Laura S. Miyakawa

Laura S. Miyakawa was nominated by the Pennsylvania Gamma Chapter at Carnegie Mellon University for her linguistic mastery, leadership, and service to the community. Her aptitude in mathematics and in French were recognized and developed early. Before enrolling in Carnegie Mellon, she was a junior-high competitor in MathCounts, and, by her senior year in high school, she was named the most valuable player. After taking advanced math courses at Georgia Tech, she qualified for college credit in calculus 1, 2, 3, and matrix algebra. She studied the French language for six years and made two trips to France, was in the Georgia All-State choir for four years, and earned the Girl Scouts of America silver award for community service.

A national merit finalist and a presidential scholar, Laura enrolled in CMU in 1998, where she earned a B.S. in electrical and computer engineering. While an undergraduate, she was involved as a research assistant in the department of electrical and computer engineering, a teaching assistant in the department of mathematics, and

two laureates

have been selected in the 20th year of Tau Beta Pi's annual program to recognize gifted engineering students who have excelled in non-technical areas.

The 2001 Laureates were selected for their diverse achievements. They are: Laura S. Miyakawa, Pennsylvania Gamma '01, honored for her accomplishments in a variety of activities and community service, and Matthew T. Reiter, Pennsylvania Theta '01, recognized for his participation in sports and his religious service work. They join 49 other outstanding Tau Bates who have been cited since the program began in 1982.

The new Laureates will be honored during ceremonies on October 20, 2001, at the 96th annual Convention in Columbus, OH, where each will receive a $2,500 check and a commemorative plaque.

The Laureate Program was inaugurated to further Tau Beta Pi's second basic purpose as stated in the preamble to the Constitution: "to foster a spirit of liberal culture in engineering colleges." A committee of District Directors considered 11 nominees from eight chapters.