



FOR RELEASE
JUNE 27, 2013

CONTACT: Dylan Lane
865/546-4578

Tau Beta Pi Announces 2013 Laureates

Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honor society, has named five Laureates in the Association's annual program to recognize gifted engineering students who have excelled in areas beyond their technical majors.

The 2013 Tau Beta Pi Laureates are Michael R. Lacey, a recent graduate from The Citadel, cited for his diverse achievements; Darick W. LaSelle, a graduate of the University of Colorado at Denver, cited for his service contributions; Benjamin B. Macy, a graduate of Valparaiso University, cited for his service contributions; Glenn M. Miltenberg, a 2013 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, cited for his achievements in athletics; and Adam R. Pizzaia, a graduate of Rutgers University cited for his diverse achievements. This brings the total to 88 remarkable Tau Bates that have been named Laureates since 1982.

The Laureate Program exists to further Tau Beta Pi's second fundamental purpose as stated in the Association's Constitution: ". . . to foster a spirit of liberal culture in engineering colleges." The primary concern of the Society is to recognize students of superior scholarship and exemplary character and to honor eminent practicing engineers. The Society also encourages excellence in engineering education and in the ethical practice of engineering.

The Laureates will be honored with other 2013 national award winners on November 2, 2013, at the 108th annual Convention in Ames, IA. Tau Beta Pi President Larry A. Simonson, Ph.D., P.E., will present each with a \$2,500 cash award and a commemorative plaque. Their biographies follow:

(more)

MICHAEL R. LACEY, *South Carolina Gamma '13*, graduated with a B.S. degree in electrical engineering and a B.A. degree in political science from The Citadel.

As a Naval STA-21 officer candidate, Michael was given three years to complete his undergraduate degrees. Making the most of his time, he has become a performer, teacher, and leader.

He is an award-winning ballroom dancer and a performer as part of an improvisational comedy group in Charleston, SC. Michael served for a year as the director of the unit sailing program and created a competitive sailing team for the NROTC unit. In addition, he undertook the responsibilities of planning the first regatta hosted by The Citadel in more than 30 years.

Michael served as vice president of the South Carolina Gamma Chapter of Tau Beta Pi and was instrumental in community service activities and chapter growth during the past year. He is also the first active duty student at The Citadel to receive the Star of West Study Abroad Fellowship. His leadership potential was summarized in a recommendation letter, "other cadets (here) look to him for advice and guidance in their academic studies as well as their future careers."

DARICK W. LASELLE, *Colorado Epsilon '13*, is an electrical engineering graduate of the University of Colorado at Denver.

Darick was nominated for his service contributions in the Autism community and his leadership for the Colorado Epsilon Chapter as a two-year chapter president.

Darick has three sons, one that has been diagnosed with classic autism. He began volunteering at the school where his son was enrolled, but "it was when I first read about (TBP) MindSET that I really consciously knew where I fit." Since that time, Darick's service with the Association and the autistic community has been inexorably linked. He has already held an eight-week MindSET-style program with five autistic teenagers.

He has also been an invaluable member of the CO E Chapter. Before he took over as chapter president, there were five active undergraduate members and one advisor. Today as he leaves, there are more than 60 members and six advisors. In addition, Darick has led his chapter to two Secretary's Commendations, two District regional awards, and his chapter hosted the 2013 District 12 Conference. His dedication to service and contributions are characterized as an inspiration to the nominating chapter and his school.

BENJAMIN B. MACY, *Indiana Delta '13*, graduated from Valparaiso University with a degree in electrical engineering.

From an early age, Ben has been dedicated to his education and working to benefit others. This joint focus continued through his undergraduate studies where he has performed nearly 330 hours of community service. His hard work has developed him into a leader as well. This past year he was elected as the student body president at Valpo and the President of the Indiana Delta Chapter of Tau Beta Pi.

Under his guidance the IN Delta Chapter has become more active, including raising money and participating with the local Habitat for Humanity. Ben is also involved on campus as a tutor, a member of IEEE, Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, and Alpha Lambda Delta. He has received numerous awards and scholarships, including an Edgar J. Luecke Z* award, a National Academy for Nuclear Training Scholarship, and a Hesse Scholarship.

He has already had success in the business sector through internships at Gentex Corporation and Exelon Corporation. Ben's nomination included this description, "(he) exemplifies a spirit of liberal culture where outstanding academics are coupled with an experience of servant leadership."

GLENN M. MILTENBERG, *Colorado Zeta '13*, is an aerospace engineering graduate from the United States Air Force Academy.

His athletic achievements as a Cadet at USAF include intercollegiate boxing, competitive skydiving, and as a parachute team member. He has also excelled in the classroom and in military training, achieving a 3.25 military performance average placing him in the top ten percent of Cadets.

In the boxing ring, Glenn is a three-time USAF Academy Wing Open Boxing Champion and is the first boxer in program history to be honored with the Wing Open Outstanding Boxer Award

twice in a career. He has earned medals at the 2011 & 2012 U.S. Parachute Association Collegiate National Skydiving Championships. Glenn is also an instructor and certified Jumpmaster teaching basic parachute courses and a member of the Wings of Blue competition team that competes with some of the world's best skydivers.

Most recently he completed the Airmanship 420 Powered Flight Program with several flight hours in a T-53A trainer aircraft and has been selected for Euro-NATO joint jet pilot training flight school after graduation. Glenn was cited in his nomination packet as a positive role-model, a man of character, and as one of tomorrow's leaders.

ADAM R. PIZZAIA, *New Jersey Beta '13*, graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering and will earn a master's in fluid mechanics later this year from Rutgers University.

Adam became an Eagle Scout after participating for ten years in Boy Scouts. This early devotion to service and hard work has shaped his commitment to the community.

His selfless acts of service include: spending last summer volunteering at HIV orphanages and secondary schools in Tanzania, Africa, as an engineering tutor, and with the Catholic Student Association.

As a TBP member, he was focused on generating interest in developing the minds of young students to pursue STEM related careers. Adam is responsible for pioneering his chapter's K-12 MindSET program activities at a local middle school. He also served as chapter president for the most recent academic year.

At Rutgers, he was elected as president of the University Honors Council. Adam has developed an industry mentorship program recruiting industry leaders to mentor current students. He also helped design a program that pairs incoming freshmen with upperclassmen honor society students.

The common theme of his nomination packet is his endless contributions and dedication for projects that have a positive impact on others.

Tau Beta Pi is the Engineering Honor Society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. It has collegiate chapters at 241 engineering colleges in the United States and active alumnus chapters in 29 cities. It has initiated more than 541,000 members in its 128-year history and is the world's largest engineering society. (See www.tbp.org)