offered by the EECS department and conducts the course surveys. After collecting all the forms, HKN sorts them and hands them over to the department to process. HKN receives the results from the department and posts them on the website, so students can decide which classes and professors they should avoid and so professors can find out what their strengths and weaknesses are. Course surveys are very important to everyone in the EECS community, and HKN is proud to hold the enviable position of conducting them.

GRE Review

Helping their peers, HKN held a GRE review for students considering grad school. A small panel of graduate students gave a short reviews about the classes that are important for the GRE. Students spent the afternoon discussing areas of importance with the panel and with each other. After a grueling five hours of study, HKN served food to congratulate everyone for a good day’s work.
Tutoring

One of the best services that HKN provides to the Berkeley EECS community is drop-in tutoring sessions. These sessions are held in HKN's offices in both the Computer Science and Electrical Engineering buildings. The HKN officer corps believes in helping everyone who wants to spend the time, so every officer spends two hours per week staffing the offices. Every weekday from 10am to 4pm, those officers provide tutoring for CS, EE, and even the odd Math or Physics class. Whenever a student needs help with the definition of static, or Fourier Transforms, or why #define doesn't work, HKN is always there with the answer.

Donut Runs

For students spending late nights working in the computer labs, HKN provides a special treat. On certain nights before big projects are due, HKN cleans out the local donut shop and provides free donuts for those students. The donuts provide much-needed energy for the students to finish up their projects.
Engineering Day (E-Day) and Engineering Week (E-Week) are annual events HKN participates in as a service to Berkeley students. E-Day happens during the Fall semester and is an invitation to newly admitted community college students to come to Berkeley and learn more about their majors. HKN attracted many students with a chance to win a slice of pie by bobbing for apples.

E-Week, held during the Spring semester, is an opportunity for all engineering societies to attract potential members. For E-Week, HKN hosted many activities, including ring toss, a barbeque, and even Dance Dance Revolution. Many engineering students disproved the belief that engineers can’t dance!
On Cal Day, Berkeley’s annual open house for the community, HKN set up its own table in the engineering part of campus. The main purpose of tabling was to provide information for newly admitted Berkeley EECS students and to convince them to come to Berkeley. The main attraction was “foil boat engineering” — a competition to build a boat out of aluminum foil that can hold the most pennies.

Many participated in this enjoyable event, and some boats were able to hold upwards of 50 pennies. Later that day, many HKN officers staffed the EECS Q&A panel, where new admits and their parents asked all sorts of questions, and the officers provided detailed responses.
The children are our future; with that thought in mind, HKN helped out by volunteering at the annual Eggster learning event. Dozens of Berkeley groups set up booths on Easter Day to teach kids about a huge selection of topics. From Rainbows and Bubbles to Fairy Tales, there was no shortage of things that interested youngsters could learn that day. HKN helped staff the Recycling and Hand Puppet booths. To the volunteers’ surprise, it turned out that most kids already knew about recycling and often were more anxious to help recycle than to make hand puppets. HKN finished the day with the knowledge that if this group of kids is representative of our future, the world will do just fine.
Each semester, HKN volunteers get into the down and dirty of it all by using their own two hands to help the Alameda County Food Bank sort and stock food. Upon arriving at the Food Bank’s warehouse this year, a simple fact dawned on their minds: the Food Bank has a lot of cans. Thousands of cans. And HKN was volunteering to sort them. But no job is too large for HKN, so the volunteers set forth in digging through the cans and placing them into boxes. It turned out to be a very humorous afternoon though, as dozens of interesting products showed up and were packaged. Cans with no other labels than “Pork”, or “Beef”, or even “Potted Meat” were found amongst the jumble. Luckily for the volunteers, most of the cans at the Food Bank had been sorted (perhaps over the previous few years?) and after only six hours the sorting ended (thanks to our correct choice of sorting algorithm), and HKN went home with a feeling of deep accomplishment.
Community

Trailhacking

One of Mu Chapter’s community service events, trailhacking, is quite a popular event amongst officers and candidates alike. The name ‘Trailhacking’ comes from the idea that if EECS majors can hack code, then they can most definitely hack dirt and shrubs. These events are more fun activities than anything else, since they let everyone to travel to the picturesque hills of the South San Francisco Bay Area, and channel all of their pent-up energy into physical activity that directly benefits the environment and community. During both semesters, HKN candidates and officers traveled to Palo Alto and created brand new sections of trail for everyone to enjoy.
Service

Berkeley Neighborhood Computing

HKN Mu Chapter enjoys putting its considerable computer expertise to work for the less fortunate. Berkeley Neighborhood Computing (BNC) is a non-profit organization that accepts computer donations, fixes them up, and delivers them to low income families. When HKN members arrived at BNC, they were greeted by the sight of hundreds of random computer parts. The volunteers spent the afternoon taking parts from dozens of computers to build working machines. At the end of the day, HKN had assembled and tested more than a dozen computers. As they went home for the day everyone felt tired but satisfied with a job well done.
Some people say that when opportunity knocks, make sure to open the door. Well, HKN’s opportunity came in the form of a Trilogy representative who said, “What can we do for you?” HKN’s response? “You could take us to a huge arcade.” And so they did. In October of 2000, Trilogy treated HKN to a night at Dave & Buster’s. Dave & Buster’s is a local arcade and bar that is touted as being large enough for adults. With pool tables, arcade games, and even a Battletech combat simulator, Dave & Buster’s definitely lived up to its reputation. Following dinner and a short Trilogy infosession talk, HKN was unleashed upon the unsuspecting arcade. HKN members showed off their virtual driving, shooting, and even dancing skills in a party that lasted all night long (or until 10:30pm, whichever is earlier).
Mamma Mia

In an attempt to give HKN members a taste of “culture,” HKN planned a trip to San Francisco to see “Mamma Mia”. “Mamma Mia” is a musical that exclusively uses the songs of the musical group ABBA. Members dusted off their formal shoes, put on their best clothes, and traveled by BART to the Orpheum theater. Inside, HKN members were treated to an event with laughter, tears, drama, and a happy ending. Everyone agreed that it was a worthwhile event before going home to sit in front of computers and circuit boards once again. In the following week, the occurrence of people playing or singing ABBA songs in the HKN offices hit an all-time high.
The biggest event of the spring 2001 semester was the HKN trip to watch the U2 Elevation Tour concert on April 19th. Planning for the event began at the beginning of the semester. Early in the morning after the officer retreat in Aptos, a group of officers headed back to Berkeley and the Soda computer lab to try to buy tickets through ticketmaster.com. Thanks to the proceeds from the jobfair and work of these officers, 50 tickets were obtained. On the evening of the 19th, the large group of officers, candidates, members, and alumni took a chartered bus down to San Jose Arena to watch the show. The HKNers rocked out as U2 played hits from their latest album and many classic fan favorites. Everyone had a good time hanging out and listening to good music.
Hockey Night - Minnesota Wild vs San Jose Sharks

As the final big event of the Fall 2000 semester, HKN invited all of its members to an NHL game between the San Jose Sharks and the Minnesota Wild. The trip was long (over one-and-a-half hours each way on a charter bus) but well worth it. Though the visiting Wild scored the first goal, the Sharks came back and vanquished the lesser team. The Sharks gave the home crowd a dazzling performance, winning by the score of 4-1. Thirty-five HKN members went home very happy that night.
A “mandatory” event, semesterly officer retreats bring all officers, past and present, together for a weekend of unadulterated fun. These retreats promote unity and allow the HKN officer corps to form a very cohesive group. New officers quickly feel at home as they become fast friends with the other officers. For the Fall 2000 semester, the Mu chapter went to Lake Tahoe for a weekend. Despite the unfavorable weather, the officers had a blast, as HKN did many fun activities together, such as hiking, playing heated games of Mafia, and soaking in the traditional hottub. The following semester, the officers stayed at Aptos, a town not too far from the coastal city of Santa Cruz. Some officers visited the world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium, while others decided to spend time on the beach. And true to the major, some creative officers even created a computer from sand—you can take the EECS major away from the computer, but you can’t take the computer away from the EECS major.
Every semester, HKN Mu Chapter holds an Alumni Appreciation Dinner where HKN alumni are invited to have dinner with current officers at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Jack London Square. The dinner is a chance for old members to keep in touch with HKN and share their experience and wisdom from industry and academia. The guests introduced themselves one by one, each recollecting their funniest moment in HKN. In Spring 2001, after a great Italian dinner, HKN members and alumni were all treated to a rousing speech by former president Danny Tom. Traditionally, at the end of each dinner, the bill is gathered and everyone makes a guess at what the total is. At both the Fall and Spring semester dinners, Shankar Rao came the closest to the estimation, proving that he is a man who truly knows the price of dinner.
Tilden Park is the setting for the HKN Picnic, where members and candidates go to mingle and enjoy some fresh air. Taking a break from classes and projects, the HKNers enjoy a fine barbecue and a game of ultimate frisbee. In order to satisfy the Vegetarian faction, the officers cooked up veggie burgers along with hamburgers and hot dogs for everyone to eat. During the Spring 2001 picnic, candidates and members were introduced to the Chinese Diabolo by Phoebus Chen. The group also witnessed the martial arts skills of Francis Hsu and Lea Kissner in a sparring contest. Finally, the muddy field caused the traditional officer vs. candidate ultimate game to be played in the parking lot area. Both semesters the candidates' team, led by the Vice President, stunned and defeated the officers' team.
Potluck

The semi-annual Potluck was held at the Emerybay Apartments both semesters this year. It gave the officers a chance to be chefs and candidates a chance to be tasters (victims). Each officer brought a dish of their choice, and everyone had fun eating a mixed variety of foods. The provided entertainment consisted of pool tables, board games, and a game of Mafia that officers and candidates participated in. The Chinese Diabolo made a reappearance with Phoebus Chen getting disciples interested in learning the art.
It was another glorious year for HKN broomball as HKN defeated all comers and won the annual EJC broomball tournament in spring 2001. Broomball is a game of skill, balance, and teamwork in which any number of players are put on the ice in their sneakers to try to outscore their opponent. HKN’s greatest challenge came in the championship game, where despite having less than favorable ice conditions and being outnumbered they pulled out a 1-1 tie. Due to their undefeated record throughout the entire tournament, HKN claimed the title of EJC broomball champions. There was one HKN defeat however, but simply because it was HKN versus HKN in the alumni broomball game. The combined team of alumni and candidates defeated the team of current members 5-3.
HKN Broomball Scores:

vs EJC (6-3)
vs HKN alumni (3-5)
vs ASME, PTS, EMBS (17-0)
vs PMHS (9-1)
vs UPE (4-1)
vs TBP (19-5)
vs ASME, PTS, EMBS (1-1)
Bowling

HKN bowlers showed off their skills in the semi-annual HKN bowling night at Albany Bowl. Candidates, officers, and members were divided into two teams that competed against each other. The night also included a competition for the best strike pose/dance, which was won by Nick Zamora.

Golf and Arcade Night

HKN Mu Chapter members and candidates teed off at the Golden Tee Golfland for a round of minigolf in groups of three to four. Even with their expert knowledge of physics, most HKNers were over par. Armed with a bucket of quarters, they then played such HKN favorites as Time Crisis, DDR, and air hockey.
Laser Tag

One of the Mu Chapter’s favorite activities is to invite a group of candidates out... and shoot them. Every semester, HKN members participate in a friendly game of Q-Zar, where everyone gets a chance to see what it would be like to be a Green Beret. Ducking, sneaking, and sniping fellow members is a great way to relieve stress. Laser Tag is an activity that both couch potatoes and sports stars can participate in.
If there’s one thing that gets (most) EECS majors down, it’s the male to female ratio that we get in EECS classes. In an attempt to remedy these blues, Eta Kappa Nu and the Society of Women Engineers teamed up to throw a couple of fun events! The first event was held at the Oakland Ice Skating Rink; where for once, HKN actually went ice skating. Guys and girls chased each other in circles on the very same ice that HKN uses for broomball. About half of the crowd made it their goal of the night to simply not fall down; while the other half decided that if they managed to move forward they would be satisfied. However, as in any event, some people simply have a gift for the activity (gift defined as 5 years of lessons). These people darted through the crowd and flew through the air, causing everyone else to fail their goal of not falling down. Though the skating ended after a few short hours, HKN and SWE vowed to plan another shared event.
In March 2001, the vow was completed when HKN held a Karaoke event with SWE. Traveling to the local Asian mall, fifteen people got the chance of their lives — a chance to sing in a place where “bad” is definitely relative. Holding nothing back, members broke into off-tune, off-beat, slightly wa-vering versions of old favorites like “Brown Eyed Girl” and “Celebrate,” and newer Britney Spears and ‘N Sync songs. Everyone ended the night with a bit of a sore throat, but all agreed that it had been worth it.
Everybody loves free ice cream, and the HKN ice cream socials always draw a big group. Officers, members, and candidates head to Ben & Jerry’s to hang out and enjoy some ice cream. With large turnouts by members, officers, and candidates, the HKN mob has been known to overwhelm the local Ben & Jerry’s.
Pregame Tailgate BBQs

A new series of events, tailgate barbeques were held before every home Cal football game. The Mu chapter bought enormous amounts of food and fed its hungry members who were rooting for the Golden Bears. These events were popular and served as a great social gathering and meeting place so that HKN members could watch the game as a big group. Despite the fact that Cal finished dead last in the PAC-10, all of our members had fun at the BBQs, and hopefully HKN can continue this as a tradition for years to come.

EJC Mini-Olympics

On a beautiful sunny day in April, the Engineering Joint Council hosted its annual Mini-Olympics. A competition for the most athletic students in Berkeley’s College of Engineering, the Mini-Olympics is a great way for students to get out for an afternoon and play the sports they love. This year, events included ultimate frisbee, soccer, basketball, volleyball, and tennis. Because HKN is such a dominating force in the EJC, the Mu Chapter even lent some of its players to the other team. Nevertheless, HKN still captured many team gold medals and many more individual medals.
Movie Night

Even HKN members can’t turn away from a good movie. Sometimes HKN officers, candidates and members gathered in Wheeler hall to watch the campus screening of a movie. At other times, the movie was shown on the big screen in Soda Hall. In the Fall, the showings included the quirky comedy ‘Office Space,’ and in the Spring HKN watched the inspiring football saga ‘Remember the Titans’.

Night in San Francisco

At the end of the Spring semester, the Mu chapter invited its members and candidates to a night out in “the City,” Berkeley’s nickname for San Francisco. This special night out was highlighted by a performance at the Punchline Comedy Club. The participants enjoyed an evening of laughter, merriment, and food. It was a popular event and will be long remembered by those that went.
Credits

Fall 2001 Bridge Officers

Roger Tan
Alex Lam

Jen Hsu
Devesh Parekh

Spring 2001 Bridge Officers

Shankar Rao
Gagan Prakash
Alex Lam