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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tau Beta Pi Leaders Attend 102nd Convention

Dearborn, Michigan, was the site of the 102nd annual Convention of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society. The members of Michigan Iota, the collegiate chapter at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, hosted the event. Three hundred seventy-six engineering students from 226 collegiate chapters received leadership and management training and then practiced their skills in conducting the business of the Convention, held this year on October 11-13. There were 530 members of Tau Beta Pi on hand for this gathering of talented engineers.

The growth of the Association is a testament to the steady and enthusiastic 122-year involvement of students in the world's largest engineering society. National awards to outstanding members and chapters were presented.

At the welcoming banquet, **Robert Chalker**, Society of Automotive Engineers director of global sales and marketing, gave a presentation about the importance of supporting the nation's K-12 science, technology, engineering, and math programs and encouraged students to volunteer and to assume mentorship roles.

Dr. Robert H. Foglesong, West Virginia Alpha '68, president of Mississippi State University, was recognized as Tau Beta Pi's 2007 Distinguished Alumnus. A \$2,000 scholarship in his name will be awarded to a Tau Beta Pi student member for the 2008-09 academic year.

The R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award for 2006-07, the top honor to a campus group, went to California Psi at the University of California, San Diego.

The R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award for 2006-07 was presented to New York Tau at Binghamton University. Both the Matthews and Nagel awards are named for former Secretary-Treasurers of the Association.

Dr. Thomas E. Wade, Florida Alpha '67, Chief Advisor to the Florida Gamma Chapter and professor in the department of electrical engineering at the University of South Florida, was recognized as Tau Beta Pi's 2007 National Outstanding Advisor. Dr. Wade received a cash award of \$1,000 and a grant in the same amount was presented to the dean of the college of engineering at the University of South Florida for his discretionary fund.

Established in 2005, the Tau Beta Pi-McDonald Mentor Award celebrates excellence in mentoring and advising among Tau Beta Pi educators and engineers. **Dr. Thomas C. Sheahan, P.E., New York Mu '81**, professor in the department of civil and environmental engineering at Northeastern University, was named the 2007 Tau Beta Pi-McDonald Mentor, receiving \$1,000 and an engraved medallion. Another \$1,000 grant has been presented to the Massachusetts Epsilon Chapter of Tau Beta Pi at Northeastern.

The Laureate Program recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding expertise outside the field of engineering. **Robert Andrew Shelley, Missouri Beta '07**, lauded for excellence in athletics as a competitive swimmer, was honored as the Association's 2007 Laureate, receiving a \$2,500 cash award and a commemorative plaque.

