

October 14, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Pat McDaniel
865/546-4578

Tau Beta Pi Leaders Attend 100TH Convention

Salt Lake City, Utah, was the site of the 100th annual Convention of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society. Utah Alpha, Beta, and Gamma, the collegiate chapters at the University of Utah, Brigham Young University, and Utah State University respectively, hosted the event. Nearly 360 engineering students from 213 collegiate chapters received leadership and management training and then practiced their skills in conducting the business of the Convention, held this year on October 6-8. More than 480 members of Tau Beta Pi were on hand for this gathering of talented engineers.

The growth of the Association is a testament to the steady and enthusiastic 120-year involvement of students in the world's largest engineering society. National awards to outstanding members and chapters were presented.

Distinguished member Stephen D. Bechtel Jr., P.E., *Indiana Alpha '46*, Chairman Emeritus and a director of Bechtel Group, Inc., delivered the keynote address at the Welcoming Banquet.

Dr. H. Vincent Poor, *Alabama Alpha '72*, George Van Ness Lothrop Professor in Engineering at Princeton University's department of electrical engineering, was recognized as Tau Beta Pi's 2005 Distinguished Alumnus.

The R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award for 2004-05, the top honor to a campus group, went to Vermont Beta at Norwich University, with honorable mention to Ohio Iota at Ohio Northern University and New York Nu at SUNY at Buffalo.

The R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award for 2004-05 was presented to Alabama Epsilon at the University of South Alabama, with honorable mention to Florida Gamma at the University of South Florida. Both the Matthews and Nagel awards are named for former secretary-treasurers of the Association.

Dr. Sally J. Steadman, *Wyoming Alpha '69*, chief advisor to the Alabama Epsilon Chapter and instructor in the University of South Alabama's college of engineering, was recognized as Tau Beta Pi's 2005 National Outstanding Advisor.

(more)

The Laureate program recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding expertise outside the field of engineering. Clara C. Shih, *California Gamma '05*, selected for her diverse achievements, was honored as the Association's 2005 Laureate, receiving a \$2,500 cash award and a commemorative plaque.

Eighteen scholarships of \$500 (totaling \$9,000) were presented for sustained excellent performance in project activities to the following chapters: California Alpha (University of California, Berkeley); California Psi (University of California, San Diego), District of Columbia Alpha (Howard University); Florida Alpha (University of Florida); Iowa Alpha (Iowa State University); Maryland Beta (University of Maryland); Michigan Gamma (University of Michigan); Michigan Epsilon

