



# THE Bulletin OF Tau Beta Pi

March 2009

A Publication  
for the Collegiate  
Chapters

## Communicating Is Believing

by Dylan S. Lane, Communication Specialist

**A**s we proceed into the new millennium, our experiences in *communication* are continuously being transformed. As members of the society of preeminent engineers, many of you will help define the next frontier of communication tools.

As students, you are already researching, conceptualizing, and using communication tools. At the international Headquarters (HQ) of Tau Beta Pi, we are eager to show you that communication matters!

The success of the Association lies equally between us. Strengthening the channels of communication will provide quicker and more accurate member support. We have added new communication tools and made updates to others. The following is a brief explanation:

### Tau Beta Pi Website

With more than 150,000 hits in January, [tbp.org](http://tbp.org) is the first resource to turn to whenever you have inquiries related to Tau Beta Pi.

If you are interested in chapter matters, there is a section of the website devoted to chapter references,

resources, and information. In 2009, look for changes to the "Chapter Website" and be sure to offer your feedback.

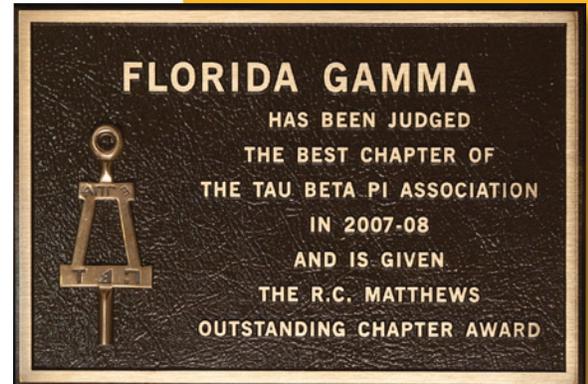
It is important to familiarize yourself with the "[Chapter Materials Order](#)" page. These free image materials can be ordered from HQ. We strongly recommend that chapters use these free resources to help combat rejections from students who are uninterested or unaware of Tau Beta Pi before the election process begins.

### Social Networks

The newest communication tool for members is the Affinity Circles Community, [TBPCONNECT](#). This free, Tau Beta community has similarities with today's mainstream social networks, but with privacy and exclusiveness.

The vision for this resource includes supplementing chapter websites, accessing alumni for chapter interaction, and expanded job-networking opportunities. Offering a virtual setting for communication among students and alumni is the essential utility of this new member benefit.

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*David H. Lu, Georgia Alpha '08, at the 2008 Convention in Sacramento, CA, with a popular Tau Beta Pi Convention sponsor. Lu uploaded this photo for his TBPCONNECT profile.*

ISSUE AVAILABLE AT [WWW.TBP.ORG](http://WWW.TBP.ORG)

On January 1, 2009, Tau Beta Pi launched a blog. The goal of the Association's HQ Blog is to close the gap between members and Headquarters.

Updated daily, the blog contains entries of alumnus news, engineering FYI, HQ announcements, and discussion boards. The future of the blog, as a communication tool, will rely on members for content, such as pictures, events, and comments.

### Association Publications

At its December 2008 meeting, the Executive Council decided that future issues of THE BULLETIN would be published only on the website.

There are many advantages to this change. First, the environmental burden and financial cost of printing and mailing THE BULLETIN to members of the 234 chapters will be eliminated. Secondly, focusing online production of this publication will also allow for easier access to useful information. Look for links throughout the issue that you can select directly from the PDF and load with an Internet connection.

### Member Benefits

As a reminder, with your one-time initiation fee you gain access to all member benefits.

This includes employment related opportunities The Best People Engineering Job Board, Tau Beta Pi Recruiting Center, and free network membership to the Women for Hire Network.



There are also several insurance and relocation-related benefits from GEICO, miQuotes, and My Home Benefits, respectively.

Another useful benefit for Tau Bates is the 30 percent discount on preparation materials for the FE/EIT and PE engineering licensing exams, thanks to our partnership with Kaplan AEC Education.

### Programs and Opportunities

Tau Beta Pi is proud to offer scholarships and fellowships to its student members.

There is exciting news to announce, thanks to the generosity of a foundation, in honor of Tau Bates inventor, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Vincent A. Stabile, *New York Lambda '40*. In April 2009, the Society will award 234 scholarships of \$2,000!

Since 1928, the Tau Beta Pi Fellowship Program has been the Association's most important project for the

advancement of engineering education and the profession.

Thanks to wonderful gifts to the Association, bequests from alumni, and matching-gift donations by industry, Tau Beta Pi has made a year of graduate study possible for 894 members at a stipend total approaching \$5 million.

Be sure to visit [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org) to learn more about these programs and other ways you and your chapter can become involved in Tau Beta Pi's national engineering and community initiatives.

Please contact Headquarters with any questions, or you can email [dylan@tbp.org](mailto:dylan@tbp.org) regarding the Associations' communication tools.



**Richard R. Andre, New York Kappa '96,** demonstrates the art of holding a 'croc. Richard joined TBPCONNECT in December 2008 and now has 28 friends and a profile describing his change of profession. Richard is studying to become a Catholic priest.

**Puerto Rico Alpha and Florida Gamma members** at the 2008 District 5 Conference. Albums can be created within chapter groups on TBPCONNECT. Check out your chapter's group, and discover how you can show off your activities and smiles in Tau Beta Pi's InCircle Community.



## Chapters must file w/ IRS

The IRS instituted a new requirement for non-profit organizations that do not file an annual form 990. This change affects nearly all TBP chapters. Starting in 2008, chapters are required to visit *IRS.gov* and submit the online-only Form 990-N no later than the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of the chapter's fiscal year. More information is on the Chapter site.

## Nominate the next Executive Council

**S**LATES OF CANDIDATES for the next Executive Council of TBP should be submitted by April 1, 2009. Voting will take place at the 2009 Convention in East 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.

## Fellowship Program wins ASEE Award for Excellence!

The TBP Fellowship Program has won the American Society of Engineering Education Corporate Member Council's (CMC) **2009 Excellence in Engineering Education Collaboration Award!**

TBP Vice President Solange C. Dao, P.E., accepted the award at a luncheon held on February 4 during the group's conference for industry and education collaboration in Orlando, FL.

This highest award presented by the CMC recognizes member companies and organizations that demonstrate excellence and innovation in their collaborative efforts with universities to enhance engineering education.

The Fellowship Program was implemented by President A.D. Moore, *Pennsylvania Gamma 1915*, in 1929. It has provided a total exceeding \$4,805,000 to 894 stipend recipients thanks to outright gifts by the Association, bequests and contributions from alumni, and from matching gifts and donations from industry.

The award was bestowed upon the Fellowship Program as it celebrates 75 years of success in the advancement of engineering education and the profession. New Fellows will be announced in April.

## TBP Engineering Futures Designed for Excellence!

### BRING EF TO YOUR CAMPUS!

Bring the award-winning EF program to your campus. Contact Sherry King ([sherry@tbp.org](mailto:sherry@tbp.org)) today about hosting an EF session. Download a set of fliers to help promote the event at [www.tbp.org/Chapters/Resources/OtherResources/index.cfm](http://www.tbp.org/Chapters/Resources/OtherResources/index.cfm).

The TBP Engineering Futures Program won the American Society of Engineering Education Corporate Member Council's **2007 Excellence in Engineering Education Collaboration Award.**

This recognition validated 18 years of effort by TBP Facilitators and students. During a recent three-year period, 206 sessions were presented to 3,100 students annually.

## MindSET Logo Contest

For years, TBP chapters have successfully pursued opportunities for community involvement. This quest continues with the TBP K-12 MindSET Program, which provides opportunities to harness our wealth of engineering talent and other resources to bring a nationally coordinated thrust to a national problem. TBP is contributing to the math and science preparation of students in the K-12 system by increasing their awareness of career opportunities in the STEM disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and math.

As TBP MindSET evolves, the entire membership has opportunities to participate in the program's development and implementation. The National Management Committee (NMC) and the four Regional Management Committees have been fine-tuning the implementation details of the program, including the need for a MindSET logo to depict the focal elements of the program.

Core components of TBP MindSET include teacher development—primarily through training in the hands-on or kinesthetic classroom instructional mode, student-driven engineering lab sessions involving activities designed to demonstrate math and science concepts and applications, parent development, and outcomes assessment. The desired goal is student development in math and science preparation—as measured by established metrics.

The NMC is challenging Districts to devote part of each 2009 Spring conference to design a MindSET logo. This would allow students to develop an important marketing component of the program. Each District and chapter may submit a simple but elegant design that should incorporate as many of the following ideas as possible:

1. Include the name *MindSET*,
2. Identify clearly with K-12,
3. Hands-on classroom delivery,
4. Hands-on engineering lab sessions,
5. Teacher development,
6. Parent development
7. Student development, and
8. The BENT should not be altered in any way if used in the design.

Submit your design by April 27 to Dylan Lane at [dylan@tbp.org](mailto:dylan@tbp.org). The NMC will pick the winning team to receive an award and recognition in THE BENT and THE BULLETIN.

—Dr. J.F.K. Earle, P.E., Councillor

## Distinguished Alumnus Nominations Are Due April 1

The Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes members who have demonstrated the ideals of Tau Beta Pi as stated in our Eligibility Code and who have fostered a spirit of liberal culture throughout their lives after their college years. Their personal qualities of excellence and leadership serve as examples so as to influence the professional careers and personal lives of our collegiate members.

Honored alumni have made exceptional efforts to demonstrate our ideals and to foster a spirit of liberal culture locally, nationally, and perhaps internationally. They have demonstrated integrity, breadth of interest, adaptability, and unselfish activity.

Awardees are chosen by a committee of national officers and introduced at the Convention. A \$2,000 Tau Beta Pi Scholarship is named in honor of each Distinguished Alumnus.

Any individual member or any chapter may nominate any alumnus member, except a national official. There is no limit on the number of nominations. The following documentation in digital format must be sent to the Executive Director by April 1:

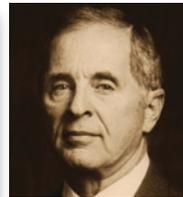
1. A one-page nomination form of biographical information and a summary of the achievements and/or contributions of the nominee exemplifying the objective of the award. (*President's Book*, C 32-33.)
2. A citation (one-page limit) appropriate for presentation, documenting the nominee's outstanding adherence to the Tau Beta Pi ideal of fostering a spirit of liberal culture in our society. It may be written by the nominating party.
3. Two letters of reference from persons (excluding the nominator(s) or sponsoring chapter president) knowledgeable about the nominee's contributions and achievements.



2008—W.G. Schlinger and S.D. Bechtel Jr.



2004—J.S. Tietjen



2006—W. Anders

## Spring Conferences 2009 Schedule



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    | Mar. 6-7   |
| 16       | San Diego, CA     | April 18   |

## Seeking TBPI-McDonald Mentor Nominees

Marion and Capers (*North Carolina Gamma '74*) McDonald and the Association have established an award to celebrate excellence in mentoring and advising among TBPI educators and engineers. The honor recognizes those who have consistently supported the personal and professional development of their students and colleagues through mentorship.

The TBPI-McDonald Mentor is chosen by a committee of national officials and will be presented a special medallion and a \$2,000 cash award (\$1,000 to honoree and \$1,000 to the nominating chapter—or to

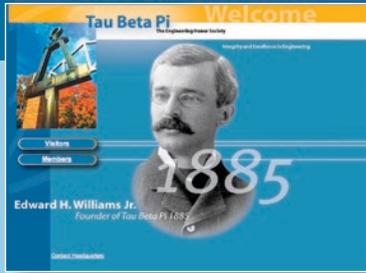


the honoree's chapter if nominated by a member). Only one award will be presented at any annual Convention.

Any chapter or member may nominate one (or more) alumnus member(s) for the award. The following material is required to be sent in digital form to the Executive Director by April 1:

1) A one-page summary of achievements and/or contributions of the nominee exemplifying the objective of the award.

2) Two letters of reference from persons other than the nominating party or sponsoring chapter president who are familiar with the nominee's contributions and achievements, such as a dean or supervisor.



## EXPLORE HQ'S MUST SEE WEB PAGES

Whether you're a new member or a veteran chapter officer, check these helpful Tau Beta Pi web pages.

**Tau Beta Pi Welcome**  
 "Designed to be helpful to first-time visitors."  
 —Ray Thompson  
**Log on:** [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org)



**Tau Beta Pi Home Page**  
 "Bypass the welcome page by bookmarking this page in your browser."  
 —Angie Winn  
**Log on:** [www.tbp.org/pages](http://www.tbp.org/pages)  
**3,600,000 hits!!**



**TBPCONNECT**  
 "You'll find other Tau Bates in your state and around the world. Create a network with students, alumni, and friends. Join in the fun."  
 —Dylan Lane  
**Look At:** [www.tbp.org/pages](http://www.tbp.org/pages)



**Chapter Website**  
 "This page leads to everything a chapter could want, including its own bylaws. It's indispensable for filing your reports."  
 —Roger Hawks  
**Look Under:** *Chapters*

**3,600,000 hits!!**



**Member Benefits**  
 "It may surprise you to learn how many benefits and useful discounts are available to members."  
 —Pat McDaniel  
**Look Under:** *For Members*



**Tau Beta Pi Member Lookup**  
 "You can easily determine if someone is a member of Tau Beta Pi."  
 —David Roberts  
**Look Under:** *For Members*



**Distinguished Members**  
 "Self explanatory! You'll find an amazing number of accomplishments by Tau Bates."  
 —Debbie Dewine  
**Look Under:** *About TBP and then People*



**2009 Convention Information**  
 "It has all the details you need for attending the next Convention."  
 —Sherry King  
**Look Under:** *Convention*



**Subscribe to THE BENT**  
 "You can definitely save money by converting your initial four-year subscription to a Life Subscription right away."  
 —Betty Harless  
**Look Under:** *Publications*



**Chapter Materials Order**  
 "The best place to order electee invitations, posters, honor cords, stoles, castings, and other necessary supplies...*without* a credit card."  
 —Rebecca Davis  
**Look Under:** *Chapters and under Resources*

[www.tbp.org/pages/](http://www.tbp.org/pages/)

## 2009 Chapter Anniversaries

|       |                    |                   |   |
|-------|--------------------|-------------------|---|
| 100th | Iowa Beta          | March 30, 1909    | University of Iowa                        |
|       | Minnesota Alpha    | June 9, 1909      | University of Minnesota—Twin Cities       |
| 75th  | New Jersey Beta    | December 14, 1934 | Rutgers University                        |
| 50th  | Ohio Eta           | February 21, 1959 | Air Force Inst. of Technology             |
| 25th  | Maryland Gamma     | January 13, 1984  | United States Naval Academy               |
|       | Illinois Zeta      | January 28, 1984  | University of Illinois at Chicago         |
|       | California Upsilon | February 18, 1984 | California State Univ., Sacramento        |
|       | Montana Beta       | March 24, 1984    | Montana Tech of the University of Montana |

## BULLETIN on Web Only

Because of rising postage costs and in an effort to save precious resources, this and all future issues of THE BULLETIN will be available only at [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org).

### Honor Cords Available

TBPI honor cords, chosen by the 2004 Convention, are available to complement the beautiful graduation stoles. Order your supply in quantities of five or more at [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org) under Chapter Resources to obtain a special price of \$11, down from the normal price of \$15.

### Important Deadlines

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

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Vice President: Solange C. Dao, P.E., Florida Alpha '95, Orlando, FL  
Councillor: Dr. Jonathan F.K. Earle, P.E., Florida Alpha '65, Gainesville, FL  
Councillor: Jason A. Huggins, P.E., Florida Alpha '96, Gulf Breeze, FL  
Councillor: Norman Pih, Tennessee Alpha '82, Flagstaff, AZ

## Educational Loan Fund

Since 1935, Tau Beta Pi has assisted student members with their financial needs while in school or with payment of their initiation fees through our Student Loan Fund. We are pleased to offer this service for student members in amounts up to \$2,500 per member.

Repayment is required to begin after three years, and a simple interest rate of 6 percent is charged from the day the loan is received.

Interested students can obtain promissory notes and loan applications from their chapter president, the website, or the international Headquarters in Knoxville.

## Find Advisors w/ AlumNet

Tau Beta Pi's AlumNet Program was created to pair students with alumni for the sharing of information about jobs and academe. The service has been expanded, and chapters can now use AlumNet to find potential chapter advisors and speakers. More than 100 alumni have already indicated a willingness to serve as an advisor. To get in touch with an alumnus about a certain field, company, institution, or chapter assistance, simply register online at [www.tbp.org](http://www.tbp.org). Click on the AlumNet link under "For Members" and follow instructions.

Complete the brief contact request form, and the necessary alumnus-contact information will be sent to you by email from the program coordinator. It is your responsibility to follow-up and to make contact with the alumnus.



## Special Benefits for Members

TBPI members can access these benefits via the "FORMEMBERS" tab

- **AlumNet**—online student/alumnus mentoring service.
- **Engineering Futures**—sessions on people skills for engineering students.
- **Fellowships/Scholarships/Laureate Nominations by Chapters.**
- **GEICO**—excellent rates and additional discounts for auto insurance.
- **Kaplan**—30% discounts on FE/EIT & PE examination preparation materials.
- **miQuotes.com**—free quotes for most types of insurance.
- **My Home Benefits**—real-estate services and moving discounts.
- **Princeton Review**—discounts for prep courses (GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, SAT, or ACT).
- **Student Loans**—from \$75 to \$2,500 for initiation-fee or educational assistance.
- **TBPCONNECT**—for-members-only chapter and member networking tool.
- **The Best People Engineering Job Board**—browse jobs and post résumés.
- **Women for Hire**—job fairs and networking for women.