



Charlie Cox
Tau Beta Pi & "That Guy"

Charlie Cox was inducted into Tau Beta Pi on December 11, 2016. Tau Beta Pi is the oldest engineering honor society in the United States and the second oldest collegiate honor society in America. It honors engineering students who have shown a history of academic achievement as well as a commitment to personal and professional integrity. Charlie was surprised to find he was even being considered! He said that he was "dumbfounded" because he has never been "that guy".

In January of 2015, Charlie decided to return to The Citadel to complete his BS in Civil Engineering. "It was a basic case of unfinished business", he said.

Charlie credits many, many people along the way with helping him in this achievement. In particular were his parents and children and several dedicated classmates. He continues, "I am without doubt most grateful to Bill Issler. When I mentioned it to him he said that what was good for me was good for our organization and then earnestly asked how he could help, that cast the die, and I set out to finish this chapter."

Charlie was surprised to find that he was a much better student now than he had been at 18. His first semester he pulled a 4.0 and has maintained that ever since. Turns out Charlie is "that guy". "That guy" who 25 years after pausing his education, came back, maintained a 4.0 and was nominated to membership in Tau Beta Pi, the oldest engineering honor society in the United States!

When Charlie was asked what advice he would give others, he said, "Do what you can, where you can, with what you have to improve the lives of those around you."

Tau Beta Pi is the only engineering honor society representing the entire engineering profession. It is the nation's second-oldest honor society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885 to mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their Alma Mater by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character as students in engineering, or by their attainments as alumni in the field of engineering, and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in engineering colleges.

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