

THE
Bulletin
OF Tau Beta Pi

December 2008

**A Publication
for the Collegiate
Chapters**

103rd Convention is Capital!

THE 103rd Convention of Tau Beta Pi was held October 23-25, 2008, in Sacramento. The California Lambda (UC, Davis) and Upsilon (CSUS) Chapters were official co-hosts of the fifth national meeting held in the state. The hundreds of out-of-town attendees were housed in the Hyatt Regency Sacramento, where four business meetings were held and four meals were served.

A total of 508 members of Tau Beta Pi participated in the business of the Convention, the second-highest total

ever. Of these, 346 were student voting and non-voting delegates and host-chapter members; 68 were advisors; 72 were national officials, Convention leaders, and Engineering Futures Facilitators; seven were alumnus chapter delegates; and 15 were alumnus visitors. The attendees represented 219 collegiate and seven alumnus chapters. Chapter advisors attended at the special invitation and partial expense of the national organization. In addition, at least 105 non-member consultants and guests attended some events.

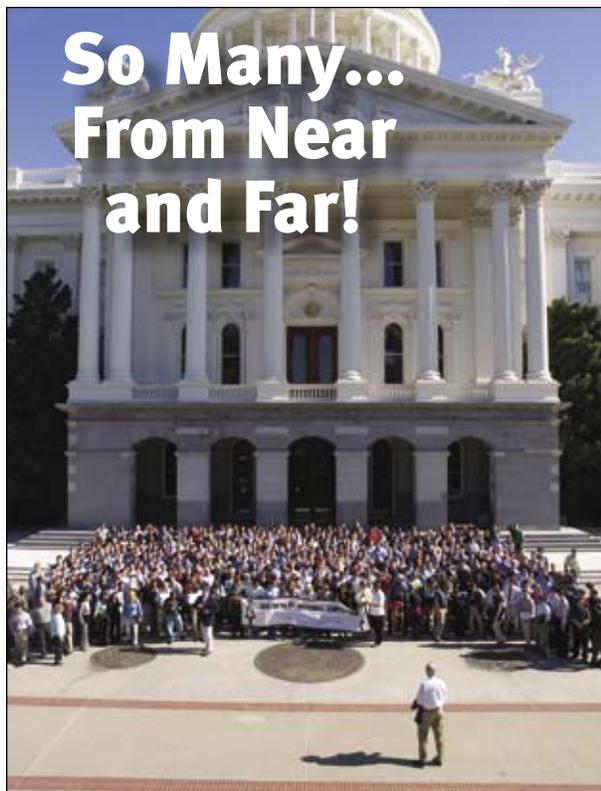
Arrangements Chair **Christine E. Holl, CA A '09**, guided preparations for the Convention and its extensive logistics. She and President **Ryan J. Puryear, CA Y '08**, managed such duties as technology, hospitality, publicity, transportation, souvenirs, and campus tours.

The three days were filled with business, committee, District and Engineering Futures meetings, Interactive Chapter Exchanges (ICE), and the model initiation.

Early on Thursday, a wildly successful Recruiting Fair was held with representatives from sponsoring companies and the graduate schools of engineering listed on page 3.



Delegates share solutions to common chapter problems.



**So Many...
From Near
and Far!**

*Executive Director **Jim Froula, TN A '67**, looks on as Convention attendees gather for a photo at the California Capitol.*

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ISSUE AVAILABLE AT WWW.TBP.ORG

The Convention formally opened Thursday afternoon when President Larry A. Simonson presented his annual report.

The Chapter Development Program of the Convention, including the District and Engineering Futures meetings and ICE seminars, is reported on page 7 in this issue. These informal sessions are extremely valuable benefits of the Convention, providing delegates the opportunity to exchange good ideas with other Tau Bates from all regions of the country. On Saturday afternoon, a model initiation was conducted by a team of national officers and Rituals Committee members.

In all, four Convention business meetings were held; Ronald M. Hickling, *CA E '80*, the Executive Council-appointed permanent chair, presided and was assisted by Dr. John R. Luchini, *MI I '71*, the Council-appointed parliamentarian.

The Saturday Initiation and Awards Banquet in the Regency Ballroom of the hotel brought the Convention to a festive conclusion, and the Resolutions Committee presented its final report.

The program included the presentation of Tau Beta Pi's 2008 national awards. Biographical sketches of Outstanding Advisor **Richard B. Hayter**, Ph.D., P.E., *SD B '65*; Distinguished Alumni **Stephen D. Bechtel Jr.**, P.E., *IN A '46*, and **Dr. Warren G. Schlinger**, *CA B '44*; McDonald Mentor **Steven M. Cramer**, Ph.D., P.E., *WI A '79*; and Laureates **Mitchell P. Braegelmann**, *ND B '08*; **Austin D. Cooley**, *FL A '08*; **Eli Krahenbuhl**, *WY A '09*; **James G. Moxness II**, *AZ A '08*; and **Melanie R. Vedvei**, *SD A '08*, appeared in the Fall 2008 and Winter 2009 issues of THE BENT.

In Tau Beta Pi's usual method, Convention business is handled by committees, except for those few items that emerge during the meetings as new business. Seven standing committees are called for by the Constitution, and two *ad hoc* groups were also appointed. Alumnus chapter delegates also met informally.

Every collegiate-chapter voting delegate served on a committee, and a national officer advisor opened each group's initial meeting on Thursday afternoon and then stood with other national officials for consultation. Each standing committee selected fellow students as chair, vice chair, and secretary to present reports, recommendations, and proposals to the entire Convention. The following reports summarize formal business.

Petitions

There were no petitions submitted by the deadline, and this standing committee did not meet.

Constitution and Bylaws

Christopher L. Schauman, MI I, Chair. Only one topic had been referred to



CHRISTOPHER SCHAUMAN

the committee prior to the meeting for study and recommendations. The Convention debated a proposed change to Constitution VIII, Sec. 2(a), to limit the eligibility of students in bachelor of arts engineering programs, but eventually referred the issue to the 2009 Convention.

Curriculum Review (*ad hoc*)

William P. Cleveland, MS A, Chair.

The committee diligently reviewed



WILLIAM CLEVELAND

two appeals to include non-ABET/EAC curricula as eligible programs. The Convention debated extensively and granted both appeals to

Indiana Alpha and Ohio Mu.

Chapter/Association Financial Affairs

Brendon J. Burley, PA B, Chair.

The group had been given the 2007-08 reports of the Association's auditor and Executive Director and the Society's budget for 2008-09. The committee reviewed the documents and concluded that Tau Beta Pi's financial health is in good order.

The committee recommended, and the Convention adopted, specific allowable Convention expenses beyond those specified in the Bylaws for delegates to the 2009 meeting. The group worked with chapters to resolve debts and also made recommendations for the Alumnus Giving Program.

Award

Charles J. Collins, KS B, Chair.

The committee spent long hours evaluating the chapters and selecting the 2007-08 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter and R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapters. The winners are reported on page 5 in this issue, and special plaques for the awardees were delivered to them after the Convention.

Rituals

Lauren H. Logan, OH Δ, Chair.

After a discussion about the intended



LAUREN LOGAN

meaning of several words in the Ritual, the Convention added historical context and definitions to the *President's Book*. On Saturday,

delegates were favorably impressed by the model initiation that the com-



District 15 delegates and Convention hosts in Sacramento.

PHOTO CREDITS: All Convention photographs in this issue were made by Raymond H. Thompson, TBII Systems Administrator.



Charles Rampton, Raytheon university programs manager, meets a potential colleague during the Recruiting Fair, which preceded the opening of the Convention. Corporate recruiters were keen to discuss possible jobs and internships with Tau Bates.

mittee helped to organize for eight students and one alumnus of California Lambda and 10 students, one alumnus, and one eminent engineer of California Upsilon.

Convention Site

Nicholas A. Such, KY A, Chair.
This group reviewed the preliminary plans for the 2010 Convention in Valley Forge, PA, during the Quasiquincentennial (125th) Anniversary of Tau Beta Pi and refined the suggestions. A late invitation by the Indiana chapters to host the 2011 Convention in Indianapolis was referred to the Executive Council, and other chapters were also encouraged to submit bids by November 21. These bids were reviewed on December 6 by the Executive Council, and the accepted bid will be announced on the website.

Chapter Advisors (*ad hoc*)

Dr. Sally J. Steadman, AL E Advisor, Chair.
The advisors reported that the Executive Council in June 2007 had chartered the Advisor Recruitment and Development Committee, which conducted workshops and training sessions in Sacramento for 68 advisors on the topics of online resources, FAQs, and TBPCONNECT and recommended that the *ad hoc* committee be extended through 2009.

Resolutions

Robert J. Thiemann, OH B, Chair.
This group prepared and presented



ROBERT THIEMANN

the money dance at the Friday dinner and a delightful skit about "I am an engineer!" at the Saturday morning business meeting. During the final banquet, Mr. Thiemann presented resolutions of thanks to the host chapter, officials, sponsors, alumni, and others whose support had been gratefully received by Tau Beta Pi.

TBPI Member Discounts

Members of Tau Beta Pi may be eligible for an additional discount off their automobile insurance through a new partnership with GEICO.

This special member discount is eight percent in most states and is available to qualified members in 45 states and the District of Columbia. To take advantage of the discount, visit www.tbp.org/pages/ForMembers and select the GEICO link under "Member Benefits."

Take a Bow, Convention Donors!

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Convention

\$9,500 in Scholarships

NINETEEN CHAPTERS, each of which had won Chapter Project Awards for three consecutive years, won \$500 scholarships.

CHAPTER	INSTITUTION	DELEGATE
Alabama Epsilon	University of South Alabama	Timothy B. Gentry
California Alpha	University of California, Berkeley	S. Christina Sedighi
California Psi	University of California, San Diego	Brandon M. Reynante
District of Col. Alpha	Howard University	Uchechukwuka D. Monu
Florida Alpha	University of Florida	Richard L. Winslow
Florida Gamma	University of South Florida	Robert J. Shields III
Illinois Alpha	University of Illinois at U.-C.	Matthew W. Trower
Indiana Delta	Valparaiso University	Kimberly M. Sajevic
Maryland Beta	University of Maryland	Vivek A. Kuppusamy
Michigan Gamma	University of Michigan	Robert K. Rhein
Michigan Epsilon	Wayne State University	Justin M. Filipp
Michigan Theta	Oakland University	Brian E. Shaw
Michigan Iota	University of Michigan–Dearborn	Christopher L. Schauman
New Mexico Gamma	New Mexico Inst. of Mining & Tech.	Matthew N. Rush
Ohio Beta	University of Cincinnati	Robert J. Thiemann
Ohio Iota	Ohio Northern University	John M. Weeman
Pennsylvania Beta	Pennsylvania State University	Brendon J. Burley
Vermont Beta	Norwich University	Caleb B. Heller
Wyoming Alpha	University of Wyoming	Jason M. Shankle

78 Chapters Commended

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jim Froula presented commendations to these chapters for punctual Headquarters reports in 2007-08:

Alabama Alpha	Indiana Delta	Ohio Delta
Alabama Epsilon	Indiana Epsilon	Ohio Eta
Arizona Alpha	Iowa Alpha	Ohio Iota
Arkansas Alpha	Kansas Alpha	Ohio Mu
California Alpha	Kansas Gamma	Ohio Nu
California Epsilon	Louisiana Beta	Oregon Alpha
California Sigma	Maryland Beta	Oregon Beta
California Upsilon	Michigan Gamma	Oregon Gamma
California Omega	Michigan Delta	Pennsylvania Beta
California Alpha Alpha	Michigan Epsilon	Pennsylvania Eta
California Alpha Gamma	Michigan Theta	Pennsylvania Iota
Colorado Alpha	Michigan Iota	South Carolina Alpha
Colorado Beta	Michigan Kappa	South Carolina Beta
Colorado Delta	Montana Beta	South Dakota Alpha
Colorado Zeta	New Hampshire Alpha	South Dakota Beta
Connecticut Beta	New Hampshire Beta	Tennessee Beta
Connecticut Gamma	New Jersey Alpha	Texas Alpha
DC Alpha	New Mexico Gamma	Utah Beta
DC Beta	New York Beta	Utah Gamma
Florida Alpha	New York Omicron	Vermont Alpha
Florida Gamma	New York Rho	Vermont Beta
Idaho Beta	New York Tau	Washington Beta
Illinois Beta	North Carolina Alpha	Washington Delta
Illinois Zeta	North Dakota Alpha	Wisconsin Beta
Indiana Alpha	North Dakota Beta	Wisconsin Epsilon
Indiana Gamma	Ohio Beta	Wyoming Alpha

Nominate 2010-14 EC

SLATES OF CANDIDATES for the next Executive Council of TBPi should be submitted by April 1, 2009. Voting will take place at the 2009 Convention in New Brunswick, NJ, and the successful slate will take office at the 2010 Convention in Valley Forge, PA, and serve through the 2014 Convention.

Tau Beta Pi's Constitution and Bylaws, particularly Const. Art. III, Sec. 3, 4, and 5, delineate the nominating procedures and the Council's responsibilities.

A slate of five alumnus candidates for the Council may be nominated by any chapter or group of chapters. Among them, the nominees should be from different branches of the profession and should have experience in a variety of functions—management, finance, teaching, business, or research. Candidates must agree to serve if elected, but need not reside in the same geographic area.

Nominations of a slate must be sent to Headquarters for publication to the chapters. If fewer than two slates are nominated by the deadline, additional slates may be nominated at the 2009 Convention; but, if two or more slates are nominated by April 1, nominations will then be closed.

The Association will provide on-site expenses, plus prorated travel expenses up to \$5,000 total, for all slates combined.

'09 Spring Conferences

THE DISTRICT PROGRAM provides a vital link between the national organization and individual chapters. Each year the Directors gather students for regional conferences to provide both retiring and new officers opportunities to discuss chapter operations and to socialize. All chapters are urged to elect new officers before their District conference. New and outgoing officers are encouraged to attend.

DISTRICT	LOCATION	DATE
1	Boston, MA	Feb. 20-21
2	New Brunswick, NJ	Feb. 21-22
3	Lewisburg, PA	Feb. 27-28
4	Morgantown, WV	Apr. 4
5	Atlanta, GA	Mar. 28-29
6	Auburn, AL	Feb. 6-8
7	Detroit, MI	Apr. 4
8	Angola, IN	Apr. 4
9	Wichita, KS	Mar. 6-7
10	New Orleans, LA	Feb. 28
11	Minneapolis, MN	Apr. 3-4
12	Boulder, CO	Feb. 27-28
13	Flagstaff, AZ	Apr. 18-19
14	Portland, OR	Apr. 4
15	Santa Cruz, CA	Apr. 17-18
16	San Diego, CA	April 18

Convention

Outstanding Chapter: Florida Gamma

Florida Gamma at the University of South Florida was named the R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter for 2007-08.

The Award Committee believed Florida Gamma best demonstrated the goals and values of TBPi over the year with outstanding efforts in community service and university extracurricular activities that benefited their community, institution, and members.

The chapter accumulated an impressive 5,000 man-hours of projects. Some of the most notable were work on the K-12 Program, including a hands-on science magic show at a South Florida elementary school, a personal energy transportation drive and a breast cancer three-day walk. They also organized the collection of canned food as “trick or treat.”

Florida Gamma members who presided during the award-winning period were President Adam D. Roetter, Vice President Peter J. Schrock, and Treasurer Teresa M. Lucardie. Chief Advisor was Dr. Thomas E. Wade.

Honorable mentions went to **California Alpha** at the University of California, Berkeley, and **Texas Alpha** at the University of Texas at Austin.



From right, Robert J. Shields III, President of Florida Gamma, Advisor Monica J. Escobar and Alain D. Malaguti accept the Outstanding Chapter Award from Charles J. Collins, Kansas Beta.

Most Improved Chapter: Pennsylvania Iota

The R.H. Nagel Most Improved Chapter Award was established in 1971 to recognize major improvement in chapter development, including project work and reports to Headquarters.

The 2007-08 recipient is **Pennsylvania Iota** at Widener University, which showed substantial improvements in the quality and variety of chapter projects in relation to the size of the chapter, particularly in the area of community service.

The Award Committee was even more impressed by the continuity and commitment involved in ongoing projects, in addition to their improved quality and promptness. Projects included taking part in a women in engineering day for sophomore high-school girls and an “Odyssey of the Mind” for 2nd and 3rd graders. Tau Bates set a structure project for the elementary students but were not allowed to tell them what to do. They did use tools like a statics book to explain the ideas involved.

Members who presided last year are President Caitlin E. Feeser, who was also Corresponding Secretary and Cataloger, Vice President Jason C. Maskinas, and Treasurer Jennifer L. Nuggent.

Honorable mention went to **Texas Alpha** at the University of Texas at Austin.



From right, Pennsylvania Iota President Joseph A. Schneider and Jeremy E. Pampuch are congratulated by Award Committee Vice Chair Brady N. Wiesner, SD Alpha.

Convention

33 Chapter Project Awards

At the Sacramento Convention, Executive Director Jim Froula presented Chapter Project Awards for outstanding performance during 2007-08 to the following 33 chapters:

Roy Thompson, TBIT

CHAPTER / INSTITUTION	NO. PROJECTS	CHAPTER / INSTITUTION	NO. PROJECTS
AL E University of South Alabama • Helped GEMS (Girls exploring Math & Science) • Provided review classes for FE exam	29	MN A University of Minnesota–Twin Cities • Assisted building maintenance in aliveness project • Prepared science and engineering toys for kids	17
CA A University of California, Berkeley • Held several blood drives • Participated in engineering for kids day	39	NJ A Stevens Institute of Technology • Presented science lessons at Boys and Girls club • Professors took Tau Beta “Pie” in the face for cash	16
CA Ψ University of California, San Diego • Helped blaze a trail in River Park, San Diego • Taught interactive lessons to fifth grade students	57	NM Γ New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology • Held Science Olympiad • Kept their adopted highway clean	14
DC A Howard University • Helped with Fannie Mae walk for the homeless • Volunteered at local YMCA	11	NY Δ Cornell University • Went “Into the Streets” to help clean & fixup Ithaca • Assisted with Ithaca apple harvest festival	24
FL A University of Florida • Conducted K-12 GatorTRAX project • Helped in pet adoptathon	54	NY T Binghamton University • Volunteered at Salvation Army soup kitchen • Judged K-8 students at invention convention	22
FL Γ University of South Florida • Held K-12 hands-on science magic show • Collected canned food as “trick or treat”	39	ND A North Dakota State University • Rang bells for Salvation Army • Assisted at Bison BEST robotics competition	11
IL A University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign • Tutored fellow students • Held a scholastic bowl tournament	28	OH B University of Cincinnati • Tutored fellow students • Helped grading at JETS competition	14
IN B Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology • Tutored high-school students • Helped beautify their campus	23	OH I Ohio Northern University • Held high-school quiz bowl • Adopted a child for Christmas	26
IN Δ Valparaiso University • Hosted engineers day banquet • Held engineering Olympics	14	OR Γ University of Portland • Mentored freshmen • Conducted K-12 outreach to local middle school	12
IA A Iowa State University • Held roller coaster and catapult contest • Constructed mythbusters display for VEISHA	46	PA B Pennsylvania State University • Helped children have fun on Halloween • Adopted a highway	19
LA Γ Louisiana Tech University • Helped paint Bogard Hall • Assembled a playground	15	PR A University of Puerto Rico • Went trick or treating for UNICEF • Helped recycling on campus	33
MDB University of Maryland at College Park • Held KEYS for empowering-youth project for girls • Went on relief trip to New Orleans area	26	SC A Clemson University • Worked on house for Habitat for Humanity • Helped “Solid Green” keep a spot clean	9
MI Γ University of Michigan • Taught first graders about science in Project SEED • Volunteered at local hands on museum	37	TX A University of Texas at Austin • Cleaned up campus as well as several parks • Tutored K-12 at Pease Elementary	57
MI Δ University of Detroit-Mercy • Adopted a family at Christmas • Helped keep streets safe for kids at Halloween	14	VT B Norwich University • Held engineering week box-building competition • Volunteered at local food bank	13
MI E Wayne State University • Raised funds for Big Brother/Big Sister • Conducted “First Robotics” competition	39	WV A West Virginia University • Helped Girl Scouts earn math and science badges • Helped at Bartlett House	12
MI Θ Oakland University • Participated in Detroit area pre-college program • Helped senior community with landscaping	12	WYA University of Wyoming • Tapped potential members • Worked security for UW basketball games	17
MI I University of Michigan-Dearborn • Hosted regional Science Olympiad...as warm up to... • Hosted 2007 Convention	15		

Chapter Development at the 103rd Convention

Initiate One More Electee!

This should be the goal of every chapter!

A total of 123 chapters met this goal last year. And one chapter actually initiated a whopping 60 more members than in 2006-07!

How did they accomplish this monumental task? The officers contacted the eligible students and followed up! They also took advantage of contacting the parents of the electees with a letter from the dean.

Chapter development is the primary reason for the Interactive Chapter Exchange sessions held on Friday at each Convention—and the reason these meetings are so popular lies in the first word: Interactive.

Teams of national officials conducted these ICE sessions using the presentation skills of our Engineering Futures Facilitators. Students shared problems facing all chapters and worked together to develop solutions. Once again a special ICE group of returning delegates who had participated in previous ICE sessions met to focus on how to make these sessions more effective.

Development had several different faces at the Convention. Convention Chair Ron Hickling and Parliamentarian John Luchini instructed delegates in the dos and don'ts of parliamentary procedure. Delegates were presented some of Robert's Rules of Order, a classic method for conducting orderly meetings, including how to keep track of the 'stack' of motions and amendments. Chapter presidents were encouraged to learn and apply the original Robert's version system at home and then pass it along to others.



ICE groups at Sacramento exchange views on issues.

Committees met and selected chairs, vice chairs, and secretaries. These leaders gained valuable experience guiding their teams and presenting reports. Non-voting delegates gained interpersonal, team-building, and meeting-management skills at EF sessions. District meetings gathered delegates in each of the 16 national regions to renew friendships and begin new ones.

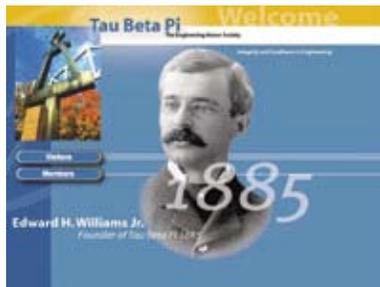
Committees met both Thursday and on Friday before the second business meeting.

This assembly provided ample opportunity to practice the original Robert's Rules as Tau Bates debated the many motions and amendments. An "occasional" point of order was heard echoing from time to time.

Chapter advisors are priceless assets to all chapters. These mentors gathered in a committee of their own to decide how they might better serve the Society and their chapters. A record 68 Advisors traveled to Sacramento where they met as a committee and attended ICE sessions alongside their delegates.

The enduring strength of Tau Beta Pi is *you*, the member. You will carefully elect new members who will then improve and strengthen your chapter. Take time to contact them and let them know of our sincere desire for them to join us. Take the time to be certain that they receive the invitation. Help them to understand what it is about Tau Beta Pi that made you join. After they do join, take time to interact with them. You never know what might happen.

—Roger E. Hawks, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer



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Tau Beta Pi Convention

Details about the upcoming Convention.

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Find links to chapters by their associated schools and find their contact information.

www.tbp.org/pages/underChapters,Collegiate

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Important Deadlines

- **January 1** Fellowship Application
- **March 1** Scholarship Application
- **April 1** Outstanding Advisor, McDonald Mentor, Distinguished Alumnus, Executive Council, and Laureate Nominations
- **June 1** Convention Bid for 2012

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The Laureate Program



2008 Laureate
Austin D. Cooley
is congratulated
by Vice President
Solange Dao at Tau
Beta Pi's Conven-
tion in Sacramento.

Exceptional Tau Bates are recognized annually at each Convention for their talents and contributions to society beyond the normal perimeters of engineering. This year, five outstanding students were recognized for accomplishments in athletics, arts, and diverse achievements. They each received a \$2,500 cash prize, a plaque, and national publicity in *THE BENT* and on the web.

The Tau Beta Pi Laureate Program has been honoring collegiate members since 1982 and has recognized contributions of Tau Bates in the arts, athletics, diverse achievements, and service. Chapters select nominees from their members; information on how to proceed is found in the *President's Book* (pp. C-29 & 30) and on the web at tbp.org/chapters.

If an extraordinary member in your chapter qualifies, submit a nomination package in digital form to national Headquarters by April 1—to the attention of Secretary-Treasurer Froula.