



Fellow Tau Bate:

As the pandemic continues to disrupt many activities, our students returned to school and continue to hold appropriate activities in their learning communities. We have been working alongside them over the past year and supporting their activities while also providing a virtual platform for chapter communications and learning.

While Tau Beta Pi was founded to recognize achievement by students in scholastic aptitude and personal character, the founders intended for us to take on work when needed for the benefit of our engineering community. Our focus continues to be on training the next generation of engineers as leaders. While technical instruction takes place at the universities, we provide the activities and experiences that allow budding leaders to develop and practice leadership skills:

- Student members **run for office** within their chapters for responsibilities commensurate with the roles of Chapter President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- Student members assist in **organizing and leading District Conferences** with other chapters in their geography focusing on operations and chapter-directed activities.
- Chapter Project Awards were presented to 19 chapters for ingenuity and creativity in activities. Examples include: hosting campus Engineers' Day, outdoor picnics, scavenger hunts, movie/game/trivia nights, chess tournaments, alumni panels, fireside visits with local professionals and employers, and MathCounts tutoring. \$5,000 in Scholarships was distributed among 10 chapters that received Chapter Project Awards for at least three consecutive years.
- Student members networked and attended a Recruiting Fair, resume workshop, Interactive Chapter Exchange (ICE), and **Professional Development Sessions at our virtual gathering** held in October 2020 with topics such as "Preparing for and Deciding When to Go to Grad School by Keeping Options Open," "Negotiating Job Offers," "Interview Like a Pro," "Reaching Your Goals," and "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People."
- Engineering Futures Program launched "EF Online" in order to continue providing professional development opportunities and served more than 1,000 participants in 19 sessions with help from 12 volunteer facilitators.

Tau Beta Pi also provides more funding than any other engineering honor society to help students graduate and continue their education:

- Our 88th Fellowship group comprised **28 Fellows awarded from 336 applicants. All but one of this year's recipients will receive cash stipends of \$10,000 for advanced study.** The purpose of the Fellowship Program is to finance, for a select group of members chosen

The Tau Beta Pi Association, Inc., Founded 1885

Member of the Association of College Honor Societies

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for merit, a year of graduate study at the institution of their choice. Tau Beta Pi Fellows are free to do graduate work in any field which will enable them to contribute to the engineering profession.

- Our 23rd Scholarship group comprised **261 Scholars awarded \$1,000-\$2,000 each (\$504,000 total) from 392 applicants**. The Scholarship Program provides funding for students' senior year of engineering study. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, extracurricular activities, and the promise of substantial contributions to the engineering profession.

Tau Beta Pi also recognizes individual achievement. We recently named four Laureates to recognize gifted engineering students who have excelled in areas beyond their technical majors. The Laureate Program exists to further Tau Beta Pi's mission to recognize academic and professional excellence rooted in personal integrity. The Society also promotes a well-rounded education essential for success. This prestigious award is accompanied by a **\$2,500 cash award** and commemorative plaque. The 2021 Laureates are Kara L. Combs, OH Mu '21; Carissa G. Dopman, NY Sigma '21; Tyler A. Kleinsasser, SD Alpha '19; and Michael Ustes, MI Iota '22.

Overall, our collegiate chapters initiated 8,615 members (8,165 undergraduates, 385 graduate students, 28 alumni, and 37 eminent engineers). Additional highlights of the year include:

- Georgia Gamma was installed at Georgia Southern University as Tau Beta Pi's 251st collegiate chapter. Six institutions are pending inspection/installation over the next year: American University of Sharjah, Lipscomb University, Merrimack College, Texas A&M Qatar, University of Georgia, and Western Carolina University.
- The Association conducted nine virtual "Tau Bate Talks" for students and alumni on topics such as: plastic pollution from sea to source, artificial intelligence, engineering and innovation in small molecule drug development, and grid modernization.

As a small organization located in the hills of Eastern Tennessee, led by over 100 volunteer Association Officials and our Headquarters staff, we are proud of our ongoing work and welcome your feedback.



Regards,

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