



Beta Beta Beta Biological Society

Chapter Activities Ideas

TRIBETA CHAPTER AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

Beta Beta Beta defines itself as a professional and biological honor society for undergraduates; thus, a major reason for its existence is to recognize those undergraduates who excel academically and in doing so, promote excellence in the biological sciences. If we did nothing else, TriBeta would be a valuable member of the academic community; however, Beta Beta Beta also urges its members to extend their knowledge by undertaking scientific research and publishing the results. Finally, each TriBeta chapter or club is an association of biologists and student biologists working together which helps make them competent academicians, professional scientists and often friends. The range of these activities is truly amazing, and because we are part of a larger community, many of the activities are directed toward that larger community. Below is a list of activities which have been successful on many campuses - keep in mind that each campus is different and what works for another may not work for you. Perhaps you can use some of these ideas as a springboard for activities within your own chapter or club.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR TRI-BETA MEMBERS

1. Sponsoring guest lecture series or debates on topics of concern for the Biology students and/or the general community.
2. Arranging for alumni to speak on their respective vocations.
3. Conducting tutorial sessions for various biology and chemistry classes.
4. Arranging field trips to local places of interest.
5. Sponsoring awards in Biology either within the chapter or club or at the community level.
6. Providing thumbnail sketches of the instructors, their research, and their classes for prospective biology majors.
7. Collecting and updating information on graduate schools and professional programs.
8. Encouraging attendance by members at professional meetings.
9. Collecting and maintaining information about summer work and internship programs in biology.
10. Showing films and videos of interest to members.
11. Selecting a current topic of interest for discussion throughout the year and arranging for speakers.
12. Having a Bio-lunch with faculty once a week and featuring short talks or films.
13. Hosting a Science Bowl either at the high school level or among close-by chapters.
14. Preparing an annual report on the chapter's or club's activities for their archives. (Be sure to send a copy to the national office.)
15. Maintaining a TriBeta lounge/office as a place for students to meet and relax.
16. Arranging mock profession and graduate school interviews.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY

1. Maintaining and displaying biological and botanical collections, greenhouses, department museums, etc.
2. Sponsoring and judging high school science fairs and/or science demonstrations.
3. Sponsoring open houses for high school students.
4. Teaching or sponsoring CPR classes and other medical/health related techniques.
5. Acting as guides to museums, zoos, hospitals, etc. for community groups.
6. Sponsoring public lectures.
7. Tutoring in grade school or high school.
8. Participating in the Audubon Christmas bird count.
9. Distributing extra or unused copies of BIOS to local schools.
10. Assisting in class field trips at local grade or high schools.
11. Giving environmental talks at local grade or high schools.
12. Serving coffee and doughnuts in TriBeta lounge during evenings of exam week.
13. Sponsoring "art" contests for elementary students regarding animal awareness or environmental issues.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

1. Aiding or running blood pressure clinics or blood mobile drives.
2. Constructing and maintaining nature trails, wildlife refuges, bird boxes, etc.
3. Encouraging recycling and/or running recycling programs.
4. Maintaining bulletin boards used for announcing forthcoming speakers and programs.
5. Planting trees and maintaining community gardens and plots.
6. Running food, toy, and clothing drives.
7. Participating in the Adopt-A-Highway program.
8. Assisting at scientific meetings.
9. Volunteering at local hospitals and nursing homes.
10. Serving as representatives in planning college functions such as homecomings, alumni weekends, parents' weekends, etc.
11. Having "getting to know you" parties for freshman.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

This list can be endless so I will just mention some of the more creative ideas which I have gleaned from chapter reports.

1. Birthday bash for a famous biologist with a "This is your life" skit.
2. Adopt-A-Freshman party.
3. Halloween "Come as your favorite animal or plant party" or Haunted Lab party.